

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING
JANUARY 29, 2015
(Rescheduled from January 26, 2015 due to weather)

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

PRESENT: Mayor James Cann
Deputy Mayor Jill Popko
Committeeman Stephen Benowitz
Committeeman John Moynihan
Township Clerk Colleen Eckert
Attorney William J. Kearns, Jr.
Chief Financial Officer David Kocian
Public Works Director Dean Buhner
Chief of Police Frank M. Nucera, Jr.

ABSENT: Committeeman Richard Carson

Mayor Cann called the meeting to order at approximately 7:16 p.m. and led a salute to the flag and a moment of silence.

Township Clerk Eckert 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 26, 2015, 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 FAXED to the REGISTER NEWS, 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. Requisite minutes are kept for all meetings, whether open or closed to the public.

At this time, Deputy Mayor Popko made the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Bordentown that it does hereby recess this Special Meeting to meet in Closed Session for the purpose of discussing Borden's Crossing Performance Bond Litigation; 2014 Road Program (Arawak Paving Contract Matter). Matters discussed to be released upon formal action by the Township Committee; seconded by Committeeman Benowitz.

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.

AYE: Committeeman Benowitz, Committeeman Moynihan, Deputy Mayor Popko, Mayor Cann

NAY: None

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ABSENT: Committeeman Carson

The Township Committee of the Township of Bordentown recessed their regular meeting at approximately 7:18 pm and reconvened the regular meeting at 7:41 pm.

At this time, Committeeman Benowitz made a motion to reopen the meeting; seconded by Deputy Mayor Popko.

AYE: Committeeman Benowitz, Committeeman Moynihan, Deputy Mayor Popko, Mayor Cann

NAY: None

ABSENT: Committeeman Carson

Certificates of Appreciation presented to David Dietrich and Sam Vail, Bordentown Township Public Works Department.

Mayor Cann explained to the audience what these individuals did creating the Letters to Santa Mailbox and answering the letters that were received. Along with P.W. Director Buhner, Mayor Cann presented the certificates.

Township Committee discussion with Fred Turek, Alt. Twp. Engineer, pertaining to the Public Works Expansion Project.

Alt. Township Engineer Fred Turek gave a presentation of the status of the Public Works Expansion Project. He provided the Township Committee with a schedule dated December 19, 2014, revised January 26, 2015 and a draft of the site plan. Recycling will begin approximately June 1, 2015. Building construction, a police canine structure, and completion will be July-November, 2015.

ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW

Township Clerk Eckert stated that an Addendum has been provided adding Ordinance #2015-01. Police Chief Nucera said that he received an email dated January 27, 2015 from a resident stating that he overpaid for EMS, his overpayment was refunded to him, and he thanks the Township Committee for their action.

CONSENT AGENDA

Resolution #2015-026-9 entitled APPROVING THE TRANSACTION OF ITEMS OF ROUTINE BUSINESS: PAYMENT OF BILLS.

Resolution #2015-026-10 entitled APPROVING THE TRANSACTION OF ITEMS OF ROUTINE BUSINESS: MINUTES OF MEETINGS AND FILING OF REPORTS.

Resolution #2015-026-11 entitled AUTHORIZING REFUND OF TAX SALE PREMIUM.

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Resolution #2015-026-12 entitled APPOINTING MEMBERS OF THE TOWNSHIP PROFESSIONAL STAFF: ALTERNATE PUBLIC DEFENDER AND FINANCIAL ADVISOR.

Resolution #2015-026-13 entitled AUTHORIZING 2015 BUDGET APPROPRIATION RESERVE TRANSFERS (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-59).

Resolution #2015-026-14 entitled RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF LIBERTY WAY IN CRANBURY TOWNSHIP.

Resolution #2015-026-15 entitled APPROVAL TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION AND EXECUTE A GRANT CONTRACT WITH THE SUSTAINABLE GRANT CERTIFICATION PROGRAM FOR “MOW IT AND LEAVE IT” CAMPAIGN.

Resolution #2015-026-16 entitled APPROVAL TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION AND EXECUTE A GRANT CONTRACT WITH THE SUSTAINABLE GRANT CERTIFICATION PROGRAM FOR “INCREASE CAPACITY GRANT” CAMPAIGN.

Township Clerk Eckert stated that a text message was received from Committeeman Carson expressing his concern on Resolutions #2015-026-15 and #2015-026-16 because he doesn't know what the Township is applying for with these Grants. He would like to see them tabled until more information is provided. She explained this is not a vote, only a concern of Mr. Carson's. Mayor Cann, Deputy Mayor Popko, and Committeeman Benowitz stated that there are upcoming deadlines on these Grants. Deputy Mayor Popko will explain what these Grants are for during her discussion.

Township Committee review and discussion of Consent Agenda Items Resolutions #2015-026-9 through #2015-026-16. Committeeman Moynihan, Committeeman Benowitz, Deputy Mayor Popko, and Mayor Cann commented/asked questions.

Resolution #2015-026-9. Committeeman Moynihan and Deputy Mayor Popko stated that they would like to see the payments for the 2014 Road Program tabled until they have a better understanding on the status of the project. Mayor Cann said that the contract may require the first payment be made.

Resolution #2015-026-10. Mayor Cann and Deputy Mayor Popko cited typographical changes to the December 22, 2014 minutes. Township Clerk Eckert will amend the minutes.

Mayor Cann commented on the final financial report year-to-date 2014. He stated that the municipal debt service went down 10.43%.

Resolution #2015-026-12. Committeeman Moynihan said he will be voting against Phoenix Advisors for Financial Advisor of the Township. He felt that they did not do a good job representing the taxpayers of the Township on the 2009 Bond Referendum for the School District.

At this time, Deputy Mayor Popko made a motion to open to the public the consent agenda items; seconded by Committeeman Moynihan.

AYE: Committeeman Benowitz, Committeeman Moynihan, Deputy Mayor Popko, Mayor Cann

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NAY: None

ABSENT: Committeeman Carson

Seeing no comments, Committeeman Benowitz made a motion to close to the public; seconded by Deputy Mayor Popko.

AYE: Committeeman Benowitz, Committeeman Moynihan, Deputy Mayor Popko, Mayor Cann

NAY: None

ABSENT: Committeeman Carson

At this time, Committeeman Benowitz made a motion to adopt the consent agenda; seconded by Deputy Mayor Popko.

AYE: Committeeman Benowitz, Committeeman Moynihan with nay to appointment of Financial Advisor, Deputy Mayor Popko, Mayor Cann

NAY: None

ABSENT: Committeeman Carson

Consideration of Introduction of Ordinance #2015-1 entitled AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BORDENTOWN PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A HISTORIC PRESERVATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE UNDER AND ADVISORY TO THE PLANNING BOARD.

Mayor Cann stated that Deputy Mayor Popko asked that a Historic Preservation Advisory Committee be established to help the cemetery. Attorney Kearns said that Deputy Mayor Popko asked that a five member committee be established instead of seven. Deputy Mayor Popko added that the chapel which is approximately 150 years old could be restored and there are 270 plots that are strictly for veterans. Bringing historical preservation to this site will hopefully allow veterans to be buried for free. Also, there are other buildings and areas in the Township that should be preserved.

At this time, Deputy Mayor Popko made a motion to introduce Ordinance #2015-1 as amended; seconded by Committeeman Moynihan.

AYE: Committeeman Benowitz, Committeeman Moynihan, Deputy Mayor Popko, Mayor Cann

NAY: None

ABSENT: Committeeman Carson

TOWNSHIP CLERK ECKERT: The public hearing will be February 23rd.

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Township Committee discussion of Status of 2014 Road Program.

Police Chief Nucera said that all the projects for all the road improvements are on hold due to the weather.

Committeeman Moynihan asked about the status of the Bond for the crack sealant machine which was approved last year. Police Chief Nucera responded that it will going out to bid this week.

Committeeman Moynihan also asked about road striping on Williamsburg Drive and Mission Road. Police Chief Nucera responded Williamsburg Drive is (scheduled) on the County Program and additional temporary divots on Mission can be provided.

Mayor Cann said that it is frustrating that the contractor, Arawak, took on more than they could handle and hasn't been able to complete the project. He also said in his opinion that, in the future, the Township needs to begin a Road Program that is continuous and should include micro-surfacing the good roads to extend their life. Committeeman Benowitz added that it should be a priority.

Township Committee discussion of the Potential to Build a New Municipal Building.

Mayor Cann stated that the Township should begin evaluating the existing facility's physical deficiencies and functionality. This year's budget should include hiring of an architect to make recommendations for a new building or expansion of the current one. Committeeman Moynihan said that if there is a better use for this building/property that would help finance a new building at another location, it should also be investigated; the Township Committee was in agreement. An RFP will be obtained and review by the Township Committee.

Township Committee discussion of Green Acres Acquisition located on Crosswicks Road.

Mayor Cann said that there was a sign on Crosswicks Road advertising 16 ½ acres of farmland for sale. The Township Committee all agreed that Mayor Cann should continue to explore the potential for a Green Acres Program Acquisition.

Township Committee discussion of 2015 Municipal Budget.

Mayor Cann stated that the State has provided the Township with filing time requirements and changing of the budget forms. He said Department Heads will submit their budget requests to CFO Kocian by February 20, 2015. A budget workshop is tentatively scheduled for March 7, 2015 so that introduction can be made at the March 23, 2015 Township Committee Meeting.

He gave an overview of several possibilities of where to allocate monies received from the Grainger project. The goal for the 2015 municipal budget will be a flat or a modest reduction in terms of the tax rate, and that it won't negatively impact the 2% CAP amount.

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS

COMMITTEEMAN MOYNIHAN: Committeeman Moynihan said there was a meeting with the N.J. Turnpike Authority on January 15, 2015 regarding the (former) Dix Drive-In. Mayor Cann will report on the meeting.

The Veteran's Advisory Committee met on January 6, 2015. The primary discussion topic was Committee membership. They are actively seeking new members who are Veterans or who are interested

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in Veteran's issues. The Veteran's Outreach Office hours being offered at the National Guard Amory are no longer available. A representative from Senator Allen's office and N.J. AMVETS are still available, in addition to the other Veteran Service organizations listed on the Veteran's Advisory Committee webpage.

The Sewerage Authority met on January 20, 2015. Ellen Gulbinsky, the Township's representative to the Sewerage Authority, was in attendance and will be sworn in at the February meeting. Topics discussed were the Bordentown Waterfront Community Pump Station which is almost operational and the billing which has begun for the apartment building at the Waterfront Community.

The Police Department received a thank you note from a local crime victim commending members of the Department. The Police Department camera on Hedding Road has allowed the officers to cite three of the four tractor trailers for using Hedding Road in November and December. Enforcement of the weight limit on Hedding Road will continue. He read into the record a recent Police press release. Three new officers will graduate from the Police Academy on February 13, 2015.

COMMITTEEMAN BENOWITZ: Committeeman Benowitz said the Senior Citizen business meeting was held on January 5, 2015. There are currently 124 paid members for 2015. He discussed their upcoming events and presentations.

Two meetings with FEMA have been held and more are expected. Progress is being made and FEMA may come through with funding.

Committeeman Benowitz said he made a presentation to the Northern Burlington Chamber of Commerce regarding Development in the Township. Community Development Director Brian Johnson also attended.

The Economic Development Advisory Committee met and their first business breakfast will be Monday, March 23, 2015 at 7:30 a.m. at the Town and Country Restaurant. The EDAC discussed the marketing plan and the goals for 2015.

Mayor Cann and he attended a meeting with Fire District #2 on January 14, 2015. Fire Chief William Hartman retired after 26 years as Fire Chief, and Captain Robert MacFarland was promoted as new Fire Chief.

N.J. State required 10 minor items be addressed on the budget.

The Planning Board Organization meeting occurred on January 8, 2015. The Bordentown Waterfront/Quick-Chek was adjourned to February 12, 2015. The Planning Board meetings will now occur on the first and second Thursday each month for 2015. The Consulting Traffic Engineer was appointed and the Sidewalk Trust Fund was discussed. A meeting was held on January 29, 2015 regarding the Nissim Redevelopment Project; an additional meeting will follow.

A Black History Month event will be Thursday, February 26, 2015 at 7:00 pm at the Senior Center. Topic will include black inventors.

The Mayor's Charity Ball will be Saturday, March 28, 2015 at the Scottish Rite and tickets will be \$75 each. The charities are the Scottish Rite, the Bordentown Elks, and the Applegate Family for their son.

DEPUTY MAYOR POPKO: Deputy Mayor Popko said the Public Works Department is performing snow removal, distributing salt on the ice, and filling pot holes as weather permits. They are also building an office for CFO Kocian.

Deputy Mayor Popko met with Tax Assessor Eileen Carlos. Ms. Carlos informed her that there is a new PILOT program for Assessors coming out of Monmouth County and Burlington County is trying to bring it in. Mayor Cann attended the meeting today regarding this. Ms. Carlos said she is in need of a computer and will be moving to where the CFO currently is located.

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Deputy Mayor Popko is working on Grants for the Environmental Commission and the Green Team. One Grant is for an Electric Commercial Lawnmower for \$10,000 for the Township. The second is for a \$2,000 Capacity Grant to advertise and build the programs they are doing. Another Grant she is working on is with the DVRPC for \$3.6 million to lower CO2s in the community. She attended a symposium in Philadelphia that gave various ideas for ways how to initiate reduction of CO2s.

The Environmental Commission is working on a letter to the Water Department. They want to know more about the problem with the radon in the water, remediation, and the timeline for remediation.

She met with Angel Sauro regarding the 2015 Township events calendar.

Deputy Mayor Popko attended the Board of Education meeting. Bordentown City and she discussed getting the Board of Education onboard with Sustainable Jersey and the economic savings involved. They will be meeting with their Buildings and Grounds Committee next week.

MAYOR CANN: P.W. Director Buhner, Police Chief Nucera, C.D. Director Brian Johnson, Committeeman Moynihan, and he met with Supervising Engineer John Keller of the N.J. Turnpike on the (former) Dix Drive-In. One of the items discussed was the condition of the property when it is turned back over to the Township. The Township has been permitted to bring equipment on site to dig to see if anything has been buried. There are remaining building/construction materials they will be disposing that our Public Works Department will take. The Township has agreed to further discuss how the driveways can be separated so one is not used by the contractors; other options are being explored.

The administrative sub-committee met with Attorney Kearns regarding the selected Administrator. He provided a rough draft of a contract that Committeeman Moynihan and he will review.

In regard to the County Assessment Program held today, Burlington County is trying to become part of the PILOT that is in place in Monmouth County where the municipality maintains a 100% assessment every year. Mayor Cann said he was not against the PILOT, but he is not a fan. He explained how the PILOT works stating the advantages and disadvantages. The cost burden will fall on the municipality. It is his opinion that until it is fully in place and the Township can get concrete data from Monmouth County that the PILOT works, the Township should send them a resolution opposing the PILOT. Burlington County will be making a decision on October 1, 2015.

Mayor Cann discussed the status of the punch list with Meadow Run. The Township will be giving them a definitive time line for their punch list.

Due to the weather, the Shared Services meeting with the surrounding municipalities has been postponed to early February.

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

AYE: Committeeman Benowitz, Committeeman Moynihan, Deputy Mayor Popko, Mayor Cann

NAY: None

ABSENT: Committeeman Carson

DIANE HEINZ, 3 Hattaras Court: Ms. Heinz said there was a dryer fire in Williamsburg Village last night. She asked if the Township had an ordinance regarding dryer and fireplace cleaning. Mayor Cann responded that he was not aware of an ordinance but the fire department may have information that could be sent out with the tax bills reminding residents to perform maintenance. Committeeman Benowitz suggested

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inviting a representative of the fire company to attend an HOA meeting. Deputy Mayor Popko announced that the Fire Districts annual budget vote is scheduled in February.

Ms. Heinz said that this year Williamsburg Village hired a new landscaper who also does snow removal. The new landscaper snowed in a court. The HOA contacted the Township's Public Works Department who cleared out the court and checked all the other courts. She received many compliments this week on the snow plowing performed by the Township's Public Works Department.

CAROL de GROOT, 8 Arlington Road: Mrs. de Groot said she still has not received any email notifications. Deputy Mayor Popko responded that the Township Webmaster showed us her account and that someone in her home flagged a message from the Township as spam. Mayor Cann said that they would follow-up with the Webmaster who is checking on this. Mrs. de Groot added that the next Township Newsletter could include the dryer and chimney reminders. The newsletter should go out again this spring/summer.

WALT KOSUL, 539 Route 206: Mr. Kosul said he appreciated the information the Mayor gave on the County's Tax Assessor PILOT program. He added additional comments.

Mr. Kosul asked about the 2014 budget. Mayor Cann responded the Township was within 1½ percent.

Seeing no further comments, Deputy Mayor Popko made a motion to close the public portion of the meeting; seconded by Committeeman Moynihan.

AYE: Committeeman Benowitz, Committeeman Moynihan, Deputy Mayor Popko, Mayor Cann

NAY: None

ABSENT: Committeeman Carson

At this time, Committeeman Moynihan 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 Deputy Mayor Popko.

AYE: Committeeman Benowitz, Committeeman Moynihan, Deputy Mayor Popko, Mayor Cann

NAY: None

ABSENT: Committeeman Carson

The regular meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Bordentown was adjourned at approximately 9:47 p.m.

JAMES CANN, MAYOR

COLLEEN M. ECKERT, TOWNSHIP CLERK