

The Plumsted Township Committee meeting of July 7, 2021 was called to order by Mayor Marinari.

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.

Clerk Witham read the following statement regarding remote meetings:

Please be advised that this meeting is being held in person and remotely according to DLGS guidelines as presented in Resolution No. 2020-351 that was adopted at the December 28, 2020 Township Committee meeting. Participants' audio will be muted until the public comment portion of the meeting. We ask that each participant mute themselves as well to avoid any interference in the recorded meeting.

There will be an opportunity for public comment during the meeting which shall be limited to 5 minutes per person. At the time you wish to make public comment, you may unmute yourself accordingly.

Should there be any disruption from the public during the meeting, they will be warned and should the conduct continue, they will be muted or removed from the public meeting.

Thank you for your cooperation.

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:

COMMITTEEMAN BOWEN COMMITTEEMAN GRILLETTO DEPUTY MAYOR SORCHIK
MAYOR MARINARI ATTORNEY ZABARSKY BA/CLERK WITHAM

Chief Meroney and Lt Reilly were also in attendance, as well as Dave Leutwyler. Township Engineer Bronson and Lisa Peterson were in attendance. Committeeman Trotta was excused.

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

Marinari was happy to have people attend the meeting in-person this month. The next school board meeting on the 21st will be in person. He is happy to see that meetings are resuming in person for all groups. There will be second executive session at this meeting. He is going to limit his comments because there is a full agenda tonight.

We are going to amend the resolution for the NE Speedway as the date of their fireworks has changed to October 2nd. Also, we are going to pull 2021-239 as well. Marinari asked for any discussion.

Committeeman Grilletto spoke. The last meeting we had Megan Hillburn present about Paradise Park. They are asking for donations for the park. He wanted to know if anyone had any objections to what was presented. Marinari asked that some documentation be put together that they can all look at. Grilletto said that it was in the presentation but it will be done in phases so he will keep them up to date. Grilletto is looking for donations of the plants. Phase 1 will include cleanup.

The next project is that they are looking to put flags on the Main Street lamp posts as part of Pride in Plumsted. There are six posts. Brackets, poles and flags are needed. The donors name would be listed as well. Looking for donations of \$48 per pole.

Also, there is a Medal of Honor winner here in town. Grilletto spoke with the Historical Society. He is looking to name a park, street, parking lot, gazebo, etc. in his honor. Southard is the Medal of Honor winner.

Committeeman Bowen spoke about liaison reports – Council of the Arts will be working with the Community Garden to enhance their signage. He congratulated Michelle Halperin-Krain who was appointed as the Superintendent for a three-year term. Congrats also to the 10U Girls Softball team who won the District championships and qualified for States and also our 12U North Burlington New Egypt Baseball. They didn't win the tournament but due to their season record, they qualified for States.

Deputy Mayor Sorchik met with the fire commissioners last night. He advised them about the American Rescue Plan Act so they will be participating with the committee (and school) on that. They will be submitting an ordinance for an adjustment of fees in accordance with FEMA schedule. Clerk Witham just received the ordinance today so it will be reviewed. The changes would be in effect in January of 2022.

Chief said that we got funding for 19 body worn cameras from the state but doesn't have the exact amount yet. There is a new quote to replace the original \$14,000 quote from Digital Ally. We will be going with additional cameras and cloud-based storage. It will be a five-year plan to pay for the storage. The grant should be able to stretch over five years to pay the annual fee. We will be getting new cameras every three years as well to keep them current. Also, we are waiting for Ford to find the computer chips for the Explorer so it's still backordered.

Walt Bronson came forward to present his engineering monthly report. Many projects are on hold while we wait for iBank on funding for these projects. Should hear early July on the funding. The Stormwater Management Plan was updated and Witham sent to the county. Once approved by the county, the governing body will approve by resolution. There was an update on the Oakford Lake Dam which is done every four years. There are items that need to be addressed like vegetation, some sinkholes and not all gates are operable. This is work that will have to be done. He will work with Witham on the needed repairs to determine cost and who can help with the work. Some may be done in house.

The Roadway Assessment is in process. They sub-contracted out a company to help with the assessment. A vehicle will be going out to video tape and laser map the streets. It will be entered into a program to determine the condition of the roads. They will be prioritized as to the work needed.

Grilletto talked about the grant for sidewalks. Bronson said there is a grant application for Safe Streets. Possibly Jacobstown to the retirement community Grilletto mentioned. Bronson spoke about sidewalks and schools as well. The committee would have to decide if they wanted to go ahead with an application. Bronson talked about the retirement development and also businesses and organizations like AGU and the Legion. Something the committee will have to discuss.

Chief spoke again about additional traffic detail this summer on Route 539 and Route 537, some of the busier roads to reduce traffic violations. Hoping to have that in place next week. Marinari said that he, Witham, Chief and Lt met about this. There are so many people passing on double yellow lines now and he is very concerned about safety. He appreciates the help of the police department. Grilletto asked about Jacobstown Road speed that he has received complaints about. Chief said that they can but the primary focus will be 539 in light of the recent fatality on that road. Grilletto also asked about Highbridge Road, the yield sign there. Witham said that it is on our list of concerns with the County on road improvements and we are waiting to hear back about our requests/concerns.

ON MOTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR SORCHIK, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN BOWEN, RESOLUTION NO. 2021-215 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.

ON MOTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR SORCHIK, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN GRILLETTO, THE WORKSHOP/REGULAR/EXECUTIVE SESSION SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES OF 2/17/2021 WERE APPROVED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

ON MOTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR SORCHIK, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN BOWEN, THE WORKSHOP/REGULAR/EXECUTIVE SESSION MEETING MINUTES OF 3/3/2021 WERE APPROVED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

Witham stated Committeeman Bowen noticed a typo on page 2 of the amount which should have been \$70.44, not \$7.44; it has been corrected.

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN BOWEN, SECONDED BY DEPUTY MAYOR SORCHIK, THE WORKSHOP/REGULAR/EXECUTIVE SESSION MEETING MINUTES OF 4/7/2021 WERE APPROVED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

ORDINANCE: Second Reading and Public Hearing

Marinari talked about the ordinance up for second reading and public hearing. He opened up public hearing and asked for any comments. There were none.

ON MOTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR SORCHIK, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN GRILLETTO, THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR ORDINANCE NO. 2021-04 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMSTED, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, PROHIBITING THE OPERATION OF ANY CLASS OF CANNABIS BUSINESSES WITHIN ITS GEOGRAPHICAL BOUNDARIES AND AMENDING SECTIONS 15-5.1 AND 15-6.4 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMSTED, ENTITLED "ZONING" WAS CLOSED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

Marinari asked for any questions or comments from the committee. Committeeman Bowen asked about responding to the resident's question from the last meeting. Deputy Sorchik stated that this ordinance

will not affect his hemp business. Witham will send the attorney's clarification to resident Mr. Ahearn. No other comments from the committee.

ON MOTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR SORCHIK, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN BOWEN, ORDINANCE NO. 2021-04 WAS ADOPTED ON SECOND AND FINAL READING. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

ORDINANCE: Introduction - none

RESOLUTION 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. 2021-216 - AMENDING RESOLUTION 2021-30 OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMSTED, COUNTY OF CEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, DESIGNATING EMPLOYEE SALARIES FOR VARIOUS POSITIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SALARY ORDINANCE FOR THE YEAR 2021

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-217 - AMENDING RESOLUTION 2021-179 OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMSTED, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING PAYMENT FOR THE INSURANCE OPT-OUT PROGRAM FOR 2021

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-218 - APPROVING THE PUBLIC DISPLAY OF FIREWORKS AT LAURITA WINERY FOR SEPTEMBER 4, 2021

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-219 – REFUNDING 2021 2ND QTR PROPERTY TAXES DUE TO TOTALLY DISABLED VETERAN STATUS EFFECTIVE 3/08/21 FOR EDUARDO A. MONTES (BLOCK 43, LOT 59.03)

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-220 – APPROVING THE PUBLIC DISPLAY OF FIREWORKS AT THE NEW EGYPT SPEEDWAY FOR JULY 3, 2021

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-221 – AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 2021-131 AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP CLERK TO ADVERTISE FOR THE RECEIPT OF BIDS FOR THE NJDOT FY2020 MUNICIPAL AID GRANT ROAD PROGRAM FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO TOWER ROAD

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-222 – AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND TOWNSHIP CLERK TO SUBMIT AND EXECUTE AN APPLICATION FOR PERMIT OF PUBLIC FIREWORKS DISPLAY TO THE PLUMSTED TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT #1 – OFFICE OF THE FIRE MARSHAL (PAID FOR BY PRIVATE DONATIONS)

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-223 – AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A PURCHASE ORDER TO PAY CELEBRATION FIREWORKS, INC. AS TOWNSHIP PYROTECHNICS EXHIBITOR FOR THE JULY 4TH CELEBRATION, PAID FOR THROUGH CONTRIBUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-224 – AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF ELECTION DAY FLEX TIME FOR THE MUNICIPAL CLERK'S OFFICE

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-225 – REQUESTING APPROVAL FOR THE INSERTION OF A SPECIAL ITEM OF REVENUE AND APPROPRIATION PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A.40A:4-87(CLEAN COMMUNITIES GRANT PROGRAM \$18,484.18)

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-226 – REQUESTING APPROVAL FOR THE INSERTION OF A SPECIAL ITEM OF REVENUE AND APPROPRIATION PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A.40A:4-87 (MUNICIPAL COURT ALCOHOL EDUCATION, REHABILITATION AND ENFORCEMENT FUND GRANT (\$1,817.59)

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-227 - CANCELLING 2021 AND REFUNDING PROPERTY TAXES DUE TO TOTALLY DISABLED VETERAN STATUS EFFECTIVE 3/03/21 FOR MICHAEL R. GUZA (BLOCK 6, LOT 3)

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-228 - AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF A CHECK FOR THE REDEMPTION OF A TAX SALE CERTIFICATE

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-229 - AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF A DUPLICATE TAX SALE CERTIFICATE IN ACCORDANCE WITH N.J.S.A. 54:5-52.1

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-230 - APPOINTING TD BANK WEALTH MANAGEMENT TO SERVE AS TRUSTEE FOR PLUMSTED TOWNSHIP'S NJIB DEBT SERVICE AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT FOR THE SAME

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-231 - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH USA GENERAL CONTRACTORS CORP. TO PROVIDE MASONRY REPAIR SERVICES TO PLUMSTED TOWNSHIP

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-232 - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH FRESH CLEANING SERVICES, LLC TO PROVIDE CLEANING SERVICES FOR PLUMSTED TOWNSHIP

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-233 - APPOINTING MARCEL RENSON AS ALTERNATE ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR IN THE ABSENCE OF RALPH ROSAMILIA

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-234 – AMENDING RESOLUTION 2021-16 AUTHORIZING THE LIST OF AUTHORIZED SIGNATURES FOR PLUMSTED TOWNSHIP CHECKS

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-235 – AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 2021-70 DESIGNATING CUSTODIANS OF CHANGE

FUNDS FOR VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-236 – AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND TOWNSHIP CLERK TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT FOR THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUNDING APPLICATION

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-237 – AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP TO FILE OCEAN COUNTY CARES GRANT EXPENSES ON BEHALF OF THE PLUMSTED TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT #1

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-238 - ADOPTING COVID-19 PROTOCOLS FOR INDOOR MASK USAGE IN INDOOR SPACES ON TOWNSHIP PROPERTY

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-239 – APPOINTING A MEMBER TO THE LAND USE BOARD OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMSTED

There was discussion among the committee regarding resolution 2021-238 and COVID Protocols. Bowen had a concern about the resolution indicating masks but not social distancing for those that are unvaccinated. He stated that the executive order was not consistent in those guidelines. Bowen recommended we add wording that indicates social distancing or CDC recommendations. Grilletto responded that the resolution should read “should” continue to wear masks, as opposed to “must” wear masks. Grilletto said that what is going on here and now is that they want people to go door to door and ask if you are vaccinated. Grilletto wants to avoid this being like the Gestapo. Bowen said perhaps it could be revised to “current CDC recommendations”. Sorchik agreed as it does frequently change. Grilletto again said that it should state “should”, not “must”. Witham stated the resolution indicated “should”.

ON MOTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR SORCHIK, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN BOWEN, RESOLUTIONS 2021-216 THROUGH 2021-238 ON PAGES ONE AND TWO OF THE AGENDA, WITH RESOLUTION 2021-238 AMENDED AND EXCLUDING 2021-239 AS IT WAS PULLED FROM THE AGENDA, WERE APPROVED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

Clerk Witham reviewed the two raffles licenses that are on the agenda. All of the paperwork is in order.

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN BOWEN, SECONDED BY DEPUTY MAYOR SORCHIK, Raffles License No. 2021-11 On-Premise 50/50; 7/8-7/11/21 for New Egypt Girls Softball; Raffles License No. 2021-12 On-Premise 50/50; 10/1-10/31/21 for New Egypt Girls Softball WERE APPROVED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

REPORTS OF DEPARTMENTS AND PROFESSIONALS:

Mayor Marinari asked if there were any comments on the Bill List of July 7, 2021.

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN BOWEN, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN GRILLETTO, THE BILL LIST OF JULY 7, 2021 WAS APPROVED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES WITH DEPUTY MAYOR SORCHIK ABSTAINING.

REPORTS SUBMITTED FOR COMMITTEE REVIEW: TOWNSHIP ENGINEER REPORT –July 7, 2021; CONSTRUCTION REPORT – May 2021; TAX COLLECTOR REPORT – May 2021; FINANCIAL REPORTS –Revenue Summary by Month May 2021; Abbreviated Summary Budget Account Status May 2021; Treasurer’s Report May 2021; POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT – April & May 2021; COURT REPORTS – May 2021; PLUMSTED BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS DISTRICT #1 MEETING MINUTES – 5/3/21; PLUMSTED TOWNSHIP MUA MINUTES – 3/16/21, 4/20/21, 5/18/21.

Grilletto had questions on foot patrol on the police stats. Chief said that foot patrol was increased in the recreation field area.

Mayor Marinari asked for old business. Deputy Mayor Sorchik stated we would be sending Resolution No. 2021-237 to Ocean County and HFA (the accountant) for the CARES Act reimbursement. This is so we can file on behalf of the fire department. Marinari asked for new business from the committee; there was none.

Mayor Marinari asked for any public comment. No comments received to the clerk prior the meeting either.

Resident William Fox of Archertown Road came forward. Wanted to say it was great we were meeting in public again. The only thing he wanted to ask is if it was possible since there was so much on the agenda and we go thru them so quickly, you don’t really know much more from the agenda than that it is voted upon. Is it possible that everything on the agenda could be shown in more detail so people could understand what is going on? It would be an understanding of what is going on for the public.

CDC Leutwyler said that someone was asking a question on Zoom who didn't have a microphone. Tom Calabrese of Brynmore Road asked about Resolution 2021-239 being voted upon on the consent agenda. Sorchik and Witham stated it was pulled from the agenda.

Plumsted Township Committee Statement from Reverend Phyllis Zoon - July 7, 2021

"I am Rev. Phyllis Zoon, and I have served as pastor of the Plumsted Presbyterian Church for more than 10 years. For 25 years I've been an ordained Minister of the Word and Sacrament in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), and I'd like to note that I prefer the title Reverend to Pastor, having achieved it (as the old Smith Barney ad put it) in the old fashioned way—I earned it, with a Master of Divinity from an accredited seminary (Drew) and jumping through all the hoops of the Presbyterian ordination process.

I live in Sabbath House, at 8 Front St., the historic manse located on the grounds of the Plumsted Presbyterian Church. Since arriving here in April 2020 to shelter in place during the pandemic, then officially becoming a resident, I have found much to love about this town: watching the gardens come to life in the spring; being stopped dead in my tracks after looking up to see the moon and the stars so close—or so it seemed; shopping at the New Egypt Marketplace; and so much more.

It's also been a joy to experience the blossoming ministry at Sabbath House which grew unexpectedly during the pandemic after two outdoor events in June 2020 (the Rally in Support of Black Lives Matter and a Pride event) led to weekly gatherings we called "Serpents & Doves" around the fire pit and later the formation of a new group, Plumsted for Progress. When Sabbath House received funding to support my continued hunger ministry, we proposed a revitalization of the Plumsted Community Garden. This led to the current partnership between the Environmental Committee of Plumsted Township, the Girl Scouts, Plumsted for Progress, volunteers, and Sabbath House/ Plumsted Presbyterian Church. I'm also happy to say that a second Girl Scout troop is building a "Little Free Library" for the garden and donating a "bug hotel" for pollinators to stay; the Arts Commission is helping us with redoing the Sabbath House sign as well as creating a new sign for the Community Garden; and we will look for opportunities to partner with the Council for music and art in the garden (or church).

I moved to New Egypt from Newark. I lived in a large condominium development that was a little slice of suburbia and part of the urban renewal that followed the uprising of 1967. It was located close enough to "the hood" that a Black Baptist minister friend (who got his Masters from New York Theological Seminary while incarcerated at Sing Sing Prison) thought was not safe for me to live there. However, in twenty-two years I never had a reason to call the police or file a police report. So it seems ironic that in June, after 15 months of living in New Egypt, I had to file three police reports. One was for two instances of vandalism involving Pride flags placed in the garden and two were to report multiple harassing phone calls from another pastor (who is running for this committee). After the second call, I was afraid and literally shaking, very much aware of living alone in an old house with multiple entrances. And, by the way, if anyone has questions about this, I'm more than happy to go into depths regarding my statements.

I'm going to end by saying that the Plumsted Community Garden and the community around it continues to blossom and grow. Plumsted for Progress had a beautiful Pride event (it's second) on Saturday, June 26. Last night our community harvested Cubanellies, jalapenos, chard, kale, lettuce, and 12 pounds of zucchini—20 pounds total—and delivered them today to the Loaves and Fishes and Good Samaritan Food Pantries. After harvesting last night, we just sat in this "space for grace" and enjoyed the community part of our garden in the cool of the evening."


Marinari asked for any other public comment; there was none. ON MOTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR SORCHIK, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN BOWEN, THE COMMITTEE RETURNED TO THE EXECUTIVE SESSION. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

No official action will be taken after the second Executive Session. The committee returned.

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN BOWEN, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN GRILLETTO, THE JULY 7, 2021 MEETING WAS ADJOURNED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

Mayor Marinari invited everyone to the high school field on July 10th for the fireworks.

Respectfully Submitted,


Jennifer Witham, RMC, CMR
Municipal Clerk