

**SOUTHAMPTON TOWNSHIP MEETING MINUTES**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**November 22, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.**

The meeting of the Southampton Township Committee was held on November 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022 at the Robert L. Thompson Building, 5 Retreat Road, Southampton, New Jersey. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Michael Mikulski 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: Mayor Michael Mikulski, Committeeman Ronald Heston, Deputy Mayor Elizabeth Rossell and Committeeman William Raftery. Committeeman James F. Young, Sr. was absent. He was excused.

The 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:**

Regular Meeting Minutes of October 18, 2022

Executive Session Minutes of October 18, 2022

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

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

Proclamation November Lung Cancer Awareness Month

Mayor Mikulski proclaimed the Month of November as Lung Cancer Awareness Month. Mayor Mikulski read the lung cancer statistics for the State of New Jersey.

Best Practices Submitted

Kathleen D. Hoffman stated the Township scored 35.5. Mayor Mikulski reported that the Township has met all requirements from the State and state aid will not be withheld. Exhibit A contains the Township's scores.

Pinelands Wastewater Co Petition for Approval of an Increase in Rates for Wastewater Service  
Mayor Mikulski read the letter onto the record submitted to Judge Gertsman, Acting Secretary Diaz, and Esteemed Commissioners of the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities on behalf of the residents from the Township voicing opposition. OPRA Request submitted to BPU for all documentation submitted for rate increase. Exhibit C. The Mayor read the letter from the State Senator and Assemblyman in opposition of the rate increase and a request of a meeting with the Governor's Office and with a representative from Pinelands Water.

**Resolution 2022-121**

A Resolution in Opposition to the Petition by Pinelands Wastewater to Increase Rates for Wastewater Service and Other Tariff Changes in Southampton Township

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

Public Hearing Community Development Block Grant

William Long- Township Engineer- Due date is December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022 for application. Grant will be used for ADA improvements and access for the parks.

Mayor Mikulski opened the floor for public comment on the CDBG grant.

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

**Resolution 2022-120**

A Resolution Authorizing the Submission of a Grant Application to the Burlington County Board of County Commissioners for the 2023 Community Development Block Grant Program

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

**ORDINANCES:**

**Second Reading and Public Hearing**

Ordinance 2022-13

Amending Schedule VIII in Accordance With Subsection 7-6.2 of the code of the Township of Southampton to Include Newly Installed Stop Sign Intersections

Mayor Mikulski opened the floor to the public for comment.

Donna Trotter- 38 Scarborough Way- Lives on a corner without a stop sign. Will there be one installed. Mayor Mikulski stated if there is not a through road on both roads then stop sign is not required. Main road has the right away, side roads are required to stop.

No further discussion the public portion was closed.

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

**CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS 2022-107 through 2022-119**

Deputy Mayor Rossell made a motion to approve consent agenda resolutions 2022-107 through 2022-119. Committeeman Heston seconded the motion. At the call of the roll Mayor Mikulski, Committeeman Heston, Deputy Mayor Rossell and Committeeman Raftery all voted in the affirmative.

**Resolution 2022-107**

**A Resolution Adopting Technology Risk Management Standards in Compliance with the New Jersey Municipal Excess Liability Joint Insurance Fund's Cyber Risk Management Plan's Tier Three Requirements**

**Resolution 2022-108**

**A Resolution As Recommended by the Tax Assessor Authorizing the Tax Collector to Make Certain Adjustments to Records and Accounts**

**Resolution 2022-109**

**A Resolution As Recommended by the Tax Assessor Authorizing the Tax Collector to Make Certain Adjustments to Records and Accounts**

**Resolution 2022-110**

**A Resolution Authorizing Change Order No. 1 with Respect to 2022 Falcon Drive Stormwater Improvements**

**Resolution 2022-111**

**A Resolution Authorizing Change Order No. 1 with Respect to FY 2020-2021 Municipal and Reconstruction of Burrs Mill Road and Retreat Road**

**Resolution 2022-112**

**A Resolution Providing for the Insertion of a Special Item of Revenue in the Budget of any Municipality Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40a:4-87 (chapter 159, P.L. 1948 as amended)**

**Resolution 2022-113**

**A Resolution Approving a Performance Surety Bond for BEMS Southampton Solar Farm, LLC**

**Resolution 2022-114**

**A Resolution Approving a Performance Surety Bond for Dollar General**

**Resolution 2022-115**

**A Resolution As Recommended by the Tax Assessor Authorizing the Tax Collector to Make Certain Adjustments to Records and Accounts**

**Resolution 2022-116**

**A Resolution As Recommended by the Tax Assessor Authorizing the Tax Collector to Make Certain Adjustments to Records and Accounts**

**Resolution 2022-117**

**A Resolution As Recommended by the Tax Assessor Authorizing the Tax Collector to Make Certain Adjustments to Records and Accounts**

**Resolution 2022-118**

**A Resolution As Recommended by the Tax Assessor Authorizing the Tax Collector to Make Certain Adjustments to Records and Accounts**

Resolution 2022-119  
A Resolution Authorizing Budgetary Transfers

**LICENSES:**

Car Lot

Highline Motors Car Lot

VIP Auto Outlet

S&S Motors

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

**APPROVAL OF BILLS FOR PAYMENT:**

Committeeman Heston made a motion to approve. Mayor Mikulski seconded the motion. At the call of the roll Mayor Mikulski, Committeeman Heston, Deputy Mayor Rossell and Committeeman Raftery 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:**

Pat Kennedy, 11 Retreat Road- Read onto the record a letter to the Township referencing the sewer system in the village opposing the system and residents that are using the system should pay for their use. See Exhibit B. Due to the large number of residents present comments were held to the 3 minutes. Pat Kennedy stated he will be back next month to enter further comments on the record.

Susan Costales, 21 Picardy Pl- Asked for copies of the letter read by the Mayor. Mayor Mikulski stated additional copies would be available at the end of the meeting.

Several residents from Birch Drive area received letters from the zoning officer in reference to sheds, pools, fences that are alleged to be put up without permits based off of complaint filed by one of the neighbors. 40 letters were sent out. 31 out of the 40 homes that received letters allegations were unfounded. What legal authority is there for zoning to come onto properties? Will the inspections go further than the complaints? Received calls from zoning office to inspect homes based on photographs.

Months earlier a letter was received by 2 residents on Birch in reference to cleaning out their ditches based off of complaint by the same resident that the lack of maintenance of their ditches caused his back yard to erode. Both residents cleaned out the debris, leaves, etc. to the best of their ability. Then the complainant was given permission to fill in his section of the ditch. Public works found an alternative to the problem.

Bill Cozy, 8 Newbury Drive- Coming out of back entrance from Leisuretowne onto Big Hill Road the "S" curve could use a caution or bicycle sign at the intersection before the curve.

A group of residents spoke about opposition to the Pinelands Water rate increase and the public hearing at the BPU. The meeting should not be a zoom meeting. The meeting should be in person. A lot of residents are on fixed income. A 67% increase is unacceptable.

Leon Parelli, 47 Red Lion Rd- Is training being done to avoid the phishing incident that happened in Shamong.

Jeff Hicks, 152 Main St- Board of Education's President resigned. Interviews took place. Lauren replaced Amy. Reported on school and Board of Education matters. School students will be singing at tree lighting. Red Lion Sports complex is very dark at night and could be a safety issue.

Jim Heffeman, Vincent Fire Department: Reported for Vincent Fire Department the calls for service and assistance. Annual lunch with Santa and craft show is Dec 4<sup>th</sup>. Santa Run scheduled for Dec 17<sup>th</sup>. Bingo on January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

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

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Elizabeth Rossell: School has student and employee recognitions each month. Congratulations to new board members. Enrollment is 703. Congratulations to Mayor Mikulski on reelection.

Ron Heston: Christmas tree lighting Dec 2<sup>nd</sup>. 500 people in attendance last year. Christmas concert Dec 10<sup>th</sup>. Please bring gift card for donation.

While he was at the League of Municipalities he stopped at BPU booth. He demanded a public hearing. BPU is not going to change from a Zoom meeting. Letter needs to be submitted to request the right to speak at the hearing.

He inquired on the repairs due to the leak on Huntington and Dorchester in the summer. Congratulations to Mike and Elizabeth on their reelection.

Mike Mikulski: Congratulations to Elizabeth. Thank you to residents. Township Newsletter is available on website full of good information. 16% of taxes stays in Southampton Township.

**ADJOURNMENT: 7:25 PM**

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

Respectfully submitted,

  
Kathleen D Hoffman, RMC  
Township Administrator/Clerk