

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 28, 2020

The Regular meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Bordentown was held virtually using Zoom due to the ongoing public health emergency.

PRESENT: Mayor Stephen Benowitz
Deputy Mayor Eric Holliday (signed in at 7:01 p.m.)
Committeeman Eugene Fuzy
Committeeman James Kostoplis
Administrator Michael Theokas
Chief Financial Officer Jeffrey Elsasser
Clerk Maria Carrington
Attorney Eileen Fahey

ABSENT: Committeeman Ken Mason

Mayor Benowitz called the meeting to order at approximately 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call was taken by Township Clerk Carrington.

Resolution 2020-9-28 entitled RESOLUTION TO MEET IN CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION moved by Deputy Mayor Holliday and seconded by Committeeman Fuzy. Voice Vote: All Aye.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Bordentown that it does hereby exclude the public to meet in Closed Executive Session for the purpose of discussing:

- Attorney/Client Privilege: Litigation
- Attorney/Client Privilege: Personnel

No formal action was taken during the closed session. The minutes of the closed session may be disclosed to the public when it is determined that the above matters no longer require confidentiality.

The meeting was reopened to the public at approximately 7:15 p.m. through a motion made by Committeeman Kostoplis, seconded by Committeeman Fuzy. Voice Vote: All Aye.

The meeting was then recessed until 7:30 p.m.

The Mayor led a salute to the flag and a moment of silence dedicated to Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg who was a trailblazer. May she be remembered and rest in peace.

Township Clerk Carrington read the following Open Public Meeting Announcement:

This meeting is called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meeting Act. A notice of the 2020 meetings was sent to the *Burlington County Times* and *The Times* on January 8, 2020 and was subsequently published by the *Burlington County Times* on January 10, 2020. The notice was posted on the bulletin boards in the Municipal Building and has remained continuously posted as required under the statute. In addition, a copy of the notice was and has been available to the public and is on file in the office of the Township Clerk.

Proper notice having been given, the Township Clerk is directed to include this statement in the minutes of the meeting. The proceedings of this meeting although virtual are open to the public and 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.

Correspondence: None

Administrative Review: Clerk Carrington stated Resolution #2020-237 entitled DETERMINATION OF GRIEVANCE 001-2020 and Resolution #2020-238 entitled DETERMINATION OF GRIEVANCE 002-2020 are added to the Consent Agenda.

Consent Agenda

Resolution #2020-224 entitled APPROVING ROUTINE BUSINESS: MINUTES OF MEETINGS AND FILING OF REPORTS

Resolution #2020-225 entitled RENEWAL OF LIQUOR LICENSES FOR THE 2020-2021 TERM

Resolution #2020-226 entitled A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF TWO (2) PORTABLE RADIOS FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF BORDENTOWN POLICE DEPARTMENT

Resolution #2020-227 entitled RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BORDENTOWN TO RECOGNIZING AND MEMORIALIZING THE RETIREMENT OF RICHARD T. BRETTELL

Resolution #2020-228 entitled RESOLUTION TO AMEND RESOLUTION #2020-148 AND APPOINT NICOLE BENCIVENGO AS A SPECIAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS, CLASS I

Resolution #2020-229 entitled RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE PROPOSAL FROM TUREK CONSULTING, LCC FOR THE SURVEY OF THE WATERFRONT PROPERTY BOUNDARIES

Resolution #2020-230 entitled RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE PROPOSAL FROM TUREK CONSULTING, LCC FOR ADDITIONAL REMEDIATION TASKS REQUIRED BY THE NJ DEP TO ISSUE A RESPONSE ACTION OUTCOME FOR 266 CROSSWICKS ROAD

Resolution #2020-231 entitled RESOLUTION TO APPOINT PER DIEM EMTS

Resolution #2020-232 entitled A RESOLUTION TO CANCEL TAXES

Resolution #2020-233 entitled RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 AND FINAL PAYMENT TO EARLE ASPHALT COMPANY FOR THE FY 2019 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROJECT TO REMOVE ADA BARRIERS AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS

Resolution #2020-234 entitled REFUND OF ESCROW BALANCE FOR DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION

Resolution #2020-235 entitled A RESOLUTION TO CANCEL TAXES

Resolution #2020-236 entitled APPROVING ROUTINE BUSINESS: PAYMENT OF BILLS

Resolution #2020-237 entitled DETERMINATION OF GRIEVANCE 001-2020

Resolution #2020-238 entitled DETERMINATION OF GRIEVANCE 002-2020

Township Committee review and discussion of Consent Agenda Items Resolutions #2020-224 through #2020-238: There was no discussion by Committee.

Deputy Mayor Holliday made a motion to open the Consent Agenda items for public comment; seconded by Committeeman Fuzy. Voice Vote: All Aye. There was no public comment. Deputy Mayor Holliday made a motion to close the Consent Agenda items to public comment; seconded by Committeeman Kostoplis. Voice Vote: All Aye.

Deputy Mayor Holliday made a motion to adopt the Consent Agenda; seconded by Committeeman Fuzy. Roll Call Vote:

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

NAY: None

New Business:**a. 2020 Best Practices Inventory**

Administrator Theokas stated that each year the State puts out an inventory of questions. The number and type of questions vary from year to year. The percentage of State aid a municipality can receive depends upon how a municipality scores on the inventory. Bordentown Township again scored well this year and is eligible for 100% of all possible State aid.

b. Results of Township Note Sale from September 23, 2020

The process by which the Township borrows money is a note sale led by the Bond Counsel and Financial Advisor. The notes are sold to get cash in the door that was approved by bond ordinances. This year's sale was for \$9 million to cover the waterfront land purchase and 2019's capital spending. The interest rate received from the September 23rd sale was 0.37% which is a testament to the Township's strong bond rating and financials. For perspective, last year's note sale resulted with an interest rate of 1.4%. The Mayor congratulated everyone and stated that plans for the Waterfront will be forthcoming.

Administrator's Report

The Office of Emergency Management under the direction of Patrolman Appelmann has filed with FEMA for the reimbursement of COVID-19 expenses. OEM is staying on top of the Township's supplies of PPE and cleaning supplies in case of a future uptick of COVID-19 cases.

The County showed that the Township had an increase of 19 COVID-19 cases on September 27. After our OEM coordinator questioned these numbers, the County first thought these numbers were positives from the Juvenile facility on Burlington Road over a few months; however, it has since been confirmed that these were the number of tests that had been given—not the number of positive test results. The County has corrected the numbers. Bordentown Township is still trending on the low side in the County.

Regarding the November election, the County has added more secure ballot boxes. The closest one to the Township is located at the Chesterfield Municipal Building. The Township website has been updated to include the entire list of County ballot box locations. Additionally, when tax bills are mailed out this week, they will include an election information flyer. For further information, please refer to our website or call Clerk Carrington.

The Township is waiting for the Governor to announce guidelines for Halloween during the public health emergency. The Township will follow all State and CDC guidelines. Once the information is received, it will be posted on the website and on social media.

Leaf collection begins in November. As such, scheduled brush collection will end on October 27. Residents can always bring their brush to the Public Works center at 266 Crosswicks Road.

It is noted that Resolution #2020-233 authorized the final payment for the ADA barrier removal project and included a downward adjustment in total costs.

Township Committee Liaison Reports

Committeeman Fuzy, Committeeman Kostoplis, Deputy Mayor Holliday and Mayor Benowitz gave reports.

Public Participation

Deputy Mayor Holliday made a motion to open the meeting for public participation; seconded by Committeeman Fuzy. Voice Vote: All Aye.

There being no public comment, Deputy Mayor Holliday made a motion to close the meeting to the public; seconded by Committeeman Kostoplis. Voice Vote: All Aye.

There were no final comments from Township Committee.

Deputy Mayor Holliday made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at approximately 8:05 p.m.; seconded by Committeeman Kostoplis. Voice Vote: All Aye.

Respectfully Submitted,

MARIA CARRINGTON, TOWNSHIP CLERK