

The May 24, 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 9 members of the public in attendance.

PRESENTATIONS. There were no presentations.

REPORTS FROM VOLUNTEERS.

- Randy Shamber, 15 Van Riper Avenue, reporting on the Social Equity Council as director, read a press release announcing the organization's Pride Festival scheduled for June 4th at Greenview Park

PUBLIC COMMENT.

- Tom Bellas, 10 De Bow Terrace, objected to the assessment on his home and commented on properties he described as similar, and on recent sales.

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, and requested direction from the council regarding a proposed Pride Month Proclamation.

PUBLIC HEARINGS.

PUBLIC HEARING - 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

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

- Peter Schmitt, 16 Manor Avenue, recommended ordinances in general provide a brief explanation and requested an explanation of this ordinance which was provided by Mr. Brewer.

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

ORDINANCE INTRODUCTIONS.

ORDINANCE INTRODUCTION - Ordinance No. 2022-11; AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE SALARIES AND COMPENSATION FOR THE EMPLOYEES OF THE TEAMSTERS LOCAL UNION #469 OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PEQUANNOCK FOR THE PERIOD OF JANUARY 1, 2022- DECEMBER 31, 2026

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

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

RESOLUTIONS.

- **R2022-112**, 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) (Lincoln Park Construction Services).
- **R2022-113**, 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) (Alcohol Education & Rehabilitation).
- **R2022-114**, 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) (Municipal Alliance).
- **R2022-115**, authorizing cancellation of outstanding checks.
- **R2022-116**, authorizing expenditures from the Pequannock Township Open Space, Recreation, Farmland and Historic Preservation Trust Fund.
- **R2022-117**, awarding a contract for the Martin Berry House Phase 3 Rehabilitation Project to Pravco, Inc., for the total contract amount of \$351,224.00 in accordance with the bid specifications.
- **R2022-118**, authorizing the execution of an agreement between Teamsters Local 469 and the Township of Pequannock (January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2026).
- **R2022-119**, Approval to submit a grant application and execute a grant contract with the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the Mountain Avenue – Turnpike to Boulevard project.
- **R2022-120**, approving the renewal of the designated Alcoholic Beverage Control Licenses.
- **R2022-121**, authorizing the discretionary award of contracts for maintenance of the Township of Pequannock Potable Water Supply Wells and other water system to North Jersey Pump & Controls LLC, in an amount that may exceed \$17,500 but will be less than \$40,000.
- **R2022-122**, approving payment of the itemized claims as set forth on the **May 18, 2022 Bill List and 2018 FEMA Elevation Escrow List**.

Mr. Russell requested Resolution R2022-118 be considered separately.

On a motion by Mr. Driesse, seconded by Mr. Kohle, **Resolution R2022-118** was adopted by the following vote:

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

On a motion by Mr. Herd, seconded by Mrs. Russell, **Resolutions R2022-112 through R2022-117 and Resolutions R2022-119 through R2022-122** 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

- Shade Tree met last night.
- Thanked Ms. Marsh, Mr. Brewer, and Mr. Oostdyk for their work.

Mr. Herd:

- Recognized residents Diana Albert and Dave Seugling for their assistance with Boy Scout Pack 144.
- Commented on the benefits of the pending Tax reevaluation and future assessment process.
- Expressed his thoughts and concern regarding the school shooting in Texas.

Mr. Kohle:

- Fire Co. No. 2 met on May 12th.
- Attended the New Bridge Gala on May 12th.

Mrs. Russell

- Congratulated the DPW on recent spring work.
- The library board voted to hire a strategic planner to help with the next few years direction.

Mayor Florance-Lynch:

- Discussed a letter from a resident requesting a facility for an archery range.
- Thanked Mr. Brewer and the staff for their work during a recent power outage.
- Cedar Crest is holding a Memorial Day event on June 2nd at 1:00 p.m.
- Morris County League of Municipalities meeting is June 15th.
- Tomorrow's Economic Development Advisory Committee is cancelled.
- Memorial Day Parade is Monday.
- June 1st from 5-7 is a Treps Marketplace event at North Boulevard School. Everyone is welcome.
- Rotary 5K is Sunday, June 12th at Greenview Park.
- Requested the Council discuss the Citizen of the Year award. After discussion members of the Council agreed on how to proceed with the award.

PUBLIC COMMENT.

- Janice Mangeri, 17 Foothills Drive, requested information on the Social Equity Council which was provided by Mr. Shamber.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

On a motion by Mr. Kohle, seconded by Mrs. Russell, minutes of the March 23, 2022, April 12, 2022, April 26, 2022, May 10, 2022 regular meetings and the February 19, 2022 Budget Workshop were unanimously approved.

EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSION.

On a motion by Mr. Herd, seconded by Mrs. Russell, **Resolution R2022-123**, authorizing an Executive Session to discuss Personnel issues, Contract Negotiations regarding a Lincoln Park Shared Services Agreement, and Litigation regarding PFOS was unanimously adopted.

The public portion of the meeting was recessed at 7:48 p.m. followed by the Executive Session during which the Council discussed the following took place:


- The Township's PFOS litigation was discussed and an update was provided to the Council regarding status of the litigation and next steps.
- The Township manager gave an update on the contract negotiations regarding a Lincoln Park shared services agreement and direction was given to proceed with negotiation of a long term local services agreement
- A discussion took place regarding two open positions that are council appointments, that of Tax Assessor and the Public Defender. The Manager discussed the process for these appointments as well as the status of applications and direction was given that the manager would conduct the interview process and come back to the council with recommendations on the positions.

The closed session was completed at 8:18 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. Driesse, seconded by Mrs. Russell, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m. without objection.



Carol J. Marsh, Township Clerk

Melissa Florance-Lynch, Mayor