

Township of Mantua
December 7, 2020
Mantua Township Municipal Building
6:00 P.M.

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

Additional public notice was posted on our website on November 25, 2020 noting that the meeting format has changed to a teleconference video platform due to COVID 19.

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. Glen deMers, Mr. Jon Bryson, Mr. James Pierson, Chief Darren White

Approval of Minutes: November 16, 2020 - Deputy Mayor Zimmerman made a motion to approve; it was 2nd by Committeeman Legge. All in Favor

Engineering Report: Mr. Bryson noted that the demolition of the tennis courts by Neris Construction could start as soon as the end of this week as they advised this could begin early.

Department of Public Works Report: Mr. deMers noted that leaf season has been going well and that the department has been through the Township several times. Glenn went onto discuss that the purchase of the rear loader from Wenonah is going well and he is hopeful to have it fully completed by the end of the month for the Holiday Bulk Pick Up week.

Mr. deMers mentioned that we have received our temperature monitors and that they have all been installed throughout the building. Glenn noted that Gloucester County Public Works asked us for assistance in the Tall Pines Park with fixing the decking on one of the bridges last week, and we helped them out with this. Mr. deMers wished everyone a happy and safe holiday season.

Police Department Report: The Chief noted their speed signs have been consistently out and are currently out on various streets. He also discussed that a request to see what officers are interested in maintaining the Autism Registry. This should be available in the very near future. Darren mentioned that their active shooter training concluded last week and that they had some issues with the kits ordered last year, but they are working through that with the company.

The Chief discussed that the coordination with the schools regarding the Handle With Care Directive has gone well and they have a pretty good view of how it will be implemented. This had to be coordinated with all of the Mantua Elementary schools, Clearview Regional Middle and High Schools as well as Gateway.

The Chief noted that new patrol shifts have been decided and the roll out will begin at the beginning of 2021. In addition, Darren noted that bi-annual evaluations are being conducted. In addition, Darren spoke about the department going paperless as much as possible in 2021.

The departments holiday season DWI grant began last week and is ongoing until the end of December.

Pursuant to Resolution R-32-2020, there is a time limit of five (5) minutes per person

Public Participation: Deputy Mayor Zimmerman made a motion to open; it was 2nd by Committeeman Legge. All in Favor

Deb Baldassare – 522 Main St. – In person - Ms. Baldassare inquired about the bus stop in front of the building. Administrator Bileci advised that she had reached out to NJ transit but has not heard back from anyone. Mayor Scirrotto noted that the enclosure would probably be closer to the Police Department rather than in front of the Veterans Memorial. Ms. Baldassare also noted that the December 21st Committee meeting on the calendar noted that it is scheduled for 4:00 p.m. Administrator Bileci advised that this is the Townships close out meeting and is always scheduled for earlier in the day. In addition, Ms. Baldassare inquired about the senior lunches that are done out of the community center and how does one get to volunteer. Deputy Clerk LeVine advised that she would have to contact Senior Services at the County. Ms. Baldassare also asked when the 2021 calendars would be going out, Administrator Bileci noted that they were just approved and should be out prior to the end of the year. Ms. Baldassare asked the Chief if he felt that the speed signs were effective. Chief White noted that they are very effective and provide data to the department that is helpful.

Michele Tobin – 198 E. Essex Ave, Sewell – In Person - Stated that her home sits alongside Atlantic Ave. She thanked both Jennica and Pam for getting back to her so quickly. In addition, she wanted to make her concerns known about the GCL train line. She is concerned about safety, decibel levels, adding congestion to the area as well as children in the area. Mrs. Tobin also asked the committee for the support to oppose the train.

Carol Rhodes -106 Breakneck Rd. – In Person - Mrs. Rhodes noted that she is protesting the GCL train line as the study that was presented was antiquated. She also asked that the Mayor and Committee get together with other Mayors from other towns to create a group in opposition of the GCL. In addition, she asked that they contact the Governor and ask that a new study be completed, as well as who will be riding this train during the current pandemic situation.

Susan Lawton - 206 Hunterdon – Zoom - Ms. Lawton inquired if there was an approved method for a signed petition to be done. Solicitor Pierson noted that there is no formal method and that the State might have something and that she should contact the state.

Debbie Schoy – 160 E. Hunterdon – Zoom - Ms. Schoy wanted to note that she lives adjacent to the current track now. She is concerned about child safety, the increase of the traffic, noise levels, in addition to pollution, home devaluation. She also noted that if there is going to be a second track that it would have to impede on her property.

Kathleen Duffin – 195 Mt. Royal Road – Zoom - Ms. Duffin inquired as to how the committee feels regarding the rail line. Mayor Scirrotto noted that this is out of our hands and they have been talking about this for 16 years. We've advised them that the Township doesn't want any stops through Mantua Township. Mayor Scirrotto noted that should this all come to fruition, that the Township would consider redoing the intersection where the tracks are along Center Street as part of the Road Program. He noted that they are here to listen to the people of the town.

Rick Figuerella – 206 Salem Ave – Zoom - Mr. Figuerella inquired as to why there haven't been other areas that have been options for this rail line. He also noted that he is concerned about the crime, more traffic, and value of the homes in the area. Mayor Scirrotto noted that they are trying to eliminate the stops, in hopes that there will be no stops in Mantua. He also noted that the surrounding towns have also opposed the stops and that they are going through the same thing. The Mayor also noted that the Route 55 route would have been better, however, nothing has ever come of that.

J. Jordon – 25 Hollybrook Dr. – Zoom - Mr. Jordon wanted to note his concern is the safety and the additional noise along the track. In addition, he noted the cost would be a concern and the plans sound good however it affects the Township residents and would like the committee to keep that in mind.

Jennifer Duffy – 208 Hunterdon Ave – Zoom - Ms. Duffy noted that the special station will cost approximately \$300,000 for this new crossing. Mayor Scirrotto noted that if it would help the noise levels the Township would spend the money to put in a new crossing area on Center Street as part of the Road Program.

Janeen Ianelli – 1002 Gary Fox Court – Zoom - Ms. Ianelli noted that her biggest concern is the safety, noise and pollution. If this rail line would go in, she would probably sell her home and move out of the township. This isn't something she wants to do, but it would be a huge deciding factor.

Mike Sicilliano – 160 E. Mercer – Zoom - Mr. Sicilliano noted that the Township should contact the Governor regarding the financial end of this and having it put on the residents. Maybe a Mayoral committee could be formed in order to discuss this project and keep everyone updated. Mayor Scirrotto noted that in the past he always thought there would never been enough money to fund the project. The Mayor also noted that he didn't know where the money is coming from.

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

ORDINANCE O10-2020: ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA
RELEASING AFFORDABLE HOUSING DEED RESTRICTIONS ON PROPERTY
LISTED ON THE OFFICIAL TAX MAP OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA AS
BLOCK 61, LOT 1, C1155 ALSO KNOWN AS 1155 TRISTRAM CIRCLE

Deputy Mayor Zimmerman made a motion to approve; it was 2nd by Committeeman
Legge. All in Favor

ORDINANCE O11-2020: ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA
RELEASING AFFORDABLE HOUSING DEED RESTRICTIONS ON PROPERTY
LISTED ON THE OFFICIAL TAX MAP OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA AS
BLOCK 61, LOT 1, C1155 ALSO KNOWN AS 1155 TRISTRAM CIRCLE

Deputy Mayor Zimmerman made a motion to approve; it was 2nd by Committeeman
Legge. All in Favor

ORDINANCE O-12-2020: 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 2020

Deputy Mayor Zimmerman made a motion to approve; it was 2nd by Committeeman
Legge. Committeeman Layton Abstained. All in Favor

RESOLUTION R-169-2020: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPROVAL OF
A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA AND POLICE
BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION LOCAL NUMBER 122 ON BEHALF OF THE
MANTUA TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT FOR THE TERM OF JANUARY 1,
2020 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2024.

Deputy Mayor Zimmerman made a motion to approve; it was 2nd by Committeeman
Legge. Committeeman Layton Abstained. All in Favor

RESOLUTION R-170-2020: A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA REJECTING ALL BIDS FOR THE PROJECT
KNOWN AS COMMUNITY CENTER ROOF IMPROVEMENTS

Deputy Mayor Zimmerman made a motion to approve; it was 2nd by Committeeman
Legge. All in Favor

RESOLUTION R-171-2020: A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA APPROVING THE RENEWAL OF
MEMBERSHIP INTO THE SOUTHERN NEW JERSEY REGIONAL EMPLOYEE
BENEFITS FUND

Deputy Mayor Zimmerman made a motion to approve; it was 2nd by Committeeman Legge. All in Favor

RESOLUTION R-172-2020: RESOLUTION APPROVING A LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA AND THE COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER FOR THE USE OF THE MANTUA TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY CENTER FOR IT'S NUTRITION SITE

Deputy Mayor Zimmerman made a motion to approve; it was 2nd by Committeeman Legge. All in Favor

RESOLUTION R-173-2020: RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA APPROVING THE REFUNDING OF PROPERTY TAXES PAID IN ERROR TO THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA ON REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT BLOCK 83, LOT 19, 106 HILL STREET

Deputy Mayor Zimmerman made a motion to approve; it was 2nd by Committeeman Legge. All in Favor

RESOLUTION R-174-2020: A RESOLUTION CANCELING TAXES FOR A TOTALLY DISABLED VETERAN CHRISTOPHER DUCHMAN LOCATED AT BLOCK 265 LOT 1.01, FOR THE PROPERTY KNOWN AS 287 JEFFERSON RD, SEWELL, NJ EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 29, 2020 AND THEREAFTER AND CANCELLING TAXES

Deputy Mayor Zimmerman made a motion to approve; it was 2nd by Committeeman Legge. All in Favor

RESOLUTION R-175-2020: A RESOLUTION CANCELING TAXES FOR A TOTALLY DISABLED VETERAN GARY L. INGRAM LOCATED AT BLOCK 242.02 LOT 68, FOR THE PROPERTY KNOWN AS 73 MONARCH CT., SEWELL NJ EFFECTIVE JULY 28, 2020 AND THEREAFTER AND CANCELLING TAXES

Deputy Mayor Zimmerman made a motion to approve; it was 2nd by Committeeman Legge. All in Favor

RESOLUTION R-176-2020: A RESOLUTION OF THE MANTUA TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE AUTHORIZING A FOOD TRUCK FEE BE REFUNDED DUE TO THE CANCELLATION OF THE EVENT IN THE AMOUNT OF IN THE AMOUNT OF \$150.00

Deputy Mayor Zimmerman made a motion to approve; it was 2nd by Committeeman Legge. All in Favor

RESOLUTION R-177-2020: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT EXTENSION FOR THE SALE OF BLOCK 61, LOT 1, C1362 (1362 TRISTRAM CIRCLE) AN AFFORDABLE UNIT

Deputy Mayor Zimmerman made a motion to approve; it was 2nd by Committeeman Legge. All in Favor

RESOLUTION R-178 -2020: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A SHARED SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH THE COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER FOR Q.P.A. RELATED SERVICES

Deputy Mayor Zimmerman made a motion to approve; it was 2nd by Committeeman Legge. All in Favor

RESOLUTION R-180-2020 A RESOLUTION FOR A LOCAL GOVERNMENT EMERGENCY FUND PROGRAM GRANT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY, DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS, DIVISION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES AND MANTUA TOWNSHIP FOR THE YEAR 2020-20201 GRANT# 0810

Deputy Mayor Zimmerman made a motion to approve; it was 2nd by Committeeman Legge. All in Favor

RESOLUTION R-181-2020: RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA REQUESTING THE APPROVAL OF ITEMS OF REVENUE FOR CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY AND APPROPRIATION (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87) OF THE SAME

Deputy Mayor Zimmerman made a motion to approve; it was 2nd by Committeeman Legge. All in Favor

RESOLUTION 182-2020: RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA REQUESTING THE APPROVAL OF ITEMS OF REVENUE FOR DRIVE SOBER OR GET PULLED OVER GRANT AND APPROPRIATION (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87) OF THE SAME

Deputy Mayor Zimmerman made a motion to approve; it was 2nd by Committeeman Legge. All in Favor

RESOLUTION 183-2020: RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA REQUESTING THE APPROVAL OF ITEMS OF REVENUE FOR LGEF GRANT AND APPROPRIATION (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87) OF THE SAME

Deputy Mayor Zimmerman made a motion to approve; it was 2nd by Committeeman Legge. All in Favor

RESOLUTION 184-2020: A RESOLUTION APPROVING PARTICIPATION WITH THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY AND ACCEPTANCE OF A SAFE AND SECURE COMMUNITIES PROGRAM ADMINISTERED BY THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY, OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL SUBAWARD NO. 21-0810, SUBAWARD PERIOD 4/15/21 - 4/14/22, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$32,400.00

Deputy Mayor Zimmerman made a motion to approve; it was 2nd by Committeeman Legge. All in Favor

RESOLUTION R185-2020: RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF THREE (3) 2020 FORD PI UTILITY UPFITTING PACKAGES FOR THE MANTUA TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT UNDER STATE CONTRACT NO. 17-FLEET-00760 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$25,510.73, FROM GENERAL SALES ADMINISTRATION

Deputy Mayor Zimmerman made a motion to approve; it was 2nd by Committeeman Legge. All in Favor

Remarks from the Township Committee:

Committeeman Legge noted that both the Environmental and Veterans Commission meetings have been cancelled for this month, in addition, he noted that he is a resident who is directly affected by the GCL line and he is opposed to it.

Remarks from the Township Administrator:

Administrator Bileci noted that Santa would be waiving at the Chestnut Branch park between 5-8 pm this week.

Approval of the Bill List:

Deputy Mayor Zimmerman made a motion to pay the bills; it was 2nd by Committeeman Legge. Committeeman Layton Abstained. All in Favor

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

Respectfully submitted,



Pamela LeVine, Deputy Clerk