

MAY 4, 2009

On the above date, the Township Committee of the Township of Mantua held its monthly Workshop 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 2009. 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, 2009."

Mayor Chell called on Township Clerk Shawn Menzies to perform a roll call of present officials. Present were Committeeman Robert Zimmerman, Committeewoman Sharon Lawrence, Committeewoman Lorraine Beckett, Deputy Mayor Pete Scirrotto, Mayor Chell, Maria Detitto, Esquire, Township Solicitor, Shawn G. Menzies, Township Clerk, Police Lieutenant David Mastrogiacomo, Jon Bryson, of Federici & Akin, the Township Engineer, and Michael Datz, Township Administrator.

Deputy Mayor Scirrotto made a motion to approve the Township Committee's April 20, 2009 meeting minutes, seconded by Committeeman Zimmerman. All were in favor.

Mayor Chell presented proclamations to the players and coaching staff from the Girls Minor Clearview Youth Basketball team for their championship season. Each player also received a copy of the proclamation and was awarded a trophy by the coaching staff.

Mayor Chell announced that the annual Financial Statement is now on file with the Office of the Township Clerk for public inspection during normal business hours.

Committeewoman Lawrence made a motion to approve a brief recess until 7:40 p.m., seconded by Committeeman Zimmerman. All were in favor.

At 7:40 p.m., Deputy Mayor Scirrotto made a motion to approve to reopen the meeting, seconded by Committeewoman Beckett. All were in favor.

For the Engineer's Report, Mr. Bryson reported that the plans for the Evergreen Avenue project were reviewed by the New Jersey Department of Transportation, but the DOT has indicated that the allotment of \$126,000.00 has not been combined into the Municipal Aid allotment of the \$210,000.00 as previously indicated, therefore, the \$126,000.00 is available in addition to the \$210,000.00 to complete the project. As a result, the engineer will be amending the plans to complete all required improvements on Evergreen Avenue from Main Street to Mantua Boulevard.

Mayor Chell asked Mr. Datz to contact the school district to remind them they need to move the fence on Evergreen Avenue prior to the state of the project.

Mr. Bryson said the Municipal Aid Application is due to the State by June 12, 2009 and all application must be completed on the SAGE system.

Also, Mr. Bryson reported, applications for Transportation Enhancement projects are due to the State by May 13, 2009, to which also must be completed on the SAGE system and the type of projects which can be applied for range from cultural, environmental, aesthetic, or historical and could encompass lighting of the bike path or a truck washer for public works.

Next, Mr. Bryson reviewed the 2008 Community Development Block Grant to which the project bids were opened on April 16, 2009 and the lowest responsible/responsive bidder was Jerry and Sons with a bid amount of \$37,685.00. This resolution is on the agenda this evening for the Committee's consideration.

Mr. Bryson reported the application for the 2009 Community Development Block Grant was submitted on April 28, 2009 in the amount of \$28,000.00 to repair the existing culvert on Jessup Mill Road.

Lastly, Mr. Bryson said the developer had a pumping crew removing water from a drainage issue on Woodbury-Glassboro Road behind the Heritage store and will continue to find the source of the problem.

For the Police Department Report, Lieutenant Mastrogiacomo reported that Chief Rodney Sawyer could not be in attendance due to him attending the Gloucester County Police honors ceremony, to which three officers- Kyle Riepen, Jason Davis and Jeffrey Leach – were to be honored.

Committeewoman Lawrence asked if a sign could be placed at Pontes Point near Mount Royal Road as some drivers are making illegal turns, but might not know it.

For the Public Works Report, Glenn Demers reported the recycling brush crane is up and running as of last week and public works employees are being training.

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

Don Verhoorn, 186 Cheyenne Avenue, asked for a definition of what constitutes an abandoned vehicle as listed in Ordinance O-04-2009.

Mayor Chell read aloud the ordinance where it is listed in five parts:

Abandoned shall mean, with respect to public streets, private streets, public property, private property and public highways, any vehicle which:

- A. Is parked out of doors, for any length of time, without the current year's registration, identification markers or license tags, as required by law; or
- B. Is so disabled, for any length of time, as to constitute an obstruction to traffic, and the driver or person owning or in charge of said vehicle neglects or refuses to move the same to a place where it will not obstruct traffic; or
- C. Is found without one (1) or more tires for any length of time; or
- D. Has remained on or about private property without the consent of the owner or other person in charge of said private property for a continuing period of ten (10) days or more; or
- E. Is found to be partially dismantled; mechanically inoperative, including found to have one (1) or more deflated tires; wrecked; junked or discarded and is allowed to remain in such condition on public or private property for a continuing period of ten (10) days or more; or

Mr. Verhoorn next asked if the resolution awarding a contract for over \$37,000.00 could better be used elsewhere in the Township of Mantua and not Jessup Mill Road. Mayor Chell explained that in accordance with the rules of the grant the funds can only be used on a project which is federally listed as low income area and this is the only place in town which fits that category.

James Slempp, 536 Mount Royal Road, asked how would a reassessment of the Township of Mantua affect senior citizen Property Tax Rebates if the assessment should come in lower and would those senior citizens end up owing? Committeewoman Beckett said in that instance she believes the State would not mandate they would owe, being the program is designed to freeze taxes.

Mr. Slempp asked why the budget has a line item for \$90,000.00 for demolishing of buildings and does the Township of Mantua plan to demolish any buildings. Mayor Chell said annually the budget lists such and in case the Township of Mantua would need to demolish a building and recent discussions could have the funds be used to raze a building in town like the Haussman bus building on Main Street, but plans have not been finalized.

Mr. Slempp asked about the \$600,000.00 for a public works pole barn, to which Mr. Datz said if the project proceeds it would likely be a metal structure. Mr. Slempp asked if that amount of money would cover the project. Mayor Chell the funds are in the capital budget but that it does not mean it will be spent.

Mr. Slempp asked if Verizon would have to pay a franchise fee. Mayor Chell said he believes they would.

Mr. Slempp asked who present is a member of the local Economic Development Team, to which Mayor Chell said Committeewoman Sharon Lawrence, but the team also has representatives from other boards and commissions and hired professionals.

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

Committeeman Zimmerman made a motion to adopt Ordinance O-04-2009 by Title Only, seconded by Committeewoman Beckett.

ORDINANCE O- 04 -2009
AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA
RE: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 394 OF THE CODE
OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA, "VEHICLES, ABANDONED"

All members voted in the affirmative to adopt by Title Only, 5-0.

Committeewoman Lawrence made a motion to adopt by Title Only Ordinance 0-05-2009, seconded by Committeeman Zimmerman.

ORDINANCE O-05-2009
AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA
RE: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 108 OF THE CODE
OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA, "ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES"

All members voted in the affirmative to adopt by Title Only, 5-0.

Committeewoman Lawrence made a motion to approve Resolution R-82-2009, seconded by Committeeman Zimmerman.

RESOLUTION R-82-2009
A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA
RE: A RESOLUTION APPROVING PARTICIPATION WITH THE
STATE OF NEW JERSEY IN A SAFE A SECURE COMMUNITIES
PROGRAM ADMINISTERED BY THE DIVISION OF
CRIMINAL JUSTICE, DEPARTMENT LAW AND SAFETY

All members voted in the affirmative to approve, 5-0.

Deputy Mayor Scirrotto made a motion to approve Resolution R-83-2009, seconded by Committeewoman Beckett.

RESOLUTION R-83-2009
A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA,
RE: A RESOLUTION TO READ THE 2009 BUDGET BY TITLE ONLY

All were in favor.

Committeewoman Lawrence made a motion to approve Resolution R-84-2009, seconded by Committeeman Zimmerman.

RESOLUTION R- 84 -2009
A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA
RE: A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THAT A COPY OF THE 2009
MUNICIPAL BUDGET HAS BEEN PLACED IN THE
GLOUCESTER COUNTY LIBRARY, MULLICA HILL BRANCH IN
HARRISON TOWNSHIP IN ACCORDANCE WITH N.J.S.A 40A:4.

All were in favor.

Committeewoman Beckett made a motion to approve Resolution R-85-2009, seconded by Committeewoman Lawrence.

RESOLUTION R-85-2009
A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA
RE: A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE AWARDDING OF A BID IN
THE AMOUNT OF \$37,685.00 TO JERRY & SON EXCAVATING INC, 5981
SCRANTON AVENUE, MAYS LANDING, NEW JERSEY 08330 FOR THE
PROJECT KNOWN AS THE RESURFACING OF JESSUP'S MILL ROAD

All members voted in the affirmative to approve Resolution R-85-2009, 5-0.

Committeewoman Lawrence made a motion to approve Resolution R-86-2009, seconded by Committeeman Zimmerman.

RESOLUTION R-86-2009
A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA
RE: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SPECIAL
SOLICITOR TO FORECLOSE CERTAIN PROPERTIES FOR
DELINQUENT TAXES IN THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA

All members were in favor.

Committeewoman Lawrence made a motion to approve Resolution R-87-2009, seconded by Committeeman Zimmerman.

RESOLUTION R-87-2009
A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA
RE: A RESOLUTION ENDORSING THE SUBMISSION OF
THE 2008 RECYCLING TONNAGE GRANT APPLICATION TO THE
NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

All members were in favor.

Deputy Mayor Scirrotto made a motion to approve Resolution R-88-2009, seconded by Committeeman Zimmerman.

RESOLUTION R-88 -2009
A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANTUA
RE: A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING “CLICK IT OR TICKET”
MOBILIZATION TO BE HELD FROM MAY 18 TO MAY 31, 2009

All were in favor.

Committeewoman Lawrence made a motion to approve a one day liquor license for Incarnation Church for an event to be held on May 15, 2009, seconded by Committeewoman Beckett. All were in favor.

Mayor Chell asked Committee members to review a request by Mantua Little League to extend the lease agreement and report back with any questions or concerns.

Under Committee Reports, Committeewoman Beckett announced changes to the parade route for the Memorial Day parade, which will now head down Mantua Avenue to Elm Avenue to Main Street and down to the Municipal Building where the ceremony will be held at the Veterans' Plaza at 10:15 a.m.

Committeewoman Lawrence said public works did a great job with the two bulk pick ups in April.

Mayor Chell announced the annual Armed Forces Day ceremony will take place at 12:30 p.m. on May 16, 2009 at the AMVETS Post.

Under the Administrator's Report, Mr. Datz reported he and Mr. Menzies applied for the Joint Insurance Fund's Tenant User Liability Insurance Program for municipally-owned property and buildings. This program, also known as TULIP, allows an organization to purchase at a low rate, insurance when using a municipally-owned facility or property for an event.

Committeewoman Beckett asked if the Township of Mantua has a code pertaining to yard sale and signs. Mr. Datz said it does, to which she reported several signs posted on Route 45. Mayor Chell said they will be reported to Code Enforcement.

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

Committeewoman Lawrence made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Committeeman Zimmerman. All were in favor. The time was 8:10 p.m.