

REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF
KENILWORTH HELD ON WEDNESDAY EVENING, JULY 8, 2015. MAYOR PUGLIESE
PRESIDED.

Mayor Pugliese read the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act.

The Salute to the Flag was led by Mayor Pugliese.

ROLL CALL

Roll Call at 8:00 P.M. showed the following Council Members present: Sal Candarella, Anthony Deluca, Brian Joho, Rich LoForte, and Nick Mascaro.

Mayor Pugliese said we had a Council person resign two weeks ago and as a result there is a vacancy on the Council. Pursuant to the statute, the Republican Committee submitted 3 names to the Council. The Council had to choose one of the candidates to fill that vacancy.

RESOLUTION NO. 1

Introduced by Sal Candarella adoption moved by same
Seconded by Rich LoForte, on roll call unanimously carried.

WHEREAS, Councilwoman Barbara Macecsko has vacated office prior to the December 31, 2016 expiration of her term.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:16-3. et. Seq., Scott Pentz be appointed Councilman and Chairman for Public Safety, of the Borough of Kenilworth until the certification of the 2015 General Election results.

Oath of Office was administered to Scott Pentz.

Mayor Pugliese welcomed Scott to the dais and said that Scott was the former Recreation Director and he was also a Sgt. with the Union County Police Department.

MINUTES

It was moved by Councilman Candarella, seconded by Councilman Joho and carried that the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of June 24, 2015 and the Work Session of June 23, 2015 be approved as submitted. (Copies furnished each Council Member prior to the meeting.)

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS

1. NJSOLM Notices
2. Kenilworth Vol. Fire Department – Annual Summer Carnival, August 17-22, 2015
3. Kenilworth Municipal republican Committee – Candidates for Council vacancy.
4. Department reports for June, 2015 were received from: The Clerk's Office, Finance Dept., Fire Dept., Planning & Zoning, Police Dept. and Public Works.

It was moved by Councilman Mascaro, seconded by Councilman LoForte and carried that the above communications be received and filed and any money amounts indicated be spread over the minutes. All in favor.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

MAYORS REPORT

Mayor Pugliese said two weeks ago we had a resident complain about a site angle issue in regard to a large tree on the corner of Kingston Avenue and South 24th Street. The tree has been taken down.

The County of Union will be having a Summer Arts Festival which includes concerts and he said since it's on your dime he suggested everyone make the most of it. He said you can go to the County web site to see what they have.

The Mayor said, as part of the Consent Agenda you will see a Kids Recreation Trust Fund Grant Application which we applied for in order to receive a matching grant from the County of Union. The application we are submitting deals with the revitalization of DiMario Park. DiMario Park has remained the same for decades except for some maintenance around the swings. He said with this application we will be applying for two floor hockey areas where the tennis courts are and we will be repaving the basketball courts and getting a new spiny ride for the kids and also a spot for Four Square Games. He said it is a matching grant and he anticipates receiving permission and getting that grant approved. The Mayor said we have improved two parks so far and DiMario is the remaining park that we have not touched on. He said if we get the approval, it will probably take place next year. He said even if we don't get the approval then next year we will talk about setting money aside as part of the Capital Budget.

Mayor Pugliese said the circle park on Lincoln Drive and Roosevelt Avenue now has a gazebo with benches for people to relax. He said that area was not utilized to the extent it could have been so we took out some trees and put in a small gazebo with park benches. There was some concern from the residents about possible loitering or debris in the area but he has spoken with the Police Chief and the DPW Supervisor Dan Ryan and he impressed on them the importance of keeping the area clean and that there will be no loitering. He said the Council talked about naming the park and they all agreed to name it Charlie Vitale Memorial Park, he said they got permission from his family. He said Mr. Vitale was known as Mr. Kenilworth and everyone who has lived long enough in town knew Charlie and probably has a story about how he might have helped them. The Mayor said he helped his dad with the school and he said he could not think of a better person to name the park after.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Councilman Joho reported the Borough Finance Officer received the final tax rate from the County for budget year 2015 and final tax bills will be distributed on the average assessed property of \$178,650.00. Taxes attributed to the County's portion of that tax bill will be \$86.29, the Board of Education will be \$225.99 and the Municipality, inclusive of the Library, will be \$32.17, the total tax increase on that average assessed property is \$344.45. He said for a little further breakdown on that, the tax percentage increase for 2015 is 5.37% for the County, 5.78 for the Board of Education and 1.3% for the Municipality inclusive of the Library. He said 49.6% of your taxes go to the Board of Education to run the school, 30.1% is for the municipality inclusive of the library and 20.3% goes to the County and inclusive in the County is Open Space. He said he received the tax and finance reports through June 30th and at mid-year there was nothing of concern from a budget perspective in those reports, we are on track with our budget for 2015 as of the middle of this year.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION & WELFARE

Councilman LoForte reported that one of the resolutions we have tonight is to authorize the Board of Health to enter into an agreement with Animal Control Services with the Township of Union. The Board reviews proposals and determined that the Township of Union meets the needs of the Borough. He said the school year is over but the library did not end and they have a number of summer programs for children. He said if you go on the library's web site www.kenilworthlibrary.org you will find a whole litany of programs designed for the children to keep their minds busy, active, fresh and inquisitive.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Nothing to report.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Councilman Deluca said the DPW did a great job picking up the grass but we finally got a grass contract and he also thanked the residents for having patience. He said the DPW had to do grass pick-up, brush pick-up as well as a lot of other things and a lot of things started to fall by the wayside but now hopefully we can get back on track because now we have a new company to pick up grass and they started the other day. He said the gazebo is up on Lincoln Drive and looks good and 9th Street Park is completed, they are still working on making all the parks clean and hopefully we will have 16th Street Park done soon.

Mayor Pugliese said all the work was done by the DPW on company time, no overtime. He said rather than hiring an outside company to do the work, it was done on our time.

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING, ZONING & ORDINANCES

Councilman Candarella reported tomorrow the Planning Board has a meeting where members of the Planning Board will have reviewed the new Land Use Ordinances and will be having discussions and suggesting changes. He said it is going to be a vibrant meeting with a lot of input from the members of the Planning Board and at the end of the day the Chair will put a letter together making recommendations to the Council as to their suggested changes for some of the Land Use Ordinances. He said in the meantime he has been working with our planner and our engineer and tweaking some typos and some other minor changes. He said he reviewed the Construction Report and that is all in order. He said there is one applicant for the Planning Board Meeting.

Mayor Pugliese said they had gone over the ordinances a few months ago as a council and there is no significant changes in these new sets of ordinances. He said the two major areas of change would be the impervious coverage ordinance which has been talked about for a while in this community and for every person who wants one there is one person that does not want one. He said basically it is going to limit the amount of asphalt you can put in your back or front yard and limit the amount you can build on. He said he sees both sides of the argument, ultimately there will be an impervious coverage ordinance as recommended in the Master Plan, the percentages had to be worked out and now it is back to the Planning Board for their recommendation. The Planning Board doesn't have any permanent say, they look at it and give recommendations. He said also there is a floor area ratio provision in there that is a little more complicated which deals with livable space. He said lastly there was some disagreement between the Planning Board and us as a Governing, the 7 of us, as to whether we should increase the amount of two family homes in town and decrease the amount of single family homes in town and we, as a full council, agreed that there should not be more two-family homes and leave it the way it is.

DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND FIRE

Councilman Mascaro reported he received the Fire Report for the month of June and between the Rescue Squad and the Fire Department a total of 156 calls were received which had both departments travelling over 1,000 miles, only 4 of those calls were mutual aid calls. He said these guys and girls are staying very busy in town. He said the Fire Departments Carnival fundraiser which is every year will be held August 17 thru August 22. He said when he first came on Council he met with Chief Lou who gave him a good insight about how the department is run but one of the things he said that stuck with him was that over the years the fundraiser amounts have decreased over the years. He said he thought that was odd because he remembers as a kid going to the wet down and the carnival and he wants to encourage everyone to come out to the carnival to support the Fire Department and the Rescue Squad. He said they are always working for us and the least we can do is give a little back to them.

Councilman Mascaro said the Recreation is very hopeful and optimistic that the grant application will go through so that DiMario Park can have a complete makeover to make it a great park for kids in the area. He said tomorrow is Kenilworth Swim Night at Orange Avenue Pool from 6PM to 9PM, open to all Kenilworth residents free of charge. He said he heard some concerns that the lines were fading and were chipped and not as visible in the cross walks near and around the school. He said the County had previously been painting the lines for us forever but this year they gave us a hard time about doing that for us but we were able to talk with some people at the County and now they will paint the lines in the near future which will save us a nice chunk of change so that we don't have to go out and hire a company to do it. He said it will be getting done in the next couple of weeks.

Mayor Pugliese said Councilman Mascaro is being modest, he actually took the lead on dealing with the County, we were kind of at a stand-off because we said it's their road and they should do it and they said it's in your town so you should do it. He said it was actually a game of chicken but ultimately if we had to do it we would have done it before the school year started. They were not giving in and we were trying to hold off as long as we could before we had to paint it but Councilman Mascaro took the lead and ultimately came up with the resolution for the work to get done whereas they pay a little and we pay a little.

CONSENT AGENDA

Resolutions No. 2 thru 6 are listed on Consent Agenda and will be enacted by one motion in the form listed below. All items will be recorded individually in full in the minutes.

Councilman Deluca moved that all items under the Consent Agenda be approved, seconded by Councilman Joho. Upon roll call the vote was unanimous.

RESOLUTION NO. 2

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED: That all bills be paid when properly audited and funds are available.

RESOLUTION NO. 3

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED: That the Chief Finance Officer be authorized to make payments for necessary obligations prior to the next regularly scheduled Council Meeting on August 26, 2015.

RESOLUTION NO. 4

WHEREAS, the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders has announced the 2015 Kids Recreation Trust Fund Grant opportunity; and,

WHEREAS, this grant focuses on summer recreational programs for the youth of Union County, and overall recreational improvements within each municipality; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Kenilworth agrees to conform the with the terms and conditions of this important matching grant opportunity; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Mayor and Clerk are authorized to submit a grant application(s) on behalf of the Borough of Kenilworth; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council find this project to be in the public interest by serving a much needed public purpose and therefore worthy of funding by the Union County 2015 Kids Recreation Trust Fund Grant; and

RESOLUTION NO.5

WHEREAS, the Borough of Kenilworth has the need for Animal Control Services; and

WHEREAS, the Kenilworth Board of Health has reviewed proposals for said services and it is their determination that the Township of Union can best address the needs of the Borough of Kenilworth at a practical rate ; and

WHEREAS, the Local Public Contracts Law (NJSA 40A:11-1 et seq.) requires that the Mayor and Council pass a resolution authorizing the award of contracts.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

1. The Borough of Kenilworth hereby authorizes the Kenilworth Board of Health to enter into an agreement with the Township of Union for Animal Control Services pursuant to their contract (attached), for a sum of \$4,500 for a term beginning July 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015.
2. The Mayor and the Borough Clerk are hereby authorized to execute all documents to effectuate the purposes herein above expressed.

CERTIFICATION OF FUNDS

DATE: _____

APPROPRIATION: _____

ROBERT ORDWAY, TREASURER

RESOLUTION NO. 6

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED: That **DANIEL DeFURIA** be employed as a Driver/Laborer in the Kenilworth Department of Public Works as of July 20, 2015 at a rate of \$16.00 per hour subject to a 90 day probationary period and results of a NJ Dept. of Transportation Physical and Drug/Alcohol Screening.

Mayor Pugliese said the next thing on the agenda and the most important item on the agenda is a proclamation commemorating and remembering 70 years of victory since World War II. He said we as a Governing Body get invited to the Veterans Day and Memorial Day functions every year and we come out in force because we want to show our support for the veteran's. Councilman LoForte said several communities in the area honor veterans by having their names on streets they grew up on and our Borough Clerk has been doing research for us and this is something we are working on this year. Mayor Pugliese said it is not as easy as it sounds to find out where these veterans lived during the time they gave their lives. He said it will take a few months and hopefully we will have street signs with their names. The Mayor said 70 years later they just found 36 bodies of marines that gave their lives during WWII in the South Pacific. He said it seems so long ago but there are still remnants of it and he quoted the person that lead the expedition to find the bodies of these dead marines "they had an expectation that if they were to die in the line of duty defending their country, they would be brought home, that was a promise made 70 years ago that should be kept".

The Mayor called all the veterans up and read the following:

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the United States was still recovering from the economic woes of the Great Depression, when in 1941 our country joined the Allied Forces in World War II; and

WHEREAS, through a collective effort by the strong, supportive home front and a unified military force, U.S, Armed Forces courageously stormed the beaches of Normandy, proudly raised our flag at Iwo Jima and once again stood up for the values of freedom and democracy everywhere; and

WHEREAS, on August 14, 1945, the people of the United States received word of Allies' noble victory and the end of World War II. The victory marked the culmination of an unprecedented national effort that defeated the forces of aggression, brought freedom to subjugated nations and ended the horrors of the Holocaust; and

WHEREAS, these historic accomplishments were achieved through the collective service and personal sacrifice of the people of the United States, both those who served in uniform and those who supported them on the Home Front, and the more than 400,000 Americans who gave their lives in service to their country during World War II; and

WHEREAS, August 14, 1945 marked not only the end of the war but also the beginning of an unprecedented era of rebuilding, led by the United States to restore societies of both their allies and former foes alike, and the formation of an array of organizations and institutions which helped strengthen American democracy by promoting civic engagement, volunteerism and service to community and country; and

WHEREAS, the entire World War II generation, military and civilian alike, has provided a model of national unity and community that will continue to serve as a source of inspiration for current and future generations of Americans to come together to work for the continued prosperity of the United States and the world.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Kenilworth, County of Union, State of New Jersey marks and honors the **70th Anniversary** of the end of World War II and pays tribute to all the remarkable men and women who defended our freedom, promoted liberty and democracy abroad and to those who have since and are currently serving and protecting our country around the world.

In testimony whereof, I have here unto signed my name officially and caused the seal of the Borough of Kenilworth to be affixed this 8th day of July, 2015

Fred Pugliese, Mayor

Commander Jeans thanked the Mayor and Council for this honor by recognizing our oldest veterans, although we still can't figure out who was here first, dirt or them. He thanked his men for coming out tonight.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Motion was made by Councilman Candarella, seconded by Councilman Mascaro to open the meeting to the public. All in favor.

No one wished to speak

Motion was made by Councilman Joho seconded by Councilman Mascaro to close the meeting to the public. All in favor.

GENERAL COMMENTS

Councilman LoForte welcomed Councilman Pentz and wished him good luck.

Councilman Joho also welcomed Councilman Pentz, he said he has been here for a number of years and he looks forward to working with him on the Finance and Personnel Committees. He said commemorating the silver anniversary of the end of WWII is very meaningful and he appreciates the men and women who serve in the military.

Councilman Candarella said that was a very moving ceremony. He said regarding naming the park for Charlie Vitale, 14 years ago he was a rookie sitting on the Planning Board and Charlie was the Chair of the Planning Board and knew everyone in town and he treated everyone as his son or daughter or personal friend and he was a great guy and it is a great honor to name the park after him.

Councilman Deluca welcomed Scott and said we can play tic tac toe and have coffee. He thanked all those who have served and will serve.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, it was moved by Councilman Deluca seconded by Councilman Mascaro and carried, that the meeting be adjourned to the call of the chair.

7:55 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Moschitta
Deputy Borough Clerk