

## **PEQUANNOCK TOWNSHIP COUNCIL**

Workshop Meeting ▪ January 11, 2011

The Workshop Meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Pequannock was called to order at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 11, 2011 in the Town Hall meeting room located at 530 Newark-Pompton Turnpike; Mayor Richard Phelan presiding. There were 30 members of the public present.

The Township Clerk 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 mailed to all persons requesting notice and supplying postage-paid envelope in accordance with Township policy."*

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

### **ROLL CALL**

#### **Present:**

Edward G. Engelbart  
Melissa Florance-Lynch  
Richard Phelan  
Joel D. Vanderhoff  
Catherine Winterfield

**Absent:** None

#### **Also attending:**

David Hollberg, Township Manager  
Michael Hubner, Township Attorney  
Jay Delaney, Township Clerk

### **PRESENTATIONS**

Fire Chief David Reeves presented the 2010 year-end report of the Fire Department and discussed training and changes to Standard Operating Guidelines (SOG) adopted during the year. Mayor Phelan and the Council thanked Chief Reeves and Chief James for their efforts.

### **REPORTS FROM VOLUNTEERS**

First Aid Squad Chief Greg Renna commented on bills pending in the Legislature, A-2095 and S-818, which will impact the delivery of Emergency Medical Services. Chief Renna outlined the Squad's opposition to the requirements for two EMTs in every ambulance; the planned availability of training funds to private services. Chief Renna requested the Council support the Squad's efforts in opposing these aspects of the legislation. The Council agreed to adopt a resolution addressing the Squad's concerns.

Dara Hardaker, Flood Control Advisory Committee member, reported on the committee plans which were discussed at its initial meeting.

Frank Spizzirri, Chairman of the Open Space Advisory Committee, reported on the committee reorganization and meeting schedule. Mr. Spizzirri distributed a priority listing of properties for acquisition as part of the Riverwalk Plan. Township Manager Hollberg reported on the on-going discussions with FEMA representatives for flood mitigation funds.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Rocco Salluce, 153 Jacksonville Road, welcomed the new Council Members and commented on the proposed salary ordinance for Council and the Police Department chain-of-command.

Tom Aikey, 16 Cameron Avenue, introduced himself as a nine-year member of the Zoning Board of Adjustment and questioned why he not re-appointed. Mayor Phelan responded the Council is still reviewing a number of appointments to the various boards. Mr. Aikey outlined his experience in the construction field.

### **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

There were no public hearings.

### **ORDINANCE INTRODUCTIONS**

There were no ordinances introduced.

### **RESOLUTIONS**

The following resolutions were reviewed for adoption:

**R2011-32**, authorizing Tax Office refunds, overpayments or cancellations

**R2011-33**, approving issuance of an Alcoholic Beverage Control *Social Affair Special Permit* for Pequannock Township First Aid Squad & Rescue Squad

Squad member Allison Kane reported the license is for the Casino Night fundraiser scheduled for January 29<sup>th</sup> and invited all to attend.

**R2011-34**, re-appointing Joan Shane to the Senior Citizens Advisory Committee

**R2011-35**, approving payment of the itemized claims as set forth on the January 7, 2011 Bill List Councilperson Winterfield requested a listing sorted by fund.

**R2011-36**, confirming the appointment of Philip Dickinson and Nicholas Kapotes as Class IV members of the Planning Board

On a motion by Mr. Engelbart, seconded by Mr. Vanderhoff, the above resolutions were adopted by consent the following vote:

**FOR:** Mr. Engelbart, Mrs. Florance-Lynch, Mayor Phelan, Mr. Vanderhoff, Ms. Winterfield.  
**AGAINST:** None.      **ABSTAIN:** None.      **ABSENT:** None.

#### **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION.**

The following issues were discussed:

- a.** Resolution designating the Pompton Plains Train Station property as a park/recreation area and ordinance prohibiting smoking  
 Mr. Engelbart reported the designation has been suggested by the Historic District Commission to address loitering enforcement issues at the museum property.
- b.** Contract with The Land Conservancy of N.J. for Open Space Advisory services for the year 2011
- c.** A-2095/S-818 (Medical Service Delivery)
- d.** Fire Department Membership (Ord. No. 2010-35 previously tabled)  
 Township Manager Hollberg provided background on the request from Company No. 2 to relax the existing age limit and reported there is disagreement between the companies on the benefit of changing the ordinance. Township Attorney Hubner outlined the issues involved and the history of age limits as they relate to career versus volunteer fire-fighters. After lengthy discussion which included comments from Fire Chief Reeves and training officer George Fournier, the attorney was directed to draft a revised ordinance that removes the upper age limit and leaves the issue of medical review as a Township personnel policy established by the Manager.
- e.** Mayor/Council salary range
- f.** Flood Advisory Committee; increasing from 7 to 11 members
- g.** Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee; increasing from 9 to 11 members
- h.** Fair Housing Committee; increasing from 5 members and two alternates to 7 regular members  
 The Township Attorney was directed to prepare the ordinances to implement these changes.

#### **REPORTS & NOTICES.**

Tax Appeals: G. & E. Allison (11 Ryerson Ave.); R. Van Riper (10 Orchard Rd.)

#### **MANAGER'S REPORT**

Township Manager Hollberg's report included the following items:

- Purchases completed on several Open Space property acquisitions; utilities are being terminated.
- Reminded residents of snow removal requirements.
- Staff is moving forward on the emergency AM radio station project with installation planned for the First Aid Building.
- Emergency generator has been installed at the Public Works Garage.
- Updated flood information is being prepared for dissemination to residents.
- Health Department has completed quality improvement training which has also been applied to the sewer application process.
- Received request to amend the existing Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) agreement with Pequannock Senior Housing Corporation to include the additional units planned at the site.
- New Bridge Service has submitted a CDBG application to Morris County for fire code upgrades.

#### **COUNCIL REPORTS**

Councilman Vanderhoff – noted the lack of safety vests being worn by Gaeta employees; reported on attendance at the Freeholder reorganization meeting; questioned a missed vegetative collection day during the recent snow storm and recycling of white goods; reported sleigh riding at Foothills Park is active; suggested Public Works perform chipping of removed trees; Fire Co.

1 heat problems. Mr. Vanderhoff requested all committees submit copies of their minutes to the Clerk.

Deputy Mayor Florance-Lynch – reported on the Senior Advisory Committee meeting, recent activities and planned improvements at the Senior House; scheduled meetings of the Economic Development Committee and Library Board.

Councilman Engelbart – reported on the recent meeting and plans of the Historic District Commission; noted the requirements for recycling of electronic equipment; suggested participating in the Morris County Improvement Authority energy savings program; noted the NJ League of Municipalities report on the state pension systems.

Councilperson Winterfield – reported on the Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee; noted the unavailability of Channel 77 on basic cable service; questioned the status on replacement of the sign in front of the Municipal Building.

Mayor Phelan – announced upcoming events: Riverwalk (April 2<sup>nd</sup>), First Aid Casino Night (January 29<sup>th</sup>), Budget Meetings (beginning January 18<sup>th</sup>); reported he will not be joining the NJ Conference of Mayors; and reported on plans to update the Township description on the website.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Jerry Piro, 82 Madison Avenue, congratulated the Mayor and welcomed Mrs. Florance-Lynch and Ms. Winterfield to the Council.

Rocco Salluce, 153 Jacksonville Road, suggested the County be requested to reduce the dumping fee; asked if all the Council will be reducing their salary. Councilman Vanderhoff replied that he would not be.


Allison Kane, 4 Libby Avenue, commented on the Fire Department age limit ordinance and suggested the medical requirement should be applied uniformly to new and existing members.

#### **EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSION**

There was no Closed Session.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, on a motion by Mr. Vanderhoff seconded by Ms. Winterfield the meeting was adjourned at 9:56 p.m. by unanimous vote of the Council. There were 19 members of the public present.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Joseph J. Delaney, Jr., Township Clerk