

The October 24, 2017 meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Pequannock, Morris County, New Jersey was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building Meeting Room located at 530 Newark-Pompton Turnpike; Mayor Melissa Florance-Lynch presiding.

Township Clerk Carol Marsh read the following statement for inclusion in the meeting minutes:

*"In accordance with the requirements of New Jersey's Open Public Meetings Act, notice of this meeting was included in the Annual Meeting Notice which was filed in the Office of the Township Clerk; posted on the Bulletin Board in the Municipal Building; published as legal notice in the Suburban Trends newspaper; and distributed to all persons requesting notice in accordance with Township policy."*

Mayor Florance-Lynch led the Pledge of Allegiance, which was followed by a prayer and a moment of thanks for those individuals serving our nation.

Present:

- Mayor Melissa Florance-Lynch
- Deputy Mayor Catherine Winterfield
- Councilman Ryan Herd
- Councilman David Kohle
- Councilman Richard Phelan

Absent: None

Also Attending:

- David Hollberg, Township Manager
- Robert Oostdyk, Esq., Township Attorney
- Christopher Tietjen, Asst. to the Twp. Manager
- Carol J. Marsh, Township Clerk

There were 18 members of the public in attendance.

**PRESENTATIONS.**

- A proclamation on Human Trafficking Awareness was presented.
- October 2017 was proclaimed Bullying Prevention Month.

**REPORTS FROM VOLUNTEERS.**

- Louise Marchese, Flood Control Advisory Committee Recording Secretary, reported homes receiving 2015 flood elevation grant may be able to begin construction in the spring; the Committee is concerned about additional homes included in the revised FIRM maps, and about issues related to financing of construction prior to grant reimbursement. The Committee has submitted its 2018 committee budget request.

**PUBLIC COMMENT.**

- Mike Bertuna, 8 Reynolds Road, reported conducting a Facebook poll regarding the Township's Carry In/Carry Out policy where the results were in favor of returning garbage cans to the parks.
- Stacy Ann Webb, 289 Boulevard, commented she had never seen Mr. Bertuna's Facebook poll.
- Lou Hebert, 11 Copley Court, invited the public and members of the Council to a Veteran's Day ceremony to be held on Monday, November 13<sup>th</sup> at 11 a.m. at Pequannock Valley School.
- Laura Levine, 364 Turnpike, introduced herself and her husband Matt Levine and urged the Council to think of her family.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS.**

**PUBLIC HEARING - Ordinance No. 2017-15; ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 129 OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PEQUANNOCK ENTITLED, "PARKS AND RECREATION"**

On a motion by Mr. Phelan, seconded by Mr. Herd, the Public Hearing was opened without objection.

There were no public comments.

On a motion by Mr. Kohle, seconded by Mr. Herd, the Public Hearing was closed without objection.

On a motion by Mr. Herd seconded by Mr. Phelan, the ordinance was adopted by the following vote:

For: Mr. Herd, Mr. Kohle, Mr. Phelan, Ms. Winterfield, Mayor Florance-Lynch.

Against: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None

**PUBLIC HEARING - Ordinance No. 2017-16; AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE OF BLOCK 3711, LOT 6 (DEUTSCHE BANK)**

On a motion by Mr. Kohle, seconded by Ms. Winterfield, the Public Hearing was opened without objection

- Frank Spizzirri, 35 West Franklin Avenue, and Vice Chair of the Open Space Advisory Committee, thanked the Council for acquiring this property.

On a motion by Mr. Kohle, seconded by Mr. Phelan, the Public Hearing was closed without objection.

On a motion by Mr. Phelan, seconded by Mr. Herd, the ordinance was adopted by the following vote:

For: Mr. Herd, Mr. Kohle, Mr. Phelan, Ms. Winterfield, Mayor Florance-Lynch.

Against: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None.

**ORDINANCE INTRODUCTIONS.** There were no ordinances presented for introduction.

**RESOLUTIONS.**

- **R2017-185**, authorizing Tax Office refunds, overpayments or cancellations.
- **R2017-186**, confirming the designated membership in the Pequannock Township Fire Department (Murphy, Delcorpo).
- **R2017-187**, approving submission of a 2018 NJDOT Municipal Aid grant application and authorizing execution of a grant contract for the Hillview Road project.
- **R2017-188**, approving Change Order No. 1 for the **Mountain Avenue Water Storage Tank and Transmission Main – Contract 1** project increasing the contract with DN Tanks, Inc. of Wakefield, MA by \$12,560.32 to a revised contract price of \$2,455,736.32.
- **R2017-189**, cancelling unexpended Capital Appropriation balances.
- **R2017-190**, approving payment of the itemized claims as set forth on the **October 20, 2017** Bill List.

On a motion by Mr. Herd, seconded by Mr. Kohle, **Resolutions R2017-185 through R2017-190** were adopted by the following vote:

For: Mr. Herd, Mr. Kohle, Mr. Phelan, Ms. Winterfield, Mayor Florance-Lynch.

Against: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None.

**ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION.**

- 2017 Best Practices
- Mr. Hollberg reported all questions on the worksheet this year are repeated questions and his answers are consistent with those of prior years.

- At the request of Ms. Winterfield, Mr. Hollberg provided background information on the submission of contracts and the status of the employee handbook.
- **ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 129 OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PEQUANNOCK ENTITLED, "PARKS AND RECREATION" (FIELD USE SCHEDULING AND FEES)**  
Mr. Hollberg explained the proposed ordinance would update the Township's policy on field use scheduling to base the fee structure on Township and non-Township organizations rather than profit and non-profit status, and makes a portion of the fees nonrefundable to discourage over booking of field time. After discussion, members of the Council agreed to move forward with the ordinance.
- **Hiring process: Township Manager**  
Members of the Council discussed the pros and cons of hiring a search firm. Members agreed to solicit advice at the League of Municipalities from the League and other vendors prior to further discussion. The Township Clerk was requested to notice a Special Meeting for November 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 p.m. to discuss the hiring process.
- Members of the Council selected January 2, 2018 at 6 p.m. as the date and time of the 2018 Reorganization Meeting, and December 12, 2017 at 6pm for discussion of committee appointments.

#### **REPORTS AND NOTICES.**

- Assembly Resolution No. 216: Encourages NJ homeowners to plant native plants that support bee populations and create habitat for all pollinators.
- Resolution supporting opposition to legislative proposals regarding the Open Public Meetings Act and Open Public Records Act (Township of East Hanover and Borough of Netcong).
- Township of East Hanover Resolution supporting Senate No. 1832 and Assembly No. 3823 in establishing a "Fast Track Foreclosure Law".

#### **MANAGER'S REPORT.** Township Manager David Hollberg reported the following:

- A formal update of various projects has been distributed. The memo includes dates of FEMA meetings regarding the preliminary flood maps. Locations of the meetings is expected to be clarified in the next few days and information regarding the meetings will be distributed shortly thereafter. The Council requested information be mailed to homeowners in the flood zone individually.
- Methods of providing assistance such as bridge loans to homeowners considering flood mitigation construction were reviewed.

#### **COUNCIL REPORTS.**

##### ***Mr. Kohle:***

- First Aid Squad Installation Dinner is November 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Brownstone. Members of the Council are requested to RSVP if they haven't done so.

##### ***Ms. Winterfield:***

- No report.

##### ***Mr. Phelan:***

- Fire Co. No. 2 thanked everyone for attending their Fish and Chip dinner.
- Fire Co. No. 1 is considering a Beefsteak Dinner November 4<sup>th</sup>.

##### ***Mr. Herd:***

- Municipal Alliance Committee meets November 7<sup>th</sup>.
- Senior Advisory Committee also meets November 7<sup>th</sup>.
- Open Space Committee meets November 13<sup>th</sup>.

- Reported receiving complaints about a property on Newark Pompton Turnpike near Alexander Avenue.

**Mayor Florance-Lynch:**

- Hazardous Waste Day is October 28<sup>th</sup> at PV Park from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- November 4<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. is Shred Day.
- Commended Eagle Scout Anthony Finnen on his Eagle Scout project.
- There is a special Flood Advisory Committee meeting tomorrow at 7 p.m.
- Reported on programs sponsored by the Morris County EDC and the Morris County Chamber and requested information regarding membership.

**PUBLIC COMMENT.**

- Mike Bertuna, 8 Reynolds Road, expressed support for notifying individual homeowners of the FEMA meeting; questioned if the Carry In/Carry Out discussion is over so that he can report the status on Facebook.
- Kyle Russell, 6 Walnut Avenue, questioned if the Council would like to receive emails from constituents regarding the Carry In/Carry Out policy; reported on information distributed by Lincoln Park to homeowners in flood zones; complimented Mr. Hollberg on his work and recommended hiring a search firm.
- Lou Hebert, 11 Copley Court, questioned if Council members will be attending the Veteran's Day ceremony to be held on Monday, November 13<sup>th</sup> at 11 a.m. at Pequannock Valley School.
- Frank Spizzirri, 35 West Franklin Avenue, confirmed State parks are moving toward a carry in/carry out policy; stated the Governor has provided \$75 million in Blue Acres funds for flood houses that might be available to the Township as grant money; reported the water tank looks great from the highway and suggested it be considered as a cell site; commented Mr. Hollberg will be difficult to replace.
- Louise Marchese, 16 Roland Road, commented 3 houses in her neighborhood have been taken down, objected to bringing more down, and stated Mr. Hollberg is the only manager she has liked in 25 years.
- Frank Spizzirri questioned where the trees are down.


**APPROVAL OF MINUTES.**


On a motion by Mr. Phelan, seconded by Mr. Kohle, minutes of the September 12, 2017 and September 26, 2017 meetings were approved without objection.

**EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSION.** There was no Executive Session.

**ADJOURNMENT.**

There being no further business, on a motion by Mr. Kohle, seconded by Mr. Herd, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m. without objection.

  
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Carol J. Marsh, Township Clerk

  
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Melissa Florance-Lynch, Mayor