

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
April 22, 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  
Deputy Mayor Eugene Fuzy (entered at 7:04 pm)  
Committeeman Eric Holliday  
Committeeman James Kostoplis  
Committeeman Ken Mason  
Administrator Michael Theokas  
Chief Financial Officer Jeffrey Elsasser  
Deputy Township Clerk Cindy Dziura  
Attorney Eileen Fahey

ABSENT: Township Clerk Maria Carrington

Mayor Benowitz called the meeting to order at approximately 7:00 p.m. and led a salute to the flag and a moment of silence which was dedicated to the victims of the eastern suicide terrorist bombings in Sri Lanka and to Earth Day.

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: Volunteers of America Phase I
- Dunns Mills Road Resurfacing – Phase II Award Recommendation

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, Committeeman Mason, Deputy Mayor Fuzy, Mayor Benowitz

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NAY: None

The Township Committee of the Township of Bordentown recessed their regular meeting at approximately 7:04 pm and reconvened the regular meeting at approximately 7:30 pm.

**Mayor's Proclamation proclaiming and recognizing Bordentown Regional Athletic Hall of Fame Inductees.** Mayor Benowitz said this Proclamation is being removed from the Agenda and will be read at a future meeting.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW**

Administrator Theokas stated that amended Ordinance #2019-126 was provided to the Township Committee members. Language was modified to be in compliance with N.J.S.A. 26:8-17.

Correspondence:

March 25, 2019 letter to Mayor Benowitz informing that \$252,000 of funding is being awarded from NJ DOT FY2019 Municipal Aid Program for the Ward Avenue Resurfacing Project – Phase 2 (no action necessary). Resurfacing will go from Willow Road to Route 130 and include crosswalks and pedestrian safety features by the school.

April 3, 2019 letter to Mayor Benowitz from NJ DOT regarding inability to provide FY2019 Municipal Aid Program financing for the Groveville Road Resurfacing Project (no action necessary). The Township will reapply next year.

Burlington County Division of Mosquito Control Authorization (action required). The Township Committee unanimously rejected the spraying again this year because of the chemicals used. Administrator Theokas will create and send the letter.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**Resolution #2019-121 entitled APPROVING THE TRANSACTION OF ITEMS OF ROUTINE BUSINESS: PAYMENT OF BILLS.**

**Resolution #2019-122 entitled APPROVING THE TRANSACTION OF ITEMS OF ROUTINE BUSINESS: MINUTES OF MEETINGS AND FILING OF REPORTS.**

**Resolution #2019-123 entitled RESOLUTION ACCEPTING PROPOSAL FROM REIS SERVICES, LLC, FOR THE LICENSE AGREEMENT FOR THE BORDENTOWN TAX ASSESSOR'S OFFICE.**

**Resolution #2019-124 entitled A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF ONE (1) ODB EXTREME VAC LEAF LOADER FOR THE BORDENTOWN TOWNSHIP PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.**

**Resolution #2019-125 entitled RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXTENSION OF AGRICULTURAL LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF BORDENTOWN AND MARK TURGYAN.**

**Resolution #2019-126 entitled RESOLUTION APPOINTING MUNICIPAL REGISTRAR.**

**Resolution #2019-127 entitled RESOLUTION TO AWARD A CONTRACT FOR THE DUNNS MILL ROAD – PHASE II RESURFACING PROJECT.**

**Resolution #2019-128 entitled AUTHORIZING REFUND OF OVERPAYMENT OF TAXES.**

**Resolution #2019-129 entitled AUTHORIZING SUMMER WORK HOURS FOR TOWNSHIP STAFF.**

**Resolution #2019-130 entitled RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION #2019-77 APPOINTING NICIOLE BENCIVENGO AS FULL-TIME KEYBOARDING CLERK I IN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT AND AS AS-NEEDED ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER.**

Township Committee review and discussion of Consent Agenda Items Resolutions #2019-121 through #2019-130. Committeeman Holliday asked if the Township was replacing the existing Vac Leaf Loader, Resolution #2019-124. Administrator Theokas responded that it will be in addition to our present unit.

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, Committeeman Mason, Deputy Mayor Fuzy, Mayor Benowitz

NAY: None

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

AYE: Committeeman Holliday, Committeeman Kostoplis, Committeeman Mason, Deputy Mayor Fuzy, Mayor Benowitz

NAY: None

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

AYE: Committeeman Holliday, Committeeman Kostoplis, Committeeman Mason, Deputy Mayor Fuzy, Mayor Benowitz

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NAY: None

**Public Hearing on Ordinance #2019-05 entitled Public Hearing on Ordinance #2019-05 entitled ORDINANCE GRANTING A FIVE YEAR TAX EXEMPTION AND ABATEMENT OF LOCAL REAL ESTATE TAXES PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:21-1 ET SEQ. TO FIRST INDUSTRIAL, L.P. FOR THE REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT BLOCK 138, LOT 5.032 AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A FINANCIAL AGREEMENT WITH FIRST INDUSTRIAL, L.P. FOR BLOCK 138, LOT 5.032.**

At this time, Deputy Mayor Fuzy made a motion to open the public hearing on Ordinance #2019-05; seconded by Committeeman Holliday.

AYE: Committeeman Holliday, Committeeman Kostoplis, Committeeman Mason, Deputy Mayor Fuzy, Mayor Benowitz

NAY: None

Seeing no public comment, Deputy Mayor Fuzy made a motion to close the public hearing on Ordinance #2019-05; seconded by Committeeman Holliday.

AYE: Committeeman Holliday, Committeeman Kostoplis, Committeeman Mason, Deputy Mayor Fuzy, Mayor Benowitz

NAY: None

**Consideration of Adoption of Ordinance #2019-05 entitled ORDINANCE GRANTING A FIVE YEAR TAX EXEMPTION AND ABATEMENT OF LOCAL REAL ESTATE TAXES PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:21-1 ET SEQ. TO FIRST INDUSTRIAL, L.P. FOR THE REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT BLOCK 138, LOT 5.032 AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A FINANCIAL AGREEMENT WITH FIRST INDUSTRIAL, L.P. FOR BLOCK 138, LOT 5.032.**

At this time, Committeeman Holliday made a motion to adopt Ordinance #2019-05; seconded by Committeeman Kostoplis.

AYE: Committeeman Holliday, Committeeman Kostoplis, Committeeman Mason, Deputy Mayor Fuzy, Mayor Benowitz

NAY: None

**Public Hearing on Ordinance #2019-06 entitled AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BORDENTOWN AUTHORIZING A FINANCIAL AGREEMENT WITH 206 BORDENTOWN URBAN RENEWAL, LLC, A NEW JERSEY LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY, QUALIFIED AS AN URBAN RENEWAL ENTITY UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE NEW JERSEY LONG TERM TAX EXEMPTION LAW, N.J.S.A. 40A:20-1 ET SEQ.**

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At this time, Committeeman Holliday made a motion to open the public hearing on Ordinance #2019-06; seconded by Deputy Mayor Fuzy.

AYE: Committeeman Holliday, Committeeman Kostoplis, Committeeman Mason, Deputy Mayor Fuzy, Mayor Benowitz

NAY: None

Seeing no public comment, Committeeman Holliday made a motion to close the public hearing on Ordinance #2019-06; seconded by Deputy Mayor Fuzy.

AYE: Committeeman Holliday, Committeeman Kostoplis, Committeeman Mason, Deputy Mayor Fuzy, Mayor Benowitz

NAY: None

**Consideration of Adoption of Ordinance #2019-06 entitled AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BORDENTOWN AUTHORIZING A FINANCIAL AGREEMENT WITH 206 BORDENTOWN URBAN RENEWAL, LLC, A NEW JERSEY LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY, QUALIFIED AS AN URBAN RENEWAL ENTITY UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE NEW JERSEY LONG TERM TAX EXEMPTION LAW, N.J.S.A. 40A:20-1 ET SEQ.**

At this time, Committeeman Holliday made a motion to adopt Ordinance #2019-06; seconded by Committeeman Kostoplis.

AYE: Committeeman Holliday, Committeeman Kostoplis, Committeeman Mason, Deputy Mayor Fuzy, Mayor Benowitz

NAY: None

**Public Hearing on Ordinance 2019-07 entitled AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE #2018-17 ENTITLED AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH TITLES AND SALARY RANGES FOR PERMANENT AND PROVISIONAL EMPLOYEES.**

At this time, Committeeman Holliday made a motion to open the public hearing on Ordinance #2019-07; seconded by Deputy Mayor Fuzy.

AYE: Committeeman Holliday, Committeeman Kostoplis, Committeeman Mason, Deputy Mayor Fuzy, Mayor Benowitz

NAY: None

Seeing no public comment, Deputy Mayor Fuzy made a motion to close the public hearing on Ordinance #2019-07; seconded by Committeeman Holliday.

AYE: Committeeman Holliday, Committeeman Kostoplis, Committeeman Mason, Deputy Mayor Fuzy, Mayor Benowitz

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NAY: None

**Consideration of Adoption of Ordinance 2019-07 entitled AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE #2018-17 ENTITLED AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH TITLES AND SALARY RANGES FOR PERMANENT AND PROVISIONAL EMPLOYEES.**

At this time, Deputy Mayor Fuzy made a motion to adopt Ordinance #2019-07; seconded by Committeeman Holliday.

AYE: Committeeman Holliday, Committeeman Kostoplis, Committeeman Mason, Deputy Mayor Fuzy, Mayor Benowitz

NAY: None

**ADMINISTRATOR AND STAFF REPORTS**

Administrator Theokas stated that the paving project in the Public Works yard should be completed soon.

Administrator Theokas said he was placed on the Bordentown City Water Citizen's Advisory Committee, and attended his first meeting on April 15, 2019. There was a discussion about an asset management plan, infrastructure upgrades, and capital plans for the water utility, in addition to water quality. He will be able to advocate on behalf of the Township and residents. They are moving along fairly aggressively with some infrastructure repairs.

Alt. Fund Commissioner Elsasser, Safety Coordinator Buhner and Alt. Safety Coordinator Vail and he attended an all-day JIF seminar on April 16, 2019 where a number of different safety and insurance issues were discussed including cyber security. Administrator Theokas and Jeff Katz, Township IT Services, met with JIF's cyber security representative. The Township's computers are older, operating on Windows 7, and will need to be replaced. Jeff Katz is preparing specs, and there is money in the capital budget for end of the year purchase (or next year).

Future ordinances include amending the solicitation ordinance with ways to make the solicitor list more public and manageable. The Township also needs an ordinance regarding standards for dumpsters and pods.

He thanked the Public Works Department for their work with the Veteran's Advisory Committee and the Easter Egg Hunt. He also thanked Angel Sauro.

A resolution was passed regarding summer hours. There will be a lot of promoting and advertising of this change.

The May Township Committee meetings are the first and third Monday, May 6 and May 20.

**TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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

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

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AYE: Committeeman Holliday, Committeeman Kostoplis, Committeeman Mason, Deputy Mayor Fuzy, Mayor Benowitz

NAY: None

LEN de GROOT, 8 Arlington Road: Mr. de Groot stated there is now control of the increase in fees at the Sewer Authority. He said for the first time in history, hook-up fees will go down on January 1, 2019. Initially, rates were supposed to increase 50% over a 5-year period, but it will be 18%--less than projected. They will now have a 1/1 current ratio: current expenses will be paid with current revenue. It costs almost twice as much to fix an emergency problem in the system as it does to plan and repair ahead of time, so expect the usage rates to have very minimal raises in the future, and watch for the hook-up fees to go down. This is a result of using their capital assets/income properly. They can now take care of the infrastructure while paying for the usage with the usage fees. They will be out of debt in five (5) years. Mayor Benowitz thanked Mr. de Groot on behalf of the Township Committee. Mr. de Groot said the Township helped by bringing in the ratables to pay off some of their debt.

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

AYE: Committeeman Holliday, Committeeman Kostoplis, Committeeman Mason, Deputy Mayor Fuzy, Mayor Benowitz

NAY: None

**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, Committeeman Mason, Deputy Mayor Fuzy, Mayor Benowitz

NAY: None

The Regular meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Bordentown was adjourned at approximately 8:09 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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CYNTHIA DZIURA, RMC, DEPUTY TOWNSHIP CLERK