

The January 22, 2019 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 Ryan Herd
Councilwoman Melissa Florance-Lynch
Councilman Richard Phelan
Councilwoman Kyle Russell

Absent: None

Also Attending:

Adam Brewer, Township Manager
Robert Oostdyk, Esq., Township Attorney
Peter Correale, Health Officer
Julie Kupilik, CFO
Mark Struble, DPW Director
Carol J. Marsh, Township Clerk

There were 22 members of the public in attendance.

PRESENTATIONS.

- Quilting for a Cause was recognized for their efforts in making and distributing quilts to the needy. Rosemary Phalon, the group's founder, described the activities of the organization and thanked those who contributed time and resources in support of their efforts.

REPORTS FROM VOLUNTEERS. There were no reports from volunteers.

PUBLIC COMMENT.

- Rose Phalon, 76 Third Street, described the smoke detectors in her house sounding due their age, recommended homeowners check and replace aging smoke detectors, and thanked the Fire Department for their actions during the incident. Members of the Council discussed a new requirement to install detectors with sealed batteries.
- Jacquie Stivala, 7 Patire Place, expressed concern about a recently distributed water report on elevated levels of Trihalomethanes. Mr. Brewer provided background on historical issues with the Township's water. Health Officer Peter Correale provided information on water sampling, treatment, and effects of Trihalomethanes. Public Works Director Mark Struble reviewed steps underway to address the issue. Ms. Stivala questioned if it would be effective for the township to increase the ratio of local water in the supply.
- Gemma Potts, 22 Boulevard, thanked the township for their efforts and questioned if it would be possible to increase the proportion of local water to the water obtained from the Newark system.
- Bob Morley, 4 Jacksonville Road, questioned if steps might be taken to mitigate levels of calcium in the local water supply and questioned what effect potential water main breaks would have on water quality. Mr. Correale noted limits to the Township's ability to lower

levels of calcium, noted of sodium levels are also an issue and explained the implications of water main breaks.

- Frank Spizzirri, 35 West Franklin Avenue, suggested information be posted on Channel 77 as well as the website.

MANAGER'S REPORT. Township Manager Adam Brewer reviewed the Manager's report for the meeting, noting the schedule for the 2019 budget process. Members of the Council agreed to the recommended schedule.

PUBLIC HEARINGS. There were no public hearings.

ORDINANCE INTRODUCTIONS. There were no ordinances presented for introduction.

RESOLUTIONS.

- **R2019-43**, authorizing the purchase, as the procurement agent for Five (5) Town Dial-A-Ride, of two (2) 2019 Ford Transit 150 Ten Passenger cargo vans from Route 23 Automall, through the Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council.
- **R2019-44**, authorizing a professional services agreement between the Township of Pequannock and One Earth Planning and Development for Affordable Housing Administration and Urban Planning Services.
- **R2019-45**, authorizing a contract for Professional Services to Spinelli and Pinto Consulting, LLC for Open Space Services.
- **R2019-46**, authorizing purchases from the Pequannock Township Open Space, Recreation, Farmland and Historic Preservation Trust Fund.
- **R2019-47**, authorizing the Municipal Alliance Grant application for the fiscal year 2020.
- **R2019-48**, authorizing a mid-block crosswalk on Newark-Pompton Turnpike
- **R2019-49**, approving payment of the itemized claims as set forth on the **January 17, 2019 Bill List** and the **January 17, 2019 2015 FEMA Elevation Escrow List**.

On a motion by Mr. Herd, seconded by Mr. Phelan, **Resolutions R2019-43 through R2019-49** were adopted by the following vote with Mrs. Russell abstaining on those items in the bills list that pertained to her:

For: Mrs. Florance-Lynch, Mr. Herd, Mr. Phelan, Mrs. Russell, Mayor Kohle

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

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION.

- **Water Rates:** Mr. Brewer reviewed the current water rates and recent expenses of the water utility and outlined possible approaches to making necessary increases to the rates. Township Chief Financial Officer Julie Kupilik provided information on budgeted and realized water utility revenues. After discussion, members of the Council agreed to a meter rate emphasis approach rather than a per gallon usage emphasis approach.

REPORTS AND NOTICES. There were no reports or notices.

COUNCIL REPORTS.

Ms. Florance-Lynch

- Economic Development Advisory Committee meets tomorrow at 7:30 p.m. The committee has eleven members appointed for 5 year terms; two new members were appointed in January.
- Thanked Mr. Brewer for attending a Senior Citizens luncheon last week.

- Senior Citizens Advisory committee has nine members and will once again meet during the day on the first Tuesday of the month. The next meeting will be held on February 5th at 10:30 a.m. at Senior House.
- Flood Control Advisory Committee, an eleven member committee, elected officers for 2019. Township Flood Advocate Jennifer McCulloch is attending the meetings.

Mr. Herd:

- Open Space Committee reports the NYS&W rail trail is moving forward. The Committee's goals for 2019 include the development of Aquatic Park and its connection to the Riverwalk. A suggestion was made to upgrade local signs to aid in locating parks and other resources.
- The Grains of Hope event is scheduled for March 24th. Sign up begins February 7th.
- Questioned if members of the Council would like to sponsor the event as individuals.
- Questioned if lights at main intersections can be rewired to run on generators so they can be hooked up in the event of a power outage.
- Teen Advisory Committee meets on Monday.
- Open Space meets on Monday, February 11th.

Mr. Phelan:

- Thanked Council members for attending the Fire Department's installation dinner.

Mrs. Russell:

- Reported the Fire Department's installation dinner was a great event.
- Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee will meet February 4th.
- Environmental Commission meets February 13th. At the last meeting they discussed teams of two people going out and checking streams for blockages. Signup for the Community Garden begins February 1st. Seedlings will be distributed on April 27th.
- The Library is sprucing up the gardens adjacent to the building; the board is reviewing the possibility of installing sound tiles in the new wing, and the next meeting is scheduled for February 20th.

Mayor Kohle:

- First Aid and Rescue Squad met on the second Monday of January.
- Fair Housing meets tomorrow at 7:00 p.m.
- High School has asked if members of the Council were interested in updating their signs on the field fence.

PUBLIC COMMENT.

- Bob Morley, 4 Jacksonville Road, questioned if there is a contingency plan in the event water quality does not improve and recommended there be a long term plan for the Township.
- Frank Spizzirri, 35 West Franklin Avenue, recommended the Township consider the use of solar batteries for street lights if possible.
- Bob Morley provided information on the cost and reliability of battery operated street lights.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

On a motion by Mrs. Florance-Lynch, seconded by Mr. Phelan, minutes of the January 2, 2019 and January 8, 2019 meetings were unanimously approved.

EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSION.

On a motion by Mr. Phelan, seconded by Mr. Herd, **Resolution R2019-50**, authorizing an Executive Session to discuss litigation of the Sewer Assessment appeals was unanimously adopted.

The public portion of the meeting was recessed at 8:21 p.m.

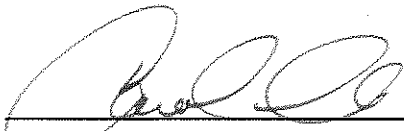
- In the executive session the Council discussed several appeals of the Village Area Sewer Assessment project. The Council was updated on the status of those appeals and the results of a case management conference and some settlement proposals that came from a couple of litigants in that action, and direction was given.

The closed session was completed at 8:24 p.m. at which time the public meeting was reconvened.

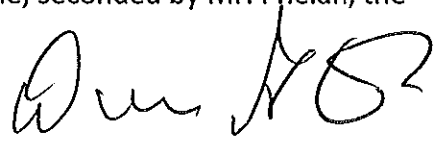
Township Attorney Oostdyk summarized the Executive Session discussion. No formal action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT.

There being no further business, on a motion by Mr. Kohle, seconded by Mr. Phelan, the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m. without objection.



Carol J. Marsh, Township Clerk



David G. Kohle, Mayor