

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Warren Cooper called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and stated that in compliance with the “Open Public Meetings Act” this Meeting was duly noticed to the Hunterdon County Democrat on June 13, 2014 and the Express Times on June 13, 2014; the Agenda has been posted at Borough Hall and distributed to the Courier News, the Express Times, the Hunterdon County Democrat, and the Star Ledger on June 13, 2014.

FLAG SALUTE

Mayor Cooper asked everyone to stand for the flag salute.

ROLL CALL

Present for the Meeting:

Seth A. Grossman
Cathy Leach
Michele Liebttag
Jack Opdyke
William Sullivan

Absent from Meeting:

Borough Clerk, Brenda S. Shepherd, and Borough Attorney Albert Cruz were present for the Meeting. 1 member of the public was also present.

APPOINTMENT TO FILL VACANCY ON COUNCIL & OATH OF OFFICE

Mayor Cooper noted that as a result of the resignation of Brad Myhre, the Borough received pursuant to the statute, a list of 3 names from Ronald Sworen, Chairman of the Republican County Committee. The list of names included Robb Arent, Leesa Myhre and David Cahill. It is the duty of the Council to appoint someone to fill the vacancy. Jack Opdyke made a motion to nominate Robb Arent to fill the vacancy on Council. Seth A. Grossman seconded the motion. Having no other nominations, Mayor Cooper called for a vote on the motion. The Mayor and Common Council approved the nomination of Robb Arent to fill the vacancy on Council by unanimous favorable roll call vote. Clerk Shepherd administered the Oath of Office to Robb Arent and he accepted his Oath of Office. Council congratulated Robb Arent.

Robb Arent thanked the Council for accepting him back on Council. He apologized for stepping down in the fall. In the first stages of the sewer project, he was refereeing debates and putting in 45 hours per week doing two meetings a week and also was on the Planning Board. He had asked for help and the mistake he made was not coming to Council members as individuals to ask for help. He apologized for getting frustrated. Council welcomed him back. Jack Opdyke noted that he is very supportive of Robb Arent coming back and believes Robb Arent will help finalize the sewer project with the continuity of someone who started the project. Jack Opdyke noted that he has that resource. He is very happy to have Robb Arent back. He will continue to do the job and will probably asked a lot of Robb Arent.

ADDITIONAL ROLL CALL

Present: Robb Arent

Seth A. Grossman
Cathy Leach
Michele Liebttag

Jack Opdyke
William Sullivan

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The Council approved to open the public comment session. Having no comments, the Council approved to close the public comment session.

APPOINTMENT OF COUNCIL PRESIDENT

A motion was made by Jack Opdyke to nominated Seth A. Grossman as Council President. The motion was seconded by William Sullivan. Mayor Cooper opened the floor for Council discussion. Robb Arent stated that he thinks Seth A. Grossman will do a great job. Back when we had a vacancy on Council and Robb Arent introduced Seth A. Grossman to Adam Liebttag, he knew that Seth A. Grossman would be an asset. Having no other nominations, Mayor Cooper called a vote on the motion. The Common Council approved the nomination of Seth A. Grossman as Council President by unanimous favorable roll call vote. Clerk Shepherd administered the Oath of Office to Seth A. Grossman for Council President and he accepted his Oath of Office.

RESOLUTION

Resolution #2014-71 – Part time DPW employment extension

Mayor Cooper noted that when the Council hired Michael Angeloni, we hired him to be employed by the Borough in 6 month increments. In the last term, we hired him to June 30, 2014. This resolution will extend his employment to the end of the year. This is a recommendation from Mike Reino and Committee Chair William Sullivan. William Sullivan noted that Michael Angeloni is an asset to the department. Mayor Cooper noted that Mike Angeloni's salary was provided in the 2014 budget in case we were going to continue is employment. On motion by William Sullivan, seconded by Seth A. Grossman and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Mayor and Common Council approved Resolution #2014-71 as follows:

RESOLUTION #2014-71

WHEREAS, on October 2, 2013, Michael Angeloni was hired by the Borough of Frenchtown as a part time temporary employee for the Department of Public Works; and

WHEREAS, Michael Angeloni was hired for the period of October 2, 2013 to December 31, 2013; and

WHEREAS, the Frenchtown Borough Council extended the appointment period of Michael Angeloni to June 30, 2014; and

WHEREAS, the Frenchtown Borough Council desires to extend the appointment period of Michael Angeloni to December 31, 2014; and

WHEREAS, the hours of employment will be less than 30 hours per week; and

WHEREAS, there will be no health benefits, and no sick, vacation or compensatory time for this employee; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has determined that there are sufficient funds available in the Public Works Salary and Wage budget for this employee.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Frenchtown, County of Hunterdon and State of New Jersey that the employment of Mr. Angeloni is continued as a part time employee until December 31, 2014 at the hourly rate of \$15.30 per hour.

Warren E. Cooper, Mayor

Attest

June 18, 2014

Brenda S. Shepherd, RMC
Borough Clerk

ORDINANCES

Ordinance #747 - Amendment to the 2014 Salary and Wage Ordinance (Introduction)

Mayor Cooper noted that this ordinance amends the 2014 Salary and Wage Ordinance to include the Medical Benefits Administrator which is additional work that Brenda Shepherd has taken on and the Administrative Committee thought that she deserved the additional compensation. Also, the License Sewer Plant Assistant's salary was left off the original ordinance. This salary includes the 2% increase. On motion by Jack Opdyke, seconded by Michele Liebttag, and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Mayor and Common Council approved the introduction of Ordinance #747 as follows:

ORDINANCE # 747

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE SALARY & WAGES OF THE CERTAIN BOROUGH OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES FOR THE YEAR 2014

BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Common Council of the Borough of Frenchtown as follows:

1. The following salary for the year 2014 is hereby established for the following designated officials and employees of the Borough of Frenchtown:

Medical Benefits Administrator ----- \$1,000.00

2. The following hourly rate for the year 2014 is hereby established for the following designated officials and employees of the Borough of Frenchtown:

Licensed Sewer Treatment Plant Assistant--- \$28.04

This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon Final Passage and action as required by law.

Warren E. Cooper, Mayor

Attest:

Brenda S. Shepherd, RMC
Borough Clerk

Ordinance #748 - An ordinance to provide for the purchase of a zero turn gas engine lawn mower with a 72” deck for the Borough of Frenchtown, in the County of Hunterdon, New Jersey and appropriating \$10,000.00 from the capital improvement fund (Introduction)

William Sullivan reported that the Borough’s antique mower finally died. The repair cost is somewhere around \$2,500.00 to \$3,000.00. It is the transmission and the engine is ready to go. It is time to invest in a new one. We looked at many mowers that were 30% higher in price. We brought it back to the \$10,000.00 range. We found a mower that will fit our needs. He talked to people with experience in grass cutting about which mower would best suit our needs in terms of size, strength, etc. This category of mowers is the best. It is big enough but not too big. We hope to get many years out of this if we take good care of it. It is not outrageous to expect 20 years out of this mower with our use and with proper storage and proper maintenance. We are getting quotes. We are looking at a zero turn by Toro and Xmark. The zero turn is a time saver. It is a commercial style. It is big enough to cut the field quickly. We need something big enough to cut field but small enough for the park. We are spending \$350.00 per week to have the grass cut. We have to introduce, publish and adopt the ordinance. The cost will be less than \$10,000.00. The prices are competitive. Mayor Cooper commented that he wonders if it would make sense to appropriate \$10,000.00 from the capital fund or include it in a BAN. We have to raise some money for some projects we are talking about doing. We do have money in the capital account for this. William Sullivan stated that Diane Laudenbach told him that they cannot bond a mower. Attorney Cruz stated that he does not believe it is a bondable capital expense. William Sullivan stated that we will look into it more and if we can do it, we will reimburse the capital account. On motion by William Sullivan, seconded by Cathy Leach and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote the Mayor and Council approved the introduction of Ordinance #748 as follows:

BOROUGH OF FRENCHTOWN

ORDINANCE #748

AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE PURCHASE OF A ZERO TURN GAS ENGINE LAWN MOWER WITH A 72" DECK FOR THE BOROUGH OF FRENCHTOWN, IN THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, NEW JERSEY AND APPROPRIATING \$10,000.00 FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF FRENCHTOWN IN THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, NEW JERSEY, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The improvement described in Section 2 of the ordinance is hereby authorized as a general improvement to be made or acquired by the Borough of Frenchtown, New Jersey. For the said improvement or purposes described in Section 2, there is hereby appropriated the sum of \$10,000.00, said sum being inclusive of all appropriations heretofore made therefore.

Section 2. The Borough of Frenchtown hereby authorizes the purchase of zero turn gas engine lawn mower with a 72" deck for the Borough of Frenchtown.

Section 3. It is hereby determined and stated that the undertaking of the aforesaid work, acquisition or improvement is not a current expense of the Borough of Frenchtown, but rather a capital expense and the Borough of Frenchtown's estimated cost of said work, acquisition or improvement is \$10,000.00.

Section 4. The sum of \$10,000.00 is hereby appropriated for said purpose. The funding is provided by appropriating \$10,000.00 from the Capital Improvement Fund of the Borough of Frenchtown for said purpose as required by law and now available therefore in one or more previously adopted budgets.

Section 5. No debt of any kind is authorized for this undertaking.

Section 6. This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon adoption according to law.

Warren E. Cooper, Mayor

ATTEST:

Brenda S. Shepherd, RMC
Borough Clerk

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of National Night Out on August 9th with a raindate of August 10th at Old Frenchtown Field

On motion by Seth A. Grossman, seconded by Cathy Leach and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Mayor and Common Council approved National Night Out on August 9th with a raindate of August 10th at Old Frenchtown Field.

Approval of Bastille Day Celebration on July 12, 2014 by the Frenchtown Business and Professional Association

A motion was made by Michele Liebttag to approve the Bastille Day Celebration on July 12, 2014 by the Frenchtown Business and Professional Association. The motion was seconded by Cathy Leach. Mayor Cooper opened the floor for discussion. Michele Liebttag stated that Chief Kurylka is fine with a coin toss corresponding with Bastille Day. Mayor Cooper called a vote on the motion. The Mayor and Common Council approved by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Bastille Day Celebration on July 12, 2014 by the Frenchtown Business and Professional Association.

Approval of Riverfest on August 31, 2014 by the Frenchtown Business and Professional Association

A motion was made by William Sullivan to approve Riverfest on August 31, 2014 by the Frenchtown Business and Professional Association. The motion was seconded by Cathy Leach. Mayor Cooper opened the floor for discussion. Seth A. Grossman noted that the Council had discussion about this and closing down Bridge Street. He does not think closing down the main drag in town is a good idea. The event should not interfere with the other businesses. It should encourage their businesses. He is willing to support the event with the recommendation from the Chief. He would ask that the Frenchtown Business and Professional Association and the Riverfest committee work closely with the business people to find a way to work with them and how this festival will work for them. This is a very sensitive issues. Mayor Cooper stated that we have gotten a recommendation from the Riverfest committee to close Bridge Street to Race Street. He reached out to Chief and Chief has provided a response. There was also recommendations from Dorsey and Joan Reading that the festival be held at the park along the river to allow all streets to be open. Jack Opdyke expressed concern that a lot of people who decided to close Bridge Street do not have business on Bridge Street. Mayor Cooper stated that the Riverfest Committee has a lot of time to work this out. This vote this evening is the approval of having the festival on that day. This allows them to get marketing materials out but time to work out the logistics. The committee has to come back for approval for a road closing. Responding to Robb Arent, Mayor Cooper stated that there was no request for a road closing of Harrison Street for Bastille Day. They said they want to do it as they have done it in the past. If they closed Harrison Street in the past, would there be any objection. Robb Arent stated that Chief objects to closing Harrison Street. Robb Arent added that as Chair of Bastille Day for three years, Harrison Street was not closed. Michele Liebttag commented that she does not think there is a road closure for Bastille Day. Ron Sworen commented that Harrison Street was closed for Bastille Day 4 or 5 years ago when they had the string band. For Riverfest, Harrison Street was closed to the parking lot of the bank. Mayor Cooper commented that going forward, if the Council determines that it is in our best interest to close Bridge Street rather than Harrison Street, we could start that for Riverfest. If it has worked in the past to close Harrison Street, he does not see a reason to stop them from closing Harrison Street although Chief has objected in the past and we approved it in the past. Mayor Cooper stated that he will reach out to Caroline Scutt to make sure she comes before the Council on July 2nd. We will have an answer before that to pass along to Council so everyone is prepared to discuss it. Mayor

Cooper called a vote on the motion. The Mayor and Common Council approved by unanimous favorable roll call vote, Riverfest on August 31, 2014 by the Frenchtown Business and Professional Association.

Mayor Cooper reported that this Saturday from 10:00 am to Noon, we will have a discussion on the future of the Borough Parks at Borough Hall.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Cooper stated that the Council will have to go into executive session for 1 item. On motion by Michele Liebtag, seconded by Jack Opdyke and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Mayor and Common Council approved to go into executive session at 7:43 pm and approved Resolution #2014-72 as follows:

RESOLUTION #2014-72

EXECUTIVE SESSION RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 (b) (1-9)), Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council is of the opinion that such circumstances exist.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Frenchtown in the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from discussion of the hereinafter specified subject matters.
2. The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows:
 - a) Contract Negotiations – Frenchtown 7 – Redevelopment Agreement
3. The Borough Council may take official action on those items discussed in Executive Session upon completion of the Executive Session.
4. The minutes of the discussions shall be made available to the public as soon as the matters under discussion are no longer of a confidential or sensitive nature.
5. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Borough of Frenchtown

By _____
Warren E. Cooper, Mayor

Dated: June 18, 2014

ATTEST:

Brenda S. Shepherd, RMC
Borough Clerk

The Council came out of executive session at 8:31 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business to come before the Mayor and Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:32 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Shepherd, RMC
Borough Clerk