

The February 22, 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
Thomas Cantisano, Township Health Officer
Carol J. Marsh, Township Clerk

There were 4 members of the public in attendance.

PRESENTATIONS. There were no presentations.

REPORTS FROM VOLUNTEERS.

- Janice Mangeri, Pequannock CARES (Community Action Resource Education and Service) representative, reported on recent and planned activities and accomplishments of the organization.

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.

PUBLIC HEARINGS.

PUBLIC HEARING - Ordinance No. 2022-04; ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH AND PRESERVE A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)

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

There were no public comments.

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

On a motion by Mr. Herd, seconded by Mrs. Russell, 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. 2022-05; AN ORDINANCE TO VACATE ANY REMAINING PUBLIC RIGHTS IN A RIGHT OF WAY KNOWN AS THE "LANE" IN THE TOWNSHIP OF PEQUANNOCK

On a motion by Mr. Kohle, seconded by Mrs. Russell, 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.

- **R2022-62a**, awarding a contract for a Concession Provider for Various Events of the Parks and Recreation Department to Sip N Swirl and The Wicked Waffle Stick in accordance with the Request for Proposals.
- **R2022-63a**, awarding the 2022 licenses to participate in the Police Towing Rotation.
- **R2022-64a**, authorizing Tax Office refunds, overpayments or cancellations.
- **R2022-65**, approving payment of the itemized claims as set forth on the **February 17, 2022 Bill List** and **2018 FEMA Elevation Escrow List**.

On a motion by Mr. Herd, seconded by Mrs. Russell, **Resolutions R2022-62a through R2022-65** 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.

- 8 Munson Drive sewer connection request.

Mr. Brewer briefly described a request by the David Robertson, owner of 8 Munson Drive to waive the requirement for connection to the sewer system.

Addressing the Council as the Board of Health, Township Health Officer Thomas Cantisano provided information on the request including issues with the site, the estimated cost of making the connection and the condition of the property's septic system.

Mr. Brewer and Mr. Oostdyk outlined options for the Council's consideration.

Mr. Robertson provided information on challenges related to installing the connection.

Mr. Oostdyk advised the Council a motion should be made to grant, or not grant the request, and include any conditions, and a letter would go out memorializing the Council's decision.

On a motion by Mr. Herd, seconded by Mrs. Russell, a motion to grant the exemption under Section 279-9 B of the Township Code providing that upon transfer of title the exemption will expire, was approved by the following vote:

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

REPORTS AND NOTICES. There were no reports or notices

COUNCIL REPORTS.

Mr. Driesse

- Congratulated Chief Dan Comune.
- Thanked the DPW for keeping the roads clear during the recent storm.
- Thanked Mr. Brewer, Mr. Oostdyk, Ms. Marsh for their work.
- Thanked Ms. Kupilik and the staff for their work on the budget.

- Thanked the Police Department for keeping us safe, the Fire Departments for their work, the First Aid Squad for taking care of the sick, and the residents of the Township of Pequannock for providing him with the opportunity to serve.

Mr. Herd:

- Open Space Advisory Committee did not have a quorum.
- Congratulated Pequannock CARES and noted March 18th is their Paint and Sip fundraiser, their next meeting is March 28th, and noted their recent donations to Fire Companies 1 and 2 and the First Aid Squad.
- Commented on the current date's uniqueness: 2/22/22.

Mr. Kohle:

- Confirmed the date and time of the next Budget Workshop meeting.
- Reported on a large pothole on Ackerson Avenue.

Mrs. Russell

- Library met last Wednesday. They will be hosting the Chamber of Commerce meeting on the 24th at 7:30 a.m. Friends of the Library are planning to host a concert tentatively scheduled for June 24th. The next meeting of the Library Board is March 16th via Zoom.
- Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee meets March 7th. Membership for PV Park is strong, up from last year.
- Environment Commission has submitted a resolution for the Council's consideration. A mini Bio Blitz is scheduled for April 2nd. On April 7th, Commission Chair Tom Newman will be providing information on the New Jersey ban on single use plastics at the library on April 7th. April 9th is the Mayor's River Cleanup. May 14th is a rain barrel event. October 15th is the Pequannock Hoe Down. Next meeting of the Environmental Commission is March 9th and can be attended at Senior House or via Zoom.

Mayor Florance-Lynch:

- Flood Control Advisory Committee met on February 10th. Jennifer McCulloch gave her report. 2021 Elevation Grant Applications were approved by New Jersey OEM and submitted to FEMA. Construction certification management procedures have been developed. Formal plan for management of all construction documents especially on the elevation certificates. Monthly meetings FEMA regarding the Township's map appeal are proceeding. The draft map is expected to be finalized by the end of October 2022 and new maps adopted by the end of April, 2023. Community Rating System: The Township's class rating of 5 was certified again for this year so there is a 25 percent discount on flood insurance.
- Economic Development Advisory Committee meets tomorrow night.
- Little League Parade is April 23rd.
- Requested information on the status of Channel 77 which was provided by Mr. Brewer.
- Community Partners of Hope is looking for suggestions for new projects.

PUBLIC COMMENT.

- Peter Schmitt, 16 Manor Avenue, requested information from the Council regarding goals for the Economic Development Advisory Committee.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

On a motion by Mr. Kohle, seconded by Mrs. Russell, minutes of the February 8, 2022 meeting were unanimously approved with Mr. Driesse and Mr. Herd abstaining.

EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSION.

On a motion by Mr. Russell, seconded by Mr. Herd, **Resolution R2022-66**, authorizing an Executive Session to discuss matters of Attorney Client Privilege and Personnel was unanimously adopted.

The public portion of the meeting was recessed at 7:57 p.m. followed by the Executive Session during which the Council had the following two issues:


- The first was a Contract Negotiation issue in which direction was given to the Township Manager.
- The second issue was a personnel issue, the contract Manager's contract. The Council discussed and decided on the terms of the contract in response to the Township Manager's initial proposal and directed that at the next meeting, a resolution be listed to award said contract.

The closed session was completed at 8:47 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 8:48 p.m. without objection.



Carol J. Marsh, Township Clerk



Melissa Florance-Lynch, Mayor