

## **CHESTERFIELD TOWNSHIP REGULAR SESSION APRIL 14, 2022**

The Township Committee met on the above date in the Municipal Complex, 295 Bordentown-Chesterfield Road, Chesterfield, New Jersey. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Lee Panfili at 6:30 p.m. followed by a flag salute and moment of silence.

### **ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS**

Present: Belinda Blazic, Denise Koetas-Dale, Jeremy Liedtka, Michael Russo and Lido Panfili

Also present: Thomas A. Sahol, Township Administrator; John Gillespie, Township Attorney; Caryn M. Hoyer, Township Clerk; Joe Hirsh, Township Engineer; and Troy Ulshafer, Public Works Foreman.

The Open Public Meetings Act compliance was noted.

### **AGENDA MATTER(S) REQUIRING RECUSAL(S)**

None

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Liedtka made a motion seconded by Mr. Russo to approve the March 30<sup>th</sup> minutes. Voice vote – All Ayes except Ms. Koetas-Dale who abstained.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS PERTAINING TO MATTERS ON THE AGENDA**

Mr. Russo made a motion seconded by Ms. Blazic to open to public comment. Hearing no comments, Mr. Liedtka made a motion seconded by Mr. Russo to close public comment.

### **ORDINANCE FOR INTRODUCTION**

#### **ORDINANCE 2022-7**

#### **AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CHESTERFIELD AMENDING CHAPTER 146 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CHESTERFIELD TO ESTABLISH RULES AND REGULATIONS RELATED TO THE DOG PARK, TENNIS COURTS AND PICKLEBALL COURTS**

Motion by Mr. Liedtka seconded by Ms. Koetas-Dale to introduce Ordinance 2022-7. Voice vote – All Ayes. The public hearing for this ordinance will be at the Township Committee meeting on April 28<sup>th</sup>

## **ORDINANCES FOR ADOPTION**

### **ORDINANCE 2022-5**

### **A CAPITAL ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CHESTERFIELD AUTHORIZING AN APPROPRIATION FROM THE RECREATION FUND FOR VARIOUS PARK PROJECTS**

Motion by Mr. Liedtka seconded by Ms. Koetas-Dale to open the meeting to public comment on Ordinance 2002-5. Hearing no comment, Mr. Liedtka made a motion seconded by Ms. Blazic to close public comment. Motion by Mr. Liedtka seconded by Mr. Russo to adopt Ordinance 2022-5. Voice vote – All Ayes

### **ORDINANCE 2022-6**

### **AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CHESTERFIELD AMENDING CHAPTER 183 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CHESTERFIELD TO ESTABLISH PARKING RESTRICTION ON A PORTION OF POLO LANE**

Motion by Ms. Koetas-Dale seconded by Ms. Blazic to open to public. Hearing no comment, Mr. Russo made a motion seconded by Mr. Liedtka to close public comment. Motion by Mr. Liedtka seconded by Ms. Koetas-Dale to adopt Ordinance 2022-6. Voice vote – All Ayes

## **RESOLUTIONS**

Mr. Liedtka made a motion seconded by Mr. Russo to approve Resolutions 2022-4-2, 2022-4-3 and 2022-4-4. Voice vote - All were in favor.

### **RESOLUTION 2022-4-2**

### **RESOLUTION APPOINTING ALFRED JOSEPH BOEHLER IV AS FULL TIME POLICE OFFICER**

### **RESOLUTION 2022-4-3**

### **RESOLUTION APPOINTING VINCENT BARRY GARGIULO AS FULL TIME POLICE OFFICER**

### **RESOLUTION 2022-4-4**

### **RESOLUTION APPOINTING RICHARD SUCH TO THE POSITION OF ELECTRICAL SUBCODE/INSPECTOR**

Ms. Blazic made a motion seconded by Mr. Russo to approve Resolution 2022-4-5. Voice vote - All were in favor.

**RESOLUTION 2022-4-5**

**RESOLUTION REQUESTING PERMISSION  
FOR THE DEDICATION BY RIDER FOR THE  
DEDICATED FIRE PENALTIES**

Motion by Ms. Koetas-Dale seconded by Ms. Blazic to approved Resolution 2022-4-6. Voice vote – All were in favor.

**RESOLUTION 2022-4-6**

**RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE MONTH  
OF MAY AS “BAG UP NJ” MONTH**

Motion by Ms. Blazic seconded by Mr. Russo to approved Resolution 2022-4-7. Voice vote – All were in favor except Mr. Liedtka who abstained.

**RESOLUTION 2022-4-7**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CHANGE  
ORDER TO CONTRACT WITH ONSITE  
LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT**

**TREASURERS BILL LIST**

Mr. Russo made a motion seconded by Mr. Liedtka to approve the bill list. Voice vote – All Ayes

**REPORTS & DISCUSSION**

Mr. Sahol stated that Troy is beginning to install the aerators in the Stormwater basins. The aerators we have are jet propelled and not efficient. He recommends starting a pilot with a new bubbler aerator at Recklesstown and Woodward. The present aerator cost to repair is approximately \$7,000 and recommends putting in a bubbler aerator system into this basin which is one of the basins with an algae issue. Mr. Sahol credits Troy with suggesting the bubbler aerator. Mayor Panfili would like to have at least one of the current aerators rebuilt to have as a spare. Mayor Panfili asked how long it will take to determine if this is going to work better. Mr. Ulshafer stated it will take some time and hopefully a reduction in chemicals. The idea is to get more air into the water. Mr. Ulshafer is looking into the costs. The majority of the cost is in the tubing. There is no infrastructure costs.

Mr. Sahol stated that for a number of years we have talked about the referendum that will be needed in the next few years. He recommends the Township Auditor do a complete analysis going out ten years to see if it agrees with the information we have in house. Mr. Sahol stated that he virtually attended along with the Township auditor, the Local Finance Board meeting seeking approval of the CAP waiver which we have been required to do for quite some time. The LFB voted in favor of Chesterfield’s application. Mr. Sahol believes the analysis he is recommending will give the Township Committee a better idea of what the future holds. Mayor Panfili would like to receive it in advance and would like him present to present to the Township Committee. He believes there are some misinformation

out there and this will help clear up the financial status of the Township. All committee members agree. Ms. Koetas-Dale does not think we are in the dire situation that people are discussing.

Mr. Liedtka asked if Ms. Wulstein will be attending the budget hearing. Mr. Sahol assured the Township Committee that if Ms. Wulstein is not able to be present, the Auditor is already prepared to step in. Mayor Panfili stated he has a business obligation that he cannot reschedule and will not be in attendance at the April 28<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Mr. Liedtka asked Mr. Hirsh about White Pine Road. Mr. Hirsh stated they submitted additional information on Wednesday and he has not heard anything back. Mr. Liedtka stated he spoke with Joe Brickley from the County about getting White Pine Road milled and put down back before the road gets too far gone while we are waiting on the State to approve the plans.

Mayor Panfili asked about any answers from the County regarding Sykesville Road Bridge. Mr. Liedtka stated he did not get an answer on that and will reach out to Joe Brickley again.

Mr. Liedtka asked about the package good license. He was advised the Township received one application. That will now go through the process to determine if the applicant is eligible for the license and if so on April 27<sup>th</sup> we will open the sealed bid.

Mr. Gillespie stated that the ordinance for the new consumption license will go up to the State.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Liedtka made a motion seconded by Mr. Russo to open the meeting to the public. All were in favor.

Vivian Cacase – 32 Birmingham Drive, Columbus. She has been a crossing guard for the township since 2011. Since post pandemic, it has gotten horrible. The rules haven't changed in driving. She is very concerned because the drivers are not paying attending. She would like the speed limit dropped in front of the school on Saddle Way to 15 mph. There are a number of schools that have a 15 mph limit in front of the school. She did her research and calculated the cost for replacing the speed limit signs and the cost under \$300. All the warning signs should remain. She has another issue with kids being dropped off in the middle of Saddle Way and crossing the street. On Wright going toward the school, it should be a one-way preferably one way in. We need a sense of order out there. The bushes and hedges need to be cut. The cars aren't always stopping when she puts up her sign. She understands that people are in a hurry but her first job is to

the children. She also works inside the school and knows the kids. She is speaking for all the crossing guards. They all have the same problems. She doesn't know what else to do. Mr. Sahol stated he has spoken to Vivian and believes what she is saying is correct. He is aware that a ticket was given today for issues out there. We have made notes about the bushes and will get that address. He does not believe we can make speed limit less than 25 and enforceable but we will look further into that. The police officers are going to continue out there and issue tickets if they are violating the law. Ms. Cacase also recommend removing one spot on Thorn Lane that is causing issues during the school area. Mr. Sahol is aware of the spot in question. Mr. Cacase stated the Crossing Guards have not had a raise since they started.

Lorrie Thier - 153 Chesterfield-Crosswicks Road. She stated that last meeting it was stated that the Warehouse issue was tabled. If that is the case then why is their presentation still on the website?

Valerie Jones - 21 Buttonwood Street. She asked about the roundabout on Old York Road and if there was a meeting about that. Mr. Panfili stated he left a message for the County Administrator and has not received a call back. He stated that Herb Ames spoke with the County and the obstacles are all about money and not sure we are going to be able to overcome. He thanked Mr. Ames did a great job getting information back to us. She also stated she is not happy with the 4 way stop at Church Street and Main Street and that anyone pulling a horse trailer, the horses are going to have a problem. Mr. Panfili stated the County recommended and a stop sign will be installed at the end of this month. He stated the only other option is a one-way at Church Street and he did not receive any support from that. He stated in reality 60 percent of the people are already stopping there and there is no stop sign there yet. Ms. Koetas-Dale stated the cars are coming up fast from Hamilton and adding the stop sign will at least slow the traffic down as one point.

Steve Hazen – 447 Main Street. He understands Vivian's concerns. It's the people living in the town that are causing the problem. What happened to the idea that all the kids would be walking to the school. The speed bumps on Buttonwood are here because of the people in the new development. It is a safety issue. He sees it every day as he walks for 3 hours every day. The police should continue giving the tickets out. He asked about the flashing signs with the speed limit. He was advised they will be purchased after the budget is adopted. Mayor Panfili stated that the two new officers have been hired and that will help with the speeding issue.

Agnus Marsala - 42 Cromwell Drive. She asked by Ms. Wulstein would not be at the budget presentation and why we have to hire someone to do her job. Mr. Sahol stated that the Auditor is doing the analysis as an independent review of the Township's operation. He would apply the standards of his industry, Accounting, as we are not accountants.

Sherri Dudas – 258 Ellisdale Road. She stated she is the chair of the Green Fun fair. She wanted to let the Mayor know she and Brian Wilson had a conversation and the information she reported at the last Township Committee meeting was a misunderstanding. He will be providing information for the Green Fun Fair for the farmers and landowners. She also thanked the Mayor for offering to MC the event. She extended an invitation to all to attend the Green Fun Fair. She is also aware there is a conflict with the Chicken BBQ. In the planning stages, they were not aware of the date of the BBQ but will make sure in the future this doesn't happen the same time again. She supports the increase for the crossing guards.

Mr. Sahol stated that the budget does include an increase in pay for the crossing guards, and some other amenities they have requested.

Mr. Liedtka made a motion seconded by Mr. Russo to close public comment. All were in favor.

Mr. Gillespie stated that the point about the kids walking to school is correct. That was the focus and promote the parents and or kids of appropriate age to walk to school. In the 1997 Master Plan Reexamination it states it is central to the design of the development. Maybe we need to educate the public. Ms. Koetas-Dale stated that when the school opened there were programs done at that time to encourage the kids to walk to school. Mr. Gillespie agreed the school in coordination with the Township to get back to the original concept would help alleviate some of the problems. Ms. Blazic stated there are schools that also have road closures in front of the school during certain times and other ideas to help encourage kids to walk to school. Mr. Russo stated the kids don't want to walk or the parents don't want them to ride the bus.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made Mr. Liedtka and seconded by Mr. Russo. All were in favor. Meeting Adjourned at 7:33 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Caryn M. Hoyer, RMC  
Township Clerk