

Township of Mantua  
Committee Meeting  
June 9, 2025  
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 a 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:** Mr. Steen, Mr. Snyder, Mrs. Lukens, Deputy Mayor Legge, Mayor Zimmerman, Mrs. Jennica Bileci, Township Administrator, Mrs. Pamela LeVine, Deputy Township Clerk, Mr. Justin Strausser, Solicitor, Mr. Glenn deMers, Public Works Superintendent, Mr. Jon Bryson, Engineer, Chief Darren White – Absent, Lt. Hauss

Mayor Zimmerman asked for a moment of silence.

**Approval of Minutes:**

June 9, 2025

Mayor Zimmerman asked for a motion to open to the public, a motion was made by Committeewoman Lukens, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Committeeman Snyder. Deputy Mayor Legge abstained. All were in Favor.

**Presentation given by Ethan Worst, Eagle Scout Project**

**Engineering Report:**

Mr. Bryson discussed that the milling base and surface work on Monmouth has been completed, and the contractor advised this project should be completed by the end of the week depending on the weather. In addition, Mr. Bryson noted that the DOT award for McCarthy has been received, and a pre-construction meeting will be scheduled shortly. In closing Mr. Bryson advised that the fiscal year 2026 DOT applications are now open and are due July 1, 2025.

**Department of Public Works Report:**

Mr. deMers discussed that the the GCIA has reinstated tire amnesty for the month of June. He noted that the township will now be able to dispose of the already collected tires from March, 2025. He mentioned that there will be two more containers that can be brought to the county by the end of the month, Additionally, he reminded everyone that the Public Works Convenience Center drop off will be open every Saturday from 10-2 p.m. through Labor Day.

**Police Department Report:**

Lt. Hauss discussed that the department has been working on cleaning out old evidence/property from the property and evidence storage room. Lt, Hauss also noted that a search warrant was conducted by the Camden County Prosecutor's Office this past Thursday at a residence on Norris St. and this occurred without incident.

Lt. Hauss advised that the two full-time officers that are currently in the police academy will be graduating on June 19<sup>th</sup> and that they were both at the top of their class. Additionally, the two Class 1 officers graduated from the police academy and have been working through their field training program. Julia Gehring, one of the new officers, was the class leader.

Lt. Hauss also noted that the detective bureau identified an individual who spraypainted several of the township's trash cans at Ceres Park on multiple occasions. Lt. Hauss also mentioned that the officers have been completing the required Miranda and Use of Force Addendum training that is now part of the new curriculum required for police licensing.

In closing Lt. Hauss noted that the department received a letter from a resident whose mother placed a call into 911 due to a health issue. Officer Germscheid responded to the scene and ultimately the department was able to save her life. The resident wanted to thank the department, so he presented them with his special Olympic gold medal.

Mayor Zimmerman discussed that he received several emails regarding the solicitors that are in the town. He noted that to date, there have been no solicitor permits issued in the year 2025 and advised the police department to please do what they can to ensure that they do not stay in our town. He also noted that if they do not comply, he would like the police department to reach out and site the business owner.

**Pursuant to Resolution R-32-2024, there is a time limit of five (5) minutes per person**

Mayor Zimmerman asked for a motion to open to the public, a motion was made by Committeewoman Lukens Deputy Mayor Legge, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Committeeman Steen. All were in Favor.

**Public Participation :**

Laurie Morgan – 217 Capital Dr. discussed that she resides behind the old Ginos golf course, and she was under the impression after going to the various meetings and seeing the drawings that not all the trees would be cleared in the back of the property which in turn, she can see from her property. She also noted that she is concerned that some of those trees were quite old and should not have been removed. She inquired as to what she can do to ensure that the proper trees be put there in their place as well as she is concerned as to what kinds of trees will be planted. Engineer, Jon Bryson noted that in the plans there were clearing limits set by the surveys and that the clearing should have only been based on that. Mayor Zimmerman asked Mr. Bryson if a site inspection can be done as well as Mr. Platt, solicitor noted that if they are in violation then that would need to be addressed.

Fran, who resides in Woodstown, wanted to let the committee know that he owns a Men's Health clinic in Woolwich and that they have an open house and offer everyone to come out to see their facility.

Mayor Zimmerman asked for a motion to close the public participation, a motion was made by Committeewoman Lukens Deputy Mayor Legge, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Committeeman Steen. All were in Favor.

**ORDINANCE O-3-2025: AN ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK**

Mayor Zimmerman asked for a motion to open to the public Ordinance O-3-2025, a motion was made by Committeewoman Lukens, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Deputy Mayor Legge. All were in Favor.

No one wished to speak.

Mayor Zimmerman asked for a motion to close to the public Ordinance O-3-2025, a motion was made by Committeewoman Lukens, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Deputy Mayor Legge. All were in Favor.

Mayor Zimmerman asked for a motion to adopt Ordinance O-3-2025, a motion was made by Committeewoman Lukens, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Deputy Mayor Legge. All were in Favor.

ORDINANCE O-2-2025: 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 2025

Mayor Zimmerman asked for a motion to open to the public Ordinance O-2-2025, a motion was made by Committeewoman Lukens, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Deputy Mayor Legge. All were in Favor.

No one wished to speak.

Mayor Zimmerman asked for a motion to close to the public Ordinance O-2-2025, a motion was made by Committeewoman Lukens, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Deputy Mayor Legge. All were in Favor.

Mayor Zimmerman asked for a motion to adopt Ordinance O-2-2025, a motion was made by Committeewoman Lukens, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Deputy Mayor Legge. All were in Favor.

### **Mrs. Bileci Presented the 2025 Budget**

Deputy Mayor Legge inquired as to why the state aid dropped \$130,000.00 from last year. Mrs. Bileci noted that the 2024 municipal aid that was given to the township was for reserve relief to offset taxes, and it was removed this year.

Mayor Zimmerman also noted that he has written a letter to Senator Burzichelli asking for additional state aid. He doesn't know what if anything will come of this, but he wanted to advise the residents that he has taken the steps to see what the senator can do to help the township.

RESOLUTION R-74-2025: RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA AUTHORIZING THE BUDGET TO BE READ BY TITLE ONLY

Mayor Zimmerman asked for a motion to adopt Resolution R-74-2025, a motion was made by Committeewoman Lukens, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Deputy Mayor Legge. All were in Favor.

RESOLUTION R-75-2025: RESOLUTION OF THE MANTUA TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT A SELF-EXAMINATION OF THE BUDGET RESOLUTION

Mayor Zimmerman asked for a motion to adopt Resolution R758-2025, a motion was made by Committeewoman Lukens, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Deputy Mayor Legge. All were in Favor.

RESOLUTION R-68-2025: RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA APPROVING THE 2025 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

Mayor Zimmerman asked for a motion to open to the public Resolution R-68-2025, a motion was made by Committeewoman Lukens, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Deputy Mayor Legge. All were in Favor.

No one wished to speak.

Mayor Zimmerman asked for a motion to close to the public Resolution R-68-2025, a motion was made by Committeewoman Lukens, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Deputy Mayor Legge. All were in Favor.

Mayor Zimmerman asked for a motion to adopt Resolution R-68-2025, a motion was made by Committeewoman Lukens, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Deputy Mayor Legge. All were in Favor.

Mayor Zimmerman wanted to take a moment to thank everyone involved in working on the budget. He noted that it's never easy to raise taxes, however he mentioned that in the last 5 years taxes raised by the municipality have only happened one other time not including this evening.

***Resolution No. 76-2025 through No. 85-2025 are considered to be routine by the Township Committee and will be acted upon in one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these matters unless a Township Committee member requests. In this event, the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered in the normal sequence of the agenda.***

Mayor Zimmerman asked for a motion to adopt a consented agenda, Committeewoman Lukens made a motion to authorize a consented agenda, it was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Deputy Mayor Legge. All were in favor.

RESOLUTION R-76-2025: A RESOLUTION APPROVING A SHARED SERVICE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA AND THE GLOUCESTER COUNTY IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY FOR THE USE OF CERTAIN PERFORMING STAGE UNITS

RESOLUTION R-77-2025: A RESOLUTION OF THE MANTUA TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH GOVPILOT AT AN ANNUAL COST OF \$7,500.00 FOR THREE YEAR TERM COMMENCING AS OF JULY 1, 2025

RESOLUTION R-78-2025: RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA AUTHORIZING THE CONTRACT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$25,600.00 TO DMS MECHANICAL FOR (2) AIR CONDITIONAL REPLACEMENT UNITS AT THE MANTUA TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

RESOLUTION R-79-2025: RESOLUTION ENDORSING THE FOURTH ROUND HOUSING ELEMENT AND FAIR SHARE PLAN

RESOLUTION R-80-2025: RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA REFUNDING TAXES FOR TOTALLY DISABLED VETERAN

RESOLUTION R-81-2025: RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT WITH BRYSON & YATES FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING AND DESIGN SERVICES FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF WEST MONMOUTH AVENUE

RESOLUTION R-82-2025: RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT WITH BRYSON & YATES FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING AND DESIGN SERVICES FOR THE RESURFACING OF MCCARTHY AVENUE

RESOLUTION R-83-2025: RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE APPOINTING A MEMBER TO THE MANTUA TOWNSHIP LAND USE BOARD

RESOLUTION R-84-2025: RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA AUTHORIZING THE RENEWAL OF LIQUOR LICENSES FOR THE 2025-2026 LICENSING TERM

RESOLUTION R-85-2025: A RESOLUTION OF THE MANTUA TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE AUTHORIZING A REFUND FOR A SOLAR PROJECT FEE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$380.00 FOR PERMIT # 2025-011

Mayor Zimmerman asked for a motion to adopt the consented agenda, a motion was made by Committeewoman Lukens, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Deputy Mayor Legge. All were in favor.

**Remarks from Township Committee:**

Committeewoman Lukens noted that prior to retiring she management several communities in other areas and that Mantua provides some of the best services around.

Deputy Mayor Legge also agreed with Mrs. Lukens that the township offers some of the best services in the area and that the public works department does a great job. He also thanked everyone for working on the budget.

**Remarks from the Township Administrator:**

Committeewoman Lukens mentioned that we have a great team at the Township, and she has been involved with other townships in regard to public works and we have one of the few townships that truly do provide a great service to the residents.

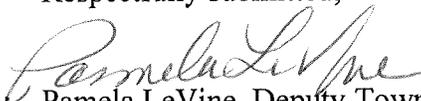
Deputy Mayor Legge thanked Jennica and the entire team in the township for all their hard work with the budget.

**Motion to approve the bills:**

Committeewoman Lukens made a motion to approve the bills; it was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Deputy Mayor Legge. All were in favor.

Motion to adjourn: Committeewoman Lukens made a motion to open to the public; it was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Deputy Mayor Legge. All were in Favor.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Pamela LeVine, Deputy Township Clerk