

FREEHOLD TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING

May 24, 2022

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

“In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, (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 Cook, Committeeman Preston, Committeeman Walker

Absent: Committeeman Ammiano, Mayor Fasano

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

Moment of silence for:

Fred Jahn the First administrator for Freehold Township who was hired 1968 and served for 27 years.

The 10 victims who lost their lives at the Buffalo shooting on May 14, 2022

The 15 victims who lost their lives at Texas school shooting on May 24, 2022

Pledge of Allegiance to the flag

MINUTES

None

REPORTS

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

Net Receipt:	General Fund	\$ 24,340,462.03
	Water Account	\$ 185,849.28
	Sewer Account	\$ 583,814.62

PRESENTATIONS

Police Citations:

Stork Award - Officers Alexander Fay & Adam Nimick
Unit Citation - Officers Brandon Borriello & Joseph Crono, Jr.
Star of Life - Officers Jonathan Baumann & Alexander Fay
Excellent Police Duty - Officer James Lasky IV & Sergeant John Tacopino
Excellent Police Duty - Officer George J. Baumann
Excellent Police Duty - Officer Sean Foley

Deputy Mayor Walker read the presentations.
Chief of Police congratulated the officers for their achievements.

The Max Challenge Check Presentation - For Freehold Municipal Alliance to Prevent Substance Abuse

Judy Murray from Max Gym presented a \$4000.00 check to Debra Preston and Antoinette Ceciarelli

Proclamation - “Freehold First Aid & Emergency Squad Volunteers Month” - June, 2022

Deputy Mayor Walker presented the proclamation to Robert Bonardi and Margret Hass

Certificates of Achievement - Freehold Soccer League Girls U11 Elite Thunder Team

Each Soccer Player received a day named in their Honor Presented by Deputy Mayor Walker

Certificates of Achievement - Freehold Revolution 12u Boys Football Team

Each Football Player received a day named in their Honor Presented by Deputy Mayor Walker.

OLD BUSINESS

O-22-7 - Ordinance Amending Chapter 150 (Fees), Section 150-62 (Uniform Construction Code, Chapter 115) of the Revised General Ordinances of the Township of Freehold, County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey

Deputy Mayor Walker opened Ordinance O-22-7 for public hearing and asked for any comments or questions.

Jim Franklyn, 119 Lancaster Rd, asked why the Township is increasing the construction permit application fees.

Mr. Valesi answered the Township fees are below the State’s maximum requirements. Every four years, the Township performs a thorough review comparing fees from surrounding towns and the various costs of construction (kitchens, pool, etc.) Freehold Township fees are still below the other towns, and with the rise of inflation, we need to raise our fees. The last time we raised our fees was 6 years ago, and the Township does not make annual adjustments to the fees like some other towns.

Mr. Franklyn asked if that would affect the tax payer.

Mr. Valesi said we want to keep the cost down for the taxpayers. We have to charge for inspections and services not to affect the taxpayer. The UCC fees exist so that taxpayers are not required to pay for other residents that have home improvement projects. The DCA routinely reviews our revenues and expenses related to the

Construction Department, the Township is audited every three years, and we are required to submit an annual report to the DCA.

There were no further comments from the public.

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

Vote:

AYES: Mr. Cook, Mr. Preston, Mr. Walker

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mr. Ammiano, and Mayor Fasano

ABSTAIN: None

Mr. Cook made motion to adopt Ordinance O-22-7 seconded by Mr. Preston

Vote:

AYES: Mr. Cook Mr. Preston, Mr. Walker

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mr. Ammiano, and Mayor Fasano

ABSTAIN: None

O-22-8 - An Ordinance Amending Chapter 2 (Administration of Government), Articles V, VI, VII, VIII, XI, XI(A), XIV, XIVA AND XVI (Various Departmental Sections), Chapter 10 (Boards, Committees and Commissions) Article I (Shade Tree Commission), Chapters 17, 21, 43, 47, 51, 71, 115, 150, 154, 162, 232, 270 and 351 (Various Sections) of the Revised General Ordinances of the Township of Freehold, County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey

Deputy Mayor Walker opened Ordinance O-22-8 for public hearing and asked for any comments or questions.

Jim Franklyn, 119 Lancaster Rd, asked why is the Township changing the authority and the power of removing the Director of Public Work from a vote from Township Committee to the administrator.

Mr. Valesi said we review our ordinances every 5 or more years to see if it is consistent with the law, the new civil services regulations, and with our employment practices. The auditors will review the ordinances and provide guidance to update the ordinances. Any employee that is a director level in civil services is "unclassified", and "unclassified" employees do not require a 2/3 majority vote from the Governing body in order to terminate their employment. The way the ordinance is written and the power, and duties of the administrator, the governing body has granted me appointing authority status. If a civil service employee is subject to termination or suspension for five days or over, the employee can have a hearing before the appointing authority, and Civil Services Commission.

There were no further comments from the public

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

Vote:

AYES: Mr. Cook, Mr. Preston, Mr. Walker

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mr. Ammiano, and Mayor Fasano

ABSTAIN: None

Mr. Cook made motion to adopt Ordinance O-22-8 seconded by Mr. Preston

Vote:

AYES: Mr. Cook Mr. Preston, Mr. Walker

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mr. Ammiano, and Mayor Fasano

ABSTAIN: None

NEW BUSINESS

R-22-114 - Resolution Authorizing Reduction Change Order Number 1,
Declaring Acceptance and Final Payment of Contract 21-6, Jackson
Mills Road Water Treatment Plant South Side Filter Upgrades

Mr. Preston read Resolution R-22-114 and moved it for adoption, seconded by Mr. Cook

Vote:

AYES: Mr. Cook, Mr. Preston, Mr. Walker

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mr. Ammiano and Mayor Fasano

ABSTAIN: None

R-22-115 - Resolution Approving Consolidated Bills List

Mr. Cook read Resolution R-22-115, the Consolidated Bills List in the amount of
\$3,608,029.98 and moved it for adoption, seconded by Mr. Preston

Vote:

AYES: Mr. Cook, Mr. Preston, Mr. Walker

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mr. Ammiano and Mayor Fasano

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-22-116 - Resolution Authorizing Renewal of Membership in the Western
Monmouth Purchasing Group Cooperative Pricing System

R-22-117 - Resolution Disbursing Overpayments of Taxes

R-22-118 - Resolution Authorizing Execution of Right of Entry Agreement

R-22-119 - Resolution Authorizing a Contract for the Purchase of One (1)

Stump Grinder - Self Propelled through the Educational Services
Commission of New Jersey

R-22-120 - Resolution Awarding a Contract for Various Streets and Road
Materials - Western Monmouth Purchasing Group

R-22-121 - Resolution Amending R-21-248 Adopted on October 26, 2021
Authorizing the Award of a Contract for the Gravel Hill Road Water
Storage Tank Rebid

R-22-122 - Resolution Amending 2022 Budget (Chapter 159) to Insert
Modification to the Special Item of Revenue and Appropriations for
the 2022 DMHAS Youth Leadership Grant

R-22-123 - Resolution Amending 2022 Budget (Chapter 159) to Insert
Modification to the Special Item of Revenue and Appropriations for
the 2022 Safe and Secure Communities Grant

R-22-124 - Resolution Amending 2022 Budget (Chapter 159) to Insert
Modification to the Special Item of Revenue and Appropriations for
the 2022 New Jersey Department of Transportation Safe Corridors
Act

R-22-125 - Resolution Authorizing Execution of Developer's Agreement for BH
550-558 Halls Mill Holders LLC, Site Plan No. 526-1-20, Block 79,
Lot 4, Located at 550 Halls Mills Road

R-22-126 - Resolution Amending Resolution No. R-22-59 Adopted on February
22, 2022 Approving Wireless Communication Facilities Modification
Application for New York SMSA D/B/A Verizon Wireless, 169
Robertsville Road, Block 8, Lot 5, Application No. WCFMA 07-21

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

Vote:

AYES: Mr. Cook, Mr. Preston, Mr. Walker

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mr. Ammiano and Mayor Fasano

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION

Township Committee Appointments:

John Krok - Street Name Review Committee - Member - Unexpired term
through 12/31/24

Michael Celano - Street Name Review Committee - Member/Independent Fire
Company - Unexpired term through 12/31/22

Shaun Reilly - Street Name Review Committee - Member/East Freehold Fire
Company - Unexpired term through 12/31/22

Mr. Preston moved the Township Appointment for adoption, seconded by Mr. Cook

Vote:

AYES: Mr. Cook, Mr. Preston, Mr. Walker

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mr. Ammiano and Mayor Fasano

ABSTAIN: None

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

Jim Franklyn, 119 Lancaster Rd, wanted to update the Township Committee regarding a meeting that occurred on April 6th between a few residents (Jim Franklyn, JJ Mistretta, Doers Lynn, Faith Edwards, and Haven Franklyn), the Chief of Police George Baumann, and Sergeant Joseph Winowski. Mr Franklyn stated that the meeting was “great” and they received productive information regarding the hiring process for police officers. He said the Police Department is working hard to implement diversity in the Police Department. In addition, he said there is a movement nationally called “30 X 30” initiative to have up to 30% police forces to be women.

Mr. Franklyn thanked the Township Committee for helping facilitate that meeting with the Police Department.

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

Mr. Cook thanked Debra Preston and the Freehold Municipal Alliance to Prevent Substance Abuse for having a great golf outing 5/23/2022.

Mr. Preston thanked the Freehold Municipal Alliance for their hard work for raising funds to prevent substance abuse and thanked Judy Murray from Max for supporting The Municipal Alliance. He also thanked the police officers that received their certification at tonight’s meeting for their hard work and the challenges that they face on a daily basis.

Mr. Walker echoed Mr. Cook and Mr. Preston comments and congratulated Mr. Celano for his appointment on the Street Name Review Committee.

Deputy Mayor Walker Adjourned the Meeting at 9:00pm

Sanabel Abouzeina, Township Clerk