

The March 26, 2013 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 mailed 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 David Kohle
Councilman Jay Vanderhoff
Councilwoman 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

Absent:

None

There were 15 members of the public in attendance.

PRESENTATIONS. There were no presentations.

REPORTS FROM VOLUNTEERS.

- Frank Spizzirri, Open Space Committee Chair, provided a list of priorities from the Open Space Advisory Committee and outlined various funding mechanisms for open space acquisition.
- Robin Jones, 4 Leveridge Lane, commented on plans for various properties.

PUBLIC COMMENT.

- Scott Erickson, 42 Jackson Avenue, commented on the proliferation of clothing bins located in the Clock Tower Shopping Plaza.
- Joe Wells, 5 Washington Street, Open Space Advisory Committee member, stated that funds from the Open Space tax come back to the Township in the form of other open space funding.

PUBLIC HEARINGS.

- **ORDINANCE NO. 2013-03**, ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE OF BLOCK 3704, LOT 10 (JAMES MCBRIDE) AND FOR A CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE OF BLOCK 4111, LOT 6 (MICHAEL & MARGARET CASSANO)

There were no comments from the public or members of the council. On a motion by Mr. Vanderhoff, seconded by Mrs. Florance-Lynch, the ordinance was adopted by the following vote:

For: Mr. Kohle, Mrs. Florance-Lynch, Mr. Vanderhoff, Ms. Winterfield, Mayor Phelan.
Against: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None.

- **ORDINANCE NO. 2013-04**, ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE OF BLOCK 4116, LOT 19 (AGNESA SALIOSKA) AND A CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE OF BLOCK 307, LOT 8 (PETER & DIANA ZIMNY)

There were no comments from the public. On a motion by Mr. Vanderhoff, seconded by Mrs. Florance-Lynch, the ordinance was adopted by the following vote:

For: Mr. Kohle, Mrs. Florance-Lynch, Mr. Vanderhoff, Ms. Winterfield, Mayor Phelan.
Against: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None.

ORDINANCE INTRODUCTIONS. There were no ordinances presented for introduction.

RESOLUTIONS.

- **R2013-60**, authorizing Tax Office refunds, overpayments or cancellations.
- **R2013-61**, authorizing Utility Office refunds, overpayments or cancellations.
- **R2013-62**, authorizing continuation of the Green Team and appointing members.
- **R2013-63**, authorizing the use of firearms to control waterfowl at PV Park Lake.
- **R2013-64**, authorizing the execution of a Green Acres Project Agreement.
- **R2013-65**, authorizing a professional services agreement with Richard J. Clemack, Esq.
- **R2013-66**, joining the New Jersey Sustainable Energy Joint Meeting.

- **R2013-67**, authorizing the transfer of 2012 Municipal Budget Appropriation Reserves.
- **R2013-68**, adopting an extended 2013 Temporary Budget.
- **R2013-69**, introducing the 2013 Municipal Budget.
- **R2013-70**, approving payment of itemized claims as set forth on the **March 22, 2013 Bill List**.
- **R2013-71**, certifying the submission of expenditures for solid waste taxes.
- **R2013-72**, authorizing submission of the 2012 Recycling Tonnage Grant application.

Mr. Kohle and Mr. Vanderhoff questioned various entries in the bill list.

Ms. Winterfield commented on the scope of the Green Team and stated that the council worked hard to achieve a budget with no tax increase.

Mrs. Florance Lynch commented on the mission of the Green Team and expressed her support for R2013-63.

On a motion by Mr. Kohle, seconded by Ms. Winterfield, **Resolutions R2013-60 through R2013-68 and Resolutions R2013-70 through R2013-72**, were adopted by the following vote:

For: Mr. Kohle, Mrs. Florance-Lynch, Mr. Vanderhoff, Ms. Winterfield, Mayor Phelan.

Against: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None

On a motion by Ms. Winterfield, seconded by Mr. Kohle, **Resolution R2013-69**, approving introduction of the 2013 Municipal Budget was adopted by the following vote:

For: Mr. Kohle, Mrs. Florance-Lynch, Mr. Vanderhoff, Ms. Winterfield, Mayor Phelan.

Against: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION. There were no items for discussion.

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

- Our Riverwalk/Open Space acquisition program has been awarded a Smart Growth Award from New Jersey Future. An awards ceremony will be held on June 6th. Only a handful of projects are recognized each year and most of the awards go to private developers. Very few nonprofit or government entities are recognized so this is quite an honor for the Township.
- The County is scheduled to pave portions of both the Newark-Pompton Turnpike and the Boulevard this year. I have been in contact with the County Engineer and we will coordinate our sewer project with their paving projects.
- An additional FEMA-SRL acquisition closing is scheduled for tomorrow.
- Met with the design engineer for the Village Road Sewer project today to review the outstanding items for completion of the bid document. I have a checklist of items to be addressed and there are a couple of decision points for Council to finalize the specifications. Council will receive information regarding some potential changes and alternates that should be considered and we will schedule a discussion of these items at our next meeting.
- The Board of Education opened bids for the Stephen J. Gerace Field improvements. I received a copy of the bid tally today and we are currently reviewing the costs associated with each item. The Board is requesting that Council pass a resolution indicating the items to be awarded.
- The League of Municipalities, working with the Government Finance Officers Association, has produced a template to calculate the amount of "State Aid" (Utility Property Tax Replacement Revenue) that each town should be receiving based on the statutory requirements. The calculation for Pequannock Township is attached – for 2013 we should be receiving an additional \$1,008,132. This "skim" of our revenue is causing our municipal property tax levy to be 9.1% higher than it should be.
- Thanked the council for introducing the Budget which has no property tax increase, and maintains or enhances all municipal services.
- No new debt is being authorized. We are initiating a new capital reserve for flood control improvements with \$300,000. It supports the debt master plan to eliminate general obligation debt by 2019 and it provides for additional enforcement capacity for zoning, property maintenance and Fair Housing.

COUNCIL REPORTS.

Mrs. Florance-Lynch:

- The Economic Development Committee held a business owners meeting to unveil the Shop Local and Property Tax Reward program. The program was well attended; 30 businesses were represented. The program needs a card sponsor. The next EDC meeting is April 24th.
- The Flood Committee is working with the High School on projects to benefit the community. The Committee met with the Pompton Lakes committee. They will be using the same tools to map the river through Pequannock so reports will be easier to review.

- The Environmental Commission discussed water testing for PV Park.
- The Pequannock Coalition is sponsoring various activities in April for observance of Alcohol Awareness Month

Mr. Kohle:

- The Fair Housing Committee will meet tomorrow.
- Congratulated Frank Spizzirri and the Open Space Committee for the Smart Growth Award.
- Asked for information on the search for a new Township Engineer.

Ms. Winterfield:

- The Teen Advisory Committee meets tomorrow at 7:30.
- Requested the council review the process for appointing committees members.

Mr. Vanderhoff:

- The Shade Tree Commission met last night. The arborist will be in town to look at streets and provide recommendations.
- The Fire Departments have been drilling together. Company Two is waiting for the Township Engineer.

Mayor Phelan:

- Mayor Phelan, Mrs. Florance Lynch and Mr. Kohle met with the Freeholder Director and Assistant Director last week to discuss Township requests. Easements for Open Space was the first priority, second was funding for the paving of Newark Pompton Turnpike, and third, grants or low or no interest loans for the elevation of homes in flood zones. They communicated a strong lack of interest in the county dispatching of first aid, fire and police.
- Asked for legal guidance concerning campaign literature.

PUBLIC COMMENT.

- Frank Spizzirri, 35 West Franklin, asked for information concerning procedures related to R2013-63.
- Tom Andrea, 6 Elm Road, announced the annual Mayor's River Cleanup on April 6th.
- Alberta Alleva, 75 West Parkway, asked if the carcasses of culled geese would be removed.
- Mike Bertuna, 10 Beech Street, asked for information concerning the notice on the agenda, and asked for status concerning the walkways along Newark-Pompton Turnpike.

EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSION. There was no executive session.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES. There were no minutes presented for approval.

ADJOURNMENT. There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:29 p.m. without objection.


Joseph J. Delaney, Jr., Township Clerk