

**These minutes not yet  
Approved by the Princeton Council**

**PRINCETON COUNCIL MEETING  
October 28, 2013**

A meeting of the Mayor and Council was held on this date at 6:00 p.m. in the Main Meeting Room in the municipal complex, 400 Witherspoon Street, Princeton, NJ 08540.

**NOTICE OF MEETING**

The Clerk read the following statement.

The following is an accurate statement concerning the providing of notice of this meeting and said statement shall be entered in the minutes of this meeting. Notice of this meeting as required by Sections 4a, 3d, 13 and 14 of the Open Public Meetings Act has been provided to the public in the form of a written notice. On October 24, 2013 at 4:30 p.m., said schedule was posted on the official bulletin board in the Municipal Building, transmitted to the Princeton Packet, the Trenton Times, the Trentonian, the Town Topics, and filed with the Municipal Clerk.

**ROLL CALL**

The Municipal Clerk then called the roll.

Present: Mesdames Butler, Crumiller, and Messers Liverman, Miller ( 6:45 p.m.) and Simon and Mayor Lempert (7:00 p.m.).

Absent: Ms. Howard.

Also Present: Mr. Bruschi, Ms. Monzo Mr. Kiser, Mr. Schmierer and Capt. Sutter.

**13-284 CLOSED SESSION RESOLUTION**

**RESOLUTION  
TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION  
(Open Public Meetings Act Sec.3)**

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of Princeton:

1. This body will now convene into a closed session that will be limited only to consideration of an item or items with respect to which the public may be excluded pursuant to section 7B of the Open Public Meetings Act.
2. The general nature of the subject or subjects to be discussed in said session is as follows:

**Potential Litigation: Mercer County Prosecutors Office**

3. Stated as precisely as presently possible, the following are the time when and the circumstances under which the discussion conducted at said session can be disclosed to the public:

Within 90 days or upon settlement of litigation, if applicable

Angelo Onofri and Doris Galluchi from the Mercer County Prosecutors Office were present for this portion of the meeting.

The above referenced issue was discussed by the Princeton Council.

Council then returned to open session

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The audience participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **PROCLAMATIONS**

- Supporting Small Business Saturday on November 30, 2013

Mayor Lempert read a proclamation supporting Small Business Saturday on November 30, 2013.

- Princeton Adult School

Mayor Lempert read a proclamation recognizing The Princeton Adult School.

### **PRESENTATION**

Muni Meter Pilot Program, 13-285 Resolution endorsing program

Deanna Stockton and Jack West, Engineering, offered a power point presentation regarding the Muni Meter Pilot Program. Ms. Stockton said that this was a two year smart meter that are solar powered, wireless and multilingual. Ms. Stockton said that the fees are under state contract and that the target for installation was January at the Dinky lot. She noted that the company is located in Whippany, New Jersey and offered a response time for repairs within 2-4 hours.

Mr. Miller said that it is difficult to read the numbers on the spots in the lots when there is snow and ice on the ground. Ms. Stockton said that the University has agreed to maintain the lots.

Mr. Bruschi said that the previous revenue from the lot by the Dinky station was \$18,000. and \$67,000. for the lot at University Place.

Mr. Liverman offered a motion to approve the proposed pilot program as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Crumiller and carried unanimously by those present.

(Presentation appended to this set of minutes)

**MINUTES:** June 10 and October 14, 2013

Mr. Miller offered a motion to approve the Council minutes of June 10, 2013 as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Liverman and carried unanimously by those present.

Ms. Butler offered a motion to approve the Council minutes of October 14, 2013 as presented.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Simon and carried unanimously by those present.

## **REPORTS**

### **Princeton University Canopy**

Mr. Bruschi reviews the report with Council, noting that the site was secure the day of the incident. He said that proactive measures are being taken and that a \$2,000. Fine was assessed because they did not come in for a specific construction permit.

Ms. Crumiller said that to her the incident seemed like one of neglect. Mr. Kiser said that the primary and utmost concern is one of safety to the public.

Mr. Simon said that he still did not feel that he had a complete answer and asked if there was a state regulation. Mr. Schmierer said that we enforce the State code and that every situation is different. He said that the State code was enforced by the local construction official but cannot address every circumstance and that there is no specific checklist.

Mr. Simon then asked if the project was done in a safe and responsible way. Mr. Bruschi said that it was. Mr. Simon asked if it was both the letter and intent of the state statute. Mr. Schmierer said that we did what should have been done.

(Report attached to this set of minutes)

### **Tax Assessor Compliance Plan**

Neal Snyder, Tax Assessor offered a power point presentation to Council regarding the compliance plan.

He said one of Assessors functions is to value real property and that the assessment status date for all real property is October 1 of the pre-tax year. Mr. Snyder said that each year semi completed newly constructed homes receive an increase on the improvement portion called a "partial" assessment. He said that today, newly constructed homes tend to sit on the market for a period of time, so a semi-completed value is placed on the home. Since homes sit on the market, finding true market value can be difficult.

Mr. Snyder said that for the 2013 tax year, there are over \$10,000,000 of partial assessments on the tax list, and a total of almost \$500,000 in tax dollars produced by added assessments

Mr. Snyder said that a Compliance Plan is a process to review sales against assessments, adjust neighborhoods “globally” up and down if out of range, and to create a uniform assessment pattern throughout Princeton based on market value.

The rules of the Compliance Plan are that they must have Mercer County Tax Board approval, cannot go over 50% total adjustments, a review of all neighborhoods and a final review and certification by the Mercer County Tax Board.

Mr. Snyder said that by utilizing the compliance plan each year, the Assessor’s office can keep values/assessments uniform, thus preventing Princeton from going through another revaluation and preventing “spikes” in assessments as witnessed during the revaluation aftermath.

Mr. Bruschi said that we implore the Assessor to be as aggressive as he can be but do not want to be perceived as subsidizing developers.

(Presentation appended to this set of minutes)

### **Princeton Half Marathon, Elizabeth Casparian, HiTOPS**

Elizabeth Casparian, HiTOPS reviewed with Council details for the upcoming 13.1 mile Princeton Half Marathon, on November 3, 2013. She said that there were over 200 volunteers and that the event was both a fundraiser and informational.

Mayer Lempert thanked Ms. Casparian for all her hard work regarding this event.

### **Council Reports**

Mr. Miller said that there are two Cable providers in Princeton. He said that Verizon will negotiate with the State of NJ and that Comcast will renegotiate with the municipality.

Ms. Butler noted that Corner Houses All City Dessert Competition was being held on November 8, 2013. She also said that the FreeB schedule has changed slightly and is posted on the website with ridership up.

Mr. Simon reported that the Alexander University Place Task Force Meeting is scheduled for November 9, 2013, 9 a.m. at the Carley Fields Center.

Mayor Lempert reported that Princeton received Bronze Status as a Bike Friendly City and the Smart Workplace Gold Award from the Greater Mercer TMA for flex time. She said that the Community Reads Book is Silver Linings Play Book.

Mayor Lempert made note of the new signage at Mountain Lake. She also noted that Womanspace will be celebrating "Communities of Light" on December 9, 2013.

#### **ORDINANCE PUBLIC HEARING**

Mayor Lempert read by title an ordinance entitled AN ORDINANCE AMENDING PARKING REGULATIONS ON A PORTION OF ALEXANDER STREET AND AMENDING THE "CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY, 1968".

Mayor Lempert opened the public hearing.

There being no public comment, the public hearing was closed.

Ms. Crumiller offered a motion to approve the proposed ordinance on second reading. The motion was seconded by Ms. Butler and carried unanimously by those present.

#### **ORDINANCE INTRODUCTION**

Mayor Lempert read by title on first reading a proposed ordinance entitled AN ORDINANCE BY PRINCETON APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF \$125,000.00 FROM THE PRINCETON OPEN SPACE TRUST FUND AND AUTHORIZING PRINCETON'S PARTICIPATION IN THE ACQUISITION AND PRESERVATION OF BLOCK 9902, LOT 9, PRINCETON TAX MAP.

Mr. Miller offered a motion to approve the proposed ordinance on first reading. Ms. Crumiller seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously by those present. The public hearing was set for November 5, 2013.

#### **WORK SESSION**

Crosswalk Design Standards

Anton Lahnston addressed Council about Crosswalk Design Standards. He said that last week the Traffic and Transportation Committee endorsed the standards noting that the main concern was public safety.

Ms. Crumiller asked if we really needed the “ugly” white stripes. Mr. Lahnston said that he didn’t really think that the stripes were ugly and that safety is the real issue. Ms. Crumiller asked if there was a balance between safety at an important intersection. Mr. Lahnston said that there were thirteen injuries at intersections this year.

Mr. Kiser recommended that changes to intersections be done gradually. Mr. Lahnston said that bricks can be slippery when wet and dangerous. Mr. Liverman agreed.

Mr. Miller said that uncontrolled crosswalks are not well illuminated as you go away from the business district. Ms. Crumiller said that she would love to see more stations.

It was the consensus of the Mayor and Council to revisit the crosswalk design standards issue again and have a supporting resolution available for the Council meeting of November 12, 2013.

## **RESOLUTIONS**

13-286 Resolution authorizing the purchase of two (2) SANs storage servers, Dell Computers State Contact #WN88ABZ, Not to Exceed \$93,835.02

Mr. Simon offered a motion to approve resolution 13-286 as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Liverman and carried unanimously by those present.

13-287 Resolution authorizing the weekly transfer of public tax records to Signature Information Solutions.

Mr. Liverman offered a motion to approve resolution 13-287 as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Miller and carried unanimously by those present.

13-288 Resolution Authorizing Deer Management Services with White Buffalo, Inc., for a sum not to exceed \$63,870.00.

Mr. Miller offered a motion to approve resolution 13-288 as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Simon and carried unanimously by those present.

13-289 Resolution endorsing application to the New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife and the New Jersey Fish and Game Council for a special deer management permit

Mr. Miller offered a motion to approve resolution 13-289 as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Simon and carried unanimously by those present.

13-290 Resolution Authorizing the Bidding of “Stealth” Telecommunications Antenna Installations on Municipally Owned Property.

Ms. Butler offered a motion to approve resolution 13-290 as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Liverman and carried unanimously by those present.

13- 291 Resolution Accepting Donation for Improvements to the Mountain Lakes Nature Preserve Entrance and Parking Lot Entrance.

Ms. Crumiller offered a motion to approve resolution 13-291 as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Miller and carried unanimously by those present.

(Resolutions appended to this set of minutes)

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Contains items of a routine nature, which are approved by a single vote.

a. Bills and Claims

b. Maintenance/Performance Guarantees:

Commerce Bank (TD Bank) Rt. 206 & Princeton Avenue, Construct two additional parking spaces, completion time extension to October 31, 2015.

Princeton University Sidewalk Extension Project, Faculty Road/Fitzrandolph/South Drive, completion time extension to December 31, 2013.

c. 13-292 Resolution Opposing Bill H.R. 612 Which Proposes the Weight Increase for Trucks

d. 13-293 Princeton University Art Museum, Seven Pole Banners on Nassau Street from January 11, 2014 to May 17, 2014 to promote the upcoming art exhibit *“500 Years of Italian Master Drawings from the Princeton University Art Museum”*.

e. 13- 294 Resolution of Support: No Passing Zone on Route 206

f. 13-295 Resolution Approving Fire Department Application – Associate Member Joseph Novak

Mr. Liverman offered a motion to approve consent agenda items “a-f” without item “c” in block.

The motion was seconded by Mr. and carried unanimously by those present.

Mr. Simon offered two amendments to item “c”, resolution 13-292. He asked that the resolution be modified throughout to refer to municipality instead of city, and change also change the reference to city road system to municipal road system. He also asked to change resolution paragraph to, “Now be it resolved by the Mayor and Council of Princeton, that we oppose H.R. 612, and any similar legislation which seeks to increase truck size or weight beyond the capacity of our road systems, putting New Jersey state highways, roads, and bridges at risk of increased damage and deterioration.”

Mr. Simon offered a motion to approve item “c”, resolution 13-292 as amended. The motion was seconded by Ms. Butler and carried unanimously by those present.

(Resolutions appended to this set of minutes.)

**13-296 CLOSED SESSION RESOLUTION**

Mayor Lempert did not participate during this part of the meeting.

**RESOLUTION  
TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION  
(Open Public Meetings Act Sec.3)**

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of Princeton:

4. This body will now convene into a closed session that will be limited only to consideration of an item or items with respect to which the public may be excluded pursuant to section 7B of the Open Public Meetings Act.
5. The general nature of the subject or subjects to be discussed in said session is as follows:

Princeton University Negotiations  
Litigation Update

6. Stated as precisely as presently possible, the following are the time when and the circumstances under which the discussion conducted at said session can be disclosed to the public:

Within 90 days or upon settlement of litigation, if applicable

The above referenced issue was discussed by the Princeton Council.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 10:55 p.m.

Linda S. McDermott  
Municipal Clerk