

The November 24, 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

There were 58 members of the public in attendance.

**PRESENTATIONS.**

- Awards were presented to Sergeant Robert Brown Jr., Patrolman Jack Lyon, Patrolman Kenneth Hunt, Patrolman Kevin Ricciardi, Patrolman Christopher Nelson, and Dispatcher Jerome McMahon for their actions on October 22, 2015, and to Kenneth Hunt for his actions on October 25, 2015.

**REPORTS FROM VOLUNTEERS.**

- Louise Marchese, Economic Development Committee Recording Secretary, reported the committee discussed a survey put together by Lisa Data of Crestwood Consultants at the November 18<sup>th</sup> meeting. The survey will be included in the next newsletter. This Saturday is Small Business Saturday. November 10<sup>th</sup> was the Grand Opening of Optimum Orthopedics.

**PUBLIC COMMENT.**

- Marianne Vetter, 775 Newark Pompton Turnpike, spoke about reasons residents continue to speak at Council meetings regarding the pipeline and reported Pilgrim filed permits in New York three months ago and will be filing permits in New Jersey by the end of this year.
- Judith Deak, 280 Sunset Road, reported no one picked up recycling this Monday. Mr. Hollberg explained the change in the recycling schedule.

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

**ORDINANCE INTRODUCTIONS.** There were no ordinances presented for introduction.

**RESOLUTIONS.**

- **R2015-194**, authorizing Tax Office refunds, overpayments or cancellations.
- **R2015-195**, authorizing release of designated Escrow Deposits.
- **R2015-196**, approving payment of the itemized claims as set forth on the November 23, 2015 Bill List.

On a motion by Mr. Phelan, seconded by Mrs. Florance-Lynch, **Resolutions R2015-194 through R2015-196** 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.** There were no discussion items.

**REPORTS AND NOTICES.**

- Pequannock Township Planning Board Notice of Hearing – 777 Route 23 / Block 802 Lot 1
- Pequannock Township Board of Adjustment Notice of Hearing – 16 Hilton Street / Block 4010 Lot 11.

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

- Despite our effort to communicate the change in the recycling schedule for this week through every public information system that we have, the message was not received by a majority of our residents.
- Our FMA grant application for Home Elevations have been "Accepted for Further Review" which is the equivalent of being approved. I wish to express my thanks to everyone involved in the application process – particularly Joe Golden, Bob Grant and Ray Metzger as well as Paul and Alison of Tetra Tech. Thanks to Council for your support of the process, the successful result was worth the time and effort.
- The 2016 budget process is moving along. 2016 pension bills were posted last week and the increase in the employer's share of pension costs for both systems totals \$79,000 over 2015. A proposed budget calendar has been distributed; please review the dates and advise of any conflicts that you may have.

**COUNCIL REPORTS.**

**Mr. Kohle:**

- No Report.

**Mrs. Florance-Lynch:**

- The Pequannock Township Coalition together with the Municipal Alliance has distributed a survey for the community. Drug test kits are available to parents through the Police Department. There is a drop box located in the lobby by the Police Station for the Prescription Drug Take-Back Program. The next meeting will be held on December 9, 2015 at 4:30 p.m. in the High School Media room. Members of the Community are welcome.
- Economic Development Committee reported 227 shoppers, 16 businesses, and no business building owners have responded to the survey as of November 18, 2015. The Committee reported Tax Rebate Program savings of \$17,000 and sales of \$204,000 since May of 2015. Savings since the program's inception is \$74,000, total sales is \$841,000. As of November 18<sup>th</sup>, there are 1700 homeowners registered and 26 participating merchants. The EDC would like to revisit the discussion on message boards.
- Committee applications are due at the end of the month.
- The Suburban Women's Club is holding their 28<sup>th</sup> Holiday House Tour Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup> from Noon to 4 p.m.

**Mr. Phelan:**

- Verified his email regarding December 14<sup>th</sup> at the First Aid Squad.

**Mr. Vanderhoff:**

- Requested information on the availability of funds for Boy Scout projects.

**Mayor Winterfield:**

- Suggested scheduling a workshop meeting concerning redevelopment and signs.
- Reported on a recent League Seminar on Pipelines and recommended the Planning Board consider adding a Utilities Element to the Township's Master Plan. Mr. Vanderhoff noted an application for a pipeline should be reviewed by the Planning Board.

**PUBLIC COMMENT.**

- Louise Marchese, 16 Roland Road, requested the time of the tree lighting.

**EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSION.**

On a motion by Mr. Phelan, seconded by Mr. Vanderhoff, **Resolution R2015-197**, authorizing an Executive Session to discuss pending litigation and property acquisition was unanimously adopted.

The public portion of the meeting was recessed at 7:37 p.m. followed by the Executive Session during which the following items were discussed:

- Potential added assessment tax appeal regarding the Atlantic Health Care property. The Council authorized filing of an appeal for 2014 and 2015.
- Property Acquisition - direction was given to the Township manager.

The closed session was completed at 8:00 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 Mr. Kohle, minutes of the October 27, 2015 and November 10, 2015 meetings were unanimously approved.

**ADJOURNMENT.** There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:02 p.m. without objection.

  
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Carol J. Marsh, Township Clerk  
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Catherine Winterfield, Mayor