

The minutes of the Special Meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Saddle Brook held on June 9, 2015 at 5:30 PM at Veterans' Field, 20 Sampson St.

Council President Mazzer called the meeting to order.

Township Clerk called the roll:

Councilman Cimiluca – absent
Councilman Camilleri – present
Councilwoman D'Arminio - present
Councilman Accomando - present
Council President Mazzer – present

Mayor White – absent

Council President Mazzer asked everyone to please rise for the salute to the flag.

Council President Mazzer announced that adequate notice of this meeting has been sent to all Council members by police messenger on June 4, 2015 and to all legal newspapers in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975.

The Township Clerk announced that the public is hereby advised that any statements made during the meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Saddle Brook may not be privileged or protected and that persons or entities who take issue with such comments or are offended by same, may, and have in the past, sought legal redress through the courts.

Any member of the public who addresses the Council speaks for themselves and not for the Council.

Council President Mazzer asked for a motion to open the meeting to the public.

Motion: Councilwoman D'Arminio Second: Councilman Camilleri

Councilman Cimiluca – absent
Councilman Camilleri – yes
Councilwoman D'Arminio – yes
Councilman Accomando – yes
Council President Mazzer - yes

Mr. Larry Ratajczak of 92 Claremont Avenue discussed the charges for the scoreboard for \$17,500 and the moving of the backstop for \$26,000. He said I feel you should have given us better advice or the Township better on advice on doing something like that for that amount of money. We could have bought a beautiful scoreboard for \$17,000 rather than having that piece and backstops – what are them backstops worth? Joe mentioned the backstop to you [inaudible] draw you a picture of it. Do you remember that?

Mr. Costa said that was after the job was bid. [inaudible]

Mr. Ratajczak said, I'm just saying, but \$26,000...

Mr. Costa said it was after the job was bid. Larry, you asked a question, let's finish the question. The Council wanted to choose a different backstop, and the change order was put [inaudible]. As far as the pricing, and this came up in public. We sent out an e-mail to everybody in the Council. This gentleman was the lowest price for the bid. Under the public contracts bidding law, he had the low bid. The Council could have rejected the bid, rebid it, did whatever they wanted to.

Mr. Ratajczak said but I mean who checked the pricing on the bid?

Mr. Costa said Larry, *he was the low bid*. He might have put a higher number in for that but a lower number in for something else. *He is the low bid*.

Mr. Ratajczak said so you did the bid based on the total job?

Mr. Costa said I didn't do anything.

Mr. Ratajczak said no, but I'm saying, he bid the total job?

Mr. Costa said absolutely.

Mr. Ratajczak said, but that's negotiable.

Mr. Costa said it's *not* negotiable

Mr. Ratajczak said well, I mean you gotta say look, that thing ain't worth \$13,000.

Mr. Costa repeated it's not negotiable

Mr. Dave Sullivan asked can I talk about all the items I took a bath on? All the items I lost money on? Am I allowed to talk about that?

Mr. Ratajczak said I don't know of any. They don't stick out to me.

Mr. Sullivan said of course not.

Mr. Ratajczak said to me, like I say, if you were in the regular business world and you did that to a homeowner or a customer, there would be repercussions.

Mr. Sullivan said this is not the appropriate time or place for this.

Mr. Ratajczak said I'm just questioning because I think we could have had – we got a beautiful field here, there's no doubt, but I think we could have gone with the backstops that Mr. Camilleri recommended and nobody even got back to him or –

[There was some discussion that was not audible due to background noise.]

Mr. Ratajczak said there was enough time before you bid the job

Mr. Sullivan said we could have given him a price after, had he asked.

Mr. Ratajczak said he did.

Mr. Sullivan said he didn't ask me.

Mr. Ratajczak said he did it at a public meeting, right, Joe? You brought it at a public meeting, gave Mr. Costa a picture of the backstop, said I went there this weekend. This is what I would like a price on.

Mr. Costa said we used the existing backstops

Mr. Ratajczak asked but do you remember him asking you that question?

Mr. Costa said but the project was under construction.

[There was some discussion that was not audible due to background noise.]

Mr. Sullivan said I think he remembers a lot of things, and so do I. I've never seen a job with so many changes that came about during construction.

Mr. Ratajczak said first of all, when you're working without a set of plans it costs money.

Mr. Sullivan said it costs more money.

Mr. Ratajczak said let me ask you this, how many jobs do you do during the course of the year that have no plans?

Mr. Sullivan said I don't understand the question.

Mr. Ratajczak said the town doesn't come to you and say look, this is what I want, give me a price on this or it was an as-built. An as built you're going to pay though the nose all the time. We didn't have a set of plans. That's why, like I say, I didn't know all the laws and all the rules.

Mr. Costa said Larry, there was a set of plans and a set of specifications that went out for public bid. Quite frankly, you don't know what you're talking about, and if you continue it – there were a set of plans that bidders picked up and bid on it. I believe there were 13 bidders.

Mr. Ratajczak said with the bathrooms and everything?

Mr. Costa said the bathrooms are not part –

Mr. Ratajczak said then why wasn't it in the set of plans?

Mr. Costa said that has nothing to do with the field

Mr. Ratajczak said so it was – we're going to do a project in three phases, field, bathrooms and refreshment stand. It wasn't advertised to us like that.

Mr. Costa said right.

Mr. Ratajczak said we bonded a certain amount of money and said we're going to spend X amount on the field, X amount on the – it wasn't a three-part project.

Mr. Costa said I'm not here tonight to argue with you. I don't want to have a conversation with you. We're here tonight to go through the field and do a walk through with a punch list. That's what I'm here for. Are we going to debate this in public?

Mr. Ratajczak said I'm just asking you, as a taxpayer –

Mr. Costa said and I just told you, this project was bid, plans were designed – you're shaking your head.

Mr. Ratajczak said because you still don't have them. Where are they?

Mr. Costa asked don't have what?

Mr. Ratajczak said a set of plans.

Mr. Costa said how do you think this field got built?

Mr. Ratajczak said let me see. Show me the bathrooms, show me the refreshment stand.

Mr. Costa said they're not on this contract.

Mr. Ratajczak said why not? Because you bid the field, that was it. That's it.

Mr. Costa said that's the job.

Mr. Ratajczak said were we told, as residents, that it was a three-phase project? No! We weren't told we're building a field, we're building bathrooms and we're building a refreshment stand. We're bonding totally. We have \$400,000; we're getting matching money. It's \$2.4 million or whatever. And I remember one of the council people saying, why don't we go to three so we don't run out of money. I think that was you?

Councilman Camilleri said yes. I wanted to up it.

Mr. Ratajczak said you wanted three so we don't run out of money.

[There was some discussion that was not audible due to background noise.]

Councilman Camilleri I play football here and one or two porta potties is [inaudible] especially for the women.

Mr. Costa said the set of plans is sitting in Borough Hall. They've been there for two weeks. There's a set, there's .pdfs that went to everybody. So there's pricing on stuff that came in last week, [inaudible] a punch list. That's it.

Mr. Ratajczak asked about the seams by the house.

Council President Mazzer said we were just going to bring that up.

Hearing no one, Council President Mazzer asked for a motion to close the meeting to the public.

Motion: Councilwoman D'Arminio Second: Councilman Camilleri

Councilman Cimiluca – absent
Councilman Camilleri – yes
Councilwoman D'Arminio – yes
Councilman Accomando – yes
Council President Mazzer - yes

A walk through was conducted with Mr. Costa and Mr. Sullivan from LandTek and Mr. Costa made a punch list for the contractor.

After the walk through of the field was completed, Councilwoman D'Arminio said I'd like to make a motion to do a resolution to the commissioner of the NJDEP, Bergen County Freeholder James Tedesco, Bergen County Freeholders and the mayors of northwest Bergen County to address the coyote population.

TOWNSHIP OF SADDLE BROOK RESOLUTION

CR# 615-169

WHEREAS, coyotes have been observed frequently in suburban communities; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) Division of Fish and Wildlife has provided information for residents to safely interact with coyotes that municipalities, such as the Township of Saddle Brook, have provided to its residents through website and social media notifications; and

WHEREAS, it appears that the coyote population in New Jersey has increased significantly and the population increase represents an escalating chance for human encounters.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and the Township Council of the Township of Saddle Brook, County of Bergen and State of New Jersey that they encourage the NJDEP Division of Fish and Wildlife to develop an action plan to address the coyote population in Bergen County; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Township Clerk provide a certified copy of this resolution to Bob Martin, the Commissioner of NJDEP, Bergen County Executive James Tedesco, Members of the Bergen County Board of Chosen Freeholders, Mayors of Bergen County Municipalities, Police Chief Robert Kugler and Bergen County Animal Control.

Motion: Councilwoman D'Arminio

Second: Councilman Camilleri

Roll Call:

Councilman Cimiluca - absent
Councilman Camilleri – yes
Councilwoman D'Arminio - yes
Councilman Accomando - yes
Council President Mazzer - yes

Councilwoman D'Arminio then made a motion to obtain a recommendation from the Police Chief regarding the Orchard Lane. She said I would like to know what he would recommend on the parking ordinance.

Councilman Camilleri said I see that as a neighborhood issue.

Councilman Accomando said I feel that's going to be an issue throughout the township if they do that.

Councilwoman D'Arminio said I do too, but maybe we could have a resolution to ask the chief to recommend and what his opinion is on that.

Motion: Councilman Camilleri

Second: Councilman Accomando

Roll Call:

Councilman Cimiluca - absent
Councilman Camilleri – yes
Councilwoman D'Arminio - yes
Councilman Accomando - yes
Council President Mazzer - yes

Council President Mazzer asked for a motion to adjourn.

Motion: Councilwoman D'Arminio

Second: Councilman Accomando

Councilman Cimiluca – absent
Councilman Camilleri – yes
Councilwoman D'Arminio – yes
Councilman Accomando – yes
Council President Mazzer - yes

Meeting adjourned at 6:13 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Lo Dico, RMC CMC
Township Clerk

Approved: July 2, 2015

Florence Mazzer

Council President