MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 3, 2016
COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SUMMIT

Distributed: 5/10/16
Approved: 5/17/16

The meeting was called to order by Council President Mike McTernan at 7:30 PM. The City Clerk then read the following notice:

"Adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by the City Clerk in the preparation of the Council Annual Meeting Notice of Closed Session and Regular Meetings, dated January 6, 2015 which set forth the date, time, and place of this meeting and by properly posting such notice and forwarding the notice to those designated newspapers and the persons requesting meeting notices. Please be further advised that the FIRE EXITS are to my RIGHT your left, and at the BACK OF THE ROOM.

Please be further advised that the City has an Assistive Listening System for the hearing impaired. We have three (3) assistive hearing devices. If anyone needs them, please raise your hand and the device will be brought to you. Please return them to the City Clerk or leave them with the Police Dispatcher."

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Council Members Lizza, Naidu, Ogden, Rubino, Sun and Council President McTernan
ABSENT: Councilman Hurley

Also in attendance were Mayor Radest and staff members Rogers, Cascais, Evers, Gerba, Licatese, Weck and Cruz.

Minutes of this meeting are recorded on CD # 2016-10 - 7:30:49 pm - 9:47:34 pm

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Ben Golding, Summit High School Student

REPORTS

Items/issues noted hereunder, if any, reflect those recommending and/or needing action by City department(s) or at a future council meeting.

- Mayor, City Administrator and Council President (Summit Historical Minute)

Summit Historical Minute - The history of Whittredge Road and Hillcrest Avenue was presented by Ben Golding, Summit High School Senior, which is hereto attached.

PRESENTATIONS

Drowning Prevention & Water Safety Month Proclamation - Mayor Radest presented the proclamation to Summit Family Aquatic Center mascot Shark Diddy, who accepted on behalf of the Department of Community Programs.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Board of Education Appointments – James Bennett, 38 Fairview Avenue, expressed his feelings regarding James Freeman not being re-appointed to a second term. He spoke of the importance of diversity of the board membership and asked the Mayor to reconsider her decision.

JCP&L Update - Rob Walton, Area Manager, gave an update of the street light replacement project. He advised that JCP&L has filed a request with the Board of Public Utilities for a rate increase, noting that JCP&L has not requested such an increase since 2012.

Budget Snapshot - Barbara Stuke, 15 Llewellyn Road, thanked the City's Finance Committee for the publication and suggested that the school budget be included in next year's snapshot.

Board of Education Appointments – In response to a question from Mary Coughlin, 21 Llewellyn Road, Mayor Radest explained the criteria used in making her appointments to the Board of Education.

BUDGET HEARING

FINANCE

37293 Resolution 37293 - Introduce 2016 Municipal Operating Budget & Establish Hearing Date

Councilman Naidu commented as follows:

1. Suggested a plan of action to increase town ratables to help with long-term planning of growing expenses such as pension costs.
2. Asked if there was available funding for an on-line permitting system to address the currently lengthy permit process.
3. Felt there is a need for a bike depot in the downtown and asked if there was money to fund same.
4. Spoke of the need and funding for a new firehouse.

In response to Councilman Naidu's questions, City Administrator Rogers responded as follows:

1. Money has been allocated in the budget for an on-line permitting system.
2. Money has not been allocated for a bike depot since money for same would be obtained through fundraising efforts by the bike depot provider.
3. Spoke of revenue sources and the need to look at city-owned property inventory and determine how to deal with same and increase the tax base.

Councilwoman Lizza reiterated the importance of planning to maximize the city's assets

Councilman Rubino suggested public/private partnership through naming and sponsorship, for a good revenue resource.

Council President McTernan commented as follows:

1. Each year it gets more challenging for City to deliver services and hold down costs and keep city operations efficient.
2. Master Plan is the perfect venue to deal with balance of development and density in the City.

Annette Dwyer, 116 Maple Street, stated that the city needs to think out of the box for new revenue sources and gave a few examples.

Councilman Naidu emphasized that there is currently no plan to move the firehouse, but there is consideration to move it within the Broad Street corridor.

Councilman Sun stressed the importance of the Master Plan Subcommittee having discussions regarding emergency services.

No one else wished to be heard and the budget hearing was declared closed.

Proof of publication of the introduction of the budget was published in the Union County Local Source of April 14, 2016 was made part of the record.

RESOLUTIONS

(Resolutions, which were not identified on the agenda as same, do not appear in the minutes in the actual order in which they were addressed at the meeting, but under the proper committee heading after those that were on the agenda. Those with the name of another committee in italics after it indicate the other committee might have had some input.)

The respective Committee Chairman, Committee member, or Councilmember, as indicated for the Committee, introduced the following resolution(s) and on motion, duly seconded and on roll call, unanimously adopted or adopted by the vote shown, if any:

FINANCE/PERSONNEL

37347	Setting Forth Summary of 2016 General Revenues and Appropriations - 2016 Municipal Operating Budget

RESULT:	**APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER:	Lizza
SECONDER:	Rubino
AYES:	Lizza, McTernan, Naidu, Ogden, Rubino, Sun
ABSENT:	Hurley

ORDINANCE(S) FOR HEARINGS

The Council President called for a hearing of the following ordinance(s), which the City Clerk read by title.

Number	Title	Introduction Date
SAFETY		
16-3109	**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE, CHAPTER VII,L TRAFFIC, SECTION 7-8, PARKING, SUBSECTION 7-8.5, PARKING TIME LIMITED ON CERTAIN STREETS** *(Kent Place Blvd 2-hour parking - Norwood Avenue to Morris Avenue)*	04/19/16
SAFETY		
16-3110	**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE, CHAPTER VII, TRAFFIC, SECTION 7-25 REGULATIONS FOR THE MOVEMENT AND THE PARKING OF TRAFFIC ON MUNICIPAL PROPERTY AND BOARD OF EDUCATION PROPERTY, SUBSECTION 7-25.3, PARKING RESTRICTIO\NS AT PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND BOARD OF EDUCATION PARKING LOTS.** *(Parking for facility use only during parking operating hours – Memorial Field located on Ashland Road)*	04/19/16

ORDINANCE(S) FOR FINAL CONSIDERATION

The respective Committee Chairman, Committee member, or Councilmember, as indicated for the Committee, introduced the following ordinance(s) which was (were) individually read by title by the City Clerk for final passage and on motion, duly seconded and on roll call, unanimously adopted or adopted by the vote shown, if any:

Number	Title	Introduction Date
SAFETY		
16-3109	**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE, CHAPTER VII,L TRAFFIC, SECTION 7-8, PARKING, SUBSECTION 7-8.5, PARKING TIME LIMITED ON CERTAIN STREETS** *(Kent Place Blvd 2-hour parking - Norwood Avenue to Morris Avenue)*	04/19/16

RESULT:	**ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER:	Ogden
SECONDER:	McTernan
AYES:	Lizza, McTernan, Naidu, Ogden, Rubino, Sun
ABSENT:	Hurley

SAFETY

16-3110	**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE, CHAPTER VII, TRAFFIC, SECTION 7-25 REGULATIONS FOR THE MOVEMENT AND THE PARKING OF TRAFFIC ON MUNICIPAL PROPERTY AND BOARD OF EDUCATION PROPERTY, SUBSECTION 7-25.3, PARKING RESTRICTIO\NS AT PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND BOARD OF EDUCATION PARKING LOTS.** *(Parking for facility use only during parking operating hours – Memorial Field located on Ashland Road)*	04/19/16

RESULT:	**ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER:	Ogden
SECONDER:	McTernan
AYES:	Lizza, McTernan, Naidu, Ogden, Rubino, Sun
ABSENT:	Hurley

RESOLUTIONS

(Resolutions, which were not identified on the agenda as same, do not appear in the minutes in the actual order in which they were addressed at the meeting, but under the proper committee heading after those that were on the agenda. Those with the name of another committee in italics after it indicate the other committee might have had some input.)

The respective Committee Chairman, Committee member, or Councilmember, as indicated for the Committee, introduced the following resolution(s) and on motion, duly seconded and on roll call, unanimously adopted or adopted by the vote shown, if any:

FINANCE/PERSONNEL

37348	1.	Accept 2016-2021 Capital Plan
37349	2.	Authorize Waiver of Professional Liability Indemnification Requirement - 2016 Appraisal Services for Tax Assessments Appraisal Consultants Corp.

SAFETY

37350	1.	Accept Donation to Fire Department - Celgene Corporation – Value of $16,000
37351	2.	Summit Police Department Donation from the Bartlett Family Foundation of the Community Foundation of New Jersey - Value of $5,000
37352	3.	Authorize Placement of Food Drive Collection Box at City Hall
37353	4.	Grant Extension of Sick Leave With Pay - Fire Department Employee

WORKS

37354 1. Award Bid - City of Summit/Summit City Cooperative Pricing System (#192SCCPS) - 2016 Micro-Surfacing Program - Not to Exceed $137,970.00

37355 2. Declare Vacancy - Department of Community Services - Division of Public Works (Pending Closed Session Discussion)

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

37356 1. Authorize Professional Services Agreement in Excess of $17,500.00 – 2016-2017 Housing Element and Fair Share Planning Services - Not to Exceed $30,000.00

37357 2. Authorize Professional Services Agreement in Excess of $17,500.00 - City Planner - July to December 2016 - Not to Exceed $28,000.00

CONSENT AGENDA

RESULT:	**APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER:	Sun
SECONDER:	Naidu
AYES:	Lizza, McTernan, Naidu, Ogden, Rubino, Sun
ABSENT:	Hurley

GENERAL SERVICES

37358 Authorize Refunds - Department of Community Programs

SAFETY

37359 1. Grant Permission and Set Forth Conditions - Overlook Medical Center 2016 5k Run

37360 2. Grant Permission and Set Forth Conditions - Summit Downtown Inc. "American Legion Fish Fry"

WORKS

37361 Refund Road Opening Deposit - 14 Garden Road

FINANCE/PERSONNEL

37362 1. Authorize Redemption - Tax Sale Certificate #18-13

37363 2. Authorize Parking Refunds - Summit SmartCard, Prepaid Parking, and Overnight Parking Permits

37364 3. Authorize Payment of Bills - $564,677.30

COUNCIL MEMBERS' COMMENTS/NEW BUSINESS

Items/issues noted hereunder, if any, reflect those recommending and/or needing action by City department(s) or at a future council meeting which are not already being addressed by a committee.

Board of Education Appointments – Councilman Rubino and Council President McTernan each read a prepared statement, which are hereto attached.

ADJOURNMENT REGULAR MEETING

Respectfully submitted,

Rosalia M. Licatese
City Clerk

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Letter - Purchasing Department, re Micro-surfacing Program Bids Received on April 12, 2016
2. Letter - Mayor Radest, re Board of Education Appointments

RECEIVED AND FILED

MINUTES ATTACHMENTS

1. Summit Historical Minute - History of Whittredge Road and Hillcrest Avenue - Presented by Ben Golding, Summit High School Senior
2. Statement, re Board of Education Appointments - Councilman Rubino
3. Statement, re Board of Education Appointments - Council President McTernan

Summit Historical Minute
History of Whittredge Road and Hillcrest Avenue
Presented by Ben Golding, Summit High School Senior
May 3, 2016 Council meeting

You may not think twice about the names of Whittredge Avenue and Hillcrest Avenue, however the names of both streets are not only significant to Summit's history, but art history as well. Thomas Worthington Whittredge was born in Ohio in 1820. After painting into adulthood in America and in Europe, Whittredge moved to New York City in 1859, and began painting with other artists in the Tenth Street - Studio Building, which later became famously known as the Hudson River School. From there, his career took off and today Whittredge's paintings are all over the world including the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Washington National Gallery. In 1880, Whittredge moved to an estate, called Hillcrest, at 166 Summit Ave with his family and lived there until he died in 1910. Today, Whittredge Avenue takes his name and Hillcrest Avenue takes the name of his estate.

Statement read by Councilman Rubino
during Councilmember Comments at
May 3, 2016 Council meeting

We have a appointed vs elected school board, this prevents single issue candidates from getting on and ultimately allows more freedom in decision making since the members are not beholden to a particular constituency

While I have respect for my colleague Mayor Radest, I feel compelled to record my feelings about her recent failure to reappoint James Freeman to the Board of Education. I concur with Mr. Bennet's comments, this is not how business has been done in Summit on this matter. A BOE member not being reappointed for a second term parts with a tradition that has been unbroken for generations of previous mayors of both political parties. I have observed his service on the Board to be exemplary, as have other board members I have spoken to , so I am concerned that the decision that Mr. Freeman not being reappointed is colored by the fact that his political beliefs or position on a single issue are not in line with those of the mayor. Going forward, sitting board members may not be so free to exercise their best judgement for fear that their decisions will be held against them at the time of reappointment. I am disappointed that the Board of Education can be politicized in this way and respectfully suggest that we are entitled to higher expectations in the future.

Robert J. Rubino MD
Councilman,
City of Summit, NJ

Council President McTernan Statement
Read during Council Member Comments
at May 3, 2016 Council Meeting

In our type 1A school district, the Mayor appoints our seven member Board of Education. It has been traditional in Summit for board members to be re-appointed to second terms regardless of the mayor who initially appointed them. This practice has served Summit well as our top rated school system attests to. Added second term experience and an ability to think independently has help bless our city with a board of talented individuals who harbor~~ing~~ a diversity of opinions that coalesce around a consensus for the best way to educate our children with the scarce resources available.

I'm disappointed that Mayor Radest did not continue this tradition and re-appoint James Freedman to a second term. I respect the Mayor and know she did not make this decision lightly. I worry however, that if this decision is taken as precedent, the institution will suffer in the long run as members lose their sense of independence and the caliber ~~quality~~ of people who volunteer to do what I consider the toughest job in our city will decline. I hope this will not be the case, but once opened, Pandora's Box is hard to close.