

The January 14, 2014 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 Melissa Florance-Lynch 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 Florance-Lynch led the Pledge of Allegiance, which was followed by a prayer and a moment of thanks for those individuals serving our nation.

Present:

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

Absent: None

Also Attending:

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

There were 74 members of the public in attendance.

PRESENTATIONS.

The following Police Department promotions & appointments were recognized:

- Captain Christopher DePuyt
- Lieutenant Daniel F. Comune
- Sergeant George P. Lane
- Patrolman Matthew J. Halligan

REPORTS FROM VOLUNTEERS.

- Louise Marchese, Flood Committee member, reported Ken Hardaker was selected chairman and Nick DeStefano was selected vice-chairman at the last meeting.
- Louise Marchese, Economic Development secretary, reported on the recent meeting including discussion of establishing a student member position, plans to attend trade shows to attract businesses to town; working with landlords; sign regulation changes. Ms. Marchese announced the planned opening of a new Stop N' Shop supermarket and congratulated Ms. Florance Lynch on her selection as Mayor.
- William Zickler, Parks & Recreation Committee chairman, reported the committee had discussion on plans to post safe/unsafe signs for ice skating on Township lakes and ponds; Senior Olympics program is being reconfigured. Mr. Zickler expressed his desire the Greenwood Park pond not be filled for use as a sports field; noted the possibility of moving the Farmer's Market to PV Park; and related Alberta Alleva's experience in using the Lincoln Park swim site.
- Frank Spizzirri, reported his selection as Open Space Advisory Committee chairman with Robin Jones vice-chairman; committee working on residential and non-residential easement agreements for the 10' wide Riverwalk trail.

PUBLIC COMMENT.

- Mr. & Mrs. Patrick Coyle, 14 Ackerson Avenue, commented on the number of traffic accidents on the street and requested speed monitoring efforts be increased, noting the existing 30 MPH speed limit is too fast. Councilman Phelan suggested a traffic study. Township Manager Hollberg will review traffic-calming options and invited Mr. & Mrs. Coyle to schedule a meeting to discuss the matter.

PUBLIC HEARINGS. There were no public hearings.

ORDINANCE INTRODUCTIONS. There were no ordinances presented for introduction.

RESOLUTIONS.

- **R2014-38**, approving Jr. Firefighter membership.
- **R2014-39**, authorizing release of designated Escrow Deposits.
- **R2014-40**, authorizing the contract for Emergency Medical Services with Atlantic Ambulance Corp.
- **R2014-41**, authorizing the employment agreement with the Township Manager/CFO.

- **R2014-42**, authorizing the contract for Open Space Advisory Services with The Land Conservancy of New Jersey.
- **R2014-43**, authorizing contracts for Professional Services to Joshua D. Mackoff, LLC and Norman J. Goldberg, Inc. to provide property appraisals in conjunction with the purchase of property
- **R2014-44**, supporting Assembly Res. No. 193 urging Congress to dedicate additional Federal funds for highway maintenance and infrastructure improvements in New Jersey.

On a motion by Mr. Phelan, seconded by Ms. Winterfield **Resolutions R2014-38 through R2014-44** were adopted by the following vote:

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

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

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION.

- **Community Garden** – Township Manager Hollberg reported the request from the Community Garden Club for the Township to manage the program, collect fees and assign plots. Mr. Phelan suggested input from the members including Maryann Maas, Joe Jorgensen and Robin Jones. Each commented on the history, issues and problems with the current arrangement and consider greater Township involvement as positive.
- **Committee appointment policy** – Councilman Phelan noted the recent confusion with re-appointments and filling vacancies to the various volunteer committees and issues regarding attendance. A draft policy was reviewed with agreement to establish cut-off dates for those interested in re-appointments. The Clerk was directed to re-draft the policies for further review.

REPORTS AND NOTICES.

- Resolutions supporting Assembly Res No. 193 urging Congress to dedicate additional Federal funds for highway maintenance and infrastructure improvements in New Jersey.
- Pohatcong Township resolution urging implementation of a water usage tax.
- Public Hearing Notice – 620 Route 23 North (Cornerstone Chapel)
- Lincoln Park Borough resolution authorizing a joint NJDEP Flood Hazard Permit and Grant Application (East Ditch de-silting).

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

- An updated project status report has been distributed.
- The revised Employee Handbook has been distributed; thanked the Council, Health Officer Peter Correale and his secretary Diane Rizzi for their efforts.
- Announced the last 2011 Open Space property acquisition will closed this week.

COUNCIL REPORTS.

Mr. Kohle:

- Open Space Committee met on January 13; also Chris Lotito was selected secretary in addition to the previously reported chairman and vice-chairman.
- Fair Housing Committee will meet February 2.

Ms. Winterfield:

- Historic District Commission – same commission officers as last year. In response to a question on status of the Martin Berry house appraisal, Township Manager Hollberg reported it will be ready for authorization at the next meeting.

Mr. Vanderhoff:

- Planning Board will review a sign application for the Stop 'N Shop
- Fire Companies met; questioned if the Fire Companies will be receiving the new employee manual.
- Shade Tree Commission will meet at the end of the month.

Mr. Phelan:

- Questioned the Manager on the status of pot hole repairs and the absence of a bill list.

Mayor Florance-Lynch:

- Reported attending the SJG School Gym ground-breaking with Councilman Kohle.
- Library Board will meet on January 15.

PUBLIC COMMENT.

- Alberta Alleva, 75 West Parkway, questioned Mr. Kohle on the Fair Housing Committee's recommendation to reduce the size of the committee and commented on the condition of the meeting room floor.
- Louise Marchese, 16 Rowland Road, again congratulated Mayor Florance Lynch.

EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSION.

Resolution R2014-45, authorizing an Executive Session to discuss tax appeals and litigation was unanimously adopted.

The public portion of the meeting was recessed at 8:54 p.m. followed by the Executive Session during which the following items were discussed

- Tax appeals: Samek; Scott Center LLC; March Center LLC
- Litigation update: Handel

The closed session was completed at 9:14 p.m. at which time the public meeting was reconvened. Township Attorney Oostdyk summarized the Executive Session discussion. No formal action was taken.

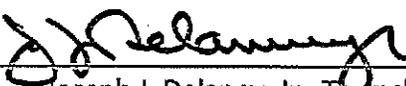
APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

On a motion by Mr. Phelan, seconded by Ms. Winterfield, minutes of the October 22, November 12, November 26 and December 10, 2013 meetings were approved by the following vote:

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

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

ADJOURNMENT. There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 9:16 p.m. without objection.



Joseph J. Delaney, Jr., Township Clerk