

Minutes of the Agenda meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Commercial held on November 18, 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 had been advertised, it was being electronically recorded and being held in full compliance of the Open Public Meeting Act.

Mayor Vizzard said he would call on Barney Hollinger for any reports that he might have regarding what is being considered with the river and bay areas by the state.

Mr. Hollinger, Riverfront Consultant, said in October there was a meeting at the CCIA regarding dredging Maurice River Construction Project for Basket Flats, \$250,000 for engineering and \$3,000,000 for the work. He said on November 8th he met assistant DEP representative interested in projects with permit problems. Mr. Hollinger said the South Jersey Gas was there and possibly in the late spring or early summer gas company may start work. Mr. Hollinger said ditch cleaning is in the hands of the Cumberland County Mosquito Commission but if township wants to do their own cleaning, they can get a MOU from the county that will allow us to do it. He said NODS was discussed. He said there will be a meeting with Department of Environmental Protection in December at the CCIA facility.

Mayor Vizzard said he had an e-mail from David Hosack, Representative from FEMA about the sluice gate repair. He referred us to county OEM and Coastal Engineering for assistance in getting sluice repaired.

Mr. Edward Dennis, Commercial Township Engineer, said that isn't good, you will compete with many municipalities. He said he will reach out to see what he can find before regular meeting on Thursday.

Mayor Vizzard asked Mr. Dennis to give his monthly report.

Mr. Dennis said the Whittier, Iris, Magnolia Drive Reconstruction Project has started and paving should start the first of December. He said on the Riverfront Project they have been working on the first phase of the project and the second stage should be the end of next month.

Mayor Vizzard said the township has advertised for animal control services and that the following three bids were submitted.

Countywide Animal Care & Control, LLC \$19,200 year \$1,600 month
4386 Harding Highway, Newfield, NJ 08344
856-694-2947

Animal Control of South Jersey \$12,000 year \$1,000 month
2353 Route 47, Delmont, NJ 08314
609-861-2886

Shore Animal Control Services \$14,400 year \$1,200 month
P.O. Box 597, Tuckahoe, NJ 08250
1-800-351-1822

Mayor said we will review the proposals and if possible make a decision at the regular meeting.

Mayor Vizzard said we have correspondence for consideration.

Mayor said committee received memo from John Nardone, Chairman of Environmental Commission requesting that the committee authorize advertisement for additional members. They have five members and they are allowed seven. Decision: Committee approved the advertisement for additional members and said to put it on the agenda of the regular meeting.

Mayor said we have a memo from Heather Sparks, Fund Commissioner for JIF, that our Insurance has a \$5,000 deductible for 2020. If committee wants to discuss issue they may call Jodi Palmeri, 856-446-9134. Decision: Committee discussed the amount is same as last year and said to pull item from the agenda.

Mayor said we have received a letter from Theodore Baker, Cumberland County Solicitor, informing the committee that there will be a transfer of property, known as Block 87, Lot 1, owned by Deerfield Township to the Cumberland County Improvement Authority. There will be a public hearing on the issue December 4th at 164 W. Broad Street, Bridgeton, NJ. Decision: Committee said to remove the item from the regular agenda, letter does not state purpose of donation but must have something to do with Improvement Authority.

Mayor said we received a letter from Hexagon Energy, they are interested in township property across the street from the Haleyville-Mauricetown School for a floating solar project based on electrical infrastructure and other factors. He said they use pit lakes or blue holes for projects. Decision: Mayor said if the committee is in agreement that he would like to contact Hexagon and see exactly what type of project it would be. Decision: Committee agreed that Mayor should contact Hexagon, but that letter should be on the agenda of regular meeting.

Mayor said committee received 2020 contract from South Jersey Regional Animal Shelter for services provided to the animals that are picked up, trapped by the township's animal control officer. Mayor said for 2020 annual cost is \$24,835.00 to be paid monthly at \$2,069.59. Mayor Vizzard said this is an increase from last year about \$5,000 and that he would like to send them a letter regarding the increase. Decision: Committeeman Jamison and Committeeman Broughton didn't have a problem with mayor sending letter of objection to cost increase.

Clerk, Hannah Nichols, reminded committee that 2019 contract with South Jersey Regional was ten months contract. The current increase of 2020 would be reduced by \$3,200 which represents the two additional months in 2019.

Mayor Vizzard said 2019 contract didn't start until March, but he was still going to write letter objecting to increase for 2020.

Mayor said Heather Whitaker has informed me that the Land Use Board does not have any alternates at this time and that if one of the regular members are absent and the committee cannot vote, she might not have a quorum and a decision might not be able to be rendered. She asked if committee might know of anyone that might be interested in serving and if they did would they pass the information to her. Decision: Committee will ask around and to put item on the regular agenda there might be someone at the meeting that would be interested.

Mayor Vizzard said we have a letter from Sharon Porter, Secretary to Commercial Township PTA, requesting a donation for their Saturday with Santa for Commercial Township Children to receive Christmas Gifts. Decision: Committee approved a \$500 donation for the program and said to put on regular meeting agenda.

Mayor Vizzard said clerk has asked if committee is going to appoint professionals or RFP's. Mayor said we are going to appoint and the following are up for reappointment:

Thomas Seeley, Solicitor; Frank DeDomencio, Land Use Board; Steve Nardelli, Land Use Board Engineer; Thomas Corigan, Prosecutor; William Reilly, Public Defender, McManimon, Bond Council Edward Dennis, Planner, Bowman & Company, Auditors.

Mayor Vizzard said for regular meeting:

Resolution: Transfers To Avoid Overexpenditures

Mayor Vizzard said there was an executive session regarding personnel, but that is not necessary and is removed from the agenda.

Mayor asked for reports from officials.

Committeeman Ryan Broughton said that Code Enforcement Officer, Steve DeSario issued 52 violations notices for the month of October.

Committeeman Fletcher Jamison said that he will talk to Road Supervisor, Clint Miller, about cleaning out ditches. He said Mr. Seeley said he can get MOU from county authorizing township to clean out ditches themselves.

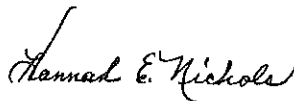
Mayor Vizzard asked Ed Dennis, Engineer, about road opening procedures. He is concerned about the money being spent on these road repairs and then having the roads damaged for public utility installations.

Mr. Dennis replied that South Jersey Gas and other utility companies must submit an application for any road openings and we have 30 days to respond. Mr. Dennis also said there are moratoriums on roads, of five years, that have been reconstructed, paved and improved before any disturbance would be approved.

Mr. Barney Hollinger said there are street lights that are out, one is at the ballfield and the light is not listed on the ACE website.

Mayor Vizzard said we need to see if we are being billed for it.

Mayor asked for additional comments and being none asked for motion to adjourn. Motion was moved.



Hannah E. Nichols, Township Clerk