

November 4, 2020
Municipal Building
121 Evergreen Road
New Egypt, NJ 08533

The Plumsted Township Committee meeting of November 4, 2020 was called to order by Mayor Marinari. Due to the emergent situation with COVID-19 and the municipal building being closed, the meeting was conducted through Zoom.com for the public to participate.

STATEMENT: "This meeting is being held in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act." It was presented for publication to the Asbury Park Press and posted on the Bulletin Board.

THOSE OFFICIALS PRESENT:

In the Meeting Room:

COMMITTEEMAN GRILLETTO COMMITTEEMAN BOWEN DEPUTY MAYOR SORCHIK
MAYOR MARINARI DAVE LEUTWYLER ATTORNEY STIEBER BA/CLERK WITHAM

Committeeman Trotta was absent.

Township Engineer Walter Bronson was also in attendance.

Mayor Marinari asked everyone to rise for the flag salute followed by a moment of silence.

Marinari said he would like to discuss generator bypass at traffic signals. Committeeman Bowen and Committeeman Grilletto said it was a good idea. Deputy Mayor Sorchik discussed an email from Chief Meroney about it. Meroney said they would need up to four generators for five areas.

Sorchik spoke about the intersections where they would most be needed. He said it is a hook-up to the electrical boxes. There was a discussion about the initial price of the generators and the cost to replace the batteries every four years versus paying an officer overtime to sit at the lights. Sorchik said the generators should probably be purchased if the money is in capital.

There was also a discussion about Upper Freehold and Jackson Township sharing the expense of the generators. Sorchik suggested checking with Ocean County to see which vendors they are using. Marinari asked that the township check with the county and look into some shared services agreements for the generators.

Sorchik said the chief commented about a particular need for a generator at the intersection of Routes 537 and 539. The intersection is assigned to the State Police, but they often do not have the personnel to police the light and Plumsted Police end up there when a stoplight goes out.

Marinari spoke about body cameras for the police. Sorchik said he thinks the Chief is trying to fit the purchase in the 2021 budget and is looking for guidance as to whether they should purchase six cameras or fourteen cameras.

Sorchik spoke about a potential upcoming mandate from the Attorney General's Office that all police officers will need to have body cameras when on duty. He said that body cameras help police officers because they provide an accurate representation of what occurs. He thinks it would be easier to manage subpoenas if everyone were to be issued their own body camera that they had to use while on duty. That way, the documentation that comes off the camera would always be attributed to that particular police officer.

Sorchik said he thinks everyone should get one, but the township needs more information. He would like the Chief to find out if the State is going to subsidize the purchase of the cameras and make a presentation to the committee.

Grilletto said that he thinks it is important for a police officer to have a camera for his or her own defense. If the state mandates it, then they should pay for it. The township should wait and see if they mandate it.

Township Engineer Bronson gave the engineer's report. He referred the committee to the written report he provided. Then he spoke about the condition of Lepky Avenue and the repairs that need to be made to it. The surrounding properties drain onto the street and at some point, the road will have to be rebuilt to put in drainage to get rid of the water. The estimate provided a year ago was \$75,000. He suggested that immediately, prior to winter, the township authorize Earle Asphalt to make repairs

under the Emergency Call-Out Work and Critical Call Out-Work for Roadway Repairs program. He estimates it would cost \$5,000-\$10,000.

Bronson requested authorization from the committee to do a detailed survey and perform test pits on the area to determine what the soils are like and what the seasonal high groundwater is and if there is a way to remove the water more efficiently. A survey might show how the water can be piped over to the nearby stream.

Sorchik said that the area has been a problem forever because all of the water drains onto the road. There was a discussion about the process to obtain permits from NJDEP for a new outfall pipe. Bronson said that the water would have to be filtered in some way before it can be piped into the stream.

Grilletto and Bowen said they agree with Bronson.

Marinari asked if there were any questions about the engineer's report. There were none.

Marinari asked Bowen to talk about his proposal for the annual Christmas Tree Lighting. Bowen said due to covid, it will be different than the township's normal event. He said he and the volunteer fire company worked together on the proposal. They tried to balance safety with a sense of normalcy.

Normally, the event is held both indoors and outdoors. This year the indoor activities will be removed and some activities will be held online. With a sense that this is a long-term event that we are dealing with; that is, we are not almost at the end of it, we are going to be in it for a foreseeable amount of time.

Trying to bring back some sense of normalcy to our community, as we did with the playgrounds, the proposal was prepared with a backdrop of ever-changing guidelines from the CDC, as well as executive orders from the state. He asked for the committee's feedback on the proposal.

Marinari said the proposal is very well done. No one knows what is going to happen with covid, but it is well done with what we are dealing with at the present time.

Marinari asked if the tree lighting would be held downtown or at the municipal building. Bowen said it would be at the municipal building. Rather than have one group of people together when the tree is lit, it could be lit at the end of the day on Friday. There would be a window of time over the weekend when individual photos could be taken.

The older fire truck would also be at the municipal building. This will complement the downtown businesses, rather than getting in their way and taking up parking spaces and clogging up traffic. It will be a little different, but still fun. It can be re-thought next year if we are in the same situation.

Marinari said last year's tree was a cut tree; this year Big Woods will donate and plant a live tree. People can make decorations and stop by and put them on after the tree is lit.

Marinari asked BA/Clerk Witham for any comments. She said she thought that it would be better to have it at the municipal building with the sewer construction going on downtown. She asked if people would schedule a time, or just show up for photos. Bowen said he is unsure at this time. Witham said it could depend on the amount of interest. People can socially distance if they have to wait in line. Bowen said depending on the weather, they may want to wait in their cars. Witham said Ervin is waiting for direction and is willing to help.

Marinari reviewed the agenda. He said the resolutions tonight include appointing volunteer members to the MUA, Emergency Management and the Environmental Committee. There is a resolution refunding tax money. There is one authorizing payment to an individual for insurance opt-out. There is a resolution appointing a back-up clerk for the municipal court.

There are a couple of resolutions in support of Assemblyman Dancer's bills and a resolution supporting the county in their efforts for financial assistance for seniors. There is a resolution for the township to donate old computers so that they can be reconfigured for families for virtual learning.

Also on the agenda are a proclamation and two ordinances for introduction. There is an introduction of Ordinance 2020-11, amending Chapter 40 of the General Ordinances entitled "Officers and Employees," and Ordinance 2020-12, amending salaries for various officials in the Township of Plumsted.

Grilletto said he would like to open the committee meeting up to the public on a limited basis, as well as having it on Zoom. He said there were people voting in the building yesterday. He cannot see why

the committee meeting should not be opened up to a limited number of people. They could call and make a reservation.

Marinari said Grilletto knows his opinion about opening the building to the public. If someone else is Mayor in January, they could open the building in January. Grilletto said he would like it to start on a limited basis in December. He does not see why that cannot be done following covid regulations.

Grilletto also spoke about the invocation. He said Bowen was contacting ministers about providing an invocation and the committee could look at it in December. Witham said that at the last meeting there was no vote to go forward. Grilletto said he knows there was none, but the committee can look at it again. Witham said it was a moot issue. It was not voted to continue to research invocation. Grilletto said he understands that, but the issue can be brought up again.

Bowen said he thinks Resolution 2020-312 concerning attacks and crimes against police officers is timely and very appropriate. He asked that, if approved, the resolution be posted on the township's website. He thinks it is important to show the community that the township supports the police.

Bowen said that Resolution 2020-325 is also of value, which is Assemblyman Dancer's package of bills providing transparency and accountability on the part of utility companies. He wondered if traffic light backups could be put in a similar bill. When power goes out at a traffic light on 539, there is no choice but to either put a police officer there or get the light back on again. With two episodes in the past year of extended power outages, there is just no option but to have some type of traffic control at those intersections. Otherwise it is too dangerous.

Bowen said he thinks it is appropriate on behalf of the community to highlight those two resolutions.

Witham said CFO Madden asked her to discuss Best Practices. The township submitted the Best Practices worksheet on October 26, 2020, with all of the proper signatures. Madden forwarded it to the committee on October 13, 2020, so they would have a chance to review it. The township's score was 22.5, which is a passing score. It means the township will not have any state aid withheld.

Witham said the personnel manual was updated last year. Since then, the JIF has made new recommendations, so she will be making changes to the manual. She asked if there were any questions. There were none.

Marinari asked if there were any other comments. There were none.

Attorney Stieber read Resolution No. 2020-310, authorizing the convening of an executive session. The following matters will be discussed: personnel; contractual with regard to professional services and salting services; litigation with regard to Block 58, Lot 13.

ON MOTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR SORCHIK, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN BOWEN, RESOLUTION NO. 2020-310, 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 Marinari called the Regular Session to order. He said they will need to go back into Executive Session at the conclusion of the Regular Session.

MINUTES TO BE CONSIDERED FOR APPROVAL: None

CORRESPONDENCE: None

PRESENTATIONS: None

PROCLAMATIONS

The proclamation for National Family Caregiver's Month was read by Committeeman Bowen.

Marinari said that more than ever we need these people under these conditions. God bless all that they do for families in need.

ON MOTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR SORCHIK SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN GRILLETTO, THE PROCLAMATION FOR NATIONAL FAMILY CAREGIVER MONTH WAS APPROVED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES

ORDINANCE – Second Reading and Public Hearing: None

ORDINANCE – Introduction:

Marinari read Ordinance No. 2020-11.

ON MOTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR SORCHIK, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN GRILLETTO ORDINANCE NO. 2018-11 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMSTED, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 40 OF THE GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMSTED ENTITLED “OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES” WAS INTRODUCED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES

Marinari read Ordinance No. 2020-12.

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN BOWEN, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN GRILLETTO ORDINANCE NO. 2020-12 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMSTED COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AMENDING AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED “AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH SALARIES FOR VARIOUS OFFICIALS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMSTED, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY REGULATING THE MANNER OF PAYMENT OF SAME” WAS INTRODUCED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES

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. 2020-302 – AWARDING A CONTRACT TO SECURITY INSTRUMENT CORP. TO PROVIDE A DOOR ACCESS SYSTEM FOR THE PLUMSTED TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUILDING

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-311 – ADOPTING THE REVISED RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE PLUMSTED TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-312 – URGING MAXIMUM PENALTIES FOR ATTACKS AND CRIMES AGAINST POLICE OFFICERS

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-313 – APPOINTING JOSEPHINE FERRANTE AS A VIOLATIONS CLERK FOR THE PLUMSTED TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL COURT

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-314 – AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF A CHECK FOR THE REDEMPTION OF A TAX SALE CERTIFICATE

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-315 – AUTHORIZING PLUMSTED TOWNSHIP TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH UPPER FREEHOLD TOWNSHIP FOR SUBCONTRACTING WITH UPPER FREEHOLD TOWNSHIP'S DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS PERSONNEL AND EQUIPMENT

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-316 – AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 2020-31 APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMSTED

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-317 – APPOINTING A MEMBER TO THE PLUMSTED TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-318 – AUTHORIZING A TRANSFER OF APPROPRIATIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF N.J.S.A. 40A:4-58

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-319 – AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 2020-190 AUTHORIZING PAYMENT FOR THE INSURANCE OPT-OUT PROGRAM FOR 2020

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-320 – AMENDING RESOLUTION 2020-136 APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-321 - SUPPORTING THE OCEAN COUNTY BOARD OF FREEHOLDERS IN THEIR SUPPORT OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR THE SENIOR POPULATION

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-322 - REQUESTING APPROVAL FOR THE INSERTION OF A SPECIAL ITEM OF REVENUE AND APPROPRIATION PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A.40A:4-87 (U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE FY-20 BULLETPROOF VEST PARTNERSHIP GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,670.00)

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-323 - AUTHORIZING THE DONATION OF OLD COMPUTERS TO CONVEXSERV

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-324 - AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 2020-294 AUTHORIZING DEWBERRY ENGINEERING, INC., TOWNSHIP ENGINEER AS PROJECT ENGINEER FOR THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION GRANT FY2020 MUNICIPAL AID PROGRAM FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO TOWER ROAD

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-325 – SUPPORTING ASSEMBLYMAN DANCER’S PACKAGE OF BILLS PROVIDING ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY ON THE PART OF UTILITY COMPANIES (Sponsored by Assemblyman Ronald S. Dancer, District 12)

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-326 - AUTHORIZING THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER TO DISPOSE OF OR RECYCLE OBSOLETE ITEMS NO LONGER NEEDED FOR PUBLIC USE

Grilletto asked about the annual cost for the keys for Resolution 2020-302. Leutwyler said it is \$797.40 per year.

Sorchik said Committeeman Bowen spoke earlier about Resolution 2020-312 and supporting police. The resolution does not really say anything specific. Sorchik said, clearly, he supports law enforcement. However, the one thing he wants to caution the township committee about is the fact that prosecutions are done by a prosecutor, and a judge decides the penalty.

In his experience, when you have mandatory penalties, prosecutors decide not to charge a person at that level and find lesser charges. The results of that can be seen in federal cases in which there was mandatory sentencing and people were incarcerated for a long period of time for what today are minor offenses.

Sorchik said he supports the idea that the committee supports our police. Since there are no specifics in the township’s resolution, he will go along with it. He just wants to say that when we start mandating that we have to do certain things a certain way, there is always some entity that decides that our good intentions can be morphed in some way. That is his concern.

Sorchik said he supports Assemblyman Dancer’s package of bills. He is going to abstain from this because of conflict of interest in some of the issues he has.

He said that if you are going to mandate that a utility company has to maintain trees to keep them from falling on power lines, they are going to have the right to go on people’s property and cut down their trees. Who is responsible if the property owner says, “you can’t cut my tree down” and the power goes out?

The power company made a legitimate effort to trim and cut the tree down. The property owner does not want the tree cut down. Now the tree falls on the power line and the power company is responsible for any damages. They are going to go after the homeowner or their homeowner’s insurance. That is what happens when you start playing this game—there are other liabilities here.

Grilletto says he understands that power companies need to take trees down because they jeopardize power for the community. He said it has happened to him that they took about 30 trees off his property. They did not give him a choice. They just came and did it. He understands that people have to be reasonable too. It is a hardship for people when their electricity goes out.

Sorchik said he is concerned that when a utility company is responsible for a tree owned by a private individual, that they either have the authority to take that tree down or then the homeowner is responsible. Grilletto said it has been his experience that the utility company does not give you a choice. He cannot say that it is that way in every case.

Sorchik said he does not have a problem with Assemblyman Dancer’s bills; he just wanted to explain why he is going to abstain from that particular one.

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN GRILLETTO, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN BOWEN THE AFOREMENTIONED RESOLUTION 2020-302 AND RESOLUTIONS 2020-311 THROUGH 2020-326 ON PAGES 2 AND 3 OF THE CONSENT AGENDA WERE APPROVED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES, WITH DEPUTY MAYOR SORCHIK ABSTAINING FROM RESOLUTION 2020-325

Witham said there is an add-on resolution. Marinari asked if there was discussion on the resolution. There was none.

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN GRILLETTO, SECONDED BY DEPUTY MAYOR SORCHIK, RESOLUTION NO. 2020-327 – AMENDING RESOLUTION 2020-284 OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMSTED, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, DESIGNATING EMPLOYEE SALARIES FOR VARIOUS POSITIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SALARY ORDINANCE FOR THE YEAR 2020 WAS ADOPTED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

MOTION TO CONSIDER: None

REPORTS OF DEPARTMENTS AND PROFESSIONALS:

Mayor Marinari asked if there were any comments on the Bill List. Committeeman Grilletto had a comment regarding paying the bill for P&A. He said that, in his opinion, some of steps they have taken while doing the sewer work has been lackadaisical.

ON MOTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR SORCHIK, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN BOWEN, THE BILL LIST OF NOVEMBER 4, 2020, WAS APPROVED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES

REPORTS SUBMITTED FOR COMMITTEE REVIEW: TOWNSHIP ENGINEER REPORT – November 4, 2020; CONSTRUCTION REPORT - September 2020; TAX COLLECTOR REPORT – September 2020; FINANCIAL REPORTS –Revenue Summary by Month September 2020; Abbreviated Summary Budget Account Status September 2020; Treasurer’s Report September 2020; October Note Sale-PMUA Memo; POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT – September 2020; COURT REPORTS – September 2020; PLUMSTED BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS DISTRICT #1 MEETING MINUTES – 9/14/20; PLUMSTED TOWNSHIP MUA MINUTES –9/15/20

Marinari asked if there were any questions about the reports; there were none.

Marinari asked if there was any old business from the committee.

Sorchik said the township’s request for reimbursement of police and maintenance workers’ overtime and expenditures under the Stafford Act declaration was denied. Reimbursement for the plexiglass and ultraviolet light used for sanitation was denied. However, the township will be reimbursed for those items under the Cares Act. Cares Act 1 & 2 applications have been submitted. The submission for Cares Act 3 is due December 1, 2020. He is working on the submission now.

Sorchik said he is also working on a supplemental report for the fire district seeking compensation of around \$3300 for time spent on covid-related issues and equipment purchased. Once the money comes in, the CFO will transfer it to the fire commissioner’s account. He should have the submission in for Cares Act 3 by December 1st.

Bowen said the township received the August 28, 2020 directive on playgrounds at the September meeting. He thanked Deputy Mayor Sorchik, Municipal Clerk Witham and Randy Priest in Public Works, for taking a look at those directives and figuring out a strategy to safely reopen the playgrounds.

Grilletto thanked everyone who voted for him and said he will represent all people in Plumsted Township whether they voted for him or not. He said he spoke to a lot of people during the election and thinks that senior citizens were disenfranchised, and everyone should have been able to vote in person. Mail-in voting was very disruptive to older people. It was confusing for them to figure out how to fill out the ballot and where to mail it. He thinks we should go back to voting by machine. What the government did was very harmful to the community and to voters and it disenfranchised them.

Grilletto also thanked everyone who attended the celebration on October 17, 2020 of the 175th anniversary of the incorporation of Plumsted Township. He thanked the people who helped to put the event together.

Marinari asked if there was any new business from the committee.

Sorchik spoke about the Cares Act in reference to restaurants and food facilities in town. He said information about it was put on the township website. Restaurants had to pre-register. Then all of the restaurants in the State had to call in on October 27, 2020 at the same time in order to register. Other days were for other types of businesses.

Sorchik also registered to see what businesses were going through. He was bumped off several times. It took him over an hour and a half to answer a dozen questions. It should have only taken a few seconds. The problem is that it was first-come first-served. The website was not adequate enough to accept that number of businesses. He has had no feedback from local businesses as to whether or not they received any funds.

Sorchik announced that the township is sponsoring a covid test and free flu shot clinic on November 19, 2020 from 9 am to 4 pm in front of the Municipal Building. Services will be provided by Ocean Health Initiative. People do not need to sign up ahead of time, nor do they have to be a resident of Plumsted. People have to wear masks and provide identification so that they can be contacted afterward with the results. This is the simple test, not the invasive one. It is the regular flu shot, not the high dose shot.

Sorchik said that Plumsted for Progress is doing a cleanup this Sunday from 10 am to 1 pm. People will meet at the Sabbath House located at 8 Front Street.

Marinari thanked Sorchik for all of his efforts during the pandemic. He said the township would be in a sad situation without him. Sorchik said he appreciates that, but the rest of the committee picks up his slack.

Marinari thanked Grilletto and the Boy Scouts for the 175th Anniversary celebration. It was well attended. He pointed out that there are signs on light poles downtown about the anniversary, which was influenced by Grilletto. Grilletto thanked the Boy Scouts for their excellent work.

Witham spoke about the free rabies clinic on November 21, 2020 at the maintenance garage on Pine Street. She said the township is happy to offer the clinic because a lot of towns have had to cancel theirs.

Grilletto reminded everyone that Veterans Day is on November 11, 2020. He spoke about thanking WWII veterans. He said that the American Legion is having a fundraiser on November 7, 2020, collecting money at the traffic light near the Wawa. He also said that November 10, 2020 is the 245th anniversary of the founding of the Marine Corps.

Marinari said there is a special meeting on November 17, 2020, to award a snow plowing contract. The next scheduled meeting is December 2, 2020. He said that this is the time of year to give thanks for a lot of things. He spoke about giving thanks to this community for keeping itself safe.

Marinari asked if there was any other new business. There was none.

Mayor Marinari opened up the meeting for public comment.

Witham introduced two Girl Scouts, Miley and Aniela, to speak about the Plastic Bags to Benches program conducted through the Trex company. They said they will be collecting plastic bags at different locations around the township until February 1, 2021. The bags will be sent to Trex to construct two benches that will be placed in the township. They are looking for input from the committee as to where they should go. There was a discussion about where the benches could be located. It was decided that they would put one bench at the school and one at the recreation field. The committee praised them for the good job they are doing.

Ron Tabor, 24 Highbridge Road, New Egypt, New Jersey, congratulated Committeeman Grilletto on the election. He spoke about how terrible the roads are and complained about the work being done by P&A. He asked when sewers will be done. Marinari said it is projected to be finished by Spring 2021. The few roads left to pave should be done before Thanksgiving. Tabor thanked Randy Priest for getting the playgrounds up and running.

Barbara Diblin, 112 Terrace Avenue, New Egypt, New Jersey, asked about the status of invocation. Grilletto said Bowen will contact various ministers to find out if they would like to participate in invocation. Bowen said it was brought up at last month's meeting. Two motions were made and were not seconded, so the proposal did not move forward. There is no pending motion tonight.

Gwen Schwarzwald, 54 Loveman Road, Cream Ridge, New Jersey, thanked everyone for their hard work and congratulated Grilletto on the election. She also asked about the status of invocation. She did not hear the answer due to technology issue. Bowen repeated the answer for her. She asked if it is totally off the table. Grilletto said it can be brought up again. Bowen said that the last time it was brought up there was not sufficient support to move it forward. Schwarzwald said it had been done previously and then it fell apart. She said there are people in the community who would like to have invocation. With everything going on in the world right now it would be good to ask the creator for support.

Kiyomi Locker, 6 Inman Road, New Egypt, New Jersey, congratulated Grilletto on the election. She spoke about invocation and the idea of separation of church and state. She thinks a moment of silence is more appropriate than invocation. It is not government's place to push beliefs on people.

Evelyn Wasniewski, 26 Highbridge Road, said the separation of church and state is in the Constitution so that the state did not interfere with religion. She suggested that anyone who wants to pray meet in the courtroom or the foyer ahead of the meeting. You cannot pressure people to pray or listen to an invocation.

Dominick Cuzzo, 98 Lakewood Road, New Egypt, New Jersey, said he would like to set the record straight about the Constitution. What the two ladies have said does not appear in the Constitution.

He suggested that people read the Constitution. He advocated for invocation at the beginning of a township meeting.

Ron Tabor, 24 Highbridge Road, New Egypt, New Jersey, spoke in support of the police. He also had a question about people soliciting door-to-door. It was explained that a person needs a permit to go door-to-door. When they obtain a permit, they are given a no-knock registry with a list of addresses that have signed up for no-knock sticker. No one should be soliciting without a license or knocking on a door with a no-knock sticker. He was given the procedure for putting his address on the no-knock registry and what to do if someone knocks on his door.

Marinari asked if there were any other public comments. There were none. Public comments were closed.

Marinari said that the committee will be going into executive session and will return in about an hour. No official business will be conducted.

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN GRILLETTO, SECONDED BY DEPUTY MAYOR SORCHIK, THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE WENT INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

The committee returned from executive session at 10:02 pm.

Marinari asked for a motion to adjourn.

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN GRILLETTO, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN BOWEN, THE NOVEMBER 4, 2020 TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

Respectfully Submitted,



Jennifer Witham, RMC, CMR
Municipal Clerk