

Regular Meeting July 27, 2010

**REGULAR MEETING
JULY 27, 2010
7:00 P.M.**

Mayor St. Amour called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm read the following statement and requested our new Patrolman, Antonio Lupinetti, to lead the flag salute.

IN COMPLIANCE WITH CHAPTER 231 OF THE PUBLIC LAWS OF 1975, NOTICE OF THIS MEETING WAS GIVEN BY WAY OF ANNUAL NOTICE PUBLISHED IN THE ATLANTIC CITY PRESS, ON JANUARY 8, 2010, THE EGG HARBOR AND HAMMONTON NEWS ON JANUARY 14, 2010 AND POSTED AT TOWNHALL.

Roll Call:

Committee Present: Anthony Gabris, Bernard Graebener, William Kennedy, Susan Polk, Mayor St. Amour

Municipal Clerk: Kimberly Johnson

Solicitor: Norman Zlotnick

Chief Financial Officer: Dawn Stollenwerk

Approval of Committee Minutes: Mayor entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the July 13th meeting, so moved by Ms. Polk seconded by Mr. Graebener. RCV: Yeas: Mr. Gabris, Mr. Graebener, Mr. Kennedy, Ms. Polk, Mayor St. Amour.

Resolution #89-2010 / Appoint Officer Antonio Joseph Lupinetti: Mayor read Resolution in full and entertained a motion to appoint; so moved by Mr. Graebener seconded by Mr. Kennedy. RCV: Yeas: Mr. Gabris, Mr. Graebener, Mr. Kennedy, Ms. Polk, Mayor St. Amour.

Oath of Office Administered to Patrolman Lupinetti: Municipal Clerk Johnson administrated the Oath. Chief Register thanked Committee for allowing Officer Lupinetti this opportunity stating he is more than deserving and an asset to the Department. Officer Lupinetti thanked Committee for the opportunity to serve. Mayor took a 5 minute recess.

Public Discussion Relating to Agenda Items: None.

Hearing: Ordinance 13-2010 / Amend Chapter 34 / Health Insurance Policy: Mayor entertained a motion to read by title; so moved by Mr. Graebener seconded by Ms. Polk. RCV: Yeas: Mr. Gabris, Mr. Graebener, Mr. Kennedy, Ms. Polk, Mayor St. Amour

An Ordinance Amending Chapter 34, the Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual, of the Township of Mullica, County of Atlantic, State of New Jersey.

Mayor noted this Ordinance would allow employees to waive their health benefits coverage and receive compensation which would provide a savings to the municipality. Mayor opened for public comment; seeing none Mayor closed public portion and entertained a motion to adopt. So moved by Mr. Gabris seconded by Ms. Polk. RCV: Yeas: Mr. Gabris, Mr. Graebener, Mr. Kennedy, Ms. Polk, Mayor St. Amour.

Committee Reports:

Housing & Development: Mr. Gabris stated Committee has been investigating ways to lighten the financial burden on Mullica residents and made the following suggestions for consideration: 1. Payable fines for code enforcement violations. Mr. Gabris explained the defendant can opt to plead guilty and pay the fine or go to court. Noting the benefits of all monies paid would go to the municipality, the defendant would not need to come to court, it would lighten the court calendar and would reduce the carbon footprint of vehicles. Committee was in favor of Mr. Gabris investigating this savings. 2. Create a means for receiving compensation for Street Vacations. Mr. Gabris stated taxpayers should receive benefits for giving away Township property and/or offset the cost to the taxpayer. Clerk explained there are application fees as well as, escrow fees which covers the map change, mailings, publication, etc. Mr. Gabris and Ms. Johnson to review the current fees. Mr. Gabris stated he has begun to re-implement the Community Rating System (flood program), because since the Township discontinued the program, residents have lost approximately \$30,000 in discounts. Mr. Gabris added the Governing Body is open to any ideas from the public regarding tax savings.

Public Safety: Mr. Graebener reported the following: **Police Department News:** The two new police cars have been picked up and are in the process of being equipped. Four patrol officers have started training for bicycle patrol certification. Interview process for the hiring of a part time officer (Class II) began today. During the special DUI patrols, 4 DUI arrests occurred. **Fire Department News:** AtlantiCare is working out well and currently maintaining rig and staffing at the Elwood fire house. MidAtlantic meeting was held and it was determined we still have issues with being able to transmit in all areas which are being addressed. New rescue truck will have fire dept inspection in Florida on August 11th, and if all goes well it will be shipped. Total calls for the fire department for June were 51; Year-to-date 187; Total EMS call for June 56; Year-to-date 293. Please mark your calendar for Elwood Volunteer's 9th Annual Golf Tournament, scheduled for October 2nd, to benefit EVFC and Township resident Deanna Super.

Department of Revenue and Finance: The Division of Taxation has begun mailing the 2009 Senior Freeze Property Tax Reimbursement checks to eligible applicants who filed by the original deadline of June 1, 2010. Reimbursements for applications filed between the original deadline of June 1st and the extended filing deadline of August 2, 2010, will be issued as quickly as possible. Changes have been made to the program, as well as, the Homestead Rebate Programs for more information call: **1-800-882-6597**.

Public Works: Mayor St. Amour reported the Jackson Road reconstruction project should begin shortly. Mayor reported Tuesday, August 3rd is "National Night Out" which is an annual event designed to strengthen our communities by encouraging neighborhoods to engage in stronger relationships with each other and with our local law enforcement partners. The goal is to heighten crime prevention awareness, build support and participation in local anti crime programs. Mayor stated we will participate this year at the Recreation Fields from 6:30pm – 8:30pm and invited everyone to join your neighbors.

Correspondence:

Clerk stated Committee received a letter from the Mullica Woods Homeowners Association thanking the Governing Body for listening to the concerns of the senior citizens.

Old Business:

Approve Bid Specifications / 5th Avenue: Mr. Kennedy made a motion to approve the bid specifications seconded by Ms. Polk. RCV: Yeas: Mr. Gabris, Mr. Graebener, Mr. Kennedy, Ms. Polk, Mayor St. Amour.

Appoint Emergency Management Council Member / Chief Register: Mayor appointed Chief Register to the Council. RCV: Yeas: Mr. Gabris, Mr. Graebener, Mr. Kennedy, Ms. Polk, Mayor St. Amour.

Resolution 90-2010 / Approve Emergency Management Roster: Mayor entertained a motion to approve the roster which includes: John Thompson, Pete Berenato, Bernard Graebener, Chief Register, Jerry Critelli, Robert Cirillo, Gary Franklin, Carmen Merlino, John Falciano, Randy Ficken, Louis Critelli, Anthony Tomasco, Ted Johnson, William Kennedy and Brian Zeck; so moved by Mr. Graebener seconded by Mr. Gabris. RCV: Yeas: Mr. Gabris, Mr. Graebener, Mr. Kennedy, Ms. Polk, Mayor St. Amour.

Resolution 91-2010 / Approve Interlocal Agreement / Elwood Road Pedestrian Safety Equipment: Mayor entertained a motion to approve the agreement with Atlantic County for solar flashing lights at the Recreation Fields; so moved by Mr. Graebener seconded by Mr. Kennedy. RCV: Yeas: Mr. Gabris, Mr. Graebener, Mr. Kennedy, Ms. Polk, Mayor St. Amour.

New Business:

Resolution 92-2010 / Approve Memorandum of Agreement / PBA Rank & File: Mayor explained this is specific to include an academy step in the PBA Agreement; so moved by Mr. Kennedy seconded by Mr. Gabris. RCV: Yeas: Mr. Gabris, Mr. Graebener, Mr. Kennedy, Ms. Polk, Mayor St. Amour.

Resolution 93-2010 / Chapter 48 Amendment / NJ State Health Benefits: Mr. Graebener made a motion to approve seconded by Ms. Polk. RCV: Yeas: Mr. Gabris, Mr. Graebener, Mr. Kennedy, Ms. Polk, Mayor St. Amour.

Accept Resignation Sergeant James Gavin: Mayor St. Amour stated Sgt. Gavin is retiring effective September 30th, so moved by Mr. Kennedy with regrets seconded by Mr. Graebener. RCV: Yeas: Mr. Gabris, Mr. Graebener, Mr. Kennedy, Ms. Polk, Mayor St. Amour. Mayor thanked Sgt. Gavin for his service to Mullica.

Appoint Public Works Employees / Part-time Laborers: Mayor entertained a motion to appoint township residents, George Irizarry and Christopher Breder based upon the recommendation of the Public Works Superintendent and Municipal Clerk pending all required documentation; so moved by Ms. Polk seconded by Mr. Graebener. RCV: Yeas: Mr. Gabris, Mr. Graebener, Mr. Kennedy, Ms. Polk, Mayor St. Amour.

Public Discussion:

Mr. Gary Jerue, 31 Mullica Way, stated the Township has an Alarm Ordinance which is not enforced, however if it is could generate revenue for the municipality. Mayor stated we will look into it.

Mayor St. Amour thanked the residents of Mullica Woods for their appreciation and acknowledged Committeeman Gabris for his dedication regarding this matter.

Mayor closed the public portion and entertained a motion to enter executive session; so moved by Mr.

Graebener seconded by Ms. Polk. RCV: Yeas: All voted yes. Mr. Kennedy made a motion to come back to regular session at 8pm seconded by Mr. Graebener. RCV: Yeas: All voted yes. Clerk reported in Executive Session the Governing Body discussed two matters of personnel and reviewed the Executive Session minutes of June 22, 2010.

Approve Executive Session Minutes: Mr. Kennedy made a motion to approve the minutes of June 22, 2010, seconded by Ms. Polk. RCV: Yeas: Mr. Gabris, Mr. Graebener, Mr. Kennedy, Ms. Polk, Mayor St. Amour.

Mr. Kennedy made a motion to adjourn seconded by Ms. Polk. RCV: Yeas: All voted yes.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly Johnson, Municipal Clerk