

**TOWNSHIP OF MAHWAH
COMBINED WORK SESSION AND PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, MAY 26, 2016**

The Meeting was called to order at 8:05PM by Council President Roth who read the Open Public Meetings Act Statement as prescribed by law. Notice was advertised in The Record and The Ridgewood News on October 9, 2015 stating this meeting would be held in the Council Chambers of the Richard J. Martel Municipal Offices, 475 Corporate Drive, Mahwah, New Jersey on Thursday, May 26, 2016 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 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 Amoroso at 8:40PM; Ariemma; DiGiulio, Hermansen; Roth, Sbarra and Wong.

Also present were Business Administrator Brian Campion, Township Attorney's Associate Nylema Nabbie and Municipal Clerk Kathrine G. Coviello.

Roth stated there were two major events in the Township recently. First, Friday, May 20, a lawsuit was served on the Township and two individuals, Mayor Laforet and Police Chief Batelli from the family and Sinclair Estate. As required by Joint Insurance Fund (JIF) we have forwarded the lawsuit to Joint Insurance Fund for review. Joint Insurance Fund issues a Reservations of Rights letter providing us information concerning coverage. On the advice of our Township Attorney, no member of the Council will have any comments concerning the content.

Roth stated the second major event that occurred on Tuesday, May 24, the Business Administrator tendered his resignation and his last day of service will be August 31. The Business Administrator has served the Township for the past 15 years with the highest level of professionalism, tolerance and patience.

PUBLIC PORTION

On a motion by Wong, seconded by Sbarra, the meeting was opened to the public at 8:10PM. All in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Robert Adler, 112 Christie Avenue, asked about parking enforcement for Christie Avenue and enhancement of the existing restrictions. The two restrictions are currently "No Parking Monday through Friday 5:00AM to 4:00PM" and the 24-7 parking restriction of "No Parking Here to Corner." Also no delivery restrictions on the businesses from Christie Avenue but businesses are required to receive their deliveries from their parking lots. Mr. Adler asked for rules to be followed. He also asked for no parking on his street except for residents who have a parking sticker.

Sbarra stated Mr. and Mrs. Adler spoke at the Planning Board Meeting about the same subject. Sbarra stated that the plans would not be approved until the Planning Board adjusts the delivery process.

Roth said he sent this to the attention of the Mayor, Business Administrator and Police Chief to disallow vehicles parking on the street. Roth's request will be forwarded to the Ordinance Committee for review. Ordinance Committee will get back to the Council.

Ms. Kate Nunez, 14 Long Avenue, referred to a letter sent to her by the Municipal Clerk with the Township Engineer Representative's letter attached. Ms. Nunez explained that the only intervention approved is painted crosswalks on Meadow Avenue and a slow sign. Roth agreed and added that speed monitoring and traffic flow devices were installed from the Police Department. Roth met with Business Administrator and Township Engineer and the Township cannot swap stop signs.

Township Engineer clarified the installation of a permanent dynamic sign to display speed. The State would need to accept a Safe Routes to School Grant Application. Township will be applying for the grant. If grant is not received, the cost for signs could be included in the next year's budget.

Ms. Nunez asked about the rights the Township has for Township roads. Township Engineer explained the Township does have the jurisdiction but the Township is required to verify need and the changes must warrant the need.

Township Engineer and Council discussed various methods to reduce/control traffic on Meadow Avenue. Roth stated that a two-year old report indicated the traffic incurred temporary spikes of volume and no speeding issues. Township Engineer agreed that speed limit signs could be added on Meadow Avenue if current traffic warrants the installation. Ms. Nunez stated a concern about the school bus stops at the intersection of Long and Meadow. Township Engineer suggested painting a crosswalk and sufficiently signing the area so children can cross Meadow Avenue to continue along Long Avenue or State Street. Hermansen questioned if there is a seasonal sign to restrict left turns. The option of a seasonal Ordinance needs to be researched and determined if it is legal for no left turns in the vicinity of Meadow Avenue during a portion of the year. Roth suggested reviewing the Police Department's survey of the area when it is available within a few days and then meeting individually to review the findings and future options.

Mr. Ed Pretko, 70 Meadow Avenue, asked why signs were changed in his neighborhood. In addition, Mr. Pretko asked why the bus does not stop at every corner. Roth said this matter should be brought up with the Board of Education.

On a motion by Hermansen, seconded by Wong, the meeting was closed to the public at 8:46PM. All in favor. Motion carried.

WORK SESSION

SUBMISSION OF BILLS AND CLAIMS

The Bills and Claims was placed in the Dropbox. Any Councilmember with questions was asked to speak with Administration before the Public Meeting.

ENGINEERING

1a. Meadow Avenue/West Mahwah Traffic; Discussion

This item was previously discussed during the Public Portion of this meeting.

1b. Verbal Status Report

Township Engineer reported the 2016 Road Program was advertised in today's paper. Bids will be accepted in two weeks and expect to award the work at the June 23 Council Meeting.

Township Engineer reported the Stream Cleanup status for the Mahwah and Ramapo Rivers. Township Engineer spoke with Mosquito Commission and the dredging of Mahwah River was completed. The dredging will start on Ramapo River when river level lowers.

ADMINISTRATION

2a. Pay-to-Play Compliance; W.E. Timmerman

Amount to be over quote threshold. Resolution to comply with Pay-to-Play regulations.

Resolution shall be voted on in the Public Meeting.

2b. Change Order #2; MTB #16-04: Mahwah Swim Club Alterations

Building inspection was to be completed today. Pool is ready to open for Memorial Day Weekend. This resolution is for Change Order #2.

Net-A-Porter's last day for parking in the Pool parking will be May 27. Net-A-Porter will be parking at the County Park just as last year while the Pool is open. Hermansen gave an update on the Pool construction. Business Administrator indicated the exterior painting is a separate contractor not part of the construction work and will occur during the week before the Pool is open on weekdays. Amoroso asked how many members registered. Hermansen said last week at registration it was very productive. DiGiulio asked if the Planning application before them ensures there is enough parking. DiGiulio will confer with the Planning Board Liason.

Ariemma said Eric from MEVO has 16 black cherry trees. She suggested that perhaps they could be planted at the pool. Roth suggested that she or Eric contact the DPW.

Resolution shall be voted on in the Public Meeting.

2c. MTB #16-07: Township of Mahwah DPW Electrical Services—Removed —Carried over to June 9, 2016 meeting

Township Attorney will review the correspondence and get back to Council for the next Council Meeting.

2d. 2016 Pool Fees

Resolution was drafted on pool fees. Fees are adopted by Township Council. The Pool Commission will mail registrations to residents. On a motion by Hermansen, seconded by Roth, to approve the rates the same as last year except for emergency services from \$45 to \$100. Roll call vote: Amoroso, yes; Ariemma, yes; DiGiulio, no; Hermansen, yes; Sbarra, yes; Wong, absent; Roth, yes.

2e. Mayoral Appointments; Access For All In Mahwah Commission

Business Administrator said the Mayor has made his appointments subject to the Council's approval. Hermansen and Roth met with the members on two occasions. Twenty-two people were interested, 14 people will be appointed. Others will be members at large. Roth stated that the Commission is filled with professional people ranging from nurses, a psychologist and an attorney.

Resolution shall be voted on in the Public Meeting.

TOWNSHIP COUNCIL and MUNICIPAL CLERK

3. Firefighter Applications

1. Firefighter Joseph F. Loreti to Fire Company #4
2. Firefighter Craig M. Saunders Jr. to Fire Company #5

Sent approval for both firefighters.

Resolution shall be voted on in the Public Meeting.

PUBLIC MEETING

APPROVAL OF BILLS AND CLAIMS

On a motion by Wong, seconded by Amoroso, the Bills and Claims, previously signed, totaling \$976,629.60, were approved. Roll call vote: Amoroso, yes; Ariemma, yes; DiGiulio, yes; Hermansen, yes; Sbarra, absent; Wong, yes; Roth, yes. A List of Bills and Claims is on file in the Municipal Clerk's Office.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

On a motion by Hermansen, seconded by Amoroso, the Combined Work Session and Public Meeting Minutes of April 28, 2016 were approved. Roll call vote: Amoroso, yes; Ariemma, yes; DiGiulio, abstain; Hermansen, yes; Sbarra, absent; Wong, abstain; Roth, yes.

REPORTS OF TOWNSHIP COUNCIL and MUNICIPAL CLERK
TOWNSHIP COUNCIL; COMMENTS, COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS OF
SUBCOMMITTEES

Amoroso stated trees were planted at Continental Park Field.

Joyce Kilmer Society had a tree initiative, which the DPW paid for and planted. A ceremony commemorating the trees will be on June 18 at Commodore Perry. The current commander of Joyce Kilmer's unit, the Fighting 69, will be speaking.

Amoroso was devastated by the retirement of the Business Administrator. He is an integral part to the Township and has educated new Councilmembers.

Amoroso said there has been a fair amount of chatter in the County about Lisa not running in the next election.

Ariemma was happy the trees were planted. Others are being planted on Miller Road by the Museum.

Ariemma thanked the Business Administrator for helping all of us and explaining items. She learned a great deal.

DiGiulio and two volunteers from the Beautification Committee set up the buckets with flowers and flags on Saturday along the parade route.

DiGiulio and the Business Administrator go back 30 years. She is broken hearted about his departure. Mahwah is a better place because of the Business Administrator's outstanding commitment.

Hermansen congratulated Mahwah Sports Programs. All three fields were used for Sectional State playoff games for Baseball, Softball and Lacrosse.

Hermansen congratulated Mr. Larry Inserra from Inserra Corporation. Mr. Inserra was honored by the Center of Food Action (CFA) for his commitment and leadership working to end hunger in Northern New Jersey.

Hermansen attended Boy Scout Car Wash for Troop 50 at Police Station.

Hermansen congratulated Troop 258 and Mr. Marcus for planting flowers at the Municipal Building.

Hermansen congratulated Ms. Emily Lockwood who won prestigious Governor's Award.

Hermansen thanked everyone who volunteered for Access For All.

Hermansen said he looks forward to the Municipal Pool Opening this weekend, Memorial Day, on a three-day weekend.

Hermansen stated there is a Youth Sports Boosters Memorial Day Softball Tournament going on this weekend.

Hermansen stated the Fishing Derby this weekend.

Hermansen stated there is a Memorial Day Parade this weekend.

Hermansen stated the lawsuit, he believes, is a dark cloud over the Township that did not need to have happen.

Hermansen stated it is a sad day in the Township and the events that led to the Business Administrator to step down.

Sbarra attended the May 18th School Board Meeting. MEA and teachers attended the meeting in regards to their contract issues. Sbarra has noticed the animosity on both sides. The School Board has rescinded the offer to the Ramapo Ridge Principal with no explanation.

Sbarra believes that the Business Administrator is a valuable mentor. Sbarra learned a great deal from him about Municipal Government, he respects the Business Administrator's decision and extends his thanks.

Wong shared the same sentiments as the Council concerning the Business Administrator's retirement. He has been a mentor in many aspects and will be truly missed.

Wong attended today the Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month in Hackensack held by the County Executive and Freeholders. Bergen County Prosecutor Grewal gave a good speech and congratulations to Hindu Samaj Temple for receiving a Community Award.

Wong stated that May was National Military Appreciation Month.

Wong stated that the Ordinance Committee plans to meet soon.

Roth attended on May 13th Ramapo College graduation ceremony in the Prudential Center.

Roth attended on May 18th the Senior Advisory Board Meeting.

Roth met on May 18th with the Business Administrator and Lead Representative from Matrix Consulting. Initial recommendations were unchanged. Some structural and scope of work issues were addressed and will be revised in the draft. Chief of Police is in receipt of the draft. The presentation of the study will be discussed in a future meeting.

Roth attended on May 19th the Senior Luncheon. Box lunches were provided from Shop Rite and it was a success.

Roth stated that Access for All met with the Mayor and went through appointments.

Roth attended on May 21st the Marine Corps breakfast in Oakland.

Roth met on May 26th with the Attorney and Business Administrator to discuss the BPU and Cablevision for the Cable Renewal within the next few weeks.

Roth said thank you to the Business Administrator for everything he has done for the Township.

REPORTS OF MAYOR AND BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR

Business Administrator has an employee agreement with the Township. His last day will be August 31. He has been with the Township for 15 years. Business Administrator assisted with many projects to bring the Township into the 21st Century and Capital projects; such as the Municipal Building, Senior Center, Continental Soldiers Park, well field, water mains, Sanitary Sewers 4 and 5, reconstruction of Fire Company #1, renovation of the Police Station, water tanks and streamlining Administration. The Business Administrator believes the Township is in a good place right now with projects and contracts, and it is a good transition time. Thanks to Mayor Martel, Council President Spiech, Mayor Laforet and the current Council for his appointments.

ORDINANCES-PUBLIC HEARINGS

The title of an Ordinance was read as follows:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MAHWAY CHAPTER II ADMINISTRATION TO ESTABLISH SECTION 2021 THEREOF ENTITLED THE ACCESS FOR ALL IN MAHWAH COMMISSION.

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

On a motion by Hermansen, seconded by Amoroso, the meeting was closed to the public. All in favor. Motion carried.

On a motion by Hermansen, seconded by Amoroso, the following resolution was passed and adopted:

RESOLUTION – ORDINANCE NO. 1780

RESOLVED that the ordinance be passed and adopted on second reading and the Municipal Clerk is authorized to advertise by title only as having been finally adopted, as required by law.

Roll call vote: Amoroso, yes; Ariemma, yes; DiGiulio, yes; Hermansen, yes; Sbarra, yes; Wong, yes; Roth, yes.

PUBLIC PORTION

On a motion by Sbarra, seconded by Hermansen, the meeting was opened to the public at 10:03PM. All in favor. Motion carried.

Ms. Diane Adler, 112 Christie Avenue, stated she was grateful for the respect they receive from the Council. Ms. Adler expressed her appreciation and applauded the Business Administrator for his dedication to the Township.

On a motion by Wong, seconded by Hermansen, the meeting was closed to the public at 10:07PM. All in favor. Motion carried.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolutions #146-16, 147-16 and 149-16 through 152-16 were voted on. Resolutions are attached to and made part of these Meeting Minutes.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Ariemma read in the newspaper some town perform gassing of geese. Business Administrator said that the Township talked about it ten years ago and decided not to do so.

Sbarra has been hearing that the Fire Department was upset with the new Police Department Tactical Force. Business Administrator explained the Mayor is concerned about the same and meetings will be held with the Fire Department soon.

Roth asked Business Administrator for clarity as to the activities and interaction with the Fire Department. Roth questioned about the training and duplication of effort. Roth requested clarity at future Council level.

Hermansen referred to an article in the newspaper about Mahwah Municipal Alliance and Ramsey Municipal Alliance. Hermansen asked who is mentoring and what does it mean to us in our town for our resources.

CLOSED SESSION

On a motion by Sbarra, seconded by Amoroso, Council went into Closed Session at 10:15PM for the express purposes of discussing:

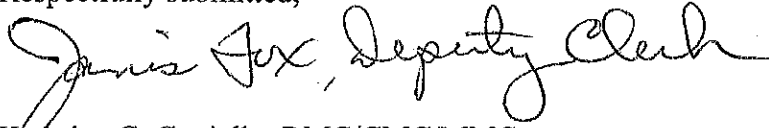
- C1. Blue Collar Contract Negotiations
- C2. Affordable Housing Update
- C3. Discussion of Personnel Matter; Resignation of Business Administrator

Roll call vote: Amoroso, yes; Ariemma, yes; DiGiulio, yes; Hermansen, yes; Sbarra, yes; Wong, yes; Roth, yes.

On a motion by Amoroso, seconded by Wong, Council came out of Closed Session at 10:55PM

On a motion by Wong, seconded by Amoroso, the meeting was adjourned at 10:58PM. All in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kathrine G. Coviello, Deputy Clerk". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

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