

The January 25, 2022 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 Melissa Florance-Lynch 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 Florance-Lynch led the Pledge of Allegiance, which was followed by a prayer and a moment of thanks for those individuals serving our nation.

Present:

Mayor Melissa Florance-Lynch
Deputy Mayor David Kohle
Councilman John Driesse
Councilman Ryan Herd
Councilwoman Kyle Russell

Absent: None

Also Attending:

Adam Brewer, Township Manager
Robert Oostdyk, Esq., Township Attorney
Carol J. Marsh, Township Clerk

There were 9 members of the public in attendance.

PRESENTATIONS. There were no presentations.

REPORTS FROM VOLUNTEERS. There were no reports from volunteers.

PUBLIC COMMENT.

- Diane Marra, 32 Mandeville Avenue, objected to an abatement notice regarding her sidewalk, reported on her years long efforts to have township replace or repair the sidewalks, and questioned the criteria for replacing or repairing sidewalks.
- Amanda Arroyo, 35 Colfax Drive, reported on a newly formed 501 (c) (4), CARES (Community Action Resource Education and Service), stating the group has a mission "to develop and foster an active relationship between Pequannock parents, young adults, senior residents and local businesses. We believe there is merit in traditional values and will work to promote and preserve what makes Pequannock unique and a great place to live." And a vision "to inspire charitable work and a renewed support for local businesses and organizations within the community and across all age groups. To inspire new and engaging unique community events across all age groups and interests, to support traditional and standard areas of education, and to engage parents and community members to become active on town and district committees ensuring the voices of all our community are heard." Ms. Arroyo described recent activities sponsored by the group and thanked those who contributed to the activities,
- Bob Morley, 4 Jacksonville Road, speaking on resolution R2022-59, questioned the resolutions statement regarding discrimination and the reasons for the Council to take the proposed action.
- Lorraine Robertson, 128 West End Avenue, and expressed support for resolution R2022-59 and faith in the board "to make the right decision".
- Marisa Roberto, 43 Green View Drive, expressed pride the council is considering resolution R2022-59, objected to requirements for children wearing masks, and provided information on

relative risks for children,

MANAGER'S REPORT. Township Manager Adam Brewer reviewed the Manager's report for the meeting, providing information on several of the evening's agenda items.

PUBLIC HEARINGS.

PUBLIC HEARING - Ordinance No. 2022-01, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 152 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PEQUANNOCK AND REVISING FEES FOR PARKS AND RECREATION ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMS

On a motion by Mr. Herd, seconded by Mrs. Russell, the Public Hearing was opened without objection.

There were no public comments.

On a motion by Mr. Kohle, seconded by Mrs. Russell, the Public Hearing was closed without objection.

On a motion by Mrs. Russell, seconded by Mr. Herd the ordinance was adopted by the following vote:

For: Mr. Driesse, Mr. Herd, Mr. Kohle, Mrs. Russell, Mayor Florance-Lynch
Against: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None.

ORDINANCE INTRODUCTIONS.

ORDINANCE INTRODUCTION - Ordinance No. 2022-02, AN ORDINANCE TO VACATE A PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY KNOWN AS A PORTION OF MOUNTAIN AVENUE IN THE TOWNSHIP OF PEQUANNOCK

Mr. Oostdyk explained this is repeat of a prior ordinance that is being reapproved in order to meet recording deadlines.

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

For: Mr. Driesse, Mr. Herd, Mr. Kohle, Mrs. Russell, Mayor Florance-Lynch
Against: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None.

ORDINANCE INTRODUCTION - Ordinance No. 2022-03, ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS CAPITAL VEHICLE PURCHASES AND FLOOD CONTROL MEASURES IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF PEQUANNOCK, IN THE COUNTY OF MORRIS, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AND APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF \$27,000 FOR FINANCING THEREOF

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

For: Mr. Driesse, Mr. Herd, Mr. Kohle, Mrs. Russell, Mayor Florance-Lynch
Against: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None.

RESOLUTIONS.

- **R2022-58**, awarding a contract for a Concession Provider for Food Trucks on Late Tuesday (the second Tuesday of each month) to The Empanada Times, Sip N Swirl, The Wicked Waffle Stick, The Mexi Boys and Cousins Maine Lobsters in accordance with the Request for Proposals.
- **R2022-59** Voicing Objection to Certain Restrictions and Mandates Associated with COVID-19, Supporting Individual Rights to Make Healthcare Decisions and Parental Rights to Make Decisions for Children, and Opposing Executive Order 251

- **R2022-60**, approving payment of the itemized claims as set forth on the **January 20, 2022 Bill List**.

On a motion by Mr. Herd, seconded by Mrs. Russell, **Resolutions R2022-58 through R2022-60** were adopted by the following vote:

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

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

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION. There were no discussion items.

REPORTS AND NOTICES. There were no reports or notices.

COUNCIL REPORTS.

Mr. Driesse

- Historic District Committee re-elected Jay Wanczyk to serve as Chair in 2022 and discussed items in the 2022 budget.
- Congratulated Mr. Brewer for being elected Secretary of the Morris County Municipal Joint Insurance Fund
- Recognized Fire Company One for providing mutual aid during a recent fire in Passaic.
- Expressed condolences and prayers for two New York City officers who recently passed away.
- Shout out for the recent CARES event.
- Lincoln Park is having their 100th Gala. On March 11, 1922 they separated from Pequannock Township.
- Thanked Mr. Brewer, Mr. Oostdyk, the Township Clerk and Deputy Clerk, Chief Comune and the Police Department, Fire Companies One and Two volunteers and new officers, Township employees, and committee volunteers,

Mr. Herd:

- Thanked Pequannock CARES for their recent event.
- Expressed condolences for the two Police Officers in New York.

Mr. Kohle:

- Fire Co. No. 2 met January 13th.
- Thanked CARES for their recent event.
- Fire Companies 1 and 2 are holding their annual installation dinner on January 29th at the Castle at 6:00 p.m.
- Expressed condolences for the Police Officers in New York.

Mrs. Russell

- Offered prayers to the Police Officers in New York and for the safety of all Police Officers and First Responders.
- Library Board welcomed new member Christina White.
- Environmental Commission reviewed the recent Styrofoam event.
- Thanked CARES for their recent event.

Mayor Florance-Lynch:

- Recognized Pierce Andrea for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout.
- Economic Development Advisory Committee meets tomorrow night.
- Kudos to Pequannock CARES for their event.

PUBLIC COMMENT.

- Michael Bertuna, 8 Reynolds Road, expressed support for Resolution R2022-59 and requested

information regarding ordinance No. 2022-01 which was provided by Mr. Brewer.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

On a motion by Mr. Kohle, seconded by Mrs. Russell, minutes of the December 14, 2021 regular meeting, the December 16, 2021 special meeting, the December 23, 2021 regular meeting, the January 4, 2022 Reorganization meeting and the January 11, 2022 regular meeting were unanimously approved with Mr. Herd abstaining on the minutes of January 4th.

EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSION.

On a motion by Mr. Herd seconded by Mrs. Russell **Resolution R2022-61**, authorizing an Executive Session to discuss Personnel was unanimously adopted.

The public portion of the meeting was recessed at 7:52 p.m. followed by the Executive Session during which the following took place:

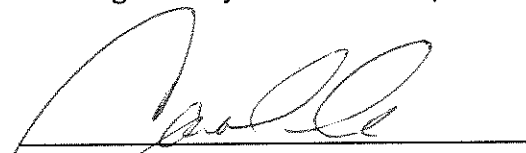
- The Council discussed two personnel contract negotiations.
- The first was the contract with the Township Manager during which the Township Manager absented himself. The Council discussion centered on procedures for handling the Manager's review and the Council decided the matter would again be scheduled for executive session two meetings from now, the second meeting in February, due to the absence of two council members at the next meeting.
- The second item discussed was a potential contract with the Chief of Police. Councilman Kohle recused himself from the matter and left the meeting at that time. The Township Manager presented a draft contract which had been agreed to by the Chief of Police and direction was given by the Council to place the contract on the next agenda for Council approval.

The closed session was completed at 8:26 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 Mrs. Russell, seconded by Mr. Herd, the meeting was adjourned at 8:27 p.m. without objection.



Carol J. Marsh, Township Clerk



Melissa Florance-Lynch, Mayor