

FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE  
REGULAR ACTION MEETING  
VIA TELECONFERENCE  
MARCH 17, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Benjamin Byrd, Sr. called the meeting to order at 6:04 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 17<sup>th</sup> day of March 2021 via teleconference is held pursuant to notice having been submitted to The South Jersey Times, The Daily Journal, and The Press of Atlantic City on January 11, 2021 and also duly posted on the Township website.

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; Deputy Mayor Marvin Pierce, Jr., present and Mayor Benjamin Byrd, Sr., present.

MEMBERS ABSENT

Committeemen David Gonzalez and Mark K. Pierce, Sr.

ALSO PRESENT

Township Administrator Michael Burden, Township Solicitor Al Marmero, Township Clerk Linda M. Gonzales, Neil Young, Chief Financial Officer and Nancy Sbrolla, Municipal Auditor of Ford Scott & Associates, LLC.

Mayor Byrd read the minutes into the record and asked the Township Committee if they had any questions. There were none. Mayor Byrd entertained a motion to approve the Work Session Action Minutes of March 3, 2021.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

WORK SESSION ACTION MEETING MARCH 3, 2021

Committeeman Tommy Clark, Jr. moved to approve the minutes as written seconded by Deputy Mayor Marvin Pierce, Jr. Roll Call Vote: Committeeman Tommy Clark, Jr., yes; Deputy Mayor Marvin Pierce, Jr., yes and Mayor Benjamin Byrd, Sr., yes.

REVIEW OF BILL LIST PROVIDED BY CFO

Mayor Byrd asked the Township Committee if they had any questions and or conflicts on the bill list provided by the Chief Financial Officer. There were none. Mayor Byrd read Resolution No. 67 - 2021 into the record and entertained a motion to adopt.

RESOLUTION NO. 67 - 2021

A RESOLUTION OF FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP, CUMBERLAND COUNTY AUTHORIZING THE PAYMENT OF TOWNSHIP BILLS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$351,549.86

Committeeman Tommy Clark, Jr. moved to adopt Resolution No. 67 - 2021 seconded by Deputy Mayor Marvin Pierce, Jr. Roll Call Vote: Committeeman Tommy Clark, Jr., yes; Deputy Mayor Marvin Pierce, Jr., yes and Mayor Benjamin Byrd, Sr., yes.

ORDINANCE FOR INTRODUCTION (FIRST READING) (TWO)

Mayor Byrd read Ordinance No. 1 - 2021 into the record and asked the Township Committee if they had any questions. There were none. Mayor Byrd entertained a motion to introduce Ordinance No. 1 - 2021.

ORDINANCE NO. 1 - 2021

AN ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A 40A:4-45.14)

Deputy Mayor Marvin Pierce, Jr. moved to introduce Ordinance No. 1 - 2021 on first reading and seconded by Committeeman Tommy Clark, Jr. Roll Call Vote: Committeeman Tommy Clark, yes; Deputy Mayor Marvin Pierce, Jr., yes and Mayor Benjamin Byrd, Sr., yes.

Mayor Byrd read and explained Ordinance No. 2 - 2021 into the record and asked the Township Committee if they had any questions. There were none. Mayor Byrd entertained a motion to introduce Ordinance No. 2 - 2021.

ORDINANCE NO. 2 - 2021

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING APPENDIX D: STORMWATER CONTROL ORDINANCE FOR MUNICIPALITIES

Deputy Mayor Marvin Pierce, Jr. moved to introduce Ordinance No. 2 - 2021 on first reading seconded by Committeeman Tommy Clark, Jr. Roll Call Vote: Committeeman Tommy Clark, Jr., yes; Deputy Mayor Marvin Pierce, Jr., yes and Mayor Benjamin Byrd, Sr., yes.

ORDINANCES FOR PUBLIC HEARING (SECOND READING)

None.

Mayor Byrd read the Consent Agenda into the record. Mayor Byrd announced that Resolution No. 77 - 2021 be tabled. Mayor Byrd asked the Township Committee if they had any questions. There were none. Mayor Byrd entertained a motion to adopt.

CONSENT AGENDA

(RESOLUTION NO. 68 - 2021 THROUGH RESOLUTION NO. 80 - 2021)

The Consent Agenda includes items of business which are not controversial & do not require individual discussion. A motion approving the Consent Agenda is moved, seconded and voted upon as one item by the Township Committee. If any discussion is requested on a Consent Agenda item, it is removed from the Consent Agenda to the Regular Agenda.

RESOLUTION NO. 68 - 2021

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SELF-EXAMINATION OF 2021 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

RESOLUTION NO. 69 - 2021

INTRODUCTION OF THE 2021 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

RESOLUTION NO. 70 - 2021

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AGREEMENT OF SALE FOR PROPERTY KNOWN AS BLOCK 14, LOT 22

RESOLUTION NO. 71 - 2021

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AGREEMENT OF SALE FOR PROPERTY KNOWN AS BLOCK 12, LOT 25

RESOLUTION NO. 72 - 2021

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AGREEMENT OF SALE FOR PROPERTY KNOWN AS BLOCK 6, LOT 3.01

RESOLUTION NO. 73 - 2021

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AGREEMENT OF SALE FOR PROPERTY KNOWN AS BLOCK 5.03, LOT 30

RESOLUTION NO. 74 - 2021

A RESOLUTION OF FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP, CUMBERLAND COUNTY ENDORSING THE SUBMISSION OF A RECYCLING TONNAGE GRANT APPLICATION

RESOLUTION NO. 75 - 2021

A RESOLUTION OF FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP, CUMBERLAND COUNTY APPROVING ANNUAL BUSINESS REGISTRATIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 76 - 2021

A RESOLUTION APPOINTING A DEPUTY MUNICIPAL REGISTRAR OF VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF FAIRFIELD, CUMBERLAND COUNTY

RESOLUTION NO. 77 - 2021

A RESOLUTION OF APPOINTMENT FOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR

RESOLUTION NO. 78 - 2021

A RESOLUTION OF FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP, CUMBERLAND COUNTY ENDORSING APPLICATIONS FOR A CATERING PERMIT / LA ESPERANZA MEXICAN RESTAURANT & BAR

RESOLUTION NO. 79 - 2021

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING 21<sup>ST</sup> ASSOCIATES, LLC REDEMPTION OF TAX SALE CERTIFICATE #19-00024 IN INSTALLMENTS

RESOLUTION NO. 80 - 2021

A RESOLUTION OF APPROPRIATION RESERVE TRANSFER

On a motion by Deputy Mayor Marvin Pierce, Jr. to approve the above Resolutions by Consent Agenda with the exception of Resolution No. 77 - 2021 being tabled seconded by Committeeman Tommy Clark, Jr. Roll Call Vote: Committeeman Tommy Clark, Jr., yes; Deputy Mayor Marvin Pierce, Jr., yes and Mayor Benjamin Byrd, Sr., yes.

ANNOUNCEMENT/PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION - 2021 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

Neil Young, Chief Financial Officer & Nancy Sbrolla, Ford, Scott & Associates were both on the teleconference call.

Neil Young, Chief Financial Officer announced that he had provided the Mayor and Township Committee the planned 2021 budget. He advised at this point, the Township Committee has passed the Resolution to Introduce the Budget and stated that if the Township Committee has any questions from now and into the adoption and the Public Hearing that he and Nancy Sbrolla would be available.

He advised that the Budget is a zero tax increase budget and a responsible budget. He stated if any members of the general public or the Township Committee had any questions, to please forward them to his office and that they will be happy to answer them. Mr. Young explained the next steps on the budget are the Public Hearing which is set for April 21<sup>st</sup> and that like he mentioned earlier, there is no tax increase in the budget.

He advised that on April 21<sup>st</sup> we will open the Public Hearing and can have potential adoption as well.

Mayor Byrd asked the Township Committee if they had any questions. There were none.

Mayor Byrd thanked Neil Young and Nancy Sbrolla.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

COMMITTEE REPORTS / REMARKS

Committeeman Tommy Clark, Jr. reminded everyone to stay safe. He advised that the COVID-19 restrictions are starting to decrease and to please not put your guard down and to continue to wear your masks and social distance when all possible as we are not over the pandemic yet.

Deputy Mayor Marvin Pierce, Jr. echoed the same remarks as given by Committeeman Tommy Clark, Jr. and thanked everyone who took the time in to tune in this evening and apologized for his tardiness at tonight's meeting.

MAYOR'S REPORT / REMARKS

Mayor Byrd's Report/Remarks were difficult to hear.

Mayor Byrd read into the Public Comments 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. At the appropriate time, please state your name and address for the record.

Mayor Byrd entertained a motion to open Public Comment on Current Agenda Items & Non Agenda Items.

Committeeman Tommy Clark, Jr. moved and seconded by Deputy Mayor Marvin Pierce, Jr. Roll Call Vote: Committeeman Tommy Clark, Jr., yes; Deputy Mayor Marvin Pierce, Jr., yes and Mayor Benjamin Byrd, Sr., yes.

Nancy Ridgeway, 582 Irving Avenue asked Mayor Byrd if he could please repeat his Report/Remarks into the record as it was difficult to hear and understand what he was reporting.

Mayor Byrd stated that the Township has a potential of receiving \$580,000.00 from the stimulus package that is being proposed and that we are looking into seeing how the Township can receive it and how it can be spent in order to stay in the guidelines and that we are looking forward to moving along with that process and as soon as we can get obtain additional information that he would keep everyone abreast as to where we are at receiving the stimulus money.

Nancy Ridgeway thanked Mayor Byrd. Ms. Ridgeway indicated that the stimulus package is only for costs associated only to COVID-19.

Nancy Sbrolla, Municipal Auditor of Ford-Scott & Associates indicated that there are limitations on this on the loss of revenue due to COVID-19 expenditures. She explained that part of it we can take in from that is the Garden State Highway Trust that we did not receive in 2020. She stated that her office is very involved with the State on getting those guidelines out and if the Township has any questions as we go forward to please feel free to contact her.

Mayor Byrd thanked Nancy Sbrolla and stated that the Township will be in touch with her office.

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

Deputy Mayor Marvin Pierce, Jr. moved and seconded by Committeeman Tommy Clark, Jr. Roll Call Vote: Committeeman Tommy Clark, Jr., yes; Deputy Mayor Marvin Pierce, Jr. and Mayor Benjamin Byrd, Sr., yes.

There was no need for an Executive Session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (IF NEEDED)

AUTHORIZING TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE NOT OPEN TO THE PUBLIC (ACTION MAY BE TAKEN)

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 and seconded by Committeeman Tommy Clark, Jr. All members voted in the affirmative. The meeting adjourned at 6:26 p.m.



Linda M. Gonzales, RMC  
Township Clerk