

September 29, 2015

MEETING TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Kinnelon Borough Governing Body was called to order by Mayor Robert W. Collins at 8:00 p.m., on Tuesday September 29, 2015 in the Kinnelon Municipal Building.

The Acting Borough Clerk Karen Iuele stated this meeting is being held pursuant to the New Jersey Open Public Meeting Act. Adequate notice of this meeting was given by advertising in the September 27, 2015 edition of the Trends and was provided to the Star Ledger, Daily Record and the North Jersey Herald News. Adequate notice was also posted on the municipal building bulletin board, filed with the Acting Borough Clerk and provided to those persons or entities requesting notification.

ROLL CALL:

The roll was called and present and answering were Councilpersons James Freda, Daniel O'Dougherty, Adam Barish, Stephen Cobell, Carol Sventy and Clifford Giantonio.

Mayor Collins informed the council that he is extremely concerned that we have gone down the path that is inconsistent with the charge of our by-laws. This special meeting was requested by Councilman Cobell through the Acting Borough Clerk.

Mayor Collins stated that this is not how it works. The request comes through the Mayor and then the mayor takes action in whether to set up special meetings. Mayor Collins also stated that we have some issues to address in the finance department and will be talking about entering into a contract for the CFO consulting services.

We had 10 resumes submitted for the finance office and only one was presented to the committee for consideration. Back ground checks needs to be performed by the clerk before hiring. To my understanding the current position pays around \$36,000.00 and we are offering \$47,000.00. Mayor Collins stated that we are working against ourselves and don't understand why. I asked Councilman Giantonio to speak with the union because we are taking about adjusting salaries midstream. And we are talking about a position on retroactive pay to which this has never been done. We have very fine employees that should be compensate but this should have been done with the budget. We need to work together and address the needs of the borough as a governing body.

Finance Chair: Councilman S. Cobell;

Councilman Cobell state that the committee interview the firm Phoenix Consulting Group. The temporary CFO was also present and was pleased with the support that they could provide to the borough. Lou Mai the borough's auditor has worked with this firm before and stated that they have the resources that we require. Councilman Cobell asked if anyone had any question of them, and also stated that they have Certified Tax Collectors that can assess until we hire a new Certified Tax Collector.

Jason Gabloff and Jon Rheinhardt introduced themselves and state that they have close to 30 years' of experience between them. They have work with multiple counties for searches for CFO and mentors for CFO's. We also know a number of number of retired CFO's that could help out in the borough and also about having someone here on weekly bases to help.

Councilman Freda asked that if you both are employed full time, how you would be able to be here through the day to provide your services. Mr. Gabloff state that they have a team that works for them and they would be able to come on a weekly bases. And a lot of duties that need to be performed can be done by email

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or phone. Councilman Freda asked the cost, Mr. Gabloff stated that the mentors on a weekly bases would be \$115.00 an hour, and my services are \$150.00 an hour. Councilman stated that this would be a temporary thing.

Mayor spoke on personnel matters: Mayor Collins stated that we identified that we need a full time person for the clerk's office, replace accounts payable and payroll person in finance and also a certified tax collector. Mayor Collins stated that he would like the committee to review the resume and move forward as quickly as possible.

Mayor Collins also stated that he would like the temporary CFO put together a spread sheet of the borough employees with their salary to see where we are at.

HEARING FROM THE PUBLIC

Mayor Collins asked if anyone from the public wished to be heard, to please step forward.

Richard Werner, 1 Chilhowie Drive, stated that he did not like what he was hearing. This whole process that I am hearing this evening about hiring a company to help the temp CMFO just does not sound good. The people at the borough hall do not work on the weekends or at night. Mr Wener also stated that if we pay the CMFO that we have now more money the other borough employees might be asking for more also.

Councilman Cobell stated that we are not looking for a CMFO for temporary or part time. We have a temporary CMFO and we are acting on that she is going to get her license. We just feel like she needed some mentoring.

Jack Glazer, 68 Green Hill Road, spoke on how did we get to where we are? And when did our CMFO resign? And the people that are coming in who do they report to.

Councilman Cobell stated that our CMFO resigned in mid-January, and we did have a CMFO that was going to fill the position, but he had a family emergency and could not take the job. They report to the governing body.

Jennifer Ritacco, 11 Bent Tree, spoke on why we could not go out and get a CMFO for this position. Does this have to be a certified municipal finance officer?

Mayor Collins stated that this is a municipally and we need to hire a certified municipal finance officer, we can just hire a regular CMFO.

Councilman Barish stated that they have review resumes and a license CMFO is asking for a salary as high as \$150,000.00. Ms. Ritacco stated that sometimes we get what we pay for.

Glenn Sisco, 31 Ricker Road, asked, what was the dollar figure on the mentoring contract. Mayor Collins stated that if we move forward we will set a not to exceed price for the next two weeks.

Mr. Sisco also asked if there is a length of the contract, Jayson replied that there is not an end date, it would be based on demand. I wouldn't see it going passed two years. Mayor Collins asked if this money was in the budget? Councilman Cobell answer was "yes".

Randle Charles, 69 Green Hill Road, stated that we should have an estimate total cost. It should not be open ended. Councilman Cobell answered him that we had just decided to have an not to exceed price on the purchase order. We have to evaluate on what it would take to have us up to speed.

Mr. Charles said that this is quicksand as we keep moving forward it is going to go down and we are leaving a lot of open ended questions here tonight. Forty hours is not enough and also we are late again on our filing dates.

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Councilman Cobell stated that our audit was filled on time this year. Mr. Charles said that the worst case is that this individual does not make it, we just wasted a lot of money and do not have anything to show for it. Plus the town did not know about this meeting until two days ago and it was a 48 hour notice meeting.

Councilman Cobell stated that we did follow the rules on the 48 hour notice.

Lawrence Curran, 26 Pepperidge Tree Lane, asked why are we losing all of our borough employees? Is it because of the two percent raise? Councilman Freda stated that they are going elsewhere were they have more help in an office and at a better rate of pay.

William Yago, 109 Fayson Lake Road, asked if we have advertise for these poisons. Councilman Cobell answered yes.

Mayor Collins asked if anyone else from the public wished to be heard, hearing none Mayor Collins closed this portion of the meeting.

A motion was offered by Councilman S. Cobell and seconded by Councilman C. Giantonio, the following resolution was offered for approval.

RESOLUTION 10.01.15

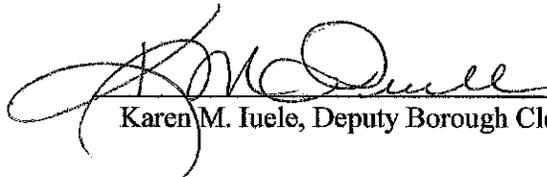
AUTHORIZING PHOENIX CONSULTING
GROUP LLC TO EVALUATE
FINANCIAL OPERATIONS IN THE
BOROUGH OF KINNELON

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Kinnelon have authorized Phoenix Consulting Group LLC to evaluate the Borough of Kinnelon financial operations; and

WHEREAS, Phoenix Consulting Group LLC will evaluate the financial operation of the Borough of Kinnelon within two weeks with a said cost price of not to exceed \$6,000.00; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESLOVED BY, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Kinnelon, hereby authorizes Phoenix Consulting Group LLC to evaluate the Borough of Kinnelon financial operations with a price not to exceed \$6,000.00.

Dated: 10.01.15



Karen M. Iuele, Deputy Borough Clerk

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the following Resolutions and Motions are hereby approved.

Mayor Collins asked for a roll call:

Roll Call:	J. Freda, Yes;	S. Cobell, Yes;
	D. O'Dougherty, Yes;	C. Sventy, Yes;
	A. Barish, Yes;	C. Giantonio, Yes.

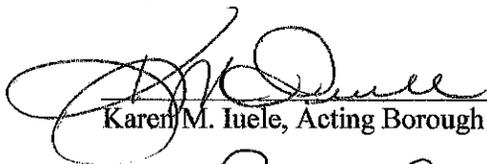
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Councilman Freda left the meeting at 9:25.

ADJOURNMENT

This meeting adjourned at approximately 9:35 p.m. on motion by Councilman Adam Barish, with the unanimous affirmative voice vote of all present.

Respectfully submitted,


Karen M. Iuele, Acting Borough Clerk


Robert W. Collins, Mayor

cc: Mayor
All Councilmen
Police Dept.
Public Works Dept.
Attorney
Engineer
Auditor