

The February 23, 2016 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 David Kohle 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 Kohle led the Pledge of Allegiance, which was followed by a prayer and a moment of thanks for those individuals serving our nation.

Present:

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

Absent: None

Also Attending:

David Hollberg, Township Manager
 Robert Oostdyk, Esq., Township Attorney
 Christopher Tietjen, Asst. to the Twp. Manager
 Carol J. Marsh, Township Clerk

There were 6 members of the public in attendance.

PRESENTATIONS. There were no presentations.

REPORTS FROM VOLUNTEERS.

- Nick DeStephano, Flood Advisory Committee, reported on the recently announced availability of 2016 FMA Grants, requested information on the Township's CRS rating and objected to a location under consideration for a skateboard park.
- Louise Marchese, Flood Advisory Committee Recording Secretary, reported the Township will hold a giveaway of 1,000 trees on the first Saturday in May. The trees will be provided by the Sandy Tree Restoration Program and the event will help the CRS rating. The Committee also discussed Smart Vents and noted savings in flood insurance premiums due to the Township's CRS rating. Ms. Marchese also drew attention to the article entitled "Floodplain Management Update" which was distributed in the Township's February 2016 newsletter, reported the Economic Development Committee meets tomorrow, and Pequannock's Unico is sponsoring the first "Taste of the Town" event on Tuesday, March 1st.

PUBLIC COMMENT.

- Henry Samek, 4 Misty Court, commented the location of the pumping station by Village Road is an improvement over the original plan and expressed opposition to the purchase of property next to the Library.

PUBLIC HEARINGS.

PUBLIC HEARING - Ordinance No. 2016-02, AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY BY DONATION FROM GERALDINE B. MINES (BLOCK 101, LOT 2)

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. Phelan, Mr. Vanderhoff, Ms. Winterfield, Mayor Kohle.
Against: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None.

PUBLIC HEARING - Ordinance No. 2016-03, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 129 (PARKS AND RECREATION) OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PEQUANNOCK AND REVISING GROUP USER FEES FOR PEQUANNOCK VALLEY PARK SWIMMING FACILITY

There were no public comments.

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

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

ORDINANCE INTRODUCTIONS. There were no ordinances presented for introduction.

RESOLUTIONS.

- **R2016-64**, authorizing Tax Office refunds, overpayments or cancellations.
- **R2016-65**, authorizing the Tax Collector to Cancel Tax Sale Certificate #921.
- **R2016-66**, awarding a Professional Services contract for services related to the Mountain Avenue Water Storage Tank to Crew Engineers in an amount not to exceed \$235,000.00.
- **R2016-67**, approving payment of the itemized claims as set forth on the **February 19, 2016** Bill List.

Mr. Hollberg reviewed the RFQ process for the Water Storage Tank.

On a motion by Mr. Vanderhoff, seconded by Mr. Phelan, **Resolutions R2016-64 through R2016-67** were adopted by the following vote:

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

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION. There were no discussion items.

REPORTS AND NOTICES.

- Morris County Freeholders, Public Hearing: Morris County Solid Waste Management Plan Amendment.

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

- Initial work has begun for the sewer line extension on the Turnpike. Weather permitting, that portion of the project should take about 4 weeks to complete. Final testing and inspection for the Village area sewer lines will be completed shortly thereafter, at which point the line will be accepted and connections will be permitted.
- Desnagging of the East Ditch has been completed under a joint grant received by Lincoln Park and Pequannock.
- Revised Preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) will be available later this week. Township representatives will attend a meeting at Morris County next week where the maps will be reviewed with FEMA representatives.
- There will be two presentations scheduled at our March 8th Council meeting. The final report of the Martin Berry House Preservation Plan will be presented and an update will be provided regarding the Township's Flood Mitigation Plan and CRS rating improvement efforts.

- The Township has prepared a brochure intended for prospective and new homeowners with information about flooding in our community. Our hope is that this information will be routinely distributed by real estate agents.

COUNCIL REPORTS.***Mrs. Florance-Lynch:***

- Thanked Louise Marchese and Nick DeStephano for their reporting of Flood Committee activities.
- Economic Development Committee meets tomorrow.
- Library Board will give a presentation at the March 22, 2016 Township Council meeting.
- Girl Scout Award Ceremony is Sunday March 6, 2016.
- Suburban Women's Club is holding a Tricky Tray on March 9, 2016.
- There is a Saint Patrick's Day Dinner Dance at the Knights of Columbus on March 19th.

Mr. Phelan:

- First Aid Squad's Casino Night is Saturday at 6 p.m.

Mr. Vanderhoff:

- At the County League Meeting it was reported the Freeholders are facing a tax increase and are working to keep it to a minimum.

Ms. Winterfield:

- Reported excessive noise from helicopters over the weekend.

Mayor Kohle:

- Complemented Mr. Hollberg on his presentation at a recent League of Municipalities Meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT.

- Henry Samek, 4 Misty Court, objected to the award of a contract, and to the loss of ratables resulting from property acquisition by the Township.

EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSION.

On a motion by Mr. Phelan, seconded by Mrs. Florance-Lynch, **Resolution R2016-68**, authorizing an Executive Session to discuss Tax Appeal Litigation was unanimously adopted.

The public portion of the meeting was recessed at 7:49 p.m. followed by the Executive Session.

The Council was updated on an offer for the settlement of the Tax Appeal between the Township of Pequannock and Atlantic Health Systems and direction was given to the Township Manager and the Township Attorney regarding a counter offer to present.

The closed session was completed at 8:03 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. Vanderhoff, minutes of the February 9, 2016 meeting were unanimously approved with Mayor Kohle abstaining.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

On a motion by Mr. Phelan, seconded by Mrs. Florance-Lynch, minutes of the following meetings were unanimously approved:


December 22, 2015
January 4, 12, 14, 26, 2016
February 11, 16, 18, 2016

ADJOURNMENT.

There being no further business, on a motion by Mayor Kohle, seconded by Mr. Vanderhoff, the meeting was adjourned at 8:04 p.m. without objection.



Carol J. Marsh, Township Clerk



Davis G. Kohle, Mayor