

Minutes of the Agenda meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Commercial held on September 12, 2022, at 6:00 P.M., at the Township Hall, 1768 Main Street, Port Norris, NJ.

Those Present:

Mike Vizzard	Mayor
Fletcher Jamison	Deputy Mayor
Joseph Klaudi	Committeeman
Thomas Seeley	Solicitor
Nick DiCosmo	Engineer
Heather Sparks	Township 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 said Barney isn't here for the riverfront report and asked Nick DiCosmo for the Engineers report.

Nick DiCosmo – CFO checked, and she still has not received the final reimbursement for the riverfront, so he followed up with DOT, but he has not heard back yet.

Phase III- some good news, spoke to Doug from the County about Main Street, and got on the subject of the bridge. Things have been tied up because of wetland permits and flood hazard permit. He believes he has the wetlands permit resolved but apparently the County has a mitigation bank where apparently they build wetlands adjacent to the Mauricetown bridge, where they built it specifically for projects like this when they are disturbing wetlands so they have X amount of wetlands they created so every time they have a project that they disturb wetlands, it's like a bank, if they disturb 50 ft. here, they can take 50 ft. from over there. Nick will be sending in this information this week.

Cobb and Brown – Our notice to proceed was issued for the 19th. He checked with APS, today they are just putting their schedule together for next week so he is just waiting to hear when they will be starting. Should have an update by the end of the week but they should be breaking ground sometime next week.

Yock Wock and High St. – We have started the design. We walked the whole road with Clint and Chris after our pre-con meeting so that is moving forward.

Main Street – we are drafting up our base plans now, once they are done, we will go to design. Nick spoke to Doug at the County and the County is fine with the price we asked them for he is just working out the details of where he is going to pull the money from. He is trying to pull from DOT funding. Doug will be meeting with DOT next week and should be able to confirm next week then we should be able to move forward and get that shared service agreement drawn up. Tom, you will be brought into the loop soon.

Mayor said he is glad to hear it because he would like to get that going as soon as possible. There are a lot of people ticked off about the bridge in Bridgeton that isn't being done.

Nick said he found a contact for FEMA today. He will be calling tomorrow to ask about the BRICK grants because the Mauricetown Park may fall under that.

Committeeman Jamison asked if it is still safe for cars to pull in there.

Nick DiCosmo said as far as we know. There was nothing indicated in the report that said we have to shut it down.

Mayor asked about the Safe Routes to school walking path, can we get that going?

Nick said yes, they are coming up. Applications are due sometime in November.

Nick said he looked into the Tier B to tier A stuff. He needs to dig into it a little more. For the legal basis of the objection, Tom, you are going to have to get involved.

Nick said from his standpoint, he looked up some of the definitions. Its going to be a definitions game.

Mayor Vizzard said the state is going to push this because they want it. We need to come up with a reason why we should not be included. And if they do include us, it's going to be with the rest of the municipalities that are spending hundreds of thousands of dollars that they don't need to be spending, including us. We would need to buy street sweepers; vacuum trucks and we are not willing to go down that road.

Discussion continued as to the definition of tier A and tier B designation and how it would impact the township.

Nick DiCosmo asked the clerk to find out what Maurice River Township did and see if a copy can be sent to him.

Mayor moved on to correspondence

1. Correspondence from Tri-County Sportsman Motorcycle Club Inc., asking for permission to use existing trails and roads for the 2022 Tri-County Sportsman National Dual Sport Hammer Run taking place on November 5th and 6th. Insurance coverage has been provided.
2. Cumberland County is asking for a letter of support for the Cumberland and Salem Counties' applications to the Middle Mile Grant (MMG) Program. This program will extend the much-needed high speed broadband access into some of the most underserved sections of the two counties.
3. Correspondence from John C. Hickman. Would like to purchase township owned adjoining property. Property of interest is 2314 Cobb St. Block 228, Lot 8. Mr.

Hickman is offering \$ 4,000 for the purchase of this lot. Lot size is 212 X 130.3. If accepted, the sale would be in October.

There was a brief discussion as to where the property is located and who previously owned it.

Solicitor asked if there would be any contingencies such as consolidation. Committee did see why that would be necessary in this circumstance.

4. Request from Gretchen Esquilin for Stipend in pay for coverage of the tax collector office while Tax Collector is out on medical leave.

Mayor stated that wasn't she aware that this could happen when she took the position?

Clerk stated that the CFO brought this request to her and asked that it be placed on the agenda. Clerk also stated that her title is not Deputy Tax Collector but is part time secretary, but it is up to the committee.

Committeeman Jamison asked if this situation has happened before.

Clerk said that it had been done for her last year while Hannah was out.

Clerk also explained that someone wouldn't be eligible for this for a standard vacation. It would need to be an extended period of time off. Clerk stated that it is in the union contract and would get the committee the exact wording.

Decision would be made after view of the union contract.

Committeeman Klaudi said he didn't see anything on the agenda about the house Bill Henderson put on his property.

Clerk stated she wasn't sure what to do about that.

Mayor Vizzard said he didn't believe it needed to be on the agenda because he needs to go before the land use regarding that matter. I do know he was denied a zoning permit approval.

Mayor said next are Resolutions.

1. Resolution 2022-90 Resolution of Preference for Approval of Cannabis Manufacturing License for Pigment Holdings, LLC, By State of New Jersey Cannabis Regulatory Commission
2. Resolution 2022-91 Resolution of Preference for Approval of Cannabis Cultivation License for Pigment Holdings, LLC, By State of New Jersey Cannabis Regulatory Commission

3. Resolution 2022-92 Authorizing the Transfer of Overpayment to other tax years or refund of overpayment to owner, Payer or their Representatives
4. Resolution 2022-93 A Resolution of Commercial Township, Cumberland County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan Update
5. Resolution 2022-94 Approving Contract with Richard E. Pierson Materials Corporation for Cold Patch AT \$142.87 Per Ton Under the Cumberland County Purchasing System Identification #181-CCCCPS
6. Resolution 2022-95 Resolution Authorizing Shared Service Agreement Between the County of Cumberland Office on Aging and The Township of Commercial, Supporting Continued Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program for Seniors (SNAP) and Seniors Farmers Market Nutritional Program

Mayor asked the committee if they were good with the resolutions.
Committeeman Klaudi said he was good with all of them.

Mayor said as far as resolution 95, he had a meeting with Cumberland County and they will not support or should I say put any of their employees into the senior centers to take care of the nutrition assistance program for the seniors but they are willing to go into a shared service agreement with the township that they will cover the cost of Cindy Tawes taking care of this seniors' assistance program. They will pay her time to do that. She has been handling it since Covid but she is not going to continue to do it for free.

Mayor asked for reports of officials.

Mayor said with no reports from officials and nothing further, Mayor asked for a motion and a second to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,



Heather Sparks, Township Clerk