

**TOWNSHIP OF MAHWAH
COMBINED WORK SESSION AND PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2015**

The meeting was called to order at 8:00PM by Council President Roth who read the Open Public Meetings Act Statement as prescribed by law. Notice was advertised In The Record on August 27, 2014 and The Ridgewood News on September 5, 2014 and January 2, 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, November 12, 2015 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 are serving and those who served in the military both here in the United States and abroad. It is because of their valor and bravery that we can hold meeting such as these.

Present: Councilmembers Amoroso, Ariemma, Sbarra, Wong @ 8:55PM and Roth.
Absent: Councilmembers DiGiulio and Hermansen.

Also present were Mayor William C. Laforet, Business Administrator Brian T. Campion, Township Attorney Brian Chewcaskie, Township Engineer's Associate Michael Kelly and Municipal Clerk Kathrine G. Coviello.

PUBLIC PORTION

On a motion by Sbarra, seconded by Amoroso, the meeting was opened to the public at 8:06PM. All in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. George Wagner of 26 Bartholf Lane spoke about trucks stopping along the shoulder of Route 17 in the no stopping and standing areas. Mayor Laforet said he has brought this matter to the attention of the Police Chief and the Police Officers are moving the trucks along when they see them. Mayor said he will again contact the Police Chief as well as send a letter to the businesses along Route 17.

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

WORK SESSION

SUBMISSION OF BILLS AND CLAIMS

Any Councilmember with questions on the Bills and Claims was asked to contact Administration prior to the Public Meeting.

ADMINISTRATION

2d. Endorsement; United Way of Bergen County; HOME Application
The Business Administrator gave a brief overview of the project. United Way is making great progress on Ramapo Valley Road with their housing project.

The Business Administrator said the third building or third box, requires funding which could come from either the Township's Development Fee Trust Fund or Payments in Lieu from other developers in the town. A Resolution from the Township endorsing the project is necessary.

Mr. Tom Toronto, President of Bergen County's United Way, was present. Mr. Toronto explained the project is being done in two phases. The first being the building for independent living for residents with developmental disabilities. The second building is in the process of being framed. Mr. Toronto provided a colored drawing of the site.

Thus far, Mr. Toronto said the County has been successful with the County HOME Program which is really Community Development Funds from the Federal Government allocated on a county-by-county basis. Therefore, it is important to have such programs in Bergen County to have projects to invest in with the HOME dollars. United Way is fortunate to have the partnership with Mahwah during these development programs. An endorsing Resolution is required from the Council for funds of the Senior Building HOME application stage.

Mr. Toronto explained that the application process will open around Spring 2016.

Resolution shall be voted on in the Public Meeting.

ENGINEERING (Boswell-McClave)

1a. Demolition of 70 Island Road; Authorization to Award Project (Bid #MTB-15-10)
Recommendation is to award the bid to Caravella Demolition Inc. of East Hanover, New Jersey for a Total Bid of \$57,989.00. The Township Engineer's Associate said the Bid is well below their estimate of \$140,000. They have discussed the entire project with the Contractor and he has assured them he understands the work required and the effort involved. References on the Contractor were contacted and all were favorable. Resolution shall be voted on in the Public Meeting.

1b. Well 19 Rehabilitation; Authorization for Engineering Design Services
Well 19 is located off of Route 202. It was constructed in 1987. The last time it was worked on was about 20 years ago.

The work proposed will be done in two Phases and bid out separately. The Proposal from Boswell, \$18,000, is for the design work for both Phases.

Resolution shall be voted on in the Public Meeting.

1c. Written Status Report – November, 2015
MA-1541 and MA-1542 Ramapo and Mahwah Rivers Stream Cleaning and Flood Control:
Bergen County Mosquito Commission is ready to begin the project next week.

MA-1606 Blueberry Court Sanitary Sewer Improvements: The design project is continuing and will be sent to the state in a few weeks for a scheduled spring project. Options for assistance to remove soil offsite can be from Bergen County Mosquito Commission, DPW, or Soil contractors. Stockpiling soil in locations, depending on its quality, will allow for expedient removal in trucks during the spring.

MA-1340 East Slope Booster Pumping Station: The drawings have been approved; the generators should be delivered shortly. The project is moving along as planned.

Roth and the rest of the Council welcomed Mr. DeLuca back and wished him well as he continues to recover from surgery.

ADMINISTRATION

2a. 2015 Budget Transfers

The Business Administrator explained each of the transfers.

Resolution shall be voted on in the Public Meeting.

2b. Authorizations to Award Bid MTB #15-17: Purchase and Installation of Outdoor Surface for Recreational Courts

Recommendation is to award bid to Superior Play Systems Inc. of Norristown, PA as follows: Fardale Courts - \$98,915.00 and Commodore Perry Courts - \$118,315.00 for Total Bid of \$217,230.00.

Councilmembers questioned the type of surface being applied. Mayor answered it is a tile surface with a 15 year life. The current material on the courts has an 8 year life. Also, the current material molds due to the trees in the areas and the new material will not. Mayor Laforet said Paramus has two courts which they used the same material. Council was encouraged to go to see the courts in Paramus.

Resolution shall be voted on in the Public Meeting.

2c. Property Tax Exemption; 100% Permanently and Totally Disabled Veteran; Block 21.03, Lot 1

The Business Administrator said by State Statute Disabled Veterans receive an exemption on their taxes. Resolution shall be voted on in the Public Meeting.

2d. Endorsement; United Way of Bergen County; HOME Application Item discussed earlier in the Meeting.

2e. Authorization to Utilize Houston Galveston Area Council National Cooperative Purchasing Program – Purchase of One Type I, Ford F450, Model 623 Vehicle

Resolution shall be voted on in the Public Meeting.

TOWNSHIP COUNCIL and MUNICIPAL CLERK

3a. Request for Permission to Post Signs in Township Right-of-Ways; Mahwah High School Class of 2019

Resolution shall be voted on in the Public Meeting.

3b. Firefighter Applications

1. Matthew K. Myhr to Fire Company #1

2. Patrick J. O'Carroll IV to Fire Company

Resolutions on the above two Firefighters shall be voted on in the Public Meeting.

PUBLIC MEETING

APPROVAL OF BILLS AND CLAIMS

On a motion by Amoroso, seconded by Sbarra, the Bills and Claims, previously signed, totaling \$6,137,225.62, were approved. Roll call vote: Amoroso, yes; Ariemma, yes; DiGiulio, absent; Hermansen, absent; Sbarra, yes; Wong, yes; Roth, yes. A List of Bills and Claims is on file in the Municipal Clerk's Office.

REPORTS OF TOWNSHIP COUNCIL and MUNICIPAL CLERK

TOWNSHIP COUNCIL; COMMENTS, COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS OF SUBCOMMITTEES

Amoroso said on Tuesday she attended the MMA's Town Hall Meeting: The Heroin Epidemic.

Amoroso said on Wednesday she was unable to attend the Veterans Day Ceremony. But she did check that the Pearl Harbor Monument was installed in Veterans' Park.

Amoroso attended the Board of Education Meeting. The Board welcomed the new Business Administrator Kyle Bleeker. Condolences were offered to John Dolan. Two new Board Members, Mike Galow and Leslie Konilow, were in the audience.

Amoroso said at the Board of Education Meeting there was a discussion about Microsoft Office 365. It is where the teachers could communicate with students through the Cloud.

Amoroso said a parent asked a question about the recently published Patch story where Mahwah Schools were ranked in the Top 100 Schools in the State in terms of Bullying, Violence, Vandalism, etc. There were 65 incidences which occurred with half of them relating to vandalism. The Superintendent assured the audience that Mahwah Schools are safe.

Amoroso said the Mahwah High School's Fall Play, "The Geek" will be November 18th through 22nd.

Amoroso said a young woman from Ithica College passed away. She offered her condolences to her family.

Ariemma said the Planning Board Meeting was cancelled.

Ariemma said the work on I-287 has been ongoing and for those who live within 5 miles the noise is extremely loud. Mayor said that they are grinding patches to make them road height.

Ariemma asked for a schedule of when leaves will be picked up throughout the Town. Mayor Laforet answered he is working with the DPW Director to compile a map to be put onto the Township Web Site showing the areas where leaves have been picked up and where they will be picked up. It is anticipated the map will be online within a week or so.

Sbarra congratulated the MMA on an excellent presentation on the Heroin Epidemic Program.

Sbarra said he attended the Veterans' Day Ceremony.

Wong thanked the Veterans for their service.

Roth said on November 2nd he attended the Taste of the Seasons at the Crowne Plaza with the Mayor.

Roth said on November 5th he attended the Affordable Housing Team Meeting which was held here and reviewed the vacant land analysis.

Roth said on November 10th he attended the Cable Committee Meeting. He said the Channel has picked up many new viewers.

Roth said on November 10th he attended the MMA Town Hall Meeting – The Heroin Epidemic. He said the MMA should be applauded. He added addiction affects everyone – directly and indirectly.

Roth said on November 11th he attended the Veterans Day Ceremony. That evening he went to Mahwah Bar and Grill for the Mahwah Marine Moms Fundraiser.

REPORTS OF MAYOR AND BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR

Mayor Laforet said the Halloween Trunk or Treat was a huge success.

Mayor Laforet said on November 1st he went to Secor Farms where they compiled 20,000 meals, soup packets, in conjunction with Feeding Children Everywhere.

Mayor Laforet said on November 2nd he attended the Taste of the Seasons at the Crowne Plaza.

Mayor Laforet said on Veteran's Day, November 11th, he attended two ceremonies; one at Veteran's Park and the other at Ramapo College.

Mayor Laforet attended a presentation where Matthew Rayham's niece is a member. Mr. Rayham spoke about the connection and commitment between his family and that of Tim McGill, Staff Sergeant, who passed away in Iraq a few years ago.

Mayor said he has friends who wish to remain anonymous that donated 18,000 lbs. of food to the Center for Food Action. This donation is the largest single donation received by the Mahwah Center.

Mayor said the MMA appreciated everyone who came to the Town Hall Meeting. He said over 420 people attended.

PUBLIC PORTION

On a motion by Sbarra, seconded by Wong, the meeting was opened to the public at 9:10PM. All in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Tom Lociciero of 30 Alden Road in Paramus questioned when the amendment to the Towing Ordinance will be made. In particular, Mr. Lociciero is concerned about not being able to charge mileage for long distance tows. The Township Attorney said he expects the Ordinance to be amended by the end of the year. Mr. Lociciero explained at this point when he gets a tow in Mahwah that wants to be taken to Rutherford he loses money because he cannot charge the Client for mileage.

Mr. Michael DeLuca of Parsons Pond Court said the Township has an asset around Lake Henry. He questioned why there is a restriction of no dogs. Roth pointed out that no dogs are permitted on the artificial turf and playground area. And dogs that are leashed must be attended to. Mr. DeLuca said that there is a sign at the junction of the Polo Grounds that says dogs are no allowed.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

Resolutions #295-15 through #304-15 were voted on under the Consent Agenda. Resolutions are attached to and made part of these Meeting Minutes.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Sbarra spoke of a Press Release about the Annual Tim and Ray McGill Memorial Cup that will take place at the Ice Vault in Wayne on November 27th.

CLOSED SESSION

On a motion by Sbarra, seconded by Wong, Council went into Closed Session at 9:30PM for the express purposes of discussing:

- C1. Tax Appeal; Block 20, Lot 17; 834 Darlington Avenue
- C2. Chai Lifeline; Settlement Draft
- C3. White Collar Collective Bargaining Agreement
- C4. Affordable Housing; Update

All in favor. Motion carried.

On a motion by Amoroso, seconded by Roth, Council returned to open session at 10:37PM. All in favor. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION

Resolution #305-15 was voted on. Resolution is attached to and made part of these Meeting Minutes.

On a motion by Wong, seconded by Amoroso, the meeting was adjourned at 10:39PM. All in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,


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