

FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
REGULAR ACTION MEETING
JULY 16, 2025

The Regular Action Meeting of the Township Committee of Fairfield Township was held on July 16, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. in the Committee Chambers Room, 70 Fairton-Gouldtown Road, Fairton, New Jersey 08320 with Mayor Marvin Pierce, Jr. presiding.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Pierce 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 16th day of July 2025 is held pursuant to notice having been submitted to The South Jersey Times and The Daily Journal on January 8, 2025 and duly posted on the Township website and Bulletin Board.

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 Stephen M. Bateman, present; Committeeman Benjamin Byrd, Sr., present; Deputy Mayor Mike Peterson, present and Mayor Marvin Pierce, Jr., present.

MEMBER ABSENT

Committeewoman Julia Burrus.

ALSO PRESENT

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

REGULAR ACTION SESSION MEETING JUNE 18, 2025

Committeeman Benjamin Byrd, Sr. moved to approve the minutes of June 18, 2025 meeting as written seconded by Deputy Mayor Mike Peterson. Roll Call Vote: Committeeman Bateman, yes; Committeeman Byrd, yes; Deputy Mayor Peterson, yes and Mayor Pierce, yes.

ORDINANCE FOR INTRODUCTION (FIRST READING) (ONE)

Mayor Pierce read Ordinance No. 5 - 2025 into the record as follows:

ORDINANCE NO. 5 - 2025

BOND ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING ONE MILLION TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$1,200,000) AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF ONE MILLION ONE HUNDRED FORTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$1,140,000) IN BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FAIRFIELD FOR THE PURCHASE OF A NEW FIRE TRUCK TO BE UNDERTAKEN BY THE TOWNSHIP OF FAIRFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND, NEW JERSEY

Mayor Pierce entertained a motion to introduce Ordinance No. 5 - 2025 on first reading.

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

ORDINANCE FOR PUBLIC HEARING (SECOND READING)

None

REVIEW OF BILL LIST PROVIDED BY THE CFO

Mayor Pierce asked the Township Committee if they had any questions or conflicts on the bill list provided by the CFO.

Committeeman Stephen M. Bateman entered his conflict on payable #25-00520 Fairfield Volunteer Fire Company No. 1.

There being no further questions and or conflicts, Mayor Pierce read Resolution No. 95 - 2025 into the record as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 95 - 2025

A RESOLUTION OF FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP, CUMBERLAND COUNTY AUTHORIZING THE PAYMENT OF TOWNSHIP BILLS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$245,973.38

Deputy Mayor Mike Peterson moved to adopt Resolution No. 95 - 2025 seconded by Committeeman Benjamin Byrd, Sr. Roll Call Vote: Committeeman Bateman, yes, but abstain on payable #25-0052; Committeeman Byrd, yes; Deputy Mayor Peterson and Mayor Pierce, yes.

Mayor Pierce read the Consent Agenda into the record as follows:

CONSENT AGENDA

(RESOLUTION NO. 96 - 2025 THROUGH RESOLUTION NO. 97 - 2025)

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. 96 - 2025

A RESOLUTION OF APPROVAL TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION AND EXECUTE A GRANT CONTRACT WITH THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR GOULD AVENUE RECONSTRUCTION

RESOLUTION NO. 97 - 2025

A RESOLUTION OF APPROVAL TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION AND EXECUTE A GRANT CONTRACT WITH THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR PIERCETOWN ROAD SECTION II RECONSTRUCTION

On a motion by Committeeman Stephen M. Bateman to approve the above the Consent Agenda Resolution No. 96 - 2025 through Resolution No. 97 - 2025 seconded by Committeeman Benjamin Byrd, Sr. Roll Call Vote: Committeeman Bateman, yes; Committeeman Byrd, yes; Deputy Mayor Peterson, yes and Mayor Pierce, yes.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Committeeman Benjamin Byrd, Sr. placed on the record that he would like to do a training class for our Public Works Department on street patching by the standard class form. Committeeman Byrd stated that he would volunteer his time should there be no objections from the Township Committee. There were no objections.

COMMITTEE REPORTS / REMARKS

Committeeman Stephen M. Bateman had no report or remarks to make at this time.

Committeeman Benjamin Byrd, Sr. thanked Ms. Ridgeway for her attendance at tonight's meeting.

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

MAYOR'S REPORT / REMARKS

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

Mayor Pierce read the Public Comment on Current Agenda & Non - Agenda Items into the record as follows:

PUBLIC COMMENT ON CURRENT AGENDA & 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 at the appropriate time and state your name and address for the record.

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

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

There being none, Mayor Pierce entertained a motion to close Public Comment on Current Agenda & Non - Agenda Items.

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

The meeting adjourned at 6:08 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Linda M. Gonzales", written in a cursive style.

Linda M. Gonzales, RMC
Municipal Clerk