



Mayor and Common Council Borough of Flemington

July 11, 2016

Council Meeting Room

Work Session Agenda (Start)

This meeting is being held in conformance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

Mayor Greiner stated that Dave Turner, Fire Marshall, has expressed a need for an additional inspector, however more information is needed.

Mayor Greiner also mentioned the Samuel Fleming House Museum needs a heating system. Councilwoman Oberst was not comfortable presenting this herself when John and Elaine have been working on it for several years.

Mayor Greiner polled the Council regarding the Governors proposal to reevaluate the school funding equation. Currently the State gives large amounts to 30 districts in the state and less to others, but is proposing making this an equal share per pupil. The projected average savings to a Borough home would be roughly \$1,250.00 in annual taxes. Mayor Greiner stated the Governors office has been reaching out for support on this issue. Mayor Greiner stated that he does not have issues helping impoverished communities, however he does not feel money is the issue.

Councilwoman Oberst stated that she agrees. The issue is not about money, students and parents need to commit to education.

Mayor Greiner opened the remainder of the work session for public comments.

Chris Englehardt, 180 Main Street inquired if the FCP would be having meetings soon. Mayor Greiner responded he did not know at this time. Ms. Englehardt asked if Jack Cust was going to give a public presentation again. Mayor Greiner stated yes he would at some point however nothing has been finalized.

Steve Karpew, 32 Allen Street asked the Council if they will be moving the fire works now that they have seen the damage to his property. Mayor Greiner stated he was sympathetic however, we cannot move the entire event based on one persons complaints. Councilman Hain stated that the recreation committee with be looking into alternative types of fireworks to minimize the debris.

Lois Stewart, 26 Spring Street thanked the Rec Committee for the fireworks and stated they were beautiful.

Councilman Hain stated that the fireworks event was very successful. Ritas Italian Ice went through 30 gallons in 2 1/2 hours.

Regular Meeting Agenda (Start)

This meeting is being held in conformance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

Flag Salute

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Alan P. Brewer	Councilman	Absent	
John Gorman	Councilman	Absent	
Marc Hain	Council Vice President	Present	
Brooke Liebowitz	Councilwoman	Present	
Michelle Oberst	Councilwoman	Present	
Brian Swingle	Council President	Absent	
Phil Greiner	Mayor	Present	

1. Public Comments -- Session I (up to approximately 3 minutes each, for a maximum of approximately 30 minutes)

Lois Stewart, 26 Spring Street inquired about Thursday Nite Lights and who was financing that. Mayor Greiner stated he was unsure however, he thought some funding was coming from the FCP budget.

Joanne Braun, 77 Jefferson Court inquired if Jack Cust would be doing another public presentation. Mr. Braun stated there was going to be one in June and than July but nothing has happened so far. Mayor Greiner stated the plan and its revisions are very complicated and that is why there was a delay. Mayor Greiner reiterated to the public that Jack Cust and his team was taking the concerns of the citizens seriously and working on many revisions to come up with the best possible solution.

Chris Englehardt, 180 Main Street inquired as to what other ideas have come in for the Hotel and if the Borough would entertain any other plans. Mayor Greiner stated that there is more to this than the romantic notion to save the hotel. There are many factors involved. Mayor Greiner stated no one else has come forward at this point and the Borough would certainly listen to a proposal but at this point the Borough has a commitment to Mr. Cust as he was named the redeveloper.

Steve Tuccio, 61 Elwood Ave how would the Borough go about dedesignating Jack Cust as the redeveloper. Mayor Greiner stated the Council could vote to dedesignate the developer however there would have to be a want to do so and there is no want to do that.

Betsy Driver 50 N Main Street inquired what the basis was to waive the food license fee for the Salvation Army. Mayor Greiner responded that they were a local non profit and this is consistent with waivers we have approved in the past.

Steve Karpew, 32 Allen Street inquired if there was a time limit on the Hotel redevelopment. Attorney Goodman stated there will be timelines in the redevelopment agreement.

2. Mayor's Report (up to approximately 3 minutes)

- The deaths of five Dallas police officers on July 7 is cause for us to pause and reflect on how fragile our lives can be and on the potential danger faced by police officers in their most routine duties every day. Dallas was regarded as having generally good relations between police and community, as we think we have here in Flemington, so we must recognize that any environment can harbor the danger posed by a single crazed or hate-filled individual. The NJ PBA has sent a \$10,000 donation to Dallas as a show of support for the slain officers' families. Let us observe a moment of silence for the Dallas officers and their families.
- We have been notified by the DOT that our road project on Capner/Allen is halted beginning at midnight last Friday and for at least seven days thereafter.
- I attended the first two Friday night beer garden events for about 5-1/2 hours. Both were lively, enjoyable, and offered a great opportunity to speak with many neighbors in Flemington.
- Attended ribbon-cutting today for Hunterdon Medical Center's Urgent Care Center on Church Street.
- Hotel-area project: Work continues, but there will not likely be announcements for another month or two. Also, the redevelopment committee would like to expand its membership to include representatives from the planning board and HPC.

	2015	2016	Increase
County	0.328	0.327	-0.3%
County Open Space	0.032	0.032	0.0%
District School Tax	1.329	1.381	3.9%
Regional School Tax	0.457	0.457	0.0%
Municipal Tax	0.873	0.907	3.9%
Municipal Library Tax	0.035	0.035	0.0%
Total Tax:	3.054	3.139	2.8%

- Tax bills mailed out today:

3. Council Members' Reports (up to approximately 3 minutes each)

Councilman Brewer

Councilman Gorman

Council Vice President Hain

Council Vice President Hain stated the fireworks were held on July 3rd and he received mostly positive comments however there were some negative

comments. Mr. Hain stated the committee will evaluate all the facts for the following year.

Mr. Hain stated the Environmental commission will be working on at least maintaining the Boroughs Sustainable Jersey Bronze status.

Mr. Hain stated that Chief Becker has retired and is utilizing his sick time until August 31, 2016 which is his last day. The process has begun to find a replacement Chief, and summarized the police activity as follows:

- 5,396 miles driven
- 139 motor vehicle summons issued
- 2 parking tickets
- 13 License plate reader summons
- 204 warnings
- 10 criminal investigations
- 20 disorderly arrests
- 574 calls
- 120 investigations
- 34 motor vehicle accidents

The police department had a police car with a blown engine so they turned the car over to the fire department to utilize.

Lastly, Mr. Hain informed the public the police were issuing tickets to kids that are practicing safe biking habits. These tickets are designed to be an award for safety and many local businesses are participating in the program and offering free merchandise. Mr. Hain thanked Milissa Swingle and Michelle Blood for organizing the program.

Councilwoman Liebowitz

Councilwoman Liebowitz stated she attended a street scape meeting and they have decided to keep the existing flower pots, as she knew there were concerns over that.

Ms. Liebowitz attended the beer garden and also stated it was a success.

Ms. Liebowitz stated she was working on the newsletter and needed articles, the deadline is August 1st.

Lastly, Ms Liebowitz expressed her support for the Dallas Police Department and thanked all law enforcement for their dedication to protecting their communities.

Councilwoman Oberst

Councilwoman Oberst stated she met with representatives from the HPC and brought them up to speed on the Union Hotel plans and the HPC was very pleased with the direction Mr. Cust and his team were moving.

Ms. Oberst stated that she has been working with the admin committee to conduct interviews for the positions open at Borough Hall.

Ms. Oberst stated she attended the beer garden and it was a great success.

Ms. Oberst stated she is waiting for an update regarding the porch at the Samuel Fleming House, but has not heard anything at this time.

Ms. Oberst informed the Council and the public she would be meeting with Jack Cust and his professionals in the upcoming week to go over the project, pilots and the financial impact of this project.

Council President Swingle

4. Approval of Minutes

Motion To: **Approve Minutes: June 27, 2016 Regular Council Meeting**

RESULT:	APPROVED [2 TO 0]
MOVER:	Marc Hain, Council Vice President
SECONDER:	Michelle Oberst, Councilwoman
AYES:	Marc Hain, Michelle Oberst
ABSTAIN:	Brooke Liebowitz
ABSENT:	Alan P. Brewer, John Gorman, Brian Swingle

1. Motion To: **Approve Minutes: June 13, 2016 Executive Session**

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Marc Hain, Council Vice President
SECONDER:	Brooke Liebowitz, Councilwoman
AYES:	Marc Hain, Brooke Liebowitz, Michelle Oberst
ABSENT:	Alan P. Brewer, John Gorman, Brian Swingle

CONSENT AGENDA (Start)

This meeting is being held in conformance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

1. RESOLUTION 2016-121: AUTHORIZING THE SALVATION ARMY TO BE EXEMPT FROM THE FOOD LICENSE FEE OF \$235.00 FOR THE PURPOSE OF A SOUP KITCHEN TO FEED THE NEEDY AT NO COST

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Marc Hain, Council Vice President
SECONDER:	Michelle Oberst, Councilwoman
AYES:	Marc Hain, Brooke Liebowitz, Michelle Oberst
ABSENT:	Alan P. Brewer, John Gorman, Brian Swingle

7. Public Comments -- Session II (up to approximately 3 minutes each, for a maximum of approximately 30 minutes)

Lois Stewart, 26 Spring Street asked about the buildings that are proposed in Mr. Cust's plan to be demolished that are not included in the redevelopment area. Mayor Greiner stated he has the Borough planner looking at those areas to see if they meet the criteria to be declared part of the redevelopment area. Ms. Stewart asked if these findings would be shared with the public. Mayor Greiner stated yes, it would be discussed at 3 public meetings, two council meetings and one planning board.

Chris Englehart, 180 Main Street asked why the planners and professionals were not involved in the process. Mayor Greiner stated they are very involved. There are some areas where they are more involved than others.

Steve Tuccio, 61 Elwood asked when the last time the town planner was actually contacted regarding this. Mayor Greiner stated it was 1-2 weeks prior via email.

Joanna Eloqua, 7 Marleton Trail stated Mayor Greiner stated he wanted to re-energize the Borough without changing the nature of who we are in a publication from 11/4/2014 and opined Mayor Greiner has not kept his word. Mayor Greiner responded stating he did not say he was going to save the hotel and that he did not seek out Mr. Cust and say you should rip down the hotel.

Lois Stewart, 26 Spring Street suggested the police department not appoint a new chief. Ms. Stewart felt a civilian could better monitor the police department, but they should not carry a gun.

Ms. Stewart inquired why the Utility Ordinance was not published in the newsletter. Councilwoman Liebowitz responded that the newsletter is completed 6-8 weeks before it is printed so the timing does not work.

Ms. Stewart asked Mayor Greiner why the Borough did not say Thank you but no thank you when Jack Cust came in with his plan. Mayor Greiner responded that when Mr. Cust presented his plan there was resounding applause and many supporters of this plan.

Chris Englehart, 180 Main Street stated that people were stunned and shell shocked at the presentation.

Joanne Braun, 77 Jefferson Court opined that everyone just applauded because others did.

8. Attorney's Report

None at this time.

9. Payment of the Bills

Motion To: **Pay The Bills**

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Marc Hain, Council Vice President
SECONDER:	Michelle Oberst, Councilwoman
AYES:	Marc Hain, Brooke Liebowitz, Michelle Oberst
ABSENT:	Alan P. Brewer, John Gorman, Brian Swingle

Executive Session For Any Other Applicable Matter Identified During the Regular Meeting (Action May Be Taken)

Adjournment

Motion To: **Adjourn**

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Meeting was adjourned at 9:07 PM

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Marc Hain, Council Vice President
SECONDER:	Michelle Oberst, Councilwoman
AYES:	Marc Hain, Brooke Liebowitz, Michelle Oberst
ABSENT:	Alan P. Brewer, John Gorman, Brian Swingle