

AUGUST 25, 2008

On the above date, the Township Committee of the Township of Mantua held its monthly Regular Meeting in the Mantua Township Municipal Building, 401 Main Street, Mantua, NJ 08051.

Mayor Timothy W. Chell called the meeting to order. The time was 7:30 p.m. Mayor Chell asked for everyone to rise for the flag salute and remain standing for a moment of silence.

Mayor Chell then read aloud the Statement of the Presiding Officer: "As required by the New Jersey Open Public Meeting Act, adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by adopting a schedule of regular meetings for the year 2008. The schedule was posted on the bulletin board of the Municipal Building and mailed to the Gloucester County Times and Courier-Post newspapers on January 2, 2008."

Mayor Chell called on Township Clerk Shawn Menzies to perform a roll call of present officials. Present were Committeeman Robert Zimmerman, Committeewoman Lorraine Beckett, Deputy Mayor Peter Scirrotto, Mayor Chell, August Knestaut, Esquire, Township Solicitor, Michael Datz, Township Administrator and Shawn G. Menzies, Township Clerk. Committeewoman Sharon Lawrence was absent.

Deputy Mayor Scirrotto made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of the Township Committee's August 11, 2008 Workshop Meeting, seconded by Committeewoman Beckett. All were in favor.

Deputy Mayor Scirrotto made a motion to approve the Closed Session meeting minutes held August 11, 2008, seconded by Committeewoman Beckett. All were in favor.

Deputy Mayor Scirrotto made a motion to open the meeting to the public, seconded by Committeeman Zimmerman. All were in favor.

William Good, 249 Mercer Avenue, Sewell, asked if the Committee has heard any further information about the railroad crossing on Center Street. Deputy Mayor Scirrotto stated the County and the State plan to address the problems and they are expected to start work in late September or early October, adding that safety gates are also on the plan to be installed.

Mr. Good stated the Sewell Railroad Station also on Center Street is deteriorating and is an eyesore. Deputy Mayor Scirrotto said he saw a sign on the property announcing the current owners are trying to sell it. Mayor Chell said the current owners worked with the Mantua Township Economic Development Committee to attempt to obtain grants to assist in the rehabilitation and that he would like to see it razed.

Mr. Good asked if grant funding like the funding used for the senior citizens building could be used. Mayor Chell stated Community Development Block Grants can only be

used in certain areas in town according to Federal guidelines and that area is not an option at this time.

Mr. Good asked about the old gas station on Main Street across from Damingers, to which Mayor Chell said the owners were cited and are to be court to address the situation. Mayor Chell added the only way for the structure to be razed would be for the court to declare it an unsafe building.

Mr. Good asked if there are still laws in effect prohibiting development on swamp land, to which Mayor Chell said yes and it includes land deemed swamp land or wet lands. Mr. Good commented that the land where the development called Wensley is was once all wet lands. Mayor Chell said State laws are strict and that there are wet land buffers which must be followed.

James Slempp, 536 Mount Royal Road, stated the park is doing better by providing trash and recycling cans, but that cardboard continues to get wet by rain and makes the trash heavier and thus more costly to remove. He added there is a 16 by 16 foot tarp for an 8 foot by 8 foot bin.

Mr. Slempp said flags need to be replaced at the park, to which Mr. Datz said they will be as replacement flags have been shipped.

Mr. Slempp said he witnessed the water sprinkler adjacent to the pavilion drip water and tried to fix it, to which Mayor Chell asked him not to do so with Township property due to liability and that he should bring it to attention of park staff or officials at the municipal building.

Mr. Slempp asked if Police Explorers at the park could be used to direct traffic. Mr. Datz said they are not allowed to do so because they are not sworn police officers.

Mr. Slempp asked how many employees were lost in 2007, to which Mayor Chell asked what department. Mr. Slempp asked for the entire Township. Mayor Chell said unless he can be more specific he could not answer his question.

Mr. Slempp asked why pension costs are rising, even when the Township of Mantua loses employees. Mayor Chell explained previously the State paid a portion of the pension costs, but that it does not now. He added each year the State is paying less will soon no longer pay anything towards it

Mr. Slempp said he was informed Lowes and Target will be seeking temporary certification of occupancies and asked if the developer has paid all of its COAH fees and other funds due to the Township. Mr. Menzies stated that the developer has paid all amounts owed. Mayor Chell stated that funds collected under the tree ordinance will go towards adding trees to buffer the Sheffield Walk development on Woodbury Glassboro Road.

Mr. Slemp asked if the Township of Mantua still has funds from the Brownfields grant in the amount of \$200,000 it received last year. Mayor Chell said yes.

Mr. Good asked about the electrical issues at the Veterans' Memorial and if the power has been restored. Mr. Datz said the clock and lights work, but power is not running out to the outlets and it is being looked worked on.

Mr. Good said Mr. Datz and Chief Rodney Sawyer did a great job at the National Night Out.

As no one else wished to address the Committee, Deputy Mayor Scirrotto made a motion to close the public portion, seconded by Committeeman Zimmerman. All were in favor.

Deputy Mayor Scirrotto made a motion to adopt by Title Only Ordinance O-13-2008, seconded by Committeeman Zimmerman.

ORDINANCE O-13-2008
AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA
RE: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2008 SALARY ORDINANCE
TO INCLUDE THE POSITION OF SERGEANT FIRST (1st) CLASS
OF THE MANTUA TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

All members voted in the affirmative to a roll call vote to adopt by Title Only, 4-0.

Deputy Mayor Scirrotto made a motion to approve Resolution R-140-2008, seconded by Committeewoman Beckett.

RESOLUTION R-140-2008
A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA
RE: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE REMOVAL OF RICHARD
EMERY FROM THE VETERANS TAX REDUCTION ROLLS AS THE
RESIDENT HAS MOVED OUT OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA

All were in favor.

Deputy Mayor Scirrotto made a motion to approve Resolution R-141-2008, seconded by Committeewoman Beckett.

RESOLUTION R-141-2008
A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA
RE: A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE APPROVAL OF ACQUISITION
OF FARMLAND PRESERVATION DEVELOPMENT EASEMENTS
ON LAND OWNED BY JOHN & TERRY FURFARI LOCATED AT
BLOCK 273, LOT 3 OF THE OFFICIAL TAX MAP OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA, CONSISTING OF 29.65 ACRES

All were in favor.

Deputy Mayor Scirrotto made a motion to approve Resolution R-142-2008, seconded by Committeeman Zimmerman.

RESOLUTION R-142-2008
A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA
RE: A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE APPROVAL OF ACQUISITION
OF FARMLAND PRESERVATION DEVELOPMENT EASEMENTS
ON LAND OWNED BY JOHN, LILLIAN & ROBERT HURFF, BLOCK 254,
LOTS 1 & 2 , CONSISTING OF 43 ACRES

All were in favor.

Deputy Mayor Scirrotto made a motion to approve Resolution R-143-2008, seconded by Committeewoman Beckett.

RESOLUTION R-143-2008
A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA
RE: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN APPLICATION BE MADE FOR
FUNDING THE MANTUA HARRISON MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE FOR THE
TERM YEAR 2009 IN THE TOTAL BUDGET AMOUNT OF \$35,955.00

All were in favor.

Deputy Mayor Scirrotto made a motion to approve Resolution R-144-2008, seconded by Committeeman Zimmerman.

RESOLUTION R-144-2008
A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA
RE: A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP
OF MANTUA, COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER, NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING
THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF UP TO \$5,504,000 OF GENERAL
OBLIGATION BONDS, SERIES 2008, OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA;
MAKING CERTAIN COVENANTS TO MAINTAIN THE EXEMPTION OF THE
INTEREST ON SAID BONDS FROM FEDERAL INCOME TAXATION; AND
AUTHORIZING SUCH FURTHER ACTIONS AND MAKING SUCH
DETERMINATIONS AS MAY BE NECESSARY OR APPROPRIATE TO
EFFECTUATE THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF THE BONDS

All members voted in the affirmative to a roll call vote to approve, 4-0.

Deputy Mayor Scirrotto made a motion to approve Resolution R-145-2008, seconded by Committeewoman Beckett.

RESOLUTION R-145-2008
A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA
RE: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CLOSED SESSION

MEETING TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE OR REAL LITIGATION

All were in favor.

Deputy Mayor Scirrotto made a motion to approve Resolution R-146-2008, seconded by Committeewoman Beckett.

RESOLUTION R-146-2008
A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA
RE: A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE OVERPAYMENT OF
TAXES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$530.69 TO VINCENT &
NICHOLE FEDORYKA, 426 MANTUA BOULEVARD

All were in favor.

Under Committee Reports, Committeewoman Beckett said the recent movie in the park event held on August 20 went very well. She added that the 9/11 Memorial Ceremony will be held on September 11, 2008 at the Place of Reflection in the Chestnut Branch Park at 8:30 a.m.

Deputy Mayor Scirrotto wished everyone a safe and happy Labor Day holiday.

Mr. Datz reported that a trash truck was rear ended on Friday, August 22 and damaged the rear of the truck. While no one was injured the truck will be out of use for about a week for repairs.

Deputy Mayor Scirrotto made a motion to pay all duly authorized bills, seconded by Committeewoman Beckett. All were in favor.

It was at this time did Deputy Mayor Scirrotto make a motion to enter into Closed Session, seconded by Committeeman Zimmerman. All were in favor. The time was 8:00 p.m. Mayor Chell stated that the Committee may or may not take action once the Closed Session was complete.

At 8:15 p.m. Mayor Chell made a motion to reopen the meeting, seconded by Committeeman Zimmerman. All were in favor.

Deputy Mayor Scirrotto made a motion to approve Resolution R-147-2008, seconded by Committeewoman Beckett.

RESOLUTION R-147-2008
A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA
RE: AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF
MANTUA AND AMERICAN HOME MORTGAGE SERVICING AS IT
RELATES TO THE FORECLOSURE OF AN AFFORDABLE HOUSING
UNIT IN THE VILLAGES AT BERKLEY CONDOMINIUM DEVELOPMENT
All members voted in the affirmative to a roll call vote, 4-0.

Deputy Mayor Scirrotto made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Committeewoman Beckett. All were in favor. The time was 8:20 p.m.