

The May 10, 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 11 members of the public in attendance.

**PRESENTATIONS.** There were no presentations.

**REPORTS FROM VOLUNTEERS.**

- Frank Spizzirri, Open Space Advisory Committee Vice Chair, reported the Township has received a sapling from the Salem Oak Tree and the location for planting is being determined. A grant has been received for work at Foothills Parks and volunteers are needed to assist in the planting of replacements for invasive species. Questioned why the Chamber of Commerce Street Fair is being held in PV Park.

**PUBLIC COMMENT.**

- Paul Haveman from the Pequannock Township Historical Society, thanked the Township for their continued support of the Martin Berry House, commented the Martin Berry House was on the Pathways to History Tour last weekend with 65 visitors. The Society is looking for members and volunteers and invited the Council to attend their meetings.
- Ken Boston, Bud Mazzo of Boston Louis Jewelers in Pequannock, and Brian Otto of Paragon Jewelers in Pompton Plains, reported on a zoning issue regarding their banner signs, requested clarification of the regulations and asked for guidance on how to proceed.
- Henry Samek, 4 Misty Court, recommended members of the Council look at issues from the perspective of the entire community not just their personal opinions, and commented on how federal abortion laws might affect a member of the local community.
- Gene Spillane, 18 Cooper Road, provided information on a potential proclamation presentation for Lieutenant Colonel Adam Woytowich, requested a second one for a Francisco "Doc" Schupp who will be speaking at the Memorial Day Parade and reported on preparations for parade.

**MANAGER'S REPORT.** Township Manager Adam Brewer reviewed the Manager's report for the meeting, noting items on the evening's agenda.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS.**

**PUBLIC HEARING - Ordinance No. 2022-06;** ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM SALARIES AND PAY RATES FOR DESIGNATED OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PEQUANNOCK.

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. Kohle, 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.

**PUBLIC HEARING - Ordinance No. 2022-07;** 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 \$995,602 FOR FINANCING THEREOF.

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

There were no public comments.

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

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

**PUBLIC HEARING - Ordinance No. 2022-08;** 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 \$45,000 FOR FINANCING THEREOF.

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

There were no public comments.

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

On a motion by Mr. Driesse, 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.

**PUBLIC HEARING - 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. 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 Mr. Kohle, seconded by Mr. Driesse, 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. 2022-10;** 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 \$3,741,538 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$3,741,538 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP TO FINANCE THE COST THEREOF

Township Manager Brewer provided background on the ordinance, noting the bond ordinance is part of the funding mechanism for FEMA elevation grants and will be refunded in the future.

On a motion by Mrs. Russell, 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.**

- **R2022-104**, authorizing the acceptance of a hold harmless agreement from Jacqueline A. Inglis and Kristina M. Inglis (Block 1701 Lot 14, 5 Arundel Road).
- **R2022-105**, cancelling Grant Fund balances.
- **R2022-106**, authorizing the cancellation of the 5 Year Emergency Master Plan Reserve Account.
- **R2022-107**, accepting Sanitary Sewer Easement and authorizing the execution of a Consideration Agreement with 721 Route 23 LLC in conjunction with the Route 23 Sanitary Sewer Project.
- **R2022-108**, awarding a contract for West Parkway Reconstruction – South Sunset Lane to Van Dyk Place to 4 Clean-Up Inc., for the total contract amount of \$265,167.00 in accordance with the bid specifications.
- **R2022-109**, rejecting all bids for the Mead Place Reconstruction Project.
- **R2022-110**, authorizing Tax Office refunds, overpayments or cancellations.
- **R2022-111**, approving payment of the itemized claims as set forth on the **May 5, 2022 Bill List and 2018 FEMA Elevation Escrow List.**

On a motion by Mrs. Russell, seconded by Mr. Kohle, **Resolutions R2022-104 through R2022-111** 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.**

- Martin Berry House Phase 3 Construction Project

Mr. Brewer reported on issues with the financing of the project and requested on direction on how to finance the obligations. After discussion, members of the Council requested the outstanding obligations be paid for with funds from the Open Space, Historic Preservation and Farmland Preservation Trust.

**REPORTS AND NOTICES.** There were no reports or notices.

**COUNCIL REPORTS.**

***Mr. Driesse***

- Historic District Commission is considering plans for an Eagle Scout kiosk at Railroad Museum; the Pathways Tour was successful; there is an open space project at Mountainside Park; the Commission is considering a formal recognition of Derek Jeter's birthplace.

***Mr. Herd:***

- First Aid and Rescue Squad had 73 calls last month with 15 calls at Cedar Crest. Volunteers, especially drivers and EMTs, are needed. The Squad is considering holding CPR classes once a quarter, and will be covering many events over the next few months.
- Pequannock Rotary 5K is June 12<sup>th</sup>.
- Attended a Cub Scout tree planting at Foothills Park. Complemented the DPW and the community involvement of township residents.

***Mr. Kohle:***

- No report.

***Mrs. Russell***

- Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee discussed questions about holding the Chamber of Commerce Street Fair at PV Park. PV Park registration is up.
- Happy Birthday to Morris County Sherriff James Gannon.

***Mayor Florance-Lynch:***

- Shout out to Morris County Council of Education Association's Friends of Education who honored the Pequannock School Nurses at their celebration on April 27<sup>th</sup> at the Meadowood in Randolph.
- Recommended the Council consider filling any Board or Committee vacancies in June.
- Welcomed everyone to the Memorial Day Parade.
- Fireworks are scheduled for June 24<sup>th</sup>.
- Requested the Council reconsider presenting the award for the Citizen of the Year chosen by the American Legion's selection committee.

Members of the Council discussed the nomination process; Gene Spillane, 18 Cooper Road and member of American Legion Post 450 expressed his opinion the Council should be involved if the Township's name and resources are used in the process.

Mr. Kohle motioned that the selection committee must provide in writing by Thursday, May 12<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m. that two people the Council be included in the selection process next year and every year after in order for the Council to make this year's Citizen of the Year award as has been done in past years. The motion was seconded by Mayor Florance-Lynch and approved by the following vote:

For: Mr. Herd, Mr. Kohle, Mayor Florance-Lynch

Against: Mr. Driesse, Mrs. Russell      Abstain: None.      Absent: None.

**PUBLIC COMMENT.** There were no public comments.


- Frank Spizzirri, 35 West Franklin Avenue, expressed his opinion the Council should have the right to pick the Citizen of the Year.
- Gene Spillane, expressed his opinion the selection process should be clear and the Legion should help facilitate the process.
- Henry Samek, 4 Misty Court, requested information on **R2022-107**, and commented on the effect the Route 23 Sewer project will have on the properties involved.
- Frank Spizzirri questioned the amount of Open Space funds to be used in the Martin Berry House Phase 3 Construction Project and expressed no objection.

**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. Kohle, seconded by Mr. Herd, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m. without objection.



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Carol J. Marsh, Township Clerk



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Melissa Florance-Lynch, Mayor

