

Township of Mantua
Committee Meeting
April 8, 2024
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.

Mayor Zimmerman called the meeting to order. The time was 6:00 p.m. Mayor Zimmerman asked everyone to rise for the Flag Salute and remain standing to observe a moment of silence. Mayor Zimmerman delivered the Sunshine Notice as required by the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act.

Roll Call: Committeeman Layton, Committeeman Legge - Absent, Committeewoman Lukens, Mayor Zimmerman, Deputy Mayor Scirrotto, Mrs. Jennica Bileci, Township Administrator, Mr. Stuart Platt, Solicitor, Mr. deMers, Public Works Superintendent, Jon Bryson, Engineer, Chief White

Approval of Minutes:

March 11, 2024

Motion to approve: Deputy Mayor Scirrotto, 2nd Committeewoman Lukens, Roll Call
Vote: 4 yes votes.

Engineering Report:

Mr. Bryson discussed that the W. Mercer paving project has been completed and they are now working on a punch list of items. Mr. Bryson also noted that the on-call paving repairs have been done. Mr. Bryson mentioned that the NJDOT project for S, McCarthy has been approved and he will arrange to have the bidding process begin after consultation with the Administrator.

Department of Public Works Report:

Mr. deMers discussed that the 2024 mowing season has begun this week and that all common areas and properties owned by the Township will be mowed. Glenn mentioned that one of the PW employees is covering for an employee who is out at this time at the park. Glenn went onto mention that the 2024 spring leaf pick up will begin at curbside for one week only beginning April 15th ending April 19, 2024. Glenn asked the residents to get their leaves to the curb line. Mr. deMers, mentioned that the department has received an update from International Truck regarding the 2022 trash truck that was ordered and it has now been pushed back to September, 2024 with no further information. In closing, Glenn noted that the Public Works Convenience Center drop off is now back to its normal schedule of the 4th Saturday of each month between 10-2 p.m.

Committeewoman Lukens inquired as to why the department would only be cutting grass up to Labor Day. Mr. deMers noted that it would depend on the season as the department has continued to pick up leaves after the season as noted on the calendar, they will continue to cut the grass as it is warranted.

Mayor Zimmerman asked Glenn to please have the flag pole at Chestnut Branch Park repaired as soon as possible as it has been down for several months.

Deputy Mayor Scirrotto asked Glenn to have the yellow umbrellas put up at McCarson Park as we are now into the spring time.

Police Department Report:

The chief discussed the recent home invasion/burglaries in this area as well as Harrison Township and Washington Township. He noted that the department is working with the FBI, the NJ Auto Theft Task Force, the Gloucester County Prosecutor's Office, and detective bureaus from all Gloucester County municipalities and that our patrol officers are also on high alert. He reminded everyone that if you see or hear anything to please call 911 even if it turns out to be nothing. The department would rather come out and find that it is nothing.

Pursuant to Resolution R-32-2023, there is a time limit of five (5) minutes per person. Mayor Zimmerman discussed the new rules of the public session. Mayor Zimmerman noted that he will be continuing to permit the public to speak on agenda items only first and should time allow, he will hear other public comments/questions.

Public Participation:

Deputy Mayor Scirrotto made a motion to open to the public, it was 2nd by Committeewoman Lukens. All were in Favor. 4 yes votes.

Greg Shast – 39 Silver creek Dr.

Mr. Shast inquired if the township would be getting a new sound system in the meeting room as he is unable to hear some of the committee comments as well as the public and it would be most appreciated.

Mayor Zimmerman noted that the plan is to have a new sound system not only in the meeting room but in the senior center this upcoming year.

The mayor asked for a motion to close public participation.

Motion to close was made by Deputy Mayor Scirrotto, seconded by Committeewoman Lukens. All in Favor. 4 yes votes.

ORDINANCE 0-4-2024: AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA AMENDING CHAPTER 230 "LAND DEVELOPMENT" OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA

Mayor Zimmerman advised the public that Ordinance O-4-2024 that is on tonight's agenda is to amend the code regarding chickens/hens and making it permissible to have then on 1 acre lots rather than the 5 acres that was previously required. If someone doesn't have a 1-acre lot, then they would have to come before the land use committee for a variance.

Motion to open to the public was made by Deputy Mayor Scirrotto and seconded by Committeewoman Lukens. All in Favor. 4 yes votes.

As no one wished to speak, a motion to close the public portion was made by Deputy Mayor Scirrotto and seconded by Committeewoman Lukens. All in Favor. 4 yes votes.

Motion to adopt was made by Deputy Mayor Scirrotto and seconded by Committeewoman Lukens. All in Favor. 4 yes votes.

Motion to adopt was made by Deputy Mayor Scirrotto and seconded by Committeewoman Lukens. All in Favor. 4 yes votes.

Deputy Mayor Scirrotto made a motion to authorize a consented agenda Resolutions R-62-2024 through Resolutions R-71-2024, it was 2nd by Committeewoman Lukens. All were in favor.

RESOLUTION R-62-2024: A RESOLUTION APPROVING A LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA AND KDI FOR THE LEASING OF COPIER MACHINES FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, POLICE DEPARTMENT, COURT DEPARTMENT AND MUNICIPAL BUILDING

RESOLUTION R-63-2024: A RESOLUTION REQUESTING PERMISSION FOR THE DEDICATION BY RIDER FOR RECYCLING TRUST FUND REQUIRED BY (PL 1981 CHAPTER 278 AMENDED BY PL 1987, CHAPTER 102)

RESOLUTION R-64-2024: A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA AUTHORIZING A NON-FAIR AND OPEN CONTRACT WITH SMITH ORCHARDS FOR THE DISPOSAL OF VEGETATIVE WASTE

RESOLUTION R-65-2024: A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA ACCEPTING THE 2022 MUNICIPAL AUDIT REPORT AND AUTHORIZING THE SIGNING OF THE GROUP AFFIDAVIT FORM

RESOLUTION R-66-2024: A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA ACCEPTING AND APPROVING THE CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA FOR THE AUDIT YEAR 2022

RESOLUTION R-67-2024: A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA APPROVING A TAX COURT JUDGEMENT FOR THE PROPERTY KNOWN AS 120 BRIDGETON PIKE

RESOLUTION R-68-2024: A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA APPROVING A TAX COURT JUDGEMENT FOR THE PROPERTY KNOWN AS 129 BREAKNECK ROAD

RESOLUTION R-69-2024: A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA AUTHORIZING THE REFUND OF REMAINING PROFESSIONAL ESCROW FUNDS

RESOLUTION R-70-2024: A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE AMENDING R-61-2024 RESOLUTION APPROVING PARTICIPATION

WITH THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY AND ACCEPTANCE OF A SAFE AND SECURE COMMUNITIES PROGRAM

RESOLUTION R-71-2024: A RESOLUTION APPROVING A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA AND MANTUA TOWNSHIP POLICE CAPTAIN WILLIAM MURPHY

Motion to adopt Resolutions R 62-2024 through R-71-2024

Deputy Mayor Scirrotto made a motion to authorize a consented it was 2nd by Committeewoman Lukens, Committeeman Layton Abstained from Resolution R-71-2024. Roll Call: 3 yes votes.

Remarks from the Township Administrator

Mrs. Bileci thanked the committee for approving the audit as well as the corrective action plan on this evening's agenda and noted that she will be meeting with the various departments regarding their capital budgets. Mrs. Bileci also mentioned that the introduction to the budget will be on the May meeting agenda.

Remarks from Township Committee:

Mayor Zimmerman noted that this past weekend was the opening day of both Mantua Little League and Sewell Raildogs. It was a great day to support the kids in our community. These types of events are what makes the township a special place to live and raise a family. Mayor Zimmerman also noted that Jim Kiel, the volunteer who spearheaded the disc golf facility has not advised that there are 15holes open and that the 18 holes should be completed by the fall.

Deputy Mayor Scirrotto made a motion to authorize payment of the bills, it was 2nd by Committeewoman Lukens, Committeeman Layton Abstained. Roll Call: 3 yes votes.

Deputy Mayor Scirrotto made a motion to adjourn, it was 2nd by Committeewoman Lukens. Roll Call: 4 yes votes.

Respectfully submitted,



Pamela LeVine,
Township Deputy Clerk