

Township of Mantua
Minutes
Meeting May 1, 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, James Pierson, Esq., Steven Alexander, Superintendent Public Works, Jon Bryson, Engineer, Chief Sawyer

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion to approve May 1, 2017 - Deputy Mayor Zimmerman, 2nd Committeeman Silvanio. All in favor

A Presentation by Chief Harry Delgato, New Jersey State Association of Chief's to the Mantua Township Police Department on their Re-Accreditation.

Engineering Report

Mr. Bryson advised the Committee that the Chestnut Branch Park irrigation well has been tested and the results were positive. The project has now been closed. Mr. Bryson discussed that the Country Gardens landscaping still has open items that Colonial Landscaping has begun addressing. 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 and should be completed shortly. Mr. Bryson also advised that he has met with Public Works Superintendent Alexander and they are coordinating with Coastal Steel about the new Public Works building. 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 has been accepted, and we should hear back from them by the end of May early June.

Department of Public Works Report: Mr. Alexander advised that we had students from Clearview come and help us with cleaning up around the Township Buildings, during their Pioneer Palooza with weed removal and mulching. We will be sending out a thank you letter to the school. In addition, public works currently has 1 rear load trash truck out of service. The truck was sent to an outside vendor for repair. Mr. Alexander discussed that the "Welcome to Mantua" signs have all been installed on the major arteries leading into town. Also discussed by Mr. Alexander was street opening permits

for SJ Gas had been requested on a bulk application, rather than individual streets. The application was denied and SJ Gas was advised that they had to request separate applications for each street involved. This will allow a significant increase in street opening permit revenue going forward. In addition, we have requested that SJ Gas issue a blanket Bond for all the work they do in town. They will be doing so as well as a Hold Harmless Agreement. Finally, brush collection is still very heavy. We have been working overtime whenever possible. Mr. Alexander reminded everyone that the Municipal offices are closed for Memorial Day May 29th, and that Monday's trash collection will be collected on Tuesday.

Ken Defay – 456 Pitman Road – Mr. Defay inquired about the welcome signs that have just been placed around town, as well as why there is nothing posted on the park sign. Administrator Bileci advised that we have placed 8 signs on the major arteries leading into town. These signs are made out of a more durable material than the last ones and have approximately a 20 year life span. Regarding the park sign, Deputy Mayor Zimmerman advised that it will be taken care of immediately and there will always be something on the sign going forward. Mr. Defay also inquired about the cost of the electric that is used for Chestnut Branch Park. Administrator Bileci advised that we will get him that information and advise him accordingly. Mr. Defay inquired of Superintendent Alexander if the Public Works department kept a log on the tires that they use such as wear and tear, and why we were still taking our brush to Winzinger when it is not a local vendor. Mr. Alexander advised that we are still taking brush to both local vendors as well as Winzinger and that the public works department does not keep a log of their tires.

Gregory Shast – 39 Silver Creek Drive – Mr. Shast advised that he had several questions on the budget and is aware of the 5 minute rule. Therefore he has given these questions to Administrator Bileci for her to respond to at a later time. Mr. Shast noted that he understands that the Township has contractual obligations and has asked if the Township would please consider in negotiating contracts in the future that the military provided increases beneath substantially lower than what the Township is offering. Mr. Shast commented that in 2017 the military was given a 2.1% increase, 2016 a 1.3% increase and the prior 4 year a 1% increase. Mr. Shast asked in going forward, if the Township would consider looking at comparable increases before committing to a new contract.

2017 BUDGET PRESENTATION

2017 Budget Presentation was given by Administrator Bileci.

Administrator Bileci advised that the Township Budget, as presented tonight for public hearing, meets all statutory requirements and provides services at levels which are necessary for the efficient operation of a municipal government.

She thanked the Department Heads for their efforts in continuing to insure that we will deliver cost effective services to our residents. She advised that the Township has been aggressive in trying to control our expenses and that the budget presented is a stable and fiscally responsible. Mrs. Bileci advised that the priorities for the Administration is to improve and deliver basic Township services and move them in a more efficient direction to manage the changing needs of the community.

She reviewed the 2016-2016 accomplishments of the Township and noted that the following were completed: Changed from State Health benefits to a Health Insurance

Fund to save \$50k in Insurance costs, settled the PBA contract and capped sick time sell back, 3rd year enforcing the abandoned property registration fee which has generated \$115k in revenues for the Township, Implemented Paperless Committee meetings, paved East and West Atlantic Ave, Created the Eli McCarron Memorial Park, Purchased the Ledden property as a redevelopment effort and strategic financial investment to secure the property due to its adjacent location to the Jean and Ric Edelman Fossil Park, Installed new "Welcome to Mantua" Signs, and made many improvements to Chestnut Branch Park such as the Pavilion refurbishment project and new well.

She advised that the Total Budget is \$13,816,472 which is an increase of \$237k more than 2016 due to contractual and statutory increases.

She discussed the 2017 Capital budget and advised that the Township will be committing to a comprehensive capital program that addresses all areas of the Township's needs including: Roads, Departmental capital needs, fleet replacement, infrastructure, and park improvements. The total capital program for this year is \$524,000.00

She explained that this year's Local Purpose Tax will increase by 1.5 cents which is approximately \$30.02 for the average homeowner.

ORDINANCE 6-2017: AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA, CHAPTER 82 FIXING AND ESTABLISHING SALARIES AND COMPENSATIONS OF OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA, IN THE COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER, STATE OF NEW JERSEY FOR THE YEAR 2017

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

ORDINANCE 7-2017: AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA, CHAPTER 56 ENTITLED OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES, TO DESIGNATE THE POSITION OF PURCHASING AGENT

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

RESOLUTION R-75-2017: RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA AUTHORIZING THE BUDGET TO BE READ BY TITLE ONLY

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

RESOLUTION R-66-2017: RESOLUTION APPROVING THE 2017 MUNICIPAL BUDGET FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA

Motion to Open: Deputy Mayor Zimmerman, 2nd Committeeman Zimmerman
All in Favor: 5 yes votes

No one spoke at the public hearing.

Motion to Close: Deputy Mayor Zimmerman, 2nd Committeeman Silvanio
Motion to Adopt: Deputy Mayor Zimmerman, 2nd Committeeman Silvanio
Roll Call: 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION R-76-2017: RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA AUTHORIZING TAX AND PREMIUM REFUNDS

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

RESOLUTION R-77-2017: RESOLUTION APPROVING THE RELEASE OF A PERFORMANCE BOND IN THE AMOUNT OF \$586,612.00 FILED BY SOUTH STATE, INC. FOR THE PROJECT KNOWN COUNTRY GARDENS SUBDIVISION IMPROVEMENTS

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

RESOLUTION R-78-2017: RESOLUTION AWARDED A CONTRACT TO EUROFINS QC INC. FOR THE 2016 SAMPLING, TESTING AND REPORTING OF THE MANTUA LANDFILL MONITORING WELL AND CHESTNUT BRANCH PARK POTABLE WELL SAMPLING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$8,095.00

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

RESOLUTION R-79-2017: RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA PROHIBITING PARKING ON ELM AVENUE BETWEEN MAIN STREET AND MANTUA BOULEVARD BETWEEN 9:00 A.M.- 11:00 A.M. ON MAY 29, 2017 FOR THE ANNUAL MEMORIAL DAY PARADE AND REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY

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

RESOLUTION R-80-2017: A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA AND THE NEW JERSEY STATE ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE

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

RESOLUTION R-81-2017: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CONSTRUCTION PERMIT FEE WAIVER FOR THE MANTUA TOWNSHIP V.F.W POST 7679

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

Remarks from the Township Committee:

Committeewoman Lukens – Congratulated Chief Sawyer on his recent Community award that was given at the VFW as well as his upcoming retirement.

Committeeman Legge - Congratulated Chief Sawyer on his upcoming retirement. Committeeman Legge also advised everyone that he signed up for the phone app “Literati” and he has already noted 10 items that has taken photos of. In addition, Committeeman Legge reminded everyone about the Memorial Day event on Monday the 29th.

Committeeman Silvanio - Congratulated Chief Sawyer on his recent Community award that was given at the VFW as well as his upcoming retirement and that he will be missed. Committeeman Silvanio discussed that the Historical Commission along with the students at JMT will once again be writing essays on their visit to the Historical Museum and then the winners will be awarded proclamations at a later date.

Deputy Mayor Zimmerman – Thanked the Chief for all his years of service and wished him the best in the future. Deputy Mayor Zimmerman also reminded everyone about the upcoming Senior Dinner on May 16th as well as the Bark in the Park event that will be May 21st at the Chestnut Branch Park.

Mayor Scirrotto also thanked the Chief for all his years of service. Mayor Scirrotto also noted that he is not only the Chief of Police here in Mantua but a friend for many years. He wished Chief Sawyer well.

Administrator Bileci advised that the newsletters will be going out and should be received by the residents in the next few weeks.

Chief Sawyer thanked everyone on Committee, Administrator Bileci and Deputy Clerk LeVine for all their support and comradery during his time at Mantua Township.

Mayor Scirrotto made a motion to pay the bills; 2nd by Deputy Mayor Zimmerman made All were in favor

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

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela LeVine, Deputy Clerk