

**MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
MAYOR & COUNCIL
HELD TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2010**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Hipp at 6:38 p.m. with the following Councilmembers present:

Councilwoman Inguanti
Councilman Sasso
Councilwoman Birdsall
Councilman DeSalvo

Councilman Genovesi - Absent

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Mayor Hipp asked those present to join him in a salute to the flag.

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Borough Clerk Kriston read the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Law.

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Councilman DeSalvo moved the following resolution for a closed session, seconded by Councilwoman Inguanti with all members present voting aye:

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act requires that a public body adopt a resolution at an open meeting before going into closed session to discuss a matter which excludes the public as permitted under the Act:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Rutherford will hold a closed meeting on Tuesday, February 16, 2010 at 6:40 p.m. in the Committee of the Whole Room to discuss the following matter:

- Budget issues regarding personnel policies and procedures regarding furloughs and layoffs

The meeting re-convened to open session 8:08 pm.

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HEARING OF CITIZENS

Mayor Hipp opened the hearing of citizens.

Charles DiNoto, 103 West Passaic Avenue commended the DPW for the snow removal process. Mr. DiNoto asked if there was any movement going forward pertaining to cars being parked on the streets during snow fall and if there was no movement he asked the Council to work on that problem.

As no further citizens wished to speak the hearing was closed.

Councilman DeSalvo responded that during the snow fall last week, the police were out towing from the emergency snow routes.

Mayor Hipp commented that they were in the process of talking with County Officials to assist with the snow removal process and agreed that the new process has had a cost savings for the Borough.

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FINANCE

Councilwoman Inguanti opened the discussions for the preparation of the 2010 Municipal Budget.

Councilman DeSalvo asked the Council consider consent for a presentation from a container company that may allow the Borough to use a containerized garbage pick-up system. The Councilman briefly provided an explanation of the process, the costs, the savings and various items associated with the process.

Councilwoman Inguanti provided further information regarding worker's comp. Councilman DeSalvo noted that with less men on the trucks, it would free them up to assist with other duties needed in the DPW structure.

Mayor Hipp added that if the bid is over the threshold the company that would provide the presentation might eliminate themselves from bidding should they wish to bid. The Mayor suggested they table the consent for the presentation until they confer with the Borough Attorney Smith.

Councilwoman Birdsall ask the Mayor to updated them on his meeting with Susan Jacobucci of the Local Finance Board.

Mayor Hipp provided an overview of the outcome of the meeting and he hoped to hear back from the LFB regarding the \$750,000 within in the next ten days to receive some feedback. Mayor Hipp also spoke regarding tax appeals bonds; extraordinary aide;

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pension deferral; State aid cuts; debt services. Mayor Hipp asked if there were any further discussions or questions.

Councilwoman Birdsall stated that she had reviewed the Borough's expenses and had suggestions as how to cut further expenses. Councilwoman Inguanti noted that with the change in street lights the Borough should see a reduction in utility bills for such. CFO Cortright said he and the Mayor were reviewing the prior year's bills and they will report back at the next budget meeting to see what the changes would be specifically the increases in the BCUA and the cell tower issue.

Councilwoman Inguanti stated that though some of the professional services costs had been cut she felt there were other ways they could target them better.

Councilwoman Birdsall brought forward discussions on a master parking permit plan for potential revenues, engineer on retainer, part-time administrator without benefits, incentive programs, car allowances, mailings, liquor licenses, Borough property leases and further ways to cut costs.

Councilwoman Inguanti commented that there might be a need for a grants specialist and the Finance Board had volunteered to assist with grants. Councilwoman Inguanti brought forward discussion regarding liquor license fees and zoning.

Discussion regarding recycling took place.

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Councilman DeSalvo made a motion to issue RICE Notice to two seasonal employees of the DPW for the March 2 meeting at 7:00, seconded by Councilwoman Inguanti with all members present voting aye.

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Councilman DeSalvo made a motion to issue RICE Notice to the Police and Fire Signal System Repair/Electrician position for the March 2 meeting at 7:00, seconded by Councilwoman Inguanti with all members present voting aye.

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Councilman DeSalvo made a motion to issue RICE Notice to the Police Captains for the March 3 meeting at 7:30, seconded by Councilwoman Inguanti. The Borough Clerk read the roll call: Councilwoman Inguanti, Councilman Sasso, Councilman DeSavlo voted aye and Councilwoman Birdsall voted nay.

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Councilman DeSalvo made a motion to authorize the Borough Attorney to speak to the Union Representative of the DPW to request the contract be reopened for change in

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work schedule for the Recreation Crew members and for an amendment to the retirement section, seconded by Councilwoman Inguanti with all members present voting aye.

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Councilman DeSalvo made a motion to authorize the Borough Attorney to draft a letter to PERS requesting early retirement of two DPW employees, seconded by Councilwoman Inguanti with all members present voting aye.

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Councilwoman Inguanti made a motion to authorize the Borough Attorney to discuss with the Police Director's his contract, seconded by Councilman DeSalvo with all members present voting aye.

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Councilman DeSalvo moved to adjourn at 8:58 p.m., seconded by Councilwoman Birdsall with all members present voting aye.

Borough Clerk