

Minutes of the Agenda Meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Commercial held on Tuesday, February 18, 2020 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
Clint Miller	Public Works Supervisor

Mayor Vizzard presided and called the meeting to order with the announcement that the meeting had been advertised, it is being electronically recorded and being held in full compliance of the Open Public Meeting Act.

Mayor Vizzard stated that Carol Hickman had requested to speak to the committee regarding Maurice River Township's Free Roaming Cat Management Ordinance. Mayor said Mrs. Hickman is not here yet so we'll continue with the agenda. He called upon Edward Dennis, Engineer for his report.

Mr. Dennis said an application has been filed for Phase II of the Port Norris Riverfront Roadway Improvements in the amount of \$769,752.50 from FY2020 NJDOT Local Freight Impact Fund, he said no update so far. He said the township received a NJDOT State Aid Program Grant in the amount of \$305,070.00 for Reconstruction of Red Fern Drive. Mr. Dennis regarding the 2019 NJDOT Local Freight Impact Fund grant in the amount of \$1,500,000 for roadway improvements on High Street, Miller and Memorial Avenue, preliminary design is in progress; bridge upgrades to be coordinated with County. He said contract was awarded to Arawak Paving Company Inc., for Whittier Drive, Iris Road and Magnolia Drive in the amount of \$209,600, construction is substantially complete, remedial work to be completed in the Spring. He said the Port Norris Phase I Drainage Project had been awarded to Landberg Construction LLC in the amount of \$425,000 and close out and NJDOT reimbursement pending final payment. Mr. Dennis said Laurel Lake Drainage Improvements, Phase III in the amount of \$213,044 awarded to Mathis Construction is in closeout process.

Mayor Vizzard said we have the following correspondence:

Letter from the City of Millville regarding repealing and replacing Chapter 30 of their Development Regulations Ordinance. The Council will introduce the new Chapter 30 at their March 3, 2020 meeting. Copies are available on Millville's Website.

Letter from Township of Fredon requesting support in putting referendum on ballot to return school board elections back on the ballot in the month of April, allowing local residents to know what the budget is. He said place on regular meeting budget.

Mayor Vizzard said this is something the committee needs to review, residents do not know what the school budget is since school board budget is voted on at the General Election.

Letter and 2019 Annual Report from Tax Collector, Leslie Kraus, fulfilling her statutory requirements to the committee. The tax collection rate for 2019 is 91.25% and Mrs. Kraus' letter gave committee a summation of the steps that they took to get the rate.

Mayor said tax office worked very hard to get 91.25 collection rate and they need to be commended. Put on regular meeting agenda.

Letter from Comcast that our contract will expire this year and they would like to meet with the township officials regarding the renewal process.

Mayor Vizzard said he doesn't know what is required regarding the renewal.

Clerk said there are timelines set by BPU that have to be met and a meeting and negotiations are a good place to start. Clerk said she has given committee a copy of the current contract. Mayor said committee will review, put on regular meeting agenda.

Deputy Clerk Sparks said Maurice River Township's contract is up this year and they have started their renewal.

Mayor Vizzard said the committee has received letters from the following individuals requesting that the committee adopt a resolution for Second Amendment rights. They feel Trenton is taking away their rights as law abiding citizens. Those that filed: Joe Klaudi, Donald Klaudi, Nadine Klaudi, John G. Robinson, Kimberly Robinson, William J. Stevers, George E. Hiles, Karl L. Hiles, Roman Hamann, Robert Hyson, J.G. Robinson and two names that were not recognizable.

Mayor Vizzard said to put resolution on the agenda of the regular meeting and at that meeting he would want the following statement added: Commercial Township will not authorize or appropriate government funds, resources, employees, agencies, contractors, buildings, detention centers or offices for the purpose of enforcing laws that unconstitutionally infringe on the peoples rights to keep and bear arms.

Mayor Vizzard said we will have second reading and public hearing on the following;

CALENDAR YEAR 2020

ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)

Mayor Vizzard said that he had asked Shore Animal Control Services, LLC for a proposal to do a dog census in 2020. Money could come from the Animal Account with no bearing on the municipal budget. Mayor said they proposed \$4,800. He said to put on the agenda of the regular meeting.

Mayor Vizzard said committee has received letters resignations from members of the Land Use Board: Russell Stormes, who has one year left of his term to be filled. Doris Tomlinson put in her resignation and she was just reappointed to a four year term, so we need someone to fill her term. Kenneth McGill, Environmental Commission Appointee, Class 2, need someone to fill one year term for Class 2. Mayor said these members will be missed.

Mayor said Heather Whitaker had sent committee memorandum that she has individuals that are willing to serve: Edward Fox, will take four year term of Doris Tomlinson, Jose Esquilin, one term to fill Russell Stormes' term; Matt Wheatly, Alternate I, One year Term; Heike Wheatly, Alternate II, two year term; John Nardone to fill one year term as Class 2, Environmental Commission member of Kenneth McGill.

Mayor and committee commended Heather for finding individuals to fill the vacancies and to put a resolution on the agenda appointing them at the regular meeting.

Mayor Vizzard said we have several resolutions for Thursday's meeting.

Resolution: Appointments to Land Use Board

Resolution: Authorizing The Release of Land Use Board Escrow Funds Port Norris Properties

Resolution: Pledge of Municipal Support For New Jersey's Wildlife Action Plan
Resolution: Endorsing The Adoption Of Green Building Practices For Civic, Commercial
And Residential Buildings
Resolution: Discharge of Mortgage for Mary Jane Stiles Of Bayshore Housing Program
Mortgage Held By Commercial Township.
Resolution: Declaring Commercial Township A Second Amendment Township
Resolution: Awarding Contract To Shore Animal Control Services To Perform Dog Census
In Amount of \$4,800 To Come From Animal Fund

Mayor Vizzard asked for reports from officials.

Committeeman Broughton said there were 14 violations issued by code enforcement officer, Steve DeSario.

Committeeman Jamison said he had nothing at present.

Mayor Vizzard said township will have rabies clinic on March 14th at Laurel Lake Fire Hall, 9:00 to 12:00 noon. Committee is going to award contract to Shore Animal Control Services to do a dog census in 2020. Mayor said the township committee is considering of moving the Commercial Township Municipal Court to Upper Deerfield on July 1st, 2020.

Mayor asked for comments from the public and being none asked for motion to adjourn.

Committeeman Jamison made motion and Committeeman Broughton seconded, Meeting adjourned.

Hannah E. Nichols, Township Clerk