

The February 11, 2025 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 John Driesse 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 and Daily Record newspapers; and distributed to all persons requesting notice in accordance with Township policy."

Mayor Driesse led the Pledge of Allegiance, which was followed by a prayer and a moment of thanks for those individuals serving our nation.

Present:

Mayor John Driesse
Councilwoman Melissa Florance-Lynch
Councilman David Kohle
Councilman Vincent Siracusa

Absent:

Deputy Mayor Kyle Russell

Also Attending:

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

There were 8 members of the public in attendance.

PRESENTATIONS. There were no presentations.

REPORTS FROM VOLUNTEERS. There were no reports from volunteers.

PUBLIC COMMENT. There were no public comments.

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.

ORDINANCE INTRODUCTION - Ordinance No. 2025-01; ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH AND PRESERVE A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)

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

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

Against: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Mrs. Russell.

PUBLIC HEARINGS.

PUBLIC HEARING - Ordinance No. 2025-02; ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 5-87 OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PEQUANNOCK AND EXPANDING ELIGIBILITY FOR THE JUNIOR FIREFIGHTER PROGRAM TO INCLUDE INDIVIDUALS RESIDING IN ANY MUNICIPALITY THAT IS CONTIGUOUS WITH THE TOWNSHIP OF PEQUANNOCK

On a motion by Mrs. Florance-Lynch, seconded by Mr. Siracusa, the Public Hearing was opened without objection

There were no public comments.

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

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

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

RESOLUTIONS.

- **R2025-66**, requesting permission to include a Dedication by Rider to establish a Municipal Law Enforcement Trust Account (MLETA)
- **R2025-67**, approving Change Order No. 10 for the Route 23 Sewer Project decreasing the contract with P&A Contractors of Colonia, NJ by \$127,322.63 to a revised contract price of \$5,654,977.53
- **R2025-68**, authorizing an Interlocal Agreement with Morris County for the use of NearMap Us Inc
- **R2025-69**, authorizing Tax Office refunds, overpayments or cancellations.
- **R2025-70**, approving payment of the itemized claims as set forth on the **February 7, 2025** Bill List and 2018 FEMA Elevation Escrow list.

On a motion by Mrs. Florance-Lynch, seconded by Mr. Siracusa, **Resolutions R2025-66 through R2025-70** were adopted by the following vote:

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

Mr. Kohle abstained on **Resolution R2025-66**.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION.

- **Chamber of Commerce Street Fair**
Margaret Sanchez of the Chamber of Commerce provided background on the event and the organization of the funding, management and goals of the event. Mr. Brewer described Township services which have been recommended for the event in addition to those provided at past events.
Members of the Council discussed the event and agreed to waive the fees for the municipal services.

On a motion by Mr. Kohle, seconded by Mrs. Florance-Lynch, **R2025-70** approving the designated special event permit application (Chamber of Commerce Street Fair) was adopted by the following vote:

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

- **Solid waste and recycling bid specification options**
Mr. Brewer described options and approaches, and recommendations for the solid waste and recycling bids specifications. Members of the Council discussed the various options and the process as well as challenges in the service and gave direction to proceed.

REPORTS AND NOTICES. There were no reports or notices.

COUNCIL REPORTS.

Mrs. Florance-Lynch:

- Planning Board approved an application for a free-standing sign.
- Historic District Commission is working on projects which include a walking tour with the school district, the 250th Anniversary of the American Revolution, a "Liberty Pole" project, and

a website for the museum. The committee considered if construction on the museum will interfere with the Pathways to History Tour.

- Reported Channel 77 is working again, and recommended flyers on local events be provided to the Township for display.
- Pequannock Valley Rotary is holding a comedy show fundraiser. Proceeds help the community.
- Expressed condolences to the family of longtime resident, former police officer and volunteer firefighter Bob McGreevy.
- Expressed thoughts and prayers to the family of former Senior Citizen Advisory Committee member and active volunteer Joan Brunner.

Mr. Kohle:

- Expressed condolences to the family of Bob McGreevy.
- Pequannock PBA is holding a Beefsteak on March 21st at the Castle.

Mr. Siracusa

- Expressed condolences to the McGreevy family.
- Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee reported the Township is still hiring lifeguards for the summer. Training will be available at PV Park. There was a discussion of rules for pickleball and maintenance of the walking path.
- Open Space Advisory Committee is looking into grant money for planting trees. The County is considering a formal opening of the walking path in the spring. Senior Olympics will be held in Pequannock Township on September 17th. The committee discussed beautification of the new dog park to be located in Lyman Park.
- Requested consideration of the use of bar codes and QR codes to provide information on various locations within the Township.

Mayor. Driesse

- Requested status on tree plantings
- Shout out to the DPW for their work removing snow and to the Fire Department for their responses to recent fires.
- Expressed condolences to the McGreevy family and to the family of Bill Finley.
- Thank you to the employees and volunteers in the Township.

PUBLIC COMMENT.

- Paul Mahler summarized statements made at the 60 Sunset Zoning Board meetings and reported on PROPEL's mental health QR code initiative.
- Rich Walter expressed support for Mr. Mahler's statements concerning the 60 Sunset application and expressed the hope that if there were to be an appeal, the Board of Adjustment's decision would be "vigorously defended."
- Alex Borovskis expressed his agreement with Mr. Walter's statements regarding the 60 Sunset denial.
- Sharon Taylor expressed support for the Pequannock Steet Fair and questioned if the schools and library parking lots could be used for parking for a future event location. Recognized the activities of the local Girl Scouts and noted flyers for Our Lady of Good Counsel event March 15th.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

On a motion by Mr. Kohle, seconded by Mrs. Florance-Lynch, minutes of the December 20, 2024 Special Meeting and the January 7, 2025 Reorganization meeting were unanimously approved.

On a motion by Mrs. Florance-Lynch, seconded by Mr. Siracusa, minutes of the January 14, 2025 regular meeting were unanimously approved with Mr. Kohle abstaining.

EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSION.

On a motion by Mr. Kohle seconded by Mr. Siracusa, **Resolution R2025-71**, authorizing an Executive Session to discuss litigation with the Lincoln Park Airport was unanimously adopted.

The public portion of the meeting was recessed at 8:06 p.m. followed by the Executive Session during which the following took place:

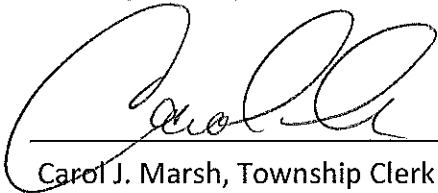
- It was brought to the Council's attention that there is an issue of an outstanding sewer bill involving the Lincoln Park Airport. The Council reviewed with the manager and the Township Attorney the options to address the failure to pay that obligation and direction was given and will be followed. Further action will be taken at a later time.

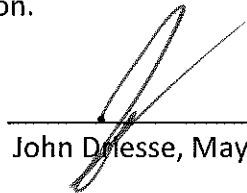
The closed session was completed at 7:54 p.m. at which time the public meeting was reconvened.

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. Siracusa, the meeting was adjourned at 8:09 p.m. without objection.



Carol J. Marsh, Township Clerk

John Dflesse, Mayor