

FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE  
REGULAR ACTION MEETING  
VIA TELECONFERENCE  
MAY 17, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Marvin Pierce, Jr. called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Pierce 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 ensure 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 May 2023 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 5, 2023 and duly posted on the Township website.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG / MOMENT OF PRAYER

Mayor Pierce led the flag salute followed by a moment of prayer given by Deputy Mayor Mike Peterson.

ROLL CALL

The roll call was recorded as follows:

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

MEMBER ABSENT

Committeeman Stephen M. Bateman.

ALSO PRESENT

Township Administrator Michael Burden, Township Solicitor Albert K. Marmero and Township Clerk Linda M. Gonzales.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

WORK SESSION ACTION MEETING MAY 3, 2023

Mayor Pierce asked the Township Committee if they had any questions on the Work Session Action minutes of May 3, 2023. There being none, Mayor Pierce entertained a motion to approve the minutes.

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

ORDINANCE FOR INTRODUCTION

None

ORDINANCE FOR PUBLIC HEARING (SECOND READING)

None

PUBLIC HEARING / USDA APPLICATION

MARK BLAUER, BLAUER ASSOCIATES / GRANT CONSULTANT  
GRANT/LOAN APPLICATION TO THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY FACILITIES DIRECT LOANS AND GRANTS PROGRAM  
COMMAND VEHICLE FOR THE FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY NO. 2  
Mark Blauer thanked the Mayor and Township Committee for having him tonight for the Public Hearing. Mr. Blauer advised that we are hoping to receive a grant from the USDA for the purchase of a Command Vehicle to be used by the Fairfield Township Volunteer Fire Company No. 2. in Gouldtown for general fire protection. Mr. Blauer advised that we are required to have a public hearing as part of the process.

He reported that the Township Clerk advertised the Public Hearing. He advised that himself, the Township Administrator, the Township Clerk, and the Chief Financial Officer have been gathering the information for this application. The request is for \$55,923.75 based on a state bid price provided by Gentilini Motors in Egg Harbor Township and the request from the Fairfield Township Volunteer Fire Company No. 2 is for a 2023 Tahoe control vehicle to be used as their command vehicle for the fire company and that tonight's hearing is to allow the public to give us their suggestions and comments on this much needed command vehicle for the fire company.

Mr. Blauer suggested that we open the public hearing for public comments or questions regarding this proposed command vehicle for the fire company.

Mayor Pierce entertained a motion to open the meeting to the public for the Public Hearing on the USDA Application for the Command Vehicle.

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

Mayor Pierce entered the record stating that anyone from the public that is on the teleconference wishing to speak or have any questions or input on the grant application, you may do so now one at a time please.

Hearing none, Mayor Pierce entertained a motion to close the Public Hearing.

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

There being no comments from the Township Committee, Mayor Pierce asked Mr. Blauer if he had anything further.

Mark Blauer stated that he did not. He advised that we are making progress on this application and that our second Resolution will absolutely authorize the submission. Mr. Blauer asked the Township Clerk to forward him the Resolution to be provided to the USDA and keep advancing this application.

The Mayor and Township Committee thanked Mr. Blauer.

#### REVIEW OF THE BILL LIST PROVIDED BY THE CFO

Mayor Pierce 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.

#### RESOLUTIONS

Mayor Pierce read Resolution No. 91 - 2023 into the record as follows:

##### RESOLUTION NO. 91 - 2023

A RESOLUTION OF FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP, CUMBERLAND COUNTY AUTHORIZING THE PAYMENT OF TOWNSHIP BILLS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$421,669.55

Mayor Pierce entertained a motion to adopt Resolution No. 91 - 2023.

Committeeman Benjamin Byrd, Sr. moved to adopt Resolution No. 91 - 2023 seconded by Deputy Mayor Mike Peterson. Roll Call Vote: Committeeman Byrd, yes; Committeeman Clark, yes; Deputy Mayor Peterson, yes and Mayor Pierce, yes.

Mayor Pierce read Resolution No. 92 - 2023 into the record as follows:

##### RESOLUTION NO. 92 - 2023

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FAIRFIELD COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP OF FAIRFIELD TO SUBMIT A PREAPPLICATION /APPLICATION FOR FUNDING TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ACTING THROUGH RURAL HOUSING SERVICE, DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOR A COMMAND VEHICLE FOR THE FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY NO. 2

Mayor Pierce entertained a motion to adopt Resolution No. 92 - 2023.

Committeeman Benjamin Byrd, Sr. moved to adopt Resolution No. 92 - 2023 seconded by Deputy Mayor Mike Peterson. Roll Call Vote: Committeeman Byrd, yes; Committeeman Clark, yes; Deputy Mayor Peterson, yes and Mayor Pierce, abstained.

Mayor Pierce read the Consent Agenda into the record and asked the Township Committee if they had any questions. There being none, Mayor Pierce entertained a motion to adopt the Consent Agenda Resolution No. 93 - 2023 through Resolution No. 99 - 2023

CONSENT AGENDA

(RESOLUTION NO. 93 - 2023 THROUGH RESOLUTION NO. 99 - 2023)

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. 93 - 2023

APPROVAL TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION AND EXECUTE A GRANT CONTRACT WITH THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE CLARKS POND ROAD RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT

RESOLUTION NO. 94 - 2023

A RESOLUTION OF FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP, CUMBERLAND COUNTY AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF STREET OPENING PERMIT(S) TO SOUTH JERSEY GAS COMPANY PERMIT NO. 3 - 2023 / INSTALLATION OF GAS SERVICE / 93 REEVES ROAD (1243' WEST OF LONGVIEW DRIVE & 440' EAST OF WAYMAN LANE)

RESOLUTION NO. 95 - 2023

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING APPROVAL OF REVENUE AND APPROPRIATIONS NJSA 40A:4-87 / NJDCA SMALL CITIES HOUSING REHABILITATION PROGRAM GRANT

RESOLUTION NO. 96 - 2023

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING APPROVAL OF REVENUE AND APPROPRIATIONS NJSA 40A:4-87 / ADA IMPROVEMENTS AT THE SENIOR CENTER

RESOLUTION NO. 97 - 2023

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING APPROVAL OF REVENUE AND APPROPRIATIONS NJSA 40A:4-87 / 2023 LOCAL RECREATION IMPROVEMENT GRANT

RESOLUTION NO. 98 - 2023

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING APPROVAL OF REVENUE AND APPROPRIATIONS NJSA 40A:4-87 / WATER RESOURCES PLANNING MANAGEMENT - STORMWATER ASSISTANCE GRANT

RESOLUTION NO. 99 - 2023

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN CUMERLAND COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH AND FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP

On a motion by Committeeman Benjamin Byrd, Sr. to approve the above Resolutions by Consent Agenda Resolution No. 93 - 2023 through Resolution No. 99 - 2023 seconded by Deputy Mayor Mike Peterson. Roll Call Vote: Committeeman Byrd, Committeeman Clark, yes; Deputy Mayor Peterson, yes and Mayor Pierce, yes.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

COMMITTEE REPORTS / REMARKS

Committeeman Benjamin Byrd, Sr. thanked the residents and everyone for joining tonight's teleconference meeting.

Committeeman Tommy Clark, Jr. thanked the residents and staff members at the municipal building for calling into tonight's meeting.

Deputy Mayor Peterson had no report or remarks to make at this time.

MAYOR'S REPORT / REMARKS

Mayor Marvin Pierce echoed same remarks made by the members of the Township Committee.

Mayor Pierce 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. At the appropriate time, please state your name and address for the record.

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

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

Irene Guyer, 394 Ramah Road requested that municipal officials ask the Department for a gypsy moth (caterpillar) egg nest survey and file a written complaint about the location of infestations in our Township. She indicated that she checked it out and it must be done in early September and that she is seeing a lot of caterpillars around and does not want it to get to a point where we lost a lot of trees the last time it was sprayed. She asked if this matter would be on the agenda next month for a discussion to address for next year. She stated that she believes the spraying is in May and that we missed it this year and asked if the Township could investigate as she believes it is going to be a problem.

Mayor Pierce asked Ms. Guyer if she had any written information. Ms. Guyer stated that she looked it up on the State Department of Agricultural website and that it states that the resident(s) must make the request to the municipality to conduct the survey.

Ms. Guyer asked why the meeting is not held at the municipal building and done over the telephone.

The meeting format was explained to Ms. Guyer and that discussion will be forthcoming on change in venue.

Ms. Guyer inquired how she would find out about the gypsy moth request. Mayor Pierce advised her to contact the Township Administrator.

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

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION (IF NEEDED)

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

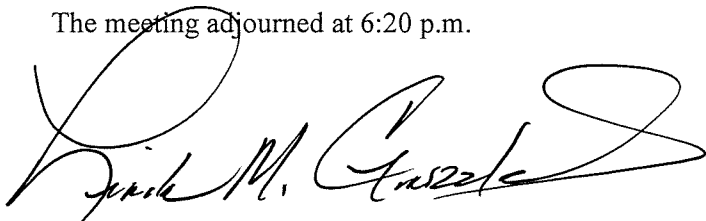
There was no need for an Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT

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

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

The meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.



Linda M. Gonzales, RMC  
Township Clerk