

**BOROUGH OF RIVERTON
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
OCTOBER 16, 2018 at 7:00pm**

Mayor Cairns Wells called the meeting to order. Municipal Clerk, Michelle Hack called roll call to confirm a quorum: Ms. Renee Azelby present, Mr. Armand Bianchini present, Ms. Suzanne Cairns Wells present, Mr. Bill Corbi present, Mr. Kirk Fullerton present, Mr. Kenneth Mills present and Mr. James Quinn present. All saluted the Flag. Other Borough Officials present: Mr. Keith Adams, Chief John Shaw, Solicitor Coleman, and Clerk Michelle Hack.

Mayor Cairns Wells read the following statement "Public Notice of this meeting, pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, has been given by the Municipal Clerk in the following manner:

- a. Having written notice published in the Burlington County Times Friday January 12, 2018
- b. Forwarding written notice to the Courier Post for informational purposes only on Monday January 8, 2018
- c. Posting written notice on the Official Bulletin Board on Monday January 8, 2018"

APPROVAL OF MINUTES/CLERK REPORT

Minutes from September 18, 2018 both public and closed session were submitted for approval. Mr. Corbi made a motion to approve the minutes. Ms. Azelby seconded his motion. ROLL CALL: Ms. Azelby aye, Mr. Bianchini aye, Mr. Corbi aye, Mr. Fullerton aye, Mr. Mills aye, Mr. Quinn aye. Ms. Hack also submitted mail items to the Governing Body, including a letter from National Casein stating their intent to close the Riverton plant and sell the property.

TREASURER'S REPORT, FINANCE/TAX REPORT & BILL LIST

Mr. Fullerton read the Finance Office report and the Tax Collection and Treasurer's report and asked for a motion to approve the bill list, which closed on October 15, 2018. Mr. Corbi provided the second. ROLL CALL: Ms. Azelby aye, Mr. Bianchini aye, Mr. Corbi aye, Mr. Fullerton aye, Mr. Mills aye, Mr. Quinn aye.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The Mayor opened the floor for Public Comments. There was a large group of residents gathered in support of the proposed Riverton Dog Park (RDP). Bill McDermott is unhappy that the Borough is taking so long to move forward with the RDP. Adrienne Rogers stated that creation of a dog park will help bring the community together in a positive manner, Richard Gaughan concurred with her statement and added it will add civility as opposed to letting dogs roam off leash. Dennis Devries and Jen Douglass offered statements to support Ms. Rogers view. Pat Solin stated the RPD should move forward and all impediments can be resolved, and later made comments concerning the Borough's insurance liability would not change. Dustin Dellinger stated he believes the project is nothing more than installing a fence and would like to see it move forward. Mike Floyd stated he supports the RPD whole heartedly, as he sees it's a low risk-high reward, to which Susan Embers concurred this and previous statements made. Adam Brooks commented this a dog park is a great town asset. Susan Zimmerman stated that she visits a dog park at her vacation town and has witnessed how a dog park can truly bring a community together. Carlos Rogers stated that it's a low risk-high reward project and believes it's an amenity to the Borough. If it turns out that incidents do become a problem the Borough can dismantle it. He also read a statement in support from a neighboring municipality that hosts a smaller size dog park He further went on record to state that he is refuting the report from the Borough Planner concerning environmental impact and adequate drainage. Erin Polensky stated that the positive criteria outweigh the negative criteria and other towns manage dog parks successfully. Laura Major and Jim Holland both commented on the need for a dog park so they do not have to travel outside towns to take their dogs; Ms.

Major later commented that the dog owners are responsible for their dogs' behavior and must follow the "enter at your own risk" signage; they must also take self-responsibility concerning child and puppy limitations. Margaret Morris stated for the Borough to develop a dog park is the natural progression for the town. Lily Thomas concurred with previous statements concerning the need and next natural step for the Borough to have a dog park of their own. Leah Falicki commented that people let their dogs run off leash in the park regardless. Paul Grena recapped some of the history of the dog park dating back to 2010 and believes it's a good use of the land especially for residents that do not have children and still pay taxes. Jennifer Nelson of Doggie Depot from Philadelphia spoke on her positive experience on how they manage a small dog park in the Kensington/Fishtown neighborhood on private land. No one else came forward to speak therefore closing the public portion of this meeting.

RESOLUTION #76-2018
A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO MEMORIALIZE AN AGREEMENT WITH THE
RIVERTON DOG PARK
(IN FULL IN RESOLUTION BOOK)

The Mayor presented documents from the file to outline the history from 2015-present. Mr. Quinn commented that he disagreed with many aspects of the report from Borough Planner Tamara Lee, dated October 8, 2018. He commented that he spoke with the RPD plan designer from ERI, Harry Fox and who provided information that addressed concerning grading, and the effect of the Shade Trees within the park and environmental concerns such as concentrated pet waste and storm water runoff. He asked that the Borough request a report from Mr. Fox to show New Jersey Transit that would provide a balanced response to Ms. Lee's report. Ms. Azelby commented on her experience in the insurance industry that there is minimal evidence of liability and claims that come from dog parks. She stated that a no vote should not be made based off a concern of insurance liability. Council discussed being held in gross negligence due to Ms. Lee's concerns, mostly based on the small size of the park. Mr. Quinn and Ms. Azelby both dispelled this worry, along with the concern of abandoned animals as documented by the Borough's Animal Control Officer. Mr. Mills contended that the proposed area did not seem like a good location and offered ideas as to alternative locations. His objections were to the grading that will need to occur at the site and the train whistle seems to come through often which he believes will startle dogs, especially if the fenced in park is as worrisome as Ms. Lee outlined in her report. He, along with Mr. Mills, Mr. Bianchini and Mr. Corbi noted they stand by the report submitted by Ms. Lee. Mr. Quinn had concerns of the high cost of the RDP, indicating the fence could be shortened and the bid could have some of the listed items as alternatives. He asked the resolution to reflect language in the resolution to state "*The proposed Project as presently designed is approved subject to the Riverton Dog Park volunteer group dog park volunteers raising the necessary planning and construction funds he monetary value of the final bid received by the Borough for the construction of the Project within three (3) year period commencing February 19, 2019. In the event the dog park volunteer raise 65% of the total not to exceed amount due by the conclusion of the three (3) year raise period, the Borough shall grant a one (1) extension to raise the remaining money*". The Mayor called for a vote after a lengthy discussion concerning size of park, environmental hazards and cost factors. Ms. Azelby made a motion to approve and Mr. Quinn seconded her motion. ROLL CALL: Ms. Azelby aye, Mr. Bianchini nay, Mr. Corbi nay, Mr. Fullerton aye, Mr. Mills nay, Mr. Quinn aye, Mayor Cairns Wells aye.

RESOLUTION #72-2018
A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE HIRING OF AN OPERATOR/LABORER IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
(IN FULL IN RESOLUTION BOOK)

Mr. Corbi read the resolution by title only and made a motion to approve to hire Mr. John Dydek at the rate of \$17.00/per hour. Mr. Bianchini seconded his motion. ROLL CALL: Ms. Azelby aye, Mr. Bianchini aye, Mr. Corbi aye, Mr. Fullerton aye, Mr. Mills aye, Mr. Quinn aye.

Mr. Corbi advised that the Public Works Committee has reviewed and in favor of a Volunteer project submitted by the RIA for the beautification of the corners of Howard and Main. Ms. Hack will alert the RIA and the property owner that dwarf crepe myrtles will be planted.

SEPTEMBER 2018 PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

DPW: Collected brush twice the entire town, using 2 brush dumpsters. Collected leaves once the entire town; Painted lines on Howard St. in front of businesses; Finished storm drain inspections; The F350 pick-up was serviced and F800 dump truck plow cylinder was rebuilt, other fleet maintenance included fixing strobe light and prep of Case Loader ready for leaf pick-up, along with Western Star trash truck to get ready for leaves; PSE&G repaved roads where they installed new gas mains on parts of Cedar St., 7th St., Linden Ave., and Bank Ave; Conducted interviews for new public works position. Keith sitting for the state test for CPWM on Oct. 24. **PARKS:** Cut park three times. **SEWER:** 2 sewer calls – Both were homeowner responsibilities. Held meeting with engineer to go over the project of replacing influent pumps and controls. He is working on plans and specs to go out to bid.

RESOLUTION #71 -2018

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHOURIZE A CURFEW FOR OCTOBER 30-31, 2019 (IN FULL IN RESOLUTION BOOK)

Ms. Azelby read the resolution by title only and made a motion to approve. Mr. Mills seconded the motion. ROLL CALL: Ms. Azelby aye, Mr. Bianchini aye, Mr. Corbi aye, Mr. Fullerton aye, Mr. Mills aye, Mr. Quinn aye.

Chief Shaw read his report into the record and Ms. Azelby read the Fire, Court and there was no EMS submitted. Ms. Azelby also said that the Public Safety Committee and the FOP have reached an agreement to move forward signing the Memorandum of Understanding, there will be a resolution next month. She also said the New Jersey Transit will attend a meeting held at the crosswalks at Broad and Cedar Streets to discuss Push Buttons being installed on October 31, at 11 o'clock AM.

ORDINANCE 07-2018

1ST READING

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE BOROUGH CODE AT CHAPTER 25-4 CANCELLATION POLICY (IN FULL IN ORDINANCE BOOK)

Ms. Azelby read the ordinance by title only and made a motion to approve. Mr. Mills seconded the motion. Ms. Azelby explained that this was a discrepancy that was revealed during current negotiations and this amendment provides for the Code and the Police contract to match. Public Notice of the second reading and public hearing will be published in the Burlington County Times for the meeting held November 28, 2018. ROLL CALL: Ms. Azelby aye, Mr. Bianchini aye, Mr. Corbi aye, Mr. Fullerton aye, Mr. Mills aye, Mr. Quinn aye.

ORDINANCE # O-2018-05

2ND READING

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE SALARY ORDINANCE TO CREATE THE POSITION OF A DEPUTY TAX COLLECTOR (IN FULL IN ORDINANCE BOOK)

Mr. Fullerton read the ordinance above by title only and motioned for approval to which Mr. Bianchini seconded the motion. The Mayor opened the floor for the Public Hearing portion of this ordinance reading, however no one came forward to speak therefore closing the public portion. Notice of said Public Hearing was published in the Burlington County Times on September 28, 2018. ROLL CALL: Ms. Azelby aye, Mr. Bianchini aye, Mr. Corbi aye, Mr. Fullerton aye, Mr. Mills aye, Mr. Quinn aye.

RESOLUTION # 75-2018

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF SYNPHONE INC. AS THE TELEPHONE PROVIDER FOR THE BOROUGH OF RIVERTON
(IN FULL IN RESOLUTION BOOK)**

Mr. Quinn read the resolution by title only and made a motion for approval. Mr. Mills seconded the motion. ROLL CALL: Ms. Azelby aye, Mr. Bianchini aye, Mr. Corbi aye, Mr. Fullerton aye, Mr. Mills aye, Mr. Quinn aye. This resolution also provides for the purchase of new telephones for the Borough and the funds will be transferred after November 1.

RESOLUTION #74-2018

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH CLERK TO TERMINATE SERVICES WITH LINE SYSTEMS INC
(IN FULL IN RESOLUTION BOOK)**

Mr. Quinn read the resolution by title only and made a motion to approve and Ms. Azelby seconded his motion. ROLL CALL: Ms. Azelby aye, Mr. Bianchini aye, Mr. Corbi aye, Mr. Fullerton aye, Mr. Mills aye, Mr. Quinn aye.

Mr. Quinn stated he would have more information on the Student Representatives for Civic Engagement and he's still looking forward to moving along with the project of a smart TV for the Borough Hall.

ORDINANCE # O-2018-06

1ST READING

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE BOROUGH CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF RIVERTON AT §CHAPTER 24-5 TO ADOPT A NEW EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK ENTITLED
"JANUARY 1, 2019 EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK FOR THE BOROUGH OF RIVERTON"
(IN FULL IN ORDINANCE BOOK)**

Tabled for November and will be re advertised accordingly.

RESOLUTION #73-2018

**A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CLERK TO ADVERTISE FOR RFPS FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR 2019
(IN FULL IN RESOLUTION BOOK)**

Mayor Cairns Wells read the resolution by title only and asked for a motion to approve. Mr. Mills motioned for approval and Ms. Azelby seconded the motion. ROLL CALL: Ms. Azelby aye, Mr. Bianchini aye, Mr. Corbi aye, Mr. Fullerton aye, Mr. Mills aye, Mr. Quinn aye.

RESOLUTION #70-2018

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE OPPOSITION OF THE ELCON
(IN FULL IN RESOLUTION BOOK)**

Mayor Cairns Wells read the resolution by title only and asked for a motion to approve. Mr. Quinn motioned for approval; Ms. Azelby seconded the motion. This resolution will be sent to Burlington County Clerk's Association, Burlington County Board of Chosen Freeholders, and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. Elcon is a Recycling Services plant that wants to build a facility in Falls Township, PA and is expected to have a negative impact on neighboring river-front municipalities in Burlington Township. ROLL CALL: Ms. Azelby aye, Mr. Bianchini aye, Mr. Corbi aye, Mr. Fullerton aye, Mr. Mills aye, Mr. Quinn aye.

Mayor Cairns Wells asked for a motion to enter into a closed session to discuss ongoing litigation concerning Affordable Housing and 410 Main. Mr. Corbi made the motion and Mr. Quinn provided the second. ROLL CALL: Ms. Azelby aye, Mr. Bianchini aye, Mr. Corbi aye, Mr. Fullerton aye, Mr. Mills aye, Mr. Quinn aye.

Motion to exit closed session by Ms. Azelby and seconded by Mr. Corbi. All approved in the affirmative. These minutes can be found in the Closed Session minute book and shall be released after the matter becomes resolved. No formal action occurred as a result of this closed session.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss Ms. Azelby made a motion to adjourn which Mr. Mills seconded. All voted in the affirmative.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Hack, RMC
Borough Clerk