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HAINESPORT TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MINUTES

August 13, 2019
7:00 P.M.

This meeting is called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Law. This meeting of August 13, 2019 was included in a meeting notice sent to the Burlington County Times and Courier Post On January 4, 2019 and advertised in said newspapers on January 6, 2019, and January 7, 2019 respectively posted on the bulletin board in the municipal building on January 7, 2019 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 Deputy Mayor Gilmore at 7:00 P.M
2. **FLAG SALUTE**
3. **ROLL CALL** - present were Committeewoman Gilmore, Committeewoman Schneider, Committeeman Costa and Committeeman Clauss. Also present were Township Clerk/Administrator Paula Kosko and Attorney Jose Calves. Mayor Masciocchi was absent.
4. **MINUTES**
 - A. **APPROVAL OF REGULAR COMMITTEE MINUTES OF JULY 9, 2019**

Motion: Committeewoman Schneider. **Second:** Committeeman Clauss.
Committeeman Costa abstained. All others yes.
 - B. **APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES OF JULY 9, 2019**

and
 - C. **APPROVAL OF SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES OF JULY 16, 2019**

Motion: Committeeman Clauss. **Second:** Committeewoman Schneider.
Committeeman Costa abstained. All others yes.
5. **REPORTS**
 - A. **Tax Collector – July 2019**
 - B. **Code Enforcement – July 2019**
 - C. **Fire Official – July 2019**
 - D. **Construction – July 2019**

E. Emergency Services Reports – July 2019

Motion: Committeeman Costa. Second: Committeeman Clauss. All yes.

6. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC – Agenda items only (Comments are limited to 5 minutes)

There were no public comments.

7. DISCUSSION/PRESENTATION

A. Rancocas Valley Regional High School 2019 Referendum Proposal

Business Administrator Lisa Giavanelli and Principal James Martin of Rancocas Valley Regional High School were at the meeting to discuss the merits of the 2019 Referendum Proposal for the high school. The bond referendum will be held Tuesday, September 24th of this year. Everything that was put together for the referendum came from strategic planning that was done back in 2016. There was a good representation of the five sending districts along with members of the school and they came up with 21 Action Plans. The referendum was named “Vision 2020”, and there are some action plans that the board would not be able to implement without going out to referendum. There are large capital items that they could not fit in their regular budget. Ms. Giavanelli explained various things the school has done that they can fit into the budget. But the main points of the referendum are safety, security, health and wellness. The school received a grant from Burlington County Freeholders in the amount of one million dollars and this summer they have been building a security vestibule in the front area of the school. Security will check people in and they will not be able to get any further. The second part of the referendum is to upgrade the windows of the building. When the temperature is above 60 degrees the windows are open on the ground level, and anyone could jump into them and that is not safe. It has been a concern for years and the school would like to address the issue. Another part of this is the concern of a lockdown. Some of the windows are not capable of going down and some of them cannot go up. Therefore, they would like to do climate control throughout the entire building. That way if they have to do a lockdown, they would have climate control for the students. Ms. Giavanelli stated that people will ask why now and she went on to say they could take care of these matters in the budget, but it would take fifteen years. Do we want to leave the security open for the next fifteen years? She said that when we go out for the referendum, we will receive forty percent from the state for the project. The total of the whole project is 21.7 million with forty percent of the funding coming from the state. This brings the cost down to thirteen million. Everything that they have requested from the State Department of Education has been approved.

Mr. Martin also commented on the referendum. He said that he taught at Rancocas Valley and was so impressed with the school that he moved to the area. Now, his children will go there. He went on to say that they are here tonight to impress on everyone the importance of security. It is a horrible feeling when you hear of random shootings. It is the responsibility of the principal and superintendents to protect our children. Mr. Martin gave an example of an

incident that happened where there was a lockdown for because a student was carrying his ROTC rifle outside of school grounds, not following ROTC protocol. They went into lockdown and the heat inside the building was unbearable. There have been some updates to the windows but it is still unsafe. With the grant they received they are redoing the vestibule right now, but there is much more work and it can't be sustained through the regular budget. The school is doing very well, but they need help with the referendum. The school needs to be brought up to the twenty-first century.

Ms. Giavanelli went on to give figures that would impact each community if the referendum was to pass. It is between three and seven dollars a month, depending on the community you live in. Hainesport would be seventy-five dollars a year.

Mr. Costa welcomed them and asked how much a vestibule would cost in total and Ms. Giavanelli answered it is one million dollars. He said he thinks they should get secure windows. He asked if the school is not going to have to budget this for another fifteen years, do they think people could get some overall tax savings. Ms. Giavanelli answered she would hope so. Ms. Schneider asked if there had been any major incidents in the past ten years and Mr. Martin answered that there had not been anything major. There are studies that say when the heat goes up the learning goes down. Mr. Clauss commented that if the referendum is passed this year they won't have the cost increases that would take place in the next fifteen years. Mrs. Gilmore said that when she looks at the breakdown of the taxes of the communities, Hainesport is basically on par with Eastampton but there is a large discrepancy in the total amount of contribution and she was wondering what the formula is for funding. Ms. Giavanelli said that it really goes off of various things such as high school enrollment, other townships enrollment. What it really comes down to is the valuation of the homes in your community. Ms. Schneider asked when the last time any windows were updated and Ms. Giavanelli answered she thinks the newest were updated in the 1990's and that did not include the "B" wing.

Mrs. Gilmore invited the audience to make any comments (informal dialogue) they wanted to about the presentation and Mark Murdy made several comments. He mentioned that in the paper presentation they only printed on one side of the page which was a waste of money. He questioned why the people of Westampton would be paying only fifty-six dollars a year while Hainesport would be paying seventy-five dollars a year. Ms. Giavanelli said it is based on how much their homes are assessed for. There was a discussion between them concerning the subject. Mr. Murdy brought up several more things and Ms. Giavanelli and Mr. Martin addressed them. Mr. Krollfeifer asked if the building is secure now and was answered in the affirmative. Mr. Martin said the security vestibule was established with a county grant and will take the school to another level. He explained how secure the new entrance will be. He would not send his children if it weren't secure. Ms. Giavanelli said the school has a multitude of layers; they have two School Resource Officers, they have a phone application that can shut down the school if she were to get a call and many more things for security. Mr. Dickinson concurred that they have two police officers also. Mrs. Colby asked about the rear of the building. She noted that the students exit the rear of the building to go to other classes and wondered how they can make it secure if that is

happening. Mr. Martin said the doors are on timers and the school has cameras that are manned by security staff. They are state of the art cameras. There is also a security desk at the entrance. Ms. Giavanelli commented that the school has five blocks and the doors open every seventy-two minutes and there are security people there when the doors open. Mr. Martin said it will take the school too long to get to where they should be safety wise if they made improvements using the annual general budget. Another resident got up and said given the number of students that come and go it makes it difficult to know whether or not it is a student or not. That is where they need the security. Mr. Costa said that various entities juggle many different, prior bonds at the same time. Some of these issued bonds will retire because the school will pay them off and he is asking them that as this is done, they need to decrease the tax rate. Ms. Kosko asked that the time and date of the vote be clarified; the time is from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. on September 24, 2019 at the Hainesport Municipal Building (for Hainesport residents).

B. Census 2020

Lorraine Alda Paris-Copeland gave a presentation on the Census for 2020. She said that there are three hundred thousand jobs that need to be filled. This is the first time the census will be offered online. We have the ability to shape our own future by responding online. The jobs pay sixteen to twenty-two dollars an hour and refund fifty-eight cents per mile. You can set your own hours. You get paid every week. You can get more information by going to the website www.2020census.gov/job. Anyone over the age of eighteen can apply. Ms. Copeland asked if they could count on Hainesport Township to partner with them. The committee members all said they could count on them. She said the census is not political. Ms. Copeland said the most important people that need to be counted are the children up to five years old. If they are not counted, in five or so years, they will be missing out on resources. This is critical to our survival to respond to the census. If you want to learn more about the Census2020 you can go to www.2020census.gov.

8. ORDINANCES

A. ORDINANCE 2019-6 – Amending Chapter 67 Business Licenses (**Public Hearing and Final Adoption**)

There were no public comments.

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

B. ORDINANCE 2019-7 - Amending Chapter 161 “Stormwater Management” (**Public Hearing and Final Adoption**)

There were no public comments.

Motion: Committeeman Costa. Second: Committeeman Clauss. All yes.

C. ORDINANCE 2019-8 – Authorizing Acquisition of Land, Block 100.07 Lot 2 (**First Reading and Introduction**) (**Public Hearing and Final Adoption September 10, 2019**)

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

9. RESOLUTIONS

- A. **RESOLUTION 2019-124-8** – Authorizing Lien for Property Maintenance Expenses for Property Located at 1203 Washington Street

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

- B. **RESOLUTION 2019-125-8** – Authorizing Issuance of Raffle License To Our Lady Queen of Peace Church

Motion: Committeeman Clauss. Second: Committeeman Costa. All yes.

- C. **RESOLUTION 2019-126-8** – Certification of the Annual Audit

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

- D. **RESOLUTION 2019-127-8** – Authorizing Amendment to Hainesport Township Employee Handbook to Provide for Cash Handling Policy

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

- E. **RESOLUTION 2019-128-8** – Authorizing Lien for Property Maintenance Expenses for Property Located at 15 Bancroft Lane

Motion: Committeeman Costa. Second: Committeeman Clauss. All yes.

- F. **RESOLUTION 2019-129-8** – Authorizing Lien for Property Maintenance Expenses for Property Located at 2 Wharton Place

Motion: Committeeman Clauss. Second: Committeeman Costa. All yes.

- G. **RESOLUTION 2019-130-8** – Authorizing Cancellation of Outstanding Checks

Motion: Committeeman Costa. Second: Committeeman Clauss. All yes.

- H. **RESOLUTION 2019-131-8** – Award a Professional Services Contract for Engineering Services for the CY19 Hainesport Road Resurfacing Project

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

- I. **RESOLUTION 2019-132-8** – Canceling Unexpended Balances of the General Capital Fund in the Township of Hainesport, Burlington County, New Jersey

Motion: Committeeman Clauss. Second: Committeeman Costa. All yes.

- J. **RESOLUTION 2019-133-8** – Resolution Accepting Recommendation of Township Planning Board Regarding Boundaries of Proposed Area in Need of Non-Condemnation Redevelopment Pursuant to the New Jersey Local Redevelopment and Housing Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1 *et seq*

Motion: Committeeman Clauss. **Second:** Committeewoman Schneider. All yes.

- K. **RESOLUTION 2019-134-8** – Amending Resolution 2019-120-7 Authorizing Issuance of Raffle License to Our Lady Queen of Peace Church

Motion: Committeeman Costa. **Second:** Committeeman Clauss. All yes.

- L. **RESOLUTION 2019-135-8** – Authorizing Street Lighting for Rancocas Avenue

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

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

Mark Murdy, 2614 Creek Road – asked about the resolution 2019-133-8. He wanted to know what property it is. Scott Taylor of Taylor Design Group said the area that is referenced is basically the properties bounded by Route 38 in a location of the former vacated Industrial Avenue backing up to the industrial properties that front on Berry Drive. In both June and July of 2019 the township committee authorized and requested the Joint Land Use Board to undertake that study to determine whether or not those properties met the statutory criteria to be considered a Non-Condemnation, Area in Need of Redevelopment. Mr. Murdy said he noticed his pine tree is dead on the front of his yard between the street and the sidewalk. His deed shows that the location of the tree appears to be in the township's right of way. When it falls down it will fall on several power lines. He said he would like the township to remove the tree since they have already removed three other trees in that area. Mr. Murdy said the next item he wants to talk about is for his neighbor. She is a senior citizen and on Sexton Avenue, which is a paper street between their houses, there is a tree that has been there for several years. It fell down during the last storm and she called the township about it and was told they don't take care of that. Mr. Murdy said he is very upset about the way she was treated and would like the township to take care of the situation. As it stands now, he and his son cleaned up the mess and everything is in front of his house. The guys who come and pick up everything do a great job and he doesn't care how long it takes to be cleaned up. Mr. Murdy said that the people that gave the presentations did a very good job and he wanted to let them know.

11. COMMENTS FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR

Ms. Kosko said the audit report for 2018 showed no inconsistencies, material weaknesses or instances of noncompliance. Our past CFO and staff have all contributed to another year of excellent internal control and accounting compliance. After a two year hiatus, the HITCO project is resuming with the remedial

investigation, thanks to the seventy-seven thousand dollar supplemental grant that was authorized by the committee through the NJ DEP. Our assigned LSRP is going to begin installing three new monitoring wells for sampling at the end of this month. Once the samples are collected, the reporting will be executed and then sent off to DEP. At that time, we should have enough information on the level of contamination and remediation scenarios. Hopefully enough for the governing body to make a decision on how to proceed with this property. Ms. Kosko thanked the Burlington County Department of Roads and Bridges, specifically Johnny Janis, for providing Hainesport with the shared service by fixing the storm pipe at 1609 Edwin Street to the corner of Broad Street. Apparently, this has been an issue that has been brought to Hainesport Township since the mid-seventies and has been through many different administrations and governing bodies and we have finally fixed this situation. The county also repaired an inlet in front of the Hainesport School which was discovered due to two sink holes as reported to us by a resident who was jogging in the area. Those shared services saved the taxpayers about \$24,000 and expedited the work by about a month.

12. COMMENTS FROM THE SOLICITOR

There were no comments from the solicitor.

13. COMMENTS FROM THE COMMITTEE

Mr. Costa thanked everyone for coming out tonight and reminded them that the township did not increase their taxes this year. All the increases came from other governmental entities including the school districts. He also wished everyone a great summer.

Ms. Schneider said she saw the Concert in the Park from afar last Sunday and commented that there was a great turnout. She also mentioned that the pavilion is beautiful. She is very happy that people are coming out to enjoy the concerts. Ms. Schneider said she is very happy about the additional street light that they are going to have on Rancocas Avenue. She made a real effort to help get the light in that area so they could be safe back there. She also thanked everyone for coming out tonight.

Mr. Clauss reminded everyone about the Senior Prom that is being held this Friday night at the Hainesport firehouse. He is proud to say he is a senior citizen so he will be going. He mentioned that “Movies in the Park” will be held August 23rd here and he is looking forward to that as well.

Mrs. Gilmore thanked all the first responders and Public Works for their help during the last storms we have had. Certain areas of the town were hit more than others. It took some time for some areas to be addressed and with the help of aid from other towns and our local responders, they did a fantastic job. They are still cleaning up brush. Mrs. Gilmore said she was happy to see that another firefighter has passed his firefighter one course and there are two new cadets that are going to be firefighters. She said she is also very pleased that she is finally seeing results from our economic development committee to work towards getting businesses into town. Right now there are several new businesses coming to town utilizing existing. There has been some interest in developing some land and it is exciting to see the climate change and

things start to come together again. Hopefully in the next few months they will be able to report specifics. We have a new restaurant that came to town and there has been interest in the Trailerama site. The HITCO property is coming along. With regards to that, Paula Kosko and she has been going to several meetings regarding Brownfields Development and cleaning up and utilizing those properties that have not been able to be used in a more productive manner. They will be going to a convention in Philadelphia next month to promote some of the areas that are available including some of our vacant land. Mrs. Gilmore is very encouraged with the activity that has been going on in the back ground.

BILL LIST

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

14. ADJOURNMENT @ 8:16 P. M.

Deputy Mayor Gilmore adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Paula L. Kosko, RMC

Municipal Clerk/Administrator

OFFICIAL ACTION MAY BE TAKEN ON ANY ITEM ON THE AGENDA