

FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
WORK SESSION ACTION MINUTES
FEBRUARY 6, 2019

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Byrd called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

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 6th day of February 2019 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 3, 2019 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 Tommy Clark, Jr.

ROLL CALL

The following roll call was recorded as follows:

Committeeman Tommy Clark, Jr., present; Committeeman Mark K. Pierce, Sr., present; Deputy Mayor Marvin Pierce, Jr., present and Mayor Benjamin Byrd, Sr., present.

MEMBER ABSENT

Committeeman David Gonzalez.

ALSO PRESENT

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

EMERGENCY MEETING DECEMBER 31, 2018

On a motion by Committeeman Tommy Clark, Jr. seconded by Deputy Mayor Marvin Pierce Jr. to table the minutes of December 31, 2018. Roll Call Vote: Tommy Clark, Jr., yes; Committeeman Mark K. Pierce, Sr., abstain; Deputy Mayor Marvin Pierce, Jr., yes and Mayor Benjamin Byrd, Sr., yes.

REGULAR ACTION MEETING JANUARY 16, 2019 AND CLOSED SESSION MEETING
JANUARY 16, 2019

On a motion by Deputy Mayor Marvin Pierce, Jr. seconded by Committeeman Mark K. Pierce, Sr. to approve the Regular and Closed Session minutes of January 16, 2019 as written. Roll Call Vote: Clark, Jr., yes; Committeeman Pierce, Sr., yes; Deputy Mayor Pierce, Jr., and Mayor Byrd, Sr.

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. Committeeman Tommy Clark, Jr. and Mayor Benjamin Byrd, Sr. entered into the record their conflict for payable to South State Inc. Deputy Mayor Marvin Pierce, Jr. entered into the record his conflict with payable to the Fairfield Volunteer Fire Company #2 1st Quarter Building Allotment 1st Quarter Equipment Allotment.

At this time, Mayor Byrd, Sr. entertained a motion to adopt Resolution No. 53 - 2019 with the exception of the conflict bills as entered into the record.

RESOLUTION NO. 53 - 2019

A RESOLUTION OF FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP, CUMBERLAND COUNTY AUTHORIZING
THE PAYMENT OF TOWNSHIP BILLS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$905,465.47

Committeeman Mark K. Pierce moved to adopt Resolution NO. 53 - 2019 with the exception of the conflict bills entered into the record seconded by Tommy Clark, Sr. Roll Call Vote: Clark, Jr., yes; Pierce, Sr, yes; Deputy Mayor Pierce, Jr., yes; and Mayor Byrd, Sr.

ORDINANCE FOR INTRODUCTION (FIRST READING) (ONE)

Mayor Byrd read Ordinance No. 2 - 2019 into the record as follows:

ORDINANCE NO. 2 - 2019

CAPITAL ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE PURCHASE OF A DUMP TRUCK FOR THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FAIRFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND, NEW JERSEY AND APPROPRIATING THIRTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$35,000) THEREFORE

Acting Township Administrator Burden reported on the acquisition of a dump truck to replace the current dump truck for salt distribution and other usage. The current dump truck as reported by the Cumberland County Improvement Authority recommendation that they would not proceed further with the repairing the vehicle. The cost would to repair would exceed the value of the vehicle as other issues with the vehicle. The replacement is a 2003 International 2000 Series with 104,824 miles, 10 foot snow plow, salt spreader and automatic transmission for a total cost of \$27,995.00.

Committeeman Mark K. Pierce questioned where would the remaining \$7,000.00 be coming from. Mayor Byrd, Sr. advised Committeeman Mark K. Pierce that Mark Blauer would give the details on that when he speaks on the USDA grant tonight.

Township Solicitor Carr advised that this Ordinance would be a mechanism for funding through the use of the Capital Fund.

There being no further questions on the introduction of the Ordinance, Mayor Byrd, Sr. entertained a motion to introduce Ordinance No. 2 - 2019.

Committeeman Tommy Clark, Jr. moved to introduce Ordinance No. 2 - 2019 seconded by Committeeman Mark K. Pierce, Sr. Roll Call Vote: Clark, Jr., yes; Pierce, Sr., yes; Deputy Mayor Pierce, Jr., yes and Mayor Byrd, Sr., yes.

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

Mayor Byrd read Ordinance No. 1 - 2019 into the record as follows:

ORDINANCE NO. 1 - 2019

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 7 - 2017 AMENDING PROPERTY MAINTENANCE TERMS REGARDING MAINTENANCE OF VACANT AND ABANDONED PROPERTIES

Deputy Mayor Pierce Jr. moved to open the Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 1 - 2019 seconded by Committeeman Tommy Clark, Jr. Roll Call Vote: Clark, Jr., yes; Pierce, Sr., yes; Deputy Mayor Pierce, Jr., yes and Mayor Byrd, Sr., yes.

There being no comments to be received, Mayor Byrd entertained a motion to close the Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 1 - 2019.

Nancy Ridgeway, 582 Irving Avenue appeared to inquire if said ordinance affects Township owned properties, State or County. Mrs. Ridgeway was advised negative.

Committeeman Clark, Jr. moved to close seconded by Mark K. Pierce, Sr. Roll Call Vote: Clark, Jr., yes; Pierce, Sr., yes; Deputy Mayor Pierce, Jr., yes and Mayor Byrd, Sr., yes.

Committeeman Mark K. Pierce, Sr., moved to adopt Ordinance No. 1- 2019 on final reading seconded by Committeeman Tommy Clark, Jr. Roll Call Vote: Clark, Jr., yes; Pierce, Sr., yes; Deputy Mayor Pierce, Jr., yes and Mayor Byrd, Sr., yes.

PRESENTATION / MARK BLAUER, BLAUER ASSOCIATES

2019 SMALL CITIES HOUSING REHABILITATION GRANT & 2019 ADA COMPLIANCE IMPROVEMENTS GRANT PROJECT AT MUNICIPAL COMPLEX

Mark Blauer, Blauer Associates, Grant Writer appointed by the Fairfield Township Committee was present tonight to announce the award of Fairfield Township's 2019 Small Cities Housing Rehabilitation Grant and 2019 ADA Compliance Improvements Grant Project at Municipal Complex. Both grants were applied last summer. The Township requested \$200,000 on the application submitted by Mr. Blauer and the Township was notified in later part of January 2019 to receive \$154,000.00. This grant will be used to continue our Housing Rehabilitation Program. The program is open to all homeowners of low to moderate income families of Fairfield Township.

Mr. Blauer explained the process of the grant whereby half of the grant is forgivable and the other half is converted to a deferred loan paid back to the Township without interest upon the sale of their home.

Mr. Blauer indicated that the Township is taking a pro-active approach in evaluating the Township Municipal Building and Recreational Complex to ensure compliance with the Department of Justice's Americans with Disability Act (ADA) of 1990, Title II. The Township also evaluated the recreational complex regarding the lack of ADA recreational opportunity equipment.

Mr. Blauer advised the audience that the Township requesting \$400,000 for the upgrades and we received the grant. He advised that the first would be Phase I which entails upgrades to the outside of the municipal building, such as the parking lot, approaches to the municipal building. Fralinger Engineering PA has submitted the engineering estimate for the proposed ADA improvements and is based upon prevailing wage rates and public bidding law requirements. Mr. Blauer indicated that said project has a 2 year time to complete the project.

Mr. Blauer spoke on trying to get money to get trucks for the Public Works Department through a USDA Commodity Service Program Grant. He explained the State has \$150,000.00 statewide for this type of need.

At this time, the floor was opened for the audience present to address any questions or concerns regarding these grants.

Charles Pierce appeared and stated that the Township of Fairfield received a \$57,000.00 grant 10 years ago for ADA and now we are applying again. Mr. Pierce was advised that the ADA's guidelines change all the time and maybe what was good back 10 years ago and not considered compliant now.

There being no further questions, the Township Committee had no objections in Mr. Blauer making an application on behalf of Fairfield Township through the USDA Commodity Service Program.

Mayor Byrd read into the record 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 to open Public Comment on Current Agenda Items & Non Agenda Items and reminded the public in attendance to adhere to the five (5) minute rule and conduct.

Deputy Mayor Marvin Pierce, Jr. moved to open seconded by Committeeman Mark K. Pierce, Sr. Roll Call Vote: Clark, Jr., yes; Pierce, Sr., yes; Deputy Mayor Pierce, Jr., yes and Mayor Byrd, Sr., yes.

Mr. George Hicks, Hartz Drive appeared with two (2) questions. One was for an update on the mining issue. Mr. Hicks was advised that the Township Solicitor did attend Court in the matter of Fairfield Township v. Don Rogers on January 25, 2019 and explained that the Defendant mining company sought a Reconsideration of the Judge's Order that the Defendant was to file an application for mining. The Judge left the Order standing. The mining company is to provide the Township engineering and provide an application to conduct mining operations.

Mr. Hicks stated that homes are being negatively impacted with the water and that he is not sure where the water is coming from.

Secondly, Mr. Hicks mentioned as part of the announcement tonight regarding the Small Cities Housing Rehabilitation Program, a resident received this type of grant several years ago and now the home is being condemned because the side wall is not stabilize to the foundation. The resident who applied for the grant several years ago did not receive funding as a result of no funding at the time. Mr. Hicks on a last note complimented the Township for tonight's presentation regarding the grants and that it is much needed.

Mr. Dennis Pierce, Clarks Pond Road appeared to inquire on the Special Meeting held on December 28, 2018. Mr. Pierce was advised that the Township Committee did not meet on December 28, 2018 as a result of inclement weather and that an Emergency Meeting was held on December 31, 2018 and both meetings were transmitted to the newspapers as required by the Sunshine Law.

Nancy Ridgeway, 582 Irving Avenue appeared to ask for the name of the appointee to the Environmental Commission.

Ms. Ridgeway was given the name of said appointment as Ike Dunn for a one (1) year term.

Ms. Ridgeway inquired on status of A Need for Redevelopment that was previously adopted by the Township Committee to the Planning & Zoning Board. Ms. Ridgeway was informed that it is in the hands of the Planning & Zoning Board.

Mr. Russell Pierce, 376 Fairton-Gouldtown Road appeared to inquire how long is a mining license issued for. Mr. Pierce was advised that it is a 5 year license term.

Mr. Pierce inquired who checks such boundaries before an application is approved and how often is it looked into. Mr. Pierce was advised that it is done by the Township Engineer and it is investigated annually.

Mr. Charles Pierce appeared to inquire the payable on the bill list for C&H Disposal in the amount of \$16,409.34. Mr. Pierce was advised this is through the Housing Rehabilitation Program for septic issue.

Ms. Geneva Griffin appeared to state that at the last meeting she voiced her concerns about the bills payable Grace Marmero & Associates, LLP. She advised that is not fair to the residents for the Township to run to attorneys on a personal vendetta. She elaborated on the bills that she reviewed and questioned the amount that the attorney's charged the Township at taxpayer's expense.

Mr. Wendell Lloyd appeared to follow up on Gouldtown directional signs. He requested the Township Committee to write a letter to Congressman Van Drew as he was not successful with former Congressman LoBiondo. The Township Committee directed the Acting Township Administrator to draft a letter on behalf of Fairfield Township and also for the Acting Township Administrator to inquire with grant writer, Mark Blauer to see if there are any sign grants.

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.

Deputy Mayor Pierce, Jr. moved to close seconded by Committeeman Mark K. Pierce, Sr. Roll Call Vote: Clark, Jr., yes; Pierce, Sr., yes; Deputy Mayor Pierce, Jr., yes and Mayor Byrd, Sr. yes.

RESOLUTIONS

Mayor Byrd read the following Resolutions into the record as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 54 - 2019

A RESOLUTION OF FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP, COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND
AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF STREET OPENING PERMIT(S) TO SOUTH JERSEY
GAS COMPANY

PERMIT NO. 1 - 2019 / CLARKS POND ROAD 142' S OF THE C/L LEXINGTON DRIVE TO 152' N
C/L WESTCOTT STATION ROAD

Committeeman Mark K. Pierce, Sr. moved to adopt Resolution No. 54 - 2019 seconded by Deputy Mayor Marvin Pierce, Jr. Roll Call Vote: Clark, Jr., yes; Pierce, Sr., yes; Deputy Mayor Pierce, Jr., yes and Mayor Byrd, Sr., yes.

RESOLUTION NO. 55 - 2019

A RESOLUTION OF FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP, COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND AUTHORIZING THE
ISSUANCE OF STREET OPENING PERMIT TO SOUTH JERSEY GAS COMPANY

PERMIT NO. 2 - 2019 / CLARKS POND ROAD 23' S OF THE C/L OF RAMAH ROAD TO 203' S OF
THE C/L OF LEXINGTON DRIVE

Committeeman Mark K. Pierce, Sr. moved to adopt Resolution No. 55 - 2019 seconded by Deputy Mayor Marvin Pierce, Jr. Roll Call Vote: Clark, Jr., yes; Pierce, Sr., yes; Deputy Mayor Pierce, Jr., yes and Mayor Byrd, Sr. yes.

RESOLUTION NO. 56 - 2019

A RESOLUTION APPOINTING MEMBER OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Committeeman Tommy Clark, Jr. moved to adopt Resolution No. 56 - 2019 seconded by Deputy Mayor Marvin Pierce, Jr. Roll Call Vote: Clark, Jr., yes; Pierce, Sr., yes; Deputy Mayor Pierce, Jr., yes and Mayor Byrd, Sr. yes.

RESOLUTION NO. 57 - 2019

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE
SESSION NOT OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

NJSA 10:4-12 (b)(4) FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP & NJCSA CUMBERLAND COUNCIL #18

NJSA 10:4-12 (b)(6) BUILDING SECURITY

NJSA 10:4-12 (b)(8) MATTERS RELATING TO THE EMPLOYMENT RELATIONSHIP INTERVIEW CANDIDATE FOR PART TIME PLANNING/ZONING BOARD SECRETARY, EMT'S, CERTIFIED PUBLIC WORKS MANAGER, CLERKS OFFICE & SENIOR CENTER

Deputy Mayor Marvin Pierce, Jr. moved to adopt Resolution No. 57 - 2019 seconded by Committeeman Mark K. Pierce, Sr. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Pierce, Sr., yes; Deputy Mayor Pierce, Jr., yes and Mayor Byrd, Sr., yes.

At this time Mayor Byrd announced that the Township Committee will now convene into Executive Session to discuss matters as indicated on Resolution No. 57 - 2019 and asked the public to please leave the room in order for the Township Committee to discuss said matters.

The Township Committee is now in Closed Session at 8:05 p.m.

The Township Committee convened into Open Session with all members present. Township Solicitor Carr announced that the doors are now open at 9:12 pm and the Township Committee is now in Open Session after having discussed Personnel Matters and Building Security Matters.

Mayor Byrd announced that as the result of the Closed Session, the following matter is as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 58 - 2019

A RESOLUTION APPOINTMENT OF A PART-TIME PLANNING & ZONING BOARD SECRETARY - KATHI BRUNO

Deputy Mayor Marvin Pierce, Jr. moved to adopt Resolution No. 58 - 2019 seconded by Committeeman Tommy Clark, Jr. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Pierce, Sr., yes; Deputy Mayor Pierce, Jr., yes and Mayor Byrd, Sr., yes.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Deputy Mayor Marvin Pierce, Jr. announced that he is glad to see the new shed at the Fairfield Township Convenience Center.

There was no New Business to report from the rest of the Township Committee at this time.

UPDATE ON MUNICIPAL BUILDING HEATING UNIT QUOTES

Felipe Maisonave, Public Works Department was present to give the Township Committee an update regarding heating quotes for the Municipal Building.

According to maintenance records, a total of 26 calls were made to address heating issues in the municipal building. This is the unit issue itself, not the leg issues as indicated by Mr. Maisonave.

Mr. Maisonave reported that the replacement heater exchanger received 4 quotes as follows: Woodruff Energy, \$5,895.00, Heating Specialist, \$7,350.00, Laury Heating, \$7,365.00 and Tozour Trane, \$9,188.00. Tozour quote carries a one year warranty should it break down.

Mr. Maisonave reported that a New Heat Exchanger, the Township received 3 quotes as follows: Woodruff Energy, \$11,575.00, Laury Heating, \$15,414.00 and Heating Specialist, \$19,575.00

Committeeman Tommy Clark, Jr. advised that the invoices should entail the history. The Township Committee thanked Mr. Maisonave for coming out tonight and that they will revisit this again.

SCOPE OF RESEARCH STUDY REQUEST BY TREEMANISHA STEWART

At a previous meeting, Treemanisha Stewart appeared before the Township Committee of a purpose study to determine how residents and employees feel about Fairfield Township implementing an e-government system at no cost to the Township. This research is being requested as part of her PhD.

The Township Committee commented that this is a good idea that Ms. Stewart is willing to do the research to obtain insights of our potentials. The Township Committee requested that they be provided a copy of the letter that is proposed to be mailed to the residents prior to the letters going out and that also it would be beneficial that the letter be drafted on Township letterhead.

COMMITTEE REPORTS / REMARKS

Committeeman Mark K. Pierce, Sr. stated that he wanted to clear up a statement that was made towards him. He advised that he does not need anyone telling him how to be committeeman. Mr. Pierce was asked by Mayor Byrd if he wanted to elaborate on who made such statement.

Mr. Pierce stated that they know who said the statement.

Deputy Mayor Marvin Pierce, Jr. thanked everyone for coming out tonight.

Committeeman Tommy Clark, Jr. thanked everyone for coming out tonight and that we accomplished and got a lot of work done tonight.

MAYOR'S REPORT / REMARKS

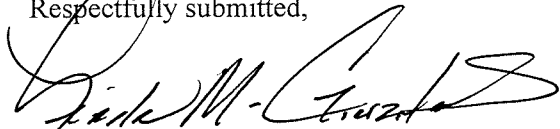
Mayor Byrd thanked everyone also for coming out tonight and that we will continue to do the best we can and also thanked Public Works Department employee, Felipe Maisonave for being here tonight to give the Township Committee an update on the heating quotes for the Municipal Building.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Deputy Mayor Marvin Pierce, Jr. moved to adjourn the meeting seconded by Committeeman Tommy Clark, Jr. All members voted in the affirmative and the meeting adjourned at 9:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Linda M. Gonzales, RMC
Township Clerk