

The November 26, 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.

Township Clerk Delaney 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:

Robert Oostdyk, Esq., Township Attorney  
 - entered at 7:21 p.m.

Also Attending:

David Hollberg, Township Manager  
 Joseph J. Delaney, Jr., Township Clerk

There were 21 members of the public in attendance.

**PRESENTATIONS.**

- A proclamation was presented to Eagle Scout Kevin Flood.

**REPORTS FROM VOLUNTEERS.**

- Rocco Salluce, Fair Housing Committee Chair, reported the committee is awaiting 10 responses from unit owners and requested additional assistance. Mr. Hollberg provided information on the enforcement sequence that is underway. Mayor Phelan thanked Mr. Salluce for his work.

**PUBLIC COMMENT.**

- Eric Johnson, 16 Romondt Road, expressed satisfaction with Township activities such as the Eagle Scout presentation and the Hoedown; reported that after his house flooded three times they decided to raise their house; provided a copy of a Township document stating that fees for flood damage construction would be waived and objected to permit fees being charged for raising his house. Mayor Phelan expressed his concern for Mr. Johnson's situation stating that fees for raising homes had been reduced by half and suggested the Council discuss legal options with the Township Attorney.
- Ann Johnson, 16 Romondt Road, requested that inspections be done immediately and stated that Riverdale, Lincoln Park, and Wayne waived permit fees. Township Attorney Oostdyk joined the meeting at 7:21 p.m. In response to questions from Mayor Phelan, Mr. Oostdyk stated that the Council may only waive fees under a policy that applies to everyone. Ms. Winterfield expressed her concern, stating this is her first time hearing the full story, and suggested the matter be put on the agenda as an item for discussion.
- Christopher Lotito, 84 Madison Street, announced the First Reformed Church is hosting their annual lunch for Veterans on Friday, December 6 at 12:30 p.m. in Friendship Hall.
- Rocco Salluce, 153 Jacksonville Road, expressed surprise to see commercial advertisements on the local public service television station, and questioned if bids had been announced for the new sewer project. Mr. Hollberg stated that the segments mentioned were public service announcements; the Township is still on the original time schedule for the sewer project.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS.** There were no public hearings.

**ORDINANCE INTRODUCTION - Ordinance No. 2013-23, ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE OF BLOCK 3701 LOT 1 (JEFFERSON AVENUE) FROM ADVENTURE HOLDING I LLC**

Township Attorney Oostdyk noted that the contract does not limit the funding to a specific source. Ms. Winterfield expressed concern about the possibility that the Township would be responsible for the \$3,000 monthly payment if extensive environmental remediation is required. After some discussion the Council agreed to move forward with the ordinance with the contract modified to address the concerns about monthly payments.

On a motion by Mr. Vanderhoff, seconded by Mrs. Florance-Lynch, **Ordinance No. 2013-23** was approved for introduction by the following vote:

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

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

**ORDINANCE INTRODUCTION - Ordinance No. 2013-24, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 129 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PEQUANNOCK AND REVISING FEES FOR PEQUANNOCK VALLEY PARK AND WOODLAND LAKE**

Mayor Phelan noted the changes made to the ordinance subsequent to the Council's discussion. Mr. Kohle expressed his belief that Spa 23 is still getting a bargain. Mr. Vanderhoff agreed with Mr. Kohle but expressed his support for the ordinance.

Mrs. Florance-Lynch questioned the time of the late summer fee, and asked for clarification of the policy concerning the use of Woodland Lake by non-residents.

- Tom Andrea, Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee member, reported the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee discussed the fees and stated his understanding of the policy concerning camps.
- Lou Hebert, 11 Copley Court, requested clarification of the rates for profit and non-profit organizations.

There was a brief discussion of providing free passes for fire and first aid volunteers.

On a motion by Mr. Vanderhoff, seconded by Mr. Kohle, **Ordinance No. 2013-24** was approved for introduction by the following vote:

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

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

**RESOLUTIONS.**

- **R2013-177**, adopting the Pequannock Township Alcohol and Drug Free Workplace Policy.
- **R2013-178**, adopting the Pequannock Township Disciplinary Policy.
- **R2013-179**, authorizing the submission of a Municipal Alliance Grant extension for the period of January 1, 2014 to June 30, 2014 in the amount of \$20,523.00.
- **R2013-180**, authorizing Tax Office cancellations.
- **R2013-181**, authorizing Tax Office refunds, overpayments or cancellations.
- **R2013-182**, awarding a contract for the purchase of a new 2014 Multi-Use Municipal Hook Loader & Accessories Mounted on a Heavy Duty Truck Chassis for the contract amount of \$157,880.00.
- **R2013-183**, awarding a contract for the purchase of two (2) New Center Console, 18' Boats w/ Trailers & Motors for the contract amount of \$51,690.00.
- **R2013-184**, approving payment of itemized claims as set forth on the **November 22, 2013 Bill List**.

Mr. Kohle complimented the Alcohol and Drug policy.

Mr. Vanderhoff stated that both Fire Companies did extensive research on the boats proposed for purchase.

In response to questions from Mrs. Florance Lynch, Mr. Hollberg provided information on the Disciplinary policy and the Municipal Alliance Grant.

Ms. Winterfield questioned the bill for fireworks.

On a motion by Mr. Kohle, seconded by Mrs. Florance-Lynch, **Resolutions R2013-177 through R2013-184** 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.** There were no discussion items.

**REPORTS AND NOTICES.** There were no reports or notices.

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

- The drainage and underground work on West Franklin are nearing completion and temporary paving will be done shortly.
- Bids were opened today for emergency tree service for next year – a copy of the bid tally is attached; an award resolution will be prepared for the next meeting.
- The Township solicited group rates from surveyors for completing elevation certificates. The best rate received is \$350 which represents a substantial discount for homeowners who need to have these completed. The Township Engineer will facilitate the work for interested residents.

- A meeting was held with the contractor for Washington Park to discuss options for the soil removal and the next steps to get the project moving again. The contractor provided pricing for re-mobilization, site preparation, clearing and moving the existing soil on-site. The information provided is being reviewed.
- De-snagging work continues along the Pequannock and Pompton rivers. All work from this phase of the project should be completed in early December, weather permitting.
- The Township is reviewing the feasibility of a site for an elevated water tank off Mountain Avenue. If the elevation and location are feasible conceptual cost estimates will be developed for the 2014 budget planning.
- The closing on the purchase of 27 Harrison Road was completed today under the FEMA SRL Grant Program.

#### **COUNCIL REPORTS.**

##### ***Mr. Kohle:***

- Thanked School Resources Officer Steve Cicchetti for attending the Youth Football Super Bowl game.
- Tree Lighting will be at 6:00 p.m. December 1 at the Senior House.
- The Annual Holiday Festival is scheduled for December 14 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Greenview Park.
- A "Shop till you Drop" event will be held December 7 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. the PV Middle School café.
- Parks and Recreation, PV Middle School, and the Health Department will be presenting "Good for Pequannock" and collecting coats for the NJ Cares coat drive, toys for Pequannock Township families, and poinsettias to support the Boy Scouts.
- Complimented the new signage for Greenview Park parking on West Parkway.
- Missed the Fair Housing meeting Wednesday night.

##### ***Mr. Vanderhoff:***

- Complimented the corn stalk decorations on street lights.
- Fire Company elections of 2014 officers will be held in December.
- The Shade Tree Commission has finished for the year.
- Commended the Department of Public works for their job removing leaves.

***Ms. Winterfield:*** No report.

##### ***Mrs. Florance-Lynch:***

- Complimented the recently updated Parks and Recreation webpage.
- Economic Development Committee met last week; a Pick Pequannock ad ran in the Suburban Trends last Sunday. The program is in its 13<sup>th</sup> week. In the first 12 weeks 1,282 owners and 70 renters registered their cards, about \$8,000 in Tax Savings was reported and 27 businesses were participating.
- Flood Committee is working on a mailing to property owners in flood zones which will include a magnet with contact information for use in flood emergencies. The next meeting is December 19.
- Green Team met last night and discussed ways to work with the Community Garden Club on the Rain Garden Seminar, and the Home School Association the anti-Idling campaign and poster contest.
- The Suburban Woman's Club is hosting a Holiday House tour on December 8 from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m.
- Environmental Commission hosted a presentation on native plants; Tom Andrea will provide a DVD of the presentation.

##### ***Mayor Phelan:***

- Will provide a draft of Township Manager goals to be reviewed in executive session at the next meeting.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT.**

- Rocco Salluce, 153 Jacksonville Road, reported the Pick Pequannock program was covered on Channel 12; questioned the status of a property on Newark-Pompton Turnpike; questioned the status of contract negotiations; and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

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

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

**ADJOURNMENT.** There being no further business, on a motion by Ms. Winterfield, seconded by Mr. Kohle, the meeting was adjourned at 8:59 p.m. without objection.

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Joseph J. Delaney, Jr., Township Clerk