

HAINESPORT TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MINUTES

**April 11, 2017
7:00 P.M.**

This meeting is called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Law. This meeting of April 11, 2017 was included in a meeting notice sent to the Burlington County Times and Courier Post On January 10, 2017 and advertised in said newspapers on January 12, 2017, respectively posted on the bulletin board in the municipal building on January 10, 2017 and has remained continuously posted as required under the Statute. In addition, a copy of this notice is and has been available to the public and is on file in the Office of the Municipal Clerk.

1. **CALL TO ORDER by Mayor Porto at 7:00 p.m.**
2. **FLAG SALUTE**
3. **ROLL CALL** – present were Committeewoman Gilmore, Committeeman Dickinson, Committeeman Fitzpatrick, Deputy Mayor Masciocchi and Mayor Porto. Also present were Clerk Amy Cosnoski, Solicitor John Gillespie and Township Administrator Paula Kosko.
4. **MINUTES**
 - A. **APPROVAL OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 28, 2017**
 - B. **APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 28, 2017**

Motion: Committeeman Dickinson. Second: Committeewoman Gilmore. All yes.
 - C. **APPROVAL OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE MINUTES OF MARCH 28, 2017**
 - D. **APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES OF MARCH 28, 2017**

Motion: Committeeman Dickinson. Second: Committeewoman Gilmore. Committeeman Fitzpatrick abstained. All others yes.
5. **REPORTS**
 - A. **Tax Collector** – March 2017, 1st Quarter Report
 - B. **Code Enforcement** – March 2017
 - C. **Fire Official** – March 2017
 - D. **Construction** – March 2017

Motion to approve the reports and spread the Tax Collector's report across the minutes: Committeeman Masciocchi. Second: Committeeman Dickinson. All yes.
6. **DISCUSSION/PRESENTATION**

A. Community Development Block Grant HOME Investment Partnership Program

Ms. Kosko said she had spoken to Karen Tromlen, the division head of Burlington County Community Development and Housing Program, yesterday. The Home Program is, pretty much, part of the Community Development Block Grant Program, it is a secondary grant and we are automatically enrolled in it when we agree to do the CDBG Program. It is two parts: for first time home buyers it provides up to \$5,000 for a down payment program toward the home purchase as well as \$4,000 for closing costs. The financial package is sent directly to the county so we do not have any administration of that program. Second to that there are also funds to developers for affordable housing building costs. It also can assist with COAH. Ms. Kosko said grant documents will be sent out this August so we will have a year to determine which project we want to do. Our filing year is actually going to be 2019.

Mayor Porto asked the State Trooper if he had anything to say this evening and was answered in the negative.

7. **ORDINANCES**

A. **ORDINANCE 2017-3** – Calendar Year 2017 Ordinance to Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and to Establish a Cap Bank (**Public Hearing and Final Adoption**)

There were no public comments from the audience.

Motion: Committeewoman Gilmore. Second: Committeeman Masciocchi. All yes.

8. **RESOLUTIONS**

A. **RESOLUTION 2017-78-4** – Resolution Authorizing the Filing of a Recycling Tonnage Grant Application for the Year 2016

Motion: Committeeman Dickinson. Second: Committeeman Fitzpatrick. All yes.

B. **RESOLUTION 2017-79-4** – Resolution Performance Bond Release Shoprite

Mr. Fitzpatrick asked if Shoprite are going on maintenance now and Mr. Gillespie answered him in the affirmative.

Motion: Committeeman Fitzpatrick. Second: Committeeman Masciocchi. All yes.

C. **RESOLUTION 2017-80-4** – Resolution Authorizing Shared Services Agreement with Lumberton Township for Vehicle Maintenance

This was removed because we are locked in to a two year agreement with Lumberton and don't need to renew for another year.

D. **RESOLUTION 2017-81-4** – Resolution Authorizing Expenditure of Funds for NJDOT Traffic Control Device for Fostertown/Rt. 38 Traffic Light, Not to Exceed \$17,500

Mr. Dickinson asked if there was any way they could push this resolution back; he would like an opportunity to see if they could talk to the county and see if they could come out and just put lines in the roadway similar to the stop light at Lumberton Road. Mayor Porto asked if he would report back to them when he hears anything and if the county is willing to do that he is fine with it. It was a consensus of the Committee to table the resolution until May 9, 2017.

Motion to table: Committeeman Dickinson. Second: Committeeman Masciocchi. All yes.

E. **RESOLUTION 2017-82-4** – Resolution Appointing Municipal Joint Insurance Fund Commissioner and Safety Coordinator, Paula Kosko

Motion: Committeeman Fitzpatrick. Second: Committeeman Dickinson. All yes.

F. **RESOLUTION 2017-83-4** – Resolution Approving a Block Party From 1 Hastings Lane to 15 Hastings Lane

Motion: Committeeman Dickinson. Second: Committeeman Fitzpatrick. All yes.

G. **RESOLUTION 2017-84-4** – Resolution to Enter into a Contract with Geese Chasers for Clearing and Maintaining a Geese-Free Environment

Motion: Committeeman Dickinson. Second: Committeewoman Gilmore. All yes.

H. **RESOLUTION 2017-85-4** – Appoints Paula Kosko, Administrator to Joint Land Use Board

Motion: Committeeman Masciocchi. Second: Committeewoman Gilmore. All yes.

9. PERMITS/APPLICATIONS/APPROVALS

Approval of Fireman Relief Association Applications for Shaun Bozarth, Glenn McNally, Cameron Hall and Dakota Huntsman.

Motion: Committeeman Dickinson. Second: Committeeman Fitzpatrick. All yes.

10. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC (Comments are limited to 5 minutes)

Anna Evans, 63 Parry Drive – said she had a copy of Mayor Porto's comments on the Hainesport Community Page that someone had given to her; she is blocked from viewing his comments. She said he claims to be a supporter of transparency but she disagrees with him because of various things he has done in the past. Mrs. Evans went on to ask about the derelict Exxon Station on Route 38. Mayor Porto questioned Ms. Evans if the station was in Lumberton. Ms. Evans asked if it is in Lumberton, Mayor Porto noted that station was in Lumberton. She said that there is going to be a Cleanup Day in Hainesport soon and she questioned how it worked and questioned if it was more effective than using the county landfill. Mayor Porto explained the long standing practice and the process of the residents bringing their items that are not taken by the trash men to the Township to dispose of them. Mr. Fitzpatrick said it is for the citizens to have the ease of being able to bring their debris here instead of having to take it to the Columbus area land fill. Mrs. Evans asked again how it worked explaining she believes there is some kind of arrangement with the Hainesport Railroad. Mayor Porto said the railroad only has to do with the shipment of the trash. Mr. Dickinson explained to her how the process works on Cleanup Day. She questioned how much the Industrial Railroad has to do with it. The committee members said they don't even think the Railroad has anything to do with the process. Ms. Kosko interjected that she believes it is grant funded through Clean Communities and is offered to municipalities throughout Burlington County and she is almost certain it is grant funded due to there are hazardous wastes involved. Noting it is to allow citizens to get rid of their paint cans and any other hazardous items and then it is transported out. Ms. Kosko said she can't answer about the railroad situation but she did say that is how it is administered throughout the county. Mrs. Evans then brought up the fact that it does not encourage community involvement when the mayor tries to have his political opponent put in jail, noting that is what Mayor Porto did to her with the help of Mrs. Gilmore. Mrs. Evans said a number of people with small children have come to her and noted that they would like the township to provide them with a babysitting service during the township meetings. She made some suggestions to enable this to happen. Mr. Dickinson said it is something that should be brought up to the township. Mrs. Evans said she can't be responsible if some residents feel that she is more approachable

than the committee. Mr. Masciocchi asked her why they would think that. She said it would be because they have heard and seen things and know that they tried to put her in prison. Mr. Masciocchi said he did not and wondered why he wouldn't be approachable. There was a discussion between them and Mr. Masciocchi said her complaints could be valid but he wishes she would direct them appropriately. Mrs. Evans apologized to him and said she does not mean to include him in that. She said it was Mrs. Gilmore and Mayor Porto as well as Mr. Fitzpatrick. Mr. Fitzpatrick asked her why she believed that he had anything to do with that and she told him that his name was mentioned in the witness report that she received this week. There was more discussion about that situation. She asked Mr. Gillespie for his email address so she could email him information pertaining to the discussion.

Letitia Kelly, 525 Lumberton Road – told the committee and the audience about a presentation by John Anderson at the Environmental Commission on April 27, 2017. His presentation will be about the Rancocas Creek in Hainesport. The event will be in the township building at 7:30 P.M. Everyone in the room is invited and she hopes the committee will be available for this.

Catherine McNelis, 407 Bischoff Avenue – said she is glad that the committee tabled the resolution for \$17,500. She said it is an awful lot of money to spend when some lines painted on the street would do just as well. She really appreciates what they did. Ms. McNelis then welcomed Paula Kosko as the new township administrator. She said she hopes Ms. Kosko will do as good a job as Leo Selb did and she is sure she will.

11. COMMENTS FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR

Ms. Kosko said today was her seventh day as Township Administrator. She thanked the Township Committee for giving her the opportunity to serve the Hainesport Community as the administrator, the JIFF Fund Coordinator, the Safety Coordinator, Land Use Board member and, in the near future, the Township Clerk. She commended the staff for holding the operations together for the past several months. They are outstanding, dedicated, competent and, as she has seen in the past seven days, extremely fantastic with the residents. She said she is fortunate to work with a great group of people. Ms. Kosko said outside of a few files, the 2017 budget, emails and all the correspondence, there are a few items she has started to work on: the traffic study on Bancroft Lane, Washington, Craig and Parry Drive. She will be analyzing the speed data that has been compiled over the past couple of years. Ms. Kosko said she will contact the State Police and request assistance from them based on the information that she finds. She will research some traffic calming devices and make a recommendation to the committee at the May meeting. The fire official has brought to her attention that he has been working on the 2016 Life Hazard Inspections for the municipality. This report needs to be approved by her in the State Rem System so she has begun that process so he can move forward and our sharer fees can finally be distributed to us. Finally, to date, Ms. Kosko has met Rich Litton, President of the Emergency Squad and Bill Challender, President of the Fire Company. A meeting with the fire company chief is soon to be forth coming. She hopes to meet with the leaders of the Senior Citizens next month as well as any other clubs, groups and associations in the township.

12. COMMENTS FROM THE SOLICITOR

Mr. Gillespie said he had no comments this evening.

13. COMMENTS FROM THE COMMITTEE

Mrs. Gilmore said it is freezing in the room and Mr. Fitzpatrick got up to adjust the temperature.

Mr. Masciocchi said he wanted to wish our new administrator good luck and that he is glad she is with us. He said he knows the committee tabled the shared services agreement with Lumberton but he thought that maybe we should be looking into additional shared services with them, the courts being one of them. Mr. Masciocchi went on to explain the issues with the court in Westampton due to it being crowded and expressed his issues with the way the fees are collected and distributed and he feels Hainesport is not getting the funds they should be getting and it this should be looked at again. Mr. Dickinson said they do sit down with the local municipalities every few months to see what different shared services can be done and they looked at doing the shared services with Lumberton for the courts and it did not work out. Discussion ensued on who can determine how the courts are structured. It was determined that the Solicitor, Mr. Gillespie, would look at the current agreement.

Mrs. Evans asked if she could get up and make a comment and Mayor Porto told her it is time for committee person comments. Mrs. Evans continued to ask if she could get up and make a comment on something and Mayor Porto told her she could not. There was a discussion between them and she did not get up.

Mr. Dickinson thanked Mr. Gillespie for his help. He also wanted to thank Paula Tiver and Donna Casey for their help Saturday for the Easter Egg Hunt. He thanked Tara Wicker's daughter and Nate Lawrence for their help. Mr. Dickinson also reminded everyone about the Pickle Ball opening that is being held this coming Saturday at 10:30 a.m. Mike Golenda will be there with several activities planned.

Mr. Fitzpatrick welcomed Ms. Kosko aboard and said he is looking forward to working with her. He told Donna Kilburn that he would miss her at the JIFF meetings. He also thanked Ms. Cosnoski for her help with the administrative part.

Mayor Porto said he wanted to thank our volunteers Paula Tiver and her husband, Donna Casey for helping with the Easter Egg Hunt last Saturday. He also thanked Shoprite for their donations of candy and eggs. He also thanked the Parents Night Out group from the Hainesport PTO for helping to raise numerous funds to help our community. He had the privilege of attending on Saturday and it was quite an event. Mayor Porto mentioned that Cleanup Day is this Saturday. It is an event where we can help clean up our community. He went on to say that at our November meeting the gentleman from the State Police came down and said it is the duty of public officials to report an illegality when it occurs. He said he did that and he would do it again and again. At that point Mrs. Evans tried to say something and Mayor Porto stopped her from commenting. He said he submitted his complaint as advised when he had a problem on Election Day when he saw two crimes committed. First, the crime of sitting at the table with the poll book which has not been refuted, in fact, a witness also spoke on the day of the court hearing. Secondly, there was an infraction of greeting voters and interacting with voters and voters in this town have the right to enter a polling place without having to deal with greeting the candidate or be talked to by a candidate. They should feel free that they can just come in, uninterrupted, within one hundred feet of the polling place. Mayor Porto said that is another state law and Judge Androneci, from Westampton, found probable cause. At that point it was taken over by the justice system. He was only a witness at that point and he reported what he saw and he never lied and he will always stand for law and order in making sure that our residents have free access to the polls without interference.

14. **BILL LIST**

Motion: Committeeman Dickinson. Second: Committeeman Masciocchi. Mr. Fitzpatrick abstained from voting on 17-00295 but voted yes on all the others. All others yes.

15. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A. **RESOLUTION 2017-86-4** – Resolution to Enter into Executive Session,

Attorney Client Privilege

Motion: Committeeman Fitzpatrick. Second: Committeeman Dickinson. All yes.

16. **ADJOURNMENT @ 8:08 P. M.**

Motion: Committeeman Masciocchi. Second: Committeewoman Gilmore. All yes.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy P. Cosnoski, RMC

Township Clerk