



Assisted

HAINESPORT TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MINUTES

**March 13, 2018
7:00 P.M.**

This meeting is called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Law. This meeting of March 13, 2018 was included in a meeting notice sent to the Burlington County Times and Courier Post On January 8, 2018 and advertised in said newspapers on January 11, 2018, respectively posted on the bulletin board in the municipal building on January 8, 2018 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 Masciocchi at 7 P.M.
2. **FLAG SALUTE**
3. **ROLL CALL** – present were Committeewoman Gilmore, Committeewoman Schneider, Committeeman Costa and Mayor Masciocchi. Also present were Township Administrator/Clerk Paula Kosko and Township Attorney John Gillespie. Committeeman Fitzpatrick was absent.
4. **MINUTES**
 - A. **APPROVAL OF REGULAR COMMITTEE MINUTES OF JANUARY 23, 2018**

Motion: Committeewoman Schneider. Second: Committeewoman Gilmore. All yes.
 - B. **APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES OF JANUARY 23, 2018**

Motion: Committeeman Costa. Second: Committeewoman Gilmore. All yes.
 - C. **APPROVAL OF REGULAR COMMITTEE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 13, 2018**

Motion: Committeewoman Schneider. Second: Committeewoman Gilmore. All yes.
 - D. **APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 13, 2018**

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

5. **REPORTS**

- A. **Tax Collector** – February 2018
- B. **Code Enforcement** – February 2018
- C. **Fire Official** – February 2018
- D. **Construction** – February 2018
- E. **Emergency Services Reports** – February 2018

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

6. **DISCUSSION/PRESENTATION**

- A. Plaque Presentation to Gary Goebel

Mayor Masciocchi presented a plaque to Mr. Goebel for coming to the aid of Cindy Baigis who was being attacked by a dog that she was taking care of. The Fire Department members were also there to honor Mr. Goebel for his courage in helping to get the dog off of/away from Ms. Baigis. Donald Platt, the Captain of the Emergency Squad, said that he was the first one on the scene and stated that if Mr. Goebel hadn't been there for Ms. Baigis, her wounds would have been much worse than they were and she may not have survived. Bill Challender, President of the Fire Department commented on how courageous Mr. Goebel was to step in and help distract the dog from attacking Ms. Baigis. Each one of the members of the Emergency Squad and the Fire Department, along with the committee members and the audience congratulated Mr. Goebel and Ms. Baigis for what they went through. Ms. Baigis thanked Mr. Goebel for everything he did for her and said she didn't know what would have happened if he hadn't come to rescue her from the dog.

- B. Trooper Culleton

Trooper Culleton thanked Township Administrator Paula Kosko for her support during the snow storm on March 7th of this year. She was a critical go between for the State Trooper Station and the people that were calling for help. He went on to say that, for the month of January, there were 400 calls for service in the township. Total investigations were 96 and total arrests were 212. There was 1 fatal accident in January. For the month of January the Bordentown Station had 1954 motor vehicle stops. Trooper Culleton said that what the State Police do is

proactively suppress crime. He said that Hainesport has very little crime. He also said the troopers are going into the schools updating their operational plans for hostage shooter training. Of course that will be when the students are out.

7. ORDINANCES

- A. **ORDINANCE 2018-2** – Amend Chapter 104 of the Code of the Township of Hainesport and Specifically Section 104-65 “Development Fees” (**Public Hearing and Final Adoption**)

Motion for public comment: Committeewoman Schneider. Second: Committeeman Costa. All yes.

There were no public comments.

Motion to adopt the ordinance: Committeewoman Gilmore. Second: Committeewoman Schneider. All yes.

- B. **ORDINANCE 2018-3** – Calendar Year 2018 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**) (**Public Hearing and Final Adoption April 10, 2018**)

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

- C. **ORDINANCE 2018-4** – Amend Ordinance 2017-1, Which Amended the Code of the Township of Hainesport, County of Burlington, State of New Jersey Eliminating Healthcare Benefits for Members of the Governing Body (**First Reading and Introduction**) (**Public Hearing and Final Adoption April 10, 2018**)

Motion: Committeewoman Schneider. Second: Committeewoman Gilmore. All yes.

8. RESOLUTIONS

- A. **RESOLUTION 2018-71-3** – Appointment of Municipal/JLUB Planner – Taylor Design Group

Motion: Committeewoman Schneider. Second: Committeewoman Gilmore. All yes.

- B. **RESOLUTION 2018-72-3** – Appointment of COAH Planner – CPP&H

Motion: Committeewoman Gilmore. Second: Committeewoman Schneider. All yes.

- C. **RESOLUTION 2018-73-3** – Authorizing Cancellation of Outstanding Checks

Motion: Committeewoman Schneider. Second: Committeewoman Gilmore. All yes.

- D. **RESOLUTION 2018-74-3** – Awarding a Contract for Township Planner through March 31, 2018 – Ragan Design

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

- E. **RESOLUTION 2018-75-3** – Awarding Contract for JLUB Planner through March 31, 2018 – Ragan Design

Motion: Committeeman Costa. Second: Committeewoman Schneider. All yes.

- F. **RESOLUTION 2018-76-3** – Award Contract to LSRP Services Related to the Kleiner Property

Motion: Committeewoman Schneider. Second: Committeewoman Gilmore. All yes.

- G. **RESOLUTION 2018-77-3**- Introduction of the 2018 Budget

Motion: Committeewoman Gilmore. Second: Committeewoman Schneider. All yes.

9. BUSINESS

- A. **Approval Business Licenses (See Attached)**

Motion: Committeewoman Schneider. Second: Committeewoman Gilmore. All yes.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

- A. DOT Phillips Road Grant Award Letter

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

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

Before the Comments from the Public, Freeholder Singh was invited by Mayor Masciocchi to speak to the audience and committee. Mr. Singh said he is a Burlington Township resident and is newly elected to his position. One of his jobs, as he is learning the ropes, is to go around to the various municipalities and address the committees and councils that he can get to. There are 40 and he is almost half way

there. Mr. Singh said he was here to extend a hand and offer to work together with the township in anything that needs to be done with the county. Mr. Costa spoke to Mr. Singh about everyone's concern about the taxes. He said over the past twenty years he has noticed that the taxes have increased and of course wages have not. He suggested to Mr. Singh that he take a look at the equalization rate and make a reduction of the tax rate to make things better. Mr. Singh told Mr. Costa he would definitely do his best to work on the solution. He did note that the schools are the main reason that the taxes are increased. He explained that school system had the biggest impact on the taxes. The board had a discussion on how to better control taxes.

Catherine McNelis, 407 Bischoff Avenue – said she has been fighting for a long time to get rid of the health benefits for the committee members and is very happy it is finally happening.

Ron Napoli, 120 Paisley Place – asked why Ragan Design contract was only good through March and was told that Mr. Ragan was retiring. He also asked if we had someone to replace Ragan Design and was told that was what the first 2 resolutions were for tonight. Mr. Napoli asked what the impact on the tax rate is due to the budget. Mayor Masciocchi said it is below 2 percent. Ms. Kosko said the increase is less than 1 cent - .69468. Mr. Napoli said he recognizes that there is still another step to go to finally do away with the benefits for the committee members but he asked what would be the effective date for the elimination of the benefits. Ms. Kosko said the date would be July 31st.

Rich Linton, president of the Emergency Squad – thanked everyone for their continued support. They are all volunteer and have recently lost some key members. Ms. Kosko has been a great help since she has been here. If anyone has any questions he would be happy to answer them through Ms. Kosko.

H Krollfeiffer, 36 Easton Way – said he would probably get a lot of boos from the audience for what he has to say. He said a couple years there was a bit of precipitous action taken to eliminate health care benefits for committee members. Mr. Krollfeiffer said he is not supporting keeping the benefits, he is critical of the way it was handled. The township ended up saving a nominal amount of money but it cost the township legal money to do it. He said we are looking at another thing now that he thinks it is unfortunate that Mr. Fitzpatrick is not here to discuss it, defend it or anything else. Mr. Krollfeiffer said he is not against the action per se but he is questioning the timing of it. The reason for questioning it is that it is going to save the township some money based upon the mayor's answer that it's about 5 months that this will take place and they will save about \$12,000. And he doesn't know what Mr. Fitzpatrick will do, but suppose we get involved in some protracted litigation to save 5 months of insurance. Mr. Krollfeiffer hates to see action that causes that kind of problem going forward. All he is suggesting is to give this some thought before we have a final passage on the ordinance. Ms. Schneider and Mr. Krollfeiffer got into a heated discussion concerning his comments. Mayor Masciocchi stated that discussing legalities was not something that should be discussed at this time of the

meeting. Mayor Masciocchi told Mr. Krollfeiffer that this decision did not come about without a lot of debate and discussion. Mr. Krollfeiffer re-iterated that maybe we should not rush into anything.

12. COMMENTS FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR

Ms. Kosko said the date has been set for the auction of surplus vehicles and office equipment; it will be March 28 through April 4, 2018. The website is Govdeals.com/HainesportTownship. Notice will be properly advertised in the papers. She has a list of the items if anyone would like to contact her about them. Public Works Department and she is working on the required Right to Know surveys to be submitted to the State Department of Health. Road rating program will be distributed to the committee members this Friday so they can make informed decisions regarding local road improvements. Ms. Kosko stated that DOT has awarded the township \$235,000 for the reconstruction of Phillips Road. She received a message from a resident of the Glen at Masons Creek commending the emergency squad for responding to his home during the snow storm. Captain Platt was there to help the man's wife. He was very thankful and wanted her to express that. Finally, Ms. Kosko wanted to commend the Fire Department, Public Works employees, EMS, State Police and Emergency Management Coordinators who worked tirelessly during the snow storm that we had last week. She is very impressed on how everybody came together and worked in the midst of that chaos and destruction to keep residents and their property free from harm. She also thanked our Fire Official, Construction Official, Sub Code Official who responded after the storm and are still responding. People get frustrated over situations that are beyond their control and, unfortunately, we as local government, bear the burden and frustrations of these people and that is okay. We are the easiest to communicate with reach out to. But we all play a part in the process and responses to these situations. We are not mutually exclusive of each other. Again, great job to everybody that got Hainesport through the storm.

13. COMMENTS FROM THE SOLICITOR

Mr. Gillespie congratulated everyone who is wearing green tonight and wish everyone a Happy St. Patrick's Week.

14. COMMENTS FROM THE COMMITTEE

Mr. Costa thanked the Fire Department for their dedication. He had the honor of attending their annual banquet and made sure he thanked each and every one of them for their dedication. An ordinance came up this evening about health benefits and he can see the points go back and forth as to whether or not it is worth it. He thanked Mr. Krollfeiffer for his comments. He had some valid points about some legal costs. Ultimately Mr. Costa said he has to come down on principle. We are, after all, public servants and this ordinance is not directed to any one person or individual. As a matter of public policy, we have to make public aware of any issues like this and

pledge to the public that we are spending their tax dollars wisely. That being said he wished everyone a happy rest of the month.

Mrs. Gilmore thanked everyone for coming out tonight. She also thanked everybody that was involved with the storm clean-up. Public Works did a great job, the EMT's did a wonderful job coming to her development and taking somebody out before the streets were plowed. They went above and beyond. She was able to attend the Fire Department/EMS banquet and it was great to see the officers sworn in for the coming year. Mrs. Gilmore said she attended a couple seminars on the budget with Miss Schneider. It came right on time for them to work on our budget. She also went to an affair for the Burlington County Freeholders and something for the Friends of the Burlington County Animal Shelter which has a TNR Program which is Trap, Neuter and Release. The program accepts cat food and items that can be used. They can be dropped off at the township building. The price for feral cats to be neutered is free and the price for pets is \$10 this month. Mrs. Gilmore said the Senior Citizens had their covered dish last month and it went very well. Their next meeting is the 22nd. Unfortunately, they lost a friend and the treasurer, Rita Giordano. Her services will be held this Saturday at St. John Neumann Church in Mt. Laurel. The township and Shoprite Easter Egg Hunt is going to be held on the 24th at noon here at the township.

Miss Schneider said she is very pleased that the ordinance to end health benefits for part time elected officials was passed or approved and she said she would like to say it is an honor being up there for this long awaited decision. She said she would like to thank Public Works for the effort they put in to protect our roads. It is a thankless job and she wants to give credit to where it is due. Miss Schneider thanked everyone for coming out tonight.

Mayor Masciocchi said that he too would like to thank the Emergency Squad and Fire Department for their fine service especially in regard to helping out one of our residents with the dog attack. It was great work and everyone involved in it deserves to be commended. The departments as a whole deserve to be commended for all the work they do day in and day out. That goes for Public Works also. Mayor Masciocchi happened to be driving around during the snow storm and saw Public Works out doing what had to be done. He also saw the State Police helping out stranded drivers. It is great for the town to see that we have everything in place and things working the way they are supposed to. Mayor Masciocchi said he hopes everyone will be pleased with the budget. They are doing the best they can to keep the costs down. He said the residents should not forget about the sewer authority. We are trying to do something there to help our residents out and will keep them posted as things develop.

15. **BILL LIST**

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

16. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion: Committeewoman Schneider. Second: Committeewoman Gilmore. All yes.

A. RESOLUTION 2018-78-3 – Resolution to Enter into Executive Session

1. Negotiations and Matters Falling Under Attorney/Client Privilege

Motion to re-enter open session: Committeewoman Schneider. Second: Committeewoman Gilmore. All yes.

Motion to adjourn: Committeewoman Gilmore. Second: Committeeman Costa. All Yes.

17. ADJOURNMENT @ 9:04 P. M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Paula L. Kosko

Paula L. Kosko, RMC
Municipal Clerk/Administrator

OFFICIAL ACTION MAY BE TAKEN ON ANY ITEM ON THE AGENDA