

**STRATFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL ACTION MEETING  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2010  
7:00 P.M.**

ROLL CALL:

MAYOR JOHN GENTLESS  
BEN ANGELI, COUNCILMAN  
HOLLY TATE, COUNCILWOMAN  
MIKE PEREZ, COUNCILMAN  
DAN BOVE, COUNCILMAN  
FRANK GAGLIARDI, COUNCILMAN – 7:05 PM  
ANTHONY COSTA, SOLICITOR  
JOHN D. KEENAN, JR., BOROUGH CLERK  
RONALD MORELLO, CHIEF OF POLICE  
ABSENT  
MICHAEL SANTORO, COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Councilman F. Gagliardi handed out to Mayor and Council copies of the current Landlord Registration Ordinance including the amendment which was adopted subsequent to the adoption of the original Ordinance. He asked Council to review the Ordinance.

The Mayor had questions and concerns. He stated he wanted the funding to be saved for future storms. He questioned the Shade Tree Commission chairman on a sidewalk possibility around the tree as well as how the trees were decided upon.

Res.2010:47      Resolution 2010:47 – Tree Bid \$7000. with change order + \$800 - 301 Princeton Ave. On motion of Councilman M. Perez, seconded by Councilman F. Gagliardi with all the roll call taken as follows:

Councilman M. Perez	yes	Councilman F. Gagliardi	yes
Councilman B. Angeli	no	Councilman D. Bove	yes
Councilman M. Santoro	absent	Councilwoman H. Tate	yes

MOTION CARRIED

**RESOLUTION 2010:47**

WHEREAS, the Borough of Stratford has advertised and received bids for Tree Maintenance; and

WHEREAS, the NJ State Forestry on January 15, 2010 awarded a grant through the 2009 Business Stimulus Fund (BSF) in the amount of \$7,000.00 to Stratford Borough for such tree maintenance; and

WHEREAS, the lowest responsive bidder in the amount of \$6,200.00 has been received from Lyon and Son Tree Removal of Barrington, NJ; and

WHEREAS, the Shade Tree Commission has added a tree to the listing as a Change Order #1 located at 301 Princeton Avenue in the amount of \$800.00 on February 16, 2010,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by Council to authorize the award of the Tree Maintenance bid to Lyon and Son Tree Removal in the amount of \$6,200.00,

FURTHERMORE, to authorize the Change Order #1 for the removal of a tree located at 301 Princeton Avenue in the amount of \$800.00.

I, John D. Keenan, Jr., Borough Clerk, hereby certify the above resolution was adopted at the meeting held on February 16, 2010.

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

The meeting with Mr. & Mrs. Tomkinson was discussed. Council desired to check with Councilman M. Santoro first for dates and times he is available and then follow up with council and Mr. & Mrs. Tomkinson.

The date for a meeting with Manny Sethi, owner of Laurel Mill Center will be March 15, 2010 at 6:30 PM. This will be a conference call.

Res.2010:48 Resolution 2010:48 – CFO to be Signer on the Municipal Court Accounts  
On motion of Councilwoman H. Tate, seconded by Councilman B. Angeli with all ayes on the roll call vote as follows:

Councilman M. Perez	yes	Councilman F. Gagliardi	yes
Councilman B. Angeli	yes	Councilman D. Bove	yes
Councilman M. Santoro	absent	Councilwoman H. Tate	yes

MOTION CARRIED

**RESOLUTION 2010:48**

WHEREAS, the Borough of Stratford has the need to add a signer to the Municipal Court accounts; and

WHEREAS, the CFO John Fabritiis is qualified to be a signer on these accounts,  
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by Council to authorize the addition of John Fabritiis as a signer to the Stratford Municipal Court accounts with 1<sup>st</sup> Colonial National Bank effective immediately.

I, John D. Keenan, Jr., Borough Clerk, hereby certify the above resolution was adopted at the meeting held on February 16, 2010.

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

-The request of Word Fellowship to have the Borough abandon the Municipal street in front of their lot which is about 425 feet by 40 feet wide. Council had some concerns and asked this be tabled until the March Agenda Meeting on March 4<sup>th</sup>.

**PUBLIC PORTION:**

-Ken Friedman of Hillside Road had questions regarding holding the landlord responsible for tenants actions.

-Bill Grover of Parkview Road confirmed the current ordinance does allow for inspections to apartments.

-Agnes Moore of Laureba Avenue confirmed the problems are mostly those landlords who do not take care of their properties.

-Harry Berry of Cornell Avenue stated he feels the landlords are being picked on. He also asked that a committee be set up including some of the landlords.

-John Dudley of N. Atlantic Avenue agreed with Ken Friedman about the landlord who is trying to get rid of tenant, not being held liable.

-Bill Grover of Parkview Road asked if landlords are part of any committee that residents living near the rentals be included.

**Council Reports:**

Councilman D. Bove – nothing to report

Councilwoman H. Tate – nothing to report

Councilman M. Perez – spoke of how well the streets were done and thanked everyone for getting cars off the roads.

Councilman B. Angeli spoke of his planned meeting set with the hospital Vice-President Joseph Devine.

Mayor Gentless spoke of future discussions to jointly do the Easter Egg Hunt with the Knights of Columbus.

**PUBLIC PORTION CONT'D.**

-Andrew Schallenhammer of Voorhees thanked council for planning to meet with Mr. & Mrs. Tomkinson. He was concerned with a question by Bill Grover about “council being in bed with Juster” at the February 9<sup>th</sup> meeting. He requested a written apology from Mr. Grover.

-Agnes Moore responded about the Juster meeting minutes. She asked that council should be ready to decide on what will be the next move if Juster does not succeed in their own plan of obtaining tenants.

-Pat Walsh of Meadow Lark Road inquired and billing for accidents on state highways. He referenced an accident where his son-in-law was killed in Washington Township, and paid an invoice over \$10,000 for municipal services. The Clerk stated Stratford only bills for Fire Equipment out and supplies and no man power; and Stratford does not want the resident to pay, but the insurance company to pay.

-Harry Berry of Cornell Avenue stated a lot of time and effort has been spent on redevelopment in Stratford. He spoke about his favoring a sidewalk program. He spoke of the investigation that was done on the Mayor and asked about the status. The Solicitor stated the Prosecutor’s office works at their own pace and they do not give status until they are finished.

Res:2010:49 Resolution 2010:49 – Executive Session

Executive Session: On motion of Councilman F. Gagliardi, seconded by Councilman B. Angeli with all eyes on the vote to go into Executive Session.

**RESOLUTION 2010:49**

**WHEREAS**, Section 8 of the Open Public Meeting Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

**WHEREAS**, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist,

**WHEREAS**, the public body is required to adopt this resolution by a vote of three quarters of the members present,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Stratford Borough Council as follows:

1. The meeting is required in order to deal with matters concerning personnel, more specifically to discuss:

**PERSONNEL/LITIGATIONS**

2. This meeting will be limited to the discussions with respect to the aforesaid matters.
3. Upon following adoption of this resolution for the purposes aforesaid, Borough Council will meet in closed session.
4. Notice of this meeting was posted on the bulletin board.
5. Generally speaking, it will be possible to disclose to the public results of these discussions as noted:

**TO DISCUSS PERSONNEL ISSUES**

I, John D. Keenan, Jr., Clerk of the Borough of Stratford, do hereby certify the foregoing resolution was adopted by Mayor and Council at their Council Meeting at 7:00 PM held on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2010.

*John D. Keenan, Jr., RMC*

On motion of Councilman M. Perez, seconded by Councilman B. Angeli with all eyes on the vote to come out of Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT: On motion of Councilman D. Bove, seconded by Councilman B. Angeli with all eyes on the vote, the meeting was adjourned.

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John D. Keenan, Jr., RMC