

TOWNSHIP OF MAHWAH
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2017

The Meeting was called to order at 10:15AM by Council Vice President Wong who read the Open Public Meetings Act Statement as prescribed by law. Notice as advertised in The Record on December 1, 2017 and faxed to The Ridgewood News for information only on November 29, 2017 stating this meeting would be held in the Richard J. Martel Municipal Offices located at 475 Corporate Drive, Mahwah, New Jersey on Friday, December 1, 2017 at 10:00AM.

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 arrived at 10:30am, May, Sbarra, Wong and Wysocki

Also present were Mayor William C. Laforet, Township Attorney Brian Chewcaskie and Deputy Clerk Jan Fox.

PUBLIC PORTION

On a motion by Sbarra, seconded by May, the meeting was opened to the public at 10:18AM. All in favor. Motion carried.

On a motion by Ariemma, seconded by Sbarra, the meeting was closed to the public at 10:19AM. All in favor. Motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION

On a motion by Sbarra, seconded by Ervin, Council went into Closed Session at 10:25AM for the express purpose of discussing:

C1. Advice from Special Counsel

All in favor. Motion carried.

On a motion by Sbarra, seconded by Ervin, Council came out of Closed Session at 1:10PM. All in favor. Motion carried.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolutions #398-17, #400-17, #401-17, #404-17 and #405-17 were voted on and attached to and made part of these Meeting Minutes. All in favor. Motion carried.

PUBLIC PORTION

On a motion by Wong, seconded by Hermansen, the meeting was opened to the public at 1:15PM. All in favor. Motion carried.

Mrs. Susan Steinberg of 96 Armour Road said she wants to understand about the new Attorney that has been retained. The Township Attorney stated Methfessel and Werber is highly recommended and does a tremendous amount of work for the Joint Insurance Funds throughout the state. Mr. Eric Harrison has been assigned this matter. He has litigated throughout the State not only Municipal issues but dealing with State Entities. The arrangement to retain the firm was made with himself and Mr. Giacobbe.

Mrs. Steinberg asked if they will be going over each bill individually. The Township Attorney said he only has one bill so far. All bills from all Attorneys will be copied to him so he can review them and make sure they are accurate.

Mrs. Steinberg asked if the Barry Black's firm is still working for us. The Township Attorney answered they are still working for the community but have not submitted an invoice yet. Mrs. Steinberg asked if he knows how much money the Township has committed to and has been used at this time. The Township Attorney said, to date, what is billed and unbilled for the Giacobbe firm is \$43,000. The Howell Schuster firm has indicated they were at \$33,000 approximately and requested an increase for 2017. He said these are the numbers through the end of November.

Mrs. Vicky Galow of 68 Armour Road asked what the resolutions just voted on for \$175,000 were for. The Township Attorney stated there was \$100,000 appropriated initially and now there is an additional \$175,000. He said this is to increase the amount for the two firms for the Eruv Services, to enter into new contracts for the Attorney General Services and there are additional legal fees incurred by his firm, basically, for Affordable Housing Litigation. He further stated an appropriation is not an expenditure. The Township Attorney feels a portion of the money will not be expended in 2017 but at least will be there.

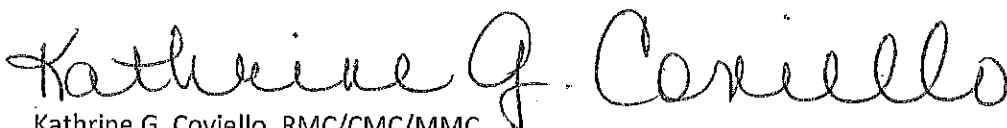
Mrs. Steinberg commented Sbarra had indicated, at the Council Meeting last night, he will not vote on any resolution until he knows the situation. She asked him if he was happier now that they just had the meeting with the Attorneys. Sbarra answered he does have a better understanding of our strategy going forward and the anticipated work that is needed.

Hermansen mentioned he just received an e-mail from a Township Principal in regard to students using devices and liquid chemicals in the schools. This is why, he said, we should be active when it comes to retail and smoke houses. The Township Attorney stated they will prohibit the retail sale of marijuana but will not prohibit bake shops in the Township.

On a motion by Wong, seconded it by Ariemma the meeting was closed to the public at 1:29PM.

On a motion by Wong, seconded by Ariemma, the Meeting was adjourned at 1:30PM. All in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



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