

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
March 11, 2019

The Regular meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Bordentown was held in the Main Meeting Room in the Municipal Building.

PRESENT: Mayor Stephen Benowitz
Committeeman Eric Holliday
Committeeman James Kostoplis
Administrator Michael Theokas
Attorney Eileen Fahey (entered at 6:45 pm)
Chief Financial Officer Jeffrey Elsasser
Deputy Township Clerk Cindy Dziura

ABSENT: Deputy Mayor Eugene Fuzy
Committeeman Ken Mason

Mayor Benowitz called the meeting to order at approximately 6:30 p.m. and led a salute to the flag and a moment of silence.

Deputy Township Clerk Dziura read the following Open Public Meeting Announcement:

In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, adequate notice of this meeting was provided in the following manner:

On January 7, 2019, advance written notice of this meeting was posted on the bulletin board opposite the main entrance to the meeting room in the Municipal Building; was emailed to the BURLINGTON COUNTY TIMES and THE TIMES; was filed with the Clerk of Bordentown Township; and was mailed to all persons who requested and paid for such notice.

The proceedings of this meeting, which are open to the public, are being electronically recorded and will act as the minutes of the meeting in conjunction with the abbreviated form of the minutes. Requisite minutes are kept for all meetings, whether open or closed to the public.

At this time, Committeeman Holliday made the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Bordentown that it does hereby recess this Regular Meeting to meet in Closed Session for the purpose of discussing:

-- Affordable Housing Contract Matter

-- Personnel Matter: Municipal Clerk

-- Potential Environmental Litigation: Elcon & Pipeline

It is anticipated that the deliberations conducted in closed session may be disclosed to the public upon the determination of the Township Committee that the public interest will no longer be served by such confidentiality; seconded by Committeeman Kostoplis.

AYE: Committeeman Holliday, Committeeman Kostoplis, Mayor Benowitz

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NAY: None

ABSENT: Committeeman Mason, Deputy Mayor Fuzy

The Township Committee of the Township of Bordentown recessed their regular meeting at approximately 6:33 pm and reconvened the regular meeting at approximately 7:30 pm.

Mayor's Proclamation Honoring Matthew James Comeau as Eagle Scout. At this time, Mayor Benowitz read the Proclamation into the record.

ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW

Deputy Clerk Dziura stated that as a result of Closed Session, Resolution #2019-92 is being added to the Consent Agenda.

Administrator Theokas said a payment to PSE&G in the amount of \$24,064.63 was previously discussed with the Township Committee. Some power lines have to be moved temporarily to get the crane in to insert the culvert for the Orchard Avenue Culvert Project. Administrator Theokas is disputing the cost, but doesn't want to hold up the project since it's on a very tight timeline. The cost will be reimbursable through the FEMA grant that we acquired.

At this time, Committeeman Holliday made a motion to approve the invoice from PSE&G in the amount of \$24,064.63; seconded by Committeeman Kostoplis.

AYE: Committeeman Holliday, Committeeman Kostoplis, Mayor Benowitz

NAY: None

ABSENT: Committeeman Mason, Deputy Mayor Fuzy

CONSENT AGENDA

Resolution #2019-84 entitled APPROVING THE TRANSACTION OF ITEMS OF ROUTINE BUSINESS: PAYMENT OF BILLS.

Resolution #2019-85 entitled APPROVING THE TRANSACTION OF ITEMS OF ROUTINE BUSINESS: MINUTES OF MEETINGS.

Resolution #2019-86 entitled AUTHORIZING REFUND OF OVERPAYMENT OF TAXES.

Resolution #2019-87 entitled AUTHORIZING DISPOSAL OF SURPLUS PROPERTY.

Resolution #2019-88 entitled RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AVERAGE OF COLLECTION RATE FOR THE RESERVE FOR UNCOLLECTED TAXES (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-41(c)(1)).

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Resolution #2019-89 entitled RESOLUTION CONDUCTING ANNUAL BUDGET SELF-EXAMINATION FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF BORDENTOWN, COUNTY OF BURLINGTON.

Resolution #2019-90 entitled RESOLUTION ACCEPTING QUOTE FROM MODERN GROUP POWER SYSTEMS FOR THE PURCHASE OF A MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT FOR THE GENERATOR AT 266 CROSSWICKS ROAD AND FOR THE GENERATOR AT ONE MUNICIPAL DRIVE.

Resolution #2019-92 entitled AUTHORIZING AFFORDABLE HOUSING SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT WITH KEVIN JOHNSON URBAN RENEWAL, LLC.

Township Committee review and discussion of Consent Agenda Items Resolutions #2019-84 through #2019-92, excluding #2019-91. There were no questions/comments on the Consent Agenda.

At this time, Committeeman Holliday made a motion to open to the public the consent agenda items; seconded by Committeeman Kostoplis.

AYE: Committeeman Holliday, Committeeman Kostoplis, Mayor Benowitz

NAY: None

ABSENT: Committeeman Mason, Deputy Mayor Fuzy

Seeing no comments, Committeeman Holliday made a motion to close to the public; seconded by Committeeman Kostoplis.

AYE: Committeeman Holliday, Committeeman Kostoplis, Mayor Benowitz

NAY: None

ABSENT: Committeeman Mason, Deputy Mayor Fuzy

At this time, Committeeman Holliday made a motion to adopt the Consent Agenda; seconded by Committeeman Kostoplis.

AYE: Committeeman Holliday, Committeeman Kostoplis, Mayor Benowitz

NAY: None

ABSENT: Committeeman Mason, Deputy Mayor Fuzy

Public Hearing on Ordinance #2019-04 entitled CALENDAR YEAR 2019 "CAP" ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14).

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At this time, Committeeman Holliday made a motion to open the public hearing on Ordinance #2019-04; seconded by Committeeman Kostoplis.

AYE: Committeeman Holliday, Committeeman Kostoplis, Mayor Benowitz

NAY: None

ABSENT: Committeeman Mason, Deputy Mayor Fuzy

Seeing no public comment, Committeeman Holliday made a motion to close the public hearing on Ordinance #2019-04; seconded by Committeeman Kostoplis.

AYE: Committeeman Holliday, Committeeman Kostoplis, Mayor Benowitz

NAY: None

ABSENT: Committeeman Mason, Deputy Mayor Fuzy

Consideration of Adoption of Ordinance #2019-04 entitled CALENDAR YEAR 2019 “CAP” ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14).

At this time, Committeeman Holliday made a motion to adopt Ordinance #2019-04; seconded by Committeeman Kostoplis.

AYE: Committeeman Holliday, Committeeman Kostoplis, Mayor Benowitz

NAY: None

ABSENT: Committeeman Mason, Deputy Mayor Fuzy

Resolution #2019-91 entitled INTRODUCTION OF 2019 MUNICIPAL BUDGET.

Mayor Benowitz said the budget is being introduced tonight. The Township Auditor, Bowman and Company, will give a budget presentation during the public session of the March 25, 2019 Township Committee Meeting. If there are no amendments, the budget can be adopted after a public hearing.

At this time, Committeeman Holliday made a motion to adopt Resolution #2019-91; seconded by Committeeman Kostoplis.

AYE: Committeeman Holliday, Committeeman Kostoplis, Mayor Benowitz

NAY: None

ABSENT: Committeeman Mason, Deputy Mayor Fuzy

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ADMINISTRATOR AND STAFF REPORTS

Administrator Theokas stated that per state statute, a hard copy of the budget will be available in the Clerk's Office, Administrator's Office, at the Burlington County Library in Bordentown City, and Bordentown High School; it will also be posted on our Township Website. CFO Elsasser and he will be available to discuss any details on the budget.

On March 5, 2019, he attended a JIF Safety breakfast with Safety Coordinator P.W. Director Buhner and Deputy Safety Coordinator Sam Vail. Bordentown Township was recognized for our efforts with our safety and our reporting of any claims through the JIF.

On March 7, 2019, P.W. Director Buhner and he met with representatives from Trash Pro, the company who will be helping us with our trash bid process.

The Public Works Department did an outstanding job with renovations in the Construction Office.

Township Engineer Turek and he met with a resident representing the neighborhood who had concerns. They gave him a lot of information about what was happening with the Culvert Project. They are also working with the schools on new bus routes and detours.

There have been a lot of Planning and Zoning Board applications submitted. Marcie Maute from that department, Code Enforcement Officer Mark Costner, and he have been working with a lot of properties that were not in compliance with our zoning to getting them into compliance. Both Boards will be receiving some compliance applications.

The JIF seminar for elected officials is on Thursday, March 21, 2019 at 6:00 pm at O'Connors. A \$250 credit per attendee will be received.

Township Engineer Turek, Police Chief Pesce, and he responded to some resident complaints in regard to the traffic signal on Hedding Road where the timing was off. They cut the timing down by 25%, and they will be entering into a maintenance contract to make sure the traffic light is reviewed a couple times a year to make sure the timing doesn't go off. They are also investigating possibly upgrading the censor system for that light through grant monies.

The Township Committee will be asked to authorize the hiring of a new building inspector at the March 25, 2019 meeting.

The Township is currently working on a few Shared Service Agreements. A few municipalities have reached out for our ability to make signs. And our Animal Control Agreement is up with Florence; we will be re-negotiating that contract.

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committeeman Kostoplis, Committeeman Holliday and Mayor Benowitz each gave their report.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: At this time, Committeeman Holliday made a motion to open the meeting for public participation; seconded by Committeeman Kostoplis.

AYE: Committeeman Holliday, Committeeman Kostoplis, Mayor Benowitz

NAY: None

ABSENT: Committeeman Mason, Deputy Mayor Fuzy

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Seeing no comments, Committeeman Holliday made a motion to close the meeting to the public; seconded by Deputy Mayor Fuzy.

AYE: Committeeman Holliday, Committeeman Kostoplis, Mayor Benowitz

NAY: None

ABSENT: Committeeman Mason, Deputy Mayor Fuzy

ADDITIONAL MATTERS: None

At this time, Committeeman Holliday made the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Bordentown that it does hereby adjourn the regular meeting; seconded by Committeeman Kostoplis.

AYE: Committeeman Holliday, Committeeman Kostoplis, Mayor Benowitz

NAY: None

ABSENT: Committeeman Mason, Deputy Mayor Fuzy

The Regular meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Bordentown was adjourned at approximately 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

CYNTHIA DZIURA, RMC, DEP. TOWNSHIP CLERK