

**Township of Mantua**  
**Minutes**  
**Meeting April 3, 2017**  
**Mantua Township Municipal Building**  
**6:00 P.M.**

On the above date the Township Committee of the Township of Mantua held its Regular Meeting in the Mantua Township Municipal Building, 401 Main Street, Mantua, New Jersey 08051.

Mayor Scirrotto called the meeting to order. The time was 6:00 p.m. Mayor Scirrotto asked everyone to rise for the Flag Salute and remain standing to observe a moment of silence.

Mayor Scirrotto delivered the Sunshine Notice as required by the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act.

Mayor Scirrotto called on Township Deputy Clerk Pamela LeVine to call roll. Present were Deputy Mayor Robert Zimmerman, Mr. Michael Silvanio, Mayor Pete Scirrotto, Mrs. Jennica Bileci, Township Administrator, Mr. Steven Alexander, Superintendent of Public Works, Jon Bryson, Engineer, James Pierson, Esq., Chief Sawyer

Proclamation Designating April as Child Abuse Prevention Month in the Township of Mantua was presented to Mantua resident Gail Shast.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Motion to approve April 3, 2017 - Deputy Mayor Zimmerman, 2<sup>nd</sup> Committeeman Silvanio. All in favor

**Engineering Report:** Mr. Bryson discussed that the Country Gardens landscaping still has open items that Colonial Landscaping will start addressing as the warmer weather is beginning. In addition Mr. Bryson advised the committee that the 2016 road program with South State has a punch list which they have begun working on. Mr. Bryson also discussed that the Public Works building is in the final stages of the buildings layout and should be ready to go out for bit shortly thereafter. Mayor Scirrotto inquired about the additional work on Tyler Mill Road, at which time Mr. Bryson advised that this has been submitted to the D.O.T. and we should hear back from them by the end of May early June and that should we get approved the work can begin sometime in August.

**Department of Public Works Report:** Mr. Alexander advised that green cart collection has begun. He reported that some residents have been tagged for having items other than what is specified in their green carts such as grass, leaves, dying plants, and light trimmings. Mr. Alexander advised that these types of clippings may have been picked up in the past however, it is not cost effective to continue operations in that manner. He further stated that Public Works employees have been instructed to tag those carts to educate the residents of what is allowed in the green carts. He reminded the Committee that no branches or wood of any kind are permitted in these carts. In addition, Mr. Alexander discussed that brush has been extremely heavy since the last snow storm and that public works has been running overtime crews after hours and on the weekend.

**Police Department Report:** Chief Sawyer discussed that the speed signs are out on Evergreen Ave. and Columbus Drive as well as Breakneck Rd and Woodbury Glassboro Roads. He went on to say that the community service liter patrol has been making its rounds and they will be on assigned streets so that they hit as many streets as possible.

In addition, the Chief advised that the department received a \$4,400 grant from the state for distracted driving. Which will take place from April 1 through April 21<sup>st</sup>. The Chief discussed that South Jersey Gas has begun working on Main Street and will continue towards the municipal building. He advised that the contractor will be working during Easter Break not to interfere with the busing. Furthermore, the Chief advised that the Jackson Road paving project was completed by the County. .

Committeewoman Lukens inquired about the status of the break ins to cars around town. Chief Sawyer explained that they have made progress with the help of other towns and encouraged the public to keep their car doors locked.

Mayor Scirrotto reminded everyone about Resolution R-31-2017, that there is a time limit of five (5) minutes per person.

### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

Deputy Mayor Zimmerman made a Motion to open to the Public, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Committeeman Silvanio

Deb Baldassare – 522 Main Street – Ms. Baldassarre discussed that she has been picking up twigs and small branches through the winter months in anticipation for the green carts to be picked up. She stated that she received an infraction on her green cart and it was not picked up. She explained that she was under the impression that that the green cart was not only for grass and leaves but small twigs and branches. Public Works Superintendent Alexander advised her that the only thing that should be in the green cart should be leaves and grass because it is very costly to dispose of mixed contaminated refuse at the facility. However, he noted that if the residents would like to put the small twigs/branches on top of their brush pile and/or to put them in an open cart, the public works department will pick that up. Administrator Bileci added that this is not something new that we are doing with the tagging of the carts, it's a new mechanism that we are enforcing to educate the residents. Chief Sawyer also mentioned that in order to educate the public, the Township uses all sources of social media including Nixle. He asked that everyone pas the word along so that everyone joins this free program to receive all the important notifications around town.

Ken Defay – 456 Pitman Road – Mr. Defay inquired why the Township is disposing of the brush with private vendors and suggested that we purchase two chippers and do the chipping in house. Superintendent Alexander advised that the cost of running the chippers is quite expensive and we would need manpower to do so. In regards to working weekends, Mr. Alexander advised that as a result of the last snow event there is quite a large amount of brush out on the streets. Mr. Defay questioned the ability of other towns to accomplish these pickups without overtime. Mayor Scirrotto responded that he didn't know what other towns are doing, but advised that our public works department is doing everything they can to get the brush up in a timely manner. Deputy Mayor Zimmerman also noted that bringing in people on a Saturday is cost effective rather than hiring 2-3 additional people full time with benefits.

Mr., Defay then inquired as to the five minute rule and how that is calculated. He asked if his 5 minutes included the response time from the committee? Mayor Scirrotto let Mr. Defay know that he should discuss what matters he wishes to and that he would receive the appropriate amount of time necessary.

Deputy Mayor Zimmerman made a Motion to Close to the Public, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Committeeman Silvanio. There was no public participation.

ORDINANCE 4-2017: ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 291 "PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS", SECTION 7 "GROUP ACTIVITIES" TO ESTABLISH RENTAL FEES FOR THE USE OF THE PAVILION IN CHESTNUT BRANCH PARK

Deputy Mayor Zimmerman made a motion to introduce; it was seconded by Committeeman Silvanio. All were in Favor

ORDINANCE 5-2017: AN ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK

Deputy Mayor Zimmerman made a motion to introduce; it was seconded by Committeeman Silvanio. All were in Favor

RESOLUTION R-66-207: RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA INTRODUCING THE 2017 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

Deputy Mayor Zimmerman made a Motion to Adopt 2<sup>nd</sup> by Committeeman Silvanio  
All were in favor

RESOLUTION R-67-2017: RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA AUTHORIZING TAX AND PREMIUM REFUNDS

Deputy Mayor Zimmerman made a Motion to Adopt 2<sup>nd</sup> by Committeeman Silvanio  
All were in favor

RESOLUTION R-68-2017: RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AN ESCROW AGREEMENT

Deputy Mayor Zimmerman made a Motion to Adopt 2<sup>nd</sup> by Committeeman Silvanio  
All were in favor

**Township Committee Remarks:**

Committeewoman Lukens reported that Mantua Township Schools is having a Big Night Out on May 23, 2017 from 5-8 p.m. This event will include food trucks as well as a color run and will be open to the entire community.

Deputy Mayor Zimmerman reminded everyone about the upcoming Senior Citizen Prom that will be held on April 21, 2017 at the Clearview Middle School at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Scirrotto made a motion to pay the bills; it was seconded by Committeeman Silvanio. Deputy Mayor Zimmerman Abstained. 4 in Favor

Mayor Scirrotto made a motion to adjourn; it was seconded by Deputy Mayor Zimmerman. All were in Favor

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela LeVine, Deputy Clerk