

FREEHOLD TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING

March 29 , 2022

At 8:00 p.m. the Township Committee met in room 114 of the municipal building. Mayor Fasano read the following statement:

“In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Law, (c. 231 P.L. 1975), this meeting was announced on January 10, 2022 by: 1.) posting a notice on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building reserved for that purpose, 2.) by mailing such notice to the offices of the official newspapers of the Township and 3.) by filing such notice with the Township Clerk”.

In Attendance: Committeeman Ammiano, Committeeman Cook, Committeeman Preston, Committeeman Walker, Mayor Fasano

Absent: None

Also in attendance: Mr. Valesi, Township Administrator; Mr. Ball Esq. Township Attorney; Mrs. Abouzeina, Municipal Clerk, Mrs. Bartolomeo, Deputy Clerk

Pledge of Allegiance to the flag

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Mr. Cook moved to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes 2/22/2022 and Workshop and Executive Meeting Minutes 3/8/2022, seconded by Mr. Walker

Vote:

AYES: Mr. Ammiano, Mr. Cook, Mr. Preston, Mr. Walker and Mayor Fasano*

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: Mayor Fasano abstained on the Regular Meeting Minutes 2/22/22*

REPORTS

Mrs. Abouzeina read the report of the Tax Collector for the Month of February

Net Receipt:	General Fund	\$ 11,797,032.16
	Water Account	\$ 210,116.05
	Sewer Account	\$ 399,853.84

PRESENTATIONS

Oaths of Office - Police Officers - Brittany LaFalce & Nickolas Madore

Mayor Fasano read the Biography/ Background for each police officer.
The Township Clerk administrated the Oath of office.

Proclamation - "National Volunteer Week" - April 17-23, 2022
Honoring Robert Shortmeyer

Mayor Fasano presented the proclamation to Robert Shortmeyer from the Planning Board

Proclamation - "Autism Awareness Month" - April 2022

Mayor Fasano presented the proclamation to Michelle Lamp

Proclamation - "Alcohol Awareness Month" - April 2022

Mayor Fasano presented the proclamation to Sharon Shutzer

Certificates of Achievement - Freehold Township High School 2021 Boys Soccer Team

Team- each Soccer player received a day in his honor presented by Mayor Fasano

OLD BUSINESS

R-22-64 - Resolution Acknowledging Receipt and Review of Planning Board
Report Re: Ordinance No. 0-22-4

Mr. Cook read Resolution R-22-64 and moved it for adoption, seconded by Mr. Preston

Vote:

AYES: Mr. Ammiano, Mr. Cook, Mr. Preston, Mr. Walker and Mayor Fasano

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

O-22-4 - An Ordinance Amending Chapter 190, Land Use, Article XI Zones and Schedule of Requirements, and Article XIII, Zoning Regulations, of the Revised General Ordinances of the Township of Freehold, County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey

Mayor Fasano opened Ordinance O-22-4 for public hearing and asked for any comments or questions.

There being no comments from the public.

Mr. Ammiano moved to close the public hearing, seconded by Mr. Preston

Vote:

AYES: Mr. Ammiano, Mr. Cook, Mr. Preston, Mr. Walker, Mayor Fasano

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Mr. Ammiano made motion to adopt Ordinance O-22-4 seconded by Mr. Preston

Vote:

AYES: Mr. Ammiano, Mr. Cook Mr. Preston, Mr. Walker, Mayor Fasano

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

NEW BUSINESS

O-22-5 -Calendar Year 2022 An Ordinance to Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriations Limits and Establish a Cap Bank (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14)

Mr. Preston moved ordinance O-22-5 for public hearing to the Township Committee meeting of April 12, 2022 seconded by Mr. Walker

Vote:

AYES: Mr. Ammiano, Mr. Cook, Mr. Preston, Mr. Walker, Mayor Fasano

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

O-22-6 - An Ordinance Amending Salaries and Compensation of Certain Offices, Positions and Employees in the Township of Freehold, County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey, for the Year 2022 and Thereafter Known by its Short Term as: "The 2022 Salary Ordinance"

Mr. Walker moved ordinance O-22-6 for public hearing to the Township Committee meeting of April 12, 2022 seconded by Mr. Cook

Vote:

AYES: Mr. Ammiano, Mr. Cook, Mr. Preston, Mr. Walker, Mayor Fasano

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

R-22-65 - Resolution - Governing Body Certification of Compliance with the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission's "Enforcement Guidance on the Consideration of Arrest and Conviction Records in Employment Decision Under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964"

Mr. Ammiano read Resolution R-22-65 and moved it for adoption, seconded by Mr. Cook

Vote:

AYES: Mr. Ammiano, Mr. Cook, Mr. Preston, Mr. Walker and Mayor Fasano

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

R-22-66 - Resolution - Introduction of 2022 Municipal Budget

Mr. Preston read Resolution R-22-66 and moved it for adoption, seconded by Mr. Cook

Vote:

AYES: Mr. Ammiano, Mr. Cook, Mr. Preston, Mr. Walker and Mayor Fasano

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

R-22-67 - Resolution Providing for Emergency Temporary Appropriations
Pending State Approval for 2022 Municipal Budget

Mr. Cook read Resolution R-22-67 and moved it for adoption, seconded by Mr. Cook

Vote:

AYES: Mr. Ammiano, Mr. Cook, Mr. Preston, Mr. Walker and Mayor Fasano

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

R-22-68 - Resolution Approving Consolidated Bills List

Mr. Preston read Resolution R-22-68, the Consolidated Bills List in the amount of \$6,965,212.38 and moved it for adoption, seconded by Mr. Cook

Vote:

AYES: Mr. Ammiano, Mr. Cook, Mr. Preston, Mr. Walker, Mayor Fasano

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

FORMAL ACTION - CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS

Matters listed under the items of "Consent Agenda" are required to conduct the day-to-day operations of the Township, and will be enacted by one (1) motion in the form listed below. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion of any item is desired, that item will be considered separately

R-22-69 - Resolution Cancelling Taxes and Disbursing Overpayment of Taxes -
100% Disabled Veteran

R-22-70 - Resolution Disbursing an Overpayment of Taxes

R-22-71 - Resolution Amending the Township of Freehold Surplus Policy and
Minimum Reserve Requirements

R-22-72 - Resolution Awarding a Contract for the Rehabilitation of Well No. 9

R-22-73 - Resolution Awarding a Contract for the Jackson Mills Road Water
Treatment Plant Repair and Redevelopment of Well No. 14

R-22-74 - Resolution Authorizing the Award of a Contract for Proprietary
Software, Maintenance and Repairs for the Freehold Township Door
Access and Camera System

R-22-75 - Resolution Authorizing the Award of a Contract for Automotive Lubricants for the Department of Public Works

R-22-76 - Resolution Authorizing Contract Award for Grass Cutting and Related Maintenance to On Site Landscape Management

R-22-77 - Resolution Authorizing Contracts for Sports Camp Director Services as an Extraordinary Unspecifiable Service

R-22-78 - Resolution Authorizing a Contract for the Purchase of Sodium Chloride (Rock Salt) through the Monmouth County Cooperative Pricing System

R-22-79 - Resolution Awarding a Contract for As-Needed Electrical Service Work within the Township

R-22-80 - Resolution Authorizing TWA-1 Sewer Extension Application - Javin LP - The Brooks at Freehold (CJS Investments Inc.) - Site Plan No. 677-1-21

R-22-81 - Resolution Approving Wireless Communication Facilities Modification Application for Crown Castle on Behalf of Dish Wireless, 61 Stone Hill Road at the Southwest Corner of Jackson Mills Road and Stone Hill Road Adjacent to the Freehold Township Water Tower, Block 97.01, Lot 17, Application No. WCFMA-04-22

R-22-82 - Resolution Authorizing Person-To-Person Transfer of Plenary Retail Consumption Liquor License No. 1316-33-017-003 (Pocket) From Ruby Tuesday Inc., Debtor in Possession to Ruby Tuesday Operations LLC

Mr. Walker read the Consent Agenda resolutions and moved them for adoption, seconded by Mr. Cook

Vote:

AYES: Mr. Ammiano, Mr. Cook, Mr. Preston, Mr. Walker, Mayor Fasano

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

There being no further business, Mayor Fasano asked for any comments or questions from the public.

JJ Mistretta, 506 Harding Rd, requested a clarification of Resolution R-22-65.

Mr. Valesi explained that this an annual certification that we have to pass before adopting the Municipal Budget. It is an attestation that the Township Committee understand employment laws surrounding criminal history prior to hiring Township employees.

Mrs. Mistretta requested further clarification of ordinance O-22-6.

Mr. Valesi explained that we had to amend our salary ordinance due to the timing and completion of the new contracts.

Mrs. Mistretta asked if she can request a copy of the ordinance.

Mr. Valesi said the ordinance is posted on the website.

Jim Franklin, 119 Lancaster Rd, asked regarding the procedures and the process of hiring police officers.

Mr. Valesi explained there are two methods to be hired, either through the civil service list or from outside the list for officers who graduated from the academy. We can hire current working officers or officers who completed the academy on their own.

Mr. Franklin asked how much does it cost to graduate from the academy?

Mr. Valesi said probably less than \$1000, and the certificate will be valid for three years and it is up to the Chief of Police to verify if the officer requires additional training.

Mr. Franklin asked who coordinates the hiring process and who can answer questions related to this process?

Mr. Valesi said the Detective Bureau and the Police Department handles the hiring process. Mr. Valesi told Mr. Franklin that he will set up a meeting with the responsible parties to get all his questions answered regarding the hiring process.

George Katernakis, 134 Robertsville Rd, asked what is the proper protocol is when he sees bad activity in the parking in front of his house, drinking, smoking, and loud music?

Mr. Valesi answered you can call 911, or the non-emergency number for police dispatch.

Mr. Katernakis proceeded to show pictures of people smoking, commercial vehicles, and parked cars idling in front of his house.

Chester Wysocki, 81 Lafayette Court, we have been complaining for years regarding the parking and the "illegal" people that come to the park and sleep. They are drinking and smoking, leaving garbage all over the place, and nothing is being done to address our complaints. He also complains that his car was robbed and he wants to press charges against this person. Mr. Wysocki has called the Police Department and left messages without a response.

Luis Esteves, 136 Robertsville Rd, asked what is the time frame for the split rail installation?

Mr. Valesi said that the Township will adopt our bond ordinance in May.

Mr. Esteves asked if the Township has approved the recent alteration to the Park. He explained there were twenty 10X10 placed in the ground, and there are new railings.

Mr. Valesi said we did not approve anything new and this was a replacement for items that already existed done by Freehold Borough.

Mr. Esteves proclaimed there were no utility markers placed for the replaced items.

Mr. Valesi disagreed, and informed Mr. Esteves that his aware and received the request for utility markers to be placed by the Freehold Township Utility Department.

Mr. Esteves shared pictures of the parking lot over several years and the parked cars in front of his house to the Township Committee. Mr. Estevez requested the Township intervene to help the residents.

Mr. Preston said he goes there three times a day and the parking lot is not packed at all. He said we have been working hard with the Freehold Borough to satisfy everyone.

Mr. Valesi said that he has advised the residents multiple times to go to Freehold Borough meetings, but instead you come to our meetings and scream at the Township Committee. Mr. Valesi stated that he has explained to the residents that the Township has no jurisdiction over the park and the Township Committee cannot close the park or the lot. The Freehold Township Committee does not have any authority over Freehold Borough. Therefore, the residents need to put pressure on the Freehold Borough Council. Mr. Valesi has also requested for saturation patrols for the police to increase their presence in the area.

Davinder Bhamra, 805 Elton Adelpia Rd, said that she spoke to the Administrator, Clerk's office, and the Planning Board regarding Ordinance O-22-4 that was adopted tonight. She wanted to express her sadness regarding building more developments instead of leaving open space for farming. She said that food prices will become more expensive and it would be more valuable to utilize it as a farm for future food production.

Mayor Fasano stated that we have 9000 acres of open space and we are in the process of buying more open space farms.

Mr. Valesi also commented that the Township has preserved Gibson farms (65 acres) on Route 33.

There were no further comments from the public, Mayor Fasano asked for any comments from the dais.

Mr. Preston congratulated the new officers and the soccer team. He said he was pleased to see women in the police force. I also wanted to congratulate Gloria Schiller who turned 100 years old.

The dais echoed Mr. Preston comments

Mr. Ammiano said that the Veterans Community Alliance program are seeking to find a disabled veteran that qualifies to receive assistance. The Veterans Alliance Program usually pays up to \$25,000 of the veteran's bills. The veteran will be honored at Freehold Township Day in July.

Mayor Fasano thanked everyone attending the meeting.

Mayor Fasano Adjourned the Meeting at 9:40pm

Sanabel Abouzeina, Township Clerk