

The August 14, 2012 meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Pequannock, Morris County, New Jersey was called to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Municipal Building Meeting Room located at 530 Newark-Pompton Turnpike; Mayor Richard Phelan presiding.

The Township Clerk read the following statement for inclusion in the meeting minutes:

"In accordance with the requirements of New Jersey's Open Public Meetings Act, notice of this meeting was included in the Annual Meeting Notice which was filed in the Office of the Township Clerk; posted on the Bulletin Board in the Municipal Building; published as legal notice in the Suburban Trends newspaper; and provided to all persons requesting notice and providing payment in accordance with Township policy."

Mayor Phelan led the Pledge of Allegiance which was followed by a prayer and a moment of thanks for those individuals serving our nation.

ROLL CALL.

Present:

Mayor Richard Phelan
Deputy Mayor Melissa Florance Lynch
Councilman Edward Engelbart
Councilman Jay Vanderhoff

Absent:

Councilperson Cathy Winterfield

Also Attending:

David Hollberg, Township Manager
Robert Oostdyk, Esq., Township Attorney
Joseph J. Delaney, Jr., Township Clerk
Carol J. Marsh, Deputy Township Clerk

There were 27 members of the public in attendance.

PRESENTATIONS.

- Recognizing the Troast family, the Pequannock Township Little League, and Bill Pereira, Tom Hughes and the DPW staff for their efforts in making the 2012 New Jersey State Little League a success.
- Recognizing Eagle Scouts Brandon Murphy and George Lundberg

REPORTS FROM VOLUNTEERS. There were no reports from volunteers.

PUBLIC COMMENT.

- Dave Cox, 269 Sunset Road, requested a report from the TBSA, reported a broken water pipe on Sunset Rd and questioned whether there were plans in place for replacing the pipe.
- Chris Scott, 11 Slingerland Avenue, expressed his objections to paying school taxes on his vacant property at 5 Riverside Drive and asked if FEMA could be held liable.

PUBLIC HEARING: There were no public hearings.

ORDINANCE INTRODUCTIONS. There were no ordinances introduced.

RESOLUTIONS.

- **R2012-141**, authorizing the sale of surplus items through GovDeals pursuant to State Contract.
- **R2012-142**, authorizing the 2013 Municipal Alliance Grant application.
- **R2012-143**, authorizing the abatement of property maintenance violations at designated properties.
- **R2012-144**, authorizing release of designated Escrow Deposits.
- **R2012-145**, approving payment of the **August 9, 2012 Bill List**.
- **R2012-146**, authorizing the Township Manager to attend the Tax Sale and bid on properties included within the Township's Affordable Housing Program.
- **R2012-147**, awarding a contract for the Water Blending Facility Construction to Reivax Construction.

Mr. Hollberg reported on the Water Blending Facility bids, and in response to questions from the council, explained the process by which the Township performs and is compensated for maintenance on a property and explained that the Township Manager would attend the Tax Sale in order to protect the Township's interests pertaining to properties in the affordable housing inventory, and commented on the time frames for completing the water blending facility.

On a motion by Mr. Engelbart, seconded by Mr. Vanderhoff, **Resolutions R2012-141 through R2012-147** were approved by the following vote:

For: Mr. Engelbart, Mrs. Florance-Lynch, Mr. Vanderhoff, Mayor Phelan.

Against: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Ms. Winterfield.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION.

▪ **Ordinance No. 2012-21**, ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE TOWNSHIP OF PEQUANNOCK EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE

Chief Renna reported that, since August 8 when Chilton Hospital added a second rig, the number of calls the Pequannock Township First Aid Squad has responded to has not decreased.

Mr. Engelbart questioned various aspects of billing.

After a brief discussion, council agreed to move forward with the ordinance.

MANAGER'S REPORT. Township Manager David Hollberg reported the following:

- Thanked all who made the State Little League Championship Tournament, held in our community, a success. Congratulated the Little League organization and gave special recognition to the Department of Public Works and especially Bill Pereira and Tom Hughes for their outstanding efforts in preparing and maintaining the facility throughout the event.
- Explained a recent appellate court decision that invalidated the request from COAH to return unspent funds from our housing trust; reported the entire balance in the Pequannock Township trust fund as of July 17, 2008 was spent on appropriate activities; currently no funds are at risk of confiscation by the State and certification to that effect has been submitted.
- Reported the Sunset Road project is currently waiting for Jersey Central Power and Light to relocate several utility poles. The project is more complicated than was anticipated since the poles carry transmission lines in addition to service lines, requiring multiple JCP&L crews to complete the work.
- Due to a vacation at the County Tax Board it now appears that the Tax Rate will not be certified until next week. Tax bills will be issued immediately upon certification
- The Township will begin to enforce property maintenance issues throughout the community. Areas that had suffered severe flood impacts have not received significant enforcement efforts while allowing residents an opportunity to rebuild their homes. However at this point homeowners who have gone through the effort to put their homes back together should expect to live in neighborhoods that reflect the type of community that our maintenance codes require.
- Announced the selection of Anna Lee in the Department of Public Works as Employee of the Month.

COUNCIL REPORTS.

Mr. Vanderhoff:

- Fire Company No. 2 is starting a search for a new high water vehicle.
- The Shade Tree Commission did not meet.
- The Planning Board did not meet
- Suggested that the Township congratulate Parsippany for advancing in the Little League Tournament.

Mrs. Florance-Lynch:

- Environmental Committee did not meet, but will be at the Hoe Down.
- Green Team meeting is scheduled for August 21st.
- The Economic Development Committee will be at the Hoe Down and will be kicking off the Pick Pequannock program to promote local businesses and sponsoring a networking event on October 24th.
- The Flood Committee supports Reservoir Management Legislation and is continuing to assist with the petition drive; thanked volunteers Louise Marchese, Ken Hardaker, Anita Daniel, Evelyn Justesen, Ann Dianuzzo, Ed Engelbart, Joe Phalon, Melissa Florance-Lynch, Ryan Herd, Kevin Boyle, Darlene Higgins, Christopher Lotito, Rich Phelan, Janet Chavez, David Kohle, Jianna Hall, Tom Salerno, Tom Andrea, and Tony LaNeve who helped with the petition drive. They collected almost 2,500 signatures over the weekend.
- Noted that residents will receive lowered flood insurance rates if the Township's CRS rating is improved.
- The Library Summer Reading Program was a success with 750 participants and will be hosting the end of Summer Celebration at Holy Spirit on August 16th; reported the Library Board is concerned about the impact of new school hours.
- Reported that a vacant house at 40 Oakwood has a huge hornet's nest.

Mr. Engelbart:

- Yesterday's School Board meeting was moved to August 15.
- Thanked Jay Wanczyk for repainting the exterior of the Railroad station.

- Questioned the status of light pole replacement and cable tv installation at the museum.

Mayor Phelan:

- Reported continued work on the revised Reservoir Management legislation.
- Requested an update on the proposed shared-service arrangement with the Riverdale Construction Department.
- Reported on a complaint concerning excavation activities.
- Requested the senior parking spaces be painted as soon as possible.

PUBLIC COMMENT.

- Chris Scott, 11 Slingerland Avenue, questioned the time frame for River de-snagging.
- Christopher Lotito, 84 Madison Street, stated that the flood committee is looking for members.
- Louise Marchese, 16 Roland Road, commented that unleashed dogs should be treated as a serious matter and expressed the need for a community center.

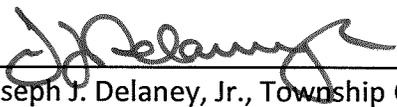
EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSION.

On a motion by Mr. Engelbart, seconded by Mrs. Florance-Lynch, the council unanimously approved **Resolution R2012-148**, authorizing an Executive Session to discuss the Handel litigation.

The public portion of the meeting was recessed at 8:50 p.m. followed by the Executive Session which began at 8:52 p.m.

The closed session was completed at 9:11 p.m. at which time the public meeting was reconvened. Township Attorney Robert Oostdyk, Esq., summarized the Executive Session discussion concerning the Handel litigation. No formal action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT. There being no further business, on a motion by Mr. Vanderhoff seconded by Mr. Engelbart, the meeting was adjourned at 9:12 p.m. by unanimous vote of the Council.



Joseph J. Delaney, Jr., Township Clerk