

BOROUGH OF MEDFORD LAKES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
March 8, 2001

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Medford Lakes, New Jersey, was held on the above date in Oaks Hall Council Chambers beginning at 7:30pm. Mayor Casey presided. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Mayor Casey read the Statement of Compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act. This is to announce that adequate notice in the form of Notice of Meetings was (1) posted on the Administration Building bulletin board, (2) mailed to The Central Record, Medford, NJ, (3) mailed to the Burlington County Times, Willingboro, NJ, (4) mailed to the Courier Post, Cherry Hill, NJ, and (5) filed with the Municipal Clerk. Advance written notice of this meeting was mailed to all persons who requested such notice according to the Clerk of the Municipality.

Answering Roll Call were: Mayor Timothy S. Casey, Councilman Joseph A. Aromando, and Councilman Gary F. Woodend. Also present were Manager Julie Keizer and Solicitor Vogdes.

Mayor Casey gave a brief history on the possible privatization of the garbage collection. He explained the bidding process, and the steps, which were taken to investigate the privatization savings versus retaining the service in house.

Manager Keizer presented the cost analysis of the Borough Sanitation Department. Manager Keizer explained the components of the cost analysis and presented the cost of each facet of the services provided by the Sanitation Department. These duties included residential garbage collection, Saturday trash, bulk trash collection and miscellaneous duties. The cost of the municipal waste collection including the purchase of one new truck amortized over a 10 year period was \$196,152.00 whereas the cost of Waste Management providing the services would be \$159,900 thus realizing a savings of \$36,252 which is roughly one and one half cents on the tax rate.

Councilman Aromando explained his position on privatization and explained how he would visualize implementing the concept. The moving of an employee to wastewater would eliminate a position, another would be let go which is the third man on the truck which is a position that is hard to fill, the other position would be absorbed into public works. Councilman Aromando also pointed out that the repair of the second truck or possible purchase is not in the figures for the cost analysis.

Mayor Casey introduced Gerry Giannini of Waste Management who would be available to answer questions from the public and the Council.

Mr. Giannini of Waste Management presented an overview of Waste Management. This presentation included the hiring practices of the company, driver training, public relations and the type of service which the company strives to provide. The company has at its disposal 122 trucks and 167 employees and services over 31 municipalities throughout the State of New Jersey. Each of these 31 municipalities is assigned a local manager for operations and handles questions and complaints from the municipalities. If awarded the contract Mr. Giannini explained that Waste Management becomes familiar with the route by riding with the public works department, there are notations made with reference to special needs for the residents and other special considerations.

PUBLIC COMMENT GARBAGE COLLECTION

Mayor Casey explained the format that the Council would be following for the public comments on the possible privatization of the garbage collection. Each resident who wishes to be heard would be given the opportunity. Mayor Casey requested comments be kept to 3 minutes.

Dan Prado, 79 Onondago Trail – explained that he has never had a problem with the trash collection. He questioned the message, which is being sent to the employees of the Borough that they are not worth keeping if the Borough can save some money. He did not believe that the savings were substantial enough to privatize the garbage collection. He stressed that currently we know who collects the garbage and they keep the safety of the children in mind at all times.

Robert Scott, Chief of Police – questioned if Waste Management would stay off of the courtesy routes while children were on them.

Mr. Giannini explained that they would. He stressed the driver's safety training.

Councilman Aromando asked the Chief of Police if there has ever been any problems with the County Recycling trucks?

Chief Scott responded that there have been isolated problems, which have been addressed.

Councilman Aromando questioned the size of trucks and the type Waste Management would be sending.

Mr. Giannini explained the standard 31-yard tandem axle, rear loading truck.

Ed Leggoe, 274 Chicagami Trail – requested further clarification on the reassignment of employees if the Borough privatizes.

Councilman Aromando explained his understanding of what would happen.

Sandy Wasson, 97 Wabun Trail – explained that she felt that a savings of \$22.00 per year is not enough to risk the safety of our children. She explained how unique Medford Lakes is as a community and expressed her deep concern for the children.

Joe Devine, 64 Manhasset Trail – expressed concern with the methodology used to evaluate privatization. He expressed concerns over a rate increase after the term of the contract. The equipment and manpower will be gone from the Borough, thus leaving the Borough at the mercy of garbage collection companies.

Councilman Aromando explained that you can always go back, but you have to seriously look at the savings of privatization. Privatization will save you money. Councilman Aromando presented an informal survey he did of municipalities within Burlington County and how they pick up their garbage.

Mr. Devine further expressed concerns over who would administer the contract.

Mayor Casey explained that in his view the Borough proceeded, as it should to receive a quote was the first logical step, then to perform a cost analysis.

Councilman Aromando asked about the can requirements of Waste Management.

Mr. Giannini explained that it is set by the municipality however OSHA standards apply and overloaded cans may not be picked up, however notice will be given to the homeowner as to why it was not dumped.

Dave Wasson, 97 Wabun Trail – explained that in his view businesses exist to make a profit, municipalities exist to provide a service. The \$22.00 in savings does not represent enough to privatize. He also explained the uniqueness of Medford Lakes.

Mr. Levak, 77 Onondago Trail – explained that the Council should be congratulated on trying to save money however they are looking in the wrong place. The Borough must accept the fact that trucks deteriorate and that they will need to be replaced, it is a price of doing business.

Mr. Hannold, Natchez Trail – commended Council on looking at ways to save money. He agrees that he prefers how the Borough currently handles garbage collection but believes that the system should be evaluated. The Borough should evaluate costs and should get facts before making such decisions.

Michael Levinsky, 135 Chippewa Trail – expressed her desire for the Council to consider all the facts and to retain the municipal waste collection. There are services, which the municipality provides that one cannot put a figure on, and those are the items, which are hard to quantify. She relayed a story of how considerate the sanitation department was during a holiday week when she served on Council. Further she asked Mr. Giannini if Waste Management was union.

Mr. Giannini explained that they are unionized however there would not be a break in service since the management is not unionized.

Debbie Klemis, 80 Manhasset Trail – explained that she is a new resident who came from down south and in her previous town she received door to curb service. Is this something the Council can explore.

Andrew Vermeesch, 33 Osage Trail – expressed concerns over the narrowness of the trails and the drivers from Waste Management, he explained that the current Borough employees are sensitive to these concerns.

Tom Cusack, 13 Tahtepay Trail – believed the Borough should preserve what it has, further explained the uniqueness of the Borough. He expressed to the Council that they should explore the options of becoming more efficient with the Borough employees. He did not feel privatization was the way to go.

Councilman Woodend questioned how everyone knew to attend the meeting tonight.

Mr. Cusack stated the Colony news and several others agreed.

Mr. Leggoe stated that is was on the website, and added he was pleased with some of the changes on the site.

Bill Garvey, 165 Tabernacle Road – expressed concerns over an emergency management event that would require clean up of debris and how would Waste Management handle this.

Mr. Giannini, explained that clean up is normally above and beyond the contracted price.

Chris Powers, 19 Onondago Trail – believed that it is not worth losing the employees over \$22.00, she expressed how unique Medford Lakes is and how much the quality of life means to the residents.

Public comment was closed.

Councilman Woodend questioned Mr. Giannini if the Borough is looking at the right numbers and evaluating the right things.

Mr. Giannini stated that he believes the Borough is looking at the right things. He offered his opinion on side loading trucks and that they are not always the best decision.

Councilman Aromando asked how many times Waste Management bid a contract and the town kept their own garbage.

Mr. Giannini explained that in cases where they were the low bidder the municipality in his experience has always awarded the contract.

Mayor Casey thanked Mr. Giannini for attending.

Mayor Casey made a motion to keep the Borough's garbage collection and authorize the manager to investigate ways to make the Sanitation Department operations more efficient. Councilman Woodend seconded motion.

Councilman Aromando expressed his dismay over the rush to judgement on privatization. He explained that it is unfair to exclude the opinions of those individuals who are not present at a meeting. Councilman Aromando explained that not everyone can come to a meeting but that does not mean they are not interested. He urged Council to consider the cost savings.

Public comment was opened on the motion.

No public comment received.

Councilman Aromando again expressed his concerns.

Mayor Casey explained that not one resident which he has spoken with or one resident here tonight expressed the desire to have the garbage collection privatized.

VOTE TO APPROVE MOTION TO RETAIN MUNICIPAL GARBAGE COLLECTION

Ayes: Casey, Woodend

Nays: Aromando

Motion Carries

RESOLUTIONS

Borough of Medford Lakes

Resolution Number: 42-01

RESOLUTION DESIGNATING FLEET BANK AS DEPOSITORY AND DESIGNATING SIGNATORIES

WHEREAS, the Borough of Medford Lakes does have accounts with Fleet Bank; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Medford Lakes desires to designate the following titles as signatories on Borough Checks.

1. Borough Manager
2. Chief Finance Officer
3. Mayor

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Medford Lakes, in the County of Burlington, State of New Jersey that Fleet Bank is hereby designated as a depository for Borough Funds and the aforementioned titles are authorized signatories.

VOTE ON ADOPTION

Councilman	M	S	Y	N	A	AB
Casey			x			
Aromando		x	x			
Woodend	x		x			

M-Motion; S-Second; A-Aye; N-Nay; A-Abstain; AB-Absent

Borough of Medford Lakes
Resolution Number: 43-01

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT FOR A PLANNER TO THE PLANNING BOARD

WHEREAS, there exists in the Borough of Medford Lakes a need of a Planner for the Planning Board for the purpose of providing land use advice on matters pertaining to the Municipal Land Use Law as it relates to planning and redevelopment; and,

WHEREAS, the Planning Board is authorized by the Municipal Land Use Law (N.J.S.A. 40:55D - 1 et seq.) to appoint a Planner for the purpose of providing such services; and,

WHEREAS, the Planning Board has by resolution duly adopted, appointed the firm of Richard A. Alaimo, P.E. who has assigned Joseph S. Augustyn, P.P. to serve as the Board's Planner for the year 2001; and,

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Borough Council of the Borough of Medford Lakes to enter into a written agreement between the Borough of Medford Lakes and Richard A. Alaimo, P.E. for the aforementioned service; and,

WHEREAS, the Local Public Contracts Law (NJSA 40A:11-1 et seq) provides that contracts for Professional Services may be awarded without competitive bidding;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Medford Lakes, New Jersey that the agreement, which is attached hereto and made part hereof, between the Borough of Medford Lakes, New Jersey and Richard A. Alaimo, P.E., be and is hereby, approved.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Borough Clerk are hereby directed to affix their signatures to the aforementioned agreement as witness of this approval.

VOTE ON ADOPTION

NAME	Moved	Second	Yes	No	Abstained	Absent
Casey	x		x			
Woodend		x	x			
Aromando			x			

**Borough of Medford Lakes
Resolution Number: 44-01**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TEMPORARY TRAFFIC REGULATIONS

WHEREAS, on April 28, 2001 the Medford Lakes Cub Scouts will be holding their annual "Cubmobile" Derby; and,

WHEREAS, traditionally, the "Cubmobile" Derby is conducted along Lenape Trail between its intersection with Natchez Trail and Hiawatha Trail; and,

WHEREAS, N.J.R.S. 39:4-197.3 provides that "the governing body of any municipality may, upon the adoption of a resolution, declaring that an emergency or temporary condition dictates adoption of special traffic regulations within the scope of any of the items listed in subparagraph (1) b. through h., (2) and (3) revised Statutes 39:4-197"; and,

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of public safety that special traffic regulations be imposed during the period of time during which the "Cubmobile" Derby is to be held;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Medford Lakes, County of Burlington, State of New Jersey as follows:

1. The Borough Council of the Borough of Medford Lakes does hereby find and declare that a temporary condition dictates adoption of special traffic regulations within the scope of N.J.R.S. 39:4-197 (1) c. and e.

2. Pursuant to N.J.R.S. 39:4-197 (1) c, traffic along Manhasset Trail shall be one-way in the southwesterly direction between Natchez Trail and Hiawatha Trail, and, Natchez Trail shall be one-way in the Northeasterly direction between Hiawatha Trail and Lenape Trail, between the hours of 7:00 am and 1:00 pm on Saturday, May 6, 2000.

3. Pursuant to N.J.R.S. 39:4-197 (1) e, Lenape Trail between its intersection with Natchez Trail and Hiawatha Trail shall be closed to motor vehicle traffic from 7:00 am to 1:00 pm on Saturday, April 28, 2001.

4. The Chief of Police of the Borough of Medford Lakes is hereby ordered and directed to take all actions appropriate and necessary for the implementation of the foregoing temporary traffic regulations.

VOTE ON ADOPTION

NAME	Moved	Second	Yes	No	Abstained	Absent
Casey	x		x			
Aromando		x	x			
Woodend			x			

**Borough of Medford Lakes
Resolution Number: 45-01**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT WITH THE SENIOR
COMMUNITY SERVICE EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey through the Senior Community Service Employment Program provides workers for State and Local governments in return for training of the worker; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Medford Lakes believes that this program is worthwhile and helps to serve both the Green Thumb Program and will benefit the residents of the Borough of Medford Lakes;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Medford Lakes, New Jersey that the Borough hereby agrees to participate in the Green Thumb Program which is administered by the State of New Jersey Senior Community Service Employment Program and will provide training for workers within the offices of the Borough of Medford Lakes.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Borough Clerk are hereby directed to affix their signatures to the mentioned agreement as witness of this approval.

VOTE ON ADOPTION

NAME	Moved	Second	Yes	No	Abstained	Absent
Casey	x		x			
Woodend			x			
Aromando		x	x			

Borough of Medford Lakes

Resolution Number: 46-01

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE INTRODUCTION OF THE 2001 BUDGET

Mayor Casey explained that the Budget as introduced represents a 2.8 cent increase over last year. The public hearing on the Budget will be on April 12, 2001 and all are invited to attend.

VOTE ON ADOPTION

NAME	Moved	Second	Yes	No	Abstained	Absent
Casey	x		x			
Woodend		x	x			
Aromando			x			

ORDINANCES

ORDINANCE 466 (FINAL READING)

ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF MEDFORD LAKES REGULATING ALARM SYSTEMS AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR THE VIOLATION THEREOF

CORRESPONDENCE

Letter from Pinelands Commission, Re: Pinelands Comprehensive Management Plan Sample Ordinance

Manager Keizer stated that the letter contained a sample ordinance, which the Borough Council should refer to the Planning Board for their review.

NEW BUSINESS

Proposal Ragan Design Group

Manager Keizer explained that she had spoken with Mr. Ragan and the number, which the Council had requested would at this time be premature.

Mayor Casey stated that the number which we were using for grant purposes had been \$950,000.00 and would request of Mr. Ragan to put that in writing. This issue will again appear on the March 22, 2001 Agenda what the Council is looking for is a ballpark figure from Mr. Ragan with a plus or minus percentage.

Department of Public Works/Firehouse Renovations

Councilman Woodend explained his concerns with regard to the plan as far as fencing the area, he stated that he has concerns with the amount of money, which could potentially be spent.

Councilman Aromando expressed the desire to make sure that the public is aware of what the Council is doing with regard to the building projects.

Mayor Casey suggested a meeting be set up between Council and the Architect.

Councilman Aromando had several options he would like the Council to look at the most important being a separate building which would house all emergency services.

Mayor Casey explained his view would be to review the proposed 4 plans from the architect, make a decision based on the needs and cost factors and discuss this at a separate meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Animal Ordinance/Noise Ordinance – discussion postponed. Report from Diane Forrester on the Animal Ordinance was distributed for Council's review. Mayor Casey commented on how well the report was prepared. Mayor Casey also extended his and the Council's best wishes to Diane on her back surgery.

Incentive Program – Manager Keizer will have a report prepared by the March 22, 2001 meeting.

Communications with the Public – Manager Keizer will have a report prepared by the March 22, 2001 meeting.

REPORTS FROM OFFICERS AND DEPARTMENTS

SOLICITOR – Nothing other than previously discussed.

MANAGER – Nothing other than previously discussed.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Mayor Casey made a motion, seconded by Councilman Aromando, to pay the bills listed on the Bills List.

VOTE TO APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS

Ayes: Casey, Aromando, Woodend

Nays: None

Motion carries

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ed Legoe, Chicagami Trail – expressed his pleasure at the updated website. He commented that Tom Heck’s experience should be drawn upon during the construction of the buildings. Mr. Leggoe inquired as to the status of the drying beds and why the DEP levied a fine against the Borough. Mr. Leggoe also commented on his desire to see chinking on the municipal building. Lastly, he has concerns with regard to the canoes at the end of Chicagami and the fact they may be on the right of way.

Manager Keizer commented that the website will be posting more Minutes in the further and the budget will also be available. The DEP will be sending an inspector to address the drying bed issues, the fine which was levied was for a elevated nitrate level which has been addressed by introducing alcohol to the wastewater system.

Mayor Casey expressed his desire to see chinking on the building however cautioned it could be cost prohibitive.

Chief Scott addressed the canoe issue stating that the previous owner of the property in question had given permission for the canoes to be located there.

Mayor Casey stated that the Borough would investigate the canoe issue.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Casey made a motion, seconded by Councilman Woodend, to adjourn.

VOTE TO ADJOURN

Ayes: Casey, Aromando, Woodend

Nays: None

Motion carries

Meeting adjourned to at 10:50pm

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Keizer, RMC
Borough Clerk