

MINUTES
JOINT BOARDS OF MAYOR AND BURGESSES AND
BOARD OF FINANCE
REGULAR MEETING – JULY 14, 2009

1. Mayor Robert Mezzo called the regular meeting to order at **7:31 p.m.** with the following in attendance:

BURGESSES:

T. K. Rossi
R. Burns
M. Frago
P. Scully, ab.
M. Ciacciarella

A. Campbell
H. Kuczenski, ab.
R. Neth, ab.
R. Woodfield

PRESS: none

FINANCE BOARD:

R. Lennon Jr.
R. Gallant
D. Carten
R. Butler, Jr.
M. Katra

J. Merrill
J. Tavares, ab.
N. Hein, ab.
D. Scinto, ab.

ALTERNATES:

none

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

E. Carter, Mayoral Aide
C. Doback, Fire Chief

W. McAllister, Controller
J. Stewart, Borough Engineer

OTHERS:

J. Batorski, Plant Mgr. Veolia
J. Binder, P.E. ARI
M. Bogis, Fire Commission
N. DiMeo, Mayor's Office
K. Hanks, Deputy Fire Chief

J. Hoisak, Area Mgr. Veolia
K. Luvisi, P.E. ARI
R. Merancey, WPCA Chair.
K. Nelson, P.E. Veolia
J. Ritchie, Fire Dept. Union

2. Mayor Mezzo led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
3. Mayor Robert Mezzo turned the meeting over to Finance Board Chairman Ray Lennon Jr.
4. **VOTED:** Unanimously on motion by T. Rossi and seconded by R. Burns that the Joint Boards of Mayor and Burgesses and Finance Board approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of June 9, 2009, each member having received copies for review.
5. Presentation by John Hoisak, Area Manager of Veolia Water North America.

A presentation was made to the Joint Boards regarding the Status of Wastewater Treatment and Incinerator Agreements by personnel from Alternative Resources

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and Veolia Water North America. They went over the Financial Performance to date with improvements to increase revenues. They are in discussion with Middlebury with regard to the shortfall and these negotiations will favorably impact the budget. One of the current issues under their Performance Review is to submit a report on odor investigation and propose remedial actions. This report is due in August 2009. A detailed report was given to all board members.

6. Discussion/Possible Action regarding “Safer Grant”.

Fire Chief C. Doback gave an impassioned plea and Deputy Fire Chief Hanks gave a detailed explanation of a grant from the Department of Homeland Security that would help the Fire Department hire four new firefighters this year. The grant would have paid for 90% of the salaries the first year and a small portion over the next three years. The Borough would have to pay the entire cost in the fifth year and every year from then on. The majority of board members felt that the firefighters are needed but could not justify the cost during these hard times. The Department now has 32 firefighters with eight to a shift. This grant would have provided for nine on a shift. There has not been a staff increase since 1996. Our department relies on other towns for help including Waterbury. If there is a structure fire it is almost impossible to send crews to two calls at the same time. The board turned down the grant 8-4 because officials feel the borough cannot afford this at this time. Mayor Mezzo will address these needs within the confines of the budget process.

Motion by M. Fragoso and seconded by A. Campbell that the Joint Boards of Mayor and Burgesses accept the application for the Safer Grant.

RESULT OF VOTE:

<u>FOR:</u>	<u>OPPOSED:</u>	<u>ABSTAIN:</u>
D. Carten	Mayor R. Mezzo	R. Gallant
J. Merrill	R. Lennon Jr.	M. Katra
A. Campbell	Dep. Mayor Rossi	R. Burns
M. Fragoso	R. Butler Jr.	M. Ciacciarella

Motion failed 4-8-0

7. **VOTED:** Unanimously on motion by T. Rossi and seconded by R. Burns to adjourn the meeting at **10:05 p.m.**

A tape recording of this meeting is available in the office of the Borough Clerk for further review.

Attest:

Judith E. Cosswait Borough Clerk

cc: Mayor/Burgesses/FinanceBoard/Controller/Signpost/File
mj071409

