

BOROUGH OF HAMPTON

REGULAR MEETING

August 15, 2022

Mayor Todd Shaner called the Regular Meeting of the Hampton Borough Council to order at 7:30p.m. and gave the Open Public Meetings Act Statement. The notice of this meeting was advertised in the Hunterdon Democrat on March 17, 2022. The notice was posted on the public bulletin board and is on file in the Office of the Municipal Clerk.

Roll Call:	Present:	Mayor Shaner	Rob Celentano
		John Drummond	Doug Rega
		Carroll Swenson	Jeff Tampier
		Rob Wotanowski	

The following people were also present: Tara St. Angelo, Attorney, Kathy Olsen, CFO

Motion by Cm. Wotanowski, second by Cm. Rega to approve the Minutes of the following meetings of the Borough Council.

Minutes of the June 28, 2022 Executive Session and Minutes of July 18, 2022 Regular Meeting.

Cm. Drummond, Abstained **Voice vote: All ayes, motion carried.**

Comments and Questions from the Public:

Alicia Noon – Valley Road – Reported that Lebanon Township backed out of the Grant for school consolidation study, but Hampton School is reaching out to various sending districts to see what other options may be available.

Michele Molotzak – Riddle Avenue thanked the Borough Council and Hampton School Board for keeping their promise and keeping taxes flat this year. She also thanked Borough Clerk Leidner for always keeping the residents informed by updating the website. This was helpful in situations like when the Tax Bill mailing was delayed.

Tom Carpenter – voiced concern regarding the removal of the Speed Limit sign that was on Route 31 prior to the repaving of the road. The Mayor will reach out to the State to see about placing the sign back to help calm the speeding trucks that come down the hill on that portion of Route 31 heading to the traffic light. Mr. Carpenter also recommended that the Borough Council created a Jake Break Ordinance to reduce the noise created by trucks when they use the Jake Break.

Rick Allen, Fire Chief – advised the Borough Council that the Fire Company will be holding a drill at Hampton Manor tomorrow night.

Chief Allen also noted that while completing the required equipment update for the insurance company he realized that the replacement cost has gone up 30% over the past year.

Communications:

Letter from Joseph Racioppi regarding errors in the engraving on the World War markers and Korean War marker in the Veteran's Park.

Minutes: August 15, 2022

A brief discussion was held regarding the letter from Mr. Racioppi. The information that was placed on the monuments was done many years ago. Much research was done prior to the engraving at the time they were constructed. The consensus of Borough Council Members present is to leave them as they appear. A letter will be sent to Mr. Racioppi.

Courtesy Letter from Hampton Planning Board/Board of Adjustment in connection with Lot Line Adjustment Block 17, Lot 8 & 9

Borough Attorney Tara St Angelo noted that the Planning Board gave permission for the Lot Line adjustment and the closing on the property should take place very soon.

Municipal Court Report – July 2022 – No discussion.

Unfinished Business:

Letter from State of NJ DEP – Reassignment from a Tier B to Tier A Municipality under the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System NJPDES Permit Program – The Borough Engineer will be in attendance at the September Meeting to explain what this change means for the Borough.

Parking Ordinance- This Ordinance is still being created.

School Study – No update,

Lumberyard – No update.

Reports of Committees:

Cm. Swenson reported that the DPW has been working on catch basins.

Cm. Rega reported that Chief Kubinak is seeking more applicants to fill crossing guard posts.

Cm. Rega and Cm. Swenson discussed the Post Office's request for the Amazon package drop box. Borough Attorney St. Angelo noted that they should be required to go through the proper steps if they want to place this drop box on the Post Office property, that would start with the Zoning Officer and then move to the Planning Board. It really doesn't fit the Temporary Portable Container criteria.

There was also discussion regarding the placement of mailboxes on east Grand Street instead of resident's having to have a PO box.

MUNICIPAL CLERK'S REPORT:

Borough Clerk Leidner spoke about the new Lead Base Paint Law that has gone into effect. She also inquired as to whether the Borough Council would like to invite Father Michael from St. Ann's Church and the art teacher from Hampton School to unveil the painting of the church.

Also, whether to invite the Hampton Woman's Club to recognize them for their years of service to the Borough.

All members present agreed that the invitations should be made for the September Meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Introduction of the following Ordinances by title and setting the date for Public Hearing and Adoption for September 19, 2022.

Motion by Cm. Drummond, second by Cm. Swenson to approve the following Ordinance on First Reading and to set Public Hearing for September 19, 2022.

ORDINANCE NO. 07-2022 – ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CONVEYANCE OF BOROUGH OWNED PROPERTY TO SOUTH BRANCH EMERGENCY SERVICE

Roll call vote: Ayes – Celentano, Drummond, Rega, Swenson, Wotanowski
Abstain – Tampier
Motion carried.

Motion by Cm. Drummond, second by Cm. Wotanowski to approve the following Ordinance on First Reading and to set Public Hearing for September 19, 2022.

ORDINANCE NO. 08-2022- BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE FOSS AVENUE PROJECT IN AND BY THE BOROUGH OF HAMPTON, IN THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$300,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$147,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE BOROUGH TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF

Roll call vote: Ayes – Celentano, Drummond, Rega, Swenson, Tampier, Wotanowski
Motion carried.

Motion by Cm. Drummond, second by Cm. Wotanowski to adopt the following Resolution No. 51-2022:

RESOLUTION No. 51-2022

Resolution: Approval to submit a grant application and execute a grant contract with the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the Railroad Avenue and Lower Skillman Street Improvement Project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Council of the Borough of Hampton formally approves the grant application for the above stated project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to submit an electronic grant application identified as MA-2023- Railroad Avenue and Lower Skillman Street Improvement Project -00502 to the New Jersey Department of Transportation on behalf of the Borough of Hampton.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to sign the grant agreement on behalf of the Borough of Hampton and that their signature constitutes acceptance of the terms and conditions of the grant agreement and approves the execution of the grant agreement.

**Roll call vote: AYE: Celentano, Drummond, Rega, Swenson, Tampier, Wotanowski
All ayes: Motion carried.**

Motion by Cm. Wotanowski, second by Cm. Celentano to adopt the following Resolution No. 52-2022:

RESOLUTION No. 52-2022

RESOLUTION TO EXTEND THE GRACE PERIOD FOR THE THIRD QUARTER TAXES DUE AUGUST 1, 2022

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 54:4-66.3 provides that the third installment of the current year taxes shall not be subject to interest until the twenty-fifth calendar day after the date that the tax bill was mailed or otherwise delivered, and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hampton, County of Hunterdon and State of New Jersey that the third quarter installment of real estate taxes for 2022 have an extended grace period until September 2, 2022. If payment is not received by September 2, 2022, interest on the third quarter installment will be charged interest from August 1, 2022.

**Roll call vote: AYE: Celentano, Drummond, Rega, Swenson, Tampier, Wotanowski
All ayes: Motion carried.**

Motion by Cm. Wotanowski, second by Cm. Celentano to adopt the following Resolution No. 53-2022:

Resolution 53-2022

**Supporting Passage of Senate Bill No. 713
to Commemorate the Events of September 11, 2001**

WHEREAS, The New Jersey State Senate recently passed Senate Bill No. 713, which would require school districts to include information on events of September 11, 2001, as part of New Jersey Student Learning Standards in Social Studies and requiring public schools to hold annual events commemorating September 11, 2001;

WHEREAS, Commemorating September 11th annually allows families and friends to honor and remember the legacy of their loved ones whose lives were lost to the deadly terrorist attacks that day; and

WHEREAS, including curriculum on September 11th as part of the regular public-school instruction will provide students with information on the historical context of the attack, a timeline of the day as events unfolded, the heroic actions of first responders that day and the immediate days that followed, the global response to the events of 9-1-1, and strategies for teaching tolerance, acceptance and embracing of people of different religions and cultures;

WHEREAS, this legislation is needed so ensure that future generations do not only forget about the tragedy of September 11, 2001 but also to know that the United States and many nations rose up against this terrible act of international terrorism and reaffirmed a global commitment to freedom;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Borough of Hampton extends its support of Senate Bill No. 713 as we approach the 21st anniversary of September 11th; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Borough of Hampton calls upon the New Jersey Legislature to pass this legislation and for Governor Murphy to sign this bill into law so that future generations never forget the events of September 11, 2001.

**Roll call vote: AYE: Celentano, Drummond, Rega, Swenson, Tampier, Wotanowski
All ayes: Motion carried.**

Motion by Cm. Celentano, second by Cm. Rega to adopt the following Resolution No. 54-2022:

RESOLUTION No. 54-2022

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 Lauren Neary 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 Lauren Neary to fill the open position of Crossing Guard effective August 15, 2022.

Roll call vote: AYE: Celentano, Drummond, Rega, Swenson, Tampier, Wotanowski

All ayes: Motion carried.

Motion by Cm. Celentano, second by Cm. Rega to adopt the following Resolution No. 55-2022:

RESOLUTION 55-2022

Stigma Free Communities Resolution

WHEREAS, it is widely recognized that mental health issues are at the core of the numerous violent events around the nation, where so many have been randomly killed, wounded, or traumatized and that one of the key factors in preventing violent actions from occurring in the first place is to provide greater access to mental health services that includes breaching the barrier of the stigma associated with mental illness, and

WHEREAS, while a very small percentage of those in need of mental health care will ever turn violent, the stigma associated with the disease of mental illness is identified as the primary reason individuals fail to seek the help they need to recover from the disease, and

WHEREAS, Stigma-Free Communities aim to inspire public interest and open dialogues about stigma, raise awareness of the disease of mental illness, and create a culture wherein residents who have the disease of mental illness feel supported by their community and neighbors, and feel free to seek treatment for the disease without fear of feelings of shame or disgrace, being stigmatized, and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of Hampton Borough wishes to lead our community in recognizing the need to eliminate the stigmatization of mental illness by designating Hampton borough as a Stigma Free community, promoting awareness that there can be no "health" without mental health, breaking down barriers, and encouraging residents of all ages to be mindful of their mental health and to ask for help when needed, so recovery can begin, hope is inspired, and tragedies are avoided,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Hampton Borough Council hereby designates Hampton Borough as a Stigma-Free Community, raising awareness of the resources available and encouraging those who may have need for mental health services to engage in care, as soon as the need is identified, and for all residents to demonstrate compassion, understanding, and support through the elimination of the stigma towards those living with mental illness,

Be It Further Resolved that Hampton Borough joins with Hunterdon County and many of the communities in the county in becoming Stigma Free By '23.

Roll call vote: AYE: Celentano, Drummond, Rega, Swenson, Tampier, Wotanowski
All ayes: Motion carried.

Motion by Cm. Rega, second by Cm. Wotanowski to approve the following Mayoral Planning Board Appointment.

Appointment of William McQuade as an Alternate to the Planning Board to fill a vacancy.

Voice Vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

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

Authorization needed for the Mayor to sign the NJABC Permit Application for a One Day Social Affair Permit submitted by the Hampton Fire Company for Barrel Fight and Duck Race to be held on October 8, 2022.

Roll call vote: AYE: Celentano, Drummond, Swenson, Wotanowski
Abstain: Rega, Tampier
All ayes: Motion carried.

RAFFLE LICENSE:

Motion by Cm. Wotanowski, second by Cm. Drummond to approve the following:

Raffle License Application received from St. Ann's Church to hold an Off Premise 50/50 Raffle on December 17, 2022 at 5:00PM

Voice Vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

PARK RENTAL APPLICATIONS FOR APPROVAL:

Park Rental Application received from Chris Schumacher to hold a Walk For the Fallen on September 11 HAS BEEN WITHDRAWN.

Motion by Cm. Wotanowski, second by Cm. Drummond to approve the following park rental, no rental fee but a Port A John Rental fee must be submitted.

Hampton School would like to Rent the Park on September 17 from 10:00-4:00 approximately 45 participants. Application received.

Voice Vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

Bills and Claims: Motion by Cm. Drummond, second by Cm Wotanowski to approve the CFO to pay bills as presented on the bill list of August 15, 2022 and to authorize the CFO to pay bills between meetings.

Roll call vote: Celentano, Drummond, Rega, Swenson, Tampier, Wotanowski
All ayes: Motion carried.

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 8:24p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Leidner, RMC
Municipal Clerk