

Borough of Pine Hill  
Council Meeting  
March 17, 2014  
Pine Hill Borough Hall  
7:30 P.M.

Mayor Green called the meeting to order.

Deputy Clerk, Patricia Hendricks delivered the Sunshine Law and the awareness for the town.

Roll Call: Patricia Hendricks, Deputy Clerk  
Councilman Warrington-present, Councilwoman McCullen-present, Councilman Knott-present, Councilman Jaxel-present, Councilman Robb-present, Councilman Burke-present, Mayor Green-present, Mr. Mallon-present, Mrs. Hendricks-present, Mr. Patterson-present, Mr. Cray-present, Mr. Cardis-present

**Presentation:** American Legion Post presented three certificate plaques of appreciation to Mayor and Council, Chief Christopher Winters and the Pine Hill Borough Police Department and Chief John Greer and the Pine Hill Fire Department. Mayor Green thanked the American Legion Representative and expressed his appreciation for everything they do for the town. He reported the American Legion is very active in town and the town benefits greatly from it.

**Approval of Minutes:** February 24, 2014  
February 24, 2014

Motion to approve: Councilman Knott, 2<sup>nd</sup> Councilwoman McCullen  
All in Favor: 6 yes votes

**Approval of Bills:** March 2014

Motion to approve: Councilman Robb, 2<sup>nd</sup> Councilman Jaxel  
Roll Call: 6 yes votes Councilman Burke Abstained

**Committee Reports:** February 2014

Deputy Clerk Hendricks read the Committee Reports  
Motion to approve: Councilwoman McCullen, 2<sup>nd</sup> Councilman Knott  
All in Favor: 6 yes votes

**Council Discussion:** Request legislature to make permanent the 2% Cap on Interest Arbitration Awards (#2014-63)

Mayor Green reported that last week he received a letter and resolution from the League of Municipalities. He stated that the 2% Cap on Arbitration Awards was part of the 2% to increase property taxes. He commented however these property taxes are limited to 2% permanently, the 2% Cap on Arbitration Awards for contracts has a sunset provision which is due to expire April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014. He reported that if it expires and is not extended by the Legislature then Arbitration Awards can go back to more historically 3, 4, 5, or 6 percent however property taxes will still be limited to 2%. He stated that the

League of Municipalities is looking for the Governing Body Resolution approval for the sunset provision to be removed and that the Arbitration Awards 2% stay in place.

Councilman Robb asked if this would be a permanent 2% or would the Borough have to vote on it in future years.

Mayor Green stated that he did not know but that the permanent part is the increase of taxes.

Councilman Warrington stated that he felt the 2% has supported the Municipalities in what has traditional been unfavorable arbitrations. He commented that he certainly supports it.

ORDINANCE #2014-913    ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14)

Public Hearing

Mayor Green read the Ordinance

Mayor Green opened the floor to the public.

No one spoke on behalf of the ordinance.

Motion to close the floor to the public: Councilwoman McCullen, 2<sup>nd</sup> Councilman Knott

All in favor: 6 yes votes

Motion to move Ordinance #2014-913: Councilman Robb, 2<sup>nd</sup> Councilman Jaxel

Roll Call: 6 yes votes

RESOLUTION #2014-60    SELF-EXAMINATION OF BUDGET RESOLUTION

Motion to move Resolution #2014-60: Councilman Knott, 2<sup>nd</sup> Councilman Jaxel

Roll Call: 6 yes votes

RESOLUTION #2014-61    RESOLUTION TO AVERAGE TAX COLLECTION RATE FOR USE IN THE 2014 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

Motion to move Resolution #2014-61: Councilman Knott, 2<sup>nd</sup> Councilman Jaxel

Roll Call: 6 yes votes

RESOLUTION # 2014-62:    RESOLUTION APPROVING THE 2014 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

Motion to move Resolution #2014-62: Councilman Robb, 2<sup>nd</sup> Councilman Burke

Roll Call: 6 yes votes

RESOLUTION #2014-63    RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF PINE HILL CALLING ON THE LEGISLATURE TO MAKE PERMENANT THE 2% CAP ON INTEREST ARBITRATION AWARDS

Motion to move Resolution #2014-63: Councilman Warrington, 2<sup>nd</sup> Councilman Knott

All in Favor: 6 yes votes

RESOLUTION #2014-64 RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF PINE HILL  
AUTHORIZING THE PINE HILL GOLF CLUB CONSERVATION GROUP TO APPLY  
FOR A NEW JESEY DEP PERMIT FOR THE MASON RUN RESTORATION AND  
HABITAT ENHANCEMENT

Motion to move Resolution #2014-64: Councilman Knott, 2<sup>nd</sup> Councilwoman McCullen  
All in Favor: 6 yes votes

RESOLUTION #2014-65 RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF PINE HILL  
AUTHORIZING THE RELEASE OF CLOSED SESSION MINUTES TO BECOME  
PART OF THE PUBLIC RECORD MINUTE BOOK

Motion to move Resolution #2014-65: Councilman Robb, 2<sup>nd</sup> Councilman Burke  
All in Favor: 6 yes votes

RESOLUTION #2014-66 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH OF  
PINE HILL TO APPLY FOR THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT  
(CDBG) FOR PROGRAM YEAR 36 (2014-2015)

Motion to move Resolution #2014-66: Councilwoman McCullen, 2<sup>nd</sup> Councilman Robb  
Roll Call: 6 yes votes

Mayor Green made a motion to open to the public.

Walt Davis – 1 Franklin Avenue

Mr. Davis asked Mr. Cray in regards to Resolution 2014-66 applying for a grant due to drainage and what it involves.

Mr. Cray stated that the grant itself is not actually like DOT grants and things of that nature. He commented that there is money that is assigned to different municipalities in Camden County for the township to use if it is a project that meets certain criteria because of the location it is at and if it is a project to help the neighborhood. He reported that it is more a matter to demonstrate to the FEDS and County that the project meets the criteria and then the money that is allocated to the Borough can be utilized.

Mr. Davis asked about what the criteria is.

Mr. Cray stated it depends on the type of project it is. He reported that this project would be a drainage improvement and it is supposed to be at a census area. He commented that when the census is done every 10 years they look at the demographics and they look at the income levels. He reported that some areas are of a lower income than others and that would be in the census area so the project that would help improve that neighborhood would take care of the existing problems to improve the livability and the quality of life. He explained that that would be considered something that would meet the Federal guidelines.

Mr. Davis asked about what type of work is involved.

Mr. Cray stated that it would be a pipe improvement. He reported that there is a deteriorated pipe and it would replace that with a better pipe so that the drainage would

work better. Mr. Cray reported that there is some incidental work with that as well such as the paving restoration and some old tree roots that are problematic that would be removed. He stated that it is not that large of a project but unfortunately the grant amounts per town nationwide are getting a little smaller every year so it is not a major project but in the realm of about forty grand.

Councilwoman McCullen commented that it is her understanding with First Avenue going so deep and the road caving in on the side because there is no curbing or sidewalks there is a lot of the overflow which the drains cannot handle it. She stated that it goes into the properties in there so this piping that the Borough is going to replace might be a little bit stronger or bigger to help alleviate that overflow and those problems. She reported that the Borough is constantly sending workmen down there to work on those drains to try to keep them clear because of the overflow and the force of the water going down that hill causes all of the accumulation.

Mr. Cray reported that it is definitely a quality issue of life and the road is not passable when that is happening and so it is not just an impact to the people in that one area. He stated it is also for the traveling public which rates high to the Federal guidelines. He commented that this application is for the second phase, however the first phase will help the condition but there is not enough money in that grant to complete to the level they want to so that is why there will be a second phase. He reported that it is just a matter of going down a little bit farther with the piping on First Avenue.

Mr. Davis asked is somebody went down there who is qualified to see what exactly has to be done there.

Mr. Cray replied that it was him and his survey department that went down there. He reported that they did a visual observation during storms and looked at the pipe. He stated that they also surveyed it to find out the pipe sizes and depths for what would be needed for the situation.

Motion to Close to the Public: Councilman Jaxel, 2<sup>nd</sup> Councilman Knott  
All in Favor: 6 yes votes

### **Council Reports:**

Councilwoman McCullen reported that the Committee asked her if she would like to participate as a representative of the Governing Body for the School. She stated that it is on the 5 year extension as what we would like to see in 5 years for our school system. She reported that she attended two meetings so far and found it very informing and knowledgeable. She commented that they have had Mayors and Councils, Borough Representatives, Parents, Administrators and Teachers. She commented even though they divide into groups to discuss the topic that is presented to them overall it seems that they come back with a consensus of the same thing of where they would like to be in 5 years. Councilwoman McCullen reported that it is not finished yet but one thing she wanted to point out to those that are not participating on this endeavor that they get praise from the School District on the community involvement on the Borough side with the School. She commented that the school is very pleased with the cooperative effort, the departments that we have in town and the officers volunteering their time to go into the school.

Councilman Knott reported that there is an upcoming Easter Event. He stated that it is on April 12, 2014 at the Pine Hill Middle School.

Councilman Jaxel reported that Municipal Alliance is getting their programs in line. He stated that the next one is the Senior Luncheon on Friday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2014.

Councilman Burke reported that they had their second Environmental meeting last Thursday. He stated that they discussed the Pride in Pine Hill for June through September.

Councilman Robb reported that Economic Development met on March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2014. He stated that they are working on an idea to target new developers.

Councilman Warrington reported that the Fire District now has a new Business Administrator and her name is Jen Dawson. He stated that they were very fortunate to find someone that was qualified. He commented that she previously worked for Mr. Welding one of the Auditors so she is very familiar with finance. He reported that this year the appointment for Fire Official and Fire Marshall is Steve Buchhofer. Councilman Warrington commented on the two articles on heroin overdoses from the Chief. He stated that heroin because it is cheap and easy to get has worked its way into the main stream of drug use and abuse. He explained that there has been an action throughout the nation in regards to using a drug called narcan to reverse the effects of heroin. He stated that there has been a real push to use this new drug which is nasal narcan. He reported that legislation has been passed and it is in the processing of being implemented and to allow this drug to be carried by our first responders which would be our Police Officers. He commented that there are administrative steps being taken so that our Fire Fighters and EMT's will be able to carry it.

Chief Winters reported that in order for the officers to carry it they would have to personally be prescribed for the nasal spray called naloxone. Councilman Warrington sent his concerns to Senators and that is when the legislation got drafted to change those issues that they had. He stated that being said hopefully the changes go through. Chief Winters reported that they have also set up three CPR Training Sessions. He stated that there will be officers there who are certified EMT's and American Heart Association CPR Instructors.

Councilman Warrington thanked the Chief. He commented that as you can tell this is a work of passion from the department.

Mr. Mallon reported that we have a free rabies clinic on March 29<sup>th</sup> which is the final Saturday of the month from 9:00am until noon at the Public Works building.

Mayor Green reported that the Planning Board had their meeting last week. He stated that they made an agreement to have Pennoni Associates review the Master Plan. He commented that the Master Plan is required to be done every ten years. He reported that the last time it was done was 2002. He commented that they also appointed a committee for the Master Plan which would be Felix James, Kevin Waddington, Council Representative Mr. Robb, myself, our Business Administrator Mr. Mallon and the Zoning Official Mr. Hallworth.

Mayor Green reported the following meetings.

Council Meeting – Monday, April 7, 2014  
Fire Commission – Thursday, April 3, 2014

Municipal Utility Authorities – Wednesday, April 16, 2014  
Planning Board – Thursday, April 10, 2014  
School Board - Tuesday, March 25, 2014

RESOLUTION #2014-67 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CLOSED SESSION OF  
BOROUGH OF PINE HILL FOR PERSONNEL ISSUES

Mayor Green read the Resolution

Motion to Move Resolution 2014-67: Councilman Knott, 2<sup>nd</sup> Councilman Jaxel

Roll Call: 6 yes votes

Mr. Patterson reported to let the record reflect that Rice Notices were sent to the two individuals and they are not in attendance.

Closed Session began at 8:15 pm.

Closed Session ended at 8:32 pm.

Roll Call vote to return into open session:

Roll Call: 6 yes votes

Mr. Patterson reported that there were two decisions made in closed session. Mr. Patterson commented that the first would be a resolution of the Borough of Pine Hill rescinding the resolution suspending Russell Gundle with all back pay. Mr. Patterson stated that the second resolution of the Borough of Pine Hill is to suspend Robert La Bree for a period of one day without pay for violation of work place rules.

RESOLUTION #2014-68 RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF PINE HILL  
RESCINDING RESOLUTION SUSPENDING RUSSELL GUNDLE

Motion to move Resolution #2014-68: Councilman Warrington, 2<sup>nd</sup> Councilman Knott

Roll Call: 6 yes votes

RESOLUTION #2014-69 RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF PINE HILL  
SUSPENDING ROBERT LA BREE FOR A PERIOD OF ONE (1) DAY

Motion to move Resolution #2014-69: Councilman Knott, 2<sup>nd</sup> Councilman Warrington

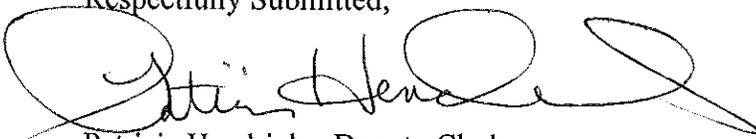
Roll Call: 6 yes votes

Motion to adjourn: Councilman Jaxel, 2<sup>nd</sup> Councilman Warrington

All in Favor: 6 yes votes

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Patricia Hendricks, Deputy Clerk