

# **HAINESPORT TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MINUTES**

**May 9, 2017  
7:00 P.M.**

This meeting is called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Law. This meeting of May 9, 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 REGULAR COMMITTEE MINUTES OF APRIL 11, 2017**

B. **APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES OF APRIL 11, 2017**

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

## **5. REPORTS**

- A. **Tax Collector** – April 2017
- B. **Code Enforcement** – April 2017
- C. **Fire Official** – April 2017
- D. **Construction** – April 2017

**Motion to approve the reports and spread the Tax Collector's report across the minutes:  
Committeeman Dickinson. Second: Committeewoman Gilmore. All yes.**

## **6. RESOLUTIONS**

- A. **RESOLUTION 2017-81-4** – Authorizing Expenditures of Funds for Contribution to a New Jersey Department Transportation Study for the Need of a Traffic Control Device at the Intersection of Fostertown Road and Route 38, in an Amount Not to Exceed \$17,500

There was a discussion about whether or not this resolution should be pushed back for another month in order for the committee not to have to expend the money for the study. Paula Kosko, the administrator, said that Mr. Brickley, from the state, said that this is a county road going on to a state road and

therefore it is a state jurisdiction. He said they would have to conduct the study. He forwarded to Ms. Kosko the contact information at the state level; Chris Barrett, manager of traffic signals and safety engineering with New Jersey DOT and also she has Joe Fitatta's information. She said the township would be responsible for 25% of any equipment that would have to be born of their study that they have to conduct. Mayor Porto said he read through the emails and he doesn't see where the county would be able to resolve this. He said the committee did their due diligence by checking with the county on this. Mr. Masciocchi asked who authorized anyone to reach out and Mayor Porto said Mr. Dickinson was going to confer with the county and see if there was any way we could get this done without charge. Mr. Dickinson told Mr. Masciocchi that he and Ms. Kosko had done so. There was more discussion on the matter and Mayor Porto said he had asked Ms. Kosko to verify what we had and to see if there were any other possibilities.

**Motion: Committeewoman Gilmore. Second: Committeeman Masciocchi. Committeeman Dickinson: no. All others yes.**

- B. **RESOLUTION 2017-87-5** – Authorizing Signers of Checks for Hainesport Township Checking Account

**Motion: Committeeman Dickinson. Second: Committeeman Masciocchi. All yes.**

- C. **RESOLUTION 2017-88-5** – Suspending Hainesport Township Ordinance Chapter 144 Regulating Yard Sales

Mayor Porto noted this is to waive the fees for yard sales that are going to be held on the day that the Community Yard Sale will be held in the township on May 27, 2017 so that the entire community can participate.

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

- D. **RESOLUTION 2017-89-5** – Authorizing the Township of Hainesport to Execute an Agreement with Burlington County for Cooperative Participation in the Community Development Block Grant Program and HOME Investment Partnerships Program Years (Federal FY) 2018-2020

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

- E. **RESOLUTION 2017-90-5** – Awarding a Contract for Bus Transportation for the Summer Recreation Program

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

- F. **RESOLUTION 2017-91-5** – Authorizing Release of Performance Guarantee Wawa Store #347

**Motion: Committeeman Masciocchi. Second: Committeeman Dickinson. All yes.**

- G. **RESOLUTION 2017-92-5**- Authorizing the Transfer of Funds Raised by Shoebox Recycling to Burlington County Animal Alliance

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

- H. **RESOLUTION 2017- 93-5**- Township of Hainesport Authorizing Cancellation of Outstanding Checks

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

- I. **RESOLUTION 2017-94-5-** Appoint Class II Alternate Member to the Joint Land Use Board - William Wagner

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

- J. **RESOLUTION 2017-95-5-** Authorizing Employment for Seasonal Public Works Employees

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

- K. **RESOLUTION 2017-96-5-** Appointing Deputy Clerk of the Hainesport Township– Paula L. Kosko

**Motion: Committeeman Masciocchi. Second: Committeeman Dickinson. All yes.**

- L. **RESOLUTION 2017-97-5-** Authorizing a Donation to Mt. Holly Recreation

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

## 7. **2017 BUDGET**

- A. **RESOLUTION 2017-98-5** – Authorizes the 2017 Budget to be Read by Title Only.

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

### B. **Public Hearing on 2017 Budget**

**Anna Evans**, 63 Parry Drive – asked why the various columns had xxxxs where there would be figures. She was informed that the xxxxs are placed there to indicate there is nothing supposed to be there.

- C. **RESOLUTION 2017-99-5** – Adopts 2017 Budget

Mayor Porto said that the 2017 budget contains a 3% reduction in the municipal taxes which will result in a \$25 decrease in the average household property taxes in the township. It is a reduction in the actual levy of \$57,750.49. It is in keeping with the township policy of having sound budgetary measures to have revenues in future years. They have set aside \$357,000 in the Capital Improvement Fund which is an increase of \$132,000 that will be available to keep our roads in fine condition. The township is in strong fiscal condition.

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

## 8. **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC (Comments are limited to 5 minutes)**

**H. Krollfeifer**, 23 Easton Way – Commented on the code of the township that precludes the parking of trailers, boat trailers and busses being parked on the street. He expressed his concern over it not being enforced and the time it takes to enforce it. Mr. Krolfeifer noted this was not a complaint about Ms. Newcomb, he thinks she should be given more authority to enforce the ordinance without having to come to the Committee. Mayor Porto noted they will get Ms. Kosko to look into it and explained that Code Enforcement does not have to come to the Committee to enforce the codes that are already on the book.

**Jennings Black**, 2505 Elm Avenue – questioned if the Committee was able to assist him in obtaining in the building permit for his garage that he has requested previously. Solicitor Gillespie explained the research he did and noted that there is nothing that the Township can legally do to bypass the need to go through the DEP. Mr. Black said he understands and thanked Mr. Gillespie for looking into it. Mr. Black continued to discuss the dilapidated condition of some of the homes in town, specifically 2319 Spruce Street and noted there has been a large amount of damage done by kids. Mayor Porto advised that they are aware of the situation and information was given to Code Enforcement. Mr. Black showed pictures of the home to the Committee. Mr. Black advised there is a tree by the boat ramp and a tree that needed to be cut down and there was discussion if it was County property. Mr. Black commented on the water quality of the creek behind his house and showed pictures of the film that on the creek. Mayor Porto asked he called the hot line number that was given to him and Mr. Black noted that he had not. Mayor Porto asked him to call the hot line the next time he sees the film on the creek. Mr. Black thanked the Committee for listening to him and noted he disagrees with the decision from the state.

## **9. COMMENTS FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR**

Ms. Kosko gave a status report on the 2017 approved CDBG grant application; the county is waiting for HUD to give final notification which should be soon since the program is not going to be eliminated this year. This is for the sidewalk improvements on Edwin, Albert and Washington Streets. We should get confirmation sometime in September. PSE&G has sent out a reminder that eligible customers can still apply for the “LIHEAP” program until May 31<sup>st</sup>. This provides financial assistance towards winter heating and medically necessary cooling bills. They also have payment assistant programs for clients who are not low income but may have fallen behind on their payments. Ms. Kosko reminded everyone about the memorial service being held on Memorial Day, Monday the 29<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m.

## **10. COMMENTS FROM THE SOLICITOR**

Mr. Gillespie asked the Mayor if the township has an abandoned property ordinance and if there was none the Township should consider doing one to address the issues. Ms. Kosko said she believes we do not have one but she the Code Enforcement Officer just gave her a sample of Westampton’s. Mr. Gillespie asked if it would be ok with the committee if he developed one and presented it at the next meeting and was told by Mayor Porto said that would be good; they would set aside discussion and if the board wishes to proceed they will take action.

## **11. COMMENTS FROM THE COMMITTEE**

**Mrs. Gilmore** – said she wanted to go forward and possibly have a program that went a little bit farther out like a 5 year program that would take a look at the streets and the repairs that are necessary like pot holes and cracks in the streets. Possibly have stop signs that are a little bit larger and newer solar lit signs that might do well in an intersection such as Fostertown Road and Hainesport-Mt. Laurel Road. She said she has heard about speeding in Hainesport Proper and thinks these are issues to be looked into. She thinks something should be set into motion to address them. Mr. Fitzpatrick said as far as the speeding issue is concerned short of having an officer at every corner there is not much more that they can do. Mrs. Gilmore said she thought we had something that shows your speed limit on the streets. She wondered if that still exists. Ms. Kosko said she believes it was borrowed. She had just spoken to someone in Lumberton about one for our township. Mrs. Gilmore suggested some kind of study to find out what would help to slow the speeding down. Mr. Dickinson said there was a study done last year and it was determined the 2 worst streets as far as speeding were Bancroft Lane and Washington Street. Mrs. Gilmore said she is not suggesting speed bumps but there are other devices out there that could

slow the traffic down. Mayor Porto said even though the administrator just started last month, they have given her a laundry list of things to do and this is one of the items on the list for her. Seeing that there are targeted times that allow us to get additional police resources and if we are unable to get them during the time, if we could request them through our state delegation to have additional assistance from the state police at certain times at certain places in town to write the tickets and see if that has an effect then pursue the worst areas to follow up with traffic calming devices. Mrs. Gilmore said there are some complaints about the school buses on Marne Highway. Since they closed the Centerton Bridge there is a lot more traffic and it has affected our traffic. People are passing school buses when they are stopped and she said there has to be a way to address this issue. Mr. Dickinson said that last year we did target some of those areas and it is a shame but it is a lot of our residents. We have pleaded with the police to give tickets out. Someone was speeding along Broad Street the other day. A lot of it is because people are playing on their phones. Mrs. Gilmore said that the Tax Sale was a success and thank the Tax Office. She said she had a request for a map of the walkways in the park around the building. There are supposed to be some kind of markings that people don't understand what they mean. There is nothing to tell you where the walkways go. She also said she would like to hear something about the COAH properties. She just recently saw a bill from TRIAD and was not real thrilled with it. There is going to be a Senior Expo on the 24<sup>th</sup> of May over by the Masonic Home and there will also be a speaker on the Civil War at the Senior Citizens meeting on the 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Mr. Masciocchi** – commented that at the last meeting he had raised the issue with regard to shared services with Westampton and in the course of the discussion it was mentioned that we sit down with the local municipalities every few months to see what different shared services can be accomplished and his question is; is there a standing committee that does this? If so, who are on these committees, when are these meetings held and who do they report back to? It struck him as he was reviewing the minutes that he has been here for 5 months now and he hasn't heard anything with regard to any interaction between the various municipalities as to who is negotiating for what and when. So, if there is such a standing committee, he thinks they are entitled to know who is on the committee and when it meets and what goes on at these meetings. Mayor Porto said there is no standing committee on the township committee but perhaps there is a county group of municipalities that Ms. Kosko may be aware of. She said she is not aware of any such committee. Mr. Dickinson said about 4 or 5 years ago the local mayors would get together just to go over some opportunities. Most of their discussion was about police. Mr. Masciocchi said that is all well and good but it contradicts what was said. What was said was that meetings were held every few months to see what could be done with regard to shared services. The question of the courts was raised and it was said that it couldn't be done. That is not true. Number 2 if the implication clearly was that meetings were taking place on a regular basis, the question remains, if there isn't any then say so. Mr. Dickinson said that last year there was a proposal for the courts but he thinks that went through Mr. Selb. Mr. Masciocchi said he understands that but that isn't what was said. It was said that meetings are held periodically; either they are or they aren't and if they are not, let's make it clear. Mr. Fitzpatrick asked who said this last month and was answered that it was Mr. Dickinson. Mr. Masciocchi said it is in the minutes. Mr. Gillespie said he can tell them and he doesn't know with regard to the courts that we said that there is nothing that can be done. He knows that we are looking at that; we are looking to see what the numbers are, what the number of tickets are being written that come from Hainesport. So there is work that we are doing to follow up on the inquiry Mr. Masciocchi made. Mr. Fitzpatrick said there is not such a committee. Mr. Dickinson said last year there was a meeting with Lumberton Township and they made an offer or asked us to look into shared services with the courts. Mr. Selb came back with the answer that it wouldn't work. Mr. Dickinson said he believes that Mr. Masciocchi thinks it could work. Mayor Porto said, just for the record, a lot of our shared service agreements have come together is either through the direction of the committee or through the administrator. That goes all the way back to Chris Schultz. He remembers that Mr. Tuliano was instrumental in handling the transition where we had shared courts. We saved money by not having municipal courts here in town. We have a shared service agreement with Lumberton for maintenance, we have shared services where we borrow equipment from various towns and vice versa. We also share

services with Westampton for staffing. There are a number of them but there is no standing committees on the township committee. That doesn't mean it can't happen if they so choose. Mr. Masciocchi said what his concern is that comments should not be made that things are being worked on if they are not happening. That is the second time it has happened in the 5 months that he has been here. There was a discussion between Mr. Masciocchi and Mr. Dickinson about what had been said by Mr. Dickinson at last month's meeting. Mr. Masciocchi said what he is complaining about is the representation that there are things being done when they are not being done.

**Mr. Dickinson** – said he was thrown for a loop a little with the outside negotiation stuff but he will think about that later. He apologized for that if it was taken in the wrong way. Once in a while the other towns come up and talk to us about shared services. There is no committee here that actually sits down and meets with those people. Mr. Selb was involved last year with the shared services and it was not worth it at the time. Mr. Dickinson thanked everyone in house for their work; the public works is doing a fantastic job out there. They just knock things out. He said, as always, if someone has an issue reach out to someone in the building.

**Mr. Fitzpatrick** – welcomed Mr. Wagner aboard. The township appreciates his services.

**Mayor Porto** – reminded everyone about the community yard sale on May 27<sup>th</sup> this month. There will be no fee for having the yard sale in town. Also, he reminded everyone about the Memorial Day Service that will be held on Monday, the 29<sup>th</sup> of May at the township building at 9 A.M. He encouraged everyone to come out and honor those who have given all. Mr. Dickinson also reminded the public that the Fallen Officer ceremony is coming up as well. This is for Officer Wurst who gave his life in the line of duty for that terrible act of the sniper so many years ago. There will be a service at the county and Hainesport will be attending to show its respect for the officer. Mayor Porto thanked all of the township's employees who participated in Clean-up Day and giving back to our community. We also had a beautiful Easter Egg Hunt. He thanked Donna Casey and the Tiver family for their help for that event. Mayor Porto said he wanted to reiterate that he is pleased that it is the first time he has been a committeeman that they can come up with a tax decrease for our residents. He is very proud of that achievement and he hopes they can keep making it more efficient for the residents.

## **12. BILL LIST**

**Motion: Committeeman Dickinson. Second: Committeewoman Gilmore. Mr. Fitzpatrick abstained from bill 17-00321 and 17-00397. All yes.**

## **13. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**A. RESOLUTION 2017-100-5** – Enter into Executive Session (if necessary)

It was not necessary to enter into Executive Session.

## **14. ADJOURNMENT @ 8:00 P. M.**

**Motion: Committeeman Masciocchi. Second: Committeeman Dickinson. All yes.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Amy P. Cosnoski, RMC, Township Clerk**