

The March 8, 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
Councilwoman Catherine Winterfield

Absent:

Councilman Richard Phelan

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 31 members of the public in attendance.

PRESENTATIONS.

- Eric Holtermann presented HMR Architect's Preservation Plan for the Martin Berry House
- Rocco Salluce, 153 Jacksonville Road, questioned the total price of the Martin Berry House and if flooding would be an issue.
- Henry Samek, 4 Misty Court requested information on the cost of the plan, and if it included construction plans.
- Edward Engelbart, 64 Hopper Drive, inquired if the Preservation Plan would be submitted to the Morris County Preservation Board, and provided information about Historic Preservation Grants.
- Township Engineer Joseph Golden, P.E., provided an update of activities related to the Pequannock Township Community Rating System and introduced the Township's Floodplain Management Plan. Copies of the Floodplain Management Plan were made available to the public.
- Nick DeStefano, 28 Greenwood Ave., requested information on clearing debris in and around local waterways and drainage pipes.
- Henry Samek, 4 Misty Court, objected to prior flood maps changes and commented on issues related to flappers and dredging.
- Rocco Salluce, 153 Jacksonville Road, requested information on requirements for catch basins.

REPORTS FROM VOLUNTEERS.

- Louise Marchese, Economic Development Committee Recording Secretary, reported the committee presented results of a recent survey to the Chamber of Commerce on February 24th and discussed lack of maintenance on commercial properties after a tenant leaves.

PUBLIC COMMENT.

- Rocco Salluce, 153 Jacksonville Road, requested preservation of Fair Housing units be a funding priority, and reported support from the Fair Housing committee for allowing owners

- of Fair Housing units to install washers and dryers.
- Henry Samek, 4 Misty Court, distributed copies of a Suburban Trends article on the high cost of living in New Jersey and objected to the Township's purchase of property formerly on the tax rolls.
 - Lisa Data, Pequannock Township Historical Society member, provided an update on the Society's membership and activities.
 - Penny Perkowski, 12 Daria Drive, requested status of a dog walking ordinance.

PUBLIC HEARINGS. There were no public hearings.

ORDINANCE INTRODUCTIONS. There were no ordinances presented for introduction.

RESOLUTIONS.

- **R2016-69**, authorizing Tax Office refunds, overpayments or cancellations.
- **R2016-70**, confirming the designated memberships in the Pequannock Township Fire Department
- **R2016-71**, authorizing a Professional Services Agreement between the Township of Pequannock and Jill A. Hartmann, PP, AICP.
- **R2016-72**, authorizing the transfer of 2015 Budget Appropriation Reserves.
- **R2016-73**, approving payment of the itemized claims as set forth on the **March 4, 2016** Bill List.
- **R2016-74**, awarding a contract for Sunset Road Phase V Improvements to Vektor Corporation for the contract amount of \$431,765.00 in accordance with the bid specifications.

On a motion by Mr. Vanderhoff, seconded by Mrs. Florance-Lynch, **Resolutions R2016-69 through R2016-74** were adopted by the following vote:

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

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION. There were no discussion items.

REPORTS AND NOTICES.

- Borough of Butler, Notice of ordinance adoption: Ordinance Amending Chapter 143 Entitled "Land Development Ordinance" of the revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Butler and Combining HC-1 and HC-2 Zones into One HC Zone.

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

- Acceptance of most of the Village Area Sewer system will take place this month allowing connections to commence in April. Work on the Turnpike extension should be complete in approximately 2 weeks.
- Revised Preliminary Flood Insurance Rate maps (FIRM) have been released and remain relatively unchanged from the previous version. The official public presentation which will start the appeal process time frame will likely be scheduled for next month.
- The Township has been offered a \$3,000 Green Communities Grant toward the development of a Community Forestry Management Plan.
- We have completed a physical inventory of the streetlights in the Township and determined that 15 streetlights are missing. The streetlights will be replaced and a credit of approximately \$8,000 will be issued to our electric account. The missing lights are most likely the result of utility pole damage from severe storms that occurred, including Hurricane Sandy and the October 2011 Snowstorm

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

- Requested information about meetings regarding floods and the availability of flood maps.
- Requested an explanation of the Green Communities Grant.

Mr. Vanderhoff:

- Shade Tree Commission is working on an update of the Forestry Plan

Ms. Winterfield:

- Questioned next steps regarding the Martin Berry House and requested the acquisition be put on the agenda for discussion at the next meeting.
- Requested information regarding the purchase of street lights.
- Announced the "Old Pequannock" Historic Societies will participate in a "Dutch Blue and Iron" event at the Montville Library on November 13th.

Mayor Kohle:

- Asked the Council to consider hosting a Morris County Board of Chosen Freeholders meeting. The Council expressed interest in hosting the Wednesday, May 25th meeting.
- Reported on a recent Municipal Pipeline group meeting in Chatham, NJ.

PUBLIC COMMENT.

- Henry Samek, 4 Misty Court, questioned when the full cost of the Martin Berry House would be known, requested information on recent and planned property demolition and the schedule for reconstruction of streets.
- Rocco Salluce, 153 Jacksonville Road, requested information on the location of the Sunset Road improvement project.
- Frank Spizzirri 35 West Franklin Ave, reported all information regarding demolitions requested by Mr. Samek is on the website in the Recreation and Open Space Inventory, noted demolition was paid for by grants and stated the acquisitions did not cause a tax increase.

EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSION.

On a motion by Ms. Winterfield, seconded by Mrs. Florance-Lynch, **Resolution R2016-75**, authorizing an Executive Session to discuss litigation regarding Tax Appeals was unanimously adopted.

The public portion of the meeting was recessed at 8:43 p.m. followed by the Executive Session during which the following items were discussed:

- Litigation – Tax Appeals. The Council discussed the pending tax appeal Township of Pequannock vs. Pequannock Mini Mall, 28-44 Newark Pompton Turnpike. A tax appeal was filed by the Township because the Township believed the assessment was too low. The property owner has agreed to a \$550,000.00 increase in their tax assessment beginning in 2016 and the Council authorized the settlement.

Township Attorney Oostdyk summarized the Executive Session discussion. No formal action was taken.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

On a motion by Mr. Vanderhoff, seconded by Ms. Winterfield, minutes of the February 23, 2016 meeting were approved by the following vote:

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

On a motion by Mr. Vanderhoff, seconded by Mrs. Florance-Lynch, minutes of the February 25, 2016 meetings were approved by the following vote:

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

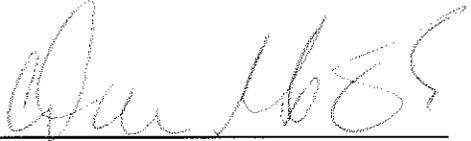
Against: None. Abstain: Ms. Winterfield. Absent: Mr. Phelan.

ADJOURNMENT.

There being no further business, on a motion by Mr. Vanderhoff, seconded by Ms. Winterfield, the meeting was adjourned at 8:51 p.m. without objection.



Carol J. Marsh, Township Clerk



David G. Kohle, Mayor