

FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
REGULAR ACTION MEETING
APRIL 18, 2018

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Byrd called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

Mayor Byrd read the OPMA Statement into the record as follows:

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT STATEMENT

This meeting of the Fairfield Township Committee shall come to order. The New Jersey Open Public Meeting Law was enacted to insure the right of the public to have advanced notice of and to attend the meeting of the public bodies at which any business affecting their interests are discussed or acted upon. This meeting held on this 18th day of April 2018 at the Fairfield Municipal Building in Fairton New Jersey is held pursuant to notice of date, time and place of same having been submitted to The South Jersey Times, The Daily Journal, and The Press of Atlantic City on January 11, 2018 and also duly posted on the bulletin board in the lobby of the Township Hall.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG / MOMENT OF PRAYER

Mayor Byrd led the flag salute followed by a moment of prayer given by Committeeman Clark.

ROLL CALL

The following roll call was recorded as follows:

Committeeman Clark, present; Committeeman Gonzalez, present; Committeeman Manson, present; Deputy Mayor Pierce, present and Mayor Byrd, present.

ALSO PRESENT

Acting Township Administrator Burden, Township Solicitor Carr and Township Clerk Gonzales.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

WORK SESSION ACTION MEETING APRIL 4, 2018

CLOSED SESSION MEETING APRIL 4, 2018

Mayor Byrd asked the Township Committee if they had any questions regarding the Work Session Action and Closed Session Minutes of April 4, 2018. There were none. Mayor Byrd entertained a motion to approve those minutes.

Deputy Mayor Pierce moved to approve the minutes as written seconded by Committeeman Gonzalez.
Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Gonzalez, yes; Manson, abstain; Pierce, yes and Mayor Byrd, yes.

REVIEW OF BILL LIST PROVIDED BY CFO

Mayor Byrd asked the Township Committee if they had any questions on the bill list provided by the Chief Financial Officer. Committeemen Clark, Manson and Mayor Byrd entered their conflict on the payable for South State, Inc. Solicitor Carr

At this time, Mayor Byrd announced that Mr. Dwight S. Saunders was present tonight to give a presentation on the Vacant and Abandoned Properties.

Dwight S. Saunders, Borgers, Saunders, Taylor & Associates, LLC, Glen Ridge, New Jersey thanked the Township Committee for having him tonight. Mr. Saunders explained in detail what his represents.

The firm, Borgers, Saunders, Taylor & Associates, LLC, assists municipalities on reducing and alleviating the number of vacant and abandoned properties. His firm investigates in locating out of states and LLC's responsible for Vacant and Abandoned Properties and return properties to the tax rolls. The firm gets paid when Vacant Abandoned Properties revenues comes in and not before. Their expertise will expedite the VAP Program implementation time significantly.

Mr. Saunders advised that their firm's portion would be 30% and the Township would get 70% of the revenue. Their firm will train our Code Enforcement Office and other staff via classroom training and also offer field training. This training is estimated that it would take three months and therefore in a few years our staff will be able to administer the program without their services.

Mayor Byrd and the Township Committee thanked Mr. Saunders for coming out tonight and for his presentation.

Mayor Byrd asked the Township Committee if they had any questions for Mr. Saunders.

Committeeman Gonzalez inquired if their firm was working anywhere locally near here. Mr. Saunders advised that started two (2) weeks ago in the City of Bridgeton. They are also presently in Burlington County, Elizabeth and East Orange.

There being no further questions, Mayor Byrd and the Township Committee thanked Mr. Saunders for coming out tonight.

Mayor Byrd read the following into the record as follows:

ORDINANCE FOR INTRODUCTION (FIRST READING)

None

ORDINANCES FOR PUBLIC HEARING (SECOND READING) - (ONE)

ORDINANCE NO. 1 - 2018

ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2018 (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14)
Committeeman Gonzalez moved to open the public hearing seconded by Committeeman Manson. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Gonzalez, yes; Manson, yes; Pierce, yes and Mayor Byrd, yes.

Nancy Ridgeway, 582 Irving Avenue, advised that the public hearing on the Cap Ordinance was published as April 11, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

There being no further comments to be received, Mayor Byrd entertained a motion to close the public hearing.

Deputy Mayor Pierce moved to close the public hearing seconded by Committeeman Manson. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Gonzalez, yes; Manson, yes; Pierce, yes and Mayor Byrd, yes.

Mayor Byrd announced that Ordinance No. 1 - 2018 would be re-advertised for a public hearing on May 2, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Byrd read the Public Comment on Current Agenda Items & Non Agenda Items as follows:

PUBLIC COMMENT ON CURRENT AGENDA ITEMS & NON AGENDA ITEMS

In order for the Committee to conduct the business of the Township in the most productive manner possible, meeting attendees will be given five (5) minutes, all-inclusive to comment on any agenda item(s) without comment or question from the Committee and any non-agenda items including all dialogue, questions and responses from both the speaker and the Committee for the designated public portion of the meeting. There may be no transference of a speaker's time to other attendees. Please step up to the microphone at the appropriate time, and state your name and address for the record.

Mayor Byrd entertained a motion open the Public Comment on Current Agenda Items and Non Agenda Items.

Deputy Mayor Pierce moved to open seconded by Committeeman Clark. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Gonzalez, yes; Manson, yes; Pierce, yes and Mayor Byrd, yes.

Ed Kimley, Seabreez Road indicated that he had read an article in the newspaper regarding the escalating fees on the Vacant and Abandoned Properties and it appeared that there was some lawsuits filed pertaining to this.

Township Solicitor advised that the matter is being researched and that he would provide an update report.

Cindy Zirkle, 24 Back Neck Road advised that Borgers, Saunders, Taylor & Associates, LLC is the answer of what she is looking for and that she has not heard a proposal such as good as tonight's given by Mr. Saunders.

Mrs. Zirkle advised that our website states that the Acting Township Administrator is the Township Administrator. Mrs. Zirkle indicated that she hopes that there are no printed materials indicating that the Acting Township Administrator is the Township Administrator.

Mrs. Zirkle asked if the Township Administrator position has been advertised. She was advised that the job position for advertisement was being looked at for advertising soon.

Dennis Pierce, Clarks Pond Road indicated that he had heard that Bridgeton was only getting 20%.

Charles Pierce, 43 Fairton-Millville Road stated that tonight's presentation sounded like a good program. He inquired if this program covers commercial. Mr. Pierce was advised affirmative.

Russell Pierce, 376 Fairton-Gouldtown Road inquired if a background check was done on the Acting Administration. Mr. Pierce was advised affirmative. Mr. Pierce inquired on the findings. Mayor Byrd stated that the findings would not be disclosed here.

Mr. Pierce brought up the soil erosion on Clarks Pond Road. He advised that he has brought this up a few times already and it has not been addressed.

Benjamin D'Agostino, 143 Fairton-Bridgeton Road expressed his opposition on the removal of Steve Wymbbs as the Township Administrator indicated by Resolution No. 74 - 2018. He advised that there was no need for Mr. Wymbbs removal.

Mr. D'Agostino stated that there are things that you do not want to believe but a court document disclosed to the public is not considered as non-disclosure as it is out there for the public's information. He displayed a copy of the court document. The copy was given to Mayor Byrd.

There being no further comments to be received, Mayor Byrd entertained a motion to close the Public Comment on Current Agenda Items and Non-Agenda Items.

Committeeman Clark moved and seconded by Committeeman Manson. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Gonzalez, yes; Manson, yes; Pierce, yes and Mayor Byrd, yes.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 80 - 2018

A RESOLUTION OF FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP, CUMBERLAND COUNTY AUTHORIZING THE PAYMENT OF TOWNSHIP BILLS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$289,174.29
Committeeman Gonzalez moved to adopt Resolution No. 80 - 2018 seconded by Deputy Mayor Pierce.
Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Gonzalez, yes; Manson, yes; Pierce, yes and Mayor Byrd, yes.

RESOLUTION NO. 74 - 2018 (DEFERRED FROM APRIL 4, 2018 MEETING)

THIS IS A RESOLUTION OF THE FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE RATIFYING A MOTION TERMINATING STEVEN WYMBBS FROM THE OFFICE OF THE TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATOR PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:9-138 ET SEQ.

Deputy Mayor Pierce moved to adopt Resolution No. 74 - 2018 seconded by Committeeman Manson.
Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Gonzalez, abstain; Manson, yes; Pierce, yes and Mayor Byrd, yes.

RESOLUTION NO. 81 - 2018

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FAIRFIELD, CUMBERLAND COUNTY IDENTIFYING SMALL CITIES FAIR HOUSING AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY OFFICER
Committeeman Manson moved to adopt Resolution No. 81 - 2018 seconded by Committeeman Clark.
Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Gonzalez, yes; Manson, yes; Pierce, yes and Mayor Byrd, yes.

RESOLUTION NO. 82 - 2018

A RESOLUTION OF THE FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE APPOINTING A JIF FUND COMMISSIONER AND CLAIMS COORDINATOR TO THE GLOUCESTER, SALEM CUMBERLAND COUNTIES MUNICIPAL JOINT INSURANCE FUND FOR THE BALANCE OF YEAR 2018

Deputy Mayor Pierce moved to adopt Resolution No. 82 - 2018 seconded by Committeeman Manson.
Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Gonzalez, yes; Manson, yes; Pierce, yes and Mayor Byrd, yes.

RESOLUTION NO. 83 - 2018

A RESOLUTION AWARDED A MEDICAL DIRECTOR SERVICES AGREEMENT AND APPOINTING A MEDICAL DIRECTOR FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF FAIRFIELD, CUMBERLAND COUNTY NJ

Committeeman Clark moved to adopt Resolution No. 83 - 2018 seconded by Committeeman Gonzalez.
Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Gonzalez, yes; Manson, yes; Pierce, yes and Mayor Byrd, yes.

RESOLUTION NO. 84 - 2018

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FAIRFIELD, CUMBERLAND COUNTY, AWARDING AN ENGINEERING CONTRACT FOR SEPTIC DESIGN AND RELATED ENGINEERING UNDER THE SMALL CITIES COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM BLOCK 18, LOT 18 Deputy Mayor Pierce moved to adopt Resolution No. 84 - 2018 seconded by Committeeman Manson. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Gonzalez, yes; Manson, yes; Pierce, yes and Mayor Byrd, yes.

RESOLUTION NO. 85 - 2018

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FAIRFIELD, CUMBERLAND COUNTY, AWARDING AN ENGINEERING CONTRACT FOR SEPTIC DESIGN AND RELATED ENGINEERING UNDER THE SMALL CITIES COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM FOR BLOCK 19.02, LOT 5

Committeeman Clark moved to adopt Resolution No. 85 - 2018 seconded by Deputy Mayor Pierce. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Gonzalez, yes; Manson, yes; Pierce, yes and Mayor Byrd, yes.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

COMMITTEE REPORTS / REMARKS

Committeeman Gonzalez reported that last Monday, the Acting Township Administration, Committeeman Clark and himself met with the Recreation Board. He advised that it was a very productive meeting. He emphasized on the communities support for our children and their activities.

Committeeman Clark reported that there are several other recreational activities for our children that we need for them.

Deputy Mayor Pierce thanked everyone for coming out tonight and voicing their concerns.

Committeeman Manson thanked everyone for attending tonight's meeting and bring their concerns and issues to the governing body.

MAYOR'S REPORT / REMARKS

Mayor Byrd announced a request from Chief Bateman, Fairton Volunteer Fire/EMS to make an application to apply for a grant for an emergency vehicle for his fire company. Mayor Byrd asked the Township Committee if they had any objections. There were none. Mayor Byrd executed the letter authorizing Chief Bateman to apply for such grant.

Mayor Byrd announced that the Township is requesting assistance from the County and also the prison system to assist the Township in cleaning up our community.

In regards to the potholes reported on Reeves Road from Burlington to East Avenue, we have received an email confirmation that the County will be addressing those potholes.

Mayor Byrd thanked the residents for coming out tonight and sharing their comments. He advised that the Township Committee does the best that they can for the best interest in the Township.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (IF NEEDED)

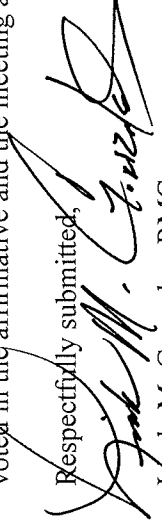
AUTHORIZING TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE NOT OPEN TO THE PUBLIC UNDER N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 (ACTION MAY BE TAKEN)

There was no need for an Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Township Committee, Mayor Byrd entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Deputy Mayor Pierce moved to adjourn the meeting seconded by Committeeman Manson. All members voted in the affirmative and the meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Linda M. Gonzales, RMC
Township Clerk