

**TOWNSHIP OF MAHWAH
COMBINED WORK SESSION AND PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, JANUARY 12, 2017**

The Meeting was called to order at 8:03PM by Council President Hermansen who read the Open Public Meetings Act Statement as prescribed by law. Notice was advertised in The Record on November 5, 2016 and The Ridgewood News on November 11, 2016 stating this meeting would be held in the Council Chambers at the Richard J. Martel Municipal Offices, 475 Corporate Drive, Mahwah, New Jersey on Thursday, January 12, 2017 at 8:00PM.

Notice of this Meeting is posted on the Municipal Bulletin Board. The Minutes of this meeting shall be available in the Municipal Clerk's Office once they have been approved by the Township Council.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR VETERANS AND THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY

Moment of Silence was observed for those who served and those who are serving in the military both here and abroad. It is because of their valor and bravery that we can hold meetings such as these.

Present: Councilmembers Ariemma, Ervin, Hermansen, May, Sbarra, Wong, Wysocki

Also present were Business Administrator Quentin Wiest, Township Attorney Brian Chewcaskie, Township Engineer's Associate Michael Kelly, Municipal Clerk Kathrine G. Coviello, and Clerical Assistant Carolyn George.

PRESENTATION – Lisa DiGiulio and John Roth

Hermansen asked the Council to stand with him before the dias. Hermansen said our Township has been lucky to have had two extraordinary members to serve our community. Mrs. DiGiulio served the Township for over 28 years. She did much for the Township long before she was a Councilmember. The Municipal Clerk has been the eyes and ears of the Council and they would not get much done without the Clerk.

The Municipal Clerk introduced Mrs. DiGiulio's family. She said she has known Mrs. DiGiulio for many years. Mrs. DiGiulio always taught her to be respectful, helped her to become who she has become today, and always made her feel like she was one of the Council. The Municipal Clerk presented Mrs. DiGiulio with flowers and a gift.

Mrs. DiGiulio said it is great to live in this Township and she was honored to serve this Township. She wished everyone the best. Mrs. DiGiulio said Kathy is the right hand of the Council and has the expertise to make the Council look good.

Mrs. DiGiulio thanked Coach Remo for all the children he has coached and said he is the greatest and most awesome person.

Mrs. DiGiulio said Mr. Roth took it beyond just being the Council President and has helped the Township succeed. She thanked him for what he has done.

Hermansen said the second Councilmember being honored is someone he has mentored over the years. Mr. Roth has done more for this Township than most people realize. He was on the Council for twelve years and the past three years as Council President.

Sbarra said the contributions both of these Councilmembers made to the Township could never be paid back by the Township. Sbarra said four years ago when he came on the Council both Mrs. DiGiulio and Mr. Roth put him under their wings. Mr. Roth helped him tremendously in looking at the Budget. Mr. Roth's dedication as a Council President cannot be under estimated. He created the Municipal Pilgrim Pipeline Group working so hard in making this happen. Sbarra mentioned John is very dedicated and as a Vice President, for three years, he never sat in Mr. Roth's seat due to his devotion and never missing a meeting. Sbarra thanked Mr. Roth on behalf of himself, the Council and the Mayor and presented him with a gift.

Mr. Roth said he was totally surprised, said he did not expect this, but glad they are all going to the Mahwah Bar and Grill after the meeting.

Mr. Roth said if one is going to do something it should be done well and it was a privilege to have served on the Council. He said he leaves with no regrets and is pleased he was part of this government and is part of the Township. Mr. Roth mentioned the Municipal Clerk deserves a round of applause and a thank you. When the Council looks good she is the one that makes them look good. The Council's operations are driven by the Municipal Clerk and she makes things happen. Mr. Roth thanked everyone and said it was a great journey.

PRESENTATION

Mahwah Mahwah High School Football Team – 2016 State Champions

Hermansen said the Mahwah Football Team went back to back with two championships.

Hermansen stated Coach Remo has done a phenomenal job. He said, on behalf of the Council, it is an honor and a privilege to have the Coach and the football players here tonight and for making the Township proud. The Township owes Coach Remo an amount of gratitude for what he has done for this Township. He asked everyone in the room to stand and give him a round of applause. Hermansen commented the football team should be lucky to be a Thunderbird.

He then called out the football players name and presented them with a certificate and the team with a plaque. Pictures were then taken.

PUBLIC PORTION

On a motion by Wong, seconded by Ervin, the meeting was opened to the public at 8:43PM. All in favor. Motion carried.

On a motion by May, seconded by Wong, the meeting was closed to the public at 8:44PM. All in favor. Motion carried.

WORK SESSION

SUBMISSION OF BILLS AND CLAIMS

Hermansen said the Bills and Claims List can be found in everyone's Drop Box.

ENGINEERING

1a. Wyckoff Avenue Sanitary Sewer Force Main and Water Main Installation; Authorization to Award Bid No. MTB-16-22

The Township Engineer's Associate mentioned in October bids were received for the Water and Sewer Main on Wyckoff Avenue, but funds were not available at the time. The funds have now been put into the Temporary Budget. John Garcia Construction Co., Inc. has been awarded the bid. They will break ground in the spring.

Sbarra asked where the work being done on Wyckoff Avenue and what would be the impact on the traffic. The Township Engineer's Associate said it is between Parsloe Court and West Crescent Avenue. The work will be a full road shut down in the day but open in the evening. It is expected to take one to two weeks.

Resolution shall be voted on in the Public Meeting.

1b. Wyckoff Avenue Sanitary Sewer Force Main and Water Main Installation; Authorization Resolution shall be voted on in the Public Meeting.

1c. Written Status Report – January 2017

MA-1534- Revision to FEMA Flood Maps: The Township Engineer's Associate said in 2015 FEMA said they should have the maps ready the first part of 2016. They were approached in 2016 and were contacted for an update. FEMA said they had to run additional studies and it would not be until 2017. The Township Engineer's Associate said he spoke with a contact at the NJDEP this week and they said New York contested the Coastal Study and appealed it. They won the appeal and FEMA has to redo their Coastal Study Analysis. The Township Engineer's Associate said, we can adopt the preliminary maps that are in place that were prepared.

The maps prepared took a lot of property owners out of the flood plain which would allow them not to have to pay flood insurance. He wants to review what it entails to adopt the preliminary maps and a link to the map showing the differences from the maps now to the proposed maps. He said if there should be areas in the flood plain he will have to advise the property owners so they can obtain flood insurance. Also, he said he expects 20 property owners to be taken out of the flood zone and he has sent letters to them. He will report back to the Council when he has more information.

Hermansen ask when work will start at the Ramapo River. The Township Engineer's Associate said he expects the NJDEP to be out there soon.

ADMINISTRATION

Hermansen explained to the new Councilmembers about bringing vendors to Pay to Play Compliance.

2a. Pay to Play Compliance

1. D.S. Meyer Enterprises, LLC

ADMINISTRATION (continued)

2. Edmunds and Associates

Resolutions shall be voted on in the Public Meeting.

2b. Authorization to Award Professional Services Contract; Tyco Animal Control
This item was removed from the Agenda and will be on the January 26, 2017 Agenda.

2c. Authorization to Solicit Bids for Antenna Lease; Campgaw Water Tank
The Business Administrator mentioned this is for authorization to solicit bids for an Antenna Lease for the Campgaw Water Lease. Once bids are received for approval, the lease can be awarded by the Council.

Sbarra asked if there is space for four leases on the pole. The Business Administrator is not sure of the full capacity but only one is expiring. Sbarra said if there is capacity on the pole he feels it would be wise to get bids out for a couple of leases.

Resolution shall be voted on in the Public Meeting.

2d. Authorization to Execute Agreement with Lexis Nexis; Lexis Nexis eCrash (Electronic Police Record Portal Services

The Business Administrator said Lexis Nexis specializes in the electronic accessibility of legal research and public records documents. This software is accessed by the Police Department.

Resolution shall be voted on in the Public Meeting.

2e. Potential Sanitation Collection Agreement; Bid No. MTB-16-20; Discussion

The Business Administrator stated this is an update from the meeting a couple of weeks ago. A Resolution was prepared by Legal Counsel. The Business Administrator clarified when a bid is initially bid, the law requires 60 days. What he did not realize is on a rebid, only 10 days are required to advertise. The ad is being published again and the new bids will be due on January 31, 2017. Wysocki asked the amount of refrigerants that were picked up last year. The Business Administrator said he reached out to the vendor for information. He said he also reached out to two other vendors who took the bid packages but did not submit them to why they did not submit bids.

Hermansen said he feels it is a short turnaround time but the Council decided on the January 31, 2017 date.

Resolution shall be voted on in the Public Meeting.

2f. Amendment; 2017 Budget Appropriations

The Business Administrator said this is an amendment to the Temporary Budget. The funding is in the Budget for the Wyckoff Water/Sewer Main Installation. Also, they are asking for Council approval for funding for purchase of three police vehicles. If we wait until the approval of the

Budget, we could miss the deadline for purchasing. He said the Council President and Vice President have reviewed this purchasing and approve of it.

Ariemma asked what exactly the funding is for. The Business Administrator said funding is for a lot of equipment that is transferred from the old vehicles and some new equipment is added. This is for three vehicles.

Resolution shall be voted on in the Public Meeting.

TOWNSHIP COUNCIL and MUNICIPAL CLERK

3a. Firefighter Application Robert W. Griesbach to Fire Company #4
Resolution shall be voted on in the Public Meeting.

3b. Budget Dates and Training; Discussion

Hermansen said the preliminary calendar for the Budget dates is in the Councilmembers paperwork. He said we should receive our Budget in the timeframe of February 9, 2017. There is a Council Meeting on February 23, 2017 which they would start looking at dates. What has been done in the past is bringing in the three largest departments automatically. After this, the Council could look at the Budget, and if there are questions we would ask the Administrator to ask the Department Head to answer. If there are still questions, or a Councilmember would like the Department to come in they can be put on the schedule. Hermansen said we would like to get the schedule of dates now.

Sbarra suggested to have Budget Meetings every other Thursday and to book the Council Chambers. Hermansen said Wednesdays are always available for the Council Chambers.

The Business Administrator suggested if new members want a session to familiarize themselves with a Budget they are open to this. Hermansen commented that if anyone else would like to go to these training sessions they are welcome.

Wong asked when the final adoption of the Budget is. The Business Administrator said it is generally the second Council Meeting in April.

Mayor Laforet asked if the Councilmembers would want days or evenings for the Training Budget Session.

Hermansen said training would be tentatively January 24, 2017 at 7:00PM. Last year's Budget will be used.

3c. Council Appointment; Zoning Board of Adjustment; Alternate II Member

Hermansen mentioned the Council has seen the resume submitted.

On a motion by Wysocki, seconded by Hermansen, Karliņa Almeda was nominated as a member to the Zoning Board of Adjustment - Alternate II. Roll call vote: Ariemma, yes; Ervin, yes; May, yes; Sbarra yes; Wong, yes; Wysocki, yes; Hermansen, yes.

3d. Cash Management Plan

Wong mentioned five banks are in Mahwah and one is in South Dakota, Hermansen said this was voted on on January 5, 2017. For the record, he said he wants to abstain as he works for one of the affiliates.

PUBLIC MEETING

APPROVAL OF BILLS AND CLAIMS

On a motion by Wong, seconded by Sbarra, the Bills and Claims, previously signed, totaling \$5,904,978.23 were approved. Roll call vote: Ariemma, yes; Ervin, yes; May, yes; Sbarra, yes; Wong, yes; Wysocki, yes; Hermansen, yes. A List of Bills and Claims is on file in the Municipal Clerk's Office.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

On a motion by Wong, seconded by Sbarra, the Combined Work Session and Public Meeting Minutes of December 1, 2016 were approved: Roll call vote: Ariemma, yes; Ervin, abstain; May, abstain; Sbarra, yes; Wong, yes; Wysocki, abstain; Hermansen, yes

REPORTS OF TOWNSHIP COUNCIL and MUNICIPAL CLERK

TOWNSHIP COUNCIL; COMMENTS, COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS OF SUBCOMMITTEES

Ariemma said she attended the Environmental Commission Meeting last night. They will be doing the Tree Recovery Program and will be receiving a Grant. They expect to give out 2,000 trees on Arbor Day. The Commission will need Council approval on the Grant after they receive it.

Ariemma said last fall 500 recycling barrels were given out. She said this year the Department of Public Works has a Grant to get more. They would like to give out 500 more. When the barrels come in, she said, the Environmental Commission would like the Mayor to put out a Nixle message. The Commission was unsure if they need Council approval.

The Environmental Commission will be applying for numerous other Grants Ariemma said.

The Environmental Commission wants to put a Rain Garden at Winter's Pond between the parking area and the pond. They have \$1,500 left from last year and there is a Sustainable Grant of New Jersey they may apply for. Their goal is to get \$15,000 to put into this garden. They are trying to get \$10,000 from Orange and Rockland as they had received last year.

The Business Administrator stated the Rain Garden was in this year's Budget. They did reduce the size of the garden to bring the cost down.

Ariemma said the Environmental Commission is looking to amend the Tree Ordinance from 25% to 33%. They are also suggesting to change the ordinance to cut down only two trees a year rather than five per year. Also, she mentioned the Commission would like to focus on Water Conservation this year.

Ervin attended his first Planning Board Meeting. He was sworn on the Planning Board as Council Liaison.

May said both the Recreation Meeting and the Cable Committee Meeting were cancelled.

Sbarra attended the School Board Reorganization Meeting. The Board swore in new members and are looking for a replacement for Chris Davis.

Sbarra mentioned on January 17th the new Negotiation Committee for the Contract for the Teachers are meeting with some super Conciliation Consultant and are hoping that this will push settling the Contract. They will give an update at their January 25, 2017 meeting.

Sbarra mentioned he was approached at the meeting by several School Board Members that have concerns about what is going to go on with the future of the Township for their planning purposes. He said he told them it is a good idea if and when we can talk about discussions in Closed Sessions he will update them. Sbarra said they have concerns about the money it will take to fund certain things as they know something is going on.

Sbarra suggested having the School Board assign a liaison to the Council so they can listen to our meetings.

Wong attended the Swearing in Ceremony of the Fire Officers and EMS on January 1st. He congratulated the Officers.

Wong attended the Swearing in Ceremony of Freeholder Amoroso on January 4th.

Wong wished Happy Birthday to Councilwoman Ariemma.

Wong congratulated Coach Remo and the Football Team.

Wong congratulated the Mahwah Ice Hockey Team on their win yesterday and wished them well.

Wong congratulated Soccer Coach Courtney Carrelha. She has an impressive win record.

Wong said he reached out to the Executive Director of the Chamber of Commerce and looks forward to his duties as Council Liaison.

Wysocki attended the Fire Department Installation Ceremony on January 1st.

Wysocki congratulated Coach Remo, his entire Football Team and the community for coming out and supporting them.

Wysocki said they donated a guitar to a girl in the Township. An auction bid of \$5,000 was received. He would like the gentleman who had the highest bid to come to a Council Meeting and on behalf of the Mayor, Council and Administration give the check to the family.

Hermansen congratulated Coach Remo and his team. He really looks forward to the coach who will be replacing Coach Remo and hopes they have the same success as Coach Remo.

Hermansen met with Mayor Laforet and Sbarra on Affordable Housing. Subject will be discussed on January 26th in Closed Session. He feels it was a successful meeting. He thanked Administration and Sbarra for putting this meeting together.

Hermansen mentioned on the news the blue lines in North Jersey were mentioned again. He said they have heard comments from our Mayor and would like comments from the Council.

Hermansen said he is hearing about how the Manual on the Uniform Traffic Control devices are complaining that if the blue line is in the middle of the yellow line and there should be an accident, they could say they were not sure what the yellow line meant. Hermansen stated, for the record, "if people do not know that a double yellow line means you should not cross, they should not be driving". He feels the blue line is productive and not a hazard. He would like to put a resolution in place to change the Manual on the Uniform Traffic Control to adjust regulations. He feels putting a blue line in to honor our Police Officers, a red line to honor volunteer Fire Fighters and something in the road honoring our EMS.

The Mayor feels there will be a movement on this.

Ariemma said she read comments saying traffic markings have to be uniform across the country. We need a uniform code across the country. Hermansen said as long as everyone knows what the two yellow lines are he does not think this is a problem.

Hermansen said the Budget will be coming out soon.

Hermansen congratulated Councilwoman DiGiulio and Council President Roth on their service to the Township.

REPORT OF MAYOR and BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR
PUBLIC PORTION

Mayor Laforet said as a result of all the media and discussions the blue line is going nowhere. He said there has been a lot of contact throughout the country. In the northeast it is just known about, but in the mid-west, they feel this is a great idea and there should be a lot more. He thanked everyone for standing behind this feels a resolution should go far.

Mayor Laforet attended the Fire Department Swearing in Ceremony on January 1, 2017.

The Mayor said he has spent many hours with former Council President Sbarra and Council President Hermansen to accomplish what was discussed at the Reorganization Meeting. He thanked both for their time.

Mayor Laforet met with the Highlands to discuss the Township Centers.

The Mayor attended the Planning Board Reorganization Meeting. There is a vacancy that they hope to fill soon.

The Mayor mentioned the passing of one of our Senior Citizens, Len Frost, who was a prominent senior at the Senior Lunches. He will be missed.

Mayor Laforet reiterated the progress he and the Council have made in their conversations and feels it is a team effort. Everyone should be proud of this.

The Mayor said Jaguar/Land Rover has submitted numerous permits and will begin work next week.

The Business Administrator mentioned he has a meeting with the Board of Education Business Administrator Kyle Bleeker next week. It will be a getting acquainted meeting and if there is anything that the Council wants him to bring up let him know.

PUBLIC PORTION

On a motion by Sbarra, seconded by Wong, the meeting was opened to the public at 9:42PM. All in favor. Motion carried.

On a motion by May, seconded by Wysocki, the meeting was closed to the public at 9:43PM. All in favor. Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

Resolutions #038-17 through #041-17, #043-17 through #046-17, #050-17 and #051-17 were voted on under the Consent Agenda. Resolutions are attached to and made part of these Meeting Minutes.

Resolution #42-17 was removed from the Agenda.

Resolution #047-17 was voted on separately in the Work Session Meeting and is attached to and made part of these Meeting Minutes.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Ariemma suggested if we ever have to fill Council seats again, we should do it more like Kinnelon and the Board of Education. This would be when a candidate would like a seat on the council they would submit a resume and then come before the Council to be interviewed.

Hermansen commented Kinnelon is a Partisan town and they receive three names from their Political Committee. Since we are a Non-Partisan Township that would not happen. Resumes could be submitted to the Municipal Clerk and we could see loads of resumes. Hermansen said this can be discussed at a future meeting.

CLOSED SESSION

On a motion by Wong, seconded by Sbarra, the Council went into Closed Session at 9:45PM for the express purpose of discussing:

- C1. Tax Appeals
 - a. 360 Franklin Turnpike; Bock 102, Lot 28
 - b. 800 MacArthur Boulevard; Block 135.01, Lot 61.06
- C2. Affordable Housing; Update
- C3. Halifax Road; Update
- C4. Cablevision; Contract Negotiations

All in favor. Motion carried.

On a motion by Wong, seconded by May, the Council returned to Open Session at 10:21PM. All in favor. Motion carried.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolutions #048-17 and #049-17 were voted on separately and are made part of the Meeting Minutes.

On a motion by Sbarra, seconded by Ariemma, the meeting was adjourned at 10:22PM. All in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Kathrine G. Coviello, RMC/CMC/MMC
Municipal Clerk