

**STRATFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 09, 2010
7:00 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
MICHAEL SANTORO, COUNCIL PRESIDENT
BEN ANGELI, COUNCILMAN
HOLLY TATE, COUNCILWOMAN
MIKE PEREZ, COUNCILMAN
FRANK GAGLIARDI, COUNCILMAN
DAN BOVE, COUNCILMAN
ANTHONY COSTA, SOLICITOR
JOHN D. KEENAN, JR., BOROUGH CLERK

MEETING OPENED
TO THE PUBLIC:

Meeting is opened to the public for a maximum of 15 minutes to discuss anything appearing on tonight's agenda. You may also speak at the end of the meeting under Good and Welfare. Nothing was discussed in this portion of the meeting.

APPROVAL OF
MINUTES:

Agenda Meeting February 04, 2010

On motion of Councilman F. Gagliardi, seconded by Councilman D. Bove with all ayes on the vote.

Regular Meeting February 09, 2010

On motion of Councilman M. Perez, seconded by Councilman M. Santoro with all ayes on the vote.

Council Meeting February 16, 2010

On motion of Councilman M. Santoro, seconded by Councilman D. Bove with all ayes on the vote.

REPORTS:
FINANCE &
REVENUE

Councilman Frank Gagliardi read the Finance Report for February, 2010 as submitted by the CFO as follows:

BALANCE FEBRUARY 1, 2010	151,425.55
Total Receipts	2,951,593.84
Total Disbursements	1,965,369.30
BALANCE FEBRUARY 28, 2010	1,137,650.09
SCHEDULE OF ACCOUNT BALANCES FEBRUARY 28, 2010	
Municipal Alliance	36,514.33
Animal Control	4,414.95
Public Assistance I	2,400.13
K-9	186.45
General Capital	522,202.04
Developers Escrow	12,837.24
POAA	1,378.01
Special Law Enforcement Trust	15,767.80
UCC/LEA Trust	108,177.97
Uniform Fire Safety	14,245.81
Tax Title Lien	186,733.35
Trust Other	63,398.93
Parks Open Space	9,510.76

He also stated, they started preliminary budget but waiting for governor’s speech next Tuesday. Met with Kennedy Hospital along with Councilman M. Santoro and Councilman B. Angeli regarding police services. Wrote letter and met with the Library Trustees inquiring for some of the mandated borough funding to be returned to assist the town.

EMERGENCY SERVICES:

Councilman Michael Santoro read the Fire Report for February, 2010 as submitted by Deputy Chief Mark Brumbach as follows:
 The Fire Department responded to forty-six (46) alarms and held two (2) drills. He also read the Volunteer and Paid Crews reports as submitted by Captain Lois Tadley as follows:
 The Volunteer Crew responded to seventeen (17) alarms and held one (1) drill. The Paid Crew responded to sixty-One (61) alarms.
 He stated the fund raiser for Matt Gagliardi was very well attended and raised funds to assist the family. Also spoke about how the Emergency Management was available during all snow storms and thanked Emergency Management and other borough services for their assistance.

POLICE:

Councilman Ben Angeli read the Police Activity Report for February, 2010 as submitted by the Police Department as follows:

Adult Arrests	30	Juvenile Arrests	0
Assaults to Police	0	Simple Assault Complaints	5
Criminal Mischief Compl.	6	Harassment Complaints	11
Other Investigations & Compl.	89	Burglaries	1
Robberies	0	Thefts \$25,081	13
Stolen Property Recovered	\$51,016	Motor Vehicle Thefts	1
DWI Arrests	9	Narcotics Arrests	3
Traffic Summonses issued	371	Motor Vehicle Accidents	33
Injuries from Car Accid.	5	Alarm Activations	29
Total crime reports taken	59	Total Calls for Police Services	675

He also reported that the red light camera installation process is moving along.

PUBLIC EVENTS:

Councilwoman Holly Tate reported that the Miss Stratford Pageant is being held at Sterling High School due to Yellin School renovations. Dr. Vespe has agreed to allow the use. Probably the last Thursday in June. Working on 4th of July parade, and possibly a fund raiser 5K race for Matt Gagliardi. May 16th, the 9th Annual Scholarship Run is being held. Shawn Klenk of Sterling High School is the contact person.

PUBLIC WORKS & LIGHTING:

Councilman Mike Perez read the sewer report and commented on how the department saved thousands fixing the signal control box at Warwick and Laurel Roads. He also read the DPW report – chipped 617 trees this year, plow repaired, snow storm responses, and thanked the residents for not parking on street during the snow storm.

ORDINANCE & PROPERTY:

Councilman Dan Bove reported that there are eleven (11) Resolutions and one (1) Ordinance on for tonight’s meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

Ord.2010:02 Ordinance 2010:02 Amending Chapter 10.44 Entitled Traffic Schedules
 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 D. Bove, seconded by Councilwoman H. Tate with all ayes on the roll call vote as follows:

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

**ORDINANCE 2010:02
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 10.44.040 Schedule IV – Permit parking only. Add the following to the table:

Block 12, Lot 2,	Wright Avenue	Along the curbline of the residential
Block 15, Lot 5, 6, 7		properties listed.

Section 2. Repealer.

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

Section 3. 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 4. 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 9th day of February, 2010 and will be considered for final passage on the 9th day of March, 2010 at a meeting at the Stratford Justice Facility, 315 Union Avenue, Stratford, NJ.

John D. Keenan, Jr. RMC

NEW BUSINESS:

Res.2010:52 Resolution 2010:52 – Refund overpayment for birth certificate \$5.00
On motion of Councilman M. Santoro, seconded by Councilman D. Bove with all ayes on the vote.

RESOLUTION 2010:52

WHEREAS, William Michalowski mailed in his request to purchase a certification of his birth record; and

WHEREAS, he paid \$25.00 which is \$5.00 over the amount due of \$20.00,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by Council to authorize the refund of \$5.00 to William Michalowski for an overpayment for a birth certification.

I, John D. Keenan, Jr., Borough Clerk, hereby certify the above resolution was adopted on March 09, 2010.

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

Res.2010:53 Resolution 2010:53 – Appoint Jack Cathrall SEDC Member expire Dec. 2013
On motion of Councilman M. Perez, seconded by Councilwoman H. Tate with all ayes on the vote.

RESOLUTION 2010:53

WHEREAS, there is a vacancy on the Stratford Economic Development Commission; and

WHEREAS, Jack Cathrall has volunteered to be a member of this Commission,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by Council to appoint Jack Cathrall as a member of the SEDC with his term to expire on December 31, 2013.

I, John D. Keenan, Jr., Borough Clerk, hereby certify the above resolution was adopted on March 09, 2010.

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

Res.2010:54 Resolution 2010:54 – Authorize Execution of 2010 Auditor Contract – Bowman & Company
On motion of Councilwoman H. Tate, seconded by Councilman D. Bove with all ayes on the vote.

RESOLUTION 2010:54

WHEREAS, the Borough requested proposals for services for 2010; and
WHEREAS, John Dailey of the auditing firm of Bowman & Company submitted a proposal for 2010; and

WHEREAS, at the annual 2010 reorganization meeting the Council appoint John Daily of Bowman & Company as the Borough Auditor,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by Council to authorize the execution of the 2010 auditor contract with John Dailey of Bowman & Company.

I, John D. Keenan, Jr., Borough Clerk, hereby certify the above resolution was adopted on March 09, 2010.

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

Res.2010:55 Resolution 2010:55 – Support of 2010 County Open Space Grant – Coolidge Park
On motion of Councilman M. Santoro, seconded by Councilman F. Gagliardi with all ayes on the vote.

RESOLUTION 2010:55

WHEREAS, the County of Camden offers Open Space Grants for Parks; and
WHEREAS, the Borough of Stratford has in the past been successful in obtaining such grants to assist in beautifying certain parks in the municipality; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Stratford’s Park Commission has prepared a grant application for assistance in rehabilitating the Coolidge Avenue Park,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by Borough Council to support the Park Commission in their 2010 Open Space Grant Application to the County of Camden to help rehabilitate the Coolidge Avenue Park.

I, John D. Keenan, Jr., Borough Clerk, hereby certify the above resolution was adopted on March 09, 2010.

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

Res.2010:56 Resolution 2010:56 – Award Quaker Store Bid - C. Riley Construction \$3,900.
On motion of Councilman M. Perez, seconded by Councilman D. Bove with all ayes on the vote.

RESOLUTION 2010:56

WHEREAS, the Stratford Historic Preservation Commission requested bids be requested for work on the Quaker Store; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Clerk advertised and received bids for the work the Historic Preservation Commission specified; and

WHEREAS, the lowest responsive bidder was C. Riley Construction LLC who has completed work at this project previously,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by Council to award the contract to C. Riley Construction LLC for \$3,900. for renovation work at the Quaker Store.

I, John D. Keenan, Jr., Borough Clerk, hereby certify the above resolution was adopted on March 09, 2010.

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

Res.2010:57 Resolution 2010:57 – Authorize Execution of 2010 Engineer Contract – Bach Assocs.
On motion of Councilman M. Santoro, seconded by Councilwoman H. Tate with all ayes on the vote.

RESOLUTION 2010:57

WHEREAS, the Borough requested proposals for services for 2010; and

WHEREAS, Steven Bach of the engineering firm of Bach Associates submitted a proposal for 2010; and
 WHEREAS, at the annual 2010 reorganization meeting the Council appoint Steven Bach of Bach Associates as the Borough Engineer,
 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by Council to authorize the execution of the 2010 engineer contract with Steven Bach of Bach Associates.
 I, John D. Keenan, Jr., Borough Clerk, hereby certify the above resolution was adopted on March 09, 2010.
John D. Keenan, Jr., R.M.C.

Res.2010:58 Resolution 2010:58 – Civil Service Appointing Authority Designee – Borough Clerk
 On motion of Councilman M. Santoro, seconded by Councilman D. Bove with all ayes on the vote.

RESOLUTION 2010:58

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey Civil Service Commission has notified all jurisdictions operating under the Borough form of government regarding the Appointing Authority; and
 WHEREAS, due to a recent case involving Borough of Roselle which requires the jurisdictions operating under the Borough form of government to designate the Council designee,
 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by Borough Council to identify their designee for the Borough of Stratford’s appointing authority as the Borough Clerk, John D. Keenan, Jr.
 I, John D. Keenan, Jr., Borough Clerk, hereby certify the above resolution was adopted on March 09, 2010.
John D. Keenan, Jr., R.M.C.

CFO Resolutions

Res.2010:59 Resolution 2010:59 – Refund Tax Overpayment - \$79.05 B. 114, L. 20

RESOLUTION 2010:59

WHEREAS, a payment was received from Saxon Mortgage in the Tax Collector’s office for Block 114, Lot 20 – 5 Parkview Road;
 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stratford that the amount of \$79.05 be disbursed to Richard E. & Marl Lee Webber for the overpayment.
 I, John D. Keenan, Jr., Clerk of the Borough of Stratford, do hereby certify the foregoing resolution was approved at a meeting of the Borough Council held on March 9, 2010.
John D. Keenan, Jr., Borough Clerk

Res.2010:60 Resolution 2010:60 – Remove Senior Citizen Deduction B. 83, L. 11

RESOLUTION 2010:60

WHEREAS, all eligibility requirements for a SENIOR CITIZEN tax deduction for the year 2010 have not been met due to the sale of the property by the following residents:

<u>BLOCK</u>	<u>LOT</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
83	11	Rita Papa	12 Bucknell Avenue	212.52

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stratford that this tax deduction be removed from the tax duplicate.
 I, John D. Keenan, Jr., Clerk of the Borough of Stratford, do hereby certify the foregoing resolution was approved at a meeting of the Borough Council held on March 9, 2010.
John D. Keenan, Jr., Borough Clerk

Res.2010:61 Resolution 2010:61 – Refund Tax Overpayment - \$1666.86 B. 87.01, L. 42

RESOLUTION 2010:61

WHEREAS, an overpayment was received in the Tax Collector’s office for Block 87.01, Lot 42 – 20 Saratoga Road for the 1st quarter 2010;
 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stratford the amount of \$1666.86 be disbursed to James T. Burns for the overpayment.

I, John D. Keenan, Jr., Clerk of the Borough of Stratford, do hereby certify the foregoing resolution was approved at a meeting of the Borough Council held on March 9, 2010.
John D. Keenan, Jr., Borough Clerk

Res.2010:62 Resolution 2010:62 – Total Tax Exemption Disabled Vet B. 87.01, L. 42

RESOLUTION 2010:62

WHEREAS, an application has been received from James T. Burns of 20 Saratoga Road, Block 87.01, Lot 42, for an exemption from the payment of Property taxes; and
WHEREAS, James T. Burns suffers from a service-connected disability and has been declared 100% permanently and totally disabled by the U. S. Veterans Administration;
and

WHEREAS, the Tax Assessor has determined that James T. Burns has submitted the required documentation and is entitled to an exemption from the property taxes;
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stratford to place Mr. Burn’s property on the Exempt Property List effective January 1, 2010.

I, John D. Keenan, Jr., Clerk of the Borough of Stratford, do hereby certify the foregoing resolution was approved at a meeting of the Borough Council held on March 9, 2010.
John D. Keenan, Jr., Borough Clerk

On motion of Councilman M. Perez, seconded by Councilman M. Santoro with all ayes on the roll call vote as follows:

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

MOTION CARRIED

PROCLAMATION: read by Mayor John Gentless

READ ACROSS AMERICA/READ ACROSS NJ

WHEREAS, the citizens of Stratford stand firmly committed to promoting reading as the catalyst for our students’ future academic success, their preparation for America’s jobs of the future, and their ability to compete in a global economy; and

WHEREAS, Stratford has provided significant leadership in the area of community involvement in the education of our youth, grounded in the principle that educational investment is key to the community’s well-being and long-term quality of life; and

WHEREAS, *NEA’s Read Across America*, a national celebration of reading, will be conducted on March 2, 2010, which would have been the 106th birthday of Theodor Seuss Geisel, better know as Dr. Seuss; and

WHEREAS, *Read Across America-NJ* is being conducted statewide by the New Jersey Education Association, in partnership with the New Jersey State League of Municipalities, the New Jersey Library Association, Saturn-UAW, and their local affiliates across the state to promote reading and adult involvement in the education of our community’s students;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough of Stratford calls on the citizens of Stratford to assure that every child is in a safe place reading together with a caring adult on March 2, 2010;

AN BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body enthusiastically endorses *NEA’s Read Across America* and *Read Across America-NJ*, and recommits our community to engage in programs and activities to make America’s children the best readers in the world.

Mayor John Gentless

March 9, 2010

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Be it resolved to approve payment of bills numbered from #21926 to #22017; Animal Control Checks #1350 to #1352; Manual Checks #19455 to #19461; Various Wire Transfers. On motion of Councilman M. Perez, seconded by Councilman F. Gagliardi with all ayes on the roll call vote as follows:

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

MOTION CARRIED

GOOD AND WELFARE:

- Councilman F. Gagliardi spoke of Resolution 2010:50 which was adopted at the March 4th meeting to seek financial assistance as a distress city.
- the Mayor mentioned the Easter Egg Hunt on April 3 with the help of the Brownie Troop. He also spoke of the fund raiser for Matt Gagliardi.
- Steve Venuto of Jefferson Avenue thanked DPW for a good job with the snow plow on a narrow street. He also brought up his concern with the Mayor’s remarks at the February Agenda Meeting against the Shade Tree Chairman.
- Harry Berry of Cornell Avenue remarked the Mayor’s questions were valid that were asked at the February Agenda Meeting.
- Tracy Thomas of Temple Avenue confirmed that Shade Tree meets at 7:00 pm on the 1st Wednesday of each month.
- Councilman B. Angeli added if any other residents want to come out the same night for SEDC at 7:30 pm.
- Councilman M. Perez thanked Pat Walsh, Tracy Thomas, and Matt Rebecca for their work on the Shade Tree Commission.
- Agnes Moore of Laureba Avenue confirmed she was upset after leaving the February Agenda Meeting and how the Mayor attacked Pat Walsh’s wife.
- Bill Grover of Parkview Road spoke about how the commission communicates with council liaison Mike Santoro and spoke about how council has final decision over expenses. He asked the Mayor to apologize to Pat Walsh.
- Mr. Roadknight of Colby Avenue inquired about plans for property tax and redevelopment.
- Councilman F. Gagliardi responded most are waiting for the Governor to speak about the budget, and council has met with some property owners and will be meeting with others.
- Jeff Tomkinson of Wellington Avenue questioned about Library Funding. The clerk explained state mandates the annual amount – 2010 is \$172,000.
- Agnes Moore of Laureba Avenue expressed concerns with Kennedy and UMDNJ
- Pat Walsh questioned the Library funding formula
- Harry Berry of Cornell Avenue thanked the DPW for snow plow work, it was better than other towns.

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

John D. Keenan, Jr., Borough Clerk