

**BOROUGH OF MILLSTONE
BOROUGH COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
March 19, 2007**

TIME: Council President Poch called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM

CALL TO ORDER – OPENING STATEMENT:

Council President Poch called the meeting to order with the following statement – “The meeting of the Borough Council, Borough of Millstone will please come to order. Adequate notice of this meeting has been noticed to the Hillsborough Beacon and Courier News. If any member of this body believes this meeting is being held in violation of the Open Public Meetings Act, please state your views at this time, stating the reason for which you feel the notice is improper. Hearing none, we proceed to the next item on the agenda.”

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG: - Council President Poch led those present in the pledge of allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

- Councilman Joe Dempster - present
- Councilwoman Carol Halm - present
- Councilman Norman Hewitt - present
- Councilwoman Donna Lucash - absent
- Councilman Robert McCarthy - absent
- Councilman William Poch - present
- Mayor Raymond Heck - absent

REPORTS:

- Assessor – no report
- Clerk – no report
- Emergency Management – no report
- Finance – A written report was submitted to the Borough Council
- Historic Commission – no report
- Millstone Valley Fire Department – no report
- Recreation Commission – no report
- State Police – no report
- Tax Collection – The tax collector provided reports for January and February 2007.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

- Buildings and Grounds

Council President Poch stated that after the recent snow storm the walkway to the Borough Hall was not cleared. He asked that this be done by the company hired to clear our parking lot.

Councilwoman Halm also reported that the County should clear the snow from the sidewalk near the Getty station.

- Planning Board

Councilwoman Halm reported that recently court actions have questioned COAH’s rules and regulations and that the new rules being established by COAH may affect Millstone. She also reported that the ARC of Somerset County did a presentation to the Planning Board regarding

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their proposed group home. A presentation was also heard from St. Joseph's Church for their new rectory.

Attorney Offen explained how the COAH ruling came about and the affect upon the Borough.

Council President Poch inquired about the Borough's desire to acquire a parcel of the St. Joseph's property. Attorney Offen replied that he has been in contact with the attorney representing the church.

The Millstone Borough Council agreed that we should pursue acquiring a tract of land from the church.

Councilman Dempster suggested a notice of our intention be sent to surrounding neighbors. The Millstone Borough Council agreed.

- Traffic and Roads – no report

MAYOR'S REPORT – no report

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

A motion to open the meeting to public at 8:20 PM was offered by Councilwoman Halm. Seconded by Councilman Dempster.

Roll Call: Dempster – yes, Halm – yes, Hewitt – yes, Poch – yes.

Patricia Morris stated it is a good idea to include the public in discussions regarding proposed group homes but they should be reminded that these discussions have been part of the Borough's Master Plan for some time.

Patricia Morris also asked if the Borough engineer has been consulted regarding the stormwater plan. She stated that our educational flier needs to be mailed by July 1, 2007.

Rod Angle stated that recently Van Cleef has done a survey for their development and concluded that his property is actually part of Hillsborough and not Millstone.

Attorney Offen suggested that Mr. Angle review the original deeds and tax maps. The position of the Millstone Borough Council is that his property is part of Millstone.

Denned Smerdon asked if the Borough will have a yard sale this year.

Council President Poch stated this is usually organized by the Recreation Committee and there have been no such discussions so far this year.

A motion to close the public hearing at 8:48 PM was offered by Councilwoman Halm. Seconded by Councilman Dempster.

Roll Call: Dempster – yes, Halm – yes, Hewitt – yes, Poch – yes.

NEW BUSINESS:

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- Second Reading/Adoption Ordinance 2007-001:

A motion to open the public hearing on ordinance 2007-001 was offered by Councilman Hewitt. Seconded by Councilman Dempster.

Roll Call: Dempster – yes, Halm – yes, Hewitt – yes, Poch – yes.

Pat Morris reminded the Millstone Borough Council that the ordinance needs to be placed in the planning ordinance notebook and given the Zoning Officer Dan DeVoti.

A motion to close the public hearing on ordinance 2007-001 was offered by Councilman Hewitt. Seconded by Councilman Dempster.

Roll Call: Dempster – yes, Halm – yes, Hewitt – yes, Poch – yes.

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2007-001 was offered by Councilwoman Halm. Seconded by Councilman Hewitt.

Roll Call: Dempster – yes, Halm – yes, Hewitt – yes, Poch – yes.

**AN ORDINANCE GRANDFATHERING UNDERSIZED LOTS AND AMENDING THE
DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF MILLSTONE, SOMERSET
COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Millstone, Somerset County:

1. Section D-106 of the Development Ordinance of the Borough of Millstone, General Provisions, is amended by changing the title of subsection J from “Nonconforming Uses and Structures” to “Nonconforming Uses, Structures and Lots” and adding a new subsection J(10) as follows:

(10) Exceptions to Minimum Lot Size

- (a) Any lot of contiguous lots in common ownership existing at the effective date of adoption or amending of this chapter whose area or dimensions met the requirements of the district in which the lot was located prior to adoption of this chapter or amendment and which do not meet such requirements of this chapter may have a building permit issued for a use permitted for that zoning district provided that all other applicable standards are met.
2. This Ordinance shall take effect upon its filing with the Somerset County Planning Board and its passage and publication, as provided for by law.

- Introduction of Ordinance 2007-002

A motion to introduce ordinance 2007-002 and set the public hearing for April 16, 2007 was offered by Councilwoman Halm. Seconded by Councilman Dempster.

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Roll Call: Dempster – yes, Halm – yes, Hewitt – yes, Poch – yes.

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR ALTERNATES ON THE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION AND AMENDING THE DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF MILLSTONE, SOMERSET COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Millstone:

1. Section D-113C, Historic Zoning; Historic District Commission, subsection (2), first paragraph, of the Development Ordinance of the Borough of Millstone is hereby amended as follows:

(2) The Millstone Historic District Commission shall consist of five (5) members at least three (3) of whom shall reside within the Historic District and two (2) Alternates. The First Alternate shall reside within the Historic District, and the Second Alternate may reside within or outside the Historic District.

2. This Ordinance shall take effect upon its filing with the Somerset County Planning Board and its passage and publication, as provided for by law.

- Introduction of 2007 Millstone Borough Budget and set the public hearing for April 16, 2007

A resolution, as produced on page two of the Budget, to introduce the 2007 Millstone budget and set the public hearing for April 16, 2007 was offered by Councilman Dempster. Seconded by Councilwoman Halm

Roll Call: Dempster – yes, Halm – yes, Hewitt – yes, Poch – yes.

- Discussion – Responsible Party Ordinance

This matter was asked to be placed on the agenda by Mayor Heck. Due to the emergency which prevented his attendance, the Millstone Borough Council opted to hold discussion until he is able to comment at a meeting.

The Millstone Borough Council did discuss this ordinance in relation to leaves and hazardous materials clean up efforts.

- Discussion – Ordinance to establish the Millstone Community Emergency Response Team (C.E.R.T.)

Councilman Dempster described the purpose of the ordinance and its assistance in helping the Borough obtain Federal grants to fund certain activities in the Borough. He added that the County OEM is pushing for all citizens to aid in the emergency management process.

- Discussion – Vehicular Traffic/Speed on Main Street
Council President Poch stated that the vehicle speeds in town, particularly on Main Street, is getting worse. He stated that in a conversation with Mayor Heck it was discussed that we should

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inquire to borrow the County speed signs. He also stated that it was discussed that perhaps we should install traffic cones at he crosswalks.

The Millstone Borough Council agreed.

- Discussion – 2006 County Recycling Bill

Borough Clerk Bonin reported that he has had a conversation with County Planner Robert Bzik about the proper calculation of our recycling fee obligation. A certification of our tax collector has been sent to the County Planning Department so they can re-calculate how many units we should be billed for. We are waiting for a reply.

PRESENTATION OF BILLS FOR PAYMENT:

A motion to approve the claims was offered Councilwoman Halm. Seconded by Councilman Dempster.

Roll Call: Dempster – yes, Halm – yes, Hewitt – yes, Poch – yes.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn the regular meeting at 9:17PM was offered by Councilwoman Halm. Seconded by jd

Roll Call: Dempster – yes, Halm – yes, Hewitt – yes, Poch – yes.

Attested to:

Gregory J. Bonin, Borough Clerk