

This Meeting was held in Person following all Covid Guidelines.

BOROUGH OF HAMPTON

REGULAR MEETING

November 22, 2021

Mayor Todd Shaner called the Regular Meeting of the Hampton Borough Council to order at 7:30p.m. Borough Clerk Linda Leidner gave the Open Public Meetings Act Statement. The notice of this meeting was advertised in the Hunterdon Democrat on January 14, 2021. The notice was posted on the public bulletin board and is on file in the Office of the Municipal Clerk.

Roll Call:	Present:	Mayor Todd Shaner	Rob Celentano
		Carroll Swenson	Jeff Tampier
		Rob Wotanowski	

Absent:	John Drummond	Doug Rega
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The following people were also present: Matt Lyons, Borough Attorney and Alan Brower, DPW Director.

Motion by Cm. Wotanowski, second by Cm. Swenson to approve the Regular and Executive Session Minutes of the November 8, 2021.

Voice Vote. All ayes, motion carried.

Comments and Questions from the Public:

None

Communications:

Municipal Court Reports October 2021 – No discussion

Unfinished Business:

Fire Company request for Catering Company to use the kitchen:

Fire Company President Rob Walton explained that he reviewed the Draft Revised Lease Agreement and it had items in there that definitely did not apply to what is trying to be accomplished with the agreement. Borough Attorney Lyons agreed and noted that the agreement was received from the insurance company and is a standard agreement that needs to be modified to fit the needs of Hampton Borough, the Fire Company and caterer. Borough Attorney Lyons asked Mr. Walton to send his comments and concerns to the Borough Clerk and he will work on modifying the agreement.

Parking Ordinance – Mr. Brower indicated that his will be ready for introduction in January.

Lumberyard – Nothing new to report.

School Study/Hampton School Updates – Cm. Celentano reported that the school is continuing to work on the school study grant process. Cm. Celentano also noted that there is going to be a Holiday Tree Lighting held at the school on Sunday, December 12 at 6:00pm.

Mr. Brower explained that they reached out to the DPW to help with putting the lights on the tree. There is an issue with using the bucket truck due to the location of the septic field. Mr. Brower noted that a lift could be rented by the school. The DPW will help with the lights.

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Mayor Shaner noted that businesses in town have donated towards the lights. Mayor Shaner also mentioned that he was asked if the members of the Borough Council would be willing to donate towards the lights.

Reports of Committees:

Cm. Drummond and Cm. Rega were absent.

Cm. Celentano, Cm. Rega, Cm. Tampier and Cm. Wotanowski had nothing to report.

DPW Director Alan Brower reported that the snowflakes will be installed as soon as the bucket truck is available to borrow from High Bridge.

Municipal Clerk's Report –

Mrs. Leidner reviewed certain Resolutions with the Borough Council Members that contain fees that will require a vote in the New Year. This was done to determine if the Borough Council would like to change any fees or leave them as they are currently.

Mrs. Leidner requested guidance on the request that was received from a resident to change minutes to reflect exactly what was said by them and the Borough Engineer during the "Comments and Questions from the Public" portion of 2 meetings.

Mrs. Leidner explained that historically minutes have been action taken and not verbatim.

The Borough Attorney and Hampton Borough Council Members had seen a copy of this request and agreed that the minutes should remain as written as no action was taken as a result of the discussions.

New Business:

Motion by Cm. Celentano, second by Cm. Wotanowski to adopt the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 69-2021

New Jersey State League of Municipalities Conference Resolution No. 2021-17

Resolution Urging the New Jersey Legislature to Create Legislation that Would Establish Emergency Medical Services as Essential Government Services

WHEREAS, the State designates police, fire, and sanitation as essential government services, affording residents and visitors the right to a timely response by law enforcement, who will address an issue relating to public safety and respond; as well as the right to receive fire prevention and suppression services; and the right to a clean community through sanitation services; and

WHEREAS, despite being an integral part of public health and safety, providing education, lifesaving skills, and transportation, when needed, Emergency Medical Services (EMS) is not an essential government service in the State of New Jersey; and,

WHEREAS, due to this oversight, municipalities are not legally mandated to afford their citizens and visitors with a licensed ambulance with certified Emergency Medical Technicians when a medical emergency arises; and

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WHEREAS, a review of call volume reports in major municipalities reveals that individuals who live, work and play in New Jersey are significantly more likely to need Emergency Medical Services than Fire Department services due to the rapidly increasing EMS call volumes that have exceeded pace with the fire service in recent years; and

WHEREAS, while fire and police agencies receive new fire trucks and patrol cars as well as up-to-date equipment, EMS agencies struggle with funding, dated equipment, and unmet demand for personal protective equipment for their employees; and

WHEREAS, these issues have been exacerbated by the escalating levels of infectious disease entering the country; as the State has seen with SARS, Ebola, and, most recently the Coronavirus pandemic, EMS agencies have been forced to adapt to changing circumstances despite being shorthanded; and

WHEREAS, when staffing has fallen short, many municipalities have been left scrambling to afford some level of emergency medical service for its citizens; and

WHEREAS, a legislative finding that EMS is an essential government service, coupled with the same statutory scheme found for both fire departments under N.J.S.A. 40A:14-7 et. seq. and law enforcement agencies under N.J.S.A. 40A:14-106 et.seq., will correct the present inequities between public safety agencies and otherwise ensure that those who live, work, and play in New Jersey receive equal access to emergency medical care.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the League of Municipalities, in conference assembled, urges Governor Murphy and the Legislature to seek to create legislation that would provide funding for, and establish Emergency Medical Services as Essential Government Services; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be forwarded to the members of the New Jersey General Assembly and the State Senate, the New Jersey Commissioner of Health, the Lieutenant Governor and the Governor of the State of New Jersey.

Voice Vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Cm. Celentano, second by Cm. Wotanowski to adopt the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION #70-2021

**AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF BOROUGH OWNED PROPERTY AT
12 MacKENZIE ROAD, BLOCK 17, LOT 9, TO MATARAZZO PROPERTIES, LLC**

WHEREAS, the Borough of Hampton is the record owner of the property at 12 MacKenzie Road, Block 17, Lot 9 (the "Property") on the Tax Map of the Borough of Hampton; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13(a) authorizes a municipality to enter into an open public sale at auction to the highest bidder for property that is not needed for public use; and

WHEREAS, the Borough has determined that the Property at 12 MacKenzie Road, Block 17, Lot 9, is not needed for public use and that the Property should be sold by open public sale at auction to the highest bidders; and

WHEREAS, on July 12, 2021 pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13(a), and Ordinance 01-2021, Hampton Borough Council authorized the public auction for the sale of the Property by public sale to the highest bidder; and

WHEREAS, notice of sale was duly published as required by law; and

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WHEREAS, pursuant to said Ordinance, such public sale was held at the Borough of Hampton on August 3, 2021, at 11 a.m., resulting in no bids; and

WHEREAS, on September 13, 2021, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13(a), and Ordinance 10-2021, Hampton Borough Council authorized the second public auction for the sale of the Property by public sale to the highest bidder; and

WHEREAS, notice of sale was duly published as required by law; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to said Ordinance, such public sale was held at the Borough of Hampton on October 11, 2021, at 6:45pm, resulting in no bids; and

WHEREAS, now proceeding directly pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13(a), Matarazzo Properties LLC, PO Box 419, Hampton, NJ 08827, has offered \$30,001.00 to purchase the Property

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the sale of Borough owned property located at 12 MacKenzie Road, Block 17, Lot 9, to Matarazzo Properties LLC, for the amount of \$30,001.00 is authorized by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hampton; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that conditions of the sale are as specified in Ordinance 01-2021 and 10-2021; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Contract of Sale, Deed and any other documents required to effectuate closing may be executed by authorized officials of the Borough of Hampton.

Roll Call Vote: AYE: Celentano, Swenson, Wotanowski, Mayor Shaner

Abstain: Tampier

All ayes, motion carried.

Motion by Cm. Wotanowski, second by Cm. Celentano to adopt the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION No. 71-2021

WHEREAS, the Borough of Hampton requires the hiring of new Crossing Guards, that will be under the supervision of The Town of Clinton Chief of Police, and;

WHEREAS, the position was advertised for, applications accepted and interviews performed, and;

WHEREAS, the Chief of Police of the Town of Clinton recommends that Denise Marie Auburger be hired to fill the open position at a rate of \$20.00 per hour; and;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hampton hire Denise Marie Auburger to fill the open position of Crossing Guard effective November 22, 2021.

Roll call: Aye: Celentano, Swenson, Tampier, Wotanowski

All ayes: Motion carried.

Motion by Cm. Swenson, second by Cm. Wotanowski to adopt the following Resolution:

REFUND OF FIRST QUARTER 2022 PAYMENT

WHEREAS, the property owner of Block 19, Lot 11.5 erroneously made two payments for the fourth quarter of 2021, and

WHEREAS, the additional payment was credited to the first quarter of 2022, and

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WHEREAS, the tax collector has received a request for a refund of the erroneous duplicate payment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Borough Council that the Chief Financial Officer be authorized to issue a refund to Eileen Z. McCabe, 36 MacKenzie Road, Hampton, NJ, 08827 in the amount of \$2453.02.

Roll call: Aye: Celentano, Swenson, Tampier, Wotanowski
All ayes: Motion carried.

Motion by Cm. Tampier, second by Cm. Swenson to adopt the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 73-2021

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 provides that the Director of the Division of Local Government Services may approve the insertion of any special item of revenue in the budget of any county or municipality when such item shall have been made available by law and the amount thereof was not determined at the time of the adoption of the budget and,

WHEREAS, said Director may also approved the insertion of an item of appropriation for an equal amount, and,

WHEREAS, the Borough has received \$47,460.60 from the County of Hunterdon and wishes to amend its 2021 budget to include this amount as a revenue.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hampton hereby requests the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to approve the insertion of an item of revenue in the budget for the year 2021 in the sum of \$47,460.60 which is now available as a revenue from:

Miscellaneous Revenues

Special Item of General Revenue Anticipated with Prior Written
Consent of the Director of Local Government Services:

Public and Private Revenues Off-Set with Appropriations:
County of Hunterdon Open Space, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a like sum of \$47,460.60 is hereby appropriated under the caption of:

General Appropriations

(a) Operations Excluded from the .5% Cap
Public and Private Programs Off-Set by Revenues:
County of Hunterdon Open Space:
Other Expenses

Roll call: Aye: Celentano, Swenson, Tampier, Wotanowski
All ayes: Motion carried.

Bills and Claims: Motion by Cm Wotanowski, second by Cm. Celentano to approve the request from the Chief Financial Officer to pay the bills on the bill list of November 22, 2021.

Roll call: Aye: Celentano, Swenson, Tampier, Wotanowski
All ayes: Motion carried.

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Adjournment: Motion by Cm Swenson second by Cm. Wotanowski to adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Hampton Borough Council. Voice Vote: All ayes, motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:59p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Leidner, RMC
Municipal Clerk