

**BOROUGH OF INTERLAKEN  
WORKSHOP MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 17, 2016  
7:00 P.M. AT BOROUGH HALL**

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The workshop meeting of the Borough of Interlaken was called to order at 7:01 p.m., by Mayor Nohilly. Sunshine Statement was read by Borough Clerk Reibrich. “The notice of the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act has been satisfied by forwarding annual notice to the Coaster and Asbury Park Press. A copy of the annual notice is posted on the Borough bulletin board and is on file in the Borough Clerk’s office.”

Present: Mayor Nohilly, Council President White and Council members: Handerhan, Franks, Gunn, Horowitz, and Butler

Also Present: Borough Attorney Richard Shaklee, Borough CFO/Tax Collector Stephen O. Gallagher, Borough Clerk/Administrator Lori Reibrich, Shade Tree Co-Chairwoman Jodi Heinz and JCP&L Representative Jim Markey

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**1. JCP&L – *Update on the 4 year tree trimming project***

Mayor Nohilly stated that the tree trimming project was put on the workshop agenda, because residents are starting to get notice that the trimming will begin and there are concerns regarding the new regulations.

JCP&L Representative, Jim Markey, addressed Council regarding the current tree trimming project in the Borough stating that maintenance of distribution circuits occurs every four years. These circuits supply Interlaken and its neighbors.

JCP&L Representative Markey stated that in 2015 the Board of Public Utilities changed the regulations which requires JCP&L to do some additional tree trimming. It is more than what has been done in the past in the “Lock Out Zone”. The Lock Out Zone is the part of the circuit that provides power from the substation to the first protected device. Any time you have an interruption of the first circuit, it not only affects the roughly 500 customers in the first circuit. There is an additional 1500 customers beyond that circuit that are affected.

JCP&L Representative Markey stated that it is required that all the trees that are encroaching the lines are to be trimmed. Previous guidelines was a 15 feet circumference around the lines, with current requirements to include the overhang.

Mayor Nohilly asked who sets these requirements.

JCP&L Representative Markey stated that the Board of Public Utilities sets the rules and regulations that govern the work of maintenance. Twenty four million dollars a year is spent on maintenance throughout New Jersey.

JCP&L Representative Markey stated that the guide is still a 15 feet circumference around the power line for the entire circuit, except for in the Lock Out Zone. From the substation to the first protected circuit the trees will be trimmed right to the sky. JCP&L Representative Markey stated that there is some discretion, if there is a 100 foot healthy tree. The foresters are certified arborists and can spot dangerous situations. The trees in this area fairly old.

JCP&L Representative Markey stated that backyard tree damage in this area contributed to the power being out for so long after Sandy. So now declining trees are being identified and threats are being addressed proactively.

Mayor Nohilly stated that a resident expressed concern that the trees would be trimmed to the sky one only side of the tree and that would leave trees unbalanced creating a danger to her house should it fall.

JCP&L Representative Markey stated that he could not speak to individual trees, but would contact the Forester for questions regarding specific issues.

Shade Tree Co-Chairwoman Jodi Heinz stated that there were some concerns, because the company that JCP&L contracted regarding the tree work, Asplundh, were telling residents that they were sticking to the regulations and they were cutting everything.

Mayor Nohilly asked for clarification of the location of the Lock Out Zone.

Shade Tree Co-Chairwoman Heinz stated that the Lock Out Zone starts at the beginning of town (on Grassmere Avenue), goes behind the Borough Hall then straight up between the houses on Windermere Avenue and Grassmere Avenue. At Westra Street it turns left and goes all the way up around to Rona Street until it gets to a point between Grassmere Avenue and Raymere Avenue. It then travels out to Wickapecko Drive. There are also four houses on Barra Street between Grassmere Avenue and Windermere Avenue that is included in the zone.

Shade Tree Co-Chairwoman Heinz stated that the Lock Out Zone is of prime concern. Shade Tree Co-Chairwoman Heinz stated that during her walk through with the Forester, Maureen Campbell, it was decided that the trees would be angled up, instead of saying the entire tree must go. The forester has final say in the decision unless the contractor, Asplundh, finds there is evidence of rot or damage while the tree is being trimmed.

Shade Tree Co-Chairwoman Heinz stated that the Forester does not usually come out on location during the trimming, but Maureen wants to be on site, while it is happening.

Councilman Gunn asked for clarification on the notification process of the project.

Council, Shade Tree Co-Chairwoman Heinz and JCP&L Representative Markey discussed the notification process.

Mayor Nohilly stated that he believes people in the Lock Out Zone are going to be surprised, if they did not discuss the trimming with Asplundh. They may be unaware of the changes to the regulations.

Council discussed ways of notifying the residents regarding this project, as well as other matters.

Mayor Nohilly suggested residents sign up for NIXEL to receive emergency information.

Borough Clerk/Administrator Reibrich was tasked with putting details regarding the tree trimming on the Borough's website.

### **RECREATION EVENTS – Discussion regarding upcoming and future Recreation Events**

Borough Clerk/Administrator Reibrich stated that the Borough has received confirmation that the Easter Egg Hunt would be a joint event with Allenhurst and Loch Arbour. The date was being confirmed.

Borough Clerk/Administrator Reibrich stated that the Garage Sale was set for April 23, 2016 to correspond with the monthly Bulk pick up schedule.

Council briefly discussed the picnic, then tabled the discussion.

### **2. NEW BUSINESS – Items to be considered for future meetings**

No new business.

### **3. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC - Mayor Nohilly opened the floor for public comment.**

Shade Tree Co-Chairwoman Heinz asked questions regarding the water supply on the island near her house.

Borough Clerk/Administrator Reibrich stated that DPW recently took over the maintenance of the islands and would be contacted to investigate the matter.

With no further public present for comment, Mayor Nohilly closed the floor.

4. **ADJOURNMENT**- With no Council comments, Councilman Franks made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Gunn and unanimously carried.

	Mayor Nohilly	Council President White	Councilman Handerhan	Councilman Franks	Councilman Gunn	Councilwoman Horowitz	Councilman Butler
Motion to Approve				X			
Motion to Second					X		
Approved		X	X	X	X	X	X
Opposed							
Abstain/ Recuse							
Absent/ Excused							

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Lori Reibrich, RMC  
Borough Administrator/Clerk