

TOWNSHIP OF HAMILTON
6101 THIRTEENTH STREET
MAYS LANDING, NJ
July 3, 2017

The regular meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Hamilton, Atlantic County, New Jersey was called to order July 3, 2017 at 6:30 pm with Mayor John Kurtz presiding.

Flag Salute.

Township Clerk Rita Martino certified adequate notice of this meeting was provided pursuant to the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law by posting a notice on the bulletin board in the municipal building and by publication in The Press of Atlantic City on 1/9/17, and the Atlantic County Record on 1/11/17.

Roll Call:

Present: Rodney Guishard, John Kurtz, Judith Link, Roger Silva.
Absent: Art Schenker
Also present: Rita Martino, Township Clerk; Michael Jacobs, Township Administrator;
Robert Sandman, Township Solicitor; Kevin Dixon, Township Engineer

A moment of silence for private reflection was observed; he asked that everyone remember the late William Bush, a respected member of our community and the grandfather of Freeholder Amy Gatto.

Addition/Deletion of Late Agenda Items

On motion of Mr. Silva, second of Mr. Guishard, it was moved to approve the addition/deletion of late list items as follows:

Additions:

6I. Resolution accepting Performance Guarantee for 5034 Atlantic Ave, LLC (Recovery Centers of America) Block 994, Lot 58.05 in the amount of \$1,477,342.39 (Cash) as required by Engineer Kevin Dixon in his estimate dated May 22, 2017.

Recorded Vote: Aye: Guishard, Kurtz, Link, Silva
Nay: XXX
Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 4-0.

Early Public Comment

None.

Discussions

None.

Public Hearing/Adoption of Ordinances

Ordinance #1850-2017 – An Ordinance Establishing Speed Limits for the Entire Length of Grand Avenue Situated in the Township of Hamilton, County of Atlantic and State of NJ.

Hearing nothing from the public, on the motion of Mr. Silva, second of Mr. Guishard, it was moved to close the public hearing of Ordinance #1850-2017.

Recorded Vote: Aye: Guishard, Kurtz, Link, Silva
Nay: XXX
Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 4-0.

Adoption of Ordinance No. 1850-2017

Mr. Silva moved, seconded by Mr. Guishard, that Ordinance #1850-2017, which was introduced and passed first reading on 6/19/17 and was duly advertised in the 6/22/17 edition of the Press of Atlantic City with public hearing held as advertised and closed be and is hereby adopted.

Recorded Vote: Aye: Guishard, Kurtz, Link, Silva
Nay: XXX
Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 4-0.

Ordinance #1851-2017 – An Ordinance Establishing Speed Limits for the Entire Length of Township Avenue Situated in the Township of Hamilton, County of Atlantic and State of NJ.

Hearing nothing from the public, on the motion of Mr. Silva, second of Mrs. Link, it was moved to close the public hearing of Ordinance # 1851-2017.

Recorded Vote: Aye: Guishard, Kurtz, Link, Silva
Nay: XXX
Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 4-0.

Adoption of Ordinance No. 1851-2017

Mr. Silva moved, seconded by Mr. Guishard, that Ordinance #1851-2017, which was introduced and passed first reading on 6/19/17 and was duly advertised in the 6/22/17 edition of the Press of Atlantic City with public hearing held as advertised and closed be and is hereby adopted.

Recorded Vote: Aye: Guishard, Kurtz, Link, Silva
Nay: XXX
Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 4-0.

Award of Bids/Contracts/Change Orders

Resolution #2017-0284 – Resolution authorizing the purchase of a 2017 Mid Size SUV from Winner Ford, in the amount not to exceed \$26,277.00 under State Contract # 88728.

Mr. Silva moved, seconded by Mr. Guishard that Resolution #2017-0284 be adopted.

Recorded Vote: Aye: Guishard, Kurtz, Link, Silva
Nay: XXX
Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 4-0.

Consent Agenda

Mayor Kurtz requested to remove item 6I. from the consent agenda to allow for a separate vote.

Mr. Silva moved, seconded by Mr. Guishard to approve Consent Agenda items 6A.-6H.

Recorded Vote: Aye: Guishard, Kurtz, Link, Silva
Nay: XXX
Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 4-0.

Motion to Approve Business Registration License.

Upon motion of Mr. Silva, second of Mr. Guishard it was moved to approve the following Business Registration Licenses:

1. RO-ZED Music, Inc.
2. Cirque Italia/Tent Show at Hamilton Mall July 6-July 9, 2017

Recorded Vote: Aye: Guishard, Kurtz, Link, Silva
Nay: XXX
Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 4-0.

Resolution #2017-0285 – Resolution to amend Weymouth Volunteer Fire Company LOSAP Certification Letter.

Mr. Silva moved, seconded by Mr. Guishard that Resolution #2017-0285 be adopted.

Recorded Vote: Aye: Guishard, Kurtz, Link, Silva
Nay: XXX
Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 4-0.

Resolution #2017-0286 – Resolution to amend Mizpah Volunteer Fire Company LOSAP Certification Letter.

Mr. Silva moved, seconded by Mr. Guishard that Resolution #2017-0286 be adopted.

Recorded Vote: Aye: Guishard, Kurtz, Link, Silva
Nay: XXX
Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 4-0.

Resolution #2017-0287 – Resolution to amend Laureldale Volunteer Fire Company LOSAP Certification Letter.

Mr. Silva moved, seconded by Mr. Guishard that Resolution #2017-0287 be adopted.

Recorded Vote: Aye: Guishard, Kurtz, Link, Silva
Nay: XXX
Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 4-0.

Resolution #2017-0288 – Resolution Approving Memorandum of Understanding between the Township of Hamilton and the Hamilton Township Fire Departments and authorizing Mayor to sign same.

Mr. Silva moved, seconded by Mr. Guishard that Resolution #2017-0288 be adopted.

Recorded Vote: Aye: Guishard, Kurtz, Link, Silva
Nay: XXX
Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 4-0.

Resolution #2017-0289 – Resolution Accepting Maintenance Guarantee of Barbara Brown, Block 1132.01, Lot 31.02 – Major Site Plan.

Mr. Silva moved, seconded by Mr. Guishard that Resolution #2017-0289 be adopted.

Recorded Vote: Aye: Guishard, Kurtz, Link, Silva
Nay: XXX
Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 4-0.

Resolution #2017-0290 – Resolution Authorizing GovDeals Auction of a 1997 Chevy Pickup as requested by the Director of Public Works.

Mr. Silva moved, seconded by Mr. Guishard that Resolution #2017-0290 be adopted.

Recorded Vote: Aye: Guishard, Kurtz, Link, Silva
Nay: XXX
Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 4-0.

Motion Authorizing the Police Department to apply for the Detective Matthew L. Tarentino Community Policing Grant.

Upon motion of Mr. Silva, second of Mr. Guishard it was moved to authorize the Police Department to apply for the Detective Matthew L. Tarentino Community Policing Grant.

Recorded Vote: Aye: Guishard, Kurtz, Link, Silva
Nay: XXX
Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 4-0.

Item removed from Consent Agenda

Solicitor Sandman stated that due to the large amount of this cash Performance Guarantee, he and the CFO have verified that it is protected under the Government Unit Deposit Protection Act. This Act applies to all cash Performance Guarantees and there is no limitation on the amount.

Resolution #2017-0291 – Resolution Accepting Performance Guarantee for 5034 Atlantic Ave, LLC (Recovery Centers of America) Block 994, Lot 58.05 in the amount of \$1,477,342.39 (Cash) as required by Township Engineer Kevin Dixon in his estimate dated 5/22/17.

Mr. Silva moved, seconded by Mr. Guishard that Resolution #2017-0291 be adopted.

Recorded Vote: Aye: Guishard, Kurtz, Link, Silva
Nay: XXX
Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 4-0.

Approvals:

Mr. Silva moved, seconded by Mr. Guishard that the regular meeting minutes of the June 19, 2017 meeting are approved as presented.

Recorded Vote: Aye: Guishard, Kurtz, Link, Silva
Nay: XXX
Abstain:

Motion Carried 4-0.

Mr. Silva moved, seconded by Mr. Guishard that the Executive Session meeting minutes of the June 19, 2017 meeting are approved as presented.

Recorded Vote: Aye: Guishard, Kurtz, Link, Silva

Nay: XXX

Abstain:

Motion Carried 4-0.

Resolution #2017-0292 – A Resolution authorizing payment of approved payrolls and bills-\$7,040,148.65.

Mr. Silva moved, seconded by Mrs. Link that Resolution #2017-0292 be adopted.

Recorded Vote: Aye: Guishard, Kurtz, Link, Silva

Nay: XXX

Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 4-0.

Reports

Administrator – none.

Solicitor – none.

Engineer – Mr. Dixon stated that on McKee Avenue, after negotiations among the Planning Board Engineer, the LIDL Grocery Store and the DOT, it looks like there may be some progress on the right turn lane coming out of McKee Avenue. A brief discussion ensued.

Mayor Kurtz inquired about the development at Weymouth Road where the County is doing the paving; he remarked that some portions of the sidewalks are beautifully done, while others are still in poor condition. Mr. Dixon confirmed that this is so that some driveways may be widened in the process, but there is no reason to prevent progress on that at this time. A lengthy discussion ensued concerning local businesses and drainage concerns. Mrs. Link inquired as to who is responsible for the crumbling sidewalks on Mill Street; it was confirmed that it is a County road, and although property owners are responsible for the sidewalks in front of their property, it is very difficult for them to address such problems. Further discussion ensued.

Township Committee:

Mayor Kurtz stated that he recently received some demeaning e-mails to himself and the Township Committee as a whole, from a member of the town who sits on a board. He took exception to the implications of the e-mails, as the issues mentioned are indeed being addressed, and it takes time to settle some of those items. Among the issues of concern are parking at the Paragon, and the three properties in town that need demolition (Knightsbridge Way and 7th Street). Mayor Kurtz expressed great concern that someone would opt for this form of expression, rather than speaking with him personally at a Township Meeting or coming in to Town Hall with his concerns.

He also stated that he was in the area of Palace Pizza recently and observed that parking for the water rafting there was a nightmare – cars were parked everywhere on the Black Horse Pike, creating a dangerous situation that is currently being addressed by our zoning and code enforcement personnel.

He mentioned that the Hometown Celebration was very successful despite the early morning rain. Festivities included the pooch parade organized by Committeewoman Link, a ceremony to “unlock” the lake for the season, and a crane from ReMax Platinum that dropped 500 beach balls onto the beach. He congratulated the Mays Landing Merchants’ Association on a job well done, and thanked the fire department personnel for their coordination of the parking areas.

Mayor Kurtz closed by mentioning that the Cirque Italia water circus is coming to the Hamilton Mall from July 6-9th. The event was not heavily advertised, but he expressed great enthusiasm for the show and encouraged everyone to attend.

Mr. Silva echoed Mayor Kurtz’ sentiments regarding the success of the Hometown Celebration, and stated that the ceremonial key used to unlock the lake was very impressive. He also stated that he was very impressed at how orderly the event is each year.

He further stated that the Cove has been very popular this year, with 134 badges having been sold in just one day.

He also commented on the demeaning e-mails recently received by Mayor Kurtz, and agreed that the e-mails are derogatory to the committee as a whole. He also encouraged people to come in and speak freely during the public comment portion of the meetings.

Mr. Guishard echoed the previous comments regarding the Hometown Celebration, and lauded the efforts of those who made it happen. He was greatly impressed with the pooch parade, which showcased 17 dogs.

He recently attended a meeting put on by South Jersey Professional Society concerning the FAA and FAA privatization. He stated that at meetings of this nature, presentations are often one-sided, with the public interest receiving little representation. He pointed out that while flight is one of the most dangerous modes of travel, the efforts of the FAA and others make it extremely safe.

He also mentioned that the VA Museum has opened; it is on Route 50, just south of the Atlantic County Park entrance. He encouraged all to visit.

He echoed Mayor Kurtz' enthusiasm for the Cirque Italia event, and agreed that it is unfortunate that the event was not more heavily advertised.

Mrs. Link inquired and confirmed that the upcoming triathlon will be held on July 8. A brief discussion followed, which included details about the Dragon Boat Races for Gilda's Club which will commence on July 15th.

She also spoke briefly about the pooch parade, which was a great success despite a delayed start due to the weather. There were seventeen participants, with service dogs and breeds of all sizes.

Mayor Kurtz then opened the floor to the public.

Public Comment

John Percy of Laureldale echoed Mayor Kurtz' concerns regarding parking at Palace Pizza.

He also stated that the County is doing a great job with the sidewalks on Old Weymouth Road, and expressed hope that the work would continue into the rest of the area.

He mentioned that there is no parking for residents on Mill Street and Old Weymouth Road. The only access they have is an alleyway behind the homes on Mill Street that goes all the way to Weymouth Road. Block 732 Lot 65 is a corner lot which must not be blocked, as this is the only access point to get behind those houses. Engineer Kevin Dixon stated that it is going to be kept open.

Wayne Choyce of 1010 Grand Avenue stated that he is in support of Ordinance 1850-2017, and further stated that as to overall safety, the speed limit signs on Grand Avenue are very old, non-reflective, and are blocked by vegetation. There is also a sign in the southbound lanes that cannot be seen and should be moved for better visibility among the utility poles. He also mentioned that 40 is the average speed limit there, even for school buses. He requested more frequent enforcement and offered his driveway as a place for police vehicles to park. There are also unlicensed/unregistered ATVs in the area, creating a dangerous nuisance.

Brett Noll, Director of Public Works, stated that it is good to be back in Hamilton Township. He shared photographs of the floor resurfacing project taking place in the Public Works Department, and thanked Committee for approving the repairs.

Hearing nothing additional from the public, on the motion of Mr. Silva, second of Mrs. Link it was moved to close the public portion.

Recorded Vote: Aye: Guishard, Kurtz, Link, Silva
Nay: XXX
Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 4-0.

On motion of Mr. Silva, seconded by Mr. Guishard and carried the meeting was adjourned at 7:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Rita Martino, RMC, CMR
Township Clerk