

HAINESPORT TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MINUTES

**MARCH 15, 2016
7:30 P.M.**

This meeting is called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Law. This meeting of March 15, 2016 was included in a meeting notice sent to the Burlington County Times and Courier Post On January 11, 2016 and January 14, 2016 and advertised in said newspapers on January 13, 2016 and January 19, 2016, respectively posted on the bulletin board in the municipal building on January 19, 2016 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 Dickinson at 7:30 P.M.
2. **FLAG SALUTE**
3. **ROLL CALL** – present were Committeeman MacLachlan, Committeeman Porto, Committeeman Boettcher, Committeeman Fitzpatrick and Mayor Dickinson. Also present were Administrator/Clerk Leo F. Selb, Jr. and Solicitor Theodore Costa.
4. **MINUTES**
 - A. **APPROVAL OF REGULAR COMMITTEE MINUTES OF** February 9, 2016
 - B. **APPROVAL OF CLOSED SESSION MEETING OF** February 9, 2016
 - C. **APPROVAL OF SPECIAL MEETING BUDGET WORKSHOP OF** February 27, 2016

Motion: Committeeman Boettcher. Second: Committeeman MacLachlan. All yes.
5. **REPORTS**
 - A. **Tax Collector** – February, 2016
 - B. **Code Enforcement** – February, 2016
 - C. **Fire Official** – February, 2016
 - D. **Construction** – February, 2016

Motion to approve the reports and spread the Tax Collector's report across the minutes: Committeeman MacLachlan. Second: Committeeman Boettcher. All yes.

6. DISCUSSION/PRESENTATION

A. Sewer Connection

Mr. Selb reported that all the letters have gone out and he has been getting some responses and he said the Mt. Holly MUA has as well. We have been getting some responses that had to be clarified by the MUA so there may have been some mistakes on their part. Mr. Selb said he knows there are some people that have made inquiries about for the connections themselves. We are waiting to hear back from the MUA.

7. ORDINANCES

A. **ORDINANCE 2016-1-2** – Ordinance of the Township of Hainesport, County of Burlington, State of New Jersey, Amending Chapter 85 Fire Prevention **(Was Tabled for March) (First Reading and Introduction) (Final Hearing April 12, 2016)**

Mr. Selb said this was the ordinance presented by the Fire Official, who would have been here last week but the meeting was postponed to tonight and he is on vacation. This ordinance was re-addressed and one of the concerns was the wording; whether it was two times a year and that wording was changed to say that it was at least a minimum of every other year which is actually a benefit to the businesses. One of the other changes was in regard to the lock boxes. While we were requiring the businesses have a lock box we were not requiring they put anything in them. Common sense says that there should be a key, fob or something stating what the code is to open the door into the lock boxes. Now we require that the businesses have that. That box is secured with a key that only the firemen have access to so no-one else can open the box. It is secured to the wall so well that it cannot be opened or removed in any way. Mr. MacLachlan asked Mr. Costa what the liability would be to the township if there was ever a time that the lock box was opened and the building was opened. Mr. Costa said that generally has tort immunity. Mr. Selb said there was only one company that you can get the lock boxes from and they are absolutely secure. Mr. Fitzpatrick said his company uses them also. They are very beneficial. The code is being changed to say that the businesses have to put something in the lock boxes.

Motion: Committeeman MacLachlan. Second: Committeeman Boettcher. All yes.

B. **ORDINANCE 2016-2-2** – Ordinance of the Township of Hainesport, County of Burlington, State of New Jersey, Amending Chapter 152 Smoke Alarms **(Was Tabled for March) (First Reading and Introduction) (Final Hearing April 12, 2016)**

Mr. Selb said previously there was a fine associated with this if they didn't do what they were supposed to do and our Fire Official feels that compliance is better than fines and would hope that they would apply the potential if they were going to be fined towards the correction of the issue. So if the permit expires, they are required to get a new permit which is a lot less than a \$1,250 fine. Mr. Porto asked why it would expire in three months. Is it because they are not having an inspection? Mr. Selb it expires because they did not have their inspection in the appropriate time. They eliminated the violations and

penalties and we added that any failed inspections shall simply require them to re-apply and pay another fee for an application.

Motion: Committeeman MacLachlan. Second: Committeeman Boettcher. All yes.

C. ORDINANCE 2016-3-3 – Calendar Year 2016 Ordinance to Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and to Establish a CAP Bank (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14) **(First Reading and Introduction) (Final Hearing April 12, 2016)**

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

D. ORDINANCE 2016-4-3 – Ordinance of the Township of Hainesport, County of Burlington, State of New Jersey, Amending the Township's Handicapped Parking **(First Reading and Introduction) (Final Hearing April 12, 2016)**

Motion: Committeeman Boettcher. Second: Committeeman MacLachlan. All yes.

8. RESOLUTIONS

A. RESOLUTION 2016-64-3 – Resolution Authorizing Contract for Change in payroll Plan – **PAYCHEX**

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

B. RESOLUTION 2016-65-3 – Resolution Appointing Emergency Management Coordinator – **William Boettcher, III**

Motion: Committeeman MacLachlan. Second: Committeeman Porto. All yes.

C. RESOLUTION 2016-66-3 – A Resolution to Enter into a Contract with **Geese Chasers** for Clearing and Maintaining a Geese-Free Environment

Motion: Committeeman MacLachlan. Second: Committeeman Boettcher. Committeeman Fitzpatrick abstained. All others yes.

D. RESOLUTION 2016-67-3 – Resolution Authorizing the Treasurer/CFO to Refund Business License Application Fee – **Specialty Mirror and Bath, Inc.**

Motion: Committeeman Boettcher. Second: Committeeman MacLachlan. All yes.

E. RESOLUTION 2016-68-3 – A Resolution to Purchase New Solar Batteries for Walkway Lights

Mayor Dickinson said this is more of a safety issue than anything. We presently have eleven lights out because of the batteries failing. There is a five year warranty which has been met at this time and the additional lights will begin to fail. Mr. Selb said it was a great decision to have them installed; first they were environmentally friendly but more importantly because they are solar. It helps us in two ways; we don't have to pay for the electric and we would have had to run the electric somehow with a huge transformer for

the entire walkway. That would have been very costly. The batteries, brand new, will cost us \$37,000 but the electricity for the last five years would have cost us \$60,000. So there is a savings and they are environmentally friendly. Mr. Fitzpatrick asked if there could be a grant for this and Mr. Selb said that would apply if we were going for new lights, not just batteries. Mr. Porto asked if we had priced around and Mr. Selb told him we would have to go with the vendor that sold us the lights to keep the warranty on the lights we have to stay with the same batteries.

Motion: Committeeman Porto. Second: Committeeman Boettcher. All yes.

F. RESOLUTION 2016-69-3 – Introduction of 2016 Budget

Mr. Selb said there was a lot of work put into this budget. Give credit to the CFO; she spent a lot of time with the auditors. The committee went over this budget to make sure that it would meet our needs. We were very fortunate that we had some increased revenue added to our surplus. We were able to keep our tax rate to a rise of \$1.25 per hundred. It will equate to a house rated at \$277,000 to increase about \$37.00 per year for the local purpose tax. He has no knowledge what the schools are going to do. He believes that is a plus; we continue to meet our needs and continue to get grants to do things in our community. Mr. Porto wanted to mention that we have in the budget replenishing the capital improvement fund after the purchase of an ambulance last year and we are purchasing fire packs for our emergency responders.

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

G. RESOLUTION 2016-70-3 - Resolution for Self-Examination of Budget

Motion: Committeeman Boettcher. Second: Committeeman MacLachlan. All yes.

H. RESOLUTION 2016-71-3 – Resolution to Confirm and Correct Resolution 2016-21-1 Appointment of Class IV Alternate Members to the Joint Land use Board

Motion: Committeeman Boettcher. Second: Committeeman MacLachlan. All yes.

I. RESOLUTION 2016-72-3 - Resolution Authorizing Employment for Seasonal Public Works Employee

Mayor Dickinson said this would allow us to start one more employee for temporary summer help and will also allow us to continue to address roadway crack and repair and storm water inlets.

Motion: Committeeman Boettcher. Second: Committeeman MacLachlan. All yes.

J. RESOLUTION 2016-73-3 – Resolution Approving a Block Party from 1 Hastings Lane to 15 Hastings Lane

Motion: Committeeman Boettcher. Second: Committeeman Porto. All yes.

K. RESOLUTION 2016-74-3 – Resolution Authorizing Contract for Maintenance/Reconstruction of Baseball and Softball Fields

Withdrawn

Mr. Selb said he had two more resolutions to add to amend the agenda. **Mr. Porto** asked for a few minutes so they could review the additions.

Motion to amend the agenda to add two more resolutions: Committeeman MacLachlan. Second: Committeeman Boettcher. All yes.

L. RESOLUTION 2016-76-3 – Resolution Accepting and Awarding a Grant from the Hazardous Discharge Site Remediation Fund Public Entity Program Through the New Jersey Economic Development Authority and the Department of Environmental Protection

Mr. MacLachlan asked if there was money in this to remove the tanks and **Mr. Selb** said there was not. We have somebody now that is looking at the property and they are going to take the initiative to meet with **Whitman** and also a representative from this organization to see if they will amend the grant somehow to allow the tanks to be taken out. We wanted to do it but this organization said they no longer give grants to have the tanks taken out of the ground. Perhaps these people have some influence that we don't. **Mr. MacLachlan** asked if we were bound to give this to **Whitman** and **Mr. Selb** said we are and have done this in the past. **Mr. Porto** asked if the township got a successful buyer is that buyer able to continue with the grant and **Mr. Selb** said the grant would end. He also asked if we sell the property do we have to give the grant money back and **Mr. Selb** said we do not. Once the property is sold expenditures regarding the grant would stop because **Whitman** would no longer be authorized to do any testing. If we have no one to buy it they will continue to go forward with the testing of the site. **Mr. MacLachlan** asked if **Mr. Selb** would oversee the billing on this grant and **Mr. Selb** said he would. The committee will see everything on the bill list. **Mayor Dickinson** asked when the potential buyer would be notified and **Mr. Selb** said he had already met with him and they talked about it. The buyer had originally wanted to buy the property, he was a realtor, he had someone interested and he came in and got copies of everything. He said he would get back to **Mr. Selb** to meet with the economic development committee if they were going to go forward. He is aware that we received the grant. The state had said that because they were no longer in use they should be removed. **Mr. Selb's** response to them was that as soon as we know where we are going we will make a commitment to see that the tanks are removed. He told them he has no idea what is going to happen as far as funding or grants or anything else. No specific date was made; that's the state requirement that if the tanks are no longer in use within so many days they are supposed to be removed or you're supposed to take some kind of action. **Mr. Selb** told them it was an open ended action at this point because we have no idea which direction this is headed. After more discussion about the **Hitco Property** it was decided to accept the grant and award it to **Whitman**.

Motion: Committeeman Boettcher. Second: Committeeman MacLachlan. All yes.

M. RESOLUTION 2016-77-3 – Resolution Rejecting RFP’s Received for the Baseball & Softball Fields Reconstruction and Authorizing New RFP’s

Mr. Selb said that he had received the RFP’s today and none of them included the information to evaluate and rank them according to criteria. As a result, they all had to be rejected. We are going out for new ones and are trying to make it a lot clearer so they understand what they have to put in the RFP’s. The information was there in the body but they simply overlooked it and went to another section. Mr. Fitzpatrick asked how many people applied and Mr. Selb told him four had. Mr. Selb said he believes it was a communication error in putting the RFP’s together so they have made it a lot clearer plus he thought they came in all very high. The lowest was \$47,000 and the highest was \$92,000 to do both fields.

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

Mayor Dickinson thanked Sacred Heart CYO baseball fields for opening up for the Hainesport School program. With the fields being shut down they didn’t have any place to go.

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

Jennings Black, 2505 Elm Avenue – wanted to thank the committee and the State Police for all the work they have done concerning the problems there have been down on Pennsylvania Avenue. The State Police have done a marvelous job. The turnpike traffic has been shut down and things are quiet and it’s wonderful to see that their neighborhood is back into a normal state of living again. What they are doing is working and may they continue to keep it up. He just wanted to say thank you to everyone involved. Mayor Dickinson thanked Mr. Black for coming in and telling us that things worked out for them and reminded everyone that if they have a problem they should contact the Township Administrator if they do not want to contact the State Police.

Catherine McNelis, 407 Bischoff Avenue – said she would like to see some basketball courts out at the township building since we have baseball fields. She said she has asked for them several times and other people have also. It seems we can get grants for all these things so why can’t we try to get some for basketball courts here? Mayor Dickinson asked if the school basketball courts are closed and Ms. McNelis said they are not allowed to be used when school is not in session. She said even if they aren’t closed, we have everything else here, why can’t we have basketball courts also. Ms. McNelis said she has also asked before for a dog park so people’s dogs could run. It was said that the committee would look into it and get back to her and they never did. She said they are so popular because you can take your dogs there and they can intermingle with other dogs. The other thing she brought up was a community garden. Mayor Dickinson said it’s funny she brought these up because the committee is looking into two of the things she has mentioned when the next grant comes up.

Pat Macken, 116 Masons Woods Lane – asked if the price for the batteries for the solar lights is \$37,000 and how long they last and is that for every five years. Mr. Selb said it

is that amount or they have to have electricity run to the lights and that would cost \$60,000 every five years. She asked if he had talked to Public Service about other lights out there and Mr. Selb said if they put electric lights out there it would cost to have them put there and then the electric would have to be paid also. Mrs. Macken said she just wanted to be sure that it would be \$37,000 every five years for the twenty-five batteries and Mr. Selb said she was correct. She then asked why the township doesn't have the cut outs of animals to scare off the geese and was told that they don't work. Mayor Dickinson said he believes the township had tried that before Mr. Selb came to the township and they didn't work so they have gone to the Geese Chasers. Mrs. Macken asked Mr. Fitzpatrick why he abstained from voting on the Geese Chasers earlier and he told her he deals with them in other towns.

Leila Gilmore, 101 Devon Lane – asked how the township is doing with the traffic light on Route 38 and Mt. Laurel Road and Mr. Selb said he had sent a lengthy letter to several individuals at the state and copied the committee members and he has not heard anything back. She said she has written several letters to people, one of them being the governor and has not heard anything either. Mr. Selb said he had written a twofold letter to the state and only one part was answered. He sent another letter isolating the second question about the intersection and still hasn't heard anything. Talking to the guy on the street, he told Mr. Selb that there is a computer in the box and it's just them adding the light standard to cross the street. If the township goes forward and asks for that it will be at our expense and that will not be cheap. He does not know what the light would cost to have it replaced but it could be quite high. Mrs. Gilmore said we are chasing geese off of ball fields so she thinks we could protect some senior citizens. Mr. Selb said one comes out of the budget and the other comes out of open space. Mr. Porto said he wouldn't oppose to looking at it and finding out the cost of it. But we have to get a response from the state first. Mr. Selb said they may come back and say they will do it in six months. Mr. Porto asked Mr. Selb to send him the email that he sent and he will try to nudge our legislative representative to saying why are we not getting a response in a timely manner. Mrs. Gilmore said she would appreciate any help that can be given.

Mark Murdy, 2614 Creek Road – said we have a really nice recreation area here with the jungle gym for the little children and the tennis courts for the older ones and it would be nice to have a basketball court also. Another thing is that he had his tank in the ground and he doesn't know how long it was there. His house was built in 1977. Putting tanks in the ground is the worst thing you can do because they sit in moisture all the time and causes the tanks to rust. He had his tank removed and luckily the water level was ten feet below the house so it hit the underground water and became a super fund site. So his insurance and the state took care of almost all of that. What he thinks the state is doing now is waiting for all the stuff that's in those tanks across the street to hit the water and then they can declare it a super fund site and then the state can clean it up. For everything else you are not going to get anything done until you get the tanks out of there. So why are we doing everything else? Also, Mr. Murdy said he wasn't that much on batteries but he knows he has replaced batteries in stuff before and he thinks the township might be able to go to Batteries Plus and get \$37,000 worth of batteries for a lot less. He can remember when the walkways were first put in here we didn't have lights out there. We could just put up signs to walk at your own risk. But for \$37,000 every

five years, that gets to be pretty expensive. How many people jog at night? It's common sense, why are we throwing all this money down the toilet. If you want to jog at night you should know it's going to be dark and you bring a flash light.

10. COMMENTS FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR

Mr. Selb said now that the weather is breaking the township will be going out doing speed surveys on different streets. One of the residents came in earlier tonight talking about their concerns about Bancroft Lane. We did run a speed survey there last year and the speeds were not excessive (it was about 32 miles per hour), but we only ran it on one particular area. We are going to run it on a different section of the street. However, we have other residents that have requested their streets be analyzed as well. They were concerned because they thought the committee had already made up their mind to put speed bumps out there. As Mr. Selb recalls there was no commitment made. It was decided to continue to explore it and make a decision once all the data was in. There is money in the budget this year to do speed bumps if that is what the committee so chooses. And again, we will be putting out the device and he will be sharing the speed surveys with the committee. Mr. Selb reminded the committee of the JIF Safety Breakfast coming up in April and he will send a reminder out to everyone what the date is so they can decide if they want to go. It will be at the Indian Springs Country Club. Mr. Fitzpatrick said he believes the form has to be returned by March 24th.

11. COMMENTS FROM THE SOLICITOR

Mr. Costa wished everyone a Happy St. Patrick's Day.

12. COMMENTS FROM THE COMMITTEE

Mr. MacLachlan had no comment this evening.

Mr. Boettcher wished Mayor Dickinson a belated Happy Birthday and a speedy recovery for his hip replacement.

Mr. Porto reminded everyone about the Easter Egg Hunt that will be held at the township building on March 19th. He asked Mr. Selb if the State Police had begun any action with the speeding on Washington Avenue. Mr. Selb said he has not heard back from the Lt. He will reach out to him. Mr. Porto asked specifically about Washington Avenue. Since we had the results come back with numerous speeding incidences at specific times. They don't have to be out there all day since they have fifteen minute slots that we know are highly likely to catch speeders. Mr. Selb said that is the purpose of the speed surveys so we can isolate the specific times.

Mr. Fitzpatrick said as Mr. Porto mentioned the Easter Egg Hunt it is always a good time for the little guys and gals so if anyone has them out there please bring them by. As Mr. Costa had said, Happy St. Patrick's Day and Happy Easter to all. He thanked everybody for coming out, there was a rather large crowd and thank you for showing up.

He also thanked Pizza King for providing the food for this evening. If anyone has the opportunity to stop in and utilize the Pizza King it would be a very nice thing to do.

Mayor Dickinson wanted to thank the Fire Company for providing the fire hall for the residents to watch The Biggest Loser on television. A local couple, the Kmets, were involved in the competition and they were among the last contestants. It was heartbreaking that they did not win. Actually one of the people that helped to set up was Scott Cooper and the mayor wanted to thank him. The Fire House opened up and even gave tours and allowed the children to get on the trucks; it was a really nice set up. Mayor Dickinson said communication is very important; if you have an issue with something in town please communicate. If you don't want to call the State Police please contact Mr. Selb. He was the chief of police and knows how to handle situations like that. If he can't handle it he will reach out to the State Police for you. We've had a few issues in town that the State Police have been a huge, huge help. So please do not be afraid to call; you will not get your name out there. He thanked everyone for coming out; the meeting was postponed from last week because he had a little bit of work done last week.

13. **BILL LIST**

The bill list had to be amended to add a bill for the PERS.

Motion: Committeeman MacLachlan. Second: Committeeman Boettcher. All yes.

Motion to approve the bill list: Committeeman MacLachlan. Second: Committeeman Boettcher. Committeeman Fitzpatrick abstained from PO's 16-00127, 16-00114 and 16-00157. All others yes.

14. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A. **RESOLUTION 2016-75-3** – Resolution to Enter into Executive Session.

- **Personnel-Salary No action to be taken**

Motion to go into Executive Session: Committeeman MacLachlan. Second: Committeeman Porto. All yes. 8:45PM (10 minute break)

Motion to come out of executive Session: Committeeman Porto. Second: Committeeman Fitzpatrick. All yes

Motion to adjourn the meeting: Committeeman MacLachlan. Second: Committeeman Porto. All yes.

15. **ADJOURNMENT @ 9:06 P. M.**