

TOWNSHIP OF HAMILTON
6101 THIRTEENTH STREET
MAYS LANDING, NJ
JULY 31, 2013

A Special Meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Hamilton, Atlantic County, New Jersey was held on the above date with Mayor Amy L. Gatto presiding. Members present were Aline Dix, Rodney Guishard, Judy Link and Roger Silva. Also present were Michael S. Jacobs, Township Administrator, and Joan I. Anderson, Township Clerk.

The meeting opened with the flag salute followed by the Township Clerk certifying compliance with the New Jersey Open Meetings Law by posting a notice of this meeting on the bulletin board in the municipal building, by e-mailing a copy of the notice along with the agenda of this meeting to the Press of Atlantic City, Atlantic County Record, Record Journal and Current newspapers and by a legal advertisement in the Press of Atlantic City on July 26, 2013, stating this meeting would take place at 5:30 PM on Wednesday, July 31, 2013 in the municipal building, Mays Landing, New Jersey for the purpose of appointing two full-time police officers (a pre-requisite for their enrollment in the Police Training Academy).

Mayor Gatto explained that she wanted to state on the record that the Committee previously appointed full-time officers that were budgeted for because of a Training Academy that was starting in July; another notice of retirement was received; that prompted conversation about potentially getting more into the Academy; the next Academy starts on August 5th, the date of the next regular meeting; that caused the need for the Special Meeting so if the Committee decided to go forward with it, they could start in the August Academy; many police officers are out of active duty for a variety of reasons or pending retirement and with the length of time it takes to get into an Academy and to go through the Academy, it was felt that it would benefit the Township to act quickly; it has been verified that the budget will support the additional head count over the short term.

Mr. Silva asked if the appointees were the next two on the list. Captain Petuskey said they were #4 and #5. Mayor Gatto said the list is generated through the police hiring process. Captain Petuskey said it is dictated by Ordinance and that the list is good for at least two years.

Mr. Silva moved, seconded by Mr. Guishard, that the following resolution be adopted.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Hamilton that Brian Appleby be and is hereby appointed a full-time Police Officer in the Township of Hamilton Police Department effective August 1, 2013 at the Pre-Academy Level salary of \$30,600.00 per year.

DISCUSSION ON THE MOTION: Mrs. Dix asked what the 2-year window was. Captain Petuskey explained it starts from the date the list is posted. The Mayor said that was about a month ago and that #1, #2 and #3 have already been selected. Mrs. Dix commented on asking Mr. Jacobs about veterans coming out of the military trying to apply for jobs with the police who, with this procedure for getting on a list, aren't available to take a test when it is offered; asking him how somebody can get on the list; his answer being that they can't until the list expires; and that seems to contradict the effort coming out of the military. Captain Petuskey explained testing is expensive and time-consuming. He commented on his support for veterans and but the there has to be a fair process as governed by Township Ordinance. Mr. Guishard asked if the same list would be used if the department had a need for additional people close to two years from now. The Captain said they would have to use that same list if it hadn't expired. The Mayor explained previous list was from advertisement for only those who had already gone through the Academy; it wasn't very successful; this time the Township offered the Academy; a number of those interviewed were veterans; #1 on the list was a discharged Marine. Mayor Gatto clarified that there were over 100 applicants; they go through a written test and those who don't pass are dropped; those who pass the written test go through the physical test and those who don't

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pass are dropped; those who pass that go through an internal interview process; and the policy is that those who make it through that go before the Safety Committee. Mrs. Dix asked how many passed all of the tests. The Captain didn't have the number with him. Mrs. Dix asked where the list is posted. Captain Petuskey explained "posted" meant it is documented and locked in the Chief's office; the information compiled on the list and that it isn't posted publically.

There being no further discussion on the motion, Mayor Gatto asked for a roll call vote on the resolution.

RESOLUTION ADOPTED WITH ALL MEMBERS VOTING "YES", NO MEMBER VOTING "NO", NO "ABSTAIN".

Mr. Silva moved, seconded by Mr. Guishard, that the following resolution be adopted.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Hamilton that Ryan Cummings be and is hereby appointed a full-time Police Officer in the Township of Hamilton Police Department effective August 1, 2013 at the Pre-Academy Level salary of \$30,600.00 per year.

RESOLUTION ADOPTED WITH ALL MEMBERS VOTING "YES", NO MEMBER VOTING "NO", NO "ABSTAIN".

There being no questions or comments from the public, Mr. Silva moved, seconded by Mr. Guishard, that the public comment portion be closed.

MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS VOTING "AYE", NO "NAY", NO "ABSTAIN".

There being no further matters to be considered, Mr. Silva moved, seconded by Mrs. Dix, that this meeting be and is hereby adjourned.

MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS VOTING "AYE", NO "NAY", NO "ABSTAIN".

ATTEST:

JOAN I. ANDERSON, R.M.C. TOWNSHIP CLERK