

**Township of Mantua**  
**Minutes**  
**Meeting March 4, 2019**  
**Mantua Township Municipal Building**  
**6:00 P.M.**

On the above date the Township Committee of the Township of Mantua held a Workshop Committee 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.

Mr. Shawn Layton, Mr. John Legge, Mrs. Eileen Lukens, Mr. Robert Zimmerman, Mr. Peter Scirrotto, Mrs. Jennica Bileci, Township Administrator, Mrs. Pamela LeVine, Deputy Township Clerk, Mr. James Pierson, Solicitor, Jon Bryson Engineer, Steven Alexander, Superintendent of Public Works, Chief Darren White

**Approval of Minutes:** February 4, 2019

Deputy Mayor Zimmerman made a motion to approve, 2<sup>nd</sup> Committeeman Legge  
Roll Call: All were in Favor

**Public Portion:** Deputy Mayor Zimmerman made a motion to open, 2<sup>nd</sup> Committeeman Legge.

Gregg Shast – 39 Silvercreek Dr. Mantua – Mr. Shast voiced his concerns regarding Resolution R-55-2019 that was on this evening’s agenda. Mr. Shast noted that this is a plan for the County to handle all administration for education and to do away with the local control. He is opposed to committee approving this resolution as there would be two counties that would be the test sites, however there is no provisions to return the system back to its original state should it not work. In addition Mr. Shast is concerned that although this committee has already decided to approve this resolution he respectfully requests that they do not support this. People are aware of who their local representatives are at the school level and if this should take place they would be dealing with the County, who no one knows. Mayor Scirrotto noted that this is the beginning to broad progress and it is multi-faceted. The State of New Jersey has so much debt into the billions. There has to be some place to start. State Senate President Sweeney would never put any of the children in a position not to be taken care of as he has done so much with disabled children for many many years. In addition, Mayor Scirrotto noted that with this Township taking over the Wenonah Police Department, he noted that this took many years and will be saving this Township over \$500,000 helping to save on the local taxes that people pay. Deputy Mayor Zimmerman also noted that this is a broad spectrum situation. It is frustrating for everyone that pays taxes. The Deputy Mayor noted that 16 percent of the local taxes are for the schools. Trying to cut costs and centralize this is just a small piece of the puzzle. This is just a way to force the hand of the schools and this legislation is here to help and save money. It’s the beginning of a way to balance the system and get to the bottom line.

Deputy Mayor Zimmerman made a motion to close, 2<sup>nd</sup> Committeeman Legge. Roll Call: All were in Favor

**Engineering Report:**

Mr. Bryson discussed that there were two bond release requests. Pitman Church of Christ which will need to post a maintenance bond and will need to be approved by the solicitor as well as one from Associates Holding LLC which Mr. Bryson noted there will not be a maintenance bond needed as the performance bond has been in place in excess of two years. Regarding the Public Works Building, Mr. Bryson noted that the roof portion is ready to go, the contractor is waiting for better weather. In regards to the building the contractors are looking to start around April 1, 2019 and should be able out 6 weeks for footings, & concrete work. Jon also discussed the Tyler's Mill Road Phase 3 project has been completed and he is coordinating with the contractor on the close out. Mayor Scirrotto inquired about the joint areas as this was a project that was done in several steps. Mr. Bryson noted that the only way to improve those areas might be to infrared the entire joint.

**Department Public Works Report:**

Mr. Alexander discussed that during the Month of February we had several snow events. And that most were salting events with only one event being plowed. Steve noted that the department has started a training program on equipment and vehicles that includes all employees on equipment out of their classification. Steve felt that this may increase the interest to move up ladder. Mr. Alexander discussed that the new building is moving forward that that a preconstruction meeting was held with a tentative start date of April 1<sup>st</sup>. Steve also discussed that there was a JIF training session for the department on Sanitation and Recycling safety. This was also open to other neighboring towns. Mr. Alexander noted that March is Tire Amnesty Month which means that you can bring tires to County landfill free of charge and that there are new flyers from the county regarding Hazardous waste disposal. Mayor Scirrotto noted that he would like to see what it would take to get a 30 yard dumpster in the back by Public Works just for residents to dump old tires. We would not accept commercial tires but he would like to see this accomplished to help the residents out. Steve also made mention that the department is still waiting for the 2 new small dump trucks to be outfitted with dump bodies and plows.

**Police Department Report: Chief White:**

Chief White discussed that since the last workshop meeting, community service has been out on New St., Royal Oaks Dr., Berkley Rd., Heritage Rd., Glassboro Rd., as well as the police department lobby, Police Explorer office, bathrooms, and courtroom. IN addition he noted that the speed signs have been out on Jessup Mill Rd., Castle Dr., and Capital Dr. and the trailer has been on Jackson Rd. Chief White also noted that there were a few storms over the past month that resulted in numerous traffic crashes. Although busy, officers handled everything extremely well and kept things running smoothly. Darren went onto note that both Ptl. Riepen and Ptl. Mroz attended a Wenonah Lions Club meeting on Tuesday the 26<sup>th</sup> to establish a partnership and better explain their capabilities. The department tries to have the canines involved with as many groups as possible as much of their existence is owed to the generous donations provided by them. On a positive note Chief White noted that the Police Department is nominating Ptl. Lipsett for the Mantua VFW Hall's officer of the year. The Chief noted that I, Ptl. Lipsett has shown himself to be a knowledgeable officer who has volunteered for and is a part of our crash team, volunteered for and served as our hiring manager for our most recent full selection process, and volunteered to be certified as a Drug Recognition Evaluator, which

requires extensive training, both in the classroom and in the real world, and is our primary Terminal Agency Coordinator which coordinates training and compliance with the state for our CJIS program, which is used to look up a huge amount of very sensitive information such as criminal histories, Motor Vehicle Commission information, Interstate Identification Index information, and out of state motor vehicle information. Darren noted that he has been attending several meetings with Mantua and Wenonah schools as well as Clearview to discuss school safety. One of his main goals for this year is to significantly increase our school security. That is not to say that we are not competent, but there is always room for improvement. I want to have officers conduct more drills to practice our responses to school incidents, as these will show us areas that may not work the way in which we expected. Darren noted that he attends monthly Mantua school security meetings and am confident that they will be on board with anything that we need. Chief White noted that there was an inspection by a representative from the Department of Corrections in response to some rule exemption requests that were requested previously. The chief noted that the relatively new private company who conducts the inspections knocks departments for everything, the actual representative from the Department of Corrections was much more understanding and offered additional insight. Many of the concerns may be able to be addressed through policy rather than construction which would keep the costs down to make these corrections. Darren further discussed that Ptl. Hauss became involved in a pursuit with a suspect in his vehicle. The suspect ended up crashing in Camden and was taken into custody. After being granted a search warrant, this incident helped us clear up three burglaries that occurred in town. Chief White discussed crossing guards and that they moved one of the guards from a heavily traveled area in Wenonah to a significantly less traveled area in Mantua due to some concerns. Darren also note that the 2019 Safe and Secure Grant is all complete and will be submitted shortly and also noted that the final piece of paperwork for the Body Worn Camera Grant was also just submitted. Deputy Mayor Zimmerman inquired as to all the trash bags that are located along Center Street as well as Woodbury Glassboro Road and wanted to know if these were from the community service people. Chief White note that he didn't think so as they normally take the trash that they collect. He did note that he will look into it.

#### ORDINANCE O-1-2019: AN ORDINANCE CREATING THE POSITION OF POLICE CHAPLAIN FOR THE MANTUA POLICE DEPARTMENT

Deputy Mayor Zimmerman made a motion to open to the public, 2<sup>nd</sup> Committeeman Legge, Roll Call: All were in Favor

Deputy Mayor Zimmerman made a motion to close, 2<sup>nd</sup> Committeeman Legge Roll Call: All were in Favor

Deputy Mayor Zimmerman made a motion to adopt, 2<sup>nd</sup> Committeeman Legge Roll Call: All were in Favor

#### ORDINANCE O-2-2019: AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA AMENDING CHAPTER 120 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA, "ANIMAL CONTROL"

Deputy Mayor Zimmerman made a motion to open to the public, 2<sup>nd</sup> Committeeman Legge, Roll Call: All were in Favor

Deputy Mayor Zimmerman made a motion to close, 2<sup>nd</sup> Committeeman Legge

Roll Call: All were in Favor

Deputy Mayor Zimmerman made a motion to adopt, 2<sup>nd</sup> Committeeman Legge  
Roll Call: All were in Favor

ORDINANCE O-3-2019: ORDINANCE AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA AMENDING CHAPTER 375 TOWING OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA

Deputy Mayor Zimmerman made a motion to open to the public, 2<sup>nd</sup> Committeeman Legge, Roll Call: All were in Favor

Deputy Mayor Zimmerman made a motion to close, 2<sup>nd</sup> Committeeman Legge  
Roll Call: All were in Favor

Deputy Mayor Zimmerman made a motion to adopt, 2<sup>nd</sup> Committeeman Legge  
Roll Call: All were in Favor

ORDINANCE O-4-2019: AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA AMENDING CHAPTER OF THE TOWNSHIP CODE: PROMOTIONAL PROCESS

Deputy Mayor Zimmerman made a motion to adopt, 2<sup>nd</sup> Committeeman Legge  
Committeeman Layton Abstained. Roll Call: 3 were in Favor

RESOLUTION R-44-2019: RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA AUTHORIZING TAX AND REFUNDS

Deputy Mayor Zimmerman made a motion to adopt, 2<sup>nd</sup> Committeeman Legge  
Roll Call: All were in Favor

RESOLUTION R-45-2019: RESOLUTION APPROVING A TAX EXEMPTION OF A TOTAL DISABLED VETERAN ON REAL PROPERTY 125 ADAMS AVE, BLOCK 115 LOT 1.01 AS WELL AS CANCELING THE 2<sup>ND</sup> QUARTER TAXES OF 2019 IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$2,102.25

Deputy Mayor Zimmerman made a motion to adopt, 2<sup>nd</sup> Committeeman Legge  
Roll Call: All were in Favor

RESOLUTION R-46-2019: A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA ENDORSING THE SUBMISSION OF THE PRIOR FISCAL YEAR OF 2018 RECYCLING TONNAGE GRANT APPLICATION TO THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Deputy Mayor Zimmerman made a motion to adopt, 2<sup>nd</sup> Committeeman Legge  
Roll Call: All were in Favor

RESOLUTION R-47-2019: RESOLUTION APPROVING THE RELEASE OF A PERFORMANCE BOND IN THE AMOUNT OF \$284,222.40 FILED BY ASSOCIATES HOLDINGS, LLC FOR THE PROJECT KNOWN BLOCK 253.01 LOTS 3, 24 & 30 AND WAIVING A MAINTENANCE BOND AS THE

IMPROVEMENTS HAVE BEEN IN PLACE IN EXCESS OF THE TWO YEAR REQUIREMENT

Deputy Mayor Zimmerman made a motion to adopt, 2<sup>nd</sup> Committeeman Legge  
Roll Call: All were in Favor

RESOLUTION R-48-2019: RESOLUTION APPOINTING EDWARD WILEY AS A SPECIAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER CLASS III WITHIN THE MANTUA TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

Deputy Mayor Zimmerman made a motion to adopt, 2<sup>nd</sup> Committeeman Legge  
Roll Call: All were in Favor

Deputy Mayor Zimmerman swore in Edward Wiley.

RESOLUTION R-49-2019: RESOLUTION APPOINTING ROBERT LEASH AS A SPECIAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER CLASS III WITHIN THE MANTUA TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

Deputy Mayor Zimmerman swore in Robert Leash

Deputy Mayor Zimmerman made a motion to adopt, 2<sup>nd</sup> Committeeman Legge  
Roll Call: All were in Favor

RESOLUTION R-50-2019: RESOLUTION APPOINTING STEPHEN WOLFSGRUBER AS A SPECIAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER CLASS II WITHIN THE MANTUA TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

Deputy Mayor Zimmerman made a motion to adopt, 2<sup>nd</sup> Committeeman Legge  
Roll Call: All were in Favor

Mayor Pete Scirrotto swore in Stephen Wolfsgruber.

RESOLUTION R-51-2019: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA TO ACCEPT A COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CD-19-MP5) FROM THE COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER IN THE AMOUNT OF \$50,000.00 FOR THE PROJECT KNOWN AS ROOF REPLACEMENT OF THE SENIOR CENTER ON MERCER AVENUE

Deputy Mayor Zimmerman made a motion to adopt, 2<sup>nd</sup> Committeeman Legge  
Roll Call: All were in Favor

RESOLUTION R-52-2019: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA TO PLACE OUT FOR BID AUTHORIZING THE ADVERTISEMENT FOR SALE BY SEALED BID OF PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION LICENSE TO THE HIGHEST QUALIFIED BIDDER AND INVITES BIDS THEREON

Deputy Mayor Zimmerman made a motion to adopt, 2<sup>nd</sup> Committeeman Legge  
Roll Call: All were in Favor

RESOLUTION R-53-2019: A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE LETTER OF RETIREMENT FROM CPL. JEFF LEACH, IN THE MANTUA TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

Deputy Mayor Zimmerman made a motion to adopt, 2<sup>nd</sup> Committeeman Legge  
Roll Call: All were in Favor

RESOLUTION R-54-2019: A RESOLUTION OF ACCEPTING THE LETTER OF RETIREMENT FROM SERGEANT BERT BRUCKER, IN THE MANTUA TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

Deputy Mayor Zimmerman made a motion to adopt, 2<sup>nd</sup> Committeeman Legge  
Roll Call: All were in Favor

RESOLUTION R-55-2019: RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF PATH TO PROGRESS RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY NEW JERSEY ECONOMIC AND FISCAL POLICY WORKGROUP

Deputy Mayor Zimmerman made a motion to adopt, 2<sup>nd</sup> Committeeman Legge  
Roll Call: All were in Favor

**Remarks from the Township Committee:**

Committeeman Legge noted that this Path to Progress is just scratching the surface to get the State under control with its debt, thus alleviating the tax burden at the local level.

Deputy Mayor Zimmerman noted that there is a Senior Dinner on March 19 at 6:00 p.m. and that the Easter Celebration is scheduled for April 13 with a rain date of April 20<sup>th</sup> at the Chestnut Branch Park. In addition, the Tennis court transition to Pickle Ball is in the works and there will be several courts hopefully completed by the spring.

Administrator Bileci discussed that the budget is now being worked on and that capital requests have been requested by the department heads. Mrs. Bileci also noted that the budget will be done a little later this year as she will be waiting to see if any bids come in for the consumption license so that this can be added to the budget.

Mayor Scirrotto made a motion to pay the bills; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Deputy Mayor Zimmerman. All were in favor

Mayor Scirrotto made a motion to adjourn; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Deputy Mayor Zimmerman. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela LeVine, Township Deputy Clerk