



Mayor and Common Council Borough of Flemington

April 22, 2019

Council Meeting Room

Work Session (7:00 PM)

Capital campaign for Flemington-Raritan First Aid and Rescue Squad's new headquarters on Royal Road - Squad President David Giuliani

Mr. Giuliani and Ron Dominijanni, Senior Trustee for the squad, said a pre-campaign study of how much they could expect to raise in a full campaign for new headquarters has them worried they won't raise enough money. The project is expected to cost about \$3.5 million, but if it's put off so they can raise more money, costs are likely to rise as well. Ms. Peterson asked if they owned the land on Royal Road where the new HQ would be built; Mr. Giuliani said the landowner donated part of it, and they paid for the rest.

Asked about their current quarters, they said there isn't any way to configure it so they could stay there; the square footage is inadequate. They think they can sell it for around \$1 million or \$1.1 million. Mr. Giuliani said they're making sure this building project isn't impairing their operations.

People wishing to make donations can call Mr. Dominijanni at 908-507-0727, or email him at: ron.dominijanni@rfars.org.

Regular Meeting (7:30 PM)

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

Flag Salute

Roll Call:

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Jeffrey Doshna	Councilman	Present	
Caitlin Giles-McCormick	Councilwoman	Present	
John Gorman	Councilman	Present	
Michael Harris	Council President	Present	
Susan Peterson	Councilwoman	Present	
Christopher Runion	Council Vice President	Present	
Betsy Driver	Mayor	Present	

I. Presentation of Flemington-Raritan School District budget - Superintendent Kari McGann

Superintendent McGann shared printouts of a slide presentation outlining the school district's budget. The budget provides \$60,406,103 for instruction, services and transportation; about \$35,000 for administrative and business expenses, and also maintenance and operation funds.

Costs include:

\$682,817 for social/emotional health (up 3.6%)

\$701,444 for physical health (up 13.4%)

\$694,056 for literacy support (up 1.8%) for libraries, to continue refurbishing them. There have been more ESL students than they anticipated; they've had to hire more speech teachers. There's also an increase in students with autism and other disabilities.

School Business Administrator Stephanie Voorhees said they've lost money in state aid, and that trend is likely to continue for another 7-8 years.

They're anticipating \$77,000 from tuition-paying special ed. students and \$110,000 from tuition-paying preschool students.

Staff will be reduced by 4 teachers in the district. They've cut all maintenance projects by \$592,200 - they'll be seeking a referendum for roof work at most of the district's schools. Remediating a mold problem last year cost \$1.4 million. Due to the borough's ratables going up and its share of students falling, the tax impact is a decrease of \$29.30 for a home valued at \$100,000.

II. Mayor's Report

Mayor Driver noted a resolution on tonight's agenda addresses proposed reclassification of the South Branch of the Raritan River to Class 1. She and Raritan Twp. Mayor Jeff Kuhl are going to Trenton on May 1 to present their opposition directly to the DEP.

On 4/23, the Redevelopment Committee is meeting with a group suing the borough.

Last week she attended a pre-application meeting for the water tower project. A variance is needed from Raritan Twp.

Flower pots from Main Street, where the streetscape project will occur, are being relocated to Turntable Junction, and the FCP is taking care of them.

The Construction Board of Appeals hearing last week was postponed due to a lack of quorum.

Sewer Supt. Ken Diehl and hydrogeology consultant Matt Mulhall are on hand to discuss the Category 1 classification.

She asked for a motion to move Resolution 2019-104 to the top of the regular agenda. Mr. Doshna made that motion, seconded by Mr. Harris. All voted yes to move the resolution up.

III. Council Members' Reports

Councilman Doshna

Rescue Squad - Their capital campaign for a new headquarters was discussed in the work session earlier tonight.

Fire Dept. - They held their flower sale over the weekend.

Library - The board held its meeting 4/12. On Maker's Day March 23 they found that with Maple Ave. closed off, they could do some outside programming, and are looking at the possibility of arranging something outside in the future.

Environmental - He shared with Javier Hernandez, a member of the commission, a natural resources inventory he prepared in 2010. They're looking for a date in May to hold a Borough cleanup day.

4/18 - participated with the Mayor, Councilman Runion and others in a stream cleanup at Walnut Brook.

Following up on residents' comments about needing an amplification system in Borough Hall, he's talked with someone in the Hearing Loss Association of New Jersey about ways to provide appropriate accommodations. They've looked over the space, and he'll follow up and report on possible options.

Councilwoman Giles-McCormick

Samuel Fleming House - Over 400 5th-graders from RFIS learned about how Flemington started in visits to the museum over 4 days. Their spring fling last weekend drew 30 to 40 people. Garden yoga will start May 14; it's 6:30-7:30 p.m., and costs \$5 a class, running Tuesdays through September. A garden tea party is set for May 18.

HPC - Met 4/16; historic district map review continues; they're making slight boundary adjustments. Affected homeowners will be notified soon. An historic talk featuring people posing as the Lowrys will be rescheduled in the fall.

DIY - Celebrates its 5th anniversary in May.

Councilman Gorman

Shade Tree Commission: Arbor Day activities are planned at RFIS on April 25, at 11 a.m. They're planning a tree-planting ceremony and will hand out sprigs.

Recreation: They're still planning Fourth of July fireworks at RFIS school, to be held July 3. They're trying to arrange music and other attractions to have at the event.

Council President Harris

Two property maintenance issues have been addressed.

He attended a DIY live jazz concert on April 20; DIY is celebrating its 5-year anniversary.

Councilwoman Peterson

Property Maintenance - Procedure manuals are completed and ready for the staff's use. Thanks to Rebecca Newman. The 4/17 property maintenance enforcement hearing before the Construction Board of Appeals is being rescheduled to 5/1.

FCP - Their health fair week starts 4/27, with a kickoff at the United Way health fair. The FCP is looking for quotes from vendors for filling the flower pots.

Council Vice President Runion

Environmental Commission - Is addressing Tree City accreditation. They also heard a Community Solar presentation.

IV. Public Comments - Session I: Agenda items only; up to 3 minutes each, for a maximum of 30 minutes

Janice Kovach, Mayor of the Town of Clinton, refuted rumors circulating that she's talking to other mayors, including Mayor Driver, about not settling their police contracts.

Tony Previte, 45 N. Main St., asked about the permit needed for the water tower project, and said it's another argument for merging with Raritan Township.

V. Approval of Minutes

Motion To: **Approve Minutes: April 8, 2019 Regular Council Meeting**

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jeffrey Doshna, Councilman
SECONDER:	John Gorman, Councilman
AYES:	Doshna, Giles-McCormick, Gorman, Harris, Peterson, Runion

Motion To: **Approve Minutes: April 8, 2019 Early Executive Session**

RESULT:	APPROVED [5-0]
MOVER:	Jeffrey Doshna, Councilman
SECONDER:	John Gorman, Councilman
AYES:	Doshna, Giles-McCormick, Gorman, Peterson, Runion
ABSTAIN:	Harris

Consent Agenda

Moved by: Runion Seconded by: Giles-McCormick. All voted yes.

1. RESOLUTION 2019-100: AUTHORIZING LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR HUNTERDON LAND TRUST GRANT APPLICATION

Regular Agenda

1. RESOLUTION 2019-104: AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF COMMENTS OPPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE NEW JERSEY SURFACE WATER QUALITY STANDARDS DESIGNATING THE SOUTH BRANCH RARITAN RIVER DOWNSTREAM OF THE RTMUA TREATMENT FACILITY AS CATEGORY ONE WATERS

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jeffrey Doshna, Councilman
SECONDER:	Michael Harris, Council President
AYES:	Doshna, Giles-McCormick, Gorman, Harris, Peterson, Runion

2. RESOLUTION 2019-101: AUTHORIZING THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 2019 TO BE READ BY TITLE

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	John Gorman, Councilman
SECONDER:	Jeffrey Doshna, Councilman
AYES:	Doshna, Giles-McCormick, Gorman, Harris, Peterson, Runion

3. RESOLUTION 2019-77: SECOND READING OF THE 2019 BOROUGH OF FLEMINGTON MUNICIPAL BUDGET

Motion to open public hearing: Giles-McCormick; seconded by Runion. All voted yes to open public hearing.

No comments.

Motion to close public hearing: Runion; seconded by Harris. All voted yes to close public hearing.

Council Discussion: Council President Harris suggested trimming the Roads, Sewer and Water budgets by 10%. He said he arrived at the numbers after talking to DPW Director Mike Campion about what could be cut. Ms. Giles-McCormick asked for details on the specific cuts, and Mr. Harris went through line items of the budget with CFO Bill Hance, identifying a total of \$26,100 in cuts. CFO Hance noted that the bottom of Mr. Campion's memo about the possible cuts included notice that if an unexpected problem arose, he'd have to take money from the water/sewer budget or bond for it. Mr. Harris moved to make the suggested cuts, seconded by Ms. Peterson. The motion failed, with Harris and Peterson voting in favor, and Doshna, Giles-McCormick, Gorman and Runion voting against. The vote on adopting the budget was then held.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [5 TO 1]
MOVER:	Jeffrey Doshna, Councilman
SECONDER:	John Gorman, Councilman
AYES:	Doshna, Giles-McCormick, Gorman, Peterson, Runion
NAYS:	Michael Harris

4. ORDINANCE 2019-9: SECOND READING: AMENDING CHAPTER XI TITLED UTILITIES SECTION(S) 11-1.1 REGULATIONS; 11-1.2 FEES; 11-2.5 LINE EXTENSIONS; 11-2.6 WATER RESERVATION APPLICATION AND CONTRACT; AND 11-3.11 VIOLATIONS

Motion to open public hearing: Harris, seconded by Runion. All voted yes to open public hearing.

Mayor Driver said the ordinance includes a water fee increase, and that rate was not increased last year. It also includes a process for allocation of water reserve.

Steve Tuccio, 61 Elwood Ave., asked if the automated meter-reading system has saved money. Mayor Driver said we've recovered billing for more than 1 million gallons of water that wasn't getting metered. A suggestion was made to have

Utility Clerk Rebecca Newman attend a workshop meeting and discuss the metering process.

Robert Shore, 47 Broad St., questioned the prices for sprinkler services.

Motion to close public hearing: Gorman, seconded by Harris. All voted yes to close public hearing.

Council discussion: Mr. Harris said he appreciates the effort to come up with a schedule for rate increases, and he said when water is reserved for a project, we also have to reserve multiples of that number to satisfy the state. Mr. Gorman said we have to reserve water at that higher amount until there's been one year of firm usage. Mr. Harris said it makes it difficult for other projects to move forward. He supports the new allocation procedure.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	John Gorman, Councilman
SECONDER:	Michael Harris, Council President
AYES:	Doshna, Giles-McCormick, Gorman, Harris, Peterson, Runion

- 5. ORDINANCE 2019-10: FIRST READING: AMENDING THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF FLEMINGTON, CHAPTER 2 ADMINISTRATION, SECTION 2-4.18 ET SEQ., SPECIAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

RESULT:	INTRODUCED [UNANIMOUS]	Next: 5/13/2019 7:30 PM
MOVER:	Michael Harris, Council President	
SECONDER:	John Gorman, Councilman	
AYES:	Doshna, Giles-McCormick, Gorman, Harris, Peterson, Runion	

- 6. RESOLUTION 2019-102: AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT FOR MARKETING BOROUGH-OWNED PROPERTY AT 144 MAIN ST., BLOCK 38, LOT 1.01

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Caitlin Giles-McCormick, Councilwoman
SECONDER:	Susan Peterson, Councilwoman
AYES:	Doshna, Giles-McCormick, Gorman, Harris, Peterson, Runion

- 7. RESOLUTION 2019-103: AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN THE NATIONAL PURCHASING COOPERATIVE OPERATING AS NATIONAL BUYBOARD

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	John Gorman, Councilman
SECONDER:	Michael Harris, Council President
AYES:	Doshna, Giles-McCormick, Gorman, Harris, Peterson, Runion

VI. Public Comments - Session II: Up to 3 minutes each, for a maximum of 30 minutes

Tony Previte, 45 N. Main St., asked for an update on the Union Hotel situation. Mayor Driver said a meeting is set for 4/23 with the group that's suing the borough, and we should have more clarity after that. Mr. Previte urged shared services for the Police and DPW.

Elaine Gorman, 34 New York Ave., said council has been through months of work and meetings to create a budget and a council member shouldn't be bringing up amendments at the public hearing; those potential cuts should have been addressed earlier in the process.

Robert Shore, 47 Broad St., suggested amending the water ordinance to allow a developer to hire his own contractor to make connections and avoid the hook-up fee. Mr. Gorman said it's a fee that has to be paid to tap into the line. CFO Bill Hance said the connection fee is a set calculation by the state based on all the Borough's past improvements, divided by the number of users.

Steve Tuccio, 61 Elwood Ave., asked what happens if we default on getting our police out of their building by the date in December when the building's sale is to be finalized. Mayor Driver said the developer has conditions to meet as well, and he's shown some willingness to be flexible.

Robert Shore, 47 Broad St., asked about a budget for road improvements and mentioned potholes on Broad Street. Mayor Driver said for individual potholes, people can let the DPW know where they are. Highland and Elwood are being addressed this year, and Hopewell is coming up. She's also going to be seeking money from the state for repairs to Main Street to the circle. Mr. Gorman said fixing a road isn't as simple as it used to be - curbs have to be redone to modern standards, and sewer work is required when the road is redone.

VII. Attorney's Report

None.

VIII. Payment of the Bills

Motion To: **Pay the Bills**

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	John Gorman, Councilman
SECONDER:	Michael Harris, Council President
AYES:	Doshna, Giles-McCormick, Gorman, Harris, Peterson, Runion

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

None needed.

X. Adjournment

All business having been concluded, Mayor Driver declared the meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Attest: _____
Sallie Graziano, RMC, Borough Clerk