

**FREEHOLD TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**MAY 31, 2016**

At 7:35 p.m. the Township Committee met in the Mayor's Caucus Room of the municipal building. Mayor McMorrow read the following statement:

"In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Law, (c. 231 P.L. 1975), this meeting was announced on March 25, 2016 by: 1.) posting a notice on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building reserved for that purpose, 2.) by mailing such notice to the offices of the official newspapers of the Township and 3.) by filing such notice with the Township Clerk"

In Attendance: Committeeman Ammiano, Committeeman Cook, Committeeman Preston, Committeeman Salkin and Mayor McMorrow.

Absent: None

Also in attendance: Mr. Valesi, Township Administrator; Mr. Munoz, Esq., Township Attorney and Ms. Warner, Township Clerk.

Mayor McMorrow gave out assignments.

Mayor McMorrow stated there was a meeting of some of the residents of Silvermead and Mr. Morris at Silvermead and everyone was satisfied after the visit.

At 8:00 pm the Regular Meeting was called to order.

Mayor McMorrow re-read the following statement:

"In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Law, (c.231 P.L. 1975), this meeting was announced on March 25, 2016: by 1.) posting a notice on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building reserved for that purpose, 2.) by mailing such notice to the offices of the official newspapers of the Township and 3.) by filing such notice with the Township Clerk"

**Pledge of Allegiance**

In Attendance: Committeeman Ammiano, Committeeman Cook, Committeeman Preston, Committeeman Salkin and Mayor McMorrow.

Absent: None

Also in attendance: Mr. Valesi, Township Administrator; Mr. Munoz, Esq., Township Attorney; Ms. Warner, Township Clerk and Ms. Hopkins, PIO.

**MINUTES FOR APPROVAL**

None

**REPORTS**

Ms. Warner read the Report of the Tax Collector for the Month of April 2016:

Net Receipts:	General Fund \$	21,181,218.92
	Water Account \$	188,873.27
	Sewer Account \$	555,788.94

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Ms. Warner read a letter from Eileen Good, tendering her resignation from her position with the Engineering Department as she is retiring. She stated "It's hard to express the depth of my gratitude and appreciation to the Township Committee for the continuous support, commitment and generosity that has been a constant during the tenure of my employment with the Township."

Ms. Warner read a letter from Patrice J. McCoy, a Township resident acknowledging what a great job the township employees did in collecting the brush on Irwin Ave.

**PRESENTATIONS**

Proclamation - "Freehold First Aid & Emergency Squad Month" - June, 2016

Mayor McMorrow presented the proclamation to Jim McAllister of the Freehold First Aid & Emergency Squad. Mr. McAllister said this is the 75<sup>th</sup> year of service for the squad and they answered over 4,000 calls, which averages about 10 per day. They are mailing out their donation letters next week.

Proclamation - "Dystonia Awareness Month" - June, 2016

Mayor McMorrow presented the proclamation to Mr. & Mrs. Nachbar. Mr. Nachbar said they raised over \$40,000 and thanked the Township Committee for the recognition each year. Mr. Salkin read a proclamation from the Governor that was delivered by Senator Beck.

Proclamation - "Tourette Syndrome Awareness Day" - June 4, 2016

Mayor McMorrow presented the proclamation to the Glick family. They thanked the Township Committee.

Proclamation – Honoring Jake Kennis – “Raymond Kershaw Youth Humanitarian of the Year Award”

Mayor McMorrow presented the proclamation to Mr. Kennis, a Freehold Township High School student, and commended him on all he has done. Rev. Philhower presented him with a check for \$2,000 from Freehold Subaru and congratulated him also for all his accomplishments.

Life-Saving Certificate – Raymond L. Santiago

Mayor McMorrow presented the certificate to Mr. Santiago, a Freehold Township resident and he explained what took place on the day he performed the Heimlich maneuver on his babysitter. The Township Committee congratulated him.

Certificates of Achievement – Freehold Area Pop Warner Pee Wee Cheer Squad

Mayor McMorrow and Deputy Mayor Preston presented the certificates to the cheer squad and congratulated them on all their outstanding efforts.

Certificates of Achievement – Freehold Area Pop Warner Junior Midget Cheer Squad

Mayor McMorrow and Deputy Mayor Preston presented the certificates to the cheer squad and congratulated them on all their outstanding efforts.

The Mayor asked for a 5 minute recess to let the students leave the meeting if they wished.

**OLD BUSINESS**

O-16-4 Ordinance Amending Chapter 150 (Fees), Section 150-63 (Water) of the Revised General Ordinances of the Township of Freehold, County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey

Mayor McMorrow opened Ordinance O-16-4 to the public and asked for any comments or questions.

There being none, Mr. Salkin moved to close the public hearing, seconded by Mr. Ammiano.

VOTE: AYES: Mr. Ammiano, Mr. Cook, Mr. Preston, Mr. Salkin, Mayor McMorrow.

NAYS: None ABSENT: None ABSTAIN: None

Mr. Salkin made a motion to adopt Ordinance O-16-4, seconded by Mr. Ammiano.

VOTE: AYES: Mr. Ammiano, Mr. Cook, Mr. Preston, Mr. Salkin, Mayor McMorrow.

NAYS: None ABSENT: None ABSTAIN: None

O-16-5 Ordinance Amending Chapter 195 (Licensing, Article I, General Licensing Requirements), of the Revised General Ordinances of the Township of Freehold, County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey

Mayor McMorrow opened Ordinance O-16-5 to the public and asked for any comments or questions.

There being none, Mr. Ammiano moved to close the public hearing, seconded by Mr. Cook.

VOTE: AYES: Mr. Ammiano, Mr. Cook, Mr. Preston, Mr. Salkin, Mayor McMorrow.

NAYS: None ABSENT: None ABSTAIN: None

Mr. Ammiano made a motion to adopt Ordinance O-16-5, seconded by Mr. Cook.

VOTE: AYES: Mr. Ammiano, Mr. Cook, Mr. Preston, Mr. Salkin, Mayor McMorrow.

NAYS: None ABSENT: None ABSTAIN: None

### **NEW BUSINESS**

O-16-6 Ordinance Amending Chapter 190 (Land Use), of the Revised General Ordinances of the Township of Freehold, County of Monmouth State of New Jersey

Mr. Ammiano moved Ordinance O-16-6 for public hearing to the Township Committee meeting of June 28, 2016, seconded by Mr. Cook.

VOTE: AYES: Mr. Ammiano, Mr. Cook, Mr. Preston, Mr. Salkin, Mayor McMorrow.

NAYS: None ABSENT: None ABSTAIN: None

R-16-108 Resolution Authorizing an Affordability Assistance Loan Repayment Agreement with the Buyer of an Affordable Housing Unit at 12 Interlaken Court, Unit 4

Mr. Cook read Resolution R-16-108 and moved it for adoption, seconded by Mr. Salkin.

VOTE: AYES: Mr. Ammiano, Mr. Cook, Mr. Preston, Mr. Salkin, Mayor McMorrow.

NAYS: None ABSENT: None ABSTAIN: None

R-16-109            Resolution Authorizing an Affordability Assistance Loan Repayment Agreement with the Buyer of an Affordable Housing Unit at 3005 Kapalua Court

Mr. Preston read Resolution R-16-109 and moved it for adoption, seconded by Mr. Salkin.

VOTE: AYES: Mr. Ammiano, Mr. Cook, Mr. Preston, Mr. Salkin, Mayor McMorrow.

NAYS: None    ABSENT: None    ABSTAIN: None

R-16-110            Resolution Authorizing an Affordability Assistance Loan Repayment Agreement with the Buyer of an Affordable Housing Unit at 4304 Pepperidge Court

Mr. Salkin read Resolution R-16-110 and moved it for adoption, seconded by Mr. Ammiano.

VOTE: AYES: Mr. Ammiano, Mr. Cook, Mr. Preston, Mr. Salkin, Mayor McMorrow.

NAYS: None    ABSENT: None    ABSTAIN: None

R-16-111            Resolution Authorizing Change Order Number 1 and Acceptance of Contract 16-3 Rehabilitation of Well #11

Mr. Cook read Resolution R-16-111 and moved it for adoption, seconded by Mr. Ammiano.

VOTE: AYES: Mr. Ammiano, Mr. Cook, Mr. Preston, Mr. Salkin, Mayor McMorrow.

NAYS: None    ABSENT: None    ABSTAIN: None

R-16-112            Resolution Approving Consolidated Bills List

Mr. Preston read Resolution R-16-112, the Consolidated Bills List in the amount of \$4,035,109.65 and moved it for adoption, seconded by Mr. Cook.

VOTE: AYES: Mr. Ammiano, Mr. Cook, Mr. Preston, Mr. Salkin, Mayor McMorrow.

NAYS: None    ABSENT: None    ABSTAIN: None

**CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS**

The "Consent Agenda" section of the meeting agenda shall be preceded by an explanatory note substantially set forth as follows:

"All matters listed under item "Consent Agenda" are considered routine by the Township Committee and will be enacted by (1) motion in the form listed below.

There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired of any item, that item will be considered separately."

- R-16-113 Resolution Approving the Cancellation of Outstanding Checks
- R-16-114 Resolution Disbursing Overpayments of Taxes
- R-16-115 Resolution Authorizing Added Tax Liens
- R-16-116 Resolution Amending 2016 Budget (Chapter 159) to Insert a Modification to the Special Item of Revenue and Appropriations for the 2016 Clean Communities Program Grant
- R-16-117 Resolution Opposing the New Jersey Natural Gas 24% Rate Increase
- R-16-118 Resolution Advising the Monmouth County Board of Taxation that the Township of Freehold is Opting Out of the Monmouth County Assessment Demonstration Pilot Program
- R-16-119 Resolution Authorizing a Contract for a Public Health Educator for the Mayor's Wellness Campaign
- R-16-120 Resolution Authorizing a Contract for the Resurfacing of the Michael J. Tighe Park Basketball Courts
- R-16-121 Resolution Authorizing a Contract for GEO3.0 Municipal Software Implementation and Maintenance for Various Township Departments and the Fire Bureau
- R-16-122 Resolution Authorizing a Contract for the Demolition of the Barn and House at 247 Randolph Road for the Department of Public Works
- R-16-123 Resolution Amending Resolution R-16-106 Approving the Place-to-Place Transfer (Expansion of Premises) for iPlay America, LLC - License No. 1316-33-021-003

Mr. Ammiano read the Consent Agenda Resolutions and moved them for adoption, seconded by Mr. Cook.

VOTE: AYES: Mr. Ammiano, Mr. Cook, Mr. Preston\*, Mr. Salkin\*, Mayor McMorrow.

NAYS: \*Mr. Preston and Mr. Salkin voted "No" on R-16-118

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Mayor McMorrow opened the meeting to the public and asked if anyone had any comments or questions.

JJ Mistretta, Harding Road, stated she was happy the Committee opted out of the tax program. She asked for an explanation of Ordinance O-16-6, the Land Use ordinance.

Mr. Valesi explained the ordinance sets conditions on cell towers.

Mr. McAllister, Freehold First Aid, thanked the Township Committee for their support and to Mr. Valesi and Susan Mladinov. He said she is great and he is sincerely thankful for everyone's help.

Richard Pelaia, 3202 Ice House Court, asked how salaries are determined, what is the jumping off point and what statistics are used. He would tend to use statistics being in Human Resources. He also asked if the Township Committee still receive their stipend and how was that determined. Was there ever a Nay vote on a salary resolution.

Mr. Valesi explained every department is slightly different. We try not to look at other towns and municipalities because they are all over the board. Look more at private sector. Getting and retaining good employees is difficult to keep them sometimes. He gave the example of someone in the IT Department receives around \$60 - \$90,000, but they could leave and make about 40% more in the private sector. We have to factor in the entire package of pension, etc. It is subjective. He said regarding the Township Committee stipends they receive less now than when he first started here. Mr. Valesi said there has not been a No vote on a salary resolution since he has been here.

There being no further comments, Mayor McMorrow asked for comments from the dais.

Mr. Preston said it was a very busy and worthy night. Congratulated the Freehold First Aid on their 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary. He wanted to recognize Alice McCobb and the Memorial Parade Committee on a great job this year. He said it was a difficult choice In voting on the opting out of the tax program. He hopes the Prosecutor's office will settle the problem soon.

Mr. Salkin congratulated Eileen Good on her retirement. He said it is a legitimate question regarding the Township Committee stipend. You don't realize the amount of functions we have to attend and buy tickets to attend. The stipend we receive offsets what you are expected to attend. He said the tax program he feels is good, just the personnel should be changed. He said the old way of doing a revaluation every 8 to 10 years does not work as well.

Mr. Ammiano echoed Mr. Preston and Mr. Salkin's comments. He said the only exception is it was a very tough choice to opt out on the program. The residents who he spoke to him said there was a perception of government at its worst. He felt Mr. Clark should have removed himself. The program might work but I felt we needed to opt out as the best way to go. At this point, we still don't know if they are even going to allow us to opt out.

Mr. Cook echoed everyone's comments. He said he felt fundamentally the Freehold Township residents will be well served.

Mayor McMorrow stated the Memorial Day Parade was wonderful and Alice McCobb did a great job. She wanted to remind everyone the Municipal Alliance Golf Outing is June 6<sup>th</sup>. She also thanked the Freehold First Aid for all you do every year.

Mr. Salkin stated Senator Beck was here earlier this evening and left a copy of her press release on her statement on the Monmouth County Tax Administrator. It states, "In light of the fact the Prosecutor has an active and ongoing investigation into the Tax Administrator, steps must be taken to suspend him from his day to day duties until the Prosecutor's investigation is complete. At present, our taxpayers have lost

confidence in the Administrator and until he is either vindicated or indicted, Matthew Clark should step aside. Mr. Salkin said much consideration was made to opt out and we did our due diligence. The Steering Committee won't make a decision, there is an on-going criminal investigation, but our residents will still be well served.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm.

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Teresa Warner, Township Clerk