

Township of Mantua
Reorganization Meeting
January 4, 2021
Mantua Township Municipal Building
5:00 P.M.

On the above date at 5:00 p.m. the 2021 Reorganization Meeting was held in the Mantua Township Municipal Building, 401 Main Street, Mantua, New Jersey 08051.

Township Deputy Clerk Pamela LeVine welcomed everyone and wished all a Happy New Year.

Mrs. LeVine called the meeting to order and asked for everyone to rise for the flag salute and remain standing for the Invocation offered by Deacon Peter Traum, Church of the Incarnation.

Mrs. LeVine then read the Statement of the Presiding Officer: "Notice of this Reorganization Meeting was given in compliance with the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, more than 48 hours in advance by providing a Notice of Reorganization Meeting to the South Jersey Times and Courier-Post newspapers, for publication in their public meeting notice columns. Notice was also posted more than 48 hours in advance on the bulletin board in the Mantua Township Municipal Building."

Mrs. LeVine performed a roll call. Present were Committeeman Scirrotto, Committeeman Zimmerman, Committeeman Legge, Committeewoman Layton, Mrs. Jennica Bileci, Township Administrator, and Mr. Jeff Daniels, Esq.

On November 3, 2021, the General Election was held, and the certified results found the victors to be Mr. John Legge who received 4,991 votes Mr. Legge will serve a three year term on the Township Committee commencing today upon being sworn in.

Mr. Legge was sworn in by Committeeman Scirrotto.

At this time Mrs. LeVine opened the nominations for Mayor of the Township of Mantua for 2021. All were in favor. Committeeman Zimmerman made a motion to nominate Pete Scirrotto for Mayor of the Township of Mantua for 2021, seconded by Committeeman Legge. Mrs. LeVine asked if there were any other nominations. As there were no other nominations, Mrs. LeVine asked for motion to close the nominations. Committeeman Zimmerman made a motion to close the nominations, seconded by Committeeman Legge. All were in favor.

Mrs. LeVine stated a nomination has been made and seconded for Pete Scirrotto for Mayor of the Township of Mantua for the year 2021. Mrs. LeVine presented to the Township Committee Resolution R-1-2021, appointing Pete Scirrotto as Mayor of the Township of Mantua for the year 2021. Committeeman Zimmerman made a motion to approve Resolution R-1-2021, seconded by Committeeman Legge. All were in favor. Mrs. LeVine announced the motion was adopted. The Oath of Office for Mayor Scirrotto was administered by Committeeman Layton.

Mayor Scirrotto opened the nominations for Deputy Mayor of the Township of Mantua for 2021. The motion was made by Committeeman Legge, seconded by Committeeman

Layton. All were in favor. Committeeman Legge nominated Robert Zimmerman for Deputy Mayor, seconded by Committeeman Layton. All were in favor.

As no other nominations were brought forth, Mayor Scirrotto asked for a motion to close the nominations, which was made by Committeeman Legge, seconded by Committeeman Layton. All were in favor.

Mayor Scirrotto presented to the Township Committee Resolution R-2-2021, appointing Robert Zimmerman as Deputy Mayor. Committeeman Legge made a motion to approve Resolution R-2-2021, seconded by Committeeman Layton. All were in favor.

Deputy Mayor Zimmerman was administered the Oath of Office by Committeewoman Eileen Lukens.

Mayor Scirrotto called for a Roll Call vote to follow the consented agenda items listed as Resolution R-3-2021 to Resolution R-38-2021. Deputy Mayor Zimmerman made a motion to approve Resolutions R-3-2021 through R-38, 2021, seconded by Committeeman Legge. All were in favor.

RESOLUTIONS R-3-2021 THROUGH R-38-2021 TO BE VOTED IN ONE MOTION*

RESOLUTION R-3-2021: RESOLUTION APPOINTING SOLICITORS FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA FOR THE YEAR 2021

RESOLUTION R-4-2021: RESOLUTION DESIGNATING FEDERICI & AKIN, P.A. AS THE ENGINEER FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA, COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY FOR 2021

RESOLUTION R-5-2021: RESOLUTION APPOINTING BOWMAN & COMPANY AS THE AUDITOR FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA FOR THE YEAR 2021

RESOLUTION R-6-2021: RESOLUTION APPOINTING JOHN MOUSTAKAS ESQUIRE AS THE MUNICIPAL COURT PROSECUTOR FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA FOR THE YEAR 2021

RESOLUTION R-7-2021: RESOLUTION APPOINTING LAWRENCE HUBERT, ESQUIRE AS PUBLIC DEFENDER FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA FOR THE YEAR 2021

RESOLUTION R-8-2021: RESOLUTION APPOINTING BROWN & CONNERY AS LABOR ATTORNEY FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA FOR THE YEAR 2021

RESOLUTION R-9-2021: RESOLUTION APPOINTING PARKER MCCAY AS BOND COUNSEL FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA FOR THE YEAR 2021

RESOLUTION R-10-2021: RESOLUTION APPOINTING HARDENBERG INSURANCE AS THE RISK MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA FOR THE YEAR 2021

RESOLUTION R-11-2021: RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A SCHEDULE OF REGULAR MEETING DATES FOR THE MAYOR AND TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA FOR THE YEAR 2021

RESOLUTION R-12-2021: RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING RATE OF PREPAYMENT FOR MEETING NOTICES

RESOLUTION R-13-2021: RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA FOR THE YEAR 2021

RESOLUTION R-14-2021: RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE RATE OF INTEREST TO BE CHARGED ON DELINQUENT TAXES AND OTHER CHARGES FOR THE YEAR 2021

RESOLUTION R-15-2021: RESOLUTION NAMING THE OFFICIAL DEPOSITORIES FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA, COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

RESOLUTION R-16-2021: RESOLUTION MAINTAINING PARTICIPATION IN GLOUCESTER/SALEM/CUMBERLAND COUNTY MUNICIPAL JOINT INSURANCE FUND

RESOLUTION R-17-2021: RESOLUTION CONTINUING MEMBERSHIP IN THE MUNICIPAL EXCESS LIABILITY JOINT INSURANCE FUND WITH THE GLOUCESTER/SALEM/CUMBERLAND COUNTY MUNICIPAL JOINT INSURANCE FUND

RESOLUTION R-18-2021: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR THE MANTUA TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT NO. 1 IN THE TOWNSHIP

RESOLUTION R-19-2021: RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE AUTHORIZING SURPLUS UTILIZATION POLICY RESPECTING THE ACCOUNTING PRACTICES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA

RESOLUTION R-20-2021: RESOLUTION APPOINTING JENNICA BILECI AS THE PUBLIC AGENCY COMPLIANCE OFFICER FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA FOR THE YEAR 2021

RESOLUTION R-21-2021: RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA APPOINTING A FUND COMMISSIONER FOR THE TRI-COUNTY JOINT INSURANCE FUND

RESOLUTION R-22-2021: RESOLUTION APPOINTING PARKER MCCAY AS THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING SPECIAL COUNSEL FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA FOR THE YEAR 2021

RESOLUTION R-23-2021: RESOLUTION APPOINTING MASER CONSULTING AS TOWNSHIP PLANNER FOR THE YEAR 2021

RESOLUTION R-24-2021: RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA APPOINTING MARIO DILISCIANDRO AS A

REGULAR MEMBER ON THE MANTUA TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY

RESOLUTION R-25-2021: RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA APPOINTING VICTOR TORINO TO FILL THE UNEXPIRED TERM AS A REGULAR MEMBER ON THE MANTUA TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY

RESOLUTION R-26-2021: RESOLUTION MAKING APPOINTMENTS TO SPECIFIC BOARD AND COMMISSION POSITIONS AND CONFIRMING SUCH APPOINTMENTS FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA, COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY FOR 2021

RESOLUTION R-27-2021: RESOLUTION MAKING APPOINTMENTS TO SPECIFIC ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS AND CONFIRMING SUCH APPOINTMENTS FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA FOR 2021

RESOLUTION R-28-2021: RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA CONFIRMING MAYORAL APPOINTMENTS FOR THE YEAR 2021

RESOLUTION R-29-2021: RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA ADOPTING THE 2021 TEMPORARY BUDGET

RESOLUTION R-30-2021: RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA ADOPTING "ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER"

RESOLUTION R-31-2021: RESOLUTION APPOINTING ANCERO TO PERFORM IT SERVICES FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA FOR THE YEAR 2021

RESOLUTION R-32-2021: RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA TO PROVIDE RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETINGS

RESOLUTION R-33-2021: RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH NATALIE FOXHILL FOR WEBSITE, SOCIAL MEDIA AND MARKETING SERVICES

RESOLUTION R-34-2021: RESOLUTION APPOINTING ACACIA FINANCIAL GROUP AS THE FINANCIAL ADVISOR FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA FOR THE YEAR 2021

RESOLUTION R-35-2021: RESOLUTION APPOINTING ALTERNATE MUNICIPAL PROSECUTORS FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA FOR THE YEAR 2021

RESOLUTION R-36-2021: RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE APPROVING A SHARED SERVICE WITH THE MANTUA TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF PENSION PAYMENTS

RESOLUTION R-37-2021: RESOLUTION APPOINTING CLASS I, CLASS II AND CLASS III OFFICERS FOR A ONE YEAR TERM EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2021

RESOLUTION R-38-2021: RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA ADOPTING A CASH MANAGEMENT PLAN

Public Portion: Motion to open to the public: Deputy Mayor Zimmerman, 2nd Committeeman Legge. All were in favor.

Deputy Mayor stated that there is a 5 minute rule for public comment.

Michelle Tobin – 198 E. Essex Ave, Sewell – Mrs. Tobin stated that she wanted to be clear that she is not against progress as long as it is well thought out and provides for a healthy environment. She asked questions regarding the action of the Township Committee specific to Resolution R-154-2009. She asked what the concerns were of the Township Committee and whose side were they on.

Ryan Campbell – 223 Hunterdon Ave., Sewell – Mr. Campbell inquired of the Committee where they stand in regard to the GCL rail line. Mayor Scirrotto explained that the GCL line is out of the control of the Township Committee. Mayor Scirrotto stated that they are doing their best to manage the project and work towards addressing any concerns from the public. He further stated that the Township would try to implement the gates in an effort to mitigate the noise from the horn.

Mr. Campbell asked how these efforts will be afforded and the Mayor responded that it will need to be part of the budget.

Mayor Scirrotto stated that there is a lot of misinformation on social media and it is very unfortunate.

The Mayor explained that the walk-up station in Sewell will be removed. Mr. Campbell continued to question the parking and confirmation of the stop being removed. The Mayor stated that certain things are out of their control.

Mr. Campbell stated that this project is a detriment to the Township and stated that the project is advancing. The Mayor explained that he will work with the residents of the township as they learn more of the project.

Deputy Mayor Zimmerman stated the main point is that we all work together and stated that anyone who knows the members of the Township Committee know that they are very approachable and willing to work with any member of the community. He also stated that they represent 16,000 residents with varying opinions on the GCL line.

Deputy Mayor Zimmerman stated that the Township Committee is evaluating the project as information becomes available and they are all keeping an open mind about the project and will be looking at the totality of the information. Deputy Mayor Zimmerman explained that the GCL is not a Mantua Township project and the decisions regarding this project are determined by a higher level of government officials. The Township Committee will do what is best for the community and its' residents. He explained if they have to look into eliminating stops and creating quiet zones then they will do what is in the best interest for those who will be impacted by this project.

Mr. Campbell responded that if they knew the stance of the Township then they would be able to understand how to work with the governing body. Mr. Campbell stated that he felt proper notice was not given to the residents. Mr. Campbell stated that he felt that

forming a coalition of Mayors would be helpful to fight the train. Mayor Scirrotto noted that he would discuss future development of the GCL rail that makes sense in looking to the future of the Township. Mr. Campbell explained that he felt hydrogen buses would make more sense as a means of transportation for the future.

Carol Rhodes - 106 Breakneck Rd. -- Mrs. Rhodes commented on a Resolution that was approved by the Township Committee in 2019 approving the three stops. The Mayor explained that at the time, the Township Committee was trying to have input as to where the stops would be located and referenced that originally it was 4 stops. She referenced the construction timeline and asked if the Township could inquire about it. Mrs. Rhodes asked for the Township Committee to contact DRPA, Senator Sweeney's office and whomever else they can think of to try and get the most updated information on the GCL. She explained that the Environmental study is very technical and is difficult to understand if you do not have that background.

Deputy Mayor Zimmerman noted that he extended an olive branch to Mr. Campbell and explained that the Township Committee wants to work with the public, but they also want to make a decision that is best for the community. He explained that the Township does not have any additional information than what the public already has. Deputy Mayor Zimmerman explained that they would be happy to share it with the community.

Mrs. Rhodes also thanked the County Engineer for helping her with her survey and the marker on her property.

Mayor Scirrotto commented on the numerous issues and situations that the Township has positively handled and wishes that he could make everyone feel better about this project. He lastly stated that he did not like hearing the negative comments on Facebook regarding the Layton family and stated that it was not fair.

Mrs. Michelle Tobin – She stated that she is sorry that there are posts on Facebook and that she does not approve of that type of behavior. She stated that Facebook is hard to control and people say anything they want however, he was owed an apology.

Tammy Ward – 165 E. Warren Ave., Sewell, NJ 08080 – Ms. Ward started by apologizing to Committeeman Layton on the derogatory remarks made about him on social media. Ms. Ward stated that her friends in Pitman have been having meetings with their governing body since the summer and asked why does Pitman know more about the train than Mantua? She asked if we could have the Pitman Mayor come to one of these meetings to share what he knows to the residents of Mantua.

Administrator Bileci advised Ms. Ward that she would reach out to Pitman to see what she could find out and let her know.

A Motion to close the public portion: Deputy Mayor Zimmerman, 2nd Committeeman Legge. All were in favor.

Remarks from the Township Committee:

Mayor Scirrotto recognized and thank all the dignitaries and elected officials that attended the meeting, however under the current COVID 19 restrictions, this is a very small meeting. Mayor Scirrotto also stated that this week the Mega Site for vaccinations

for COVID-19 would be opening up and hopes that everyone who is able will get the vaccine so that we can eradicate this terrible disease.

Deputy Mayor Zimmerman congratulated Committeeman Legge as well as wished everyone a Happy New year. The Deputy Mayor also wanted to thank all the public that come out to the meetings and he appreciated that they take the time to come and voice their concerns.

Committeewoman Lukens wished everyone a Happy New Year and hopes that 2021 will be a much better year. She stated that she is grateful for the other members on the committee.

Benediction offered by Deacon Peter Traum, Church of the Incarnation.

Motion to Close: Deputy Mayor Zimmerman made a motion to close; it was 2nd by Committeeman Legge. All in Favor

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela LeVine, Deputy Clerk