

**STRATFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 11, 2009  
7:30 PM**

**CALL TO ORDER:  
STATEMENT OF  
ADVERTISEMENT:**

Notice of this meeting has been provided to the Courier Post, Inquirer and Record Breeze along with being posted on the Borough Hall Bulletin Board stating the time and place of the meeting.

**PRAYER & PLEDGE  
OF ALLEGIANCE:  
ROLL CALL:**

MAYOR JOHN GENTLESS  
BEN ANGELI, COUNCIL PRESIDENT  
STEVE VENUTO, COUNCILMAN  
WILLIAM GROVER, COUNCILMAN  
MICHAEL SANTORO, COUNCILMAN  
HOLLY TATE, COUNCILWOMAN  
MICHAEL PEREZ, COUNCILMAN  
JEFFREY BARON, SOLICITOR  
JOHN D. KEENAN, JR. BOROUGH CLERK

**MEETING OPENED  
TO THE PUBLIC:**

Meeting is opened to the public for a maximum of 10 minutes to discuss anything appearing on tonight's agenda. You may also speak at the end of the meeting under Good and Welfare.  
Patrick Walsh of Meadow Lark Road of the Joint Land Use Board asked if the light issue got resolved at Kennedy ER lot? The Solicitor confirmed it was being resolved.

**PRESENTATIONS:**

Certificates of Appreciation to Ambulance, Fire, OEM, Police, Public Works, Sewer Councilman M. Santoro made presentations to Fire, EMS, and OEM representatives for their well deserved help the night of the storm.  
Councilman M. Perez made presentation to the Department of Public Works representative Andy Morano.  
Councilman B. Angeli made presentation to Chief of Police Ronald Morello.  
Mayor thanked the Council and John Keenan for the time all spent.

**APPROVAL OF  
MINUTES:**

June 04, 2009

On motion of Councilman M. Santoro, seconded by Councilman S. Venuto with all eyes on the vote.

June 09, 2009

On motion of Councilman M. Perez, seconded by Councilman B. Angeli with all eyes on the vote.

**REPORTS:  
FINANCE &  
REVENUE**

Councilwoman Holly Tate read the Finance report as submitted by the CFO for July 2009 as follows:

BALANCE JULY 1, 2009	253,310.64
Total Receipts	2,281,438.18
Total Disbursements	1,632,357.12
BALANCE JULY 31, 2009	902,391.70
SCHEDULE OF ACCOUNT BALANCES JULY 31, 2009	
Municipal Alliance	41,023.54
Animal Control	10,158.89
Public Assistance I	2,400.13
K-9	186.45
General Capital	302,516.35
Developers Escrow	13,748.18
POAA	1,348.01
Special Law Enforcement Trust	13,928.18

UCC/LEA Trust	122,023.43
Uniform Fire Safety	17,414.32
Tax Title Lien	59,379.61
Trust Other	48,823.81

Councilwoman H. Tate thanked the responders who helped the night of the storm. Thanked Somerdale for DPW assistance at no cost. \$50 - \$60,000. is the cost of the storm. Barrington, Magnolia, Audubon, and Lyon & Son Tree Service, a new engine to a police car are still be accounted for and will be known later. Spoke about NJDCA responding no Extraordinary Aid this year after years of receiving aid. The final budget will be adopted in September.

**EMERGENCY SERVICES:**

Councilman Michael Santoro read the Fire Report for the month of July, 2009 as submitted by Deputy Chief Mark Brumbach as follows: The Fire Department responded to 131 Alarms and held 2 Drills. The Ambulance Volunteer Crew responded to 14 Alarms and held NO drills and the Paid Crew responded to 55 Alarms for the month of July, 2009. Councilman Michael Santoro also read a report by Craig Martin OEM Deputy that was the official report sent to the county OEM. This report detailed the storm path, the number of calls to the various departments and the hours dedicated to the effort. Estimated \$300,000.00 of damage. No injury to any residents or volunteers. The weather did confirm “straight line” winds was the cause.

**POLICE:**

Councilman Ben Angeli read the Police Activity for the month of July, 2009 as submitted by the Chief as follows:

Adult Arrests	40	Juvenile Arrests	03
Assaults to Police	00	Simple Assault Comp.	09
Criminal Mischief Complaints	10	Harassment Complaints	13
Other Investigation & Complaints	111	Burglaries	11
Robberies	00	Thefts \$10,279.	31
Stolen Property Recovered	\$16,097	Motor Vehicle Thefts	01
DWI Arrests	11	Narcotics Arrests	04
Traffic Summonses issued	296	Motor Vehicle Accidents	29
Injuries from Car Accidents	06	Alarm Activations	55
Total crime reports taken	157	Total Calls for Police Serv.	769

Councilman B. Angeli introduced Sgt. S. McBride and thanked him for his work the night of the storm. He also read storm related reports submitted by the Chief and noted: mutual aid was not available and all responses were answered by Stratford departments.

**PUBLIC EVENTS:**

Councilman William Grover reported that the Miss Stratford Pageant and 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebrations were finished and working on Halloween in October. He also read the Park report and introduced Bill D’Ambrosia who explained the new adult exercise equipment going in and funded by a grant. A new tennis net is going in at Vassar Avenue; a new proposal being reviewed for hockey courts; a new fence going in at Coolidge Park.

Councilman B. Grover spoke of the Shade Tree and his and Mike Santoro’s efforts to respond to residents requests and reviewing the storm damage.

Councilman M. Santoro did state he had 2 CD’s of the damage that will be at the Borough Hall.

**PUBLIC WORKS:**

Councilman Michael Perez read the sewer report as follows: line maintenance, 10 work requests received, trash picked up at the parks and cleaned the storm drains. The DPW cut grass at Borough property and vacant homes, chipping all last week, and asked that we be patient with the DPW. He also spoke of extra held and appreciated it.

**ORDINANCE & PROPERTY:** Councilman Steve Venuto reported there are five (5) Ordinances and thirteen (13) Resolutions on for tonight’s meeting. He thanked the residents for helping each other and spoke about helping residents to charge their cell phones since power was out at their homes.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Ord.2009:18 Ordinance 2009:18 – Amend Construction Fees Ch. 15.04  
 Clerk presented proof of publication. Meeting was opened to the public and after ample time and no questions were asked, the meeting was closed to the public. Motion to finally adopt was made by Councilman S. Venuto, seconded by Councilwoman H. Tate, with all ayes on the roll call vote as follows:  
 Councilman S. Venuto yes Councilwoman H. Tate yes  
 Councilman W. Grover yes Councilman M. Santoro yes  
 Councilman B. Angeli yes Councilman M. Perez yes

MOTION CARRIED

**ORDINANCE 2009:18**

**ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 15.04 ENTITLED CONSTRUCTION CODES ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF STRATFORD DOES ORDAIN**

WHEREAS, THE BOROUGH OF STRATFORD has determined that amending the Ordinance is in the best interest of the health, safety and welfare of the Borough and its residents;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Municipal Council of THE BOROUGH OF STRATFORD that:

**Section 1. Section 15.04.100 Fees Part A be amended as follows:**

A. Construction Permit Fees. The minimum fee will be forty-six dollars (\$46.00) for a construction permit shall be the sum of the subcode fees listed in subsection A(1) through (5). The maximum fee for a construction permit shall be the sum of the subcode fees listed in subsections A(1) through (5), and subsection C shall be paid before the permit is issued.

**Section 2. Section 15.04.100 Fees Part H, Subsection 1 and 2 will be amended as follows:**

1. Building permit for above-ground and in-ground pools shall be sixty-five dollars (\$65.00).

**Section 3. Repealer.**

All ordinances or part of ordinances inconsistent or in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby repealed as to said inconsistencies and conflicts.

**Section 4. Severability.**

If any section, part of any section, or clause or phrase of this Ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the remaining provisions of this Ordinance, and each section and subsection thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more of the subsections, sentences, clauses or phrases may be declared unconstitutional or invalid.

**Section 5. Effective Dates.**

This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon passage and publication according to law.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Notice is hereby given that the foregoing ordinance was introduced and passed on the first reading at a meeting of the Governing Body held on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2009 and will be considered for final passage on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2009 at a meeting at the Stratford Justice Facility, 315 Union Avenue, Stratford, NJ.

John D. Keenan, Jr. RMC

Ord.2009:19 Amend Traffic Schedules Ch. 10.44 – No Parking/Permit Parking  
 Clerk presented proof of publication. Meeting was opened to the public and after ample time and no questions were asked, the meeting was closed to the public. Motion to finally adopt was made by Councilman M. Santoro, seconded by Councilman B.

Angeli, with all ayes on the roll call vote as follows:

Councilman S. Venuto	yes	Councilwoman H. Tate	yes
Councilman W. Grover	yes	Councilman M. Santoro	yes
Councilman B. Angeli	yes	Councilman M. Perez	yes

MOTION CARRIED

**ORDINANCE 2009:19**

**ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 10.44 ENTITLED  
TRAFFIC SCHEDULES**

THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF STRATFORD DOES ORDAIN  
WHEREAS, THE BOROUGH OF STRATFORD has determined that amending the Ordinance is in the best interest of the health, safety and welfare of the Borough and its residents;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Municipal Council of THE BOROUGH OF STRATFORD that:

**Section 1. Section 10.44.010 Shedule I-No Parking.** Add the following street to the table:

Grand Avenue	Northwest	From West corner of Oxford Avenue extending 125 feet Northwesterly along Block 35, Lot 2.
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**Section 2. Section 10.44.040 Schedule IV – Permit parking only.** Add the following to the table:

Block 20, Lot 1	Grand Avenue	From intersection of Columbia Avenue 150 feet.
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**Section 3. Section 10.44.040 Schedule IV – Permit parking only.** Delete the following from the table:

Block 35, Lot 2	Grand Avenue	From the curbline from Laurel Road to Union Avenue.
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**Section 4. Repealer.**

All ordinances or part of ordinances inconsistent or in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby repealed as to said inconsistencies and conflicts.

**Section 5. Severability.**

If any section, part of any section, or clause or phrase of this Ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the remaining provisions of this Ordinance, and each section and subsection thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more of the subsections, sentences, clauses or phrases may be declared unconstitutional or invalid.

**Section 6. Effective Dates.**

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John D. Keenan, Jr. RMC

Ord.2009:20

Ordinance 2009:20 – Amend Ch. 2.04 Councilmanic Departments  
Clerk presented proof of publication. Meeting was opened to the public and after ample time and no questions were asked, the meeting was closed to the public. Motion to finally adopt was made by Councilman M. Perez, seconded by Councilman W. Grover, with all ayes on the roll call vote as follows:

Councilman S. Venuto	yes	Councilwoman H. Tate	no
Councilman W. Grover	yes	Councilman M. Santoro	yes
Councilman B. Angeli	no	Councilman M. Perez	yes

MOTION CARRIED

Ord.2009:21 Ordinance 2009:21 – Special Emergency – Redevelopment - \$20,000.  
 Clerk presented proof of publication. Meeting was opened to the public. Joe Strippoli inquired the status – The solicitor explained the Judge has set a calendar schedule ad to conduct hearing on study and approval process. After no questions were asked, the meeting was closed to the public. Motion to finally adopt was made by Councilman M. Santoro, seconded by Councilwoman H. Tate, with all ayes on the roll cal vote as follows:  
 Councilman S. Venuto yes Councilwoman H. Tate yes  
 Councilman W. Grover yes Councilman M. Santoro yes  
 Councilman B. Angeli yes Councilman M. Perez yes  
**MOTION CARRIED**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Res.2009:141 Resolution 2009:141 – Award Tree Bid – Lyon & Son - \$6,800.00  
 On motion of Councilman M. Santoro, seconded by Councilman W. Grover with all ayes on the roll call vote as follows:  
 Councilman S. Venuto yes Councilwoman H. Tate yes  
 Councilman W. Grover yes Councilman M. Santoro yes  
 Councilman B. Angeli yes Councilman M. Perez yes  
**RESOLUTION 2009:141**  
 WHEREAS, the Borough of Stratford has received bids for tree removal on August 11, 2009; and  
 WHEREAS, the lowest responsive bidder was Lyon & Son Tree Service, LLC in the amount of \$6,800.; and  
 WHEREAS, there is partial funding of \$4,800. from the NJ DEP Forestry Grant,  
 NOW, THEREFORE, BE RESOLVED, by Council to award the bid to Lyon & Son Tree Service, LLC in the amount of \$6,800.00.  
 I, John D. Keenan, Jr., Borough Clerk, hereby certify the above resolution was adopted on August 11, 2009.  
 John D. Keenan, Jr., R.M.C.

Res.2009:142 Resolution 2009:142 – Award Road Repair Proposal – Garden State Paving \$19,450.  
 Councilman S. Venuto yes Councilwoman H. Tate yes  
 Councilman W. Grover yes Councilman M. Santoro yes  
 Councilman B. Angeli yes Councilman M. Perez yes  
**RESOLUTION 2009:142**  
 WHEREAS, the Borough of Stratford has received quotes for road repairs of various areas in the borough; and  
 WHEREAS, two quotes were received and the lowest quote is from Garden State Paving Company in the amount of \$19,450.,  
 NOW, THEREFORE, BE RESOLVED, by Council to authorize the road repair to Garden State Paving Company in the amount of \$19,450.  
 I, John D. Keenan, Jr., Borough Clerk, hereby certify the above resolution was adopted on August 11, 2009.  
 John D. Keenan, Jr., R.M.C.

Res.2009:143 Resolution 2009:143 – Authorize Execution Open Space Grant Agreement -\$50,000.  
 Quaker Store  
 On motion of Councilman M. Perez, seconded by Councilman S. Venuto with all ayes on the vote.  
**RESOLUTION 2009:143**  
 WHEREAS, the Borough of Stratford has received an Open Space Grant from the County of Camden for the Quaker Store renovations in the amount of \$50,000.; and  
 WHEREAS, the County is seeking an Interlocal Agreement prior to the funding,  
 NOW, THEREFORE, BE RESOLVED, by Council to authorize the execution of the Interlocal Agreement with the County of Camden for the Open Space Grant in the amount of \$50,000. for the renovation of the Quaker Store.

I, John D. Keenan, Jr., Borough Clerk, hereby certify the above resolution was adopted on August 11, 2009.  
John D. Keenan, Jr., R.M.C.

Res.2009:144 Resolution 2009:144 – Professional Contract - Update of Forestry Plan – MJS Forestry Consultants \$3,000.  
On motion of Councilman M. Santoro, seconded by Councilwoman H. Tate with all ayes on the vote.

**RESOLUTION 2009:144**

WHEREAS, the Borough of Stratford has received a Grant from the State of NJ to assist in the update of the Borough Forestry Management Plan; and  
WHEREAS, the Borough Plan has to be updated in 2009 to continue to assist in future grants offered by the State of NJ for the maintenance and planting of trees,  
WHEREAS, this professional contract was not awarded through a “fair and open process” pursuant to NJSA 19:44A-20.4 et seq.,  
NOW, THEREFORE, BE RESOLVED, by Council to authorize the professional contract with MJS Forestry Consultants in the amount of \$3,000.00.  
I, John D. Keenan, Jr., Borough Clerk, hereby certify the above resolution was adopted on August 11, 2009.  
John D. Keenan, Jr., R.M.C.

Ord.2009:24 Ordinance 2009:24 – Amend Ch. 5.36 Responsibility of Landlords TABLED to 908/09  
A motion was made by Councilwoman H. Tate, seconded by Councilman S. Venuto with all ayes on the vote to TABLE this Ordinance.

Res.2009:145 Resolution 2009:145 – Public Hearing –TABLED to 09/08/09 meeting  
On motion of Councilman M. Santoro, seconded by Councilwoman H. Tate with all ayes on the vote to TABLE this Resolution.

**CFO RESOLUTIONS 09:146 – 09:151**

Res.2009:146 Resolution 2009:146 – Refund Tax Overpayment – B. 99, L. 4 \$1,505.38

**RESOLUTION 2009:146**

WHEREAS, an overpayment was received in the Tax Collector’s office for Block 99, Lot 4 – 42 Buttonwood Road;  
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stratford that the amount of \$1,505.38 be disbursed to First American Real Estate Tax Service for the overpayment.

Res.2009:147 Resolution 2009:147 – Refund Tax Overpayment – B. 29, L. 2 \$1,743.09

**RESOLUTOIN 2009:147**

WHEREAS, an overpayment was received in the Tax Collector’s office for Block 29, Lot 2 – 208 Yale Avenue;  
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stratford that the amount of \$1,743.09 be disbursed to First American Real Estate Tax Service for the overpayment.

Res.2009:148 Resolution 2009:148 – Refund Tax Overpayment – B. 103, L. 20 \$1,683.44

**RESOLUTION 2009:148**

WHEREAS, an overpayment was received in the Tax Collector’s office for Block 103, Lot 20 – 8 Rolling Road;  
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stratford that the amount of \$1,683.44 be disbursed to First American Real Estate Tax Service for the overpayment.

Res.2009:149 Resolution 2009:149 – Refund Tax Overpayment – B. 44, L.1 \$1,641.24

**RESOLUTION 2009:149**

WHEREAS, an overpayment was received in the Tax Collector’s office for Block 44,

Lot 1 – 2 Cornell Avenue;  
 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stratford that the amount of \$1,641.24 be disbursed to First American Real Estate Tax Service for the overpayment.

Res.2009:150 Resolution 2009:150 – Refund Tax Overpayment – B. 24, L. 11 \$1,291.29

**RESOLUTION 2009: 150**

WHEREAS, an overpayment was received in the Tax Collector’s office for Block 24, Lot 11 – 127 Vassar Avenue;  
 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stratford that the amount of \$1,291.29 be disbursed to BAC Tax Services Corporation for the overpayment.

Res.2009:151 Resolution 2009:151 – Refund Tax Overpayment – B. 8, L. 9 \$1,424.45

On motion of Councilman M. Perez, seconded by Councilman B. Angeli with all ayes on the roll call vote.

Councilman S. Venuto	yes	Councilwoman H. Tate	yes
Councilman W. Grover	yes	Councilman M. Santoro	yes
Councilman B. Angeli	yes	Councilman M. Perez	yes

**RESOLUTION 2009:151**

WHEREAS, an overpayment was received in the Tax Collector’s office for Block 8, Lot 9 – 118 Webster Avenue;  
 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stratford that the amount of \$1,424.45 be disbursed to BAC Tax Services Corporation for the overpayment.

Res.2009:152 Resolution 2009:152 – Provide Legal Counsel for Mayor John Gentless

On motion of Councilwoman H. Tate, seconded by Councilman B. Angeli with all ayes on the roll call vote as follows:

Councilman S. Venuto	abstain	Councilwoman H. Tate	yes
Councilman W. Grover	abstain	Councilman M. Santoro	yes
Councilman B. Angeli	yes	Councilman M. Perez	abstain

**RESOLUTION 2009:152**

WHEREAS, there have been charges filed against Mayor Gentless in his role as Mayor; and

WHEREAS, by recommendation of the Borough Solicitor the Borough of Stratford by ordinance requires to fund the defense of such charges; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by Council to authorize the funding to defend the charges that have been filed against the Mayor.

I, John D. Keenan, Jr., Borough Clerk, hereby certify the above resolution was adopted on August 11, 2009.

John D. Keenan, Jr., R.M.C.

Res.2009:153 Resolution 2009:153 – Accept DDEP Grant

On motion of Councilwoman H. Tate, seconded by Councilman B. Angeli with all ayes on the vote.

**RESOLUTION 2009:153**

WHEREAS, the Stratford Police Department applied for a NJ Drunk Driving Enforcement Fund grant; and

WHEREAS, the State of NJ did award the Borough of Stratford a grant in the amount of \$24,529.26,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by Council to accept the grant from the State of NJ for Drunk Driving Enforcement Fund in the amount of \$24,529.26.

I, John D. Keenan, Jr., Borough Clerk, hereby certify the above resolution was adopted on August 11, 2009.

John D. Keenan, Jr., R.M.C.

RAFFLE RA:511 St. Luke Home & School Assoc. – Golf Outing  
 LICENSE: On motion of Councilman M. Santoro, seconded by Councilman S. Venuto with all ayes on the vote, the Raffle License was approved.

BUSINESS Boardwalk Grille & Pizzeria, 41A South White Horse Pike  
 LICENSE: On motion of Councilman M. Perez, seconded by Councilman B. Angeli with all ayes on the vote, the Business License was approved.

APPROVAL Be it resolved to approve payment of bills numbered from #21251 to #21330, Animal  
 OF BILLS: Control #1325 to #1328, Manual #19422 to #19426, with various wire and electronic transfers.  
 On motion of Councilman M. Santoro, seconded by Councilwoman H. Tate with all ayes on the roll call vote as follows, Councilman S. Venuto abstaining from ck#21325:  
 Councilman S. Venuto yes Councilwoman H. Tate yes  
 Councilman W. Grover yes Councilman M. Santoro yes  
 Councilman B. Angeli yes Councilman M. Perez yes

GOOD AND Mayor Gentless read the Organ & Tissue Donation Proclamation  
 WELFARE: -Jeff spoke of his gratitude to Mayor and Council for their appreciation during his caring for his wife who became suddenly ill.  
 -Matt Rebecca of Temple Avenue thanked everyone  
 -Frances Morasso of Jefferson Avenue questioned the trees coming down. Councilman W. Grover explained that the requests were made by the residents. She expressed her concern with not wanting her tree removed.  
 -Agnes Moore of Laureba Avenue concerned with new equipment at Laureba Playground.  
 -Joan Trexler of Central Avenue asked about the planting of new trees. Councilman M. Santoro responded there are grants available.  
 The Mayor John Gentless spoke of Jake Gambon’s interest and presented a letter from Jake Gambon. The Solicitor, Jeff Baron, explained the significant damage the trees planted many years ago by builders. There are good trees and education that may be necessary.  
 -Councilman B. Angeli reminded SEDC has opening for new members.

ADJOURNMENT: On motion of Councilman S. Venuto, seconded by Councilman M. Perez with all ayes on the vote, the meeting was adjourned.

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John D. Keenan, Jr., RMC