

CHESTERFIELD TOWNSHIP REGULAR SESSION MAY 25, 2023

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 Koetas-Dale at 7:00 p.m. followed by a flag salute and moment of silence.

The Open Public Meetings Act Statement was read and compliance noted.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

Present: Belinda Blazic, Shreekant Dhopte, Jeremy Liedtka, Matthew Litt and Denise Koetas-Dale

Also present: Thomas A. Sahol, Township Administrator; Caryn M. Hoyer, Township Clerk; Rachel Fryc, Deputy Clerk, Cameron Corini, Township Engineer, Dominic P. DiYanni, Township Attorney and Michael Davison, Police Chief

AGENDA MATTER(S) REQUIRING RECUSAL(S)

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Blazic made a motion seconded by Mr. Dhopte to approve the May 11th meeting minutes. All were in favor except Mr. Liedtka who abstained.

PUBLIC COMMENTS PERTAINING TO MATTERS ON THE AGENDA

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

Cindy Malison, 10 Chesterfield-Georgetown Road thanked everyone for taking the speed limit on Chesterfield-Georgetown Rd so seriously. She is worried about the safety of her neighbor's children.

Dawn Donahue, 79 Bordentown-Chesterfield Road is in agreement of lowering the speed limit on Chesterfield-Georgetown Rd but says it needs to be enforced by the Police.

Hearing no further comments. Mr. Dhopte made a motion seconded by Ms. Blazic to close public comment. All were in favor.

PROCLAMATION – Public Works Month Recognition

Mayor Koetas-Dale gave recognition to Public Works Director Troy Ulshafer and the Public Works Department for their commitment and hard work.

ORDINANCE FOR INTRODUCTION

Mr. Sahol stated there is a parcel of land off of Chesterfield-Crosswicks Road that is roughly 6,000 square feet, land locked, and cannot be built upon. The Township owns the parcel from a tax sale. This ordinance will allow the lot to be bid out for possible purchase by one of the three adjoining property owners.

Mr. Dhopte made a motion seconded by Ms. Blazic to introduce Ordinance 2023-8. All were in favor. Public hearing on the Ordinance will be at the next Township Committee meeting on June 8, 2023 at 7:00 PM.

ORDINANCE 2023-8 **AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE PRIVATE SALE OF CERTAIN TOWNSHIP OWNED LAND NO LONGER NEEDED FOR PUBLIC USE TO CONTIGUOUS PROPERTY OWNERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LOCAL LANDS AND BUILDINGS LAW, N.J.S.A. 40A:12-1 ET SEQ.**

ORDINANCE FOR ADOPTION

Mayor Koetas-Dale suggested defeating this ordinance and reexamining it along with the Township Attorney and Engineer to determine the exact locations the speed limit should be lowered. Mr. Litt asked if we could table the ordinance again instead of defeating it. Mr. Liedtka asked if we can amend it tonight. Mr. DiYanni suggested defeating the ordinance, re-writing it and introducing on June 8th. Mr. Litt made a motion seconded by Mr. Dhopte to adopt Ordinance 2023-6. Roll Call - NAY: Blazic, Dhopte, Liedtka, Litt, Koetas-Dale The ordinance was defeated and dies.

ORDINANCE 2023-6 **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 182 “VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC” OF THE CHESTERFIELD TOWNSHIP CODE FOR ESTABLISHING SPEED LIMITS.**

Joe Malison, 10 Chest-Georgetown Rd spoke over the Township Committee regarding his displeasure with the way the ordinance was handled. He cited concerns about speeding vehicles and the safety of children in the vicinity.

Ms. Blazic made a motion seconded by Mr. Litt to open the meeting to public comment on Ordinance 2023-7. All were in favor. Hearing no comments, Ms. Blazic made a motion seconded by Mr. Litt to close public comment. Ms. Blazic made a motion seconded by Mr. Litt to adopt Ordinance 2023-7. All were in favor.

ORDINANCE 2023-7 **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 66 OF THE TOWNSHIP CODE ENTITLED “ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES” MOST NOTABLY, SECTION 66-10 ENTITLED “LOTTERIES, BINGO AND RAFFLES”**

RESOLUTIONS

Ms. Blazic made a motion seconded by Mr. Dhopte to approve Resolutions 2023-5-8 and 5-9. Voice vote - All were in favor.

RESOLUTION 2023-5-8 REQUESTING APPROVAL OF ITEMS OF REVENUE AND APPROPRIATION UNDER N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 FOR CLEAN COMMUNITIES GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$19,312.86 IN THE 2023 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

RESOLUTION 2023-5-9 REQUESTING APPROVAL OF ITEMS OF REVENUE AND APPROPRIATION UNDER N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 FOR SUSTAINABLE JERSEY GRANT FUNDED BY THE PSE&G FOUNDATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,000.00 IN THE 2023 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

Ms. Blazic made a motion seconded by Mr. Dhopte to approve Resolution 2023-5-10. Voice vote - All were in favor.

RESOLUTION 2023-5-10 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATOR TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR CYBERSECURITY RESOURCES FROM THE STATE AND LOCAL CYBERSECURITY GRANT PROGRAM FOR FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2022

BILL LIST

Mr. Dhopte wants to make sure the contractor completed the tennis wall and pickle ball court prior to signing off on the Bill List. Mr. Sahol responded that all work has been completed and inspected.

Ms. Blazic made a motion seconded by Mr. Dhopte to approve the bill list. Voice vote – All in favor.

REPORTS & ADMINISTRATION

Mayor:

Public Works Department Building Evaluation – Mayor Koetas-Dale asked that the Township Engineer submit a proposal for developing some ideas for a new PW Building. The Township Committee will review the proposal. Mr. Sahol indicated that the Engineer is being asked to provide a proposal for a “high level” examination of what buildings and area would be needed to ensure the Public Works Department can grow in time. Mr. Dhopte indicated a desire for several options to review. Mr. Liedtka said that there are already two conceptual plans completed by the prior Engineer. Mayor Koetas- Dale asked Mr. Sahol to send the

Township Committee members those concept plans. The Township Committee agreed to seek a proposal from the Engineer for work involved in researching the Public Works Department needs now and in the future.

Juneteenth – Mayor Koetas-Dale said that the Juneteenth Committee could not be here tonight but will attend the June 8th meeting to discuss Juneteenth.

Vacating of additional property – Mr. Sahol said there is a property owned by the Township that has little to no use to the Township, but it causes maintenance issues for the Public Works Dept. Mr. Sahol suggested the Township explore vacating the property to the adjacent property owners with an easement in order for the town to have access for underground utilities if needed. In doing this, the adjoining homeowners will get the benefit of a deeper lot and they will be able to maintain it as they see fit. This is also alleviate some work for the Public Works Department. The Township Committee agreed that Mr. Sahol look into these properties further and report back.

Administration:

Tennis Wall – The Tennis Wall will be completed next week after the paved surface it is sealed and striped. Mr. Litt mentioned a prior conversation about some landscaping and Mr. Sahol indicated he and Mr. Ulshafer will be working on some amount of landscaping adjacent to the ends of the wall.

Pickle Ball – Mr. Sahol spoke with Troy and learned that as of today the Pickle Ball Court is completed and ready for play.

In the absence of Mr. Ulshafer, Mr. Sahol informed the Township Committee that the only tractor the Township owns to mow roadways is in the shop and the dealer is having difficulty getting parts. The Township is currently relying on some mowing support from the County and possibly adjoining towns. Troy has also reached out to local farmers and contractors to possibly help out until it is fixed. Mayor Koetas-Dale asked for Troy to determine which road ways are priority to cut.

Mr. Dhopte asked what the plan is to install the new bubbler systems for the fountains. Mr. Sahol responded the fountain systems are being replaced with the bubbler systems as they fail. Mayor Koetas-Dale asked if Troy can come up with a schedule for the fountains and present it at the next meeting.

Engineer:

DOT Grants for Waln & Margerum Roads - are in process and due to be sent in to the State by July 1st.

Generators – Currently working on the design for the two new generators for the sewer pump stations.

Sykesville Road Phase 5 – Field survey is completed. Working with the CFO on bid documents, the Public Works Department on specifications, and the Police Department on traffic control plan measures. The Engineer intends to send the plans to NJDOT in three weeks for approval and will then seeks bids to be awarded in August.

Fenton Lane Park – Working with DEP to make sure to stay within all Green Acre regulations.

Storm Water – On going. There will be training for all elected officials and Planning Board Members to maintain compliance.

Mr. Dhopte asked Mr. Sahol if the Engineers will be working on improvements to Olivia Way Park. Mr. Sahol responded it is a small project that can be done in house. Mr. Dhopte offered to set up a meeting with the residents to get ideas on what they want the park to look like.

NEW BUSINESS

Request for 5K Race in Old York Village – Mayor Koetas-Dale deferred to Abigail Nanola, 8 Saddle Way as she is requesting permission to hold a 5K Race in OYV on October 15th starting at 9am. All proceeds will benefit Cancer Awareness and Youth Sports Development for the Children of Chesterfield. Ms. Nanola stated they are looking to accommodate 200-400 runners and would like the race to be USATF Certified. Ms. Nanola supplied the Township Committee with a copy of her proposed 5K Route that she revised after meeting with Chief Davison, Rachel Fryc and Tom Sahol. The race will begin at the park near all of the retail establishments. Mayor Koetas-Dale stated that she would like to support the race but needs more details. She is concerned about the impact on the community and our Police Department. She asked Chief Davison to look into the costs for his department that would be associated with the race and report back at the June 8th Township Committee Meeting. Mr. Litt suggested someone reach out to the BurlCo JIF regarding insurance for the event. Mayor Koetas-Dale deferred to Lorrie Thier who stated that she helped organize the CPEF 5K Run for a few years and she offered to help out.

Ms. Blazic made a motion seconded by Mr. Litt to open the meeting to public comment. All were in favor.

Agnes Marsala, 42 Cromwell Drive said that she cannot hear anything on line when calling into the meetings except the clerk. Mr. Sahol indicated nothing has changed with the online or inside AV system that would cause the audio issues for remote listeners.

Lorrie Thier, 40 Foulkes Lane said that she started and ran the CPEF 5K Race. She said that only one road was closed, the other roads were manned by volunteers to direct runners. They also had EMT's on the routes. The race was rain or shine.

Brett Anderson, 62 Brookdale Way echoed what Ms. Marsala said about the sound system. He listened to a tape from a year ago and there is a drastic difference in the audio quality. He indicated in a prior meeting he mentioned that Mayor Panfili can be clearly heard, but that is not the case now.

Hearing no further comments. Ms. Blazic made a motion seconded by Mr. Dhopte to close public comment. All were in favor.

Mr. Litt reminded everyone to come to the first Chesterfield Memorial Day Remembrance on Monday, May 29th starting at 10am.

Mr. DiYanni reported that we will need to have an Executive Session tonight regarding pending litigation on NJ Housing. No formal action will be taken.

Mr. Litt made a motion seconded by Mr. Dhopte to add Resolution 2023-5-11 to the agenda for Executive Session. All were in favor.

Ms. Blazic made a motion seconded by Mr. Litt to go into Executive Session. All were in favor.

RESOLUTION 2023-5-11

**RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR A MEETING
NOT OPEN TO THE PUBLIC IN ACCORDANCE
WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE NEW JERSEY
OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT, N.J.S.A. 10:4-
12**

Returned to regular session at 8:28 PM.

Motion by Mr. Dhopte seconded by Ms. Blazic to adjourn the meeting. All in favor
8:28PM

Respectfully submitted,

Caryn M. Hoyer, RMC
Township Clerk