

REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF KENILWORTH HELD ON WEDNESDAY EVENING, MAY 24, 2017. MAYOR ANTHONY DELUCA PRESIDED.

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

The Salute to the Flag was led by Mayor Deluca.

ROLL CALL

Roll Call at 8:00 P.M. showed the following Council Members present: Kay Ceceri, Larry Clementi, Peter Corvelli, Gerry Ladauti. Mark David and Nick Mascaro were absent.

Mayor Deluca said Union County is sponsoring "Rhythm and Blues by the Brook" at Cedar Brook Park, Plainfield, NJ which is a free outdoor music festival on Saturday, June 3rd from noon to 6:00 PM, rain or shine. There will be free activities for children and inflatable rides and a petting zoo.

MINUTES

It was moved by Councilman Ladauti, seconded by Councilwoman Ceceri and carried that the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting, Work Session and Executive Session of May 10, 2017 be approved as submitted. (Copies furnished each Council Member prior to the meeting). All in favor.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS

NJSLOM Notices (emailed to all)

UC Freeholder Chairman Bergen – Invitation to Family PRIDE Community Picnic.

KFD Chief Giordino Recommendation for 1st Clothing Allowance List.

Kenilworth VFW – Memorial Day Services Invite – May 29th at 11AM.

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

MAYORS REPORT

Mayor Deluca thanked the Boy Scouts for their efforts in planting flowers in front of Borough Hall and he said Boy Scouts have always been an integral part of this town and they always step up and do a good job. He urged everyone, when exiting Borough Hall to see the flowers.

The Mayor said Memorial Day is coming up and it is a day for remembrance and when you see a Vet he urged everyone to make sure you look him in the eye and thank him for his service. The Memorial Service is on Monday, 11:00 AM. He said asked everyone to honor those who have made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of our Country. He said his prayers and thoughts go out to the families in Manchester, England.

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REPORT OF COMMITTEES

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Councilman Mascaro was absent.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Councilman David was absent.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Councilman Corvelli said he will report on both Public Works and the Police Department. He said both departments are running very well and he gave kudos to the Chief and Superintendent Ryan. The street fair was well attended and as usual as soon as it was over it was cleaned up very nicely. The police provided the security we needed. He said he heard rumblings about the big apparatus at the ends of the Boulevard but as the Mayor just said and because of what happened overseas, this is what we live in. The Chief has taken a pro-active roll. He said if you saw the dump truck, the garbage truck, the backhoe and the big ambulance these are things we have to do to protect the residents.

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING, ZONING & ORDINANCES

Councilman Clementi reported he will be meeting with his sub-committee to discuss a few ordinances that are on the table.

DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND FIRE

Councilwoman Ceceri reported the Fire Department had a Memorial Service on Thursday, May 18th for the brave men and women who have given their lives and who have served should not be forgotten. She said Memorial Day is a day of reflection and it was a very nice ceremony. Tickets are available for the Super 50/50 Raffle for the carnival. The Recreation Department has 81 children signed up for Summer camp and they are still getting more in.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION & HUMAN SERVICES

Councilman Ladauti reported 4 teachers were granted tenure and they have to meet all the criteria to get that promotion. June 21st is the Middle School graduation and June 22nd is the High School graduation. He said he went to a consortium on Friday regarding improving libraries in Union County. All bills have been paid in the Health Department and they are prepping for the Health Fair in September.

CONSENT AGENDA

Resolutions No. 1 thru 2 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 Clementi moved that all items under the Consent Agenda be approved, seconded by Councilman Ceceri. All in favor.

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RESOLUTION NO. 1

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED: That the attached list of the Kenilworth Volunteer Fire Department/Rescue Squad members be granted an expense allowance in accordance with the report submitted by Fire Chief Lewis Giordano, in the aggregate amount of \$64,223.32.

CERTIFICATION OF FUNDS

APPROPRIATION:

Joseph Delorio, Treasurer

Proposed Ordinance No. 2017-05 was read for a second reading as follows: Copy can be found in 4/26/17 minutes.

BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE MAKING OF VARIOUS PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS AND THE ACQUISITION OF NEW ADDITIONAL OR REPLACEMENT EQUIPMENT AND MACHINERY, NEW COMMUNICATION AND SIGNAL SYSTEMS EQUIPMENT, NEW INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT AND A NEW FIRE ENGINE (PARTIAL FUNDING) AND NEW AUTOMOTIVE VEHICLES, INCLUDING ORIGINAL APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT RECONSTRUCTION AND RESURFACING OF STREETS AND ROADS AND THEIR APPURTENANCES, , IN, BY AND FOR THE BOROUGH OF KENILWORTH, IN THE COUNTY OF UNION, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$1,455,500 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, TO MAKE A DOWN PAYMENT, TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS TO FINANCE SUCH APPROPRIATION AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH BONDS.

Mayor Deluca said this Ordinance is our Capital Budget where all our big ticketed items have to be bonded and we provide the money for it.

Motion was made by Councilman Ladauti, seconded by Councilwoman Ceceri to open the hearing on Ordinance No. 2017-05. All in favor.

No one wished to speak.

Motion was made by Councilman Clementi, seconded by Councilman Corvelli to close the hearing on Ordinance No. 2017-05. All in favor.

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RESOLUTION NO. 3

Introduced by Peter Corvelli, adoption moved by same.
Seconded by Larry Clementi. All in favor.

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the ordinance #2017-05, entitled:

BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE MAKING OF VARIOUS PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS AND THE ACQUISITION OF NEW ADDITIONAL OR REPLACEMENT EQUIPMENT AND MACHINERY, NEW COMMUNICATION AND SIGNAL SYSTEMS EQUIPMENT, NEW INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT AND A NEW FIRE ENGINE (PARTIAL FUNDING) AND NEW AUTOMOTIVE VEHICLES, INCLUDING ORIGINAL APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT RECONSTRUCTION AND RESURFACING OF STREETS AND ROADS AND THEIR APPURTENANCES, , IN, BY AND FOR THE BOROUGH OF KENILWORTH, IN THE COUNTY OF UNION, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$1,455,500 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, TO MAKE A DOWN PAYMENT, TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS TO FINANCE SUCH APPROPRIATION AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH BONDS.

Was introduced and approved on first reading, at the regular meeting of the Borough Council on April 26, 2017 and approved for final passage at the regular meeting of the Borough Council of May 24, 2017 after all persons interested were given an opportunity to be heard concerning said ordinance.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to publish said ordinance according to law with a notice of its final adoption.

Mayor Deluca said he believes in the history of Kenilworth and that we have a rich history. We have people in town that are dedicated to the history of our town. He said the following proclamation is an aformation of Kenilworth's history. The Mayor read the following proclamation which involves Kenilworth's involvement in the Revolutionary War. He said Kenilworth was a series of farms and our militia was here and George Washington was here and most of the battles were fought in and around here.

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the Borough of Kenilworth, County of Union State of New Jersey, on this 24th Day of May in the year 2017 hereby proclaims that our Borough was part of Connecticut Farms during the Battle of Connecticut Farms on June 7, 1780, in the course of the American Revolutionary War 1775 - 1783; and

WHEREAS, the Borough wishes to honor our citizen hero militia who fought in this major battle against the British Crown; protecting General George Washington and our American Continental Army who were encamped at Morristown, New Jersey at that date by stopping the surprise attack of five thousand

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British soldiers on route through Connecticut Farms, with the intent of marching to end the war with a British victory at Morristown; and

WHEREAS, General George Washington himself praised the militia at the Connecticut Farms Battle that took place that day on June 7, 1780, stating that the militia fought “with honor”.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Borough of Kenilworth hereby proclaims that moving forward every year, June 7th will be a day of remembrance and recognition of the hero militia here at Connecticut Farms that helped to win our independence from British rule to become the United States of America, fighting the Battle at Connecticut Farms, New Jersey during the American Revolutionary War.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in recognition and remembrance, from this day forward, Borough flags be flown at half-staff every June 7th.

In testimony whereof, I have here unto signed my name officially and caused the seal of the Borough of Kenilworth to be affixed this 24th day of May, 2017.

Anthony DeLuca, Mayor

Mayor Deluca presented the proclamation to Dorthea Krihak who has done a lot of research on this subject. He said he is trying to get the manifest publically put somewhere and our Boy Scouts might have a project where we might be able to find a way to have that publically displayed while it stays locked. He thanked Dorthea for her manuscript.

Dorthea said that Kenilworth used to be part of Union Township and that is where she went to find our history.

Dorthea introduced Mr. Ysenko who is our historian on this subject. She said it was because of his research that she was able to get information on Kenilworth’s involvement in the Revolutionary War. The Mayor thanked Mr. Ysenko for all his help.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Motion was made by Councilman Clementi seconded by Councilwoman Ceceri to open the meeting to the public. All in favor.

Joseph Grimaldi, 34 North 14th Street – Mr. Grimaldi suggested that store owners be allowed to participate in the street fair. Mayor Deluca said that store owners are offered to participate but most did not want to participate. Mr. Grimaldi said having the heavy equipment on both ends of the Boulevard is the price we have to pay to be safe

Shirley Maxwell, President of the Historical Society and Chairman of the 2007 Centennial Committee. She said she is here with several Board members on the Historical Society to thank everyone for the

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support and the interest that they have shown in the past, particularly their project to save the Nitschke House, restore it and transform it into a living history museum and cultural art center that benefits and offers wonderful programs for the people of Kenilworth as well as our surrounding communities and that helps make Kenilworth shine. She said through the 14 years since they moved the Nitschke House they have not only restored the exterior and the interior of the house, brought heating and air conditioning throughout the building but they have also established a living history museum on the first floor with five period rooms that are authentically furnished in the late 19th early 20th century style. They also have an exhibition center on the second floor with track lighting that makes the space extremely adaptable for art exhibits as well as changing history exhibits and we have posted many of them free of charge. Also a cultural arts center on the lower level that has been the venue for many community celebrations as well as historical society programs and also a meeting place for the New Jersey Historic Trust, the Union County Division of Aging and the Kenilworth Chamber of Commerce among others. Through the years we have had many challenges and many obstacle's thrown in our path but we have managed to overcome them through perseverance, hard work and dedication because we love this community and the residents and we will do anything to benefit our beloved Kenilworth and make it shine. She said there is presently a challenge before them that is threatening their house and their existence and their ability to move forward with their program which is a major bank loan that they were forced to take back in 2014 in order to complete the elevator construction project within the time frame that was required by certain matching government grants. She said putting that elevator in the Nitschke House was very important to us because we wanted the entire house and all the programs that we would offer to be accessible to everyone including those with physical challenges. She said that since the time they have put the elevator in, it has been a God send because it opened up the Nitschke House and their programs for people of all ages, backgrounds and cultures so that everyone can come and enjoy the programs, most of which are offered free of charge. Unfortunately with this bank loan for the past few years we have been paying \$3200 per month in addition to paying all the other expenses of the house, the utility bills, insurance and everything that goes along with it. Last year we started looking into some other options in terms of financing and we were able to find one bank that is willing to consider us for a loan that would be much more manageable for us but it comes with the request for certain assurances that we need your help with. She knows that Borough Attorney Harvey Fruchter either will be or has presented a number of those to you for your consideration. She said she is asking that you please give those your consideration in any way that you are able to help us. She said she can assure you that they will appreciate any help that you give us and we will reciprocate with even more programs that can be offered to the general public that will benefit our residents and make our community shine. Shirley said that Sherry Combs Plack is with us tonight and is one of our Board Members and she has been working very hard, along with Fran and Craig and a number of other members in creating a teaching garden at the back of the Nitschke House. This teaching garden has all kinds of fruits and vegetables that will be the basis for a new multi-cultural garden to table food waste program that we plan to launch this fall and that is one more aspect of the Nitschke programming that will be a benefit to everyone who comes there and it will also bring more people in from other communities to enjoy our house and our history and while they are here they can patronize our local businesses. She said that is what their dream has been all along for the Nitschke House, not only to be a lasting and living testament to our rich history in Kenilworth but also to make Kenilworth shine in Union County and in the State. She thanked everyone for their help and said they would appreciate any support that you are able to give in order for them to be eligible for these other financing opportunities that they so critically need at this time.

Stacy Fleischner, 31 Commonwealth Road – Ms. Fleischner said she is here because of the residential auto shop in her neighborhood. She said they work out of the front driveway of their house which

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encourages loitering and questionable characters that come into the neighborhood doing questionable activities during the day and night as well as really loud cars. She can hear the cars when she is on the Boulevard from her house. She does not know if anyone has complained but she is wondering if there is anything the town can do, maybe an ordinance against a residential auto shop? Or for cars being over a certain decibel. Mayor Deluca said they are well aware of the situation and our Zoning Officer is going to deal with it, he lives in the area and he hears all the sounds of them racing up and down the street. Also the Police Chief is aware of it and we are doing what we can. He said you cannot have an auto shop business in a R-1 Zone. Ms. Fleischner asked if there was anything to be done about the cars and Councilman Corvelli said if she hears cars she should call the police and she said she did call last week and no one showed up and cars were going and revving their engines.

Ms. Diana Wilkinson said she is new to Kenilworth and lives in the neighborhood. She said she had her 2012 Infinity stolen out of her driveway. The police found her car stripped in Newark. She said it is generally a safe neighborhood. She said she doesn't think it's the neighbors because they are extremely nice and have been very welcoming to her as a new neighbor but she questions the people that come into the neighborhood. Ms. Wilkinson said she has almost a river that runs in front of her house from the drain pipe, she thinks it is the sump pump from her neighbor. She asked if there could be a drainage pipe next to it so it can drain? Mayor said it is a pipe that runs to the curb and he said you are not supposed to pipe water to the street. The Mayor suggested she talk to her neighbor and maybe he has to make an adjustment.

Mary **Michitsch**, 725 Monmouth Ave. – Ms. Michitsch said she knows it late but she wanted to thank everyone in town for what they did for Christmas and Thanksgiving, they gave out a huge amount of food, turkey and money and gifts over the holiday and it was only because of the generosity of the Town of Kenilworth. She said in Florida her town is has 150,000 people and we put them to shame, we do more in our little town then they do in their city. She said it has a lot to do with the Mayor and Council, the Police and church and our residents.

Harvey Fruchter acknowledged a former Council Member in the audience, Robert Taylor, Esq. and advised that he has opened an office in Kenilworth. Mayor Deluca welcomed Robert back to town.

Motion was made by Councilman Ladauti seconded by Councilman Clementi to close the meeting to the public. All in favor.

GENERAL COMMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

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

8:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted

Kathleen Moschitta
Deputy Borough Clerk

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