

TOWNSHIP OF HAMILTON  
6101 THIRTEENTH STREET  
MAYS LANDING, NJ  
December 18, 2017

The regular meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Hamilton, Atlantic County, New Jersey was called to order December 18, 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, Art Schenker, Roger Silva.

Absent:

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.

**Proclamation – Millie Hand Day**

Mayor Kurtz read the Proclamation aloud, which stated that the Township is proud to honor Ms. Hand as she retires from public service, and hereby proclaimed December 19, 2017 Millie Hand Day. Millie Hand is a lifelong resident of Hamilton Township and has been a Township employee since 1982; she will be missed by her colleagues.

**Guest Presentation: Atlantic County Utilities Authority (ACUA) Budget Presentation**

Rick Dovey, President of ACUA, gave a brief presentation and stated that there is no proposed tipping fee increase for 2018. Therefore, the tipping fee for regular household trash will remain the same for the fourth year in a row, and none of the other tipping fees will increase. He briefly outlined the fee history and projected tonnage amounts, and stated that the recycling rate in the Township is quite good.

**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**

7A. Business Registration – Blink – Hamilton Mall

7R. Resolution accepting Performance Guarantee for Parmar Real Estate, LLC – Phase I (Block 735, Lots 4.02, 6, and 7) in the amount of \$57,684.00 (Cash Escrow - \$5,768.00; Franklin Bank Letter of Credit #1036 - \$51,916.00) as required by Township Engineer Kevin Dixon in his estimate dated 11/30/17.

7S. Resolution accepting Performance Guarantee for Wexford Lane Subdivision (Select Construction, LLC – Block 122, Lots 13, 14, and 15.03) in the amount of \$44,015.60 (Ocean First Bank (fka Cape Bank and Boardwalk Bank) LOC #2005-01) as recommended by Township Engineer Kevin Dixon in his estimate dated 11/2/17.

**Early Public Comment**

Jim Link of Mays Landing agreed to hold his comments until the public hearing for that item.

**Discussions**

**Public Hearing on 5 year Tax Exemption Agreement – Collazo Holdings, LLC – Block 743, Lot 12.02 – 6016 Main Street**

Michael Collazo was sworn in by Solicitor Sandman. Testimony was as follows:

Solicitor Sandman: Your name for the record?

Collazo: Michael Collazo.

Sandman: Are you the owner of the property? Are you a principal of Collazo Holdings, LLC?

Collazo: I am the principal of Collazo, LLC.

Sandman: And you've put an application in for an exemption with respect to improvements to the second floor?

Collazo: Yes.

Sandman: Why don't you tell the Committee a little bit about the improvements?

Collazo: We took – obviously it was a pretty expensive project, as a lot of you know overall, from the inception, over \$600,000.00 to build the gym, and another \$80,000.00 to finish the upstairs; we were in the middle of opening another gym so we had to stop the project, but we just got it finished and got tenants moved in just last week. It came out beautiful, I'm not sure if anybody here has seen it, but it's a beautiful facility, a three bedroom apartment. We kind of made it like a loft style, we opened it up completely, brand new plumbing, brand new electric, kitchen, everything brand new, a brand new place.

Sandman: And, you're making an application for five year exemption with respect to the cost of those improvements on the second floor?

Collazo: Absolutely.

Sandman: Okay. And, is it part of your overall business plan for this property?

Collazo: Yes.

Sandman: So it is commercial in nature?

Collazo: Yes.

Sandman: Do you believe that these improvements, as part of your overall plan with respect to that property, would provide gainful employment?

Collazo: Oh, it has already.

Sandman: Do you believe it would assist in economic development in the Township?

Collazo: It's the reason I bought it. I bought into the idea that there was going to be investment in that community, so I bought into the *idea*, and I went all in, really excited, thinking it was going to be some investment for the Township and the infrastructure, and I'm still hopeful that it happens someday.

Sandman: Do you believe that the overall project would maintain or increase the tax base for the Township?

Collazo: Absolutely. The building was actually leaning eight inches. I had to hire a structural engineer to straighten the building out using bridge cables, so had I not bought that building, that building today would probably have to be demolished.

Sandman: I'm satisfied, Mr. Mayor. Any member of the Committee have questions of the witness?

Mayor Kurtz: I just want to mention, Mike, on behalf of myself, and I'm sure the Committee agrees you've done an excellent job both with the gym and the apartment upstairs, and bringing that business to the community. I'm familiar with the building pretty well, both the apartment and the gym and you've done some amazing work there, and it's an asset to our town, and I really appreciate that.

Do any other Committee Members have anything?

Mrs. Link: I do.

Mayor Kurtz: Go ahead, Judy.

Mrs. Link: You are to be congratulated for taking such a risk and improving our community, and I know you'll be successful.

Mr. Guishard: I'd just like to say that, again, of course, I appreciate the improvement to the community also. I did have a question though – you mentioned that you were expecting some infrastructure improvements from the Township. Aside from the crosswalk that you requested at one time, what are the infrastructure improvements that you had in mind?

Collazo: I remember about four years ago there was extensive talk, and in fact there were some hearings with some renderings, and a lot of excitement of the possibilities, and beautifying Main Street and looking at ways to highlight that downtown. Other than me and Domino's, there hasn't been anything, as far as I can see. I'd like to see it – I think that the, you know, it's a shame that it truly is and can be more than what it is right now, but it's going to take someone to be courageous

and to take the effort. I've seen it done, and it's what I believed was going to happen, but again, I made the investment and I'm happy with the investment that I made, but I hope that someone at some point buys into that vision as I have. More than talk – meaning action and investment, because there's a lot of people excited about the project, a lot of people happy and a lot of congratulations, but for me, you know, Joe Olsteen, one of my favorite sermons, he says "Preach often, but seldom use words." And I'm a person, when I get behind a project, I put my money where my mouth is, and unfortunately I wish other people did the same. It would be great to see that because Main Street has the potential, but it's going to take someone with courage to make a strong investment and think long-term beyond the election cycle. You've got to think long-term. Somebody's got to be bold and say, you know what, I'm willing to do this for the greater good, which is how, as an investor, I invest. I invest for the long goal, for the greater good, the big picture, not the next two years.

Mr. Guishard: And it's probably not going to be more than just *somebody*, I think it would have to be some people.

Collazo: There's been opportunités, Rodney. There's been a lot of opportunities missed, a lot of investors interested, but we have to do things that don't scare off investors. As an investor, there are things that go on in this Township that make investors not want to come to this town, so somebody's got to be bold, somebody's got to be brave, but unfortunately, we're going to shake people down, nickel and dime them along the way, they're never going to want to come. There's a lot of investors that want to come to this town, but let me tell you something, a lot of them warned me not to come to this town. I just built a brand new facility in Galloway Township, I've never had a greater experience. I didn't have nothing to do with Galloway, I know nothing in Galloway, it was a greater experience, everything from the permitting, to the follow up, just the whole process was just simpler, from the way I thought we were going to go in this Township. And we're not there yet, we're too busy majoring in the minors. So, that's my testimony, and it's unfortunate that it's not a positive one.

Mr. Guishard: Well, this may not measure up to your expectations, in fact I'm sure it doesn't, but one of the things the Green Team is looking at is what can be done to improve the downtown – the streets downtown, the downtown area, to make it more attractive and to make it safer. And certainly I'm concerned about the comments you made and any contributions or suggestions you have in that area, some of us would like to hear it.

Collazo: I'm just going to do what I do, so, it is what it is.

Mayor Kurtz: Thank you, Michael.

Hearing nothing further from the public, on the motion of Mr. Silva, second of Mr. Schenker, it was moved to close the public hearing on the 5 year Tax Exemption Agreement – Collazo Holdings, LLC – Block 743, Lot 12.02 – 6016 Main Street.

Recorded Vote: Aye: Guishard, Kurtz, Link, Schenker, Silva  
Nay: XXX  
Abstain: XXX  
Motion Carried 5-0.

**Resolution #2017-0472 – Resolution Approving Request for 5 year Tax Exemption in the Historic District for Renovation of 2<sup>nd</sup> floor apartment above Anytime Fitness, Block 743, Lot 12.02**

Mr. Silva moved, seconded by Mr. Schenker that Resolution #2017-0472 be adopted.

Recorded Vote: Aye: Guishard, Kurtz, Link, Schenker, Silva  
Nay: XXX  
Abstain: XXX  
Motion Carried 5-0.

**Public Hearing/Adoption of Ordinances**

**Ordinance #1866-2017 – An Ordinance Authorizing the Sale of Lots 10, 11, 12, 13, & 14 in Block 395 as Shown on the Tax Map of the Township of Hamilton, and Granting to the Owner or Owners of Said Real Property Contiguous to Same the Right to Prior Refusal to Purchase Such Land in the Township of Hamilton, County of Atlantic, and State of New Jersey.**

Mr. Jacobs explained that this is 6853 Melvin Newton Boulevard, and the minimum bid is \$300.00.

Hearing nothing further from the public, on the motion of Mr. Silva, second of Mr. Guishard, it was moved to close the public hearing of Ordinance #1866-2017.

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

Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 5-0.

**Adoption of Ordinance No. 1866-2017**

Mr. Silva moved, seconded by Mr. Guishard, that Ordinance #1866-2017, which was introduced and passed first reading on 12/4/17 and was duly advertised in the 12/7/17 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, Schenker, Silva

Nay: XXX

Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 5-0.

**Ordinance #1867-2017 – An Ordinance of the Township of Hamilton, County of Atlantic Repealing Political Contribution Limit Ordinance #1636-2008.**

Jim Link of 676 Park Road and 763 Park Road first expressed his wishes to all for a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. He congratulated Mayor Kurtz on his re-election in November. He also opted not to comment on Ordinance #1867-2017 after all.

Harry Rogers of 1069 Morningside Drive stated that he was a vocal and strong proponent of the Ordinance when it was first introduced, thinking it would bring election matters back into the Township. In subsequent years, he has seen that it only allows large contributions from outside the Township to flood in, distorting the voice of the residents. It made good ethical sense, but it makes very little practical sense.

Hearing nothing further from the public, on the motion of Mr. Silva, second of Mr. Schenker, it was moved to close the public hearing of Ordinance #1867-2017.

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

Nay: XXX

Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 5-0.

**Adoption of Ordinance No. 1867-2017**

Mr. Silva moved, seconded by Mr. Schenker, that Ordinance #1867-2017, which was introduced and passed first reading on 12/4/17 and was duly advertised in the 12/7/17 edition of the Press of Atlantic City with public hearing held as advertised and closed be and is hereby adopted.

Mr. Guishard stated that the Ordinance seemed to make a lot of sense, but there is no point in having laws on the books that do not work.

Mrs. Link stated that the Ordinance has been in place for ten years, and indicated that we should rely on the state guidelines.

Mr. Silva stated that he originally voted for the Ordinance ten years ago. He further stated that he used to believe that all politics are local; he no longer thinks so. Over time, the Ordinance did not prove to be what it was supposed to be.

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

Nay: XXX

Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 5-0.

**Award of Bids/Contracts/Change Orders**

**Resolution #2017-0473 – Resolution authorizing the purchase of a 2018 Dodge Charger from Carman Dodge from the Cranford Co-Op Contract #47-CCPCPS, total purchase price \$26,246.00.**

Police Chief Tappeiner explained that many vehicles were removed from their fleet this year, and this would be a replacement patrol vehicle. A brief discussion ensued.

Mr. Silva moved, seconded by Mr. Guishard that Resolution #2017-0473 be adopted.

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

Nay: XXX

Abstain:

Motion Carried 5-0.

**Consent Agenda**

Mayor Kurtz requested that item Q. be pulled from the Consent Agenda for a separate vote.

**Motion to Approve Business Registration Licenses.**

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

1. Hobby Lobby
2. Jack Lyon – transient vendor at AC Race Track
3. Blink

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

Motion Carried 5-0.

**Resolution #2017-0474 – Resolution accepting Contiguous Owner Land Sale Bid of James E. Fifth for Lot 1 in Block 240, (2.61 acres on Elwood Road), for a purchase price of \$2,100.00.**

Mr. Silva moved, seconded by Mrs. Link that Resolution #2017-0474 be adopted.

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

Motion Carried 5-0.

**Resolution #2017-0475 – Resolution establishing a Change Fund in the Township Clerk’s Office.**

Mr. Silva moved, seconded by Mrs. Link that Resolution #2017-0475 be adopted.

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

Motion Carried 5-0.

**Resolution #2017-0476 – Resolution approving Budget Transfers as recommended by the CFO.**

Mr. Silva moved, seconded by Mrs. Link that Resolution #2017-0476 be adopted.

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

Motion Carried 5-0.

**Resolution #2017-0477 – Resolution accepting 2-year Maintenance Guarantee for Site Improvements for Cedar Point (Adams Branch Major Subdivision) Phase 4 (US Home Corp./Lennar), Block 854, Lots 30, 42, 43 in the amount of \$57,909.77 (Fidelity and Deposit Company of Maryland Bond #08821768-M1) as required by Engineer Steve Filippone in his correspondence dated 11/29/17.**

Mr. Silva moved, seconded by Mrs. Link that Resolution #2017-0477 be adopted.

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

Motion Carried 5-0.

**Resolution #2017-0478 – Resolution accepting 4-year Stormwater Maintenance Guarantee for Cedar Point (Adams Branch Major Subdivision) Phase 4 (US Home Corp./Lennar), Block 854, Lots 30, 42, 43 in the amount of \$20,040.00 (Fidelity and Deposit Company of Maryland Bond #08821768-M2) as required by Engineer Steve Filippone in his correspondence dated 11/29/17.**

Mr. Silva moved, seconded by Mrs. Link that Resolution #2017-0478 be adopted.

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

Motion Carried 5-0.

**Resolution #2017-0479 – Resolution authorizing reduction of Performance Guarantee for Recovery Centers of America (5034 Atlantic Avenue, LLC), Block 994, Lot 58.05 from \$1,477,342.39 (Cash Escrow) to \$1,431,425.73 as required by Township Engineer Kevin Dixon in his correspondence dated 11/21/17 and 12/7/17.**

Mr. Silva moved, seconded by Mrs. Link that Resolution #2017-0479 be adopted.

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

Motion Carried 5-0.

**Resolution #2017-0480 – Resolution authorizing release of cash escrow in the amount of \$1,054.80 posted as 2-year Maintenance Guarantee for Jiang Wen Yang – Site Work (Block 732, Lot 52) upon its expiration date of 1/4/18, as recommended by Township Engineer Kevin Dixon in his correspondence dated 12/12/17.**

Mr. Silva moved, seconded by Mrs. Link that Resolution #2017-0480 be adopted.

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

Motion Carried 5-0.

**Resolution #2017-0481 – Resolution approving participation with the State of New Jersey Safe and Secure Communities Program administered by the Division of Criminal Justice, Department of Law and Public Safety.**

Mr. Silva moved, seconded by Mrs. Link that Resolution #2017-0481 be adopted.

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

Motion Carried 5-0.

**Motion to approve Veterans Advisory Board Newsletter.**

Upon motion of Mr. Silva, second of Mrs. Link it was moved to approve Veterans Advisory Board Newsletter.

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

Motion Carried 5-0.

**Resolution #2017-0482 – Resolution to approve Veterans Advisory Board Newsletter Mailing Expense.**

Mr. Silva moved, seconded by Mrs. Link that Resolution #2017-0482 be adopted.

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

Motion Carried 5-0.

**Resolution #2017-0483 – Resolution confirming the report of Property Maintenance Actions by the Township is correct and directing the cost thereof shall be charged against the dwellings or lands pursuant to Section 238-5 of the Township Code.**

Mr. Silva moved, seconded by Mrs. Link that Resolution #2017-0483 be adopted.

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

Motion Carried 5-0.

**Resolution #2017-0484 – Resolution to renew 2017-2018 Liquor License #0112-33-032-008, Michael Mallin, Executor of the Estate of Howard J. Robinson.**

Mr. Silva moved, seconded by Mrs. Link that Resolution #2017-0484 be adopted.

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

Motion Carried 5-0.

**Resolution #2017-0485 – Resolution to approve Raffle License #35-2017 Off-Premise Draw Raffle License for Jersey Shore Parents Association to be held 4/8/18.**

Mr. Silva moved, seconded by Mrs. Link that Resolution #2017-0485 be adopted.

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

Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 5-0.

**Resolution #2017-0486 – Resolution to approve Bingo License #6-2017 Designer Bag Bingo License for St. Vincent de Paul HSA to be held 2/3/18.**

Mr. Silva moved, seconded by Mrs. Link that Resolution #2017-0486 be adopted.

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

Nay: XXX

Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 5-0.

**Resolution #2017-0487 – Resolution to approve Raffle License #34-2017 Tricky Tray Raffle License for St. Vincent de Paul HSA to be held 2/3/18.**

Mr. Silva moved, seconded by Mrs. Link that Resolution #2017-0487 be adopted.

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

Nay: XXX

Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 5-0.

**Resolution #2017-0488 – Resolution to approve Raffle License #33-2017 On Premise 50/50 Raffle License for St. Vincent de Paul HSA to be held 2/3/18.**

Mr. Silva moved, seconded by Mrs. Link that Resolution #2017-0488 be adopted.

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

Nay: XXX

Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 5-0.

**Resolution #2017-0489 – Resolution approving Shared Services Agreement with ACIT for storage, loading, and purchase of bulk road salt, contract term 10/1/17-4/30/18.**

Mr. Silva moved, seconded by Mrs. Link that Resolution #2017-0489 be adopted.

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

Nay: XXX

Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 5-0.

**Resolution #2017-0490 – Resolution accepting Performance Guarantee for Parmar Real Estate, LLC – Phase I (Block 735, Lots 4.02, 6, and 7) in the amount of \$57,684.00 (Cash Escrow - \$5,768.00; Franklin Bank Letter of Credit #1036 - \$51,916.00) as required by Township Engineer Kevin Dixon in his estimate dated 11/30/17.**

Mr. Silva moved, seconded by Mrs. Link that Resolution #2017-0490 be adopted.

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

Nay: XXX

Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 5-0.

**Resolution #2017-0491 – Resolution accepting Performance Guarantee for Wexford Lane Subdivision (Select Construction, LLC – Block 122, Lots 13, 14, and 15.03) in the amount of \$44,015.60 (Ocean First Bank (fka Cape Bank and Boardwalk Bank) LOC #2005-01) as recommended by Township Engineer Kevin Dixon in his estimate dated 11/2/17.**

Mr. Silva moved, seconded by Mrs. Link that Resolution #2017-0491 be adopted.

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

Nay: XXX

Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 5-0.

**Item(s) Removed from Consent Agenda**

**Motion to approve extended hours for Young’s Skating Center from 12/31/17 at 8:00pm to 1/1/18 at 1:30am for their annual New Year’s Eve Celebration.**

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

Mrs. Link abstained from the vote, as she is owner of Young’s Skating Center.

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

Motion Carried 4-0-1.

**Personnel**

**Resolution #2017-0492 – Resolution appointing Stacey Wellington as Deputy Chief Financial Officer at \$65,000.00 annually, with a \$5,000.00 increase upon CMFO certification, effective 12/19/17. This appointment is contingent upon receiving CMFO certification within 18 months of appointment.**

Mr. Schenker moved, seconded by Mr. Silva that Resolution #2017-0492 be adopted.

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

Motion Carried 5-0.

**Motion to authorize advertisement for AP/Purchasing personnel.**

Upon motion of Mr. Schenker, second of Mr. Silva it was moved to authorize advertisement for AP/Purchasing personnel.

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

Motion Carried 5-0.

**Resolution #2017-0493 – Resolution appointing Joyce Thurlow as Clerk I in the Tax Collector’s Office at \$28,998.64 annually, effective 12/21/17. Employment is contingent upon successful physical and background check.**

Mr. Silva moved, seconded by Mr. Schenker that Resolution #2017-0493 be adopted.

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

Motion Carried 5-0.

**Resolution #2017-0494 – Resolution appointing Zoning Board Member to fill the unexpired term of Carl Pitale, term ending 12/31/20.**

Mr. Silva moved to appoint Michael Graff for the vacancy.

Mr. Silva moved, seconded by Mr. Schenker that Resolution #2017-0494 be adopted.

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

Motion Carried 5-0.

**Approvals:**

Mr. Silva moved, seconded by Mr. Schenker that the regular meeting minutes of the December 4, 2017 meeting are approved as presented.

Mrs. Link abstained from the vote, as she was not present at the December 4, 2017 meeting.

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

Motion Carried 4-0-1.

**Resolution #2017-0495 – A Resolution authorizing payment of approved payrolls and bills-\$2,018,826.41.**

Mr. Guishard moved, seconded by Mr. Silva that Resolution #2017-0495 be adopted.

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

Motion Carried 5-0.



**Reports**

Administrator – Nothing to report.

Solicitor – Nothing to report.

Engineer – Nothing to report. Mr. Silva congratulated Mr. Dixon on getting the Road Program done so quickly. The road work was outstanding, particularly the work on Danenhauer Lane. Mr. Guishard inquired about the state of the Road Program, and determined that paving is complete, and there are only some cleanup items to be addressed.

Township Committee:

Mayor Kurtz stated we have indeed completed our Road Program, on time and on budget (possibly even under budget,) and he thanked Mr. Dixon for his efforts. He further stated that many residents have called and are very pleased.

Mayor Kurtz also stated that much progress is being made with our abandoned and deteriorating properties, thanks to the hard work of our Property Maintenance Appeals Board.

He further mentioned that this year, he had the pleasure of welcoming many new businesses to our Township, which is one of the most exciting parts of being Mayor.

Additionally, the ribbon-cutting for the bathrooms at Underhill Park is expected to take place within the next few days. He extended many thanks to Engineer Steve Filippone for spearheading the project.

Mr. Silva mentioned that the road work on Main Street has been shut down, due to the efforts of our Mayor in making it known that the Downtown Merchants deserve better than a road that is shut down during the day and causes difficulty entering and leaving the downtown area. The work will resume after the New Year.

Mr. Silva also stated that the Press of Atlantic City recently reported that foreclosures are decreasing. He spoke briefly about the ongoing foreclosure problem in the area, mentioning that there are routinely 15-18 pages of foreclosures in the newspaper each week.

He also stated that he recently went to Mike Collazo's newest business venture in Galloway. He agreed that Mr. Collazo indeed puts his heart and soul into all of his business ventures, and all of the businesses that he opens up are first class.

Mr. Silva closed by complimenting Mayor Kurtz on all of his hard work as Mayor this year.

Mr. Schenker echoed Mayor Kurtz' comments regarding the Underhill Park bathrooms. He stated that it takes much effort to keep the parks in good shape, and that effort will continue.

Mr. Schenker also spoke briefly about foreclosures in the area, and discussed how business and real estate activity in Atlantic City relates to those foreclosures.

He closed by discussing a letter written by Assemblyman and Senator-elect Chris Brown regarding the restoration of Main Street paving to its original state upon completion of road work.

Mrs. Link apologized for her absence at the last meeting; she had been asked by the family of the late John Charlton to host his memorial service at her place of business. The service was attended by 75-100 people, and Reverend Ash delivered a moving sermon regarding the parable of the Good Samaritan. She stated that Mr. Charlton's actions spoke for his whole existence, proving him to be the quintessence of a Good Samaritan.

She stated that she feels the area is heading in a good direction; recent projects are expected to result in many new jobs. This may in turn result in people returning to the area to purchase the many homes abandoned by foreclosure.

She wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, and welcomed holiday visitors.

Mr. Guishard stated that he too has seen some positive developments in our area, and hopes the trend will continue.

He mentioned a recent letter from the County Executive Director concerning marijuana laws, and possible legalization. He stated that while he does not feel that we need another hallucinogen freely available, it may very well happen, and Townships will have to decide whether to participate in the resulting revenue.

He also stated that our new incoming Assemblyman is from Buena Vista, where they have very helpful bus services; he has indicated a willingness to help our Township do the same thing.

Mr. Guishard expressed interest in how Mr. Collazo’s experience in Galloway compared with his experience in Hamilton Township, and stated that he would like to follow up on that.

He wished everyone a happy and healthy holiday, and reminded everyone to enjoy their families.

Mayor Kurtz then opened the floor to the public.

**Public Comment**

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

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

Motion Carried 5-0.

Mayor Kurtz reminded everyone to enjoy their families, their friends, and their God this holiday season. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

**Executive Session**

**Resolution #2017-0496 – A Resolution To Adjourn to Executive Session:**

**Personnel – Michael Hughes**

Mr. Silva moved, seconded by Mr. Guishard, that Resolution #2017-0496 be adopted.

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

Motion Carried 5-0.

Township Committee met in Executive Session at 7:20 pm.

Township Committee reconvened at 7:42 pm.

On the motion of Mr. Silva, second of Mr. Guishard, it was moved to reconvene.

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

Motion Carried 5-0.

The public was invited to return; one member of the public returned.

**Resolution #2017-0497 – A Resolution To Terminate Employment of Michael Hughes.**

Mr. Guishard moved, seconded by Mrs. Link, that Resolution #2017-0497 be adopted.

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

Motion Carried 5-0.

On motion of Mr. Guishard, seconded by Mr. Schenker and carried the meeting was adjourned at 7:44 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Rita Martino, RMC, CMR  
Township Clerk