

The April 27, 2021 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 Kyle Russell 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 Russell led the Pledge of Allegiance, which was followed by a prayer and a moment of thanks for those individuals serving our nation.

Present:

Mayor Kyle Russell
Deputy Mayor Melissa Florance-Lynch
Councilwoman Ryan Herd
Councilman David Kohle
Councilman Richard Phelan

Absent: None

Also Attending:

Adam Brewer, Township Manager
Valerie Dolan, Township Auditor
Julie Kupilik, Township CFO
Robert Oostdyk, Esq., Township Attorney
Carol J. Marsh, Township Clerk

There were 2 members of the public in attendance.

PRESENTATIONS.

- Mayor Russell presented the Suburban Women’s Club with a proclamation recognizing the 75th Anniversary of the Club.
- Township Flood Resilience Officer Jennifer McCulloch gave a presentation on issues related to the FEMA map appeal, status on the home elevation grants and changes to flood insurance rates.

REPORTS FROM VOLUNTEERS.

- Stacy-Ann Webb, former Shade Tree Commission Chair, informed the Council she has moved to a nearby town and can no longer serve on the Shade Tree Commission, announced her replacement as chair is Jeffrey Ringen, with Michael Tizio as Secretary, and reported the committee has requested information regarding the Township’s ordinance requiring registration of tree contractors.
- Jeff Ringen, Shade Tree Commission Chair, requested information on the method and timing of enforcement of the ordinance.

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 the age of recently replaced communications equipment, on the evening’s agenda items and on a proposed budget amendment.

PUBLIC HEARING – 2021 Municipal Budget

- **R2021-111**, to read the Budget by Title

On a motion by Mr. Phelan, seconded by Mr. Kohle, **Resolutions R2021-111** was adopted by the following vote:

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

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

On a motion by Mr. Phelan, seconded by Mr. Herd, 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.

R2021-116, resolution for Amended Budget

Mr. Brewer read the proposed budget in its entirety.

On a motion by Mr. Kohle, seconded by Mr. Phelan, **Resolutions R2021-116** was adopted by the following vote:

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

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

PUBLIC HEARINGS (Continued)

PUBLIC HEARING - Ordinance No. 2021-05; AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING A REVISION AND CODIFICATION OF THE ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PEQUANNOCK, COUNTY OF MORRIS, STATE OF NEW JERSEY.

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

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

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

PUBLIC HEARING - Ordinance No. 2021-07; BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ELEVATION OF FLOOD PRONE HOMES IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF PEQUANNOCK, IN THE COUNTY OF MORRIS, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$3,752,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$3,752,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP TO FINANCE THE COST THEREOF

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

There were no public comments.

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

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

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

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

ORDINANCE INTRODUCTIONS.

ORDINANCE INTRODUCTION - Ordinance No. 2021-08; 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 \$1,605,207 FOR FINANCING THEREOF

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

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

ORDINANCE INTRODUCTION - Ordinance No. 2021-09; ORDINANCE 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 \$215,000 FOR FINANCING THEREOF

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

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

RESOLUTIONS.

- **R2021-112**, authorizing cancellation of outstanding checks.
- **R2021-113**, awarding a contract for the Ramapo Road Improvements Project to Midwest Construction, Inc., for the total contract amount of \$98,749.00 in accordance with the bid specifications.
- **R2021-114**, authorizing the submission of a SFY21 Body-Worn Camera Grant Application.
- **R2021-115**, approving payment of the itemized claims as set forth on the **April 22, 2021 Bill List**

On a motion by Mrs. Florance-Lynch, seconded by Mr. Herd, **Resolutions R2021-112 through R2021-115** were adopted by the following vote:

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

- Economic Development Advisory Committee will not be meeting this month due to scheduling conflicts. Some members will be attended the Chamber of Commerce meeting as an alternative. There will be a grand opening on Friday May 7th at 465 Route 23 South for Aspire Counselling Center. There will be an open house from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- Flood Control Advisory Committee did not meet in April. The committee's next meeting is Thursday, May 6th.
- Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee will hold their next meeting on Tuesday, May 4th at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Herd:

- Thanked DPW for a great job on the fields and the Little League.

Mr. Kohle:

- No report.

Mr. Phelan:

- Senior Citizens Advisory Committee met yesterday. The committee's questions were discussed earlier in the meeting.

Mayor Russell:

- There was a dedication for the new scoreboard donated by the Scienski family. The library is open full hours. They have applied for a grant for 10 new hot spots. They received a bench through donations of plastic bags collected by the Environmental Commission
- Environmental Commission held a rain barrel workshop.

PUBLIC COMMENT. There were no public comments.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

On a motion by Mr. Kohle, seconded by Mrs. Florance-Lynch minutes of the March 2, 2021 budget workshop and the March 9, 2021, March 23, 2021 and April 13, 2021 regular meetings were unanimously approved.

EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSION.

On a motion by Mr. Kohle, seconded by Mr. Herd, **Resolution R2021-117**, authorizing an Executive Session to discuss Matters of Attorney Client Privilege related to Potential Litigation, Property Acquisition and other Matters of Attorney Client Privilege was unanimously adopted.

Mayor Russell stated no action would be taken following the Closed Session.

The public portion of the meeting was recessed at 8:03 p.m. followed by the Executive Session during which the council discussed the following three items:

- A letter from an attorney challenging the validity of an ordinance: The letter was discussed and direction was given to the Township Attorney and the Township Manager as to how to proceed.
- Property Acquisition: an update was given regarding negotiations and direction was given to the Township Manager regarding that item as well.
- Potential of bid on a project for a tower was discussed with the Council and the Council opted not to proceed with doing that at this time.

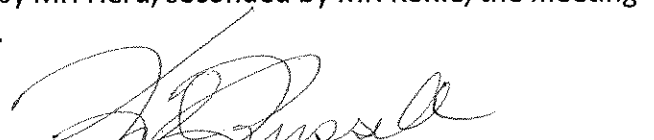
The closed session was completed at 8:22 p.m. at which time the public meeting was reconvened.

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

ADJOURNMENT.

There being no further business, on a motion by Mr. Herd, seconded by Mr. Kohle, the meeting was adjourned at 8:24 p.m. without objection.



Carol J. Marsh, Township Clerk

Kyle Russell, Mayor