

The April 26, 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
Ray Sarinelli, Township Auditor
Carol J. Marsh, Township Clerk

There were 17 members of the public in attendance.

PRESENTATIONS.

- Members of the Flood Control Advisory Committee recognized former Township Manager David Hollberg for his service to the community.
- Environmental Commission Chair Tom Newman gave a presentation on the New Jersey plastic bag ban.

REPORTS FROM VOLUNTEERS.

- Bob Friedman, 1 Atwood Avenue, Pequannock Township Historic Society, reported the Railroad Museum and the Martin Berry House will be open this Sunday for free tours provided the Martin Berry House receives a temporary C of O.

PUBLIC COMMENT. There were no public comments.

2022 MUNICIPAL BUDGET - PUBLIC HEARING

Mr. Brewer provided information on actions to be taken related to the Municipal Budget Public Hearing.

Ray Sarinelli stated the required order for actions to be taken regarding the public hearing and budget adoption is as follows: Public Hearing on the introduced budget, Public Hearing on the amendment, Resolution to amend the budget, hearing on the amendment, adoption of resolutions R2022-95 and R2022-96, and then a vote on the amended budget.

On a motion by Mr. Kohle, seconded by Mrs. Russell, the Public Hearing on the introduced Municipal Budget was opened without objection.

- Frank Spizzirri, 35 West Franklin Avenue, questioned the Open Space tax rate, expressed concern about the effect of the lowered rate on the townships ability to acquire property, and objected to the reduction of the rate from the rate approved by residents in the original referendum.

- Henry Samek, 4 Misty Court, questioned if any stimulus funds were included in the budget. Mr. Brewer responded in the affirmative and provided information on the amount and purpose of the stimulus funds included in the budget.

On a motion by Mr. Kohle seconded by Mr. Russell, the Public Hearing was closed by the following vote:

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

On a motion by Mr. Kohle, seconded by Mrs. Russell, the Public Hearing in the budget amendment was opened by the following vote:

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

There were no public comments.

On a motion by Mr. Kohle seconded by Mr. Russell, the Public Hearing on the budget amendment was closed by the following vote:

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

- **R2022-95**, authorizing the cancellation of the Reserve for Tax Appeals Reserve Account.

On a motion by Mr. Herd, seconded by Mr. Driesse, **Resolution R2022-95** was adopted by the following vote:

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

- **R2022-96**, to read the budget by title.

On a motion by Mr. Herd, seconded by Mr. Driesse, **Resolution R2022-96** was adopted by the following vote:

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

2021 MUNICIPAL BUDGET ADOPTION

- **R2022-97**, adopting the 2022 Municipal Budget.

On a motion by Mr. Herd, seconded by Mrs. Russell, **Resolution R2022-97** was adopted by the following vote:

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

MANAGER'S REPORT. Township Manager Adam Brewer reviewed the Manager's report for the meeting, noting accomplishments of former Township Manager David Hollberg, reporting membership on the Shade Tree Commission can be increased, reporting on the status of the rail trail, and reviewing items on the evening's agenda.

PUBLIC HEARINGS (CONTINUED).

PUBLIC HEARING - 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.

Ms. Marsh stated the public hearing on this ordinance was opened at the March 22, 2022 Township

Council meeting, carried to the April 12 Township Council meeting and then again to this evening. Mayor Florance-Lynch invited members of the public to speak on the ordinance.

There were no public comments.

On a motion by Mr. Herd, seconded by Mr. Driesse, 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. 2022-07; PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF PEQUANNOCK, IN THE COUNTY OF MORRIS, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AND APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF \$995,602 FOR FINANCING THEREOF

On a motion by Mr. Herd, 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.

ORDINANCE INTRODUCTION - Ordinance No. 2022-08; PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF PEQUANNOCK WATER UTILITY, IN THE COUNTY OF MORRIS, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AND APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF \$45,000 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.

ORDINANCE INTRODUCTION - Ordinance No. 2022-09; ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF PEQUANNOCK, IN THE COUNTY OF MORRIS, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AND APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF \$325,000 FOR FINANCING THEREOF

On a motion by Mr. Kohle, seconded by Mr. Driesse 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.

- **R2022-98**, Providing for the Insertion of a Special Item of Revenue in the 2022 Budget Pursuant to NJSA 40A:4-87 (Chapter 159, P.L.1948) (Hillview Guiderails)
- **R2022-99**, Providing for the Insertion of a Special Item of Revenue in the 2022 Budget Pursuant to NJSA 40A:4-87 (Chapter 159, P.L.1948) (Railroad Documents)
- **R2022-100**, Providing for the Insertion of a Special Item of Revenue in the 2022 Budget Pursuant to NJSA 40A:4-87 (Chapter 159, P.L.1948) (Meade Place)
- **R2022-101**, approving the designated special event permit application (Holy Spirit Carnival)
- **R2022-102**, authorizing release of refundable permit bonds.

- **R2022-103**, approving payment of the itemized claims as set forth on the **April 21, 2022 Bill List** and **2018 FEMA Elevation Escrow List**.

On a motion by Mr. Herd seconded by Mr. Driesse, **Resolutions R2022-98 through R2022-103** 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

- Expressed appreciation for the budget and for the grants.
- Thanked the Flood Committee for their recognition of Mr. Hollberg.
- Shade Tree Commission discussed an event planned by the Environmental Commission. There is a sapling giveaway Saturday Morning.
- The Train Station Museum and the Martin Berry House will be open this Sunday for the Pathways event.
- Walked in the Little League parade this weekend and complemented the singing of the National Anthem by a member of the softball team.
- Recommended parents talk to their kids about riding bikes safely.
- Thanked the school crossing guards for keeping our kids safe.

Mr. Herd:

- Expressed his appreciation for the contribution of Mr. Hollberg and the Flood Control Advisory Committee.
- Requested information on how the Township handles abandoned cars.
- Complemented Little League opening day and commented on late evening games.
- Pequannock marching band is getting ready for Busch Gardens, Virginia where they will be from May 19th to the 21st. The band will be marching the American Legion's Memorial Day parade.
- Congratulated Elon Musk on the purchase of Twitter and commented on state and local education legislation.

Mr. Kohle:

- Recognized Mr. Hollberg's contributions to the Township and the respect he received from his peers statewide.
- Expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to speak at the Little League opening day and his hope that players coaches and parents have fun with the experience.

Mrs. Russell

- Friends of the Library held a successful Mini-Golf Fundraiser. The Library Board met last Wednesday and meets again on May 18th.
- Environment Commission reported New Jersey's plastic bag law goes into effect May 4th. Members of the Commission will be handing out bags at Shop Rite and Stop and Shop.
- Reported the Little League parade was great - Tom Lyons threw out the first pitch and threw a strike.
- Shout out to Pequannock Township High School alumni Kevin Chesney who was named

trumpet section leader for the James Madison University Marching Royal Dukes.

- There are Morris County Small Business Grants for up to \$15,000 available. Small business owners are encouraged to apply.

Mayor Florance-Lynch:

- Thanked the Flood Control Advisory Committee for their presentation and expressed admiration for Mr. Hollberg.
- Congratulated Mr. Brewer and the staff for the completion of the budget.
- Thanked Mr. Newman for his presentation on the New Jersey plastic bag law.
- Expressed regret for needing to miss the Little League Parade.
- Memorial Day Parade is coming up. Those who would like to be involved can reach out to Dennis Porpora at the American Legion.
- Economic Development Advisory Committee meets tomorrow at 7:00 p.m. in the court room.

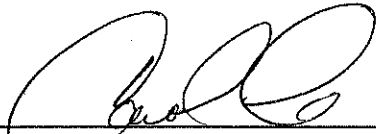
PUBLIC COMMENT. There were no public comments.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES. There were no minutes presented for approval.

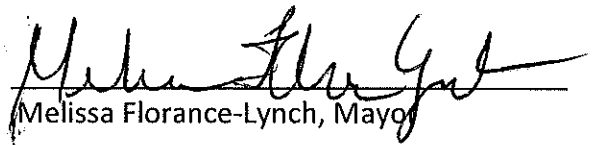
EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSION. There was no Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT.

There being no further business, on a motion by Mr. Driesse, seconded by Mr. Kohle, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m. without objection.



Carol J. Marsh, Township Clerk



Melissa Florance-Lynch, Mayor

