

**WORK SESSION OF
THE GOVERNING BODY
OF THE BOROUGH OF BLOOMINGDALE**

February 10, 2009

Mayor Steenstra called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

ROLL CALL

<i>In Attendance:</i>	Mayor:	William Streenstra
	Council President:	Jennifer Altfield
	Council Members:	Linda J. Huntley Bernie Vroom Thomas Marinaro Dean Specchio Vacancy
<i>Professionals Present:</i>	Municipal Clerk:	Jane McCarthy, RMC
	Borough Administrator:	Ted Ehrenburg
	Borough Attorney:	Joseph V. MacMahon, Esq.
	Chief Financial Officer:	Donna Mollineaux

SALUTE TO THE AMERICAN FLAG

Mayor Steenstra led the Salute to the Flag followed by a moment of silence for the passing of long time resident and former Councilman Vincent DeNike who passed away this week.

PUBLIC NOTICE STATEMENT

Mayor Steenstra stated that on November 11, 2008, publication notification of the date, time and place of this Official Meeting was faxed and mailed to all local news media and posted in the Bloomingdale Municipal Building.

EARLY PUBLIC COMMENT

Councilman Specchio opened the meeting up to Public Comment; seconded by Councilman Vroom and carried on voice vote with all Council Members voting YES.

Since there was no one who wished to speak under Public Comment, Councilman Specchio moved that it be closed; seconded by Councilman Vroom and carried on voice vote with all Council Members voting YES.

PENDING BUSINESS

Governmental Operations Committee

Governmental Operations Committee

Attendance of Police Chief Joseph Borell for an update on part-time communications dispatching staff

At this time, Police Chief Joseph Borell was in attendance and updated the Governing Body of impending changes in his dispatching staff due to one having to cutback on his hours due to personal reasons, another leaving to go full time to another police department, etc. Chief Borell requested permission to place an ad in the paper looking for part dispatchers.

Councilman Vroom moved that authorization be given to the Police Chief to interview for dispatchers and have one of our part time cross guards fall into our rotation; seconded by Councilman Specchio and carried on voice vote.

Request for Renewal of Tres Sombreros Liquor License scheduled for Feb. 24 meeting

Noted that this will be on the February 24, 2009 meeting for consideration of renewal.

Open Vacancies on Boards and Commissions

Mayor Steenstra stated that there are a few vacancies left, i.e.:

Economic Development – Term of D. Koontz 12/31/12
Economic Development alt. II – Term of K. Rounds 12/31/13
Grant Writers Committee

Mayor Steenstra stated that if anyone has any suggestions to let him know as this will be on the next meeting.

Councilwoman Huntley noted that she has four names for the Grant Writers Committee:

Dennis DiLorenzo
Joann Pituch
Maureen Tierney
Laurie Weinbrock

This will be on the next meeting agenda.

Status of DPW Garage

Borough Administrator updated the Governing Body on the status of the new garage; two issues need to be resolved and construction should start on or about March 1. Noted that one item needs to be discussed in Executive Session.

It was noted that the Fire Department has allowed the DPW to store some of their equipment but mechanics cannot work on the trucks due to no lift, etc.

Adoption of Resolution #2009-2.1: correcting Resolution #2008-1.25; Delay of Posting on Certain Utility Accounts

Councilwoman Altfeld offered the following Resolution and moved for its adoption:

**RESOLUTION #2009-2.1
OF THE GOVERNING BODY
OF BOROUGH OF BLOOMINGDALE**

*Authorizing Temporary Delay in Posting of Penalties on Certain Utility Accounts
Correction to Resolution #2009-1.25*

WHEREAS, the Governing Body (“Governing Body”) of the Borough of Bloomingdale (“Borough”) finds and declares that the Municipal Utility Services User Rules and Regulations, enacted as part of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough (“Code”), provide that the Borough Council may repeal, alter, change or modify them by formal resolution; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body further finds and declares that Sections 17-6.5 and 18-5.10 of the Code provide for the assessment of penalties for delinquent payments on service accounts that are not paid within a thirty (30) day grace period; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body further finds and declares that the best interests of the taxpayers who finance the operations of the Borough warrant that appropriate measures be undertaken to prevent the potential aforementioned assessment of penalties;

WHEREAS, the Governing Body further finds and declares that the payment schedules of the Borough and of the Board of Trustees of the Bloomingdale Board of Education (“Board”) bill periodically do not coincide, thereby resulting in the potential aforementioned assessment of penalties as well; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body further finds and declares that due comity by and between the Borough and the Board, as well as the best interests of the taxpayers who finance the operations of the Borough and the Board, respectively, warrant that appropriate measures be undertaken to prevent the similar potential aforementioned assessment of penalties;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Borough of Bloomingdale that the Department of Water and Sewer Utility Services is hereby authorized to delay posting of finance charges on the following utility accounts until at least sixty (60) days after the date the utility bills upon which said bills are mailed:

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Account Name</u>	<u>Service Number</u>
00170200	Sewer Disposal Plant - FH	23 Brandt Lane - Access Driveway
08128600	Delazier Field Lawn Sprinkler	30 Ballston Street
12860000	Delazier Field Bathrooms	30-B Ballston Street
12880000	Duane Muldoon Fire House	30-A Ballston Street
25320000	Public Works Garage	188 Union Avenue
40340000	Martha B. Day School	225 Rafkind Road
50030000	Samuel R. Donald School	31-33 Captolene Avenue
60310000	Walter T. Bergen School	225 Glenwild Avenue
95850000	Municipal Annex Building	107 Hamburg Turnpike
95880000	Senior Citizen Center	103 Hamburg Turnpike
95890000	Municipal Building	101 Hamburg Turnpike
2914-0	Public Safety Complex	190 Union Avenue
7331-1	New Police Complex	182 Union Avenue

Councilman Specchio seconded the motion, and it carried as per the following roll call: Council Members: Altfield; Vroom; Huntley; Marinaro and Specchio all YES.

Request for road Closure for Little League parade April 18

Councilwoman Huntley moved that approval be given for closure of Hamburg Turnpike as indicated in their letter to the Governing Body on April 18 for the Little league parade; seconded by Councilman Specchio and carried on voice vote.

Letter from Planning Board in regard to Highlands Water Protection and Planning Council's Grant

Discussion followed in regard to this grant; Borough Attorney reported that he and Construction Official Dan Hagberg attended the seminar in regard to this grant and encouraged the Governing Body to apply for this \$15,000 grant. There is a \$50,000 Phase I grant also available for Borough's contemplating to opt in.

Application is due two days before February 26th; a planner will be needed.

Consensus that the Grant Writing committee should meet and discuss this grant which needs to be sent in no later than February 24th.

Public Health & Safety Committee

Councilman Vroom stated that the Committee will meet tomorrow evening. Mayor Steenstra noted that he would like to get started on renaming the streets.

Ordinance Review Committee

Committee is working on a driveway slope ordinance and drainage work.

Ratables and Revenues Committee

Discussion followed in regard to hiring of a Planner and fact that Economic Development Committee had interviewed two last year.

Borough Attorney stated that we need one who is familiar with the Highlands and we need to act no later than March.

Borough Attorney suggested that the Borough Administrator be authorized to undertake interviews with Planners who are familiar with this.

Consensus that the Chairman of the Planning Board, Borough Attorney, Borough Administrator and a member of the Council will make a recommendation to the Mayor and Council at the next meeting; Councilwoman Alfield noted she would be willing to attend.

Grant Writing Committee

Councilwoman Huntley discussed a “nasty email” which was sent last week by one of the Council Members who attacked the Board of Education as to their getting grants; she noted that the Board of Education did apply and got \$300,000 in grants last year.

Borough Attorney stated that he was going to have an attorney/client communication in Executive Session.

“Going Green” in Borough

Discussion followed in regard to Borough’s Going Green in the Borough; consensus that this will be continued through the end of the year.

Adoption of Resolution #2008-2.2: Going Green in the Borough

Councilwoman Alfield offered the following Resolution and moved for its adoption:

RESOLVED, that upon the analysis and the recommendation of the Borough Administrator, the Borough has adopted the “going green” concept. The “going green” concept will include a four-day work week for Borough Hall operations from this date forward. The days/hours of operation will Monday through Thursday, between the hours of 8:00 AM till 6:00 PM.

Councilman Marinaro seconded the motion.

Councilwoman Huntley asked about the analysis which was done and wanted to know when she could get it.

Borough Administrator discussed fact that figures are in a book which are kept by the Finance Department and went over the increases which have occurred in our electric bills; costs savings of employees “giving back” one hour a week, etc.

The motion carried as per the following roll call: Council Members: Altfield; Vroom; Marinaro and Specchio all YES. Councilwoman Huntley, PRESENT

NEW BUSINESS

Governmental Operations Committee

Any action in regard to Council Vacancy

At this time, Borough Attorney went over the procedure to be followed in filling the Council vacancy created by Councilman Sloodmaker.

Resolution in regard to Tax Levies for Free Public Libraries

Mayor Steenstra stated that this was endorsed by the League of Municipalities; consensus that this will be on the next agenda for consideration.

Councilwoman Huntley stated that the Library Board of Trustees will be passing a resolution contrary to this.

Introduction of Ordinance for law enforcement on Board of Education property

Borough Attorney stated that he has prepared an ordinance and would like the Police Chief to review and Board of Education.

This will be on a future meeting.

Discussion on Capital Purchases

Borough Administrator discussed fact that we need to purchase a bucket loader; money is in the capital budget and requested that this be discussed on February 24th.

Goal Setting Meeting

Councilwoman Altfield moved that a Special meeting be held on March 3, 2009 from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. in the Council Chambers for a goal setting meeting; seconded by Councilman Marinaro and carried on voice vote.

Ordinance Review Committee

Councilman Vroom stated that the overlay for the quarry is still being worked on.

Grant Writers Committee

Councilwoman Huntley noted that she received a grant application from the Army corps of Engineers about the flooding in town. The Borough Attorney reviewed the document and noted

that this grant is a matching grant but the match could be an in kind match. Councilwoman Huntley will forward the grant documents to all the Council Members.

LATE PUBLIC COMMENT

Councilwoman Marinaro opened the meeting up to Public Comment; seconded by Councilwoman Altfield and carried on voice vote.

Ron Caputo, 42 Bogue Drive, asked that the Mayor and Council speak into the microphones when they speak as it is difficult to hear in the back of the room.

Mr. Caputo asked why the DPW is renting a garage when there is an existing garage behind the pumps and noted that it is fully cluttered.

It was noted that there is no heat in that garage.

In regard to “going Green”, Mr. Caputo stated that he knows two professional real estate people who will not schedule closings on Fridays as the Borough is closed.

Ed Simoni, 352 Glenwild Avenue, asked if when the comparisons are done in regard to cost savings of “going green”, you need to compare kilowatt hours for electric.

Treasurer Sherry Gallagher noted that she does not have the expertise and the Borough Administrator stated that he has discussed having a complete energy audit.

Since there was no one else who wished to speak under Late Public Comment, Councilwoman Altfield moved that it be closed; seconded by Councilman Vroom and carried on voice vote.

At this time, Councilwoman Huntley asked about a bill in December whereby \$11,000 was spent on lights at Sloan Park and felt it was exorbitant; in the past DPW and Butler Electric did the Christmas lights.

Chief Financial Officer Donna Mollineaux noted in regard to statement that this was a multi-year contract for someone to install the lights, we do not have to honor a multi-year contract unless monies are in the budget; Mr. Dunleavy would have to address this. Noted that since Pride Day was not held this year, more monies were available and were spent on Christmas.

Discussion as to request from the Library for a hard copy of the Personnel manual; it was noted that the Library are employees of the borough and fall under the same Personnel manual; everyone will get a copy and have to sign off that they received it per the Administrator.

LATE EXECUTIVE SESSION

Adoption of Resolution #2009-2.3: Authorization for Executive Session

Councilwoman Alfield offered the following Resolution and moved for its adoption:

**RESOLUTION #2009-2.3
OF THE GOVERNING BODY
OF THE BOROUGH OF BLOOMINGDALE**

Authorizing the Convening of an Executive Session

WHEREAS, the Governing Body (“Governing Body”) of the Borough of Bloomingdale (“Borough”) finds and declares that Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Borough of Bloomingdale, County of Passaic, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from discussion of, and action upon, the hereinafter specified subject matter.
2. The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows:
3. The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows:
 - A. Negotiations – 6 matters
 - B. Pending Litigation – Pellington v. Bloomingdale and
BLC One v. Bloomingdale
 - C. Attorney/Client Communication – One matter
4. Minutes will be taken.
5. It is anticipated at this time that minutes of the above-referenced subject matter will be made public when it is in order to do so.
6. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Councilman Marinaro seconded the motion, and it carried on voice vote.

(At this time, the Mayor and Council went into Executive Session)

RECONVENED

Mayor Steenstra reconvened the meeting at 10:56 p.m. and noted that no action was taken during the Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT

Since there as no further business to be conducted, Councilman Vroom moved to ADJOURN the meeting at 10:57 p.m.; seconded by Councilman Marinaro and carried on voice vote.

Jane McCarthy, RMC
Municipal Clerk