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HAINESPORT TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MINUTES

March 8, 2022

7:00 P.M.

This meeting is called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Law. This meeting of March 8, 2022 with instructions for internet access was included in a meeting notice sent to the Burlington County Times and Courier Post On January 6, 2022 and advertised in said newspapers on January 9, 2022, and January 12, 2022 respectively posted on the website and the bulletin board in the municipal building on January 6, 2022 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. **FLAG SALUTE**

2. **ROLL CALL** - present were Committeeman Clauss, Committeeman Levinson, Committeewoman Gilmore and Committeeman Montgomery. Also present were Township Clerk/Administrator Paula Kosko, Attorneys John Gillespie and Scott Miccio and Township Planner Scott Taylor. Mayor MacLachlan was absent.

3. **MINUTES**

A. **APPROVAL OF REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 8, 2022**

Motion: Committeeman Montgomery. Second: Committeeman Levinson. All yes.

B. **APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 8, 2022**

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

4. **REPORTS**

- A. **Tax Collector** – February 2022
- B. **Code Enforcement** – February 2022
- C. **Fire Official** – February 2022
- D. **Construction** – February 2022
- E. **Emergency Services Reports** – February 2022

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

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

Anna Evans, 63 Parry Drive – asked about Resolution 2022-50-3 – the performance bond reduction for Hainesport Commerce Center. She wanted to know why it was being reduced and by how much. **Ms. Kosko** answered that the project is mostly

complete with only landscaping left to do. If our professionals support the request, Land Use Law allows the bond to be reduced to 30% of original bond amount.

Debra Harris, 7 Elsinore Drive – (online) asked about Resolution 2022-44-3 – the Electronic Recyclers Agreement. She wanted to know if a program was already in place and if this program extends to residents. **Mr. Clauss & Ms. Kosko** answered that we have an e-waste program in place for residents for no fee. Since it requires a contract, we must do a resolution. **Mr. Levinson** asked if the e-waste was collected at the residents' address or brought to the site. Mr. Clauss answered that it must be brought to the drop off site by the firehouse. It is available daily and we also have the cleanup days for the residents twice a year.

Christopher Marcantonio, 2211 Craig Drive – asked about Ordinance 2022-2. He wanted to know where the \$80,000 for sidewalk repair would be used. **Mr. Clauss** answered that we are looking to start in your neighborhood. **Mr. Montgomery** answered that Craig Drive would be one of the first to be repaired based on the roots of the trees planted by the developer many years ago. Major issues will be rectified.

6. ORDINANCES

- A. **ORDINANCE 2022-1** – Permitting the Operation of and Taxing Class 3 Wholesaler and Class 4 Distributor Cannabis Businesses in Certain Zones, with Conditions, and Amending Chapters 77 and 104 of the Code of the Township of Hainesport **(Public Hearing and Final Adoption)**

Motion to Open Public Comment:

Motion: Committeeman Montgomery. Second: Committeeman Levinson. All yes.

Anna Evans, 63 Parry Drive –said she thinks this is a good decision and commended Mr. Clauss and Mr. Montgomery for their work on the subcommittee. She said they are moving in the right direction.

Mr. Miccio & Mr. Taylor summarized that the Ordinance establishes licensing and taxation for the wholesale and distribution of cannabis. It covers the requirements including State licensure, applications, registration/renewal fees, locations, security, odor control, and storage as well as the 1% tax we can collect for the wholesale. Mr. Taylor went on to say that the next step would be for the Land Use Board to amend Chapter 104 of our Code. This will be reflected in the Master Plan examination. Then we can introduce ordinances through the Governing Body to make cannabis wholesale and distribution listed as permitted uses in the proper zones.

Motion: Committeeman Montgomery. Second: Committeeman Levinson. All yes.

- B. **ORDINANCE 2022-2** – Appropriating the Sum of \$80,000 in Funding from the General Capital Fund Balance for Sidewalks, Curbs, Warning Surfaces and Striping on Various Areas throughout the Township **(Public Hearing and Final Adoption)**

Motion to Open Public Comment:

Motion: Committeeman Levinson. Second: Committeeman Montgomery. All yes.

Christopher Marcantonio, 2211 Craig Drive – asked if the homeowners would be responsible for their sidewalks once the repairs were done. **Mr. Clauss** answered that we are repairing them because the Township Planner, at the time, put the trees there. There is responsibility of the Township for the cause of it. After that, he feels the responsibility should be that of the homeowner. It is unfair to give them to the homeowners in the condition they are in now. **Mr. Gillespie** added that this Ordinance funds the first round of repairs and Craig Drive is included. Going forward, it looks like the consensus will be to have an ordinance making the sidewalks the responsibility of the homeowners.

Debra Harris, 7 Elsinore Drive – (online) thanked the Committee for funding the repairs – especially Craig Drive. She was at the other meeting where it was being discussed. She feels it is important for these homeowners to start with a clean slate for any ordinance in the future that would make it the owners' responsibility. She asked where she could see the Ordinances online.

Anthony Savino, 2302 Craig Drive – asked what the plan is for the trees. Would they go around them? He also asked when the work would start. **Mr. Clauss** responded that it will be decided as they do the repairs. A letter went out telling the Laurel Ridge Road, Craig Drive and Sandra Lane residents that they were allowed to take out the problem trees if they want. We hope another tree (less damaging) would be planted on the property in a better spot, but it is not required. The work should start in April.

Motion: Committeeman Montgomery. Second: Committeeman Levinson. All yes.

C. ORDINANCE 2022-3 - 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 12, 2022)

Mr. Levinson asked for Ms. Kosko to explain a CAP Bank. **Ms. Kosko** answered that this Ordinance is a formality done every year to extend the limited increase in the budget by 2.5% unless authorized by ordinance to increase it to an additional 1%, or 3.5% over previous year's final appropriations. She went on to read the specifics of the ordinance, noting that our budget *can* be increased by 3.5% or \$99,297.28 and the CY 2022 budget will be approved and adopted in accordance with this ordinance.

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

D. ORDINANCE 2022-4 - To Provide for and Determine the Rate of Compensation of Officials and Employees of the Township of Hainesport (First Reading and Introduction) (Public Hearing and Final Adoption April 12, 2022)

Motion: Committeeman Levinson. Second: Committeeman Montgomery. All yes.

7. CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS

The items listed below are considered routine by the Township of Hainesport and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no formal discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, this item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.

- A. **RESOLUTION 2022-42-2** – Authorizing a Five-Year Recycling and Solid Waste Services Agreement with Burlington County
- B. **RESOLUTION 2022-44-3** - Authorizing an Agreement with Electronic Recyclers International, Inc. for E-Waste Collection and Recycling
- C. **RESOLUTION 2022-45-3** - Authorizing the Filing of a Recycling Tonnage Grant Application for the Year 2021
- D. **RESOLUTION 2022-46-3** – Acknowledge and Admit the Volunteer Members of the Hainesport Fire Company and Hainesport Emergency Squad
- E. **RESOLUTION 2022-47-3** – Authorizing Contract for Tax Assessment Software
- F. **RESOLUTION 2022-48-3** – Authorizing Contract with Decker’s Hardscaping & Landscaping for Sidewalk Repairs
- G. **RESOLUTION 2022-49-3** – Authorizing Disposal/Sale of Surplus Property No Longer Needed for Public Purposes Pursuant to Statute 40A:11-36
- H. **RESOLUTION 2022-50-3** – Authorizing a Performance Bond Reduction for Hainesport Commerce Center Urban Renewal, LLC
- I. **RESOLUTION 2022-51-3** – Urging the Swift Passage of S-330 which Restores Energy Tax Receipts to their Municipalities
- J. **RESOLUTION 2022-52-3** – Approval to Submit a Grant Application and Execute Agreement with NJDEP for an Electric Vehicle Direct Current Fast Charging Station (DCFC) at the Hainesport Municipal Complex Park
- K. **RESOLUTION 2022-53-3** – Authorizing Acceptance and Participation in the Federal Fiscal Year 2022 Emergency Management Agency Assistance Sub Award Grant Program
- L. **RESOLUTION 2022-54-3** – Accepting Street Lighting for Quaker Court

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

8. BUSINESS

- A. **Approval of Business Licenses** (See Attached)
- B. **Charitable Clothing Bin License**

2022-04 – Better World Books

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

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

SSgt. Antenucci, NJSP - said unfortunately, businesses are still getting hit with catalytic converter thefts. The burglars that stole the copper from a vacant house were apprehended. The officers used DNA evidence to arrest them.

The person from last summer that was talking to girls in the neighborhoods is still out there. He wears dark clothing and a hoodie covering his face. He has been arrested before. Please call the State Police if you see any suspicious activity. For emergencies call 911. Our non-emergency number is 609-298-1171. Our dispatch number is 609-584-5000 ext. 5319.

Please continue to lock your cars and secure valuables.

Anna Evans, 63 Parry Drive – said she had filled out the Brand Survey for the Township. She asked who was doing it and when we would see the results. **Ms. Kosko** answered the Gruskin Group is conducting the survey. They are compiling the data as it comes in, but we are not sure when it will be done. Ms. Evans asked if we as a Township are doing anything symbolic or any type of donation for the Ukrainian crisis. **Mr. Clauss** said he thought that was a good idea that we will look into.

Kaleasha Miles, 407 Davenport Avenue – asked about the streetlights on Marne Highway. She said it is very dark at night. **Mr. Clauss** asked if the lights were out of if she is asking about getting more lights. He explained that Marne Highway is a County Road, but if the bulbs needs replaced anyone can call PSE&G with the pole number and they will come out to fix it. Ms. Miles also wanted to make the Committee aware of a major bullying problem going on at Hainesport School. Many kids are involved and it is not a racial issue. Mr. Clauss said his wife works at the school, so he is aware that there is a problem. He said he would reach out to the Superintendent since it was brought to the Committee's attention. The school may be working on the issue behind the scenes and not making it public, so as not to hinder the investigation. **Mr. Montgomery** added that this is a community concern, not just for people that have kids in the school. There is no place for bullying. The school participated in the No Place for Hate program when he was on the school's Education Foundation and the Township contributed funds to help with their anti-bullying campaign. He would also speak to the Superintendent.

Debra Harris, 7 Elsinore Drive – (online) could not find the current ordinances online. She also said it is difficult to get information from the Burlington County website. **Ms. Kosko** said only 2022-1 and 2022-2 should be up at this time. She apologized and said they will be put up.

Anthony Savino, 2302 Craig Drive – asked if FIOS is coming to all the neighborhoods. **Mr. Clauss** said they will put it in where it is cost effective for them.

10. COMMENTS FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR

Ms. Kosko announced Tuesday, March 15th as the date of the informational meeting for the Walters Group to answer questions about the proposed development off Creek Road. The meeting will be held from 6 – 7 pm. at the Municipal building. There are

four residents on Creek Road that have asked to be notified directly, and they will be notified by email. It will also be posted on the website.

She reminded residents that the Recycle Center on Broad Street is surveilled like the Municipal Park. It is illegal to dump anything but recycling and the specified items there. **Mr. Clauss** added that there are strict signs posted and if you dump illegally, you will be contacted to come back and get what you left. Ms. Kosko also reminded residents that we have Clean Up Days twice a year. Postcards will be going out next week for the April 23rd Clean Up from 7 am – 12 pm. Shredding will also be provided from 8 – 11 am.

The rebranding survey is available online or hard copy to the residents. Please help get the word out so we get a good response.

11. COMMENTS FROM THE SOLICITOR

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

12. COMMENTS FROM THE COMMITTEE

Committeeman Levinson - paraphrased Winston Churchill's "Appeaser" quote. Freedom is not free and it is paid for with treasure or blood. Ukrainians understand this as well. He hopes we support Ukraine any way we can. He also wished everyone a Happy St. Patrick's Day.

Committeewoman Gilmore – thanked everyone for coming out and thanked our volunteers for all they do. See listed the following upcoming events at the Street Center:

Senior Citizens Club meetings the 2nd and 4th Thursday at 12 pm each month.

March 18th - Storytime for ages 2 ½ to 5 years olds from 10 – 11 am. Wear green and get a prize.

March 19th - Board games for all ages at noon.

March 24th - Seminar on balance given by Jag-One Physical Therapy at 1 pm. Please register in advance with Donna Casey ext. 121 at the township.

March 29th - 2 pm Burlington County Library Mobile Lab for computer basic training. Classes will be once a month. Register by March 15th.

The Veteran banners honoring members of the Armed Forces are for sale. More information is available on the website.

April 9th at noon the Easter Bunny will be on the Fire Truck at the Municipal Building. There will be eggs, pictures and prizes for the kids. The rain date is April 16th.

Ms. Gilmore congratulated Mr. Clauss on doing a good job running the meeting and wished everyone a Happy St. Patrick's Day.

Committeeman Montgomery – said having ancestors near Ukraine area he is also very concerned about what is going on. He, like Mr. Levinson, is wearing blue and yellow in support and his prayers and thoughts are with the people. Freedom is not free and when we allow people to bully, it goes on and on until it is stopped. He prays our government can help. He also has Irish ancestors and wishes everyone a Happy St. Patrick's Day. He thanked the Cannabis Subcommittee for their work. He is happy to see the cannabis and sidewalk ordinances pass. He complimented Gerry Clauss on doing a good job running the meeting.

Committeeman Clauss – thanked everyone for putting up with him running the meeting. His thoughts and prayers are with the people of Ukraine. The Red Cross is accepting donations for them. He is half Polish and was impressed with the Polish women leaving strollers by the border for refugees. He hopes the war does not go any further. The resilience of the Ukrainian people has been amazing.

Ms. Kosko asked for a motion to Amend the Consent Agenda to include Resolution 2022-55-3 Authorizing the Appointment of a Full Time Employee in the Public Works Department

Motion: Committeeman Levinson. Second: Committeeman Montgomery. All yes.

RESOLUTION 2022-55-3 – Authorizing the Appointment of a Full Time Employee in the Public Works Department

Motion: Committeeman Levinson. Second: Committeeman Montgomery. All yes.

13. BILL LIST

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

14. ADJOURNMENT @ 7:58 P. M.

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

Respectfully Submitted,
Paula L. Kosko
Administrator/Municipal Clerk

OFFICIAL ACTION MAY BE TAKEN ON ANY ITEM ON THE AGENDA

Township Committee Meeting

March 8, 2021

7 pm

The public may electronically submit questions or comments to pkosko@hainestownship.com or in written letter form to the Clerk's Office at the Municipal Building (can drop in Tax Payment Drop Box as well) no later than 4pm the Monday prior to the Committee Meeting. Name, address and phone or email must be included. Previously submitted questions or public comment shall be read aloud and addressed during the public meeting. Duplicated written questions or comments may be summarized and shall be done consistently.

To eliminate background noise so that all meeting participants can hear, please mute your microphone and remain in listening mode only. The Clerk will place all remote attendees on this platform on mute as well. During public comment period(s), the Clerk will unmute all remote participants. If you do not have a question or comment, please manually re-mute your microphone. The Clerk will manage the remote users for public comments. All remote users must state their name and address at the beginning of his/her public comment.

Should a member of the public that is using the GoToMeeting platform become disruptive, that person will be kept on mute and warned that continued disruption may result in being prevented from speaking or removed from the remote meeting. If time permits, the disruptive individual shall be allowed to speak after all other members of the public have been given the opportunity to speak.

Remote Access Instructions

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You can also dial in using your phone.

United States: [+1 \(646\) 749-3122](tel:+16467493122)

Access Code: 591-394-885

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2. YouTube Live

Tonight's meeting will also be available for live viewing on Hainesport Township's **YouTube Live** channel:

Search on YouTube – Township of Hainesport Live Stream

***Public questions or comments *will not* be responded to on YouTube Live. Please use the GoToMeeting platform for all remote communication.**

The governing body requests that **questions or comments on agenda items be directed to the Administrator/Municipal Clerk by 4pm on the Tuesday of the meeting**. All questions and comments will be considered by the Township Committee and entered into the official minutes of the meeting.

Individuals calling into the phone number or accessing from a computer will be able to fully participate in the meeting. However, all persons calling in will be asked to place their phones on mute unless speaking and being recognized to speak during a Public Hearing or Comments from the Public. A non-public dial in number will be used if executive session is required.