

The October 22, 2013 meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Pequannock, Morris County, New Jersey was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building Meeting Room located at 530 Newark-Pompton Turnpike; Mayor Richard Phelan presiding.

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

"Pursuant to 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.

Present:

Mayor Richard Phelan
Deputy Mayor Melissa Florance Lynch
Councilman David Kohle
Councilman Jay Vanderhoff
Councilwoman Cathy Winterfield

Absent: None

Also Attending:

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

There were 10 members of the public in attendance.

PRESENTATIONS.

- The Gazebo was dedicated to C. Tucker Platt, and a plaque was presented in his honor. The Fair Housing Committee recognized Mr. Platt for his service to the committee.
- Fred Brody, Cross River Fiber, provided information on the company's request for telecommunications right of way access.
 - Lou Hebert, 11 Copley Court, inquired about the cost of the service.
 - Troy Terry, 123 Mountain Avenue, questioned if local businesses other than the hospital have expressed interest in the service.
 - In response to questions from Mr. Hebert, Mr. Hollberg explained that the users of the service are large data intensive businesses.
 - Frank Spizzirri, 35 West Franklin Avenue, questioned where the end points of the service would be located.

REPORTS FROM VOLUNTEERS.

- Alberta Alleva, Green Team member, requested information for the shred day be posted on the Township marquee.
- Frank Spizzirri, Open Space Committee, reported requirements for updating the ROSI have been met.

PUBLIC COMMENT.

- Alberta Alleva, 75 West Parkway, expressed concern about door hangers placed on her door when she was away; objected to a painter's sign being removed from her property, and questioned the necessity for the dog census.
- Rocco Salluce, 153 Jacksonville Road, suggested the Construction Code Official could assist with code enforcement.

PUBLIC HEARINGS. There were no public hearings.

ORDINANCE INTRODUCTIONS. There were no ordinances presented for introduction.

RESOLUTIONS.

- **R2013-159**, rejecting all bids for the Village Area Sewer Project
- **R2013-160**, approving issuance of an Alcoholic Beverage Control Social Affair Special Permit
- **R2013-161**, authorizing Tax Office refunds, overpayments or cancellations
- **R2013-162**, authorizing payment of \$20,079.68 to Maureen Bartolucci for Accumulated Leave
- **R2013-163**, approving payment of itemized claims as set forth on the **October 17, 2013 Bill List**.

In response to questions from Ms. Winterfield, Township Manager Hollberg explained the rationale for purchasing and distributing bail out equipment for firefighters.

Mayor Phelan provided an explanation of R2013-159.

Ms. Winterfield requested a homeowners meeting be scheduled on the Village Area Sewer project.

On a motion by Mr. Kohle, seconded by Mr. Vanderhoff, **Resolutions R2013-159 through R2013-163** were adopted by the following vote:

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

Against: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION.

- Computer Network and Internet Policy - Township Manager Hollberg provided background on the policy and on plans for updating the Employee Handbook. The council agreed to adopt the policy.
 - Alberta Alleva, 75 West Parkway, questioned if the internet policy addresses the use of the internet for personal access.
- County 9-1-1 Service - Mayor Phelan stated his opposition to transferring emergency dispatching services to the county. Ms. Winterfield expressed concern that the Township would bear excessive cost if the majority of municipalities agree to the transfer of services. Councilmembers expressed their agreement and requested the Township Manager communicate their concerns to the Freeholders and other affected municipalities.

Alberta Alleva, 75 West Parkway, questioned if the internet policy addresses the use of the internet for personal access.

REPORTS AND NOTICES. There were no reports or notices.

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

- The Township closed 21 Harrison and 24 Madison purchases. 24 Madison is the first closing under the Hurricane Irene Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP).
- Installation of the new Town Hall generator is complete which will allow the entire building to remain functional in the event of a power outage. Grant awards were announced from the Hurricane Sandy HMGP for backup power projects. Pequannock was not one of the selected recipients – only 3 Morris County communities received an award.
- With the Lucas Construction matter resolved, staff has been meeting regularly with the sewer project engineer to revise the design specifications to reduce the cost of the bids. The revised bids will be advertised next month.
- The lease on our existing telephone equipment will be up next month. Staff has been reviewing proposals for alternate telephone solutions. At least one additional proposal will be received this week, however some type of hosted solution that will integrate with our network appears to be the most cost effective and provide the best reliability with multiple fail over options. Because this solution does not require the purchase of expensive on site equipment, we should realize an annual cost savings of between \$30,000 and \$40,000.
- The EMS support vehicle will be ready Nov 4.
- Council chamber camera cost is more than it was a year ago; service is estimated to be approximately \$30,000. Alternate services will be considered.

COUNCIL REPORTS.

Mr. Vanderhoff:

- Complimented the decorations at the Township Parks and the Turnpike.
- Questioned the status of the Long Range Planning Committee.
- Planning Board meeting was brief.

Mrs. Florance-Lynch:

- Economic Development Committee meets tomorrow. Tax Reward program status: 1,159 homeowners and 35 renters have registered their cards; 27 merchants are participating; \$4,000 in property tax savings has been reported from \$42,000 in total sales. Vintage Tattoo and Initial Encounter are the latest businesses to participate. Cards have been made available to residents of Cedar Crests.
- Library Board is finalizing their budget. Quotes for roof repairs are being included in the Capital Budget.
- Flood Committee is researching flood mitigation grants.
- Saturday's Household Hazardous Waste Day was successful.
- Shred Day is scheduled for Saturday, November 9.
- Businesses have questioned letters received concerning recycling requirements.

Ms. Winterfield

- Teen Advisory Committee is working on an open house with the Middle School.
- Questioned how the property at 24 Madison is secured.

Mr. Kohle:

- Open Space met October 14. Mr. Hollberg has provided the Committee with requested information.
- Fair Housing will meet tomorrow night.

Mayor Phelan:

- Questioned the zoning for Chilton Hospital related to digital signs.
- Council is considering establishing a bond to assist homeowners in raising their homes.

PUBLIC COMMENT.

- Frank Spizzirri, 35 West Franklin, suggested reaching out to Cedar Crest for assistance in filming meetings; questioned if there would be a closed session tonight.
- Sharon Taylor, 19 Libby Avenue, expressed disappointment that the high school is not assisting with filming; commended Parks and Recreation on the Farmers' Market; and expressed approval of moving next year's Market to the Municipal parking lot. Ms. Taylor also commented on a recent Suburban Trends article on M. Bartolucci, and complimented the recent New Jersey half marathon.

EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSION. There was no Executive Session.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

On a motion by Mr. Kohle, seconded by Mr. Vanderhoff, the minutes of the July 23, 2013 meeting (as corrected) and minutes of the August 13, 2013 meeting were approved by the following vote:

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

Against: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None.

ADJOURNMENT. There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:31 p.m. without objection.

Carol J. Marsh, Deputy Township Clerk