

STAFFORD TOWNSHIP COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

JANUARY 19, 2016

Mayor John R. Spodofora calls the Stafford Township Council Meeting to order with the Salute to the Flag and the reading of the Open Public Meeting Statement. 7:00 pm

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT: “THIS MEETING COMPLIES WITH THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT BY ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION SETTING FORTH MEETING DATES FOR THE YEAR 2016. NOTIFICATION AND PUBLICATION OF THESE MEETING WERE GIVEN TO THREE LOCAL NEWSPAPERS AND POSTING OF SAME ON THE MUNICIPAL BULLETIN BOARD”.

ROLL CALL: FESSLER, JEFFRIES, MARCHAL, McKENNA, SMITH, SPODOFORA – ALL PRESENT – TAYLOR ABSENT.

PUBLIC HEARING – OCEAN COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FOR THE YEAR 2016

Dial A Ride Transportation Service – Township wide public service - \$40,000.00

Mayor Spodofora opened public comment

There was no public comment. The Mayor then advised everyone present that the Governing Body will present the forthcoming Resolution to be presented to the Ocean County Community Development Block Grant Committee for funding consideration for the year 2016 for the Stafford Township Dial a Ride Transportation System in the amount of \$40,000.

Mayor Spodofora closed public comment

RESOLUTION 2016-64

AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF AN APPLICATION WITH THE OCEAN COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR 2016

Motion to adopt Resolution 2016-64 was made by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilwoman McKenna. RCV: All in attendance – aye – Taylor absent.

ORDINANCES – SECOND READING & FINAL DISPOSITION

ORDINANCE 2016-01

ALLOWING STAFFORD TOWNSHIP IN PREPARING ITS 2016 BUDGET TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK

Mayor Spodofora opened public comment. Being no public comment, the Mayor closed public comment.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2016-01 on 2nd reading was made by Councilman Marchal, seconded by Councilwoman McKenna. RCV: All in attendance – aye – Taylor absent.

ORDINANCES – INTRODUCTION & FIRST READING

PLEASE NOTE: THE FOLLOWING ORDINANCE WILL BE SCHEDULED FOR PUBLIC COMMENT AND ADOPTION AT THE FEBRUARY 9, 2016 COUNCIL MEETING.

ORDINANCE 2016-02

FIXING AND DETERMINING SALARIES AND WAGES OF EMPLOYEES AND OFFICIALS FOR THE YEAR 2016

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2016-02 on 1st reading was made by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilwoman McKenna. RCV: Marchal, McKenna, Smith, Spodofora – yes; Fessler abstained, Jeffries no, Taylor absent.

A copy of Ordinance 2016-02 is attached hereto and made a part of the minutes.

CONSENT AGENDA

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS ARE CONSIDERED TO BE ROUTINE AND WILL BE ENACTED WITH A SINGLE MOTION. ANY ITEMS REQUIRING EXPENDITURE ARE SUPPORTED BY A CERTIFICATION OF FUNDS BY THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER. ANY ITEM REQUIRING DISCUSSION WILL BE REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA.

RESOLUTION 2016-57

APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING AN AFFORDABLE HOUSING DOWN PAYMENT ASSISTANCE LOAN REPAYMENT AGREEMENT WITH THE OWNER OF AN AFFORDABLE HOUSING LOCATED IN PINE CREST VILLAGE

RESOLUTION 2016-58

AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE STAFFORD TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE GRANT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017

RESOLUTION 2016-59

AWARDING A CONTRACT FOR A COMPREHENSIVE MASTER PLAN TO CME ASSOCIATES

RESOLUTION 2016-60

AUTHORIZING A VETERANS DISABILITY TAX EXEMPTION ON BLOCK 162, LOT 376

RESOLUTION 2016-61

AUTHORIZING A REFUND OF TAXES PAID ON PROPERTY WERE AN EXEMPTION HAS BEEN ALLOWED ON BLOCK 162, LOT 376

RESOLUTION 2016-62

AUTHORIZING A VETERANS DISABILITY TAX EXEMPTION ON BLOCK 73, LOT 13

RESOLUTION 2016-63

AUTHORIZING A REFUND OF TAXES ON PROPERTY WHERE AN EXEMPTION CLAIM HAS BEEN ALLOWED ON BLOCK 73, LOT 13

RESOLUTION 2016-65

APPOINTING DAMIAN G. MURRAY, ESQ. AS STAFFORD TOWNSHIP'S MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGE

RESOLUTION 2016-66

DECLARING AN EMERGENCY FOR THE REPAIR OF THE TOWNSHIP ELEVATOR AND AUTHORIZING PAYMENT TO THE CONTRACTOR, ATLAS ELEVATOR INC.

RESOLUTION 2016-67

DECOMMISSIONING THE POLICE K-9 LYSOL, AND PLACING POLICE K-9 JASE INTO TOWNSHIP SERVICE

WATER/SEWER UTILITY DEPARTMENT ACTIONS:

RESOLUTION 2016-02

AUTHORIZING THE WATER/SEWER COLLECTOR TO CANCEL WATER AND/OR SEWER CHARGES

APPLICATIONS FOR APPROVAL:

TAXI CAB – 2016

Elzbieta T. Lacki – E. J. Limousine

Carletta Van Meter – 597-Taxi
Drivers - Carletta Van Meter, Robert Van Meter & Christopher Romo

All have been investigated by the STPD and approved by Chief Joseph Giberson

MOTION TO ADOPT THE CONSENT AGENDA OF JANUARY 19, 2016 WAS MADE BY COUNCILMAN FESSLER, SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN MARCHAL. RCV: ALL IN ATTENDANCE – AYE; TAYLOR ABSENT.

VOUCHER RESOLUTION

AUTHORING THE PAYMENT OF BILLS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$10,786,117.98.

Motion to pay the bills was made by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilwoman McKenna. RCV: All in attendance – aye; Taylor absent.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS:

JOHN R. SPODOFORA: Submitted the Police Report activities for the month of December. Commented that a severe winter storm is being predicated for our area this weekend. It will be a north wester and including a full moon, high winds and high tides. Please be aware of this approaching storm. Please remove all vehicles off the streets prior to the storm so emergency crews can plow the roads.

COUNCILMAN ALAN SMITH: Commented that he recently attended the Stafford Emergency Services ceremony and advised all present that Stafford's EMS responded to over 2000 calls for 2016. He also attended the Senior Advisory Committee and reported that Maryann O'Neill will be present at the next council meeting to share information regarding Income Tax Preparation and TaxAide Sites for Southern Ocean County. He also visited the Southern Ocean County Resource Center here in Manahawkin – Meals on Wheels – wonderful services. Children's new winter coats are still available through Gail Bott. He also added that he attended the recent Stafford Fire Company Dinner – installation of officers and congratulated Heidi Michel on becoming Chief.

COUNCILWOMAN SHARON McKENNA: Began by wishing everyone a Happy New Year. Congratulated Patrolman Haines and his K-9 dog Jase, who will be replacing K-9 Lysol who is retiring with his owner Patrolman John Schweigart. The Environmental Commission has selected their 2016 theme – FISH – Forests Interacting with Saltwater Habitat. She recently found an old Stafford Township Monopoly game at a recent yard sale which has small businesses represented spread throughout the town. It may be time for a revision, so if there are any businesses in town who are interested in having township residents playing this game on their family game night, please do let her know. She has been speaking with the Mayor and Administrator about achieving Sustainable Jersey status. We are fortunate to have some truly stellar people who are willing and qualified to serve on the mandatory Green Team. This will bring us is grant money to continue to bring all of us quality of life here in our town.

COUNCILMAN PAUL MARCHAL: He is the Liaison to the Recreation Department and reported that Betti Anne McVey has been ill due to recent surgery. The Rec Staff is handling business as normal with the Philadelphia Flower Show Trip planned. Call Jennifer for more details. The Garden Club will meet on Feb. 10th at the Pine Street Community Center. He will be meeting with Gail Bott to see and learn the different programs that are sponsored by the Municipal Alliance. He also announced that he is a trustee of the Stafford Township Chamber of Commerce.

COUNCILMAN STEVEN JEFFRIES: Announced that he is the liaison to the W/S Department and wanted to take this time to thank those employees who keep our systems going. Township will be accepting bids for the Water Tower hopefully in February. The water main replacement is being reviewed, approvals forthcoming. Phase 4 BHW, most work will be done in house but if needed a contractor will assist when needed. The water tower in the BHW section will be painted. Past several weeks jet cleaning and certain sewer lines were repaired. Cold weather – please winterize your home if you are a seasonal occupant.

COUNCILMAN STEVE FESSLER: Submitted DPW Report for December. Road Division – 19.8 miles of road swept, 12 storm water inlets repaired, 750 feet storm water pipe cleaned, patching of potholes – Sanitation Division – trash & bulk 1243 stops, metal 161 stops, brush 111 stops, leaves 1230 stops – Buildings & Grounds – daily field maintenance for league use on all fields, irrigation systems winterized, setup and install Christmas decoration, preparations for Christmas Tree Lighting, installed guardrail on Bishop Lane, installed guardrail to protect practice football field. Dial Ride passengers for the month of December 1586. All snow plows and salt spreaders are checked and ready for winter service. 10,000 gallons of salt brine in stock and 500 tons of rock salt ready for use. Community Outreach – very successful program that has been in operation for the past 6 years. SRHS Honor Society will be attending council meeting in February to explain their contribution to Outreach.

ADMINISTRATOR’S COMMENTS:

JAMES A. MORAN: The Bay Avenue Community Center is moving right along – steel will be delivered by the end of January. Reported that vehicle vandalism occurred on the fields at Nautilus Park, over \$40,000 in damages and is not covered by our insurance. Mallard Island 1st stage paving completed, moving on to other areas in the vicinity. Working on the 2016 Municipal Budget and Capital Budget. Reminded all residents – please have your water turned off at curb stop if you are seasonal residents.

PUBLIC COMMENT: 5 MINUTE LIMIT PER INDIVIDUAL

Mayor Spodofora opened public comment

Richie Gilchrist – 11 Virginia Drive: Welcomed the new council members. Notified Mr. Moran that the park at Walter & Jennifer is being used as a parking lot for large trucks. Mr. Moran advised him that curbing will be installed at that location to deter parking.

Joe Mazzola – Galley Ave: He is requesting that copies be made available for all resolutions and ordinances to be placed on the table prior to the council meeting. Complaining about not hearing comments while sitting in the council room.

Dawn Papatheodora – Florence Lane: Wished everyone a Happy New Year and welcomed the new council members. Wanted to thank Chief Giberson & Councilman Smith for their presentation of Emergency Management Procedures at the Beach Haven Civic Association last meeting. She was thrilled to hear that when the BHW water tower is painted in the near future, it will have the logo BHW.

At this portion, Councilman Smith thanked Dawn and other members of the BHW Civic Association for accompanying him visiting Super Storm areas that were severely damaged in the Beach Haven West area. Please if you see construction debris not attended by contractors, please notify the township, we have code enforcement officers who will visit the site to correct this condition.

Paul Krier – 257 Stormy Road: Regarding the recent field vandalism at Nautilus Park. What happened to the swing gate? That gate should be closed for evening hours. He also mentioned that the township’s web-site is awful. He is strongly suggesting an update. Mr. Moran addressed Mr. Krier saying thought you were aware that you as a previous council member approved a contract this past November to update our web site. Should be up and running by April. Mr. Krier wanted to inquire – when is the Pinelands Meeting regarding Neptune Drive

drainage problems in Ocean Acres – Mr. Moran replied Jan. 20th 7:00 pm in the municipal court room.

Richie Gilchrist – Virginia Drive: Agreed that the township web site needs updating.

Eric Libenschek – 159 Topsail Lane: The sound system in the council room needs to be addressed – he feels it is a simple solution – use small goose neck microphones.

Being no further comment from the public, the Mayor closed public comment.

RESOLUTION 2016-68

AUTHORIZING AN EXECUTIVE SESSION – LITIGATION MATTERS – CLIENT PRIVILEGE

Motion to adopt was made by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilman Fessler. RCV: All in attendance – aye; Taylor - Absent.

TIME: 8:00 pm

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

**BERNADETTE M. PARK
MUNICIPAL CLERK**

**JOHN R. SPODOFORA
MAYOR**