

The October 13, 2015 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 Cathy Winterfield presiding.

Township Clerk Carol Marsh 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 distributed to all persons requesting notice in accordance with Township policy."*

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

Present:

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

Absent: None

Also Attending:

David Hollberg, Township Manager  
Robert Oostdyk, Esq., Township Attorney  
Carol J. Marsh, Township Clerk  
Chris Tietjen, Assistant to the Township Manager

There were 19 members of the public in attendance.

**PRESENTATIONS.** There were no presentations.

**REPORTS FROM VOLUNTEERS.**

- Tom Andrea, Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee Chair, reported recommendations from the committee for updates to the Township ordinance regarding Domestic Animals in Parks.
- Louise Marchese, Economic Development Advisory Committee Recording Secretary, and Flood Control Advisory Committee member, reported the Economic Development Advisory Committee has developed a survey, is concerned about ordinances regarding maintenance of commercial properties, and has new procedures for purchases. Township Engineer Joseph Golden and Zoning Officer Ray Metzger attended a recent Flood Committee regarding the Flood Mitigation Plan and will be working with the committee regarding the plan and the CRS rating.
- Joe Wells, Open Space Advisory Committee member, provided updates on communications and plans regarding a new entrance to Aquatic Park and provided status on environmental studies for the bike path.

**PUBLIC COMMENT.**

- Joe Wells, 5 Washington Street, suggested the Council consider permitting dogs in more areas in the Township than those recommended by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee and allow more time for public comment on the subject.
- Stephen Connelly, 44 Duncan Avenue, expressed surprise that dogs were not permitted in Greenview Park, suggested new signs might be in order, and stated his support for the resolution establishing the Skateboard Park Advisory Committee.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS.**

**PUBLIC HEARING - Ordinance No. 2015-15, AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 124 ENTITLED "SOLID WASTE UTILITY" OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PEQUANNOCK**

There were no public comments.

On a motion by Mr. Phelan, seconded by Mr. Vanderhoff, the ordinance was adopted by the following vote:

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

**PUBLIC HEARING - Ordinance No. 2015-16, AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 029 ENTITLED "SALARIES AND PERSONNEL" OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PEQUANNOCK**

There were no public comments.

On a motion by Mr. Phelan, seconded by Mrs. Florance-Lynch, the ordinance was adopted by the following vote:

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

**ORDINANCE INTRODUCTIONS.****ORDINANCE INTRODUCTION - Ordinance No. 2015-17, AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM SALARIES AND PAY RATES FOR DESIGNATED OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PEQUANNOCK FOR THE YEAR 2015**

Township Manager Hollberg reviewed the ordinance.

On a motion by Mr. Phelan, seconded by Mr. Kohle, the ordinance was approved for introduction by the following vote:

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

**RESOLUTIONS.**

- **R2015-172**, establishing the Skateboard Park Advisory Committee.
- **R2015-173**, authorizing Tax Office refunds, overpayments or cancellations.
- **R2015-174**, authorizing the issuance of a Duplicate Tax sale Certificate (Block 3901, Lot 18).
- **R2015-175**, authorizing submission of a NJDOT grant application for Reconstruction of Mountain Avenue, Phase I.
- **R2015-176**, approving payment of the itemized claims as set forth on the October 9, 2015 Bill List.

Members of the Council expressed concerns about the location and cost of the park, and the expectations of the committee as well as the size and makeup of the committee.

In response to questions from the Council, Mr. Hollberg described the proposed NJDOT grant application.

On a motion by Mr. Phelan, seconded by Mrs. Florance-Lynch, **Resolutions R2015-172 through R2015-176** were adopted by the following vote:

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

**ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION.**

- NJ Assembly Bill No. 4607

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

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

- Our FEMA home elevation grant application was ranked 4<sup>th</sup> by the NJOEM and moved forward to FEMA for their review. Indications are that we should get some type of feedback by the end of the year.
- Proposals have been received for the Martin Berry House preservation plan and are currently under review. We will be in a position to award a contract at the October 27<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- Statistics from the Labor Day DWI enforcement campaign have been distributed.

**COUNCIL REPORTS.*****Mr. Kohle:***

- Parks and Recreation met the first Monday of the month and discussed the Dog Park ordinance.

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

- Flood Advisory Committee is excited to work with Township Engineer Joseph Golden and Ray Metzger to reach out to the community and do everything possible to improve the CRS rating for the town. The next meeting is Thursday at 7:30.
- Economic Development Committee is putting together a survey. In response to the committee's concern about a commercial property, Mr. Vanderhoff reported the Township may require a blank panel be installed in the sign frame.
- Environmental Commission meets Wednesday at 7:30.

***Mr. Phelan:***

- First Aid Squad met last night. The squad reiterated their concerns about locating a Skate park next to the First Aid Squad Building. Greg Renna will be stepping down as Chief after 7 years. Tom Lyons will be the new Chief effective November 1, 2015.
- The Township needs to consider rules for solar panels.

***Mr. Vanderhoff:***

- Recommended the Township have someone inspect the roof of the Railroad Station building.
- Fire Co. No. 2 Fish and Chip dinner is October 22<sup>nd</sup> from 4:30 to 7:30.

***Mayor Winterfield:***

- Council members should review openings for Committees. Volunteer applications are due November 30<sup>th</sup>. Requested approved minutes for committees be submitted to the Clerk's office for posting on the website.
- Historic District Commission and 22 other small museums participated in the 2015 Pathways of History tour on October 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>.
- Our Township Historian Ed Engelbart is hosting a Cemetery Tour on October 25<sup>th</sup> as a fundraiser for the Martin Berry House.
- Requested information on the 2014 Audit Report.

**PUBLIC COMMENT.**

- Jordan Galiano, 10 Peck Avenue, stated he is aware of issues with the originally recommended skate park location and interested parties are looking at Washington Park; the donation from Nike must be picked up by year end and would save a lot of construction costs.
- Stephen Connelly, 44 Duncan Avenue, reported considerations for accepting a donation of the obstacles from the Nike barge. There is a possibility they may be stored at their current location past the end of the year.

**EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSION.**

On a motion by Mr. Phelan, seconded by Mr. Vanderhoff, **Resolution R2015-177**, authorizing an Executive Session to discuss Tax Appeal litigation, property acquisition, contract negotiations and personnel was unanimously adopted.

The public portion of the meeting was recessed at 8:21 p.m. followed by the Executive Session during which the following items were discussed:

- Litigation related to the Cedar Crest Tax Appeal and potential litigation regarding a possible added assessment related to Chilton Hospital: Direction was given to the Manager and the Township Attorney.
- Potential property acquisition: Direction given to pursue valuation before further discussion.
- Council was updated on labor negotiations with the PBA concerning health insurance changes.
- The Council conducted the Manager's review and reached conclusions which were presented to the manager.

The closed session was completed at 9:08 p.m. at which time the public meeting was reconvened.

Township Attorney Oostdyk summarized the Executive Session discussion.

- **R2015-178**, authorizing the award of a Professional Services Contract to Appraisal Systems, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$32,000.00 to provide appraisal services relating to County Tax Board and State Tax Court Appeals for the 2016 Tax Year, and for Chilton Hospital Assessment.

On a motion by Mr. Phelan, seconded by Mr. Vanderhoff, **Resolutions R2015-178** was adopted by the following vote:

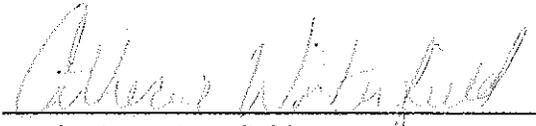
For: Mrs. Florance-Lynch, Mr. Kohle, Mr. Phelan, Mr. Vanderhoff, Mayor Winterfield.  
Against: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES.**

On a motion by Mr. Kohle, seconded by Mrs. Florance-Lynch, minutes of the September 8, 2015 and September 22, 2015 meetings were unanimously approved.

**ADJOURNMENT.** There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 9:08 p.m. without objection.

  
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Carol J. Marsh, Township Clerk

  
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Catherine Winterfield, Mayor