

## **SOUTHAMPTON TOWNSHIP MEETING MINUTES**

### **Regular Meeting**

**July 19, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.**

The meeting of the Southampton Township Committee was held on July 19, 2022 at the Robert L. Thompson Building, 5 Retreat Road, Southampton, New Jersey. The meeting was called to order by Deputy Mayor Rossell at 6:00 PM and followed by a salute to the Flag of the United States of America.

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

The Deputy Mayor 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; Posting a copy of the agenda on the Township website; 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:**

##### **Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of June 21, 2022**

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

#### **ORDINANCES:**

##### **First Reading**

##### **Ordinance 2022-09**

An Ordinance Repealing, Replacing and Amending Portions of Chapter 8 of the Code of the Township of Southampton Concerning Vacant and Abandoned Properties

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

##### **Second Reading and Public Hearing**

##### **Ordinance 2022-08**

Ordinance Amending Ordinance 2021-013 of the Township of Southampton, County of Burlington, New Jersey

Deputy Mayor Rossell opened the ordinance to the public. No one wishing to comment on Ordinance 2022-08, Deputy Mayor Rossell closed the public portion.

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

#### **CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS 2022-075 through 2022-077**

##### **Resolution 2022-075**

Resolution for the Replacement of Mill Street Bridge, Township of Southampton

Resolution 2022-076

Approval to Submit a Grant Application and Execute a Grant Contract with the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the Ridge Road Resurfacing Project

Resolution 2022-077

A Resolution of the Township of Southampton, County of Burlington, State of New Jersey, Performance Bond Release for 1 Coleman Court

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

Resolution 2022-078

Resolution of the Township of Southampton Authorizing Change Order No. 1 with Respect to 2022 Local Road

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

**APPROVAL OF BILLS FOR PAYMENT:**

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

Members of the public are invited to submit comments during the public comment portion of this meeting. The Committee, pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, will not publicly discuss personnel matters and may choose not to respond to comments made by members of the public during this portion of the meeting; however, the Committee will give all comments appropriate consideration and will refer all individual complaints to the Township Administrator or appropriate Township Representative for resolution. Each citizen will be allotted up to three (3) minutes to speak, in order to allow everyone an opportunity to express their opinions or concerns.

**PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:**

Tom Haluszczak, 792 Westminster Dr. North – Stated the eye brows not being maintained have a negative impact on the community regarding the condition of eyebrows in LeisureTowne. Eyebrows and streets are owned and maintained by the Township. However, not mowing when cars are parked around them doesn't make any sense. Roads are not wide enough for ambulances or fire trucks when cars are parked on the eyebrows. Suggested the Township put up "no parking" signs. If vehicles are parked around eyebrows and islands have public works ring the doorbells of residents and ask them to move their vehicles. I have rang doorbells to ask neighbors to move their cars.

Evie Doherty, 56 Stratford Rd. – Commented that the problems with mowing the eyebrows have gone on for years. Suggested "no parking" for certain days of the week. People in LeisureTowne want a dog park and the Good Farm is supposed to have one and she would like some action taken.

Tom Haluszczak, 792 Westminster Dr. North – Replied that not everyone in LeisureTowne wants a dog park and the responsibility of it; he doesn't want his taxes to go toward it.

Evie Doherty, 56 Stratford Rd. – Agreed that not everyone in LeisureTowne wants a dog park but most who own dogs and many in Vincentown do want one. Since it is on the plans for the Good Farm she wants to see some action take place.

Eammon Ruth-Fitzpatrick, HLEMS – Informed the public of calls for service and stats for the month. Reported that one truck will be at the Township Building through the summer on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from; there will be four public education classes; they are waiting for the Dept. of Health inspection for the new truck; and they have released their official website at [www.hlems178.org](http://www.hlems178.org).

OEM – Reported that he has closed out 2021 EMAA Grant and is working on the Community Wildfire Protection Plan to get it renewed and active. They attended two classes and hosted two meetings.

**ADMINISTRATOR/CLERK:**

Zone Plan and Zone Overlay Plan have been updated. Thanked The Alaimo Group for putting it together as it hasn't been updated since 1989.

**SOLICITOR:**

George Morris, Esq. - Thanked the public for the donations at the Summer Concerts to the Red Cross Food Drive to benefit JBMDL.

**ENGINEER:**

William Long, PE – Commented that he is looking forward to working with the Township.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Committeeman Raftery – Commented on the wonderful celebration at the Southampton Fireworks and thanked the Fire Departments, Emergency Squad, Public Works, Kathy Hoffman and Mayor Mikulski. Discussed spending the money the Township will receive regarding the BEMS Landfill and suggested taking 25% to pay down debt.

Committeeman Heston – Thanked the NJSP whose presence was felt at the Fireworks and it was appreciated. This is the 29<sup>th</sup> year of the Summer Concerts and attendance at the first two has been terrific. Thanked Evergreen and Alloway for providing ice cream and water. Remarked that the Road program is ending. The Fireworks were amazing and the food trucks were well received. The event was well done by the Mayor.


Committeeman Young – He stated that he was surprised thanked the Committee for honoring him at the Fireworks Festival.

Deputy Mayor Rossell – The first “Key to the City” was given to Committeeman Young at the Fireworks Festival and the driveway at the Municipal Building was named “James Young Way” to honor him for his years of service to Southampton Township. The Volunteer of the Year award was presented to Jim Heffernan. She has heard many good things about the Fireworks and they are looking to make it better next year. The STAR annual golf tournament will be held on September 16, 2022 and the Arts in the Village event and VFC Bingo will take place on September 24, 2022.

**ADJOURNMENT: 6:40 PM**

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

Respectfully submitted,



Kathleen D Hoffman-RMC  
Township Administrator/Clerk