

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 12, 2021

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
Committeeman Eugene Fuzy
Committeeman James Kostoplis
Committeewoman Aneka Miller
Administrator Michael Theokas
Clerk Maria Carrington
Attorney Eileen Fahey

ABSENT: None

Mayor Benowitz called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Roll Call was taken by Township Clerk Carrington.

Resolution 2021-4-12 entitled RESOLUTION TO MEET IN CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION moved by Committeewoman Miller and seconded by Committeeman Kostoplis. Voice Vote – Motion Carried.

The closed session was adjourned at 7:30 p.m. through a motion made by Committeewoman Miller, seconded by Committeeman Fuzy. Voice Vote – Motion Carried. The meeting was reopened to the public at 7:30 p.m.

The Mayor led a salute to the flag and a moment of silence.

Township Clerk Carrington read the following Open Public Meeting Announcement:

This meeting is called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meeting Act. Adequate and electronic notice of this meeting was provided. The notice of the 2021 meeting schedule was sent to the *Burlington County Times* and *The Times* on January 5, 2021 and subsequently published by the *Burlington County Times* on January 8, 2021. The notice has been, and remains, posted on the Township website and the bulletin boards in the Municipal Building. A copy of the notice is also on file in the Township Clerk's office to be made available to the public upon request. The proceedings of this meeting are being electronically recorded

Correspondence: None.

Administrative Review: Clerk Carrington stated that Resolution #2021-99 was being removed Committee's consideration.

Consent Agenda:

Resolution #2021-100 entitled RESOLUTION SUPPORTING 2021 UDRIVE. UTEXT. UPAY. DISTRACTED DRIVING CRACKDOWN FOR APRIL 1 THROUGH 30, 2021

Resolution #2021-101 entitled RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT FOR SIGN MAKING SERVICES BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF BORDENTOWN AND CITY OF BORDENTOWN

Resolution#2021-102 entitled RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION #2021-95 AND APPOINTING ACTING MUNICIPAL COURT ADMINISTRATOR

Resolution #2021-103 entitled RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE PROPOSAL FROM J.McHALE & ASSOCIATES, INC., FOR REAL ESTATE APPRAISAL SERVICES

Resolution #2021-104 entitled RESOLUTION TO CANCEL TAXES

Resolution #2021-105 entitled RESOLUTION TO APPOINT PER DIEM EMT

Resolution #2021-106 entitled RELEASE OF CASH PERFORMANCE GUARANTEE FOR FIRST INDUSTRIAL, LP, CENTRAL CROSSINGS BUSINESS PARK (BUILDINGS 2E & 2W)

Resolution #2021-107 entitled APPROVING ROUTINE BUSINESS: PAYMENT OF BILLS

Township Committee review and discussion of Consent Agenda Items Resolutions #2021-100 through #2021-107: Committeewoman Miller asked for the reasoning behind the removal of Resolution #2021-99. Attorney Fahey stated that additional time was needed to review the minutes.

Committeeman Fuzy made a motion to open the Consent Agenda items for public comment; seconded by Committeeman Kostoplis. Voice Vote – Motion Carried. There being no public comment, Committeeman Fuzy made a motion to close the Consent Agenda to public comment; seconded by Committeeman Kostoplis. Voice Vote – Motion Carried.

Deputy Mayor Holliday made a motion to adopt the Consent Agenda consisting of Resolutions #2021-100 through #2021-107; seconded by Committeeman Fuzy. Roll Call Vote:

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

NAY: None

Ordinance #2021-4 entitled ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 6.12 “CATS” OF THE BORDENTOWN TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL CODE

Committeewoman Miller made a motion to introduce Ordinance #2021-4: seconded by Committeeman Kostoplis. Roll Call Vote:

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

NAY: None

The Public Hearing on Ordinance #2021-4 will be held at the April 26, 2021 Regular Meeting.

Business:

- a. The 2021 Municipal Budget was presented by Kirk Applegate of Bowman & Company, LLC

- b. Business Licenses for July 2021 to June 2022. Last year, the Committee waived business license fees to assist the Township businesses during the pandemic. The loss of revenue to the Township was approximately \$60,000. A motion was made by Committeewoman Miller to waive the 2021-2022 business license fees. The motion was seconded by Deputy Mayor Holliday. Roll Call Vote:

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

NAY: None

Administrator's Report:

The Safety Committee led by Sam Vail met on April 1. All Township departments were represented. A representative from the Join Insurance Fund was also present. The committee assures all steps to keep employees safe while on the job.

Township Committee Liaison Reports

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

Public Participation

Committeeman Kostoplis made a motion to open the meeting for public participation; seconded by Committeeman Fuzy Voice Vote – Motion Carried.

ELIZABETH McGLONE, 33 VALLEY FORGE ROAD: Ms. McGlone renewed her request from the previous meeting for a hearing regarding the sidewalk violations received by herself and her neighbors in the Holloway Meadows area. The Township requested a list of all residents who would like to participate in such a hearing and the date for a regular or a special meeting will be considered.

LINDA MARSALA, 116 BORDNTOWN-HEDDING ROAD: She requested that the Northern Community Park tennis courts be marked for pickle ball.

ROSE MAZZELLA, 2 ALFRED DRIVE: The issue with the sidewalks involves the selection of the trees that were planted. She feels they were the wrong trees. Many people will want to attend the hearing.

KEVIN JOHNSON, TEAM CAMPUS II, 115 US ROUTE 30: Mr. Johnson questioned the Township's diversity in hiring efforts. He also questioned the dual roles held by Mr. Theokas and the need for Township economic development activities. He remarked on the Township's lack of economic growth.

ROBERT DELANEY, 5 ALFRED DRIVE: Mr. Delaney questioned how the fact that other residents have abated their sidewalk conditions affects the Township's legal position. He requested clarification on the timeline for the sidewalk hearing. Mr. Delaney expressed concern for public safety regarding the lack of fencing round the demolition sites on Crosswicks Road. In addition, he questioned the appropriateness of Mr. Theokas serving as both Administrator and Community Development Director.

Committeeman Fuzy made a motion to close the meeting to the public; seconded by Committeeman Kostoplis. Voice Vote – Motion Carried.

Committeeman Kostoplis made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 PM; seconded by Committeeman Fuzy. Voice Vote – Motion Carried.

MARIA CARRINGTON, TOWNSHIP CLERK