

Township of Mantua
Committee Meeting
May 13, 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, 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

Mayor Zimmerman asked everyone to stand for the pledge as well as a moment of silence. He noted that this is National Police Week May 12 – 18, 2024 and that Lt. Hauss & Hayes along with officers, Mroz, Sweeney, Kriege, Stewart & Craig all participated in the Unity Tour from Mantua to Washington D.C.

Approval of Minutes:

April 8, 2024

Motion to approve: Deputy Mayor Scirrotto, 2nd Committeeman Legge, Committeeman Legge, Abstained, Roll Call Vote: 4 yes votes.

A presentation was given by Dr. Ken Lacovera regarding the new Fossil Park Museum.

Engineering Report:

Mr. Bryson discussed that the West Mercer paving job is completed except for a few minor punch list items. In addition, he noted that the NJDOT project for S. McCarthy was awarded to the lowest bidder, State Pavers at a cost of \$316,600.

Department of Public Works Report:

Mr. deMers discussed that the spring leaf clean up went well. He also mentioned that for those residents that continue to put leaves out we have asked them to place those leaves in their green cart for pick up. He went on to discuss that the department completed mulching the municipal complex and McCarron park and that the mulch was donated by Smith Orchards so we thank them for the generosity. The department has begun the shared service with East Greenwich utilizing their sweeper. The department started sweeping last week and will continue through this week and possibly part of next week to complete the township. As this is our first year with this shared service, it is our intention to sweep the township in both the Spring and the Fall. In closing, Glenn noted that the Public Works Convenience Center drop off is the 4th Saturday of each month between 10-2 p.m. Glenn also noted that convenience center will be open from Memorial Day through labor day every Saturday from 10-2.

Police Department Report:

Chief White noted that the department is looking for applicants. That if anyone knows anyone interested in becoming a police officer, to please have them contact the department. He noted that finding the right fit is a countrywide issue and that they are doing their best. Darren also discussed that the department currently has a candidate who is currently attending the class I police academy. The Chief also noted the officers that have participated in the Unity Tour and what a great job they have done.

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 Committeeman Legge. All were in Favor. 5 yes votes.

Josie Ladd – 124 Carriage Hill – Discussed how everyone should back the “Blue”. She also noted that the crime rate is steadily increasing and that it is important to remember the these are the people who keep us all safe.

Motion to close was made by Deputy Mayor Scirrotto, seconded by Committeeman Legge. All in Favor. 5 yes votes.

ORDINANCE O-5-2024: AN ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK

Motion to approve: Deputy Mayor Scirrotto, 2nd Committeeman Legge, Committeeman Legge, Roll Call Vote: 5 yes votes.

ORDINANCE O-6-2024: 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 2024

Motion to approve: Deputy Mayor Scirrotto, 2nd Committeeman Legge, Committeeman Layton Abstained, Roll Call Vote: 4 yes votes.

ORDINANCE O-7-2024: AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA, COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF \$1,053,175 FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND AND \$121,825 FROM GRANT FUNDS FOR THE ACQUISITION OF VARIOUS PIECES OF CAPITAL EQUIPMENT AND COMPLETION OF VARIOUS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

Motion to approve: Deputy Mayor Scirrotto, 2nd Committeeman Legge, Roll Call Vote: 5 yes votes.

Mayor Zimmerman noted that Resolution R-72-2024 would not be part of the consent agenda and would be voted on separately.

RESOLUTION R-72-2024: RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA INTRODUCING THE 2024 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

Motion to approve: Deputy Mayor Scirrotto, 2nd Committeeman Legge, Roll Call Vote: 5 yes votes.

Mayor Zimmerman noted that there will no local increase in taxes this year. He also noted that this would account for 20% of the taxes. The remaining portion of the taxes come from 53% from school taxes, 23% from county taxes, 3% from the fire district and 1% from open space. Mayor Zimmerman also noted that the Administrator and the CMFO will be doing a presentation on the budget at the June 10, 2024, meeting.

Motion to approve a consent agenda, Resolution R-73-2024 – Resolution R-84-2024: Deputy Mayor Scirrotto, 2nd Committeeman Legge
Roll Call Vote: 5 yes votes.

RESOLUTION R-73-2024: A RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BODY CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE UNITED STATES EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION'S "Enforcement Guidance on the Consideration of Arrest and Conviction Records in Employment Decisions Under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964"

RESOLUTION R-74-2024: RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA, COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER, NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF UP TO \$5,002,000 OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, SERIES 2024, OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA; MAKING CERTAIN COVENANTS TO MAINTAIN THE EXEMPTION OF THE INTEREST ON SAID BONDS FROM FEDERAL INCOME TAXATION; AND AUTHORIZING SUCH FURTHER ACTIONS AND MAKING SUCH DETERMINATIONS AS MAY BE NECESSARY OR APPROPRIATE TO EFFECTUATE THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF THE BONDS

RESOLUTION R-75-2024: RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA AUTHORIZING THE APPROVAL OF FIREWORKS DISPLAY ON MAY 31, 2024, AT BOGEY'S, 501 PITMAN ROAD, SEWELL, NJ

RESOLUTION R-76-2024: RESOLUTION APPROVING THE RELEASE OF A STREET OPENING BOND FOR 261 W. CUMBERLAND AVE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$7,200.00

RESOLUTION-77-2024: A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF A STEPP MFG. OJK-V (1) VERTIFICAL CRACK SEALER UTILIZING A NATIONAL COOPERATIVE PURCHASING AGREEMENT WITH OMNIA PARTNERS

RESOLUTION R-78-2024: A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANUTA AUTHORIZING A SHARED SERVICE

AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA AND EAST GREENWICH TOWNSHIP

RESOLUTION R-79-2024: A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA AUTHORIZING THE REFUND OF REMAINING PROFESSIONAL ESCROW FUNDS

RESOLUTION R-80-2024: A RESOLUTION APPROVING A SHARED SERVICE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA AND THE COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER FOR THE COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER USE OF THE CHESTNUT BRANCH PARK TO PROVIDE FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT

RESOLUTION R-81-2024: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TAX REFUNDS

RESOLUTION R-82-2024: A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA AWARDED A BID IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$316,600.00 TO THINK PAVERS FOR THE PROJECT KNOWN AS FY 2023 MUNICIPAL AID PROGRAM RECONSTRUCTION OF SOUTH MCCARTHY AVENUE

RESOLUTION R-83-2024: A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA APPROVING TERMINAL LEAVE FOR PTL. RIEPEN IN THE MANTUA TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

RESOLUTION R-84-2024: RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA APPROVING THE HIRING OF JESSICA TAYLOR IN THE CONSTRUCTION AND LAND USE DEPARTMENT

Deputy Mayor Scirrotto made a motion to authorize a consented it was 2nd by Committeeman Legge, Roll Call: 5 yes votes.

Remarks from the Township Administrator

Administrator Bileci noted that she will be having a call with the CMFO regarding the S & P Bond rating in the next week or so and that she will provide committee with the results of the call.

Remarks from Township Committee:

Committeewoman Lukens thanked Dr. Iacovara for the update and she is very excited to the Museum to open.


Committeeman Legge reminded everyone about the upcoming Memorial Day parade and the route is the same as last year.

Mayor Zimmerman wished everyone a Happy Memorial Day and that everyone should enjoy the weekend.

Motion to approve the bills: Deputy Mayor Scirrotto, 2nd Committeeman Legge, Committeeman Layton Abstained, Roll Call Vote: 4 yes votes.

Motion to adjourn: Deputy Mayor Scirrotto, 2nd Committeeman Legge

Respectfully submitted,


Pamela LeVine, Deputy Township Clerk