

Minutes of the Regular meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Commercial held on December 17, 2020 at 6:00 P.M., via virtual platform zoom.

Those Present:

Mike Vizzard	Mayor
Fletcher Jamison	Committeeman
Ryan Broughton	Committeeman
Thomas Seeley	Solicitor
Edward Dennis	Engineer
Heather Sparks	Deputy Clerk
Clint Miller	Public Works Supervisor
Hannah Nichols	Township Clerk

Those Absent:

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 asked that attendees join him in the flag salute and the Lord's Prayer.

Mayor asked if there were any officials on the line. No officials reported.

Mayor Vizzard asked Engineer Ed Dennis for his report.

Ed Dennis reported we have a couple of road projects that are wrapping up. Riverfront road is paved just waiting on guide rails to be installed. As of right now the contractor plans to come back next week. Then it will be the holiday so they will probably be finishing up the following week. They still have a little bit of work to finish up over on Red Fern,

Mayor Vizzard commended Nick on the job he is doing on these projects. Mayor said he is doing a wonderful job and he has been a real asset. We are happy to have him here.

Ed Dennis said he will pass to word on to Nick and he knows Nick takes a lot of pride in the work he is doing there.

Committeeman Jamison asked Ed to have Nick follow up on two or three yards where some equipment has been and has left some marks to get that buttoned-up.

Ed Dennis said that he would.

Mayor asked if the members reviewed the bill list and asked for a motion to approve.

Committeeman Broughton made a motion to approve the bill list and was seconded by Committeeman Jamison. Roll call, all in favor.

Mayor Vizzard asked the Committee if they reviewed the correspondence items of the agenda. All acknowledged that they had. Mayor suggested because of audio difficulties rather than read all the correspondence items, if the committee and any questions about the correspondence items.

Committee had no question on these items.

Correspondence items on the agenda were the following.

- a. Letter from Mauricetown Historical Society thanking the committee for the recent donation of \$500.00.
- b. Letter from Peter Manzelmann of Mauricetown. Mr. Manzelmann is interested in being a member of the Township's Environmental Commission and is endorsed by the Commissions Chair, John Nardone.
- c. Letter from State of New Jersey Department of Transportation informing the Township it has been selected to receive funding for fiscal year 2021 Municipal Aid Program for the reconstruction of Keron Drive and Parson's Lane in the amount of \$280,000.00.
- d. Letter from State of New Jersey Department of Transportation informing the Township they are unable to provide a Municipal Aid Grant for the reconstruction of Milbourne Drive and Dennis Lane. This was a secondary submission for 2021 NJDOT grant funding.
- e. Letter from The Board of Chosen Freeholders of Cumberland County asking for support by passing a resolution urging the New Jersey Department of Protection to permit farmer tagged vehicles to dispose of household waste at Municipal Convenience Centers.
- f. 2021 contract from SJ Regional Animal Shelter for services. Cost for the 2021 contract for basic shelter services will be \$29,496.00. An increase of \$4,661.00 from 2020. The shelter justifies the increase due to substantial decrease in donations, a mandatory minimum wage increase and other revenues due to the pandemic and a decrease in population.
- g. Request from Attorney representing Covia Holding Corp requesting an extension on Covia's Phase 7 & 8 Sand Mining License because the Land Use Board will not be holding their meeting on December 23rd. The 5-year mining renewal will be up for approval by the Land Use Board at their January 2021 Meeting.
- h. NJDOT Local Freight Impact Fund Port Norris Riverfront Roadway Improvement Change Order. The change order covers the addition of the reconstruction of Ogden Avenue and the new drainage that was added at the intersection of Miller and Ogden Ave. Total change increases by the amount of \$264,506.00. These added changes still keep the total cost within the original grant allotment.
- i. Letter from Emmett Vandegrift of 1441 Main St. Port Norris requesting to be a member of the Land Use Board.
- j. Memo from Heather Whitaker requesting approval to attend Board Secretary Certification Course in the Spring of 2021.

Mayor said next is Resolutions. Mayor Vizzard read list of Resolutions.

Resolution 2020-105
List of Uncollectable Taxes

I, Leslie A. Kraus, submit to you a list of taxes, which in my opinion are uncollectable. The reason as to why the taxes are uncollectable is listed below. I request that the same be cancelled and that I am relieved of the collection. Thereof as required by P.L. 115 (C, 54:4-91, 91, 91.2)

<u>Block</u>	<u>Lot</u>	<u>Assessed Owner</u>	<u>Year (s)</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Reason</u>
48	6082	Township of Commercial	2020/1 st half 2021	\$4,749.47	Exempt

RESOLUTION 2020-106
Appointing Peter Manzelman of Mauricetown
to the Environmental Commission

WHEREAS, a request was received by Peter Manzelman, a resident of Mauricetown who would like to be a member of the Commercial Township Environmental Commission: and

WHEREAS, John Nardone, Current Chair to the Environmental Commission has endorsed Peter Manzelman as a member of the Commission.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Commercial, unanimously agree to appoint Peter Manzelman to the Commercial Township Environmental Commission for a one-year appointment, expiring December 31, 2021.

RESOLUTION 2020-107
Resolution Urging the New Jersey Department of Protection to Permit Farmer
Tagged Vehicles to Dispose of Household Waste at Municipal Convenience Centers

WHEREAS, the Township of Commercial (“the Township”) is a Cumberland County Municipality with a substantial agriculture community including a number of farm families in the township; and

WHEREAS, the Township operates a “convenience center” for the purpose of collecting household waste; and

WHEREAS, many farmers within the Township own and operate only vehicles with license plates issues by the New Jersey Division of Motor Vehicles designated as “Farmer”; and

WHEREAS, many farmers utilize their Farmer tagged vehicles for both personal and farming use as permitted by statute; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP"). Having jurisdiction over municipal convenience centers, has advised that Farmer tagged vehicles may not be used to deliver household waste to municipal convenience centers; and

WHEREAS, the very same household waste would be permissible if delivered by an identical vehicle tagged as a "private passenger" vehicle; and

WHEREAS, the barring of the delivery to convenience centers of household waste in Farmer tagged vehicles creates an undue hardship on farming families within the Township as it forces farmers without private passenger tagged vehicles to find an alternate means to dispose of their household waste not required of other residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE TOWNSHIP OF COMMERCILA IN THE COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND, as follows:

1. The Township urges that the NJDEP authorize the use of Farmer tagged vehicles to deliver the farmer's household waste to municipal convenience centers.
2. The Township urges the NJDEP to delegate to Municipalities operating municipal convenience centers the authority to enforce such rules as are necessary to ensure Farmer tagged vehicle are delivering only household waste.

**COMMERCIAL TOWNSHIP
RESOLUTION 2020-108**

Sandmining License Extension for Covia Holding Corp.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Commercial that a sandmining permit license extension is being approved for Covia Holding Corp. Sand Company phase 7 & 8 mining sites.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Covia's current Phase 7 & 8 Sand Mining License expired on November 20, 2020, however, Covia received approval of its application for a five year renewal of its Conditional Use Mining Permit and Site Plan approval at a public hearing held by the Township Land Use Board on November 25, 2020.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that no Township Land Use Board meeting was held in December of 2020, therefore the five-year renewal will not be adopted until the January 2021 meeting.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee has approved an extension until the Township Land Use Board can memorialize the five-year renewal in January of 2021.

RESOLUTION 2020-109

**Change order #1 NJDOT Local Freight Impact Fund
Port Norris Riverfront Roadway Improvements**

WHEREAS, The Commercial Township Committee has authorized the repaving of portions of Riverfront Roadway improvements in Port Norris: and

WHEREAS, a change in construction including the addition of the reconstruction of Ogden Avenue and new drainage added to the intersection of Miller and Ogden Avenues and.

WHEREAS, these added changes keep the cost within the original grant allotment.

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Commercial that a change order be approved for the change in construction including the reconstruction of Ogden Avenue and the addition of drainage for the intersection of Miller and Ogden Avenues increasing project by \$264,506.00.

Account#	G-02-41-862-000
Account Name	2020 NJDOT Local Freight Impact Fund
Current Balance in Account	\$ 406,595.50
Change Order #1	\$ 264,506.00
Remaining Balance	\$ 142,089.60

**RESOLUTION 2020-110
Appointing Emmett Vandegrift
to the Land Use Board**

WHEREAS, a request was received by Emmett Vandegrift, a resident of Port Norris who would like to be a member of the Commercial Township Land Use Board: and

WHEREAS, Edward Fox, Current member to the Land Use Board has endorsed Emmett Vandegrift as member of the Board.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Commercial, unanimously agree to appoint Emmett Vandegrift to the Commercial Township Land Use Board, Alternate II, expiring December 31, 2022.

CERTIFICATION

I, Heather Sparks, Deputy Clerk of the Township of Commercial hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the Township Committee at their meeting held on December 17, 2020 at 6:00 pm held by virtual platform Zoom.

Heather Sparks, Deputy Clerk, RMC

Committeeman Brought made a motion to approve resolutions 2020-105 through 2020-110.

Committeeman Jamison seconded. Roll call, all in favor.

Mayor asked if there were any reports from officials.

Committeeman Broughton said he didn't a report, but he did have a question. Before the meeting got started, I thought I heard you say the office will be closed until the 29th. Is that correct?

Mayor Vizzard said that is correct. The health department said to close until the 23rd but because of the holiday we decided on the 29th.

Committeeman Broughton asked if there were sanitation measures, we are taking prior to reopening.

Mayor Vizzard responded, yes Clint has purchased a machine which is like a fogger. We are going to use this on all the offices.

Mayor asked Clint if he had anything to add to that.

Clint Miller responded yes, he has ordered the machine and he should have it on Monday. When he gets it, he will go through the entire township hall, road department, vehicles, anything that needs it.

Clint also reported that he purchased a couple ultraviolet lights. One of the township hall, the road department and one for Cindy. The ultraviolet light cleans computers, phones anything you don't want to get wet.

Committeeman Jamison asked how many times a week are we going to use this machine.

Mr. Miller said he intends to use it every day.

Committeeman Broughton said but you can't use it with people in the building.

Mr. Miller explained he would do it first thing in the morning or at the end of the day once closed. It only really takes a few minutes.

Committeeman Brought said, I know everyone knows they need to wear their mask in the offices but I hope that we can express the importance of when everyone is in the office, you have to wear your mask and maintaining a safe distance.

Deputy Clerk stated that what we have been doing is when dealing with the public we were wearing masked bit it was just us amongst each other, we were not wearing mask, I think going forward we are going to have to start doing that.

Committeeman Broughton agreed.

Mayor Vizzard agreed and added that if we are going to keep the office open, we will have to wear mask at all times.

Clint Miller said he thinks when we get back in the office, we should have a meeting with the employees to see how we can improve on things.

Mayor Vizzard agreed we need to have a discussion with the employees on what we have done right or wrong and how we can learn from this so we can stay open.

Mr. Miller said he has talked with a company and what he would like to do is set something up where we can have the employees test every other week.

Mr. Miller asked Committeeman Broughton what his employer is doing with testing.

Committeeman Brought said they have a combination of rapid testing and weekly testing. Rapid testing for two days then on the third day doing the saliva test. They are finding that with the rapid test, they aren't as reliable. The health department even said if we do a saliva and rapid test, not to rely on the rapid test so I don't even know why we are doing the rapid.

Mr. Miller said well he wants to set it up where we are testing every other week. As far as he knows the health insurance is covering it. Mr. Miller asked solicitor if he something to add but Mr. Miller does not believe we can make employees test.

Solicitor Seeley said as long as it isn't handled in a dissimulatory way, I don't think you can make them.

Mr. Miller said so the testing will be made available to anyone who wants to test and this would extend to Committeeman and spouses. Once he gets this set up, he will let everyone know. He is going to try to set up Wednesdays maybe around 2:00 pm.

Committeeman Broughton asked what lab company would it be?

Mr. Miller did not know the name of the company off hand.

Mr. Broughton asked if it would be saliva or nasal

Mr. Miller said nasal. It's not a rapid test.

Committeeman Jamison said the company was Sunrise Diagnostic Laboratory in South Plainfield.

Mayor Vizzard if there are any other reports from officials.

Committeeman Jamison said he had a lady the other day complaining about the animal control. The lady had a sick possum. She called the state police, the police didn't want to get involved. The police told her to call animal control. When she called animal control, they told her they were closed at the time, it was after hours. I think this is something we need to look into because if someone has a sick animal foaming at the mouth, it's something that needs to be taken care of.

Committeeman Broughton said, I thought they were available 24-7.

Committeeman Jamison said he thought so too.

Mayor Vizzard agreed that it needed to be looked into.

Committeeman Jamison said he would call animal control in the morning,

Mayor Vizzard said the only thing he has is the Covid cases in the township have gone up. We are at 91 cases.

Mayor asked for a motion to open the meeting to the public. Committeeman Broughton gave a motion to open to the public and was seconded by Committeeman Jamison.

Hearing nothing from the public, committeeman Broughton made a motion to close meeting to the public and was seconded by committeeman Jamison.

The Mayor said we have a few items for consideration. First, there will be a special meeting on December 30th at 5:00 pm, to address any unfinished business of December 2020 due to the township closure. Mainly to address items from Pam and the budget.

Mayor said there will be a re-organization meeting on January 4th, 2021 at 5:00 pm at the township hall.

Mayor said the Commercial Township's Recreation Committee had a Holiday light display contest. Marie and Patty Gilmore went around last night to see the light that were entered in the contest. The winners of the contest are as follows.

Ruth Crowe - Port Norris
Jack & Kim Robinson for Haleyville/Mauricetown
Ed & Kristina Smith - Laurel Lake
Jose Rodriguez – of Laurel Lake, Township Grand Prize

Mayor Vizzard said, the winners will receive a \$25.00 gift card to Shoprite and a box of chocolates. The grand prize winner will get a \$50 gift certificate to the Oyster Cracker Café and two tickets for the AJ Meerwald.

Mayor said and one more item, Quotes were solicited for the demolition of 2513 Market St. Perryman's Excavation will be contractor completing the work,

Clint Miller added that the job should start on Monday (December 21st),

Mayor said if there is nothing else, can we get a motion and a second to adjourn,

Respectfully Submitted,


Heather Sparks, RMC
Deputy Clerk