

FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE  
WORK SESSION ACTION MEETING  
MARCH 3, 2015

CALL TO ORDER

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

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT STATEMENT

Mayor Byrd reading the following OPMA Statement into the record. 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 3<sup>rd</sup> day of March, 2015 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 South Jersey Times, The Daily Journal, and The Press of Atlantic City 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 by Committeeman Morton.

ROLL CALL:

Committeeman Clark, Committeeman Morton, Deputy Mayor Pitts, Committeewoman Servais and Mayor Byrd.

The following staff members were present: Township Administrator Green, Township Solicitor Carr and Township Clerk Gonzales.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Committeewoman Servais moved to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of January 13, 2015; Work Session / Action Meeting of February 3, 2015; Closed Session Meeting of February 3, 2015; Emergency Meeting of February 17, 2015 and the Preliminary Budget Review Meeting of February 23, 2015 seconded by Deputy Mayor Pitts. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Morton yes; Pitts, yes, Servais and Mayor Byrd, yes.

ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION (FIRST READING)

ORDINANCE NO. 3 - 2015

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FAIRFIELD, COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO ESTABLISH FEES FOR CERTIFIED COPIES AND CORRECTIONS FOR VITAL STATISTICS

Deputy Mayor Pitts moved to introduce Ordinance No. 3 - 2015 on first reading seconded by Committeeman Clark. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Morton, yes; Pitts, yes; Servais, yes and Mayor Byrd, yes.

ORDINANCE FOR PUBLIC HEARING (SECOND READING)

ORDINANCE NO. 2 - 2015

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FAIRFIELD IN THE COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND, NEW JERSEY REFUNDING BOND ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF UP TO \$2,750,000 AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF GENERAL OBLIGATION REFUNDING BONDS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FAIRFIELD, COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND, NEW JERSEY

Deputy Mayor Pitts moved to open the public hearing seconded by Committeeman Clark. All members voted in the affirmative.

Nancy Ridgeway, 582 Irving Avenue appeared and inquired what the savings of the bonds would be for the Township. Mayor Byrd responded it would be close to between \$94,000 and \$99,000.00.

There was no one else to be heard. Mayor Byrd asked for a motion to close the public hearing. Deputy Mayor Pitts moved to close the public hearing seconded by Committeeman Clark. All members voted in the affirmative. Mayor Byrd asked for a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2 - 2015 on final reading. Deputy Mayor Pitts moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2 - 2015 on final reading seconded by Committeeman Clark. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Morton, yes; Pitts, yes; Servais, yes and Mayor Byrd, yes.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON CURRENT AGENDA ITEMS ONLY:

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

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 69 - 2015

A RESOLUTION APPROVING FORM AND DETAILS OF THE REFUNDING BONDS

Deputy Mayor Pitts moved to adopt Resolution No. 69 - 2015 seconded by Mayor Byrd. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Morton, yes; Pitts, yes; Servais, yes and Mayor Byrd, yes.

At this time, Mayor Byrd asked the Township Committee to review the bill list.

Committeewoman Servais questioned why the Township of Fairfield keeps purchasing from South State who have not obtain their mining or business licenses. The Township Solicitor suggested that the Public Works Department be directed to look around to see what other deals are out there.

RESOLUTION NO. 70 - 2015

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PAYMENT OF TOWNSHIP BILLS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$26,271.25

Deputy Mayor Pitts moved to adopt Resolution No. 70 - 2015 seconded by Mayor Byrd. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Morton, yes; Pitts, yes; Servais yes and Mayor Byrd, yes.

RESOLUTION NO. 71 - 2015

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FAIRFIELD, CUMBERLAND COUNTY SUPPORTING SENATE BILL S2642 AND ASSEMBLY BILL A3952 WHICH DEDICATES 30% OF ALL URBAN ENTERPRISE ZONE SALES TAX REVENUES TO RESPECTIVE UEZ ACCOUNTS

Deputy Mayor Pitts moved to support Resolution No. 71 - 2015 seconded Committeeman Morton. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Morton, yes; Pitts, yes; Servais, yes and Mayor Byrd, yes.

RESOLUTION NO. 72 - 2015

RESOLUTION OF FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP, COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND AUTHORIZING THE DISCHARGE OF MORTGAGE - SMALL CITIES PROGRAM HOUSING REHABILITATION PROJECT [BORROWER IRVIN HATCH, 18 WALDEN DRIVE, BRIDGETON]

The Township Clerk explained the Small Cities Program Housing Rehabilitation Note held by Mr. Hatch in which said funds were captured back in the amount of \$5,940.00 back to the Township. The lien on the note can now be discharged.

Deputy Mayor Pitts moved to adopt Resolution No. 72 - 2015 seconded by Mayor Byrd. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Morton, yes; Pitts, yes; Servais, yes and Mayor Byrd, yes.

RESOLUTION NO. 73 - 2015

RESOLUTION OF FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP, COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND APPOINTMENT OF SAFETY COORDINATOR

Mayor Byrd announced that a Township resident has expressed their interest in the position that was vacated in January 2014. The interested party was named into the record as Alphonso Roberts.

Committeewoman Servais asked if we didn't have someone already for the position. Mayor Byrd stated that his understanding was that the person who held the position had resigned. Committeewoman Servais indicated that said individual who resigned stated that he would come back if he was asked.

Committeewoman Servais explained that everything was running smoothly and did not understand why we would want to fix something that is not broke. She indicated that the Township received \$3,775.00 last year because everything was 100% percent correct.

Mayor Byrd asked Committeewoman Servais if she had taken the time to ask said individual who resigned.

Committeewoman Servais responded yes. Committeewoman Servais asked the mayor if he had asked the individual in which the Mayor responded back no because he was not aware that said individual who resigned wanted to be asked.

Committeeman Morton stated that he wanted to explore this a little bit. Mr. Morton indicated that the individual resigned for reasons that were not disclosed. He asked if those issues were resolved. Mr. Morton indicated, as those reasons were not disclosed, we don't know if those reasons were resolved. Mayor Byrd stated that his understanding that his reason for resigning was for the lack of support from the Township Committee. Mayor Byrd indicated that if that has changed, said individual can come up and speak on this matter.

At this time, Patrick Conahey, 240 Fairton-Cedarville Road former Safety Coordinator was present in the audience. Mr. Conahey resigned as the Safety Coordinator. Mr. Conahey indicated that he had told the Mayor back in February that he would take the position back if the Committee would appoint him. He explained that back in September 2014 he filed a letter to the Township Committee indicating that he was not getting the information from the Gouldtown Fire Company.

He explained that again back in December 2014, they had not supported the Safety Program, and it was his suggestion to the former Mayor at the time, that the Gouldtown Fire Company did not receive the safety funds. He explained that the former Mayor at that time, did not support his suggestion and gave the safety funds to the Gouldtown Fire Company. He indicated that without the support of the Committee to support the program, therefore, without any support, being the reasoning for his resignation.

Mayor Byrd indicated that he does not recall seeing the letter about Mr. Conahey regarding not receiving the support from the Gouldtown Fire Company. Mayor Byrd indicated that upon his resignation, the Township needed to look into finding someone to fill the position.

Mayor Byrd indicated that had he known the issues that Mr. Conahey is making reference to now, he would of went to talk to the Gouldtown Fire Company to provide what you needed.

Mr. Conahey made reference also to an 8-year-old write-up and monthly paperwork not being turned in and no meeting attendances. He explained that the meetings are advertised yearly, and he sends reminders of the meetings and still no one shows up to the meetings.

Mayor Byrd asked Mr. Conahey to provide him the paperwork that he is making reference to. Mayor Byrd indicated that here we are March 3, 2015 and we are hearing all the details to the reasoning of his resignation.

Mr. Conahey indicated that he would stay on as the Safety Coordinator, however, the re-appointment of reinstating him back as Safety Coordinator would be up to the Township Committee.

Deputy Mayor Pitts moved that the appointment be tabled for further discussion after Closed Session seconded by Mayor Byrd. All committee members voted in the affirmative.

#### NEW BUSINESS

##### AMENDING APPLICATION FOR BUSINESS LICENSES

A lengthy discussion was held regarding the possibility of amending the current Township's application for business licenses. Said matter will be revisited at a future meeting. The Township Clerk will inquire with other surrounding municipalities to obtain information on their application process.

#### OLD BUSINESS

##### REVIEW PROPOSALS FOR COMMERCIAL SINK BAY FOR THE FAIRFIELD SENIOR CENTER

The Township Committee reviewed two (2) proposals received for the commercial sink bay at the Fairfield Senior Center. One being Premier Services, Vineland, New Jersey in the amount of \$7,900.00 and Larry's Painting and Remolding Services in the amount of \$7,850.00. The Township received a third (3) quote earlier on from Kelly's Kitchen estimated to be over \$9,000.00. During the review and discussion, it was the consensus of the governing body to award the proposal to in the amount of \$7,900.00 to Premier with the 50% down payment as indicated in the proposal.

Committeeman Clark inquired for status made at a recent meeting regarding how the kitchen at the Senior Center was changed to commercial use.

Committeeman Morton indicated that it was due to the facility being rented out to the public.

Deputy Mayor Pitts indicated that whenever you open the doors to the public where food is being prepared, the County mandates that the kitchen be modified according to Health Board standards.

#### RESOLUTION NO. 57 - 2015 (DEFERRED FROM FEBRUARY 3, 2015)

##### A RESOLUTION BY THE MEMBERS OF THE FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE ESTABLISHING STANDING TOWNSHIP SUB-COMMITTEES

Said item to be revisited at the next scheduled meeting.

#### RESOLUTION NO. 58 - 2015 (DEFERRED FROM FEBRUARY 3, 2015)

##### A RESOLUTION BY THE MEMBERS OF THE FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP ESTABLISHING STANDING TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE LIASIONS

Said item to be revisited at the next scheduled meeting.

#### DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Deputy Mayor Pitts made a comment in reference to an Animal Control payable in the amount of \$2,000.00 for the removal of cats. Mayor Byrd indicated that the report was confusing as the report indicated that the cats were taken to the SPCA at different times than the report from the Animal Control Officer.

Mayor Byrd advised that the Township still needs clarification on these reports and that these cats came indeed from the Township.

Committeewoman Servais indicated that Township should look into adoption of an ordinance for cat owners to license their pets.

Mayor Byrd indicated that the contract for the ACO needs to be modified. He also indicated that the report from the SPCA to the Township and the ACO should match with one another.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mayor Byrd asked for a motion to open the meeting to the public. Deputy Mayor Pitts moved and seconded by Mayor Byrd. All committee members voted in the affirmative.

Wayne Carter, Gouldtown Fire Company appeared and indicated that the selection of Alphonso Roberts is a good selection for the Safety Coordinator. Mr. Carter also inquired on the status of the order of the new pumper fire truck.

Township Solicitor Carr explained into the record the status of the order of the fire truck.

Russell Pierce, Gouldtown Road appeared and inquired on the status of the boat ramp. It was indicated to him that the State of New Jersey Fish Game & Wildlife was reached out and have not heard a response back from them.

Mr. Pierce was advised that if he has a contact person that the Township could contact to please give the information to the Township Administrator.

Mr. Pierce also reported on the street basketball courts that the Zoning Officer needs to address.

Pat Conahey appeared and indicated that he has a contact person that he could provide the Township Committee that has been to the Township Environmental Meetings.

Ed Kimley appeared and indicated that there is a sign on Buckshutem Road near the Morris River Bridge that has a phone number for the Fish Game & Wildlife.

Deputy Mayor Pitts indicated he knew the number Mr. Kimley is referring to. Mr. Pitts indicated that when he called Trenton, they referred him to that regional number that Mr. Kimley is referring to. It was indicated to Mr. Pitts to contact our Township Engineer.

Fire Chief Harris, Gouldtown Fire Company appeared and indicated that if Mr. Conahey as he indicated earlier in the meeting that if in the beginning of the year he sets up the meetings and ask us for our input when they can make it. The other matter referenced was the safety money. He indicated that they did not know about it, therefore, they did not apply for the funding.

There were no further comments to be received from the public. Mayor Byrd asked for a motion to close the meeting to the public. Deputy Mayor Pitts moved to close the meeting to the public seconded by Mayor Byrd. All members voted in the affirmative.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS / REMARKS

Committeewoman Servais inquired on the heater request at the Public Works Department. A discussion ensued regarding safety measures prior to putting up such heater.

Mayor Byrd indicated that we should revisit this matter at the next scheduled meeting.

Committeeman Morton had no report to give at this time.

Committeeman Clark stated that tonight's meeting was a good one. He indicated that tonight was a growing experience where we are seeing the public and Township Committee working together as opposed to fighting and bickering and would like to see more meetings like tonight and believe we could get a lot more done in this Township if we all work together.

Deputy Mayor Pitts agreed with Committeeman Clark's statement. Deputy Mayor Pitts thanked everyone for coming out tonight and providing their input to us.

#### MAYOR'S REPORT / REMARKS

Mayor Byrd stated that he agrees also with Committeeman Clark's statement. Mayor Byrd indicated some of the best times he has had sitting up here is when everyone is working together for the better and good of the Township. He indicated that all the decisions we make affect all of us.

Mayor Byrd thanked everyone for coming out tonight and to drive safely. He indicated that the Township Committee will now go into Closed Session. The Township Committee will return back into open session from the Closed Session and report if any action is to be taken.

At this time, Mayor Byrd asked for a motion to adopt the following resolution authorizing to enter into Closed Session. Deputy Mayor Pitts moved and seconded by Committeeman Clark. All members voted in the affirmative.

#### RESOLUTION NO. 74 - 2015 EXECUTIVE SESSION

AUTHORIZING THE COMMITTEE TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION NOT OPEN TO THE PUBLIC UNDER N.J.S.A 10:4-12 for the following: PERSONNEL AND LEGAL MATTERS

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

The Township Committee is now convened into Closed Session at 8:35 p.m.

The Township Committee convened into Open Session with all members present at 9:35 p.m.

Township Solicitor Carr announced that the doors are now open to the public and the Township Committee is now in Open Session at 9:35 p.m.

Township Solicitor Carr indicated the following were discussed in Executive Session, legal matters related to the GRC Complaint 2014-279, Hoffman vs Township of Fairfield and Griner vs Township of Fairfield.

Township Solicitor Carr indicated the following was also discussed in Executive Session, personnel matters relating to the employment relationship.

As a result of the discussion held in Executive Session, Mayor Byrd read the following resolution into the record:

RESOLUTION NO. 73 - 2015

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FAIRFIELD, CUMBERLAND COUNTY APPOINTING A JIF SAFETY COORDINATOR FOR THE YEAR 2015

Deputy Mayor Pitts moved to adopt Resolution No. 73 - 2015 seconded by Committeeman Clark. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Morton, abstain; Pitts, yes; Servais, abstain and Mayor Byrd, yes.

RESOLUTION NO. 75 - 2015

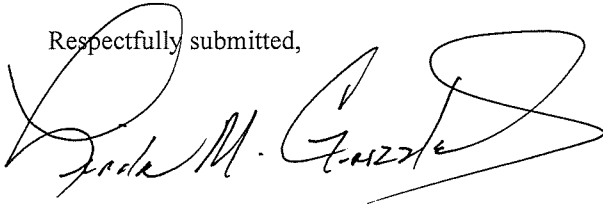
A RESOLUTION OF THE FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE REFERRING TO THE FAIRFIELD LAND USE BOARD RESOURCE EXTRACTION LAW AS CODIFIED IN ORDINANCE NO. 01-2006 ENTITLED AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FAIRFIELD, COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, LAND MINING, EARTH, AND RESOURCE EXTRACTION WHICH WAS ENACTED IN 2006

Deputy Mayor Pitts moved to adopt Resolution No. 75 - 2015 seconded by Committeeman Clark. Roll Call Vote: Clark, yes; Morton, yes; Pitts, yes; Servais, yes and Mayor Byrd, yes.

There being no further business, Mayor Byrd asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Deputy Mayor Pitts moved to adjourn seconded by Committeeman Clark. All members voted in the affirmative.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 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 loop at the end.

Linda M. Gonzales, RMC  
Township Clerk