The April 28, 2020 meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Pequannock, Morris County, New Jersey was called to order at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was held via Zoom Webinar; Mayor Ryan Herd 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 a legal notice in the Suburban Trends newspaper; and distributed to all persons requesting notice in accordance with Township policy. Information on remote access was sent via email to the Suburban Trends, Daily Record and Record newspapers and posted on the Township's website and at the entrance to the municipal building."

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

Present:  
Mayor Ryan Herd  
Deputy Mayor Kyle Russell  
Councilwoman Melissa Florance-Lynch  
Councilman David Kohle  
Absent:  
Councilman Richard Phelan  

Also Attending:  
Adam Brewer, Township Manager  
Valerie Dolan, Township Auditor  
Julie Kupilik, Twp. Chief Financial Officer  
Robert Oostdyk, Esq., Township Attorney  
Carol J. Marsh, Township Clerk

There were 4 members of the public in attendance via Zoom.

PRESENTATIONS.

- Mr. Brewer gave a presentation on the 2020 Municipal Budget, reviewing the process and timeline, the proposed tax rate including the library and Open Space Trust Fund tax rates. The presentation included an overview of anticipated expenses and appropriations for the current fund, utility funds and the Capital program and contained information on potential impacts of COVID-19.

REPORTS FROM VOLUNTEERS. There were no reports from volunteers.

PUBLIC COMMENT.

- Frank Spizzirri, 35 West Franklin Avenue, questioned if the council planned to extend the grace period for the payment of taxes, requested justification for the decrease in the Open Space tax and requested information on available COVID-19 testing for those who are non-symptomatic. In reference to resolution R2020-109, Mr. Spizzirri questioned the purchase of equipment in the face of challenges to the budget. It was explained the cost of the truck was below budget and the purchase was made prior to the pandemic.

- Dave Hollberg, 289 Boulevard, expressed concern about the potential consequences of extending the grace period for taxes and recommended "in the strongest possible terms" the council not consider such an extension noting some taxpayers who are able to pay may delay their payments. Mr. Hollberg also recommended the Township do everything possible to manage cash flow prior to incurring additional debt through the use of Tax Anticipation Notes.
MANAGER’S REPORT. Township Manager Adam Brewer reviewed the Manager’s report for the meeting, noting the Township received correspondence from the County regarding the Community Development Block Grant program and recommended the Township continue its participation in the program. Members of the council agreed. Mr. Brewer also noted the paving of Hillview Road and the paving and striping of the Hillview School parking lot have been completed.

PUBLIC HEARINGS.

PUBLIC HEARING – 2020 Municipal Budget
On a motion by Mrs. Florance-Lynch, seconded by Mr. Kohle, the Public Hearing was opened without objection
There were no public comments.
On a motion by Mr. Kohle, seconded by Mrs. Russell, the Public Hearing was closed without objection.

ORDINANCE INTRODUCTIONS. There were no ordinances presented for introduction.

RESOLUTIONS.
- **R2020-109**, approving Change Order No. 1 for the Purchase of a Tree Truck Increasing the Contract with Terex Utilities, Inc. by $444.00 to a Revised Contract Price of $206,451.00.
- **R2020-110**, authorizing Tax Office refunds, overpayments or cancellations.

On a motion by Mrs. Russell, seconded by Mrs. Florance-Lynch, Resolutions **R2020-109** through **R2020-111** were adopted by the following vote:
   - For: Mrs. Florance-Lynch, Mr. Kohle, Mrs. Russell, Mayor Herd
   - Against: None.
   - Abstain: None.
   - Absent: Mr. Phelan.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION. There were no discussion items.

REPORTS AND NOTICES. There were no reports or notices.

COUNCIL REPORTS.

Ms. Florance-Lynch
- Economic Development Advisory Committee met. Jim Sarto, from the Chamber of Commerce participated in the meeting. The Chair of the EDC is meeting with the Township Manager tomorrow. The Committee is updating their website with information for the community. The committee has been working with the Chamber which has been active in providing information to small business owners regarding available assistance.
- Thanked the Police and Fire Departments and First Aid Squad for their continued dedication and service to the community; thanked health care workers for all they are doing; thanked the township employees and DPW for their hard work and commitment, thanked the community residents and volunteers for all their help and sent prayers to all those who are affected by the virus.

Mr. Kohle:
- Thanked the community for all the help they are providing and the support they give one another; thanked the essential workers and first responders for their service and thanked everyone who sent their well wishes during his illness.
Mrs. Russell:
- Recognized Cupsaw Cares for providing additional PPE to the First Aid Squad the Fire Department. Wished several ailing residents and their families well, congratulated two members of the community on the happy news of their engagement and thanked everyone in town for coming together.
- There is a “Lights on for Seniors” event at 8:20 p.m. on Friday for the 2020 graduating seniors. Field lights will be turned on and residents are asked to turn their house lights on.

Mayor Herd:
- Echoed other council members in their thanks and sent prayers and well wishes to those who are sick and recovering.
- Was honored to deliver food to Chilton Hospital several nights ago.
- Participated in phone calls from Congresswoman Mikey Sherrill about issues with small business owners, asked about the process of opening up and thanked all the residents of Pequannock for observing the guidelines.

Mr. Kohle thanked Chilton Hospital for the care he received during his stay.

PUBLIC COMMENT.
- Frank Spizzirri, 35 West Franklin Avenue, who had been connected via cell phone called to attempt a video connection.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES.
On a motion by Mrs. Florance-Lynch, seconded by Mrs. Russell, minutes of the April 14, 2020 meeting were unanimously approved.

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

ADJOURNMENT.
There being no further business, on a motion by Mrs. Florance-Lynch, seconded by Mrs. Russell, the meeting was adjourned at 8:24 p.m. without objection.

Carol J. Marsh, Township Clerk  
Ryan Herd, Mayor