

FREEHOLD TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING

June 23, 2020

At 8:00 p.m., the Township Committee met in Room 114 of the municipal building. Meeting started at 8:00p.m. Mayor Preston read the following statement:

“In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Law, (c. 231 P.L. 1975), this meeting was announced on January 6, 2020 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 Walker, Mayor Preston

Absent: Committeewoman Fasano

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

Moment of Silence and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

None

REPORTS

The Report of the Tax Collector for the Month of May 2020:

Net Receipt:	General Fund	\$12,940,846.10
	Water Account	\$ 185,645.46
	Sewer Account	\$ 422,617.74

Proclamation “National Volunteer Week” – Honoring Joseph Luongo – April 19-25, 2020

Mayor Preston presented the proclamation to Joseph Luongo

Proclamation – “Dystonia Awareness Month” – June, 2020

Mayor Preston read the proclamation.

OLD BUSINESS

O-20-10 – Bond Ordinance Authorizing Various Capital Improvements in and For the Township of Freehold, in the County of Monmouth, New Jersey, Appropriation \$5,043,000 Therefor and Authorizing the Issuance of \$4,791,800 Therefor and Authorizing the Issuance of \$4,791,800 Bonds or Notes to Finance Part of the Cost Thereof

Mayor Preston opened Ordinance O-20-10 for public hearing and asked for any comments or questions.

There being none, Mr. Ammiano moved to close the public hearing, seconded by Mr. Cook

Vote:

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mrs. Fasano

ABSTAIN: None

Mr. Ammiano made a motion to adopt Ordinance O-20-10, seconded by Mr. Cook.

Vote:

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mrs. Fasano

ABSTAIN: None

O-20-11 – Bond Ordinance Authorizing Various Water/Sewer Capital Improvements In and For the Township of Freehold, in the County of Monmouth, New Jersey Appropriating \$1,706,000 Therefor and Authorizing the Issuance of \$1,706,000 Bonds or Notes to Finance the Cost Thereof

Mayor Preston opened Ordinance O-20-11 for public hearing and asked for any comments or questions.

There being none, Mr. Ammiano moved to close the public hearing, seconded by Mr. Cook

Vote:

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mrs. Fasano

ABSTAIN: None

Mr. Ammiano made a motion to adopt Ordinance O-20-11, seconded by Mr. Cook.

Vote:

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mrs. Fasano

ABSTAIN: None

NEW BUSINESS

R-20-130 – Resolution Authorizing Change Order No. 1, Declaring Acceptance and Final Payment of Contract 20-1, Rehabilitation of Well No. 3

Mr. Walker read Resolution R-20-130 and moved it for adoption, seconded by Mr. Cook

Vote:

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mrs. Fasano

ABSTAIN: None

R-20-131 – Resolution Authorizing Change Order No. 1, Declaring Acceptance and Final Payment of Contract 19-24, Plymouth Drive Culvert Replacement

Mr. Cook read Resolution R-20-131 and moved it for adoption, seconded by Mr. Walker

Vote:

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mrs. Fasano

ABSTAIN: None

R-20-132 - Resolution Approving Consolidated Bills List

Mr. Ammiano read the Resolution R-20-132, the Consolidated Bills List in the amount of \$2,352,589.98 and moved it for adoption seconded by Mr. Walker.

Vote:

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mrs. Fasano

ABSTAIN: None

***Mr. Valesi noted that the public hearing for Ordinance O-20-7 still open and the meeting was carried at the 6/16/2020 special meeting to 6/30/2020 at 7:30pm at the Freehold Township Senior Center.**

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-20-133 – Resolution Renewing Shared Services Agreement with Freehold Regional High School District for Licensed Water Treatment Plant Operations for Colts Neck High School

R-10-134 – Resolution Amending Resolution R-20-74 and Approving Fireworks Displays at the Rescheduled 17th Annual Freehold Township Day and Concert in the Park at Michael J. Tighe Park

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

Vote:

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mrs. Fasano

ABSTAIN: None

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

Jim Franklin, 119 Lancaster Rd, asked if there is pre-registration for the meeting that held 6/30/2020, and how many people can attend?

Mr. Valesi said the room could hold 106 seats 6 feet apart maintaining social distancing. Mr. Valesi said we are unsure of the number of residents who will attend the meeting and is hoping attendance will be less than 50 residents

Mr. Franklin asked what time the door will be open?

Mr. Valesi said the door will open at 7:00pm.

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

Mr. Ammiano read a letter from Bob McDaid President and CEO of IPlay America.

Like Most Business in New Jersey, we were forced to temporary close on March 16 due to Covid-19 concern. When we closed, we thought it would be for a few week. We could have never imagined where we are today- entering week 14 - still closed other than limited outside dining that was permitted this Monday. When we learned that Governor Murphy was allowing outside dining on June 15, we called Peter Valesi, the Freehold Township Administrator, to discuss the process. He assured us that the Township is doing everything in its power to help local businesses and the re-opening process would not be difficult. He was not kidding! The Township streamlined the process that took less than 48 hours from request to approval to reopen. Not having offered outdoor seating prior to now, we constructed our outside dining area with capacity for 80 patrons in six days. We were able to open Monday because of the proactive people dedicated to making Freehold Township a better place to live and operate a business. Every member of the Township governing body, as well as the administration, planning, zoning and construction departments to the parks and recreation department, police and emergency responders- truly care about this community and New Jersey. Surviving in business during Covid-19 will be one of my greatest business challenges, but I am inspired by the light at the end of the

tunnel that Freehold Township has helps me see. And, I would be remiss if I did not also thank Senator Vin Gopal who is working tirelessly for all people of Freehold Township and the other towns in his district to re-open for business. Thank you Freehold Township and Senator Gopal.

Mayor Preston remarked that this was a great letter and the fact that we were working with Senator Vin Gopal and the County of Freeholders to help the residents and the small business is also remarkable. This exemplifies how we all have to work together, regardless of political parties.

The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 8:31 pm

Sanabel Abouzeina, Township Clerk