

Minutes of the Agenda Meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Commercial, held on September 16, 2019 at 6:00 P.M., at the Township Hall, 1768 Main Street, Port Norris, NJ.

Those present:

Mike Vizzard	Mayor
Fletcher Jamison	Committeeman
Ryan Broughton	Committeeman
Thomas Seeley	Solicitor
Edward Dennis	Engineer
Hannah E. Nichols	Township Clerk
Heather Sparks	Deputy Clerk

Mayor Vizzard presided and called the meeting to order with the announcement that the meeting was being recorded and being held in full compliance of the Open Public Meeting Law.

Mayor called upon Engineer, Edward Dennis, for monthly reports.

Mr. Dennis stated that township was awarded \$1,500,000.00 from NJDOT Local Freight Impact Fund. He said the funding is available for projects that provide access to freight with 10% truck volume, traffic counts were completed on High Street, Miller Avenue and Memorial Avenue with 14.3% truck volume. He said NJDOT Freight Impact Fund are accepting applications for 2020. Mr. Dennis said he has filed application for FY 2020 State Aid Program for Red Fern Drive, Priority 1 and Keron Drive from Spring To William Avenue, Priority 2. Bids were received on August 13, 2019 for reconstruction of Whittier, Iris and Magnolia Drive. Township received NJDOT grant in the amount of \$291,164.00 and Arawak Paving Company Inc. came in at \$209,600. Mr. Dennis said that he contacted the state and has a verbal agreement, that the committee could use the balance of funds in the grant to extend improvements to Whittier from Iris to Palm Road, with DOT inspections costs, it would include their engineering costs also, he said I have a verbal agreement.

Mayor Vizzard asked this would come out of the grant, how much money?

Mr. Dennis said that they could add 20% - 40% additional to current bid for additional paving, DOT Inspection costs somewhere around \$27,000 and their engineering fees of around \$13,000 would come out of the grant, he has a verbal. He recommended that two resolutions be added to the regular meeting agenda.

Committee approved if money came from grant funds.

Mr. Dennis said Port Norris Drainage is in close out stage and Laurel Lake Drainage Phase III is in close out, contractor was Mathis Construction.

Mayor said we have correspondence and read a letter from the Tri-County sportsmen Motorcycle Club Inc., Eldin Polhamus, President, requesting permission to have their 2019 Annual Tri-County Sportsmen National Dual Sport Hammer Run across some of Commercial Township's Road. Liability Insurance is with application. Clerk said this requires a resolution.

Mayor and Committee approved the request and said to put resolution of approval on agenda of regular meeting.

Mayor said we have a letter from Engineer, Ed Dennis, that a resolution be placed on the regular meeting agenda for Change Order No. 1, for Port Norris Drainage to decrease contract amount by \$198.30 for as-built construction qualities and a supplemental item for milling pipe trenches.

Committee approved a resolution be placed on regular meeting agenda.

Mayor read letter from Cumberland County Purchasing Office they have gone out to bid on Compliance High Performance Cold Patch. South State Materials were the lowest bidder at \$129.90 per ton.

Mayor Vizzard said road supervisor feels this is a good price and the patch will be available in Bridgeton. Mayor recommended approval and committee agreed and resolution will be placed on the regular meeting agenda.

Mayor said we have a letter from Green Acres regarding their, two year, inspection of Green Acre Recreational Sites and I really don't understand violations in tennis court, no basketball court on Strawberry Avenue and basketball court missing on Spring Garden Road.

Clerk, Hannah Nichols, said years ago the township applied for Green Acre's funding to create recreational sites throughout the township for kids to have something to do. A Tennis Court was built on the Haleyville/Mauricetown School property, a basketball court was built at the corner of Strawberry Avenue and James Moore Road, and basketball court built on the Laurel Lake Park area on Spring Garden. Two of the sites have not been used during the past few years, basketball at Strawberry and the tennis courts, therefore they have not been kept up. No one has complained nor asked about playing tennis and no one has called regarding the basketball court on Strawberry. The basketball court in Laurel Lake does get used but it also created a lot of problems for the neighbor that adjoined the property. She was always getting broken into, her fence was torn down so the township put money in the budget and moved the basketball court away from her property but still in the Laurel Lake Park area. It gets used regularly. The committee has two years to decide whether or not they want to try and bring these sites back into Green Acres compliance, do a study to see if kids will be interested in taking up tennis and if there are children still in the Liverpool Homes that want to play basketball on Strawberry.

Mayor Vizzard said this is not something the committee has to consider right now but we will look into it to see if there is still interest by residents of the township before Green Acre's reinspection.

Committee said to remove from the regular meeting agenda.

Mayor read a memo from the Mauricetown Historical Society regarding property owned by Elisha Henry, on Noble Street, which was being used as a parking lot for reprocessed vehicles. The Society said they worked very hard to get Mauricetown designated as a historic village in the State and National Historic Register. Complaints have been filed with the Code Enforcement Officer with pictures showing vehicles parked all over property as well as shoulder of county roads.

Clerk said she had spoken with Code Enforcement Officer, Steve DeSario, who stated that complaints had been issued to remove the vehicles. Mr. DeSario said he would do an onsite inspection this morning and take pictures to see if owner complied. Clerk said Mr. DeSario produced pictures they are in the committee's packet showing all vehicles have been removed.

Mayor and Committee felt since all vehicles had been removed that complaint would be removed from the regular meeting agenda, but that they wanted code enforcement officer to make sure owner remains in compliance.

Mayor Vizzard said we have items scheduled for the regular township committee meeting:

1. Second reading and public hearing on Ordinance 2019-597.

**"AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF COMMERCIAL GOVERNING THE
MAINTENANCE OF VACANT PROPERTY, ESTABLISHING REQUIREMENTS
LEVYING A REGISTRATION FEE ON OWNERS OF VACANT PROPERTIES**

2. Resolution: Authorizing The Award Of A Non-Fair and Open Contract For Replacement Of Computer Server and Upgrade Of Software and Peripherals.
3. Resolution: In Support Of The New Jersey State League Of Municipalities Petition Rulemaking To Amend The Uniform Construction Code.
4. Resolution: Tax Collector Cancel Balance Electronic Error
5. Resolution: Tax Collector Erroneous Improvement Value
6. Resolution: Tax Collector Electronic Tax Sale
7. Resolution: Approving Tri-County Sportsmen Race
8. Resolution: Change Order #1, Port Norris Drainage Decrease In Contract Amount
9. Resolution: Cumberland County Purchasing, Shared Services Cold Patch 129.90 from South State Materials
10. Resolution: Authorizing Engineer To Perform Additional Construction Services In NJDOT Grant Whittier, Iris, Magnolia Drive In Amount of \$13,000
11. Resolution: Change Order #1, Whittier, Iris, Magnolia Drive For Increased Inspections of Extension of Whittier Drive \$27,046.

Mayor Vizzard asked for reports of officials and being none told solicitor that township received information from the state on Dagastine's Friendly Service Station, and the state has a large lien on the property. He asked Mr. Seeley to investigate and see who is the owner of that property at present.

Mayor asked for additional comments and being none asked for motion to adjourn. Motion made and seconded.

Hannah E. Nichols, Township Clerk