

**STRATFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING  
TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 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  
MICHAEL SANTORO, COUNCILMAN  
HOLLY TATE, COUNCILWOMAN  
MICHAEL PEREZ, COUNCILMAN  
JEFFREY BARON, SOLICITOR  
JOHN D. KEENAN, JR. BOROUGH CLERK

PRESENTATION:

To former Councilwoman Julie Galezniak made by Councilman S. Venuto  
  
To veteran Thomas L. Homan, Jr., Army Specialist made by Mayor J. Gentless

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. *No one spoke in this portion*

APPROVAL OF  
MINUTES:

February 05, 2009 Agenda Meeting  
On motion of Councilman B. Angeli, seconded by Councilman M. Santoro with ayes on the vote.  
  
February 10, 2009 Regular Meeting  
On motion of Councilman M. Perez, seconded by Councilman H. Tate with all ayes on the vote.

REPORTS:  
FINANCE &  
REVENUE:

Councilwoman H. Tate read the Financial Report for February, 2009 as submitted by the CFO as follows:

BALANCE FEBRUARY 1, 2009	602,861.85
Total Receipts	2,801,656.42
Total Disbursements	2,055,815.81
BALANCE FEBRUARY 29, 2009	1,348,702.46
SCHEDULE OF ACCOUNT BALANCES FEBRUARY 28, 2009	
Municipal Alliance	39,023.54
Animal Control	2,733.74
Public Assistance I	2,400.74
K-9	186.45
General Capital	637,243.43
Developers Escrow	13,517.00
POAA	1,452.00
Special Law Enforcement Trust	14,545.72
UCC/LEA Trust	137,894.32
Uniform Fire Safety	8,675.11
Tax Title Lien	79,832.42
Trust Other	67,266.54

Councilwoman H. Tate also reported that the state has not confirmed the state funding which represents 15-20% of the budget revenue. Budget of 2009 is under the first CAP, which allows the portion not utilized this year to be banked for two

(2) years in the future. The Tax Levy CAP is at its maximum level of 4% which equates to about .05 cent increase in local taxes. She reported on the better efficiency report regarding the Stratford Municipal Court.

EMERGENCY

Councilman Michael Santoro read the Fire Company and Ambulance reports for February, 2009 as follows:

FIRE: the fire company responded to twenty-three (23) alarms and held two drills.

AMUBLANCE:

The Paid Crew responded to forty-eight (48) alarms.

The Volunteer Crew responded to fifteen (15) alarms and held one (1) drill.

Councilman Santoro also reported that the OEM CERT class has been postponed for this time due to a lack of interest of trainees singing up.

POLICE:

Councilman Ben Angeli read the Police Activity report for February, 2009 as submitted by the Police Chief as follows:

Adult Arrests	40	Juvenile Arrests	00
Assaults to Police	00	Simple Assault Complaints	04
Criminal Mischief Complaint	05	Harassment Complaints	11
Other Investigations & Complaint	91	Burglaries	01
Robberies	00	Thefts	\$13,296 20
Stolen Property Recovered	\$10,829.	Motor Vehicle Thefts	01
DWI Arrests	10	Narcotics Arrests	03
Traffic Summonses issued	366	Motor Vehicle Accidents	32
Injuries from Car Accidents	03	Alarm Activations	29
Total crime reports taken	75	Total Calls for Police Service	701

Councilman Angeli also read a commendation to Police Officer Tom Farwell and thanked him.

PUBLIC EVENTS:

The Mayor did the Public Events report and stated that on April 11<sup>th</sup>, there will be a 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Easter Egg Hunt at Mancini Field.

PUBLIC WORKS & LIGHTING:

Councilman Michael Perez read the sewer report for February, 2009 as follows: the work requests were completed, lines were checked, and the pick-up was repaired. DPW- the chipper is out every other week alternating with metal pick up, trench at the Veterans Park for electrical work, installed new traffic signs, cut tree root on Parkview Road, rubber mulch ready at Vassar Avenue playground, snow storm equipment ready and plowed snow, boarded up windows at Laurel Mills Center.

ORDINANCE & PROPERTY:

Councilman Steve Venuto reported there was one (1) Ordinance and eleven (11) Resolutions on for tonight's meeting.

He also explained how the Sewer Department and the Dept of Public Works help up keep borough repairs with very little cost.

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

Res.2009:58 Resolution 2009:58 – Dedication by Rider – Park Trust Account  
On motion of Councilman M. Santoro, seconded by Councilman B. Angeli with all ayes on the vote.

**RESOLUTION 2009:58**

**DEDICATION BY RIDER RESOLUTION**

**RESOLUTION REQUESTING APPROVAL OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE DIVISION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES TO ESTABLISH A DEDICATED TRUST BY RIDER FOR PARK TAX PURSUANT TO**

**N.J.S.A. 40A:4-39**

WHEREAS, permission is required of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services for approval as a dedicated by rider of revenues received by a municipality when the revenue is not subject to reasonable accurate estimates in advance; and

WHEREAS, the Borough by referendum has approved a Park tax which will fund maintenance of parks; and

WHEREAS, without such a tax there would be a hardship on the Borough residents to fund such expenses; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-39 provides that the Director of the Division of Local Government Services may approve expenditures of monies by dedication by rider; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-39 provides for the insertion of a "Dedication by Rider" in the budget if any local unit which dedicates revenue anticipated during the fiscal year subject to written prior consent of the Director of the Local Government Services when the revenue is not subject to reasonably accurate estimate in advance; and

WHEREAS, such dedicated revenue shall be appropriated for the purpose to which said revenue is dedicated by statute or other legal requirements.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by Borough Council of the Borough of Stratford that all funds received by the Tax Collector for Parks will help offset the maintenance of Borough Park land pursuant to the above regulations, shall be placed in a specific trust fund and such trust fund shall be considered a "Dedication by Rider" to the budget of the local unit pursuant to N.J.S.A. 20A:4-39, for the sole purpose stated above.

I, John D. Keenan, Jr., Borough Clerk of the Borough of Stratford, in the County of Camden, State of New Jersey do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the governing body held on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2009.

Ord.2009:08 Ordinance 2009:08 – Amend Ch. 15.20 Flood Hazard  
The Ordinance was read by title. A motion was made to approve on first reading by Councilman B. Angeli, seconded by Councilman M. Perez, with all ayes on the roll call vote as follows:

Councilman B. Angeli	yes	Councilman M. Perez	yes
Councilman M. Santoro	yes	Councilman S. Venuto	yes
Councilwoman H. Tate	yes	Council Vacancy	

MOTION CARRIED

Res.2009:59 Resolution 2009:59 – Public Hearing for Ordinance 2009:08 – April 14, 2009  
On motion of Councilman M. Santoro, seconded by Councilman B. Angeli with all ayes on the vote.

**RESOLUTION 2009:59**

**PUBLIC HEARING FOR ORDINANCE 2009:08**

BE IT RESOLVED, by Mayor and Members of Borough Council of the Borough of Stratford, County of Camden, State of New Jersey, that the 14<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2009, 7:30 PM set for the date and time of the Public Hearing for Ordinance 2009:08 and; BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that final reading and adoption shall be set for the 14<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2009 at 7:30 PM.

I, John D. Keenan, Jr., Borough Clerk, certify the above to be a true copy of a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stratford on March 10, 2009.

Res.2009:60 Resolution 2009:60 – Appointment Historic Preservation Commission – Martin Hanson  
Exp. December 2009  
On motion of Councilman S. Venuto, seconded by Councilman B. Angeli with all ayes on the vote.

**RESOLUTION 2009:60**

WHEREAS, there is a vacancy of a commissioner on the Historic Preservation Commission;

WHEREAS, Martin Hanson has asked to be a commissioner,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by Mayor and Council to appoint Martin Hanson to the Historic Preservation Commission with a term to expire on December 31, 2009.

I, John D. Keenan, Jr., Borough Clerk, certify the above resolution was adopted by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stratford on March 10, 2009.

Res.2009:61 Resolution 2009:61 – 2008 Recycling Tonnage Grant  
On motion of Councilman S. Venuto, seconded by Councilman B. Angeli with all ayes on the vote.

**RESOLUTION 2009:61  
TONNAGE GRANT APPLICATION**

WHEREAS, the Mandatory Source Separation and Recycling Act, P.L. 1987, c.102, has established a recycling fund from which tonnage grant may be made to municipalities in order to encourage local source separation and recycling programs; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent and the spirit of the Mandatory Source Separation and Recycling Act to use the tonnage grants to develop new municipal recycling programs and to continue and to expand existing programs; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection has promulgated recycling regulations to Implement the Mandatory Source Separation and Recycling Act; and

WHEREAS, the recycling regulations impose on municipalities certain requirements as a condition for applying for tonnage grants, including but not limited to, making and keeping accurate, verifiable records of materials collected and claimed by the municipality; and

WHEREAS, a resolution authorizing this municipality to apply for such tonnage grants for the calendar year 2008 will memorialize the commitment of this municipality to recycling and to indicate the assent of Stratford Borough Council to the efforts undertaken by the municipality and the requirements contained in the Recycling Act and recycling regulations; and

WHEREAS, such a resolution should designate the individual authorized to ensure the application is properly completed and timely filed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stratford that Stratford hereby endorses the submission of the recycling tonnage grant application to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and designates John Keenan, to ensure that the application is properly files; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the monies received from the recycling tonnage grant be deposited in a dedicated recycling trust fund to be used solely for the purpose of recycling.

I, John D. Keenan, Jr., Borough Clerk certify the above resolution was adopted by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stratford on March 10, 2009.

Res.2009:62 Resolution 2009:62 – Support Lindenwold Streetscape Grant for Berlin Road  
On motion of Councilman M. Santoro, seconded by Councilman H. Tate with all ayes on the vote.

**RESOLUTION 2009:62  
SUPPORT OF LINDENWOLD SAFETEA-LU STREETSCAPE PROJECT**

WHEREAS, the Borough of Lindenwold is the local sponsor for a High Priority Project under the Safe, Accountable, Flexible and Efficient Transportation Equity Act; A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) that proposes streetscape improvements along Berlin Road (CR# 702) from Gibbsboro Road (CR# 686) to White Horse Road (CR# 673). The scope of the streetscape project includes the installation of historic brick sidewalk, historic period lighting with banners and hanging planters, benches, landscape improvements, improved signage and other pedestrian improvements; and

WHEREAS, in order to proceed with the project, the Borough of Lindenwold, as the local project sponsor must receive local public support from project stakeholders before the start of design work and before the project is funded; and

WHEREAS, the proposed streetscape improvements will improve pedestrian safety by providing easier and safer access to rail passenger service between Lindenwold, Philadelphia and Atlantic City. The proposed streetscape improvements will improve pedestrian safety by providing easier and safer access to the business community located along Berlin Road, the White Horse Road and the adjacent Boroughs of Stratford and Somerdale. The streetscape project is consistent with the Lindenwold Borough's Master Plan, Lindenwold Borough's Comprehensive Economic Development Plan, and the State of New Jersey Development and Redevelopment Plan,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by Mayor and Council to support the Borough of Lindenwold in their SAFETEA-LU Streetscape Application for along Berlin Road, adjacent to the Borough of Stratford.

I, John D. Keenan, Jr., R.M.C., Borough Clerk, hereby certify the above resolution was adopted on March 10, 2009.

Res.2009:63 Resolution 2009:63 – Exempt Tax for Disabled Vet B. 44, L. 6.01  
On motion of Councilman S. Venuto, seconded by Councilman M. Perez with all ayes on the vote.

**RESOLUTION 2009:63**

WHEREAS, Kenneth H. Ryker owner of B. 44, L. 6.01 and has applied for a Total Exempt Disabled Tax Deduction to the Borough Tax Assessor; and

WHEREAS, the Tax Assessor has reviewed the documentation and approved the deduction as of the date of application of January 26, 2009; and

WHEREAS, the first quarter tax has been assessed and requires a portion to be cancelled; and

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector has requested the amount of \$1,166.97 to be cancelled from the first quarter of 2009,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by Mayor and Council to approve the Total Exempt Disabled Tax Deduction for B. 44, L. 6.01 from January 26, 2009 and to cancel the amount of \$1,166.97 of the first quarter of 2009.

I, John D. Keenan, Jr., R.M.C. certify the above resolution was adopted on March 10, 2009.

Res.2009:64 Resolution 2009:64 – Support Participation in Sustainable Jersey  
On motion of Councilman M. Perez, seconded by Councilwoman H. Tate with all ayes on the vote.

**RESOLUTION 2009:64**

**Borough of Stratford**

**Resolution Supporting Participation**

**In the Sustainable Jersey Municipal Certification Program**

WHEREAS, a sustainable community seeks to optimize quality of life for its residents by ensuring that its environmental, economic and social objectives are balanced and mutually supportive; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Stratford strives to save tax dollars, assure clean land, air and water, improve working and living environments as steps to building a sustainable community that will thrive well into the new century; and

WHEREAS, Stratford hereby acknowledges that the residents of Stratford desire a stable, sustainable future for themselves and future generations; and

WHEREAS, Stratford wishes to support a model of government which benefits our residents now and far into the future by exploring and adopting sustainable, economically-sound, local government practices; and

WHEREAS, by endorsing a sustainable path Stratford is pledging to educate itself and community members further about sustainable activities and to develop initiatives supporting sustainable local government practices; and

WHEREAS, as elected representatives of Stratford, we have a significant responsibility to provide leadership which will seek community-based sustainable solutions to strengthen our community;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that to focus attention and effort within Stratford on matters of sustainability, the Borough Council of Stratford that we do hereby authorize John Gentless, Mayor to serve as Stratford's agent for the Sustainable Jersey Municipal Certification process and authorize him to complete the Municipal Registration on behalf of Stratford.

I, John D. Keenan, Jr., Clerk of the Borough of Stratford, do hereby certify the foregoing resolution was adopted by Mayor and Council on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2009.

Res.2009:65 Resolution 2009:65 – Support Bills S-2503 & A-2872 – Licensure of Tree Experts/Operators  
On motion of Councilwoman H. Tate, seconded by Councilman S. Venuto with all ayes  
on the vote.

**RESOLUTION 2009:67**  
**A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF NJ LEGISLATIVE**  
**BILLS S-2503 AND A-2872**

WHEREAS, the Borough Council of Stratford finds and declares that trees are an important part of New Jersey's environment, and  
WHEREAS, the Borough Council recognizes the importance of safe and proper tree care practices for consumer protection, worker safety and the public welfare, and  
WHEREAS, it is appropriate for tree care to be conducted by qualified, licensed and insured tree care experts to prevent injuries and damage to life and property, and  
WHEREAS, Senate Bill No. 2503 and Assembly Bill No. 2872 are acts concerning the licensure of tree experts and tree care operators and the registration of certain employers, supplementing Title 45 of the Revised Statutes, and repealing P.L. 1940, c.100 and sections 7 and 8 of P.L. 1966, c.20 by (1) providing a new licensing scheme for tree providers, the titles of "Licensed Tree Expert" and "Licensed Tree Care Operator"; (2) re-establishing a "Board of Tree Experts" in the DEP with increase membership from 3 to 9 members; (3) establishing minimum qualifications to take the examinations and identifying specific tree services that each title can perform; (4) requiring that tree care employers are registered and carry minimum levels of liability and workers compensation insurances; (5) requiring minimum continuing education units be earned prior to re-issuance of the license; (6) establishing penalties for violating certain portions of the act;  
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough Council of the Borough of Stratford supports the passage of the NJ Legislative Bills S-2503 and A-2872.  
DATED: 031009 ADOPTED

Res.2009:66 Resolution 2009:66 – Extend 2009 Temporary Budget  
On motion of Councilman M. Santoro, seconded by Councilman M. Perez with all ayes  
on the vote.

**RESOLUTION 2009:66**  
**EXTEND THE TEMPORARY BUDGET**

BE IT RESOLVED by Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stratford during the first thirty-one (31) days of the year, in order to meet those expenses of the Borough until a Final Budget is adopted.  
WHEREAS, the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Stratford, set forth a Temporary 2009 Budget at its reorganizational meeting that certain appropriations be set forth and were constituted the Temporary Budget for the year of 2009; and  
FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED, to extend the 2009 Temporary Budget for the next quarter for 2009.  
I, John D. Keenan, Jr., R.M.C. certify the above resolution was adopted on March 10, 2009.

Res.2009:67 Resolution 2009:67 – Tax Overpayment Bl. 85, Lot 3  
On motion of Councilman M. Santoro, seconded by Councilman B. Angeli with all ayes  
on the vote.

**RESOLUTION 2009:67**

WHEREAS, an overpay was received in the Tax Collector's office for Block 85, Lot 3 – 42 Temple Avenue;  
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stratford that the amount of \$1,397.67 be disbursed to Matthew and Roseanne Rebecca for the overpayment.

Res.2009:68 Resolution 2009:68 – Resignation of Councilman J. Capone  
On motion of Councilman M. Santoro, seconded by Councilman B. Angeli with all ayes  
on the vote.

**RESOLUTION 2009:68**

WHEREAS, Councilman John Capone submitted his resignation with an effective date of March 10, 2009; and

WHEREAS, a vacancy exists for a Council position of the Governing Body of the Borough of Stratford; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:16 regulates the Municipal Vacancy Law and states within 15 days after the occurrence of the vacancy the municipal committee of the political party shall present to the Governing Body the names of three nominees for the selection of a successor to fill the vacancy; and

WHEREAS, within 30 days after the occurrence of a vacancy, the Governing Body shall appoint one of the nominees as the successor to fill the council vacancy with a term to expire on December 31, 2009.

I, John D. Keenan, Jr., R.M.C. certify the above resolution was adopted on March 10, 2009.

Proclamation: April – Alcohol & Drug Awareness Month – read by Mayor J. Gentless

**ALCOHOL AWARENESS MONTH 2009**

**PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, alcohol is a primary factor in the four leading causes of death among young persons ages 10-21; and

**WHEREAS**, almost 6500 persons ages 10-21 die each year: almost 2400 in drinking and driving crashes, almost 2400 die from other accidents, falls, fires etc., 1500 die in alcohol-related homicides and 300 due to suicide; and

**WHEREAS**, adolescents use alcohol more than tobacco or illicit drugs; and

**WHEREAS**, young people who begin drinking, on average, at age 13.1 years of age; and

**WHEREAS**, young people who begin drinking before age 15 are four times more likely to develop alcohol dependence than those who begin drinking at age 21; and

**WHEREAS**, alcohol use is linked to as many as two-thirds of all sexual assaults and date rapes of teens and college students; and

**WHEREAS**, alcohol abuse is a major factor in unprotected sex among youth increasing their risk of contracting HIV or other transmitted diseases; and

**WHEREAS**, the typical American young person will see 100,000 beer commercials before he or she turns 18 (that is more than for sneakers, gum and jeans combined); and

**WHEREAS**, 13 percent of all youth, ages 12-17, had at least one serious problem related to drinking in the past year;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, John Gentless, do hereby proclaim that April, 2008 is Alcohol Awareness Month in the Borough of Stratford. As Mayor, I also call upon all citizens, parents, governmental agencies, public and private institutions, businesses, hospitals and schools in the Borough of Stratford to support efforts that will encourage recovery throughout our community.

Mayor John Gentless

DATED THIS 10<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF MARCH, 2009

RAFFLE #507 Trip Raffle - Knights of Columbus

LICENSE: On motion of Councilman M. Santoro, seconded Councilman B. Angeli with all ayes on the vote, the Raffle License was approved.

APPROVAL OF BILL: Be it resolved to approve payment of bills numbered from #20703 to #20803, checks #20700, #20701 and #20702 were alignment checks and voided. Animal Control #1294 to #1296, Manual #9397 to #9400 Miscellaneous #19394 to #19396, with various wire transfers. On motion of Councilman M. Perez, seconded by Councilman S. Venuto with all ayes on the roll call vote as follows:

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

MOTION CARRIED

GOOD AND  
WELFARE:

-Carol Colalillo of Laureba Avenue thanked Mayor and Council for the Stratford Times Newspaper

-Harry Berry of Cornell Avenue asked if the emergency calls in the Emergency Services report were all Stratford calls? Councilman M. Santoro and the Clerk stated that it was shared serviced/mutual aid.

He also questioned the Flood Map. The Clerk and Solicitor gave him information regarding the Map.

ADJOURNMENT:

On motion of Councilman M. Perez, seconded by Councilman B. Angeli with all ayes on the vote, the meeting was adjourned.

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John D. Keenan, Jr. RMC