

**BOROUGH OF FOLSOM
COUNCIL MEETING
WORKSHOP MINUTES
February 09, 2011**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

SALUTE TO THE FLAG:

OPENING STATEMENT: Adequate notice of this meeting has been given in accordance with the open public meeting act, pursuant to Public Law 1975, Chapter 231. Said meeting has been advertised in the Hammonton News and has been posted on the Borough Hall bulletin board showing the time and place of said meeting.

ROLL CALL: Councilpersons Eckhardt, Esposito, and Kemmerer.
Also present: Attorney Mike Fitzgerald, Engineer Vince Polistina and Public Works Supervisor John LaPollo

THIS MEETING IS FOR DISCUSSION ONLY. NO VOTES WILL BE TAKEN

Mayor Ballistreri opened the meeting and turned the floor over to Renee Vitale from Viridian Energy. She introduced the company she represented and conveyed that Viridian is a green energy broker that can save the Borough up to 18% from Atlantic City Electric's rates. She added that there are no contracts. Mr. Fitzgerald asked how these rates compare to the offerings of other similar companies. Ms. Vitale could not address this question. Ms. Vitale stated that Viridian will be offering better rates on gas in the upcoming months. Discussion ensued with Mr. Fitzgerald discussing the pros and cons of this offering. Mr. Kemmerer also added his insights. The discussion concluded with the consensus that a history of electric bills would be obtained and several vendors including Viridian would be consulted for competitive rates.

The Ordinance for snow removal from sidewalks was discussed. It was suggested that a letter be sent to the property owners early next fall letting them know their responsibilities of clearing the sidewalks in front of their homes.

Mr. Fitzgerald brought up the pending tax foreclosure. This property is located on S. River Drive and the owners are deceased. The neighbor, William Davis, would like to purchase the property. The Borough will go through the foreclosure process at Mr. Davis's expense. Mr. Fitzgerald suggested that an escrow be established to cover any incurred expenses.

Mr. Polistina conveyed that the Borough was declined 2011 DOT funding. He added that the funding is limited and based on need. Only 14 out of 23 Atlantic County municipalities received funding. Mr. Polistina also addressed the Centers of Place funding. He conveyed that the award of this funding is very competitive. Mayor Ballistreri asked about the Community Development Block Grant and if the scope of coverage was expanded. Mr. Polistina will look into this and report back. Councilman Esposito added to the grant discussion that a letter should be sent to Atlantic County asking about any available funding.

Councilman Schenker joined the Governing Body at 7:15 p.m..

There was discussion on the possible county wide 911 dispatch. Discussion ensued with respect to the Sheriff's Department versus Emergency Management covering this service.

Councilman Gazzara joined the Governing Body at 7:20 p.m..

Councilman Schenker updated everyone on the bleacher issue as it pertains to the JIF. He stated that he received instructions from the JIF to bury the bleachers so they will be the acceptable height in lieu of the expense to retrofit them.

Councilman Esposito gave an update on the Fire Company. He stated that the repairs to the pump were around \$5,200.00 and included a few other service items. He also conveyed that the fire company will be welcoming two new members.

Mr. LaPollo reported on the recent inspection by PEOSH. There were two items outstanding and have since been addressed. The Borough is now fully compliant. The inspector did indicate that he will be out to inspect the fire department at some point in March. He will be looking for training logs for the last three years and hours worked among other items.

Meeting adjourned with ayes all.

Respectfully Submitted,

Paula Bradley
Acting Municipal Clerk