

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
MAY 10, 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
Administrator Michael Theokas
Clerk Maria Carrington
Attorney Eileen Fahey

ABSENT: Committeewoman Aneka Miller

Mayor Benowitz called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Roll Call was taken by Township Clerk Carrington.

Resolution 2021-5-10 entitled RESOLUTION TO MEET IN CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION moved by Committeeman Kostoplis and seconded by Committeeman Fuzy. Voice Vote – Motion Carried.

The closed session was adjourned at 7:22 PM. through a motion made by Committeeman Kostoplis, seconded by Committeeman Fuzy. Voice Vote – Motion Carried. The meeting was reopened to the public at 7:30 PM.

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:

Tax Collector's Annual Report of Taxes Uncollectible for 2021 was provided as statutorily required. The Tax Collector does not deem any taxes as uncollectible.

April 26, 2021 letter from NJ Department of Transportation regarding the Fiscal Year 2022 State Aid Programs: Application deadline is July 1, 2021 with grant awards expected to be announced in November. Administrator Theokas, Engineer Turek and PW Director Buhrer are investigating roads for consideration.

May 6, 2021 letter from County of Burlington regarding the Community Development Block Grant Program FY 2021 Annual Plan: This is the formal announcement of a \$75,000 grant for the removal of ADA barriers.

Administrative Review: Clerk Carrington stated there were no changes to the agenda.

Resolution #2021-117 entitled APPROVAL OF TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES was adopted by motion from Deputy Mayor Holliday; seconded by Committeeman Fuzy. Roll Call Vote:

AYE: Committeeman Fuzy, Committeeman Kostoplis, Deputy Mayor Holliday, Mayor Benowitz
NAY: None

Consent Agenda:

Resolution #2021-118 entitled RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BORDENTOWN TO TERMINATE PER DIEM EMTs

Resolution #2021-119 entitled REFUND OF ESCROW BALANCES FOR DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS

Resolution #2021-120 entitled RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE PROPOSAL FROM HEYER GRUEL & ASSOCIATES FOR PROFESSIONAL PLANNING SERVICES TO PREPARE THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MASTER PLAN ELEMENT

Resolution #2021-121 entitled RESOLUTION TO CREATE AN AD HOC COMMITTEE FOR THE PURPOSES OF EVALUATING SITE LOCATIONS FOR A NEW MUNICIPAL COMPLEX

Resolution #2021-122 entitled RESOLUTION UPDATING THE 2021 CASH MANAGEMENT PLAN

Resolution #2021-123 entitled RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION #2021-110 TO ESTABLISH SALARIES FOR CROSSING GUARDS FOR THE 2021 CALENDAR YEAR

Resolution #2021-124 entitled RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SUMMER HOURS OF OPERATION FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF BORDENTOWN

Resolution #2021-125 entitled RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE AN AGREEMENT WITH JENNIFER M. SMITH TO SERVE AS THE MUNICIPAL RECYCLING COORDINATOR FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF BORDENTOWN FOR THE 2020 MUNICIPAL TONNAGE GRANT APPLICATION

Resolution #2021-126 entitled GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON ALCOHOLISM AND DRUG ABUSE FY2022 (FISCAL GRANT CYCLE JULY 2020 – JUNE 2025)

Resolution #2021-127 entitled RESOLUTION TO APPOINT SPECIAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

Resolution #2021-128 entitled REFUND OF ESCROW BALANCES FOR DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS

Resolution #2021-129 entitled REDUCTION OF PERFORMANCE GUARANTEE AND LETTER OF CREDIT FOR FIRST INDUSTRIAL REALTY TRUST, L.P.. BLOCK 128.12 LOT 5.031

Resolution #2021-130 entitled REDUCTION OF PERFORMANCE GUARANTEE AND LETTER OF CREDIT FOR FIRST INDUSTRIAL REALTY TRUST, L.P.. BLOCK 128.12 LOT 5.032

Resolution #2021-131 entitled RESOLUTION AMENDED RESOLUTION #2021-76 ACCEPTING THE REVISED PROPOSAL FROM TUREK CONSULTING LCC FOR VERTICAL GROUND WATER DELINEATION OF 262 CROSSWICKS ROAD

Resolution #2021-132 entitled APPROVING ROUTINE BUSINESS: PAYMENT OF BILLS

Township Committee review and discussion of Consent Agenda Items Resolutions #2021-118 through #2021-132: Mayor Benowitz spoke in support of Resolutions #2021-120 and 2021-121.

Committeeman Kostoplis made a motion to open the Consent Agenda items for public comment; seconded by Committeeman Fuzy. Voice Vote – Motion Carried.

ROGER SCHNEIDER, 93 CHARLES BOSSERT DRIVE: Mr. Schneider asked how the selection of the Ad Hoc Committee members for the Municipal Complex Site evaluations was determined. Mr. Theokas stated that one member spoke at the scoping hearing, another is a municipal employee of a different municipality who understands the needs of municipalities and the third public member is a civil engineer. The Ad Hoc Committee’s recommendations will not be binding. The Committee will have the final decision. Mr. Schneider asked if the documentation he provided after the March 2, 2020 Scoping hearing were ever received. Mr. Theokas stated the materials were received and shared with the DEP. The municipality has taken no action since the hearing and has placed the open space diversion on hold.

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

Deputy Mayor Holliday made a motion to adopt the Consent Agenda consisting of Resolutions #2021-118 through #2021-132; seconded by Committeeman Kostoplis. Roll Call Vote:

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

NAY: None

Ordinance #2021-5 entitled AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE #2020-03 ENTITLED AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH TITLES AND SALARY RANGES FOR PERMANENT AND PROVISIONAL EMPLOYEES

Public Hearing: Committeeman Kostoplis made a motion to open the hearing; seconded by Committeeman Fuzy. Voice Vote – Motion Carried. There was no public comment. Deputy Mayor Holliday made a motion to close the public hearing; seconded by Committeeman Fuzy. Voice Vote – Motion Carried.

Adoption: Deputy Mayor Holliday made a motion to adopt Ordinance #2021-5; seconded by Committeeman Kostoplis. Roll Call Vote:

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

NAY: None

Ordinance #2021-5 is adopted.

Business:

Cannabis Legislation: Administrator Theokas reported that the Township has a fixed amount of time to determine what type, if any, cannabis business the Township would like to entertain. Mr. Theokas asked what types of information would assist the Committee in making their decision. It was decided to pursue presentations and perhaps seek the advice of a special counsel.

COVID-19 Update and Loosening of Restrictions: Township Covid numbers are flattening. The Township ranks high in the percentage of people aged 18 and over who are vaccinated. As of now, the Township is continuing to restrict public events. Fireworks will not be held in July but rather in early September. Planning is underway to open Town Hall and return to public meetings.

Administrator’s Report:

Between Memorial Day and Labor Day, Town Hall will be open from 8 AM to 5 PM from Mondays through Thursdays and from 9 AM to 12 noon on Fridays. Improvements to Joseph Lawrence Park are continuing. Chesterfield notified the Township that Hogback Road will be repaved soon. The County will be paving Georgetown Road/Route 454 over the next few weeks.

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 – Motion Carried.

ROGER SCHNEIDER, 93 CHARLES BOSSERT DRIVE: Mr. Schneider requested the Township’s assistance with the County to fix potholes on Route 528, reduce traffic speed and minimize tractor trailer traffic.

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

Deputy Mayor Holliday made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 PM; seconded by Committeeman Kostoplis. Voice Vote – Motion Carried.

MARIA CARRINGTON, RMC
TOWNSHIP CLERK