

**Township of Mantua**  
**Minutes**  
**Meeting May 15, 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., Lieutenant White

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Motion to approve May 15, 2017 - Deputy Mayor Zimmerman, 2<sup>nd</sup> Committeeman Silvanio. All in favor

Committeewoman Lukens made a motion to amend the March 20, 2017 minutes to reflect a \$900 thousand savings to the Mantua School District over a period of five years, rather than a one year savings. This savings will be offset by a change in the state school aid formula which will decrease the amount of revenue that the Mantua School District receives.

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

**Public Participation**

Gail Shast – 39 Silvercreek Dr – Mrs., Shast thanked the Committee for allowing her women’s club to place the pinwheel garden at the Municipal Building. Mrs. Shast then went on to advise that she had just returned from the N.J. Federation Women’s Club Meeting in Atlantic City where there were approximately 700 women from all over. Mrs. Shast noted that Mantua Township community was given Kudos as a great place to live and work. Mrs. Shast also discussed that Dr. Ken Lacovara was one of their guest speakers and spoke very highly of Mantua Township including the recent acquisition of the Jean and Rick Edelman Fossil Park. Dr. Lacovara also discussed that Ceres Park here in Mantua has the oldest dinosaur finds and Mrs. Shast would like for the Committee to consider putting up a sign of some kind acknowledging this fact. Dr. Lacovara also indicated that once the Edelman Fossil Park is completed in 2020 there will be walking tours to these dinosaur sites and it would be a great testament to Mantua to have this sign. Mayor Scirrotto noted that Dr. Lacovara is an excellent speaker who spoke at one of the Mantua Senior dinners and had a fully captivated audience. In addition, Mayor Scirrotto noted that there will be sign put in place at Ceres Park as the students from the Mantua

Schools are working on that.

Edward Bott – 243 Montgomery Drive – Mr. Bott discussed that the Township has an Ordinance in place that only allows chickens on a 5 acre parcel of land. Mr. Bott advised that he has had chickens for many years until recently when a neighbor complained. Mr. Bott also discussed that with more and more people concerning themselves with eating healthy, and chemical free, Mr. Bott respectfully asked the committee to re-think this Ordinance and come to some sort of acceptable arrangements so that residents can have chickens. Deputy Mayor Zimmerman advised that the Ordinance has been in place for quite some time stating that at a minimum, 5 acres is needed. In addition, Mayor Scirrotto advised that not everyone keeps their yards clean and kept. Mr. Bott advised that he does keep his yard clean and free from odor and is trying to do the right thing by coming to Committee. Again, Mr. Bott respectfully asked committee to rethink this Ordinance as the times have changed since the original Ordinance had been written.

Ken Defay – 456 Pitman Road – Mr. Defay questioned about the cost of the anticipated new Public Works Building, at which time Administrator Bileci advised that the cost would be between 36-40,000. Mr. Defay then inquired about the status of disposing of the leaves and grass. Administrator Bileci noted that the Public Works Superintendent is in discussions with the farmers that lease the Township properties to have the leaves/grass brought there to minimize the cost of taking it outside the Township. However the brush would still need to go elsewhere. Mr. Defay inquired about the time to get to and from Winzinger where some of the Township brush is brought too, at which time Administrator Bileci advised it is a 20 minute ride to get there. Mr. Defay's last inquiry was about the T-shirts for the Board of Education at which time Deputy Mayor Zimmerman advised that those shirts are for an upcoming event at the school which Municipal Alliance has paid for. This is a grant that must be used for drug related events. These monies are not budgeted from the Township.

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

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

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

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-82-2017: 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-83-2017: RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A TOWNSHIP ISSUED FIREARM TO RODNEY SAWYER IN RECOGNITION OF HIS RETIREMENT AS CHIEF OF POLICE AND FOR HIS SERVICE WITH THE MANTUA TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

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

RESOLUTION R-84-2017: RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA EXECUTING A HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT WITH RODNEY SAWYER FOR THE RELEASE OF HIS TOWNSHIP ISSUED SERVICE FIREARM

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

RESOLUTION R-85-2017: RESOLUTION APPROVING AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA AND SCHAFFER PYROTECHNICS FOR A FIREWORKS DISPLAY TO OCCUR ON OCTOBER 7, 2017 AT THE MANTUA TOWNSHIP FALL FESTIVAL

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

RESOLUTION R-86-2017: RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA APPOINTING AN OFFICER IN CHARGE FOR THE MANTUA TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

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

**Remarks from the Township Committee:**

Committeeman Legge reminded everyone that the Memorial Day parade and events will be held here at the Municipal Building and begin around 10:00.

Deputy Mayor Zimmerman advised that this is Law Enforcement Week and would like to thank all Law enforcement. In addition, last week was Teacher Appreciation week, and would like to thank the teachers as well. Deputy Mayor Zimmerman reminded everyone about the upcoming Senior Dinner on May 16, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. and that the Bark in the Park will be on Sunday May 21, 2017 at the Chestnut Branch Park and that registration for the dog parade will be 12:00 noon. In addition there will also be a K-9 demonstration and some fund raising for the K-9 unit.

Lieutenant White reminded everyone that there is a lot of road work being done throughout the township and asked if everyone would please be mindful and take a few extra minutes in getting where you need to be.

Mayor Scirrotto made a motion to pay the bills; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Deputy Mayor Zimmerman made 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, Deputy Clerk