

October 3, 2018
Municipal Building
121 Evergreen Road
New Egypt, NJ 08533

The Workshop Session of the meeting of the Plumsted Township Committee was called to order by Mayor Trotta.

STATEMENT: “This meeting is being held in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act. It was advertised for publication in the Asbury Park Press and posted on the bulletin board.”

THOSE OFFICIALS PRESENT WERE:

COMMITTEEMAN JONES	COMMITTEEMAN MARINARI	DEPUTY MAYOR SORCHIK
MAYOR TROTTA	DAVID LEUTWYLER, CDC	ATTORNEY KELLY
ACTING MUNICIPAL CLERK WITHAM		

Committeeman Lotito was excused.

Mayor Trotta asked everyone to rise for the flag salute. Pastor Gardener came forward for the invocation.

Mayor Trotta reviewed the agenda. There are minutes to approve. There are also letters of resignation to review. A flag will be presented to the Township, and the Friends of the Library will be here. There is a second reading and public hearing for one ordinance, and two new ordinances will be introduced tonight. There are some general resolutions on the agenda, some of which concern the tax office and one to appoint a part-time Business Administrator. A resolution will be amended from last month and there is a resolution for electronic tax sale.

Trotta spoke about a resolution from Laurita for fireworks and the notice requirement that was communicated to them about it in the past. There is a resolution for a 966 grant for the police and OEM that is related to the Oyster Creek nuclear power plant in Lacey Township. A discussion ensued about the closing and decommissioning of the power plant and its effect on the 966 grant.

Trotta said that there are also some add on resolutions. One is to appoint a new Chairperson for the Environmental Commission and another is to advertise for Requests for Proposals for Professional Services. There was discussion as to whether or not to include an auditor and fee accountant in RFPs. In the past, we were mandated by the State when we received transitional aid but now it isn't required. Trotta asked for input from the Committee as to whether or not they think the auditing procedures should be changed. The Committee discussed the advantages and disadvantages of doing so. The decision was made to keep the status quo. The Committee will consult with CFO Madden. If they decide to hire only one auditor after proposals are received, they can do so at that time.

Trotta said there is also an add-on resolution to utilize JCP&L poles downtown for holiday decorations.

Committeeman Marinari spoke about the two options available to the township for lawn care utilizing either in-house or contractor personnel. He described the complaints received about the current contractor and the costs involved in paying a contractor versus purchasing equipment and paying an employee. He also spoke about the work required for the township and the work required for the recreation committee and how he has changed the work requirements to be more specific. He said the CFO has requested that complaints about the performance of the current contractor be documented in the event they are the low bidder on a new contract with the township. He talked about the cost of the maintenance of equipment and certification of an in-house employee.

There was a discussion about making potential changes to the lawn care program. The decision was made to price new lawn care equipment now and wait until December to look for a part-time employee.

Trotta said the Bible Baptist Church has agreed to paint the interior of the municipal building. A concern was brought up about insurance liability and advising JIF about the work. Attorney Kelly will check into the liability issues.

Trotta said that Executive Session will be held later in the meeting.

Mayor Trotta called the regular session of the meeting to order.

MINUTES TO BE CONSIDERED FOR APPROVAL:

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN MARINARI SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN JONES, THE WORKSHOP/REGULAR/EXECUTIVE SESSION OF AUGUST 1, 2018 AND SEPTEMBER 5, 2018 WAS APPROVED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN MARINARI SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN JONES, THE WORKSHOP/REGULAR SESSION OF AUGUST 17, 2018 WAS APPROVED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Mayor Trotta read Mary Dancer's Letter of Resignation as Chairman of the Environmental Commission.

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN MARINARI, SECONDED BY DEPUTY MAYOR SORCHIK, THE RESIGNATION OF MARY DANCER WAS ACCEPTED WITH REGRETS. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES

Mayor Trotta read Scott Pezarras' Letter of Resignation as Business Administrator and Tax Collector.

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN MARINARI, SECONDED BY DEPUTY MAYOR SORCHIK, THE RESIGNATION OF SCOTT PEZARRAS WAS ACCEPTED WITH REGRETS. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES

PRESENTATIONS:

A World War I Centennial Service Flag for Plumsted Township was presented to the Township by Nicholas J. Wood, Program Development Specialist, Cultural and Heritage Affairs, Ocean County Cultural and Heritage Commission on behalf of the Ocean County Board of Chosen Freeholders.

Mayor Trotta said that Assemblyman Dancer has submitted Resolution No. 160 to the State concerning the 100th anniversary of World War I. The township will be adopting Resolution 2018-275 supporting his resolution. He asked that the Ocean County Freeholders also support the resolution. A copy of the resolution was provided to Mr. Wood to pass on to them.

Wood spoke about the dedication of a new World War I monument and the reading of names at the Ocean County Courthouse on November 1st, and the ringing of the bells on November 11th to celebrate the Armistice.

Mayor Trotta read Resolution 2018-275 in full.

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN MARINARI, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN JONES, RESOLUTION NO. 2018-275 - SUPPORTING ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 160 (SPONSORED BY ASSEMBLYMAN RONALD S. DANCER, DISTRICT 12) WAS ADOPTED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES

Deputy Mayor Sorchik read the proclamation for National Friends of Libraries Month, October 2018 and presented it to the Friends of the Library.

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN MARINARI SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN JONES, THE PROCLAMATION FOR NATIONAL FRIENDS OF LIBRARIES MONTH, OCTOBER 2018 WAS APPROVED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES

ORDINANCES: Second Reading and Public Hearing

Trotta said the next item on the agenda is the second reading and public hearing on Ordinance No. 2018-14.

Trotta opened the Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 2018-14. There were no public comments.

ON MOTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR SORCHIK, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN JONES, THE PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCE NO. 2018-14 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMSTED, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 5 OF THE GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMSTED, ENTITLED “BRUSH, GRASS AND WEEDS, REMOVAL OF” WAS CLOSED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN MARINARI, SECONDED BY DEPUTY MAYOR SORCHIK, ORDINANCE NO. 2018-14 WAS NOT ADOPTED ON SECOND AND FINAL READING. ROLL CALL VOTE: COMMITTEEMAN MARINARI VOTED YES; COMMITTEEMAN JONES, DEPUTY MAYOR SORCHIK AND MAYOR TROTTA VOTED NO.

ORDINANCES: Introduction

Mayor Trotta said Ordinance 2018-15 and Ordinance 2018-16 will be introduced as discussed tonight. Ordinance 2018-15 was being introduced in order to change the amount charged for payments returned due to insufficient funds.

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN JONES, SECONDED BY DEPUTY MAYOR SORCHIK, ORDINANCE NO. 2018-15 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMSTED, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 12, OF THE GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMSTED ENTITLED “CLAIMS, PAYMENT OF” WAS INTRODUCED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

The second reading and public hearing is scheduled for the meeting of November 7, 2018.

Ordinance 2018-16 is being introduced to include a deadline for submitting receipts for damage done to mailboxes and posts during snowplowing.

ON MOTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR SORCHIK, SECONDED BY COMMITTEE JONES, ORDINANCE NO. 2018-16 – AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 57, SECTION 23 OF THE GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMSTED ENTITLED “STREETS AND SIDEWALKS – MAXIMUM VALUES” WAS INTRODUCED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

The second reading and public hearing is scheduled for the meeting of November 7, 2018.

CONSENT AGENDA:

THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS ON A CONSENT AGENDA ARE CONSIDERED ROUTINE AND SHALL BE ENACTED BY ONE MOTION. SHOULD ANY MEMBER OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE SEEK SEPARATE DISCUSSION OF ANY ITEM, THAT ITEM SHALL BE REMOVED AND DISCUSSED SEPARATELY. THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS WILL BE VOTED ON IN ONE VOTE.

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-267 – CANCELLING 2018 PROPERTY TAXES DUE TO TOTALLY DISABLED VETERAN STATUS EFFECTIVE 8/30/18 FOR WILLIAM P. SHERWOOD (BLOCK 84, LOT 22)

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-268 – AUTHORIZING THE REFUND OF 2018 HOMESTEAD CREDIT DUE TO TOTALLY DISABLED VETERAN EXEMPTION

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-269 – AUTHORIZING THE REFUND OF OVERPAYMENT OF TAXES DUE TO TAX APPEAL

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-270 – AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF CHECKS FOR THE REDEMPTION OF TAX SALE CERTIFICATES

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-271 – APPOINTING ELLEN REILLY-PRIVETT AS PART-TIME BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMSTED

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-272 – AMENDING RESOLUTION 2018-253 AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF UNUSED VACATION AND SICK DAYS FOR JOAN GRUCA

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-273 – AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN AN ELECTRONIC TAX SALE

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-274 – APPROVING THE PUBLIC DISPLAY OF FIREWORKS AT LAURITA WINERY OCTOBER 26, 2018

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-276 – SUPPORTING ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 4438 (SPONSORED BY ASSEMBLYMAN RONALD S. DANCER, DISTRICT 12)

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-277 – REQUESTING APPROVAL FOR THE INSERTION OF A SPECIAL ITEM OF REVENUE AND APPROPRIATION PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A.40A:4-87 (NEW JERSEY OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT 966 GRANT FY2019 SPECIAL FUNDING - \$9,578.75)

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN MARINARI, SECONDED BY DEPUTY MAYOR SORCHIK, THE AFOREMENTIONED RESOLUTIONS 2018-267 THROUGH 2018-274 AND RESOLUTIONS 2018-276 THROUGH 2018-277, WERE ADOPTED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

RESOLUTIONS:

The following were add-on resolutions to the meeting.

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN MARINARI, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN JONES, RESOLUTION 2018-278 – APPOINTING A CHAIRPERSON TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMSTED WAS ADOPTED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN MARINARI, SECONDED BY DEPUTY MAYOR SORCHIK, RESOLUTION 2018-279 – AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP CLERK TO ADVERTISE FOR THE RECEIPT OF PROPOSALS FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR 2019 WAS ADOPTED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN MARINARI, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN JONES, RESOLUTION 2018-280 - APPROVING AN AGREEMENT WITH JCP&L FOR THE USE OF UTILITY POLES WITHIN THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMSTED FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISPLAYING HOLIDAY DECORATIONS WAS ADOPTED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

MOTION TO CONSIDER:

ON MOTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR SORCHIK, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN JONES, THE FOLLOWING RAFFLES LICENSE WAS APPROVED: RAFFLES LICENSE 2018-29 – ON-PREMISE MERCHANDISE RAFFLE, AMERICAN WATER WORKS. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES

REPORTS OF DEPARTMENTS AND PROFESSIONALS:

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN MARINARI, SECONDED BY DEPUTY MAYOR SORCHIK, THE BILL LIST OF OCTOBER 3, 2018 WAS APPROVED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES WITH COMMITTEEMAN MARINARI VOTING NO ON PO #18-00192 and PO #18-00553 FOR TOTAL LAWN CARE AND LANDSCAPING.

Marinari said that he will be voting no for PO # 18-00192 for Total Lawn Care & Landscaping as previously mentioned. Marinari also questioned PO #18-00553 for Total Lawn Care for New Egypt Day. He said will be voting no on that also. There was a discussion about PO # 18-00645 for Amazon Capital Services, Inc. for rec football field supplies. Marinari spoke about recusing himself from PO # 18-00704 due to a possible conflict. Attorney Kelly said there is no conflict and he does not need to recuse himself.

Mayor Trotta asked if there were any other comments. There were none.

REPORTS SUBMITTED FOR COMMITTEE REVIEW: CONSTRUCTION REPORT – August 2018; FINANCIAL REPORTS - Bond Anticipation Notes Sale September 11, 2018 Memo; Revenue Summary by Month- August 2018; Abbreviated Summary Budget Account Status – August 2018; TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT August and September 2018; POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT – August 2018; PLUMSTED TOWNSHIP BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS DISTRICT #1 MEETING MINUTES – August, 2018; PLUMSTED TOWNSHIP MUA Minutes July 2018

Mayor Trotta commented on the added details to the report from the Construction Department, particularly concerning the cell tower on Brynmore Road. Trotta also spoke about the annual memorandum from the CFO regarding the sale of Bond Anticipation Notes.

Mayor Trotta asked for any old or new business from the committee.

Deputy Mayor Sorchik spoke about the Fire Commissioners meeting he attended and the questions and concerns they have about the cost of the new radio system. He said Ocean County will not supplement the cost of the system. It will be a capital investment for municipalities. Emergency services will be moving from 700 MHz to 800 MHz band. Each radio costs \$6,000. Ocean County has not provided any information to the township other than there will be no 700 MHz system by 2023.

There was a discussion about the options available to the township, including the possibility of utilizing old radios in the new system and having a special election for capital bonds. A discussion was also held about any new equipment that is purchased prior to the changeover being in the updated band.

The Fire Commissioners also discussed the update to the Emergency Operations Plan and traffic at the upcoming Laurita Winery event. Chief Meroney described the steps that have been taken to minimize the disruption of traffic, including sending Nixle alerts to the public. There was a discussion about how to handle medical emergencies during the event. Trotta spoke about the second access point that is supposed to be provided by Laurita and the utilization of Laurita's message boards.

Committeeman Jones asked if the school referendum passed. Trotta said that as of last night it lost by 5 votes, with 14 provisional votes still to be counted. An answer will be provided next Tuesday after the provisional votes have been counted. Jones commented on the low number of people who attended the informational meetings about the referendum and how beneficial it would be for them to attend the meetings to learn more about it.

There was a discussion about the report from the Police Department.

Committeeman Marinari told everyone that Committeeman Lotito's mother passed away yesterday. The committee expressed its condolences to Committeeman Lotito and his family.

Deputy Mayor Sorchik recognized former Committeeman Mike Wysong sitting in the audience. He said that Wysong recommended that the bell ringing for Armistice Day be advertised on the Township website so that local churches may also participate.

Trotta spoke about the budget workshop. The CFO has asked to meet at 5:30 pm before the Committee Meeting on November 7th and 5:30 pm on Wednesday November 28th to work on the budget with the department heads.

Trotta reminded voters that the last day to register to vote is October 16th. Voter Registration and Vote-by-Mail forms are available in the Clerk's Office and on the Ocean County Clerk's website.

Trotta also announced that the flu clinic is on October 24th from 10 am – 12 pm and the free rabies clinic for anyone in New Jersey is November 3rd from 9 am – 11 am at the firehouse.

Trotta said that the new fireworks committee will be put together next month.

Mayor Trotta asked for any other old or new business. There was none.

Mayor Trotta asked for public comment.

Mike Wysong, 3 Holly Hill Drive, New Egypt, read a Proclamation from the United States World War I Centennial Commission about the "Bells of Peace," the national tolling of bells on Armistice Day, November 11 at 11:00 am, the "11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month." He said that participants not only include churches, but any person who would like to go outside and ring a bell. He is asking the governing body to adopt a proclamation at their November meeting naming the 81 people from Plumsted Township who served in "the Great War" and calling on citizens and institutions to ring the bell on November 11th.

The committee agreed to adopt such a proclamation and to have someone from the American Legion at the meeting to accept the proclamation since the Legion is named after some of those from Plumsted who served in World War I. A notice about the bell ringing will also be put in the November newsletter.

Bernie Haney, 62 Hampshire Court, New Egypt, said he wanted to thank each committee member. He spent the last 28 years of his life in municipal government. When he is at home, there is nobody moaning about what the committee is doing. When the tax bill comes, people are not in shock. People are not saying taxes are driving them out of town. At least the people he speaks to. That is why the committee is there year after year. He encouraged them to keep doing what they are doing.

Secondly and more importantly, Mr. Haney said when he got into this business 28 years ago, the first person he met is the Township's retiring administrator, Scott Pezarras. He and Scott worked together for 10 years in Brick Township. He worked with Ellen Reilly 3 years before they started working together in Brick Township. They started in Brick Township together. He said he called Scott today and told him that when he moved into Plumsted 12 years no one told him it was "Brick Town West." He and his wife love it here in Plumsted. They raised their 3 daughters

here. The township committee has done a phenomenal job. He thanked Scott for the 2 years he worked in Plumsted. He has learned so much from Scott over the years and knows how smart he is. He knows Scott is going to give Ellen some of that. He said he also met Dave Leutwyler when he was on the township committee. It just keeps getting better. He told the committee that on behalf of himself and his family, just keep doing what they are doing, because they are doing it right. If he can help the committee with any experiences he has had or to do something for the town he lives in, he is always willing to do that.

Haney spoke about his work experience in Brick and in Neptune and as Legislative Liaison in Trenton. That is where he met Ron Dancer and that is a big reason why he moved to Plumsted. He complimented Mayor Trotta and thanked Chief Meroney for Nixle and Jennifer Witham for the emailed agendas. It is nice to know what is going on in town. He did not know there was a school election last week. He would have voted, and he would have voted yes because he likes it when his taxes go down.

The committee thanked him for his comments.

Lenny Grilletto, 41C Highbridge Road, New Egypt, thanked Nicholas Wood for bringing the banner to celebrate World War I. He also thanked Mike Wysong. He said the last offensives in World War I started at the end of September. We lost most of our men over there, which was brutal. He is just finishing the book "47 Days for the Armistice." His grandfather served in the in the U.S. Army and fought in World War I. The family received their citizenship due to his service.

Mr. Grilletto asked the committee if the State requires the township to have one firm do the audit and one do the accounting. Trotta said that when the township was under transitional aid, it was required by the State to split the job into two. Grilletto said that as long as the auditor is not involved in managerial decisions, they can do both. Managerial decisions involve taking responsibility for setting up accounts. If they just do accounting and compilations, they can do both. The better system is to have two people.

Grilletto spoke about the idea of hiring a contractor versus hiring an employee. Hiring an employee basically becomes a fixed cost. The first thing he learned in accounting is that fixed costs are "hell on earth." They will easily bring down a business. He is not saying which way to go, but to keep in mind that whenever you bring on fixed costs, it becomes a permanent cost and it is hard to get rid of. Employees are hard to get rid of. A contractor is easier. Especially in government. In the state right now, the government is filling up a lot of positions through contractor employees, so the state can get rid of them if they want to reduce their budget.

Grilletto said that at a previous meeting there was a conversation about suspicious people in town at the bus stop or people who were creating a problem downtown. He asked if anything had come out of it. Chief Meroney said he cannot prevent people from coming from out of town. There has been no loitering or incidents since the police have been watching it on Main Street. People get off the bus and go on their way. No one is doing anything wrong. They are just sitting on the bench and catching the bus.

Mayor Trotta asked for any other public comments. There were none.

Attorney Kelly read Resolution No. 2018-266 for Executive Session. The following matters will be discussed: Under Personnel: Personnel Matters and under Contractual: Landscape Contract Terms 2019.

ON MOTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR SORCHIK, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN JONES, RESOLUTION NO. 2018-266, AUTHORIZING THE CONVENING OF AN EXECUTIVE SESSION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT WAS ADOPTED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

The Committee returned from Executive Session.

Mayor Trotta asked if there was any further business. There was none.

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN MARINARI, SECONDED BY DEPUTY MAYOR SORCHIK, THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Witham
Acting Municipal Clerk