

SOUTHAMPTON TOWNSHIP MEETING MINUTES
Regular Meeting
October 18, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.

The meeting of the Southampton Township Committee was held on October 18th, 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, Committeeman William Raftery, and Committeeman James F. Young, Sr.

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 September 20, 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, Committeeman Raftery, and Committeeman Young all voted in the affirmative.

ORDINANCES:

First Reading

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

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

Second Reading and Public Hearing

Ordinance 2022-12

Supplementing Chapter 8 of the Southampton Code adding Liability Insurance Requirements and Establishing an Insurance Registry for Business and Rental Units Owners Pursuant to P.L. 2022, c.92c2

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. Committeeman Young voted not to approve.

Comments from the Public: None

Committeeman Young questioned what would happen if a business does not comply. Enforcement is not determined.

Mayor Mikulski stated it is an unfunded mandate.

Committeeman Heston mentioned an article in the New Jersey League of Municipalities about the business registry. The Township has established a low fee for businesses to help with the process.

No further discussion the public portion was closed.

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS 2022-098 through 2022-104

Committeeman Young made a motion to approve consent agenda resolutions 2022-098 through 2022-104. Deputy Mayor Rossell seconded the motion. At the call of the roll Mayor Mikulski, Committeeman Heston, Deputy Mayor Rossell, Committeeman Raftery, and Committeeman Young all voted in the affirmative.

Mayor Mikulski stated he would like to highlight Resolution No. 2022-102. He stated the mental health statistics among the youth.

Resolution 2022-098

A Resolution of the Township of Southampton Making Certain Further Adjustments in the Tax Collector's Records and Accounts

Resolution 2022-099

A Resolution Providing For the Insertion of a Special Item of Revenue in the Budget
Emergency Management Performance Grant

Resolution 2022-100

A Resolution Providing For the Insertion of a Special Item of Revenue in the Budget
FY2022 Clean Communities Grant Program

Resolution 2022-101

A Resolution Providing For the Insertion of a Special Item of Revenue in the Budget
National Opioids Settlement Fund

Resolution 2022-102

A Resolution Establishing the Township of Southampton as a Stigma Free Community

Resolution 2022-103

A Resolution of the Township of Southampton Making Certain Further Adjustments in the Tax Collector's Records and Accounts

Resolution 2022-104

A Resolution Authorizing the Execution of a Shared Services Agreement with Southampton Township to Provide for Shared Tax Collector Services for Springfield Township

APPROVAL OF BILLS FOR PAYMENT:

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, 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:

Evie Doherty, 56 Stratford Road: Read Next-door comment about the ballot drop box and tracking ballots on the state website.

Mayor Mikulski spoke with Board of Elections regarding the state website being updated. The ballot box is safe and ballots are secured. Early voting is between October 29th and November 8th. There are 7 locations: Chesterfield, Evesham, Willingboro, Pemberton, Medford, Shamong and Mount Laurel.

Deputy Mayor Rossell: Linda Hughes is on the Board of Elections and can answer all questions.

Pat Kennedy, 11 Retreat Road: Inquired about the township engineer being engaged in the expansion of the sewer area. Nothing has been submitted to the state yet. Pinelands and Wetlands need to be taken into consideration for service area. Capacity of the plant is 60%. Pat talked to Kathy and asked to look at all of the sewer documents.

Referenced comment at last month's meeting regarding a dog park. There are two county parks nearby and having one in town is a liability.

James Hart, 314 West Crossing Mount Laurel: Received a bill for \$2850 from the engineer for a letter in response to a grading plan for the corner of Plum and Church Street. He cancelled the project. He is not paying the bill.

Jim Heffernan, Vincent Fire Department: Reported for Vincent Fire Department the calls for service and assistance. Thanked everyone for coming to Fire Prevention open house and Bingo. There will be another Bingo on January 15th, 2023.

Michael Rathjen, Hampton Lakes Fire Department: Reported on calls for service. Smoke detector service is available to all residents. Fire truck updates were provided for the new truck. There are three (3) firewise communities. Fire Prevention week had a great turn out. Spaghetti dinner on October 23rd 4-6 pm. Joe Collis in need of prayers for surgery on his foot.

Eamonn Fitzpatrick-Ruth, OEM Management: Quarter 3 council meeting topic was community wildfire prevention. Attended the LEMC meeting. Submitted first quarter 2022 EMAA report. Resiliency Grant is scheduled for October 31st, 2022.

Eamonn Fitzpatrick-Ruth reported on Hampton Lakes Emergency Squad: Reported on calls for service and mutual aid. Vehicle maintenance is doing well. EMT position application has been closed. Three EMT volunteers were brought on and four per Diem. Public Community Education courses are available for residents for free. Two bills introduced to benefit EMS. Bill 2946 introduced by Senator Jean Stanfield to increase Medicaid transport reimbursement. Congressman Andy Kim introduced a bill to authorize 50 million per year to purchase new equipment, hire and recruit new personnel, modify or build new facilities etc. 5 million dollar grant for technical assistance.

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

James Young: Christmas Concert at the school is on December 10th, 2022. Please bring a gift card for families in need.

Elizabeth Rossell: Offered information for Firewise. Firewise Day will be in early December. Date not determined yet.

Bill Raftery: Foliage on Onga Hat Road is beautiful.

Executive Session 6:41 PM

Resolution 2022-105 For the Purpose of Discussing Potential Litigation. Formal Action may be taken.

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

Let the record reflect the Committee returned from the Executive Session at 6:50 PM after discussing potential litigation.

Resolution 2022-106

A Resolution Authorizing Settlement Agreement of Tax Appeal with Pinelands Preservation Alliance

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

ADJOURNMENT: 6:52 PM

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

Respectfully submitted,



Kathleen D Hoffman, RMC
Township Administrator/Clerk