

December 28, 2023
121 Evergreen Rd
New Egypt, NJ 08533

The Plumsted Township Committee special meeting of December 28, 2023 was called to order by Mayor Bowen.

STATEMENT: "This meeting is being held in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act." It was presented for publication to the Asbury Park Press and the Trenton Times and posted on the Bulletin Board.

THOSE OFFICIALS PRESENT

COMMITTEEMAN GRILLETTO COMMITTEEMAN CUOZZO COMMITTEEMAN HAMMERSTONE
DEPUTY MAYOR MARINARI MAYOR BOWEN ATTORNEY CIPRIANI CLERK WITHAM

ON MOTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR MARINARI, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN GRILLETTO, RESOLUTION NO. 2023-325 AUTHORIZING THE CONVENING OF AN EXECUTIVE SESSION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT WAS ADOPTED. VOICE VOTE: ALL AYES.

The committee returned from executive session. A second roll call was taken followed by the pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence. Mayor Bowen discussed the clean energy grant proposal. The committee commented on holiday celebrations.

MINUTES TO BE CONSIDERED FOR APPROVAL

Mayor Bowen asked if there were any questions regarding the minutes of November 2, 2023. Committeeman Grilletto asked about the executive session. He said that he made a recommendation for a primary and then alternate member for the MUA. Witham stated he did make that comment but believes it was at the December 7th executive session, not on November 2nd. Witham is going to double-check her notes. The executive session minutes are being pulled until the next meeting. Bowen amended the motion to include workshop and regular session only.

ON MOTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR MARINARI, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN CUOZZO, THE MINUTES OF THE WORKSHOP AND REGULAR SESSION OF NOVEMBER 2, 2023 MEETING WERE ADOPTED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

ON MOTION OF MAYOR BOWEN, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN HAMMERSTONE, THE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 13, 2023 BUDGET WORKSHOP WERE ADOPTED. ROLL CALL VOTES: ALL AYES WITH DEPUTY MAYOR MARINARI ABSTAINING.

ORDINANCE: Second Reading/Public Hearing

The mayor opened up public comment on Ordinance 2023-24. There was no public comment.

ON MOTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR MARINARI, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN GRILLETTO, THE PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCE NO. 2023-24 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMSTED COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AMENDING AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED "AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH SALARIES FOR VARIOUS OFFICIALS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMSTED, COUNTY OF OCEAN, NEW JERSEY REGULATING THE MANNER OF PAYMENT OF SAME" WAS CLOSED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

ON MOTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR MARINARI, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN HAMMERSTONE, ORDINANCE NO. 2023-24 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMSTED COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AMENDING AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED "AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH SALARIES FOR VARIOUS OFFICIALS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMSTED, COUNTY OF OCEAN, NEW JERSEY REGULATING THE MANNER OF PAYMENT OF SAME" WAS ADOPTED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

RESOLUTION CONSENT AGENDA

THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS ON A CONSENT AGENDA ARE CONSIDERED ROUTINE AND SHALL BE ENACTED BY ONE MOTION. SHOULD ANY MEMBER OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE SEEK SEPARATE DISCUSSION OF ANY ITEM, THAT ITEM SHALL BE REMOVED AND DISCUSSED SEPARATELY. THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS WILL BE VOTED ON IN ONE VOTE.

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-320 – AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH ASSOCIATED HUMANE SOCIETIES/POPCORN PARK TO PROVIDE ANIMAL CONTROL SERVICES FOR PLUMSTED TOWNSHIP

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-326 - AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP CLERK TO ADVERTISE FOR THE RECEIPT OF PROPOSALS FOR CERTAIN PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR 2024

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-327- AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF CHECKS FOR THE REDEMPTION OF TAX SALE CERTIFICATES

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-328 - GRANTING AN EXTENSION OF THE 2023 SOIL REMOVAL EXCAVATION AND MINING LICENSE TO EXCAVATING MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT, INC.

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-329 - AUTHORIZING PAYMENT FOR THE INSURANCE OPT-OUT PROGRAM FOR 2023

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-330 - AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF UNUSED HOLIDAYS FOR MEMBERS OF THE PLUMSTED POLICE DEPARTMENT

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-331 - AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH THE COUNTY OF OCEAN FOR VARIOUS SIGNALIZED INTERSECTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-332 - AUTHORIZING PLUMSTED TOWNSHIP TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH UPPER FREEHOLD TOWNSHIP FOR SUBCONTRACTING WITH UPPER FREEHOLD TOWNSHIP'S DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS PERSONNEL AND EQUIPMENT

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-333 – AUTHORIZING THE RENEWAL OF AN AGREEMENT WITH MONMOUTH WIRE & COMPUTER RECYCLING, INC. TO PROVIDE COLLECTION AND RECYCLING SERVICES TO PLUMSTED TOWNSHIP FOR ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-334 – AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH FRESH CLEANING SERVICES, LLC TO PROVIDE CLEANING SERVICES FOR PLUMSTED TOWNSHIP

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-335 – AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A SCHEDULE “C” AGREEMENT WITH THE COUNTY OF OCEAN FOR 2024

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-336 – AUTHORIZING A TRANSFER OF APPROPRIATIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF N.J.S.A. 40A:4-58

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-337 - AUTHORIZING THE REFUND OF AN OVERPAYMENT FOR OFF-DUTY POLICE EMPLOYMENT TO LAURITA WINERY

Deputy Mayor Marinari asked that 23-320 be pulled for separate consideration, along with 23-334.

ON MOTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR MARINARI, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN GRILLETTO, RESOLUTIONS NO. 2023-320 THROUGH 2023-337 WITH THE EXCEPTION OF 2023-320 and 2023-334, WERE APPROVED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

Marinari spoke about a recent meeting with AHS for animal control services and their increase. He is going to abstain from the vote because of issues regarding damage to his property. He would like to see more attention and quicker reply to calls. Our dog license numbers have decreased about 300 in past years which is used to fund these services. He would like to see more meetings with them, perhaps monthly. There was further discussion about the number of dog licenses. Witham explained the process for licensing dogs and what a canvas would entail. Witham stated the number of calls has increased over the years: 2020-77 calls, 2021-103 calls, 2022-110 calls and 2023-153 calls to date.

ON MOTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR MARINARI, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN GRILLETTO, RESOLUTION NO. 2023-320 WAS APPROVED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES WITH DEPUTY MAYOR MARINARI ABSTAINING.

Marinari said that Witham and Bowen have met with the cleaning service. He recommended we meet more frequently. The service contract was not increased this year.

ON MOTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR MARINARI, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN GRILLETTO, RESOLUTION NO. 2023-334 WAS APPROVED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

There was an add-on resolution.

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN GRILLETTO, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN HAMMERSTONE, RESOLUTION NO. 2023-324 TERMINATING THE EMPLOYMENT OF JENNIFER WITHAM AS TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATOR OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMSTED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES WITH MAYOR BOWEN VOTING NO.

Note: the resolution from counsel indicates this is 2023-324 although when the resolution was read, it was stated the add-on would be 2023-338 according to this agenda.

Marinari spoke about his years as board president and being on the governing body. In all of that time, he has made thousands of votes. This is one of the most difficult votes he has made. All of the other votes were with respect to kids' education and taxpayers. In this case, his vote is a yes, only because he knows that Witham, sitting beside him, deserves more than she is getting right now. He hopes that she takes care of herself; she has a great family. It's the most difficult decision he's ever had to make.

REPORT OF DEPARTMENTS AND PROFESSIONALS

Bowen asked for any comments on the amended #2 bill list. There were none.

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN GRILLETTO, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN HAMMERSTONE THE AMENDED BILL LIST #2 OF DECEMBER 28, 2023 WAS APPROVED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.


Grilletto asked Drucker what the results of the In God We Trust banner were. Drucker said that the second example had the most votes. Marinari thanked Drucker for an improvement in all of the communication with the community. Bowen asked for any other old or new business; there was none. Bowen opened up the public comment portion of the meeting.

Ed Vienckowski, 256 East Colliers Mills Rd, had a question on a resolution regarding the signalized intersections. He asked if the other side of the road, Monmouth County, had any responsibilities financially. Cipriani said they do not have to signalize anything outside their county. Witham advised that we do pay the electric bill for the traffic light but then Monmouth County does contribute to that. This agreement is regarding the bypass for the generator. He stated the add-on resolution caught him by surprise; he asked for clarification. Cipriani stated that as the township clerk, Ms. Witham has tenure for that position. She has also been serving as the administrator and they are both full-time jobs; therefore, as a result, Ms. Witham will continue to work full time as the clerk. Then we are adding a business administrator, what does that mean for our budget? Cipriani said that it is something for the governing body to consider. Obviously there is a portion of payment that was for Ms. Witham for administrator that is now open and there be other responsibilities that are open that the governing body may consider. Bowen said that the expectation is that it will be filled within our existing ordinance. Vienckowski said that somehow it may still be higher. He thanked Jennifer for all of the work she has done and he appreciates it. He wished everyone a Happy New Year.

There was no further public comment. Deputy Mayor Marinari thanked counsel for attending and the job she has been doing.

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN GRILLETTO, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN HAMMERSTONE, THE DECEMBER 28, 2023 MEETING WAS ADJOURNED. VOICE VOTE: ALL AYES.

Respectfully Submitted,



Jennifer Witham, RMC, CMR
Municipal Clerk

**Please be advised that these minutes are adopted pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act N.J.S.A. 10:4-14. They are not intended to be a verbatim record of the meeting. There is a verbatim recording of the meeting a copy of which may be requested through the Plumsted Township Clerk's Office.*