

**SOUTHAMPTON TOWNSHIP MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 17, 2015 AT 8:00 P.M.**

The Regular meeting of the Southampton Township Committee was held on March 17, 2015 at the Robert L. Thompson Building, 5 Retreat Road, Southampton, New Jersey. The meeting was called to order by Mayor James Young at 8:00 PM and followed by a salute to the Flag of the United State of America.

A roll call confirmed those Committee members who were present, which included Committeeman Ronald Heston, Committeeman William Raftery, Committeewoman Elizabeth Rossell, Deputy Mayor Latham Tiver and Mayor James F. Young, Sr.

Professionals: George Morris, Esquire, Kathleen D. Hoffman, RMC

The Municipal Clerk/Administrator read the following statement: Public Notice of the meeting pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act has been given by the Township in the following manner: Posting a copy of the agenda on the bulletin board in the municipal building. Filing a copy of the agenda with the Central Record and the Burlington County Times. Filing a copy of the agenda in the office of the Municipal Clerk. Mailing written notice to each person who has requested copies of the regular meeting schedule.

MINUTES:

Regular Session – February 17, 2015

Motion: Heston, Seconded: Rossell

Roll Call: Heston, Raftery, Rossell, Young - Ayes

Tiver- abstain

COMMUNICATIONS:

Ed Moore, President of the Library, presented the Sally Stretch Keen Memorial Library Community Service Recipient Award to Dot Best. Mayor Young presented Dot Best with a bouquet of flowers from the Community and thanked her for her service to the Community.

The Committee took a 10 minute recess before returning to the meeting.

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution 2015-47

Authorizing Execution of An Agreement with Adjacent Property Owner for Use of Municipal Property For Grazing Animals

Mayor Young asked for a motion on Resolution 2015-47. No motion was made.

Resolution 2015-53

Resolution of the Township of Southampton Transferring 2014 Appropriation Reserves

Committeeman Heston made a motion to approve. Committeewoman Rossell seconded the motion. At the call of the roll Committeeman Heston, Committeeman Raftery, Committeewoman Rossell, Deputy Mayor Tiver and Mayor Young all voted in the affirmative.

APPROVAL OF BILLS FOR PAYMENT:

Deputy Mayor Tiver made a motion to approve. Committeewoman Rossell seconded the motion. At the call of the roll Committeeman Heston, Committeeman Raftery, Committeewoman Rossell, Deputy Mayor Tiver, Mayor Young all voted in the affirmative.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Committeeman Heston requested a letter be written to NJDOT requesting a left turn signal and lane for the Retreat Road and Route 206 intersection.

Mayor Young announced the award of the NJDOT Safe Routes to School Grant.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

Mayor Young opened the meeting to the public.

Bill Kelly, Floyd Lane, discussed his ongoing problem with the drain at Floyd Lane and Falcon Drive and the history of the problem. Mayor Young requested public works and the Engineer look at the problem.

Jessica Torres, Main Street, questioned the new requirements of only licensing up to five (5) dogs for the new dog ordinance and why there was no provision for grandfathering in the ordinance provided. Ms. Torres stated she has 24 dogs and how would she choose which dogs to keep. Mayor Young explained how the Township got to the point where they are today. He stated she lives in a residential neighborhood and her neighbors complained. Several of Ms. Torres friends and some local residents came to the meeting in support of Ms. Torres and asked the Committee for solutions as Ms. Torres is not the only resident in Southampton that has this situation. George Morris, Esquire, explained the ordinance and cautioned some of statements being made that could present a different problem for Ms. Torres. Mayor Young repeated it is a residential neighborhood you live in and your neighbors are complaining.

No one else from the public wishing to be heard the public portion was closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: 8:44 PM

Resolution 2015-54

For the purpose of discussing Attorney Client Privilege, Litigation, Contracts, Personnel and Land Acquisition.

Committeeman Tiver made a motion, Committeewoman Rossell seconded the motion. At the call of the roll Committeeman Heston, Committeeman Raftery, Committeewoman Rossell, Deputy Mayor Tiver, Mayor Young all voted in the affirmative.

Formal action may be taken.

Let the record reflect the Committee has returned to the regularly scheduled meeting at 10:27 PM after discussing litigation, contracts, personnel and land acquisition.

The Township Administrator/Clerk briefed the Committee and public on the status of the budget and the impact to the tax rate. This is going to be a very difficult year. The public works department was hit hard during the winter storms on the Township vehicles and the amount of funds spent on overtime and salt clearing the roads, due to outstanding grants, the reserve for uncollected taxes not realized in 2014 that were projected and has to be made up in the 2015 budget, surplus is down; used 250,000 in 2014 and there is 150,000 available this year, projected dollar amounts with shared services that were not realized, revenues across the board being down and not met in 2014 such as construction fees, interest on investments, sale of public property was a onetime revenue to name a few, and tax ratables are down due to tax appeals. The auditor, CFO and Committeeman Heston are doing our due diligence to go through the budget and reduce costs where we can.

ORDINANCE(S)

First Reading

ORDINANCE 2015-04

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SOUTHAMPTON TO AMEND ORDINANCE 2014-28, THE DOG LICENSING ORDINANCE, TO GRANDFATHER ALL DOGS LEGALLY LICENSED IN SOUTHAMPTON ON DECEMBER 31, 2014. Committeeman Raftery made a motion to approve. Committeewoman Rossell seconded the motion. At the call of the roll Committeeman Heston, Committeeman Raftery, Committeewoman Rossell, Deputy Mayor Tiver and Mayor Young all voted in the affirmative.

ORDINANCE 2015 - 05

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SOUTHAMPTON TO SELL 1905 ROUTE 206 TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER THROUGH SEALED BIDS WITH A MINIMUM BID PRICE OF \$1,100,000.00

Committeeman Raftery made a motion to approve. Committeewoman Rossell seconded the motion. At the call of the roll Committeeman Heston, Committeeman Raftery, Committeewoman Rossell, Deputy Mayor Tiver and Mayor Young all voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution No. 2015-55

AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP SOLICITOR TO PREPARE BID SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE SALE OF 1905 ROUTE 206

Committeeman Raftery made a motion to approve. Committeeman Tiver seconded the motion. At the call of the roll Committeeman Heston, Committeeman Raftery, Committeewoman Rossell, Deputy Mayor Tiver and Mayor Young all voted in the affirmative.

Resolution No. 2015-56

RESOLUTION APPOINTING APPRAISAL COMPANY FOR LAND NEGOTIATIONS

Committeeman Raftery made a motion to approve. Committeewoman Rossell seconded the motion. At the call of the roll Committeeman Heston, Committeeman Raftery, Committeewoman Rossell, Deputy Mayor Tiver and Mayor Young all voted in the affirmative.

Resolution No. 2015-57

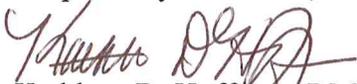
RESOLUTION TO SOLICIT QUOTATIONS TO PREPARE WETLAND DELINEATION, BUILDING INSPECTIONS AND PHASE I STUDIES FOR EXISTING TOWNSHIP PROPERTY AND IN ANTICIPATION OF LAND NEGOTIATIONS

Committeeman Raftery made a motion to approve. Committeewoman Rossell seconded the motion. At the call of the roll Committeeman Heston, Committeeman Raftery, Committeewoman Rossell, Deputy Mayor Tiver and Mayor Young all voted in the affirmative.

ADJOURNMENT: 10:31 PM

Committeeman Heston made a motion, Committeewoman Rossell seconded the motion. At the call of the roll Committeeman Heston, Committeeman Raftery, Committeewoman Rossell, Deputy Mayor Tiver and Mayor Young all voted in the affirmative.

Respectfully submitted,



Kathleen D. Hoffman, RMC
Township Administrator/Clerk