

FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
ANNUAL REORGANIZATION MEETING
JANUARY 5, 2015

Township Clerk - Call to Order

Township Clerk Gonzales welcomed everyone to the Fairfield Township Annual Reorganization Meeting and called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Open Public Meetings Act Statement

Township Clerk read the following Open Public Meetings Act Statement into the record: This meeting of the Fairfield Township Committee shall come to order. The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advanced notice of and to attend the meeting of public bodies at which any business affecting their interests are discussed or acted upon. This Reorganization Meeting held on January 5, 2015 at the Fairfield Township Municipal Building in Fairton, New Jersey is being held pursuant to notice of date, time and place of same having been submitted to The South Jersey Times and The Daily Journal on December 26, 2014 and also duly posted on the bulletin board in the Main Lobby of the Municipal Building.

Flag Salute

Township Clerk Gonzales led the flag salute.

Invocation

Committeeman Morton gave the invocation.

Newly Elected Township Committeeman Tommy Clark, Jr. Three (3) Year Term

Township Clerk announced into the record newly elected Township Committeeman Tommy Clark, Jr. A ceremonial oath of office was held for Mr. Clark accompanied with his family and friends and members of the Township Committee in the Municipal Building on January 1, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. for a three (3) year term.

Committeeman Clark gave thanks to everyone for the opportunity to serve and that he will try to do the best job as possible.

Roll Call:

The roll call was called by Township Clerk Gonzales and recorded as follows:

Present: Committeeman Byrd, Committeeman Clark, Committeeman Morton, Committeeman Pitts and Committeewoman Servais.

Appointment of Mayor/Chairperson for a One (1) Year Term

Township Clerk Gonzales asked for nominations of Mayor/Chairperson. A motion moved by Committeeman Pitts nominating Benjamin Byrd as Mayor/Chairperson for a one (1) year term seconded by Committeeman Clark.

The Township Clerk asked if there were any other nominations to be made. There being none, nominations closed.

Township Clerk Gonzales called for a roll call vote: Clark, yes; Morton, yes; Pitts, yes; Servais, yes and Byrd, yes.

The Township Clerk congratulated Mr. Byrd on his appointment as Mayor/Chairperson. The Clerk handed the gavel and chair to Mayor Byrd to preside over the meeting.

Appointment of Deputy Mayor/Vice Chairperson for a One (1) Year Term

Mayor Byrd asked for nominations of a Deputy Mayor/Vice Chairperson. A motion moved by Mr. Byrd to appoint Committeeman Pitts as Deputy Mayor/Vice Chairperson for a one (1) year term seconded by Mr. Clark. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Morton, yes; Pitts, yes; Servais, no and Mayor Byrd, yes.

Oath of Office - Mayor/Chairperson

The Township Clerk gave the Oath of Office to Mayor/Chairperson Benjamin Byrd, Sr.

Oath of Office - Deputy Mayor/Vice Chairperson

The Township Clerk gave the Oath of Office to Deputy Mayor Troy L. Pitts.

Resolutions / Professional Contracts One (1) Year Term

Mayor Byrd asked for motions for the following professionals:

Resolution No. 1 - 2015 Appointment of Township Solicitor

Deputy Mayor Pitts moved to appoint John Carr, Cresse and Carr Counsellors At Law as Township Solicitor for 2015 seconded by Committeeman Clark. Roll Call Vote: Clark yes; Morton, no, Pitts, yes; Servais, yes and Mayor Byrd, yes.

Resolution No. 2 - 2015 Appointment of Conflict Township Solicitor

Deputy Mayor Pitts moved to appoint Chance & McCann Law Offices as the Conflict Township for 2015 seconded by Committeeman Clark. Roll Call: Clark, yes; Morton, yes; Pitts, yes; Servais, yes and Mayor Byrd, yes.

Resolution No. 3 - 2015 Appointment of Township Prosecutor

Deputy Mayor Pitts moved to appoint Chance & McCann Law Offices as Township Prosecutor for 2015 seconded by Committeeman Clark. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Morton, yes; Pitts, yes; Servais, yes and Mayor Byrd, yes.

Resolution No. 4 - 2015 Appointment of Public Defender

Deputy Mayor Pitts moved to appoint Kavanagh& Kavanagh LLC as Public Defender for 2015 seconded by Committeeman Clark. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Morton, yes; Pitts, yes; Servais, yes and Mayor Byrd, yes.

Resolution No. 5 - 2015 Appointment of Township Auditor

Mayor Byrd moved to appoint Ford-Scott & Associates, LLC as Township Audit for 2015. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Morton, yes; Pitts, yes; Servais, yes and Mayor Byrd, yes.

Resolution No. 6 - 2015 Appointment of Township Engineer

Deputy Mayor Pitts moved to appoint Bohler Engineering as Township Engineer for 2015 seconded by Committeeman Clark. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Morton yes; Pitts, yes; Servais, no and Mayor Byrd, yes.

Resolution No. 7 - 2015 Appointment of Conflict Township Engineer

Deputy Mayor Pitts moved to appoint Environmental Resolutions, Inc., as Conflict Township Engineer for 2015 seconded by Committeeman Clark. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Morton, yes; Pitts, yes; Servais, yes and Mayor Byrd, yes.

Resolution No. 8 - 2015 Appointment of Certified Public Works Manager

Deputy Mayor Pitts moved to appoint Bohler Engineering as Certified Public Works Manager for 2015 seconded by Committeeman Clark. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Morton, yes; Pitts, yes; Servais, no and Mayor Byrd, yes.

Resolution No. 9 - 2015 Appointment of Township Planner

Mayor Byrd moved to appoint Bohler Engineering as Township Planner for 2015 seconded by Deputy Mayor Pitts. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Morton, yes; Pitts, yes; Servais, no and Mayor Byrd, yes.

Resolution No. 10 - 2015 Appointment of Township Surveyor

Deputy Mayor Pitts moved to appoint Fralinger Engineering as Township Surveyor for 2015 seconded by Committeeman Clark. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Morton, yes; Pitts, yes; Servais, yes and Mayor Byrd, yes.

Resolution No. 11 - 2015 Appointment of Township Storm Water Management Engineer

Deputy Mayor Pitts moved to appoint Fralinger Engineering as Township Storm Water Management Engineer for 2015 seconded by Committeeman Clark. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Morton, yes; Pitts, yes; Servais, yes and Mayor Byrd, yes.

Resolution No. 12 - 2015 Appointment of Risk Management Consultant

Deputy Mayor Pitts moved to table appointment of Risk Management Consultant for 2015 seconded by Mayor Byrd. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Morton, yes; Pitts, yes; Servais, yes and Mayor Byrd, yes.

Resolution No. 13 - 2015 Appointment of Bond Counsel

Deputy Mayor Pitts moved to appoint Fleishman-Daniels Law Office as Bond Counsel for 2015 seconded by Mayor Byrd. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Morton, yes; Pitts, yes; Servais, yes and Mayor Byrd, yes.

Resolution No. 14 - 2015 Appointment of Animal Control Officer

Mayor Byrd moved to appoint Country Wide Animal Control Officer for 2015 seconded by Committeeman Morton. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Morton, yes; Pitts, yes; Servais, yes and Mayor Byrd, yes.

Resolution No. 15 - 2015 Appointment of Recommendation of a Planning/Zoning Board Engineer

Deputy Mayor Pitts moved to recommend the appointment to Bohler Engineering as the Planning/Zoning Board Engineer for 2015 seconded by Committeeman Clark. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Morton, yes; Pitts, yes; Servais, yes and Mayor Byrd, yes.

Resolution No. 16 - 2015 Appointment of Recommendation of Conflict Planning/Zoning Board Engineer

Deputy Mayor Pitts moved to recommend the appointment to Fralinger Engineering as the Conflict Planning/Zoning Board Engineer for 2015 seconded by Committeeman Clark. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Morton, yes; Pitts, yes; Servais, yes and Mayor Byrd, yes.

Resolutions / Annual Business

Resolution No. 17 - 2015 Establish dates and times of the Fairfield Township Committee Meetings for the year 2015 and Reorganization Meeting of the Township Committee for 2016

Mayor Byrd moved to establish the first and third Tuesday as the Township Committee Meeting dates at 7:00 p.m. for the year 2015 and January 5, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. as the Township Annual Reorganization Meeting seconded by Deputy Mayor Pitts. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Morton, yes; Pitts, yes; Servais, yes and Mayor Byrd, yes.

Resolution No. 18 - 2015 Establish dates and times of the Fairfield Township Local Emergency Planning Committee

Deputy Mayor Pitts moved to table Resolution No. 18 -2015 as the dates to be indicated by the LEPC seconded by Mayor Byrd. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Morton, yes; Pitts, yes; Servais, yes and Mayor Byrd, yes.

Resolution No. 19 - 2015 Designation of Official Newspaper(s)

Deputy Mayor Pitts moved designating The South Jersey Times, The Daily Journal and The Press of Atlantic City as the official newspapers for 2015 seconded by Committeeman Clark. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Morton, yes; Pitts, yes; Servais, yes and Mayor Byrd, yes.

Resolution No. 20 - 2015 Adopting A Cash Management Plan

Deputy Mayor Pitts moved to adopt the Cash Management Plan provided by the CFO for 2015 seconded by Committeeman Clark. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Morton, yes; Pitts, yes; Servais, yes and Mayor Byrd, yes.

Resolution No. 21 - 2015 Adopting Temporary Municipal Operating Budget for 2015

Deputy Mayor Pitts moved to adopt the Temporary Municipal Operation Budget for 2015 seconded by Mayor Byrd. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Morton, yes; Pitts, yes; Servais, yes and Mayor Byrd, yes.

Resolution No. 22 - 2015 Authorizing Signatures on Township Checks

Mayor Byrd moved authorizing the signature of the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Township Clerk as the signatures on township checks. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Morton, yes; Pitts, yes; Servais, yes and Mayor Byrd, yes.

Resolution No. 23 - 2015 Setting The Interest Rates For Delinquent Taxes For The Year 2015

Deputy Mayor Pitts moved setting the interest rates for delinquent taxes for the year 2015 seconded by Mayor Byrd. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Morton, yes; Pitts, yes; Servais, yes and Mayor Byrd, yes.

Resolution No. 24 - 2015 Designating of Bank Depositories

Deputy Mayor Pitts moved designating TD Bank as the bank depository for 2015 seconded by Committeeman Clark. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Morton, yes; Pitts, yes; Servais, yes and Mayor Byrd, yes.

Resolution No. 25 - 2015 Authorize Tax Collector to Conduct Tax Lien Sale

Mayor Byrd moved authorizing the Tax Collector to Conduct Tax Lien Sale seconded by Committeewoman Servais. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Morton, yes; Pitts, yes; Servais, yes and Mayor Byrd, yes.

Resolution No. 26 - 2015 Cancellation of Tax Overpayments or Delinquent Amount Less than \$10.00

Mayor Byrd moved adopting the Cancellation of Tax Overpayments or Delinquent Amount Less than \$10.00 seconded by Committeewoman Servais. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Morton, yes; Pitts, yes; Servais, yes and Mayor Byrd, yes.

Resolution No. 27 - 2015 Setting Fees For Duplicate Tax Bills and Return Checks For the Year 2015

Deputy Mayor Pitts moved authorizing the Setting of Fees for Duplicate Tax Bills and Return Checks for 2015 seconded by Committeeman Clark. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Morton, yes; Pitts, yes; Servais, yes and Mayor Byrd, yes.

Resolution No. 28 - 2015 Transfer 2014 Tax Overpayments to 2015 Open Balances

Mayor Byrd moved authorizing the Transfer 2014 Tax Overpayments to 2015 Open Balances seconded by Committeewoman Servais. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Morton, yes; Pitts, yes; Servais, yes and Mayor Byrd, yes.

Resolution No. 29 - 2015 Appointment of a Tax Search Officer

Committeewoman Servais moved appointing Carla Smith, Tax Collector as the Tax Search Officer for 2015 seconded by Mayor Byrd. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Morton, yes; Pitts, yes; Servais, yes and Mayor Byrd, yes.

Resolution No. 30 - 2015 Authorize Tax Assessor to File Petitions of Appeal & Roll Back Tax Appeals

Mayor Byrd moved authorizing the Tax Assessor to File Petitions of Appeal and Roll Back Tax Appeals seconded by Deputy Mayor Pitts. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Morton, yes; Pitts, yes; Servais, yes; and Mayor Byrd, yes.

Resolution No. 31 - 2015 Appointment of JIF Fund Commissioner & Alternate

Deputy Mayor Pitts moved appointing Nathan Dunn as the JIF Fund Commissioner and Jacqueline Green as the 2015 Alternate for 2015 seconded by Committeewoman Servais. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Morton, yes; Pitts, yes; Servais, yes and Mayor Byrd, yes.

Resolution No. 32 - 2015 Appointment of JIF Safety Coordinator & Deputy

Deputy Mayor Pitts moved appointing Nathan Dunn as the 2015 JIF Safety Coordinator and Jacqueline Green as the Deputy for 2015 seconded by Committeewoman Servais. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Morton, yes; Pitts, yes; Servais, yes and Mayor Byrd, yes.

Resolution No. 33 - 2015 Appointment of Public Agency Compliance Officer

Mayor Byrd moved appointing the Township Solicitor as the 2015 Public Agency Compliance Officer seconded by Deputy Mayor Pitts. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Morton, no; Pitts, yes; Servais, yes and Mayor Byrd, yes.

Resolutions / Appointments to Boards, Commissions and Positions One (1) Year Term

Resolution No. 34 - 2015 Appointment of Township Administrator

Committeewoman Servais moved appointing Jacqueline Green as the Township Administrator for 2015 seconded by Mayor Byrd. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Morton, yes; Pitts, yes; Servais, yes and Mayor Byrd, yes.

Resolution No. 35 - 2015 Appointment of Deputy Registrar of Vital Statistics

Mayor Byrd moved to table the appointment of Deputy Registrar of Vital Statistics seconded by Deputy Mayor Pitts. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Morton, yes; Pitts, yes; Servais, yes and Mayor Byrd, yes.

Resolution No. 36 - 2015 Appointment of Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator and five (5) staff members to the Fairfield Township Office of Emergency Management

Deputy Mayor Pitts moved to approve the appointment of Deputy Emergency Management and the five (5) staff members to the Fairfield Township Office of Emergency Management for 2015 seconded by Mayor Byrd. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Morton, yes; Pitts, yes; Servais, yes and Mayor Byrd, yes.

Resolution No. 37 - 2015 Appointment of NIMS Coordinator

Deputy Mayor Pitts moved appointing Nathan Dunn as the Nims Coordinator for 2015 seconded by Mayor Byrd. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Morton, yes; Pitts, yes; Servais, yes and Mayor Byrd, yes.

Resolution No. 38 - 2015 Appointments to the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)

Deputy Mayor Pitts moved approving the appointments to the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) for 2015 seconded by Mayor Byrd. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Morton, yes; Pitts, yes; Servais, yes and Mayor Byrd, yes.

Resolution No. 39 - 2015 Appointments to Joint Planning/Zoning Board Class I Member; Class II Member; Class III Member

Mayor Byrd moved to appoint himself as Class I Member, Marion Kennedy as Class II Member and Troy L. Pitts, Sr. as Class III Members to the Joint Planning/Zoning Board seconded by Deputy Mayor Pitts. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Morton, no; Pitts, yes; Servais, no, and Mayor Byrd, yes.

Resolution No. 40 - 2015 Appointment to Joint Planning/Zoning Board Alternate #2 Member

Mayor Byrd indicated that Resolution No. 40 – 2015 be tabled now to be discussed in Closed Session and asked for a motion for tabling. Deputy Mayor Pitts moved to table until discussed in Closed Session tonight seconded by Mayor Byrd. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Morton, yes; Pitts, yes; Servais, yes and Mayor Byrd, yes.

Resolution No. 41 - 2015 Appointment of a Representative to the Cumberland County Utilities Authority

Mayor Byrd indicated that Resolution No. 41 - 2015 be tabled at this time to hear back from Albert Jones of his interest to serve and asked for a motion to table. Committeewoman Servais moved to table seconded by Deputy Mayor Pitts. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Morton, yes; Pitts, yes; Servais, yes and Mayor Byrd, yes.

Resolution No. 42 - 2015 Appointment of a CDL Drug Testing Lab

Deputy Mayor Pitts moved appointing Pogue as the CDL Drug Testing Lab for 2015 seconded by Committeeman Clark. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Morton, yes; Pitts, yes; Servais, yes and Mayor Byrd, yes.

Resolution No. 43 - 2015 Appointment of Primary Care Physician

Deputy Mayor Clark moved appointing Bridgeton Family Medicine as the 2015 Primary Care Physician seconded by Committeeman Clark. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Morton, yes; Pitts, yes; Servais, yes and Mayor Byrd, yes.

Resolution No. 44 - 2015 Appointment of Standing Sub-Committees

At the request of Mayor Byrd, said Resolution No. 44 - 2015 be tabled at this time and asked for a motion to table. Deputy Mayor Pitts moved to table the appointment of Standing Sub-Committees for 2015 seconded by Mayor Byrd. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Morton, yes; Pitts, yes; Servais, yes and Mayor Byrd, yes.

Resolution No. 45 - 2015 Appointing Marion Kennedy as a Member to the Environmental Committee

Deputy Mayor Pitts moved appointing Marion Kennedy as a Member to the Environmental Commission seconded by Mayor Byrd. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Morton, yes; Pitts, yes; Servais, no and Mayor Byrd, yes.

Committee Assignments as Designated by the Mayor

Mayor Byrd tabled the above assignments as designated by the mayor at this time.

Committee Remarks

Deputy Mayor Pitts stated that he would like to congratulate Mr. Clark again for coming on board with the Township Committee. Deputy Mayor Pitts thanked everybody in the audience tonight who came out to support them in our endeavor to the Reorganization and indicated that he is looking forward to another year with everybody and hopes that we can all make this a prosperous year.

Committeeman Clark thanked everyone for coming out tonight and gave thanks to everyone for supporting him into office.

Committeeman Morton stated that the governing body made some appointments tonight indicating some that were predicted and some that were not and indicated that it's going to make for a very interested year.

Committeeman Morton stated that he has been noted on the record as saying that in the time that he has been on the Township Committee, that we have not made nearly as much progress as we should have. He stated that he hopes now that we have assembled a team that we allow to make some progress. He also stated that being not all swayed by the few nay votes, because we see we have a team here that is one to be contended with.

Committeeman Morton indicated that on more than one occasion, he has mentioned to our now new Mayor Benjamin Byrd that it takes a great amount of integrity, strength and intelligence to hold a leadership position, especially in Fairfield Township, where we are frequently ridiculed for doing the opposite of what the rest of the surrounding communities are doing and indicated that he thinks this is the opportunity for us to turn that around. He stated that we have a team assembled here that is not much too different from the past teams. Mr. Morton indicated that he challenges each person out there today to take a hard look at the appointments that were made today and recognize that if there is something here tonight that you do not like, you have got to be the comfort to that solution.

Committee Morton indicated that to be in the position that Mr. Byrd is in right now is not an easy one. He stated that we will all celebrate when everything works out and that we will all be victorious and stated that when things do not work out, we all need to come together to figure out why and how we can make it better. He indicated that it is not criticism, it is a challenge to each and everyone one of us and not just us and not just you, but your neighbors, the people that you are connected with, your family members, the people who you are connected with on social media, that we all need to be a part of the solution, otherwise, we are no different than those surrounding communities.

Committeeman Morton stated that he is very excited to be here in these very excited times and is glad that they are all part of this positive change to come and hopes and prays that we make some progress this year.

Committeewoman Servais stated she is glad to see everyone come out tonight and it is nice to see a lot of the citizens present and that she knows that their efforts are not in vain when you do come out as we need your praise, and we need your criticism.

Committeewoman Servais welcomed Mr. Clark to the Township Committee and is looking forward to working with him this year.

Committeewoman Servais also congratulated John Carr appointed as the Township Solicitor who was present tonight. Committeewoman Servais asked that Mr. Carr sitting in the audience to please come and sit at the dais with the governing body as he is now our Township Solicitor.

Township Solicitor Carr now joined the Township Committee at the dais.

Committeewoman Servais indicated that some of the new professionals appointed tonight are not known to her and asked that Mayor Byrd introduce the new professionals to the Township Committee.

Mayor Byrd announced that the names of the professionals were included in the record, and it was noted that several of them were not present in the audience as several of them had indicated that they would not be present due to prior engagements.

Mayor Byrd indicated to the audience that as they could see, the Township Committee did a rather good job tonight of going through the agenda. Mayor Byrd stated that it is his intention to try to work swiftly through our Agendas and handle Township business accordingly.

Mayor Byrd conveyed this appreciation of the opportunity once again to be the Mayor of Fairfield Township. He stated that as Committeeman Morton indicated earlier on in the meeting, that the position of a mayor is a tough job and to him that is what it is a job.

Mayor Byrd stated that the title of mayor is an honorable position to do, but that the title of a mayor does not make him who he is. He indicated that he looks forward to working with all the committee and all our residents. Mayor Byrd stated that he can be contacted should anyone have any concerns or issues and that he will help them to the best of his ability.

Mayor Byrd indicated that he held the position of Mayor 2010 and today he is a little older and a little bit wiser and he plans on trying to the best he can.

Mayor Byrd asked that if you wanted anything more than besides that, do not ask him for it because you will not get it. He stated that most of you know me, that I am a no-nonsense type of guy.

Mayor Byrd also indicated that he is looking forward to moving the process for the purchase of a new fire truck as approved by the registered voters on the ballot. He advised that we do need a bond counsel and our Township Clerk for their guidance in the best method of direction to purchase the fire truck.

That being said, Mayor Byrd indicated that the Township Committee will need to discuss two (2) personnel matters in Closed Session and asked for a motion to adopt Resolution No. 46 - 2015 authorizing to enter into Executive Session.

Executive Session Resolution No. 46 - 2015
Resolution Authorizing An Executive Session Not Open To The Public Under N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 (b)(8)

Matters Relating to the Employment Relationship

Deputy Mayor Pitts moved to enter Executive Session seconded by Committeeman Clark. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Morton, yes; Pitts, yes; Servais, yes and Mayor Byrd, yes.

Mayor Byrd announced that action is anticipated because of the discussion in Executive Session. The Township Committee will convene into open session to announce the action to be taken.

The Township Committee adjourned into Closed Session at 7:55 p.m.

The Township Committee reconvened into open Session from the closed session with all members present at 8:21 p.m.

The Township Solicitor indicated in the record that the Township Committee dealt with some issues related to personnel matters and we are back in open session to announce the following matters because of the discussion held.

Mayor Byrd announced that the Township Committee will revisit our Agenda on **Resolution No. 40 - 2015 Appointment to Joint Planning/Zoning Board Class IV Member**

Deputy Mayor Pitts moved appointing David Gonzalez as a Class IV Member to the Joint Planning/Zoning Board seconded by Committeeman Clark. Roll Call Vote: Clark yes; Morton, yes; Pitts, yes; Servais, yes and Mayor Byrd, yes.

Mayor Byrd announced **Resolution No. 41 - 2015 Appointment of a Representative to the Cumberland County Utilities Authority**

Deputy Mayor Pitts moved appointing Al Jones as Representative to the Cumberland County Utilities Authority for 2015 seconded by Committeeman Morton. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Morton, yes; Pitts, yes; Servais, yes and Mayor Byrd, yes.

Benediction

Committeeman Morton gave the Benediction.

Public Session

Mayor Byrd asked for a motion to open the meeting for public comments. Deputy Mayor Pitts moved seconded by Mayor Byrd. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Morton, yes; Pitts, yes; Servais, yes and Mayor Byrd, yes.

Michael Sharp addressed the 2015 Township Committee on an unresolved issue referencing his attorney fees that he had to pay for while he was on the Township Committee. Mr. Sharp asked that for those who do not have a conflict with reference to this issue to deliberate on the matter and provide him a resolve as he indicated that he has been asking for a long time in which he has not received and is asking that this issue be addressed.

Committeeman Morton made an inquiry indicating just so that he is certain that he recalls that at one point, it was identified that most of the people on the committee had a conflict and asked Mr. Sharp before he speaks anymore on this matter, if Mr. Sharp considers him to be a conflict. Mr. Sharp responded, "you absolutely do.

Mayor Byrd requested that Mr. Sharp provide a copy of his attorney fees so that we can have the Township Solicitor to review the fees and the situation in hand for the Township Solicitor to render a legal opinion to the governing body and report back to Mr. Sharp.

Ed Kimley, 811 Seabreeze Road, Bridgeton appeared and indicated a conflict exists with Mr. Sharp and Deputy Mayor Pitts as it has been said whether it is true or not that Mr. Sharp lives with Mr. Pitts.

Mr. Kimley reminded Mayor Byrd's statement that he wants to do what is right for the residents of the township. Mr. Kimley stated that the matter between Mr. Sharp and Ms. Servais could be settled in a small claims court. He referred to the attorney fees that Mr. Sharp has been pursuing for reimbursement that the Township insurance has indicated that the Township is not responsible for payment and stated that now that Mr. Sharp has all his friends as members of the Township Committee the Township should not pay Mr. Sharp's attorney fees.

Mayor Byrd indicated that Mr. Sharp was a Township Committee person at the time when this complaint was signed against him and explained that this is the reason why I am letting the Township Solicitor to give us guidance due to the fact that nobody here should have a personal decision in this matter and that we should let our Township Solicitor to give us direction as it is the responsibility for us to protect the Township first and foremost and this is what we have to do first.

Mr. Kimley stated using an example such as if you were to grab something to hit me with while you are sitting up on the dais right now, that I can sign a complaint on you as a person and not as a committee person? Mayor Byrd responded that would be an option.

Mr. Kimley responded by indicating that this was what Ms. Servais did by filing the complaint as a person not as committeewoman.

Mr. Kimley referred to the receipt of letters mailed indicating to keep putting the pressure on Ms. Servais. Mayor Byrd responded indicating that he does not know about that because he did not try to put any pressure on her.

Mr. Kimley then made referenced as to how many people here meaning the committee that has not obtained a business license? Mayor Byrd responded that he was not sure. Mayor Byrd indicated that he was not sure and that the prior Solicitor had given an opinion, that if you did not have a store front, his opinion was that the business license did not apply and perhaps maybe that if the prior Township Solicitor had written that opinion a year or so ago, that this whole thing might of not happen and the best thing to do right now is to put the matter in the hands of the Township Solicitor seeking his advice and guidance.

Committeeman Morton interjected and stated that he wanted to address this matter briefly indicating that you mentioned that if it was a personal matter, that either one of them had rights as individuals that they could have exercised. Committee Morton indicated that he just wanted to suggest to the public, that the change in leadership up here should not at all suggest that Fairfield Township is giving out handouts and should not suggest at all that it is better to sue the Township than it is to sue the individual because the Township has deep pockets. He explained this so that he is not misquoted, that every person up here especially himself that the change in leadership should not suggest that now all those lawsuits should be settled, because these individuals up here do not pay that bill, the individuals out there do and those individuals out there will not allow it am I right?

Committeeman Morton stated that he is not hearing anything on that either.

Committeeman Morton indicated to Mr. Kimley that he is not in disagreement with him, but what I am saying is that is not going to happen because that will be publicized, and you know how we roll.

Mayor Byrd stated that the intentions are to give the information to the Township Solicitor, listen to his opinion and share it with you. He stated that as far as allegations of people living with other people to bring your proof to the table.

Gouldtown Fire Chief Wayne Carter, 409 East Avenue, Millville appeared and congratulated the appointment of the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and newly elected Township Committeeman Tommy Clark.

Fire Chief Carter referred to the information provided to the Township Committee regarding the package previously provided for the purchase of the new fire truck.

Mayor Byrd indicated that he will be contacting the Township Auditor and the Chief Financial Officer tomorrow to share the information with them so that we can decide on the purchase.

Viola Thomas-Hughes appeared and welcomed newly elected Township Committeeman Tommy Clark to the Township Committee. Ms. Thomas-Hughes stated that she has a few concerns pertaining to the resolution adopted during tonight's Reorganization Meeting where the governing body did not include the Tax Collector or the CFO as authorized signatures on Township checks.

Mrs. Thomas-Hughes second concern was that she knew at one time that the newly appointed Township Solicitor Carr represented Mr. Sharp and asked if this was considered a conflict? The Township Solicitor indicated that it would be a conflict and therefore the Township would have to turn the matter over to another attorney who has no conflict in the matter.

At this time, the Township Solicitor indicated that for record purposes, Mrs. Thomas-Hughes did not state in the record her address when she appeared before the governing body.

Mrs. Thomas-Hughes stated her address in the record as 493 Fairton-Gouldtown Road, Bridgeton. Mrs. Thomas-Hughes also stated that she was the former Fairfield Township Mayor, a lifetime and proud resident of the township.

Mayor Byrd asked Mr. Kimley if he had stated his address in the record when he appeared before the governing body. Mr. Kimley indicated that he did.

Mayor Byrd asked Mr. Sharp to appear back and indicate his address in the record.

Mr. Sharp appeared and indicated for the record; he does not live with Mr. Pitts.

Mr. Sharp indicated in the record his address as P.O. Box 5092, Bridgeton.

Mayor Byrd asked if there was anyone else from the public to be heard. There being no further comments to be received, Mayor Byrd asked for a motion to close the public portion.

Deputy Mayor Pitts moved to close the public portion. At this time, Committeeman Morton interjected and indicated that he had a question for the Township Solicitor before we take a vote on closing the public portion. Committeeman Morton asked the Township Solicitor that he has never in his short period of time on this board heard of anyone offering a P.O. Box when addressing the Township Committee. He indicated that he himself has a P.O. Box but gives his residence address for the record. Mr. Morton inquired if we, as a governing body, are asking for contact information or are we asking to provide a residence address? The Township Solicitor indicated that he also has a P.O. Box, but he uses his residence address. The Township Solicitor explained that we give our contact information. He also advised that the governing body could request a resident's information and would be fair enough to make the request.

Committeeman Morton indicated to Mr. Sharp that we can request your residence information and I am not sure if you will give this, but I am requesting that you provide your residence information into the record.

Mr. Sharp indicated that he was not going to give his residence information.

Committeeman Morton asked Mr. Sharp if we were to mail you a check, would we send it to your P.O. Box? Mr. Sharp's response, excuse me, what are you referring to? Committeeman Morton indicated any back dues that are owed to you at any given time.

At this time, both Morton and Sharp were going back and forth with each other.

Mayor Byrd interjected by gavel and indicated that we are not going to have this at the meetings where we are arguing with the residents. He stated that the residents get an opportunity to speak their peace and then you will have the opportunity to speak yours.

Mayor Byrd indicated that we are not going to engage in arguments nor will it be tolerated neither by the residents arguing with the members of the Township Committee nor the Township Committee arguing with the residents and if need be, he will call the State Police for disrupting this meeting and for you to get charged for disrupting the meetings is not going to be good for you.

Mayor Byrd indicated that last year there were arguments with the residents and is a total waste of time of the Township Committee and the residents and it will not be tolerated.

Committeeman Morton asked Mayor Byrd if he were to argue with him would he be charged accordingly? The mayor indicated no.

Committeeman Morton stated that he was addressing someone who had addressed this Committee.

Mayor Byrd indicated to Mr. Morton that what he is doing is argue back and forth with Mr. Sharp in the meetings.

Committeeman Morton stated that perhaps then he should argue with you Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Byrd indicated you can if you want to try. Committeeman Morton response was that he will engage. Mayor Byrd stated you can try to. Committeeman Morton stated for record purposes, may the record reflect that he is dissatisfied. Mayor Byrd indicated the record is noted.

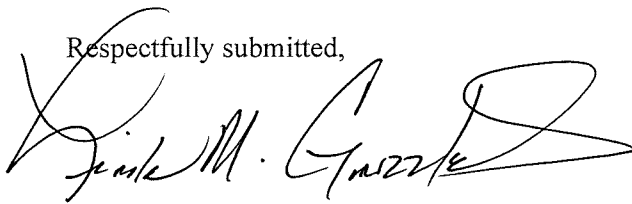
There being no further business, Mayor Byrd asked for a motion to close the public portion.

Deputy Mayor Pitts moved to close seconded by Mayor Byrd. All members voted in the affirmative.

There being no further business, Mayor Byrd asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Committeeman Morton moved to adjourn the meeting seconded by Mayor Byrd. All committee members voted in the affirmative. The meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Linda M. Gonzales". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Linda M. Gonzales, RMC
Township Clerk