

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
JANUARY 22, 2018

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  
Committeeman Eric Holliday  
Committeeman James Kostoplis  
Committeeman Ken Mason  
Administrator Michael Theokas  
Township Clerk Colleen Eckert  
Attorney Eileen Fahey  
Chief Financial Officer Jeffrey Elsasser

ABSENT: None

Mayor Benowitz called the meeting to order at approximately 7:11 p.m. and led a salute to the flag and a moment of silence. He dedicated the moment of silence to the passing of former Governor of New Jersey, Brendan Byrne and Committeeman Kostoplis' mother, Joan Kostoplis.

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 11, 2018, 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 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 Fuzy 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:

- Environmental Litigation Matters: Elcon and Transco Compressor Station.
- Affordable Housing Contract Matters.
- Bordentown Township Police Supervisors Contract Matters.
- Shared Services Contract Matters: Municipal Court and Animal Control.

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 Holliday.

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

NAY: None

The Township Committee of the Township of Bordentown recessed their regular meeting at approximately 6:34 pm and reconvened the regular meeting at 7:37 pm.

**Resolution #2018-022-6 entitled RESOLUTION TO APPOINT CHIEF OF POLICE AND APPROVING EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT FOR SAME.**

At this time, Committeeman Holliday made a motion to approve Resolution #2018-022-6; seconded by Deputy Mayor Fuzy.

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

NAY: None

Mayor Benowitz read the Resolution into the record and said a few words. Township Clerk Eckert administered the Oath of the Office to Chief of Police Brian Pesce. Police Chief Pesce thanked everyone.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW**

Township Clerk Eckert announced that Resolution #2018-022-23A is being added to the Consent Agenda.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**Resolution #2018-022-8 entitled APPROVING THE TRANSACTION OF ITEMS OF ROUTINE BUSINESS: PAYMENT OF BILLS.**

**Resolution #2018-022-9 entitled APPROVING THE TRANSACTION OF ITEMS OF ROUTINE BUSINESS: MINUTES OF MEETINGS AND FILING OF REPORTS.**

**Resolution #2018-022-10 entitled AUTHORIZING REFUND OF TAX SALE PREMIUM.**

**Resolution #2018-022-11 entitled AUTHORIZING REFUND OF TAX SALE PREMIUM.**

**Resolution #2018-022-12 entitled AUTHORIZING REFUND OF TAX SALE PREMIUM.**

**Resolution #2018-022-13 entitled AUTHORIZING REFUND OF TAX SALE PREMIUM.**

**Resolution #2018-022-14 entitled AUTHORIZING REFUND OF OVERPAYMENT OF TAXES.**

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**Resolution #2018-022-15 entitled RESOLUTION APPOINTING FUNDING COMMISSIONER AND ALTERNATE FUND COMMISSIONER FOR THE SOUTHERN NEW JERSEY REGIONAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS FUND.**

**Resolution #2018-022-16 entitled RESOLUTION APPROVING A TEMPORARY BUDGET AMENDMENT.**

**Resolution #2018-022-17 entitled RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BORDENTOWN AUTHORIZING THE RENEWAL OF THE TERM OF AN INTERLOCAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH BORDENTOWN CITY, MANSFIELD, CHESTERFIELD, NORTH HANOVER AND SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIPS CONCERNING EXTRA DUTY ASSIGNMENT OF POLICE OFFICERS.**

**Resolution #2018-022-18 entitled RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN EXCHANGE OF CONSTRUCTION CODE SERVICES.**

**Resolution #2018-022-19 entitled APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE VETERANS ADVISORY COMMITTEE.**

**Resolution #2018-022-20 entitled RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A CONTRACT WITH PYROTECNICO FOR JULY 4<sup>TH</sup> FIREWORKS DISPLAY.**

**Resolution #2018-022-21 entitled RESOLUTION TO APPOINT CYNTHIA DZIURA AS DEPUTY TOWNSHIP CLERK.**

**Resolution #2018-022-22 entitled A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BORDENTOWN AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A LEASE WITH THE FOUNDATION FOR BORDENTOWN TRADITIONS.**

**Resolution #2018-022-23 entitled AUTHORIZING 2017 BUDGET APPROPRIATION RESERVE TRANSFERS (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-59).**

**Resolution #2018-022-23A entitled A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BORDENTOWN APPROVING THE CONTRACT BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF BORDENTOWN AND THE BORDENTOWN TOWNSHIP POLICE SUPERVISORS (LIEUTENANTS AND CAPTAINS).**

Township Committee review and discussion of Consent Agenda Items Resolutions #2018-022-8 through #2018-022-23A. Mayor Benowitz commented/asked questions on the Consent Agenda.

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

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

NAY: None

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

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 Deputy Mayor Fuzy.

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

NAY: None

**Consideration of Introduction of Ordinance #2018-1 entitled AN ORDINANCE CHANGING THE STREET NAME OF ALTRAN COURT TO ADVANTAGE COURT.**

At this time, Committeeman Mason made a motion to introduce Ordinance #2018-1: seconded by Committeeman Holliday.

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

NAY: None

TOWNSHIP CLERK ECKERT: The public hearing will be February 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Township Committee discussion of Burlington County request for Aerial Larval/Adult Mosquito Spraying**

Mayor Benowitz said that the Township has to send a letter to the County every year requesting additional information including spraying techniques, what pesticides are used, etc. Administrator Theokas said that he received some additional information in the mail today. Township Clerk Eckert said that a response is due back to the County by April 1, 2018. The Township will send a letter to the County again.

**ADMINISTRATOR REPORT**

Administrator Theokas said that on January 9, 2018, on behalf of the Township he attended the Committee for the Abbott Marshlands meeting.

He attended the JIF's reorganization meeting. He is on the Finance and Strategic Planning Committees.

CFO Elsasser and he have begun budget preparation.

The first in-service training is scheduled for Saturday, February 3, 2018 at 9:00 a.m.

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He followed up with the County on the lighting and signage for the crosswalk on Crosswicks Road. There will be a meeting with the County Engineers for installation. Police Chief Pesce will continue enforcement of speeding and traffic on the road.

There have been meetings with AFSME, the Public Works Union, and hopefully there will be an agreement before the Township Committee by the February 12, 2018 Meeting.

**TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE REPORTS**

COMMITTEEMAN KOSTOPLIS: The Fire District meetings took place prior to January 6, 2018, so he did not have anything to report yet.

He reached out to most of the people that he has liaison responsibilities with, and he will be getting their reports and attending some of their upcoming meetings.

COMMITTEEMAN MASON: Committeeman Mason said he attended the Town Hall meeting. Mayor Benowitz, Administrator Theokas, and Police Chief Pesce did a wonderful job. It was a really good event bringing the Town forward.

He will be attending the Board of Education meeting on January 24, 2018.

He received a tour of the Township building where he met the staff.

On January 20, 2018, Deputy Mayor Fuzy and he attended a workshop in Mount Laurel for newly elected officials.

COMMITTEEMAN HOLLIDAY: Committeeman Holliday reminded residents to lock their vehicles. He described some training that the Police Department participated in, and cited upcoming events. The body worn camera program has been in place since December 29, 2017. In 2017, the department collected 202 lbs. of prescription medication in the drop box.

Committeeman Holliday said Animal Control has been very busy.

He attended the January 11, 2018 Planning Board Meeting. He described the applications that were approved/memorialized.

On January 9, 2018, he attended the Veteran's Advisory meeting. Bryan Branson is now the Chairman. He cited what was accomplished at the meeting.

DEPUTY MAYOR FUZY: On December 27, 2018, he attended a meeting with the former and current mayors of Chesterfield Township to discuss environmental monitoring of the compressor station.

On January 2, 2018, he attended the District #2 Derby Fire Company meeting with Committeemen Kostoplis and Holliday. He summarized what was discussed at their meeting.

He met with P.W. Director Buhner and discussed rock salt. He asked Administrator Theokas if a rough estimate for a salt facility could be obtained. The Public Works Department is looking into a GIS map for all the Township's storm drains. They will look at the trees on Klein Drive in the spring; it may be old age rather than the emerald ash borer. The Public Works Department has been performing necessary general maintenance.

On January 16, 2018, he attended the Environmental Commission Meeting. He cited their upcoming events.

On January 17, 2018, he attended the Town Meeting along with the entire Committee.

The calendar with all the Township events is on our website.

There will be a meeting in February to teach residents to identify frogs by sound, including a new species of leopard frog.

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MAYOR BENOWITZ: The Black History Month event is scheduled for February 28, 2018 at the High School.

On January 2, 2018, he attended the Business Meeting for the Bordentown Township Senior Club and their Social Meeting on January 16, 2018.

On January 3, 2018, he attended an Affordable Housing Meeting.

The Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for Jimmy's Fireside American Grill was conducted on January 4, 2018.

He attended the Veteran's Advisory Committee Meeting.

He attended the Economic Development Advisory Committee Meeting (EDAC). There was a marketing discussion and the EDAC's role in the Master Plan preparation.

On January 12, 2018, he attended the West Point Band Concert with other members of the Township Committee. A joint Proclamation from Bordentown City and Township was presented.

He attended the Northern Burlington Chamber of Commerce Membership Breakfast on January 11, 2018.

Several meetings that included Administrator Theokas, Attorney Fahey, Police Chief Pesce, Bordentown City Mayor Jim Lynch, and Bordentown City Police Chief Fred Miller were conducted with regard to the Town Hall meeting held on January 17, 2018.

He attended the January 11, 2018 Planning Board Meeting.

Construction Code Official interviews were conducted on January 11, 2018.

Letters to homeowners' associations were sent requesting to attend the meetings.

Meetings with the Mayors of Bordentown City and Chesterfield Township will continue on a regular basis.

Two meetings occurred today regarding the Township's Affordable Housing Matrix. Participants included representatives from the Nissim Redevelopment and Volunteers of America Phases I and II.

In regard to the Town Hall meeting held on January 17, 2018, Mayor Benowitz thanked Bordentown City Mayor Jim Lynch, Bordentown City Police Chief Fred Miller, Administrator Theokas, Attorney Fahey, the Bordentown Township Committee, and the residents who attended. It showed transparency and the willingness to move forward.

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

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

NAY: None

LEN de GROOT, 8 Arlington Road: Mr. de Groot commented on the traffic and safety hazard at the intersection of Farnsworth Avenue and Route 206 at the entrance of the Sewer Authority. Mr. de Groot asked if there was a Grant available to create an alternate road on the right-of-way at a cost of \$600,000. Administrator Theokas responded that the Township will look into it.

Mr. de Groot said that last week's Town Hall meeting was a new beginning. He thanked Bordentown City and Township.

ROGER SCHNEIDER, 93 Charles Bossert Drive: Mr. Schneider expressed his concern about the speeding and traffic on Route 528/Crosswicks Road. Administrator Theokas responded that the County is putting in another sign and additional crosswalk signage and painting.

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At this time, 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

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 the regular meeting to meet in closed session for the purpose of discussing personnel, litigation, and contract matters with no action to be taken; seconded by Committeeman Mason.

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

NAY: None

The Township Committee of the Township of Bordentown recessed their regular meeting at approximately 8:32 pm and reconvened the regular meeting at 8:54 pm.

At this time, Deputy Mayor Fuzy 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 Holliday.

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 8:54 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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COLLEEN M. ECKERT, TOWNSHIP CLERK