

February 2, 2023
121 Evergreen Rd
New Egypt, NJ 08533

The Plumsted Township Committee meeting of February 2, 2023 was called to order by Mayor Bowen.

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.

MEETING RECORDING: The recorder was not working; the clerk took detailed notes of the meeting.

THOSE OFFICIALS PRESENT:

COMMITTEEMAN GRILLETTO DEPUTY MAYOR MARINARI MAYOR BOWEN
ATTORNEY CIPRIANI CLERK WITHAM

Committeeman Cuzzo advised the mayor he would be arriving late.

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN GRILLETTO, SECONDED BY DEPUTY MAYOR MARINARI, RESOLUTION NO. 2023-113(a) 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. A second roll call vote was taken. Committeeman Cuzzo had arrived by 6:20 pm in the Executive Session. Mayor Bowen asked everyone to rise for the flag salute followed by the invocation led by Reverend Phyllis Zoon of the Plumsted Presbyterian Church.

Mayor Bowen announced that the Fire District was here to present information regarding the upcoming fire election. Aaron Heller, retired firefighter, fire commissioner and chief was here to present. Heller began by saying his mother owns the NE Flea Market and he has been involved in the district for a long time. He wanted to talk about the referendum on February 18th. He explained that in the past, the Fire Election was always in February and then it was moved to the General Election in November some years ago. There are 5 elected commissioners.

Currently, there are 3 ambulances. Prior to 2009, the township ran the volunteer EMS. Mayor Dancer asked the Fire District to take it over at that time. He went on to say that the average response time for EMS is six minutes. The state average is 15 minutes.

He is asking the voters to approve the tax expenditure to keep EMS under the Fire District. In order to do that, taxes would go up \$121 per year for the average household. If the referendum is voted down, taxes will be going up the 2% of \$30 per year.

Heller knows the township has been working with the Fire District on solutions for keeping EMS. He said that if the township had to go to a private contractor, they would be looking at over half a million to do that.

Heller further explained that they do not balance bill residents for ambulance services. So if the bill is \$900 and insurance only pays \$300, the remaining amount is not billed to the resident. If it does go to a private company, residents will get a bill for the balance.

Committeeman Cuzzo summarized the situation: EMS is running at a deficit and taxes are increasing. Heller said that some referendums have passed and some have failed. Heller was asked what they are doing to reach the community. Coming here was a start, they are sending mailers to each household, using social media, making phone calls – more like a grass roots effort.

Cuzzo said that the first half hour is the most critical for treatment so it's important to have a quick response time. Committeeman Grilletto asked if they plan to instill a volunteer group. Heller said that it is difficult. Their level of training has gone up greatly. For fire, it is 17 weeks at 40 hours per week. EMS volunteers began training in September and won't be done until March. There are about 200-300 hours for fire and more for EMTs.

Deputy Mayor Marinari spoke about all officers, fire and first responders. He knows them and would want a familiar face responding to him with a quick turnaround. They have his vote. Grilletto said that EMS is very important to his family; he needed them twice in one year.

Mayor Bowen said that the 250k is in addition to what the township is doing. This is part of other means with grants, working with the county, state and other towns. This tax increase is not the only means for covering EMS. We have been working for 1 ½ years on this so please don't vote this down. COVID devastated EMS nationwide. Bowen said that they've talked about how they can show their appreciation to volunteers. Maybe send residents to the academy for training and pay for it. Grilletto said there are outside sources for EMS prices are right on target or even low estimates.

The mayor then called Ron and Judy Witt to accept Certificates of Appreciation for all of their volunteer efforts: Judy has been active with the TNR group since its creation and has also managed any emergency animal sheltering planning/exercises for the OEM. Ron served on the zoning board (when there still was a board in Plumsted) for about 10 years, and was Deputy OEM Coordinator since the inception of a township OEM about 15-20 years. Linda Salcfas also came up and said that they have been wonderful to work with and appreciate them. Both Ron and Judy have been CERT members since the launch of that program as well. And they both also volunteered with the Ocean County Sheriff's animal response team.

The mayor reviewed the agenda. There is a letter of resignation from Committeeman Calabrese. He thanked him for his service to the community, especially for the recreation program. Bowen explained there would be a special township committee meeting on February 9th to appoint a new committeeman.

Bowen talked about the Memorial Day parade on May 29th, the Fireworks event on July 8th. Marinari then said that Animals and Gardens Unlimited, the Marketplace and Big Woods are sponsoring the wonderful fireworks this year. The rain date is July 9th.

Bowen mentioned the homeless couple that has been in town and said the police are working with them and shelters; it's a complicated situation. He said that the police are actively involved in the person on Ivins that people have been hearing about. Animal control is working with the owner of Tyson for him to be safe and secure. And the three pigs have been rehomed to a safer

location. Bowen commented on the township Facebook page and said that it is not monitored by him and any issues should be brought to the township's attention in person or with a phone call.

Grilletto reminded everyone that the deadline to apply for the ANCHOR program (tax rebate) is February 28th. He also said that on February 3rd, at 225 Church St in Toms River, coats will be distributed to veterans in need. Grilletto continued that the SOS grant has been applied for and we should be getting \$10,000. Finally, the American Legion is having their breakfast this weekend, \$12 a meal.

Cuozzo reviewed the last MUA meeting and said that they are trying to hash things out with the system. There are still questions but overall the report is good. There are some questions to address and he recommends telling any friends that still have to connect to the sewer to do so to avoid any \$100/day fines.

Grilletto and Cuozzo met at the Lennar clubhouse to hear their concerns. Our finance department is working very hard and Lennar was complimentary about Sharon and Tara. They were specifically named and are keeping their constituents happy. Marinari thanked Grilletto for his part in helping those in the armed services. Marinari said that he is happy to hear finance being commended; all of the employees here are community minded, have a smile on their face and do a great job.

Cuozzo said that Ted Tobiassen works late hours and came out at the end of the MUA meeting and answered questions for residents.

Grilletto then presented the 2022 Annual Debt Statement. Bowen read correspondence: accepting Committeeman Calabrese's letter of resignation with regrets. Marinari personally corresponded with Calabrese and would not ask him to reconsider. He said that perhaps in the future, he can consider running again. Right now his family comes first. Marinari said he has the potential to be one of the best committeemen we have ever had.

Cuozzo said that he was a fantastic committeeman, ran with him for office, he liked his emphasis on recreation. He was young person having those elements and character. He liked that he was young and understood tech; now that falls on him.

Grilletto said that he is gracious, has a lovely family and it was a pleasure working with him.

The committee accepted the letter with regrets. Motion by Deputy Mayor Marinari, seconded by Committeeman Grilletto; All Ayes.

RESOLUTIONS ON THE NON-CONSENT AGENDA:

ON MOTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR MARINARI, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN GRILLETTO, RESOLUTION NO. 2023-130 - AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 2023-68 ADOPTING A TEMPORARY BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 2023 WAS PASSED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

Cuozzo stated that the next item will be revisited later in the future but he will vote yes now.

ON MOTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR MARINARI, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN GRILLETTO, RESOLUTION NO. 2023-73 - APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE PLUMSTED TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM (C.E.R.T) WAS PASSED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES

There was discussion about the need for the following resolution if our own representatives haven't endorsed it. Bowen said that he contacted Assemblyman Sauickie's office who hadn't weighed in on it yet but had no issue with it. There was discussion about what the bill was.

ON MOTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR MARINARI, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN GRILLETTO, RESOLUTION NO. 2023-137 - SUPPORTING ASSEMBLY BILL NO. A3535 (Sponsored by Assemblywoman Lopez, District 19 and Assemblyman Mukherji, District 33) WAS PASSED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

ON MOTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR MARINARI, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN GRILLETTO, RESOLUTION NO. 2023-114 - APPOINTING ALEX TKACENKO AS EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMSTED (JANUARY 1, 2023 TO DECEMBER 31, 2025) WAS PASSED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

Cuozzo thanked Alex for the work he has put in. Marinari said that he works well with our former OEM Coordinators. Tkacenko came forward for a Certificate of Appointment presented by the mayor. Witham administered the Oath of Office to him as well.

Bowen read the Proclamation for Children of Addictions Week which is February 12-18, 2023. Coordinator Ann Funck and Chair Linda Leutwyler came forward to accept the proclamation. They both then presented on what the Municipal Drug and Alcohol Alliance does in the community. Funck read their mission statement. She spoke about Heroes and Cool Kids which is the peer leader program in the high school. The students are trained by former football players and then work with middle school kids. She spoke about another grant they receive which is over a three-year period. They are focusing on the following programs: DART Coalition in conjunction with RWJ, alcohol awareness, tobacco prevention, suicide prevention and mental health/suicide awareness to name a few.

Funck took a moment to say that despite everything going on, the kids are so respectful, thoughtful and she is proud of them. It gives her hope for the future. There are a lot of good things in our district. Partnering with the school district and working on the strengths of our school and promoting resilience. They participate in any community events we have and have partners at the county and state level.

Marinari said it is an honor to be the liaison for this group. They are dedicating themselves to treat these issues. He thanked them for all they do. There are new synthetic drugs out there and it is becoming a real challenge. There is a drug a lot more powerful than Fentanyl causing addiction much faster, withdrawal faster; triple or quadruple the effect. Cuozzo thanked them for the work they are doing.

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL:

Bowen asked for any comments on the minutes, there were none.

ON MOTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR MARINARI, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN GRILLETTO, THE MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE/WORKSHOP/REGULAR SESSION OF THE 9/1/22 MEETING WERE PASSED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

ORDINANCES: Introduction

Bowen said there were three ordinances to introduce tonight, the second reading will be March 2nd.

ON MOTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR MARINARI, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN GRILLETTO, ORDINANCE 2023-01 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMSTED, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AN ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2023 (N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14) WAS INTRODUCED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

Grilletto spoke about this ordinance and inside and outside CAP items. There was no other discussion.

ON MOTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR MARINARI, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN GRILLETTO, ORDINANCE 2023-02 - 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, NEW JERSEY REGULATING THE MANNER OF PAYMENT OF SAME" WAS INTRODUCED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

Cuozzo stated that these two ordinances are to have a Floodplain Administrator which is a requirement by the state. Bowen said that in order to add one, we have to add the position to the ordinance.

ON MOTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR MARINARI, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN GRILLETTO, ORDINANCE 2023-03 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMSTED, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AMENDING CHAPTER 19-6.3 OF THE GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMSTED, ENTITLED "DUTIES AND POWERS OF THE FLOODPLAIN ADMINISTRATOR" WAS INTRODUCED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

RESOLUTION ON THE 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. 2023-115 - AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP CLERK TO ADVERTISE FOR THE RECEIPT OF PROPOSALS FOR CERTAIN PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR 2023

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-116 – AWARDING A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT TO THE FIRM OF ROTHSTEIN, MANDELL, STROHM, HALM & CIPRIANI TO REPRESENT THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMSTED IN LABOR RELATIONS MATTERS

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-117 – AWARDING A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT TO THE FIRM OF GERTNER MURPHY, LLC AS PUBLIC DEFENDER FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMSTED

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-118 – AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF SEWER LOANS

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-119 – AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF CHECKS FOR THE REDEMPTION OF TAX SALE CERTIFICATES

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-120 – TO CANCEL 1ST & 2ND QUARTER PROPERTY TAXES FOR 2023 DUE TO EXEMPT STATUS

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-121 – AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SUBMIT THE LOCAL RECREATION IMPROVEMENT GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE YEAR 2023

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-122 – AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE LAND USE BOARD RECOMMENDATION TO GRANT A 2023 SOIL REMOVAL EXCAVATION AND MINING LICENSE TO EXCAVATING MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT, INC.

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-123 – AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A LEAVE AND SEPARATION AGREEMENT FOR RANDY PRIEST

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-124 – AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 2023-69 APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE PLUMSTED TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL ALCOHOL AND DRUG ALLIANCE

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-125 – CANCELLING 2022 and 2023 AND REFUNDING PROPERTY TAXES DUE TO TOTALLY DISABLED VETERAN STATUS EFFECTIVE 12/02/2022 FOR CORY M. MULLER (BLOCK 38, LOT 18)

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-126 – AUTHORIZING THE REFUND OF VETERANS DEDUCTION OF TAXES

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-127 – AUTHORIZING A REPAIR ON WOODS ROAD BY CREST CONSTRUCTION

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-128 – AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMSTED AND CELEBRATION FIREWORKS INC.

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-129 – AUTHORIZING THE RENEWAL OF THE AGREEMENT WITH ON-SITE LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT TO PROVIDE GROUNDS SERVICE TO PUBLIC LANDS WITHIN THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMSTED FOR THE YEAR 2023

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-131 – AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 2023-31 APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMSTED

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-132 – AUTHORIZING A SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMSTED AND THE COUNTY OF OCEAN FOR THE FY2023 PROSECUTOR'S PROGRAM

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-133 – AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF THE FY2024 MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE AGREEMENT AGAINST ALCOHOLISM AND DRUG ABUSE GRANT

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-134 – AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF CHANGE ORDER #2 TO THE CONTRACT WITH EARLE ASPHALT COMPANY FOR THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FY2020 MUNICIPAL AID PROGRAM FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO HOPKINS ROAD PROJECT

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-135 – AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF CHANGE ORDER #2 TO THE CONTRACT WITH EARLE ASPHALT COMPANY FOR THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FY2020 MUNICIPAL AID PROGRAM FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO TOWER ROAD PROJECT

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-136 – AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 2023-75 APPROVING THE 2023 ROTATING LIST OF TOWERS AND STORAGE AS SUBMITTED BY THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-138 -AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AN APPLICATION FOR A BLUE LIGHT PERMIT

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-139 - AUTHORIZING THE RELEASE OF THE PERFORMANCE GUARANTEE FOR THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FY2020 MUNICIPAL AID PROGRAM FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO HOPKINS ROAD PROJECT AND THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FY2020 MUNICIPAL AID PROGRAM FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO TOWER ROAD PROJECT UPON THE POSTING OF A TWO-YEAR MAINTENANCE GUARANTEE

Bowen asked if there were any questions on the consent agenda. Cuozzo wanted to thank Animals and Gardens Unlimited, the Marketplace and Big Woods for putting on the fireworks display again this year. Cuozzo asked what resolution 23-139 meant. Witham explained the work was complete on the DOT project from 2020. Tower Road and a portion of Hopkins Road were paved last year and the engineer signed off on the work so the Performance Guarantee could be released.

ON MOTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR MARINARI, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN GRILLETTO, RESOLUTIONS NO. 2023-115 THROUGH RESOLUTION NO. 2023-139 WERE APPROVED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

MOTION TO CONSIDER: Witham reviewed the bingo and raffles licenses that were submitted. All of the paperwork was in order and sent to the state for the following:

Bingo License No. 2022-27: Basket Bingo on 2/18/23 for New Egypt Recreation Baseball
Raffles License No. 2023-01: Premise 50/50 on 2/18/23 for New Egypt Recreation Baseball
Raffles License No. 2023-02: Tricky Tray on 2/18/23 for New Egypt Recreation Baseball
Raffles License No. 2023-03: Tricky Tray on 6/10/23 for Marty's Place Senior Dog Sanctuary
Raffles License No. 2023-04: On Premise 50/50 on 6/10/23 for Marty's Place Senior Dog Sanctuary
Bingo License No. 2023-05: on 6/10/23 for Marty's Place Senior Dog Sanctuary
Raffles License No. 2023-08 Merchandise Raffle; 4/1/23 for New Egypt BPO Elks #2457

REPORTS OF DEPARTMENTS AND PROFESSIONALS –

Bowen asked for any comments on the bill list. He was looking for clarification on what was being voted upon. Witham said it was the February 2nd bill list and then there was an amendment to that. It was unclear what was amended on the December 28th bill list so that was pulled from the agenda for further clarification.

ON MOTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR MARINARI, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN GRILLETTO, THE BILL LIST OF FEBRUARY 2, 2023 WAS APPROVED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

ON MOTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR MARINARI, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN GRILLETTO, THE AMENDED BILL LIST OF FEBRUARY 2, 2023 WAS APPROVED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

REPORTS SUBMITTED FOR COMMITTEE REVIEW: Bowen asked for any comments on the following reports.

CONSTRUCTION REPORT – Plumsted & New Hanover December 2022; TAX COLLECTOR REPORT – none; FINANCIAL REPORTS –Revenue Summary by Month November & December 2022; Abbreviated Summary Budget Account Status November & December 2022; Treasurer's Report November & December 2022; POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT – November 2022, December 2022 and End-of-Year Report 2022; PLUMSTED BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS DISTRICT #1 MEETING MINUTES – 11/7/22, 12/5/22, 12/31/22; PLUMSTED TOWNSHIP MUA MINUTES – none

Grilletto and Cuozzo were asking about the police stats. Chief Meroney came forward and looked at the reports. Witham explained the corrected November 2022 report was there, December 2022 and the end-of-year report. They were asking about threats, shots fired and thefts. Meroney explained the same but needed to see the CAD reports to determine exactly where they took place.

Grilletto then asked about the virtual shooting range. Meroney said that he has one quote and is awaiting a second. Grilletto then asked if the officers were familiar with the AR15. Sgt Schaal said that five officers are trained and all officers are shotgun certified.

Cuozzo discussed the high overtime for the police. Chief explained that in the past year, he lost 7 senior officers, had 7 new and then lost a three of them. When an officer is in field training, they have to work with a Field Training Officer and not work alone. So that combined with the new contract and higher pay has contributed to the overtime.

Bowen asked for any old business. Cuozzo discussed the PILOT program and his promise to those at Lennar. He knows that the PILOT program doesn't allow for tax rebates such as the Homestead Rebate. He has asked Sharon if there is any money from the township to honor those since they are not eligible with the state. Cuozzo said that Gower will speak with Matt Jessup and doesn't know if it is possible but it would be more work for the finance office.

Grilletto said that he would like to consult their financial adviser and bond counsel. He would prefer to talk to our consultants before putting this out there. Cuozzo asked Cipriani, our special counsel here tonight. Cipriani said that any program that is put in place, tax laws are limited in terms of rebates. If not authorized by tax laws, then a separate voluntary program would be something to talk to bond counsel about. Cuozzo then complimented Cyndi MacReynolds and thanked her for her hard work.

Mayor Bowen asked for public comment.

Craig Martin of the Lennar development came forward. He said that Cuozzo and Grilletto requested Lennar residents come to vent their problems. He thinks it is unethical, they are baiting them to buy houses with the tax abatement sign. There's a \$5000 credit if you use one of Lennar's banks. No banks know what to do with making payments to the township. His wife spent four days with Tara Oliver as their bank refuses to work with them. They are risking a class action lawsuit. 150 out of 250 homes, about 60 people are having issues.

Grilletto asked if their attorney assists residents. He said yes but the paperwork says tax, not PILOT. Martin said there are class action lawsuits all over the country. They need to be transparent with loans. He purchased the home in March of 2022. Lennar isn't making the new loan company aware of where to pay it.

Lisa Wilner of 9 Emerald came forward. She spoke about issues with her mortgage and how it took 8 months to resolve. This is one small example. It's a gated community. They are not doing business ethically. It's the third Lennar home with floors coming up due to water issues. She said they are depending on the township to hold Lennar accountable. She spoke about how Tara provided paperwork to her. She said the sales team was in shock at the distance between houses behind them. The township has to be careful; they won't sell all of their homes and there will be 30 houses for sale. She wants the township to hold them accountable.

Karen Lamphere of 6 Hyacinth Ct asked if there were early voting opportunities for the fire election; there are not, voting has to be done on election day.

Denise Abdul-Malak of 12 Saratoga came forward. She said that she didn't know about the PILOT program; it was never designed to be punitive but mutually beneficial. She provided numbers about the savings with the PILOT vs being able to take advantage of the Senior Freeze or Homestead rebates. She felt it would be a loss of \$22,500 in years 6 through 20. She will save \$20,000 in taxes the first five years. If she were to stay in the home the whole time, she would be a minimum of \$18,000 in the hole.

John Lombardo of 6 Gulfstream Rd thanked Committeeman Cuozzo and Committeeman Grilletto on a successful meeting. In year six, there will be a big problem for most as they are on fixed incomes. Taxes will double that year. Their sewer bill is higher, they have HOA fees for the gym, pool and amenities. What's discouraging is the allocation of the money; 95% township and 55% county. There is a tremendous benefit to the township. How is the township spending 95% of their money? He wants the township to strongly consider not spending too much. He loves the community and the people but there is tension between Lennar and them. It's a deceptive approach to not know the money went to sewers.

Lombardo continued. There are a lot of people that are going to sell. They aren't benefitting from the plant. There are no benefits, they can't write off taxes, there are no rebates or tax freezes; it's going to be a major financial problem. The township should look into years 6 through 30. They don't need a ballfield or parking lot. They have their amenities. They don't want that so the township shouldn't spend money on that. Please listen and consider.

Ron Jackson of 172 Churchill came forward. He said that he feels for his fellow residents; he did receive a thumb drive with a lot of documents with the history of the entire program. He was aware of the PILOT program and knows it was mentioned. He had the time to read everything. He moved from Manchester because of the benefits. He lived in Allentown Borough prior to

living in Manchester. He feels sorry for those outside of Venue. He is happy to have the sewer plant. A majority of the benefit goes to the sewer plant as someone has to pay for it. The information is out there and he accepts this. Turning 65, he gets a pension exclusion. The reason for coming tonight was in the event of snow, Manchester reimburses HOA for snow plowing. Will the HOA be reimbursed?

Cuozzo says we will have to reimburse; Bowen said that it is a private road.

Resident Chris Neuert of Evergreen Rd said that one of the biggest aspects was to building a walking path. Bowen noted that Lennar will donate \$100,000 for sidewalks or a walking path.

Dominic Griffo of 18 Emerald discussed the PILOT. He recommended to keep it simple, we don't need more complexity for everyone. We've already heard from people draining town resources to figure things out. He is looking for the proper explanation, not a thumb drive. For the benefit of the town, all volunteers in terms of financial benefit want the PILOT to extend to years 6-30. Please hold Lennar accountable. Everyone is going to benefit or suffer from it.

Bowen asked for clarification on his suggestion, 55% reduction in years 6-30? Griffo confirmed.

Stacy Reed of 791 Monmouth Rd came forward. Today, the recall petition notice was submitted to the township. Attach the entire statement.

Barbara Dbilin of 12 Terrace Ave spoke. She totally disagrees with what was read. All of the committeeman are doing an excellent job. Each one is digging in as they all do. Pastor Cuozzo, Committeeman Cuozzo, the Lennar people are indebted to the township, especially Cuozzo. Committeeman Grilletto was there too. The best thing to do is pray to God, praying on this issue.

John Belasco, (said aka names, Golias Blasphemer, etc), in light of the letter that was blown over, he wanted to extend a thank you and sense of gratitude and read the email in its entirety.

John O'Callaghan of 53 Oak Lane said that in honor of Groundhog Day, 10 years ago today, he met someone who wants to do better and make him better. He's willing to take this leap. Kate Tallon, will you spend more time and your life with me? Tallon accepted.

Kate Tallon, 53 Oak Lane said that something happened at her home. Every morning, her husband goes jogging. Her son is on the spectrum and at 7 am, he wanted to go jogging with daddy. Her husband left half an hour earlier so she told Logan he couldn't go but he still took off and she didn't know where he was. She said that Officer Johnston was so kind. He brought her back to reality. She thanked him for helping a mom. She thinks highly of the police and fire. Tallon said that she ran down the street and she saw Logan turn around and start running toward her because he didn't have his jacket and he was cold; thankfully he didn't make it to Brindletown Road.

There was no other public comment.

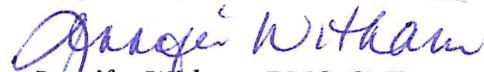
Marinari thanked the folks from Lennar for their intelligent presentation today. He hopes that this can get resolved.

Cuozzo said that if someone spoke about a referendum against him, if this happened to anyone else, he would have spoken up.

It was decided to go into a second executive session to discuss Personnel, Contractual pertaining to Lennar and Attorney-Client Privilege matters. ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN CUOZZO, SECONDED BY DEPUTY MAYOR MARINARI, RESOLUTION NO. 2023-140 AUTHORIZING THE CONVENING OF AN EXECUTIVE SESSION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT WAS ADOPTED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

ON MOTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR MARINARI, SECONDED BY MAYOR BOWEN, THE FEBRUARY 2, 2023 MEETING WAS ADJOURNED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

Respectfully Submitted,



Jennifer Witham, RMC, CMR
Municipal Clerk

Statement of the Recall Committee

This committee was founded for the sole purpose of rectifying the negligent behaviors of Committeeman Cuozzo impacting Plumsted Township. Pastor Dominick is unable to facilitate the needs of ALL residents regardless of age, gender, sexual orientation, religion & political affiliation.

Reasons for supporting this recall petition are not limited to:

- Documented criminal behavior, including pending lawsuits.
- Thousands spent on personal grudges and rectifying *Open Public Meetings Act* violations.
- Threats to residents that offer different beliefs during public comment.
- Yet to fulfill campaign promises. Unsuccessfully attempted to leave for a vacant NJ State Assembly seat.
- Personal and religious beliefs prioritized over the needs of the community.
- Conflicts of interest between his role in Township Council, the Republican County Committee, the Board of Education.
- Attempting to add staff (\$150,000 annually) based on how he believed current staff portrayed him, though the committee ruled meeting minutes were factual.
- Implemented prayer at meetings, which personally benefits the Church where he is a pastor.
- Interfering with elections.
- Disrupting subcommittee meetings by asking members to speak out against committee actions on matters those boards are not responsible for.
- Unnecessary and embarrassing public reprimands of the Police, Environmental Committee, MUA, Mayor, and Administration.