

FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
WORK SESSION ACTION MEETING
AUGUST 6, 2025

The Work Session Action Meeting of the Township Committee of Fairfield Township was held on August 6, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. via teleconference 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 6th day of August 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 by Deputy Mayor Mike Peterson.

ROLL CALL

The roll call was recorded as follows:

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

ALSO PRESENT

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

REGULAR ACTION SESSION MEETING JULY 16, 2025

Deputy Mayor Mike Peterson moved to approve the Regular Action minutes of July 16, 2025 as written seconded by Committeeman Stephen M. Bateman. Roll Call Vote: Committeeman Bateman, yes; Committeewoman Burrus, abstain, Committeeman Byrd, yes; Deputy Mayor Peterson, yes and Mayor Pierce, yes.

ORDINANCE FOR INTRODUCTION (FIRST READING)

None

ORDINANCE FOR PUBLIC HEARING (SECOND 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 open Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 5 - 2025.

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

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

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

Mayor Pierce entertained a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 5 - 2025 on final reading.

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

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.

There being none, Mayor Pierce read Resolution No. 98 - 2025 into the record as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 98 - 2025

A RESOLUTION OF FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP, CUMBERLAND COUNTY AUTHORIZING THE PAYMENT OF TOWNSHIP BILLS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$790,036.34

Committeeman Stephen M. Bateman moved to adopt Resolution No. 98 - 2025 seconded by Committeeman Benjamin Byrd, Sr. Roll Call Vote: Committeeman Bateman, yes; Committeewoman Burrus, yes, Committeeman Byrd, yes; Deputy Mayor Peterson, yes and Mayor Pierce, yes.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

(RESOLUTION NO. 99 - 2025 THROUGH RESOLUTION NO. 103 - 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. 99 - 2025

A RESOLUTION BY THE MEMBERS OF THE FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE AGREEING TO CONTINUE A CONSORTIUM WITH THE CITY OF VINELAND, CITY OF MILLVILLE, CITY OF BRIDGETON AND THE TOWNSHIP OF PITTSBORO FOR THE PURPOSE OF RECEIVING HOME ENTITLEMENT FUND

RESOLUTION NO. 100 - 2025

A RESOLUTION OF FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP, CUMBERLAND COUNTY GRANTING CONDITIONAL APPROVAL TO THE FAIRFIELD VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY NO. 1 - FAIRTON TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO THE COUNTY CONSENTING TO A CHARITABLE ROADWAY SOLICITATION

RESOLUTION NO. 101 - 2025

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF DISCHARGE OF MORTGAGE FOR 588 BACK NECK ROAD, LOT 8.01, BLOCK 51, FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP, CUMBERLAND COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

RESOLUTION NO. 102 - 2025

A RESOLUTION BY THE MEMBERS OF THE FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE APPROVING THE ANNUAL AUDIT FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

RESOLUTION NO. 103 - 2025

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A STATEMENT OF CONSENT FOR A TREATMENT WORKS APPROVAL APPLICATION FOR INSTALLATION OF A HOLDING TANK AT 6 BEACH AVENUE, FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP, CUMBERLAND COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
On a motion by Committeeman Benjamin Byrd, Sr. to approve the above Resolutions by Consent Agenda Resolution No. 99 - 2025 through Resolution No. 103 - 2025 seconded by Committeewoman Julia Burrus. Roll Call Vote: Committeeman Bateman, yes; Committeewoman Burrus, yes; Committeeman Byrd, yes; Deputy Mayor Peterson, yes and Mayor Pierce, yes.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

USE OF TOWNSHIP FACILITIES / POSITIVE VIBES COMMUNITY GROUP

SATURDAY, AUGUST 23, 2025 / 12:00 NOON TO 6:00 PM

Township Solicitor advised that a request was made to the Township Administrator for the use of the Township Facilities which was relayed to his office for review. The Solicitor explained that in the past, such requests before the Township Committee was approved by a motion and seconded and voted upon as in favor and that a Resolution was not required. The Solicitor advised that he reviewed the request and that a Certificate of Insurance were provided and deemed that application to be complete.

Committeeman Benjamin Byrd inquired on the group that made the request. The Township Administrator advised that Positive Vibes Community Group is a summer group from the City of Millville, and they are requesting authorization to use the park behind the Municipal Building for a BBQ for family and friends.

Committeeman Byrd advised that there was no application from the group in their meeting packet for the Committee's review and recommended that such requests be provided ahead of a meeting date to allow the Committee to review.

Upon further discussion, the Committee recommended that the request be tentatively approved to allow further review until next Wednesday. It was stated that upon further review, should there be no uncertainties, the Mayor will reach out to the Township Administrator.

Mayor Pierce entertained a motion to tentatively approve the request.

On a motion by Committeeman Benjamin Byrd, Sr. to tentatively approve the request seconded by Deputy Mayor Mike Peterson. All members voted in the affirmative.

There were no New Business reports from the Township Committee.

COMMITTEE REPORTS / REMARKS

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

Committeewoman Julia Burrus had no report or remarks to make at this time.

Committeeman Benjamin Byrd, Sr. had no report or remarks to make at this time.

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 Items & Non-Agenda Items into the record as follows:

PUBLIC COMMENT ON CURRENT AGENDA ITEMS & NON – AGEND 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 Stephen M. Bateman moved seconded by Committeeman Benjamin Byrd, Sr. Roll Call Vote: Committeeman Bateman, yes; Committeewoman Burrus, yes; Committeeman Byrd, yes; Deputy Mayor Peterson, yes and Mayor Pierce, yes.

Joellen Jones reported that she had sent a letter to the Township on behalf of the Dream Catchers of Gouldtown to use the Municipal Building or the Senior Center. She advised that Dream Catchers of Gouldtown assist youths in job opportunities. A schedule of the date and time to use the facilities will be provided.

Mayor Pierce recommended that the requestor put her request in writing via Use of Facilities Form and their request would be submitted to the Township Solicitor for his review and recommendation.

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

Committeeman Benjamin Byrd, Sr. moved seconded by Committeeman Stephen M. Bateman. Roll Call Vote: Committeeman Bateman, yes; Committeewoman Burrus, 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)

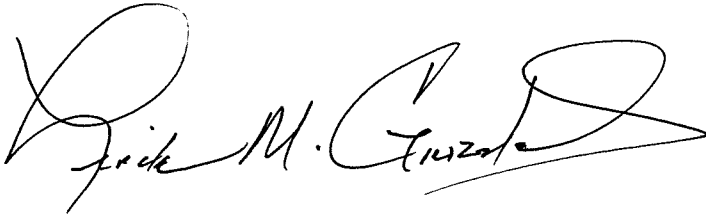
There was no need for an Executive Session.

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; Committeewoman Burrus, yes; Committeeman Byrd, yes; Deputy Mayor Peterson yes and Mayor Pierce, yes.

The meeting adjourned at 6:26 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Linda M. Gonzales". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "L" and "G".

Linda M. Gonzales, RMC
Municipal Clerk