

**TOWNSHIP OF MAHWAH
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2017**

The Meeting was called to order at 6:05PM by Council President Hermansen who read the Open Public Meetings Act Statement as prescribed by law. Notice was advertised in The Record on December 11, 2017 and The Ridgewood News on December 8, 2017 stating this meeting would be held in the Senior Center of the Richard J. Martel Municipal Offices, 475 Corporate Drive, Mahwah, New Jersey on Tuesday, December 12, 2017 at 6:00PM.

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 are 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 and Wysocki

Also present were Mayor William C. Laforet, Matthew Giacobbe, Esq. for Township Attorney Brian Chewcaskie, Business Administrator Quentin Wiest and Clerical Assistant Carolyn George.

PUBLIC PORTION

On a motion by Ervin, seconded by Wysocki, the meeting was opened to the public at 6:13PM. All in favor. Motion carried.

Ms. Susan Steinberg of 96 Armour Road asked if the Council receives conflicting advice from Counsel how does the Council respond. Mr. Giacobbe explained if there are difficulties then Counsel would provide more guidance until Council is satisfied.

Ms. Steinberg asked for clarification surrounding the hiring of Methfessel & Werbel. Mr. Giacobbe explained due to the Attorney General Lawsuit, separate Counsel is required for the Council. The Township Attorney authorized the hiring of Methfessel & Werbel to protect the Township's interest. The Lawsuit required consent of all parties within 30 days. The Township Attorney is allowed to perform these hiring duties on an emergency basis.

Ms. Steinberg asked about the November 30 spending of \$17,500. Mr. Giacobbe stated the Council acted on guidance from the Township Attorney. Hermansen stated the Council wanted to speak to the Attorneys. Hermansen expressed it was in the best interest to meet with them and speak prior to voting. Mr. Giacobbe explained the Township Attorney is authorized to make an Emergency Hire under \$17,500 to protect the Township.

On a motion by Ervin, seconded by Ariemma, the meeting was closed to the public at 6:19PM.
All in favor. Motion carried.

Business Administrator asked that C2. Personnel Update be included in the Closed Session.
Hermansen agreed.

CLOSED SESSION

On a motion by Wysocki, seconded by Ervin, Council went into Closed Session at 6:21PM for
the express purposes of discussion:

C1. Advice from Special Counsel

C2. Personnel Update

All in favor. Motion carried.

On a motion by Ervin, seconded by May, Council came out of Closed Session at 9:45PM.
All in favor. Motion carried.

On a motion by Ervin, seconded by May, the meeting was adjourned at 9:46PM. All in favor.
Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



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