

A REGULAR WORKSHOP MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF ANDOVER, COUNTY OF SUSSEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY WAS HELD ON WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22, 2022 AT THE BOROUGH HALL BEGINNING AT 7:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Mayor Morgan, Council Members: Smith, Hoag, Mallon (7:08 pm), and Walter.

ABSENT: Councilperson Delfing and Dennison

Mayor Morgan called the meeting to order with a salute to the flag and in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act by advertising notice of meeting in the N.J. Herald, posting copy of notice in the Borough Hall and on the Borough website.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

Ms. Joyce Bollard residing at 31 West High Street reported to the board that there are feral cats in the neighborhood. She stated that they live in the vacant apartment building as 23 West Maple and are a “big issue”. She was very disappointed that the governing body has not addressed this before.

Mrs. Jamie Stowe of 25 Brighton Avenue stated that feral cats a big issue and are causing destruction to property and health issues in the neighborhood. She stated that her dog was attacked by one and it caused thousands in medical bills She stated that Colleen Figureiredo who is a neighbor is organizing a plan to “take care” of these cats and is asking the neighbors to donate money. Mrs. Stowe continued to report that the cats do not belong to Colleen. They are the result of another neighbor on West High Street. She said Colleen is asking the neighbors to contribute money to the care and feeding of these animals and that Colleen has fixed several of them at her own cost. Mrs. Stowe didn’t feel that this should be her or any other neighbors responsibility and that the person who caused this should be held to the code of the Borough. She continued to report that she has pictures and video of the cats and the damage and that they are bringing rodents in the neighbor due to the food left outside. She herself has seen rats. Mrs. Stowe stated that the Animal Control Officer doesn’t follow up on complaints

***** Mr. Mallon joined the meeting. *****

Amanda Neglia of 22 Tranquility Road also spoke to the Council regarding the feral cats. She stated that she has been helping to organize the cat trapping and that she has been doing this for years throughout the borough, starting about 2016. She stated that they are domesticated animals and that if the town “gives them a place to go, they will stay there”. She suggested that a giant sand pit be created for them to defect to protect neighbors back years. She stated that she has removed 14 cats and homed another 9 kittens. She stated that she felt the town should help take care of the cats.

Mrs. Stowe expressed some concern at the suggestion that a litter box be created for these cats. She stated that “dropping cats off” is no answer and asked the governing body how this can be fixed and who can be held responsible.

The Mayor advised that there are avenues that can be taken to address this an one was to remove the food source. He continued to state that the borough attorney will be contacted on this matter.

OLD BUSINESS:

Liquor License:

MOTION to approve a resolution approval renewal of liquor license #1901-33-001-010 held by and in the name of JJ8789 LLC dba Crossed Keys – tabled to the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Ordinance Draft – parking prohibited at all times. The introduction was canceled and may be discussed at the next meeting.

Newton United Soccer – request to extend field use to 8/15/22.

NJ Lead Paint Renter Law impact on municipality was discussed. No decisions made to implement.

Construction Department – Fire Sub Code Inspector – Mark Muccione was hired to fill in as needed. A MOTION was made by Mr. Hoag, seconded by Mrs. Walter to approve Mark Muccione on an as needed basis. Upon roll call the following votes were cast: AYES: Hoag, Smith, Mallon, Walter. NAYS: None. ABSTAIN: None. Motion carried.

Resolution – Municipal Aid Grant – Maple Street
A MOTION was made by Mr. Hoag, seconded by Mr. Mallon to approve the submission of a Municipal Aid Grant for Maple Street. Upon roll call the following votes were cast: AYES: Hoag, Smith, Mallon, Walter. NAYS: None. ABSTAIN: None. Motion carried.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

A MOTION was made by Mr. Smith, seconded by MR. Hoag to approve the park building rental reimbursement to: Eigner in the amount of \$150.00. Upon roll call the following votes were cast: AYES: Hoag, Smith, Mallon, Walter. NAYS: None. ABSTAIN: None. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A MOTION was made by Mr. Hoag, seconded by Mrs. Walter to adopt Resolution to adjourn into Executive Session to discuss matters which are exempted from the public. Upon roll call the following votes were cast: AYES: Smith, Hoag, Mallon, Walter. NAYS: None. ABSTAIN: None. Motion carried.

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act, P.L. 1975, Chapter 231 permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Andover will go into closed session for reasons of: Personnel (7:44 p.m.)

A MOTION was made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Hoag to resume the public portion of the meeting. Upon roll call the following vote was cast: AYES: Smith, Hoag, Mallon, Walter. NAYS: None. Motion carried. (8:03 p.m.)

PERSONNEL:

A MOTION was made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Mallon to terminate M. Johnson as per the report and findings of the administrative committee. Upon roll call the following vote was cast: AYES: Smith, Hoag, Mallon, Walter. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION: Mr. Richard Mooney stated, “Everything is good” and “think goats”!

MOTION TO PAY THE BILLS:

A MOTION was made by Mr. Hoag, seconded by Mr. Mallon to pass the following Resolution: **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Governing Body to approve the payment of all vouchers on the bill listed June 22, 2022, submitted by the Chief Financial Officer for payment. Upon roll call the following votes were cast: **YES:** Smith, Hoag, Mallon, Walter. **NAYS:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. Motion carried.

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

A MOTION was made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Hoag to adjourn the meeting. **AYES:** Dennison, Mallon, Walter, Delfing. **NAYS:** Hoag. Motion carried.

Beth Brothman
Municipal Clerk