

STRATFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, MAY 12, 2020
7:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Keenan called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

STATEMENT OF ADVERTISEMENT: The Mayor read the following statement:

Notice of this meeting has been provided to the Courier Post and The Retrospect and is posted on the Borough Hall Bulletin Board stating the time and the place of the meeting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Keenan led the Pledge and said an opening prayer.

ROLL CALL:

JOSH KEENAN, MAYOR – PRESENT
LINDA HALL, COUNCIL PRESIDENT – PRESENT
STEPHEN GANDY, COUNCILMAN – PRESENT
PATRICK GILLIGAN, COUNCILMAN – PRESENT
PATRICK GREEN, COUNCILMAN – PRESENT
TINA LOMANNO, COUNCILWOMAN – ARRIVED AT 7:08 PM
MICHAEL TOLOMEO, COUNCILMAN – PRESENT
JUSTIN STRAUSSER, BOROUGH SOLICITOR – PRESENT
RON MORELLO, POLICE CHIEF – PRESENT
CHRIS CONROY, BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR – PRESENT
MICHAELA BOSLER, ACTING BOROUGH CLERK - PRESENT

PUBLIC PORTION FOR AGENDA ITEMS ONLY:

Tolomeo motioned to open the public portion on agenda items only. Gilligan seconded the motion, which passed with all members present voting in favor in a voice vote.

There were no comments from the public.

Green motioned to close the public portion for agenda items. Gandy seconded the motion, which passed with all members present voting in favor in a voice vote.

REPORTS:

ORDINANCE & PROPERTY Councilman Patrick Green read the report as follows:

APRIL 2020
Total number of properties inspected: 40
Total number of issues Inspected of re-inspected: 44
Total number of violations found: 44
36 of the issues have been abated
8 of the issues are pending follow up
Total number of citations issued: 0

FINANCE & REVENUE Councilman Patrick Gilligan read the report as follows:

BOROUGH FINANCIAL REPORT – APRIL, 2020
Balance as of 4-1-2020 – \$1,503,076.43
Total Receipts – \$2,918,822.94

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Total Disbursements – \$1,745,715.80
 Balance as of 4-30-2020 – \$2,676,183.57
 Total in other Funds - \$2,226,327.96

MUNICIPAL COURT FINANCIAL REPORT – APRIL 2020

Disbursements this month:
 State of New Jersey: \$1,964.95
 Camden County: \$2,783.41
 Other: \$198.11
 Borough of Stratford: \$6,198.94
 Year to Date Total: \$70,220.87

POLICE

Councilwoman Tina Lomanno read the reports as follows:

APRIL 2020
 2 Adult arrests,
 0 Juvenile arrests,
 0 assaults to police,
 3 Simple assaults Complaints,
 3 Criminal Mischief Complaints,
 5 Harassment complaints,
 81 Other investigations and complaints,
 1 burglaries,
 0 robberies,
 5 thefts in the amount of \$725.00
 \$225.00 in stolen property recovered,
 0 (recovered) motor vehicle thefts,
 1 D.W.I. arrests,
 0 Narcotics arrests,
 35 Traffic summonses issued,
 13 Motor vehicle accidents,
 3 injuries from accidents, including 1 pedestrian
 19 Alarm activations,

 24 Total crime reports taken
 286 total calls for police service
Submitted by Ron Morello, Chief of Police

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Councilman Stephen Gandy read portions of the following report.

Fire Department

The Stratford Fire Department responded to 30 Alarms 1 Drills in the month
 APRIL 2020. The following list is a breakdown of the same:

	MONTH	YEAR TO DATE
Dwelling Fires	2	2
Building Fires	2	4
Investigations	1	10
Out of Town Assists	10	42
Alarm Systems	6	11
Assist Ambulance, Police, Public	4	16
Car Fires	1	1

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Wires, Trees Down	4	8
Rescues & M.V.A.'s	2	10
Brush Fires	0	0
Drills	1	6

Total man hours on the above alarm drills was 265
Submitted by Stephen Gagliardi, Deputy Chief

Ambulance Association

The Stratford Ambulance Association **Paid Crew** responded to **98 Alarms**
in the month of **APRIL 2020**, the following is a breakdown of the same:

	Paid	
	<u>Month</u>	<u>Y.T.D.</u>
1. Assault	1	5
2. Bleeding	4	14
3. Cardiac	4	33
4. CVA	3	10
5. Diabetic	0	3
6. Fall	13	36
7. Fire Call	3	7
8. Haz-Mat	0	0
9. Maternity	1	2
10. Medical Emergency	20	73
11. Medical Alarm	0	1
12. MVA	4	14
13. Overdose	4	8
14. Ped/MVA	1	3
15. Psych. Emergency	10	25
16. Respiratory	12	29
17. Seizures	4	9
18. Sick Person	4	16
19. Special Assignment	0	0
20. Unconscious Person	13	29

3 Covid positive transports

Year to Date Calls

Paid: 301

Submitted by Kristine Shafer, Chief-Stratford Ambulance

The Stratford Ambulance Association **Volunteer Crew** responded to **11 Alarms**
in the month of **APRIL 2020**, the following is a breakdown of the same:

	Volunteer	
	<u>Month</u>	<u>Y.T.D.</u>
1. Assault	0	1
2. Bleeding	0	0
3. Cardiac	1	6
4. CVA	0	2
5. Diabetic	0	1
6. Fall	1	6
7. Fire Call	0	0
8. Haz-Mat	0	0
9. Maternity	0	0
10. Medical Emergency	5	26
11. Medical Alarm	0	0

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12. MVA	0	0
13. Overdose	0	1
14. Ped/MVA	0	0
15. Psych. Emergency	1	7
16. Respiratory	2	5
17. Seizures	0	0
18. Sick Person	1	2
19. Special Assignment	0	0
20. Unconscious Person	0	3

Year to Date Calls

Volunteer: 63

Submitted by Kristine Shafer, Chief-Stratford Ambulance

PUBLIC WORKS & LIGHTING Councilman Michael Tolomeo read the reports as follows:

Sewer Utility

- Call outs for emergency service: 20
- Performed preemptive checks and required maintenance of all manholes and pump stations
- Work orders:
 - Repaired one picnic table for use in the Hagerty field area; removed broken tables.
 - Installed braille doorbell notice signs at Borough Hall and Justice Center.
 - Painted yellow curb no parking area at Elinor Avenue.
 - Cleaned the Borough Hall and Library roofs.
 - Installed side door lock at the Senior Center.
- Regular maintenance activities performed include:
 - Weekly trash pickup and cleanup at Yellin School, Parkview School and Vassar Ave. ball fields
 - Bi-weekly town wide metal/appliance collection

Public Works

- Edging, weeding, and mulching at Sterling Arms
- Lawn cutting at Sterling Arms
- Lawn cutting at schools
- Lawn cutting at parks, The Quaker Store, and the railroad
- Lawn cutting of all Borough properties
- Performed storm drain cleaning
- Chipper was out 2 time this month
- Yard waste cleanup was out 4 times this month
- Assisted Ba with metal clean up
- Pothole maintenance
- Loaded on 30-yard dumpster with wood chips
- Loaded one 30-yard dumpster with yard waste

PUBLIC EVENTS

Councilwoman Hall reported that plans are in place for Stratford to honor Memorial Day, which was reported on in detail at the previous meeting. Plans for the Fourth of July parade and celebration are uncertain due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The 2020 Miss Stratford Pageant is postponed until further notice. Councilwoman Hall encouraged residents to place flags outside of their homes to show support during these trying times.

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OLD BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS: NONE

RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTIONS 2020:115 THROUGH 2020:117 WILL BE DONE AS A CONSENT AGENDA

Council can at this time request to remove any of the resolutions from the consent agenda and they can be voted on separately.

• RES. 2020:115 – REFUND OVERPAYMENT OF TAXES – BL 72 LOT 13

WHEREAS, an overpayment was received in the Tax Collector's office for Block 72, Lot 13 – 17 Swarthmore Avenue;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stratford that the amount of \$1,846.01 be disbursed to CoreLogic Real Estate Tax Service for the overpayment.

• RES. 2020:116 – REFUND OVERPAYMENT OF TAXES – BL 13 LOT 11

WHEREAS, an overpayment was received in the Tax Collector's office for Block 13, Lot 11 – 102 Whitman Ave;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stratford that the amount of \$1,653.47 be paid to LERETA Tax Service for the overpayment.

• RES. 2020:117 – SELF-EXAMINATION OF BUDGET

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-78b has authorized the Local Finance Board to adopt rules that permit municipalities in sound fiscal condition to assume the responsibility, normally granted to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services, of conducting the annual budget examination; and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 5:30-7 was adopted by the Local Finance Board on February 11, 1997; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-7.2 through 7.5, the Borough of Stratford has been declared eligible to participate in the program by the Division of Local government Services, and the Chief Financial officer has determined that the local government meets the necessary conditions to participate in the program for the 2020 budget year.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the governing body of the Borough of Stratford that in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:30-7.6a & 7.6b and based upon the Chief Financial Officer's certification, the governing body has found the budget has met the following requirements:

1. That with reference to the following items, the amounts have been calculated pursuant to law and appropriated as such in the budget:
 - a. Payment of interest and debt redemption charges
 - b. Deferred charges and statutory expenditures
 - c. Cash deficit of preceding year
 - d. Reserve for uncollected taxes
 - e. Other reserves and non-disbursement items
 - f. Any inclusions of amounts required for school purposes.

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2. That the provisions relating to limitation on increases of appropriations pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.2 and appropriations for exceptions to limits on appropriations found at N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.3 et seq., are fully met (complies with CAP law).
3. That the budget is in such form, arrangement, and content as required by the Local Budget Law and N.J.A.C. 5:30-4 and 5:30-5.
4. That pursuant to the Local Budget Law:
 - a. All estimates of revenue are reasonable, accurate and correctly stated,
 - b. Items of appropriation are properly set forth
 - c. In itemization, form, arrangement and content, the budget will permit the exercise of the comptroller function within the municipality.
5. The budget and associated amendments have been introduced and publicly advertised in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Local Budget Law, except that failure to meet the deadlines of N.J.S.A. 40A:4-5 shall not prevent such certification.
6. That all other applicable statutory requirements have been fulfilled.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution will be forwarded to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services upon adoption.

Lomanno motioned to approve the consent agenda. Hall seconded the motion and all members present voted in favor in a Roll Call Vote.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Animal checks	1850	through	1855		
Manual checks	19955	through	19956		
Payroll checks	52385	through	52388	and	52447
Automated checks	34293	through	34363		
Various electronic transfers and potential interim payments to Atlantic City Electric, South Jersey Gas, and Constellation Energy					

Green motioned to approve the payment of the bills. Tolomeo seconded the motion, with all members present voted in favor in a Roll Call Vote.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

- Councilwoman Hall – None
- Councilman Gandy – Thanked the Office of Emergency Management, Fire Department, Police Department, Ambulance Association, and Jefferson Hospital staff during these uncertain times
- Councilman Gilligan – Stated that the Teamsters unit have approved the contract that was further negotiated, and has requested the approval of the contract to be put onto the June 4th agenda.
- Councilman Green – Thanked the first responders during these uncertain times.
- Councilwoman Lomanno – None
- Councilman Tolomeo – None

GOOD AND WELFARE:

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Gilligan motioned to open the meeting to the public for Good and Welfare. Hall seconded the motion, which passed with all members present voting in favor in a voice vote.

- John Gentless – 111 Union Ave. – Questioned if there would be an electronics recycling event held in July. Commented on a piles of mulch that were left by road work contractors. Commented on the trees along Evergreen Road.
- Dan Bove – Longwood Dr. – Commented on damages done to his property by the contractors of the Evergreen Road project.

Gilligan motioned to close the Good and Welfare portion of the meeting. Green seconded the motion and all members present voted in favor in a voice vote.

ADJOURN:

Hall motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:24 PM. Gandy seconded the motion and all members present voted in favor in a voice vote.

Minutes respectfully submitted by:



Michaela Bosler, Acting Borough Clerk



Mayor Josh Keenan