

**CITY OF ESTELL MANOR  
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
JANUARY 8, 2014**

Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act adequate notice of this meeting was sent to the Official Newspaper and was posted on the City Bulletin Board in accordance with Public Law 75, Chapter 231.

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Teasenfitz at approximately 7:00 pm. The flag salute and a moment of silence were observed.

**Roll call:** Present: Barbetto-yes; Cunningham-absent; Givens-yes; Haeser-yes; Teasenfitz-yes  
City Solicitor, Alfred Scerni was also present.

*Motions: Haeser / Givens to open meeting for public comment*

**OPEN PUBLIC PORTION**

Joe Venezia commented on the Mayor's re-organization meeting speech regarding communication and the lack of during his term as Mayor. He also addressed the unfinished soccer fields. Venezia verbally attacked members of Council regarding their lack of accomplishments during his term as Mayor.

Creed Pogue welcomed Council members to their first regular meeting of the year. He commented on several items including the City's pending landfill closure and City owned land located on Route 50 which is wetlands.

Mr. Sorg congratulated Mayor Teasenfitz on his appointment and stated City residents and Council members need to work together for the betterment of the community. He expressed his concerns with the condition of the soccer fields and what plans there were to complete them. He also stated he would like to see some additional trees planted around the retention pond by this spring.

Mayor Teasenfitz responded to Mr. Sorg's concerns regarding the soccer fields and agreed that two and one half years is too long to wait for the fields to be in a condition for use.

Councilman Haeser assured Mr. Sorg that a representative from Lawn Doctor looked at the fields and made suggestions for the improvement of the field conditions. Spring will allow for the City to readdress the fields and work on a plan of action to improve the field conditions.

*Motions: Haeser / Givens to close public comment portion of meeting  
Recorded vote; all in favor.*



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**BILL LIST**

A bill list for payment of bills was provided to Mayor and Council by the City's CFO for their review and approval.

Teasenfitz stated there were some emergency services performed to clean the heat duct system over the courtroom and an outstanding invoice for a City Logo which was previously approved in 2013.

Outstanding invoices held from the December meeting for legal services provided by Ruderman and Glickman Law Firm was also discussed.

*Motions: Haeser / Barbetto to approve the bill list in the amount of \$210,926.65*

*Roll Call: Barbetto-Yes; Cunningham-Absent; Givens; Haeser-Yes; Teasenfitz-Yes*

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

Reports were submitted for December 2013 from the following departments; City Clerk's Office, Public Works Department, Tax Collector and Zoning Officer.

Haeser commented on the Public Works report in regards to the 8<sup>th</sup>. avenue flooding. Teasenfitz stated he spoke with the Zoning Officer in regards to this matter. Zoning Officer stated he would contact the Planning Board Engineer to discuss the matter.

*Motions: Haeser / Givens to accept the department reports as listed.*

*Recorded vote; all in favor.*

**NEW BUSINESS**

Mayor Teasenfitz reviewed a summary of the recent snowstorm of January 2, 2014. He provided a handout to Council for their review of events before, during and after the snowstorm event. He suggested the employees be compensated for their lost work time due to the Governor's declared state of emergency.

Teasenfitz addressed the possibility of changing the hours of operation for City Hall to allow it to be open on Mondays. He stated this could be discussed further at the workshop meeting scheduled for January 22, 2014.

Other topics of discussion were an electrical proposal from Janney Electric for services requested.

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*Motions: Barbetto / Haeser to approve the electric services proposal from Janney Electric in the amount of \$1120.00*

*Roll Call: Barbetto-Yes; Cunningham-Absent; Givens; Haeser-Yes; Teasenfitz-Yes*

Haeser addressed the artwork for a new City logo and stated he would be meeting with the Estell Manor Elementary School to discuss this.

Teasenfitz stated a logo has already been created and paid for by the City so maybe Haeser could suggest a motto to accompany the logo to avoid any unnecessary spending.

Teasenfitz requested the City Clerk contact the printing company which created the City logo to get quotes on stationary and envelopes.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

*Motions: Givens / Haeser to open public comment portion of meeting*

*Recorded vote; all in favor.*

Diane Pogue advised Council that ADA telephones and supplies are available through ADA funding and suggested the City may want to check into this. She also stated the HAS would be interested in participating with the City logo accordingly.

Mr. Sorg commented on the holiday decorations displayed on and around City Hall and how nice it looked. He asked Council to continue their support for the public works department on their service to the community and City. He encouraged more community supported activities to raise positive response from the community.

Creed Pogue commented on the Veteran's Advisory Committee and the initial creation of this service. He commented on the City's landfill and a letter from the current contractor regarding certain activities taking place pertaining to the closure. He addressed the pending litigation and costs incurred by the City on this matter. Pogue reminded Council of certain outstanding permitting fees owed to the City for certain activities.

Joe Venezia stated he had offered the Superintendent of the Estell Manor Elementary School a \$50.00 donation to the winner of the artwork contest for a new City logo. He commented on the City's Landfill closure project and contaminated landfill sites in the State of New Jersey. He stated Estell Manor is low on the States list of sites with concerns and the DEP is not very concerned with the City's site.

*Motions: Haeser / Givens to close public comment portion.*

*Recorded vote; all in favor*

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*Motions: Givens / Haeser to adjourn meeting at approximately 8:30 pm.*

Respectfully submitted,

Accepted:

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Fern A. Brown, Acting Clerk

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Mayor Stephen Teasenfitz