

Tabernacle Township Committee Workshop Minutes of April 8, 2013

Call to Order: Deputy Mayor Joseph Yates, IV called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

The Township Clerk read the Sunshine Notice Statement as follows:

Sunshine Notice: This meeting is called pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Law. This meeting of April 8, 2013 was included in a list of notices sent to the Central Record, Burlington County Times and Courier Post. Posted on the bulletin board in Town Hall and has remained continuously posted as the required notices under the statute. In addition, a copy of this notice is and has been available to the public, and is on file in the office of the Municipal Clerk.

ROLL CALL:

- Joseph Barton, Township Committee
- **Kimberly A. Brown, Township Committee (Absent)**
- **Richard Franzen, Township Committee(Absent)**
- Joseph Yates, IV, Deputy Mayor
- Stephen V. Lee, IV, Mayor

Also in attendance:

- Douglas A. Cramer, Township Administrator
- Kevin P. Frenia, Township Auditor
- Terry W. Henry, Chief Finance Officer
- Peter C. Lange, Jr. Township Solicitor
- Jay Renwick, Tax Assessor
- La Shawn R. Barber, RMC, Township Clerk

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITMES

Ms. Brooks, 78 Moores Meadow Road, questioned where the money will come from to pay for the assessment with respect to Ordinance 2013-3.

Mr. Henry spoke that we are doing a Special Emergency Appropriation Ordinance to fund that project.

Closed to the public.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

- **Motion:** On a motion made by Mr. Barton, seconded by Mr. Yates, to approve the bills as presented. Upon a roll call, the vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Roll Call: Barton, Yates, Lee Ayes: 3 Nays: 0 Absent: 2

ORDINANCE 2013-3: (Second Reading)

ORDINANCE 2013-3: SPECIAL EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AN EMERGENCY APPROPRIATION N.J.S.A. 40A:4-53 FOR THE PREPARATION AND EXECUTION OF A COMPLETE PROGRAM REASSESSMENT OF REAL PROPERTY FOR THE USE OF THE LOCAL ASSESSOR.

WHEREAS, The Tabernacle Township Committee has determined that it is necessary and appropriate to perform a complete program of revaluation of real property in the Township; and

WHEREAS, the Township tax assessor's proposal for same has been approved and ordered by the Burlington County Board of Taxation; and

WHEREAS, such a district-wide reassessment is authorized by and is being conducted pursuant to 18:12A-1.14.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF TABERNACLE, COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, that pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-53 the sum of \$200,000 is hereby appropriated for the preparation and execution of such a complete program of reassessment of real property within the Township which amount shall be deemed a special emergency appropriation as defined and provided for in N.J.S.A. 40A:4-53.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that the emergency appropriation is hereby authorized to be financed through the issuance of "Special Emergency Notes". At least $\frac{1}{5}$ of all such notes, and the renewals thereof, shall mature and be paid in each year, so that all notes and renewals shall have matured and have been paid not later than the last day of the fifth year following the date of this Ordinance as required by N.J.S.A 40A:4-55.

- Public Comment. There were no comments. Closed to the public.
- **Motion:** On a motion made by Mr. Barton, seconded by Mr. Yates, Ordinance 2013-3, on second reading was offered for adoption. Upon a roll call, the vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Roll Call: Barton, Yates, Lee Ayes: 3 Nays: 0 Absent: 2

RESOLUTION 2013-58: AUTHORIZE READING OF TITLE FOR 2013 MUNICIPAL BUDGET.

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Local Budget Law, NJSA 40A: 4-8 authorized the budget, as advertised, may be read by title only if at least one week prior to the date of the hearing, a complete copy of the approved budget, as advertised is posted in the public place where notice are customarily posted in the principal municipal building of the municipality; and

WHEREAS, copies of said budget is made available to each person requesting the same during said week and during the public hearing; and

WHEREAS, the governing body passes by not less than a majority of the full membership, determines that the budget shall be read by its title and declares that the conditions set forth in the law have been met.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of Tabernacle Township, in the County of Burlington, State of New Jersey, hereby authorize reading of title for the 2013 Municipal Budget and declares that the conditions set forth in the law have been met.

- **Motion:** On a motion made by Mr. Barton, seconded by Mr. Yates, Resolution 2013-58, was offered for adoption. Upon a roll call, the vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Roll Call: Barton, Yates, Lee Ayes: 3 Nays: 0 Absent: 2

DISCUSSION: 2013 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

Mr. Frenia spoke the Budget was introduced at last month's meeting. The budget is up for adoption tonight and has been approved by the State Local Government Services. We have some amendments in that we are adding two grants we received. A recycling tonnage grant for \$17,135.00 and a clean community grant for \$18,830.00. The other amendment is for supplemental fire services. We used to get a separate grant for that; however, it is now consolidating the municipal property relief act. Revenue was included, but now removed.

Mr. Frenia made recommendation to hold the hearing as advertised and then adopt budget amendments.

Public Hearing: Municipal Budget as Introduced. Comments.

Fran Brooks, 78 Moores Meadow Road, addressed several items in the budget where upon she received clarification on several line items in the budget. Ms. Brooks spoke that TAA is not fully in compliance pursuant to the recreation ordinance in regards to their annual reporting; however does recognize them as volunteers.

Ms. Brooks spoke of TAA medical liability cost for insurance included in the insurance cost on budget sheet 15. Ms. Brooks spoke it being outrageous that TAA is not in compliance with the ordinance; they never fully paid for their out of town children who participate in our programs and the taxpayers are subsidizing TAA. Ms. Brooks argues that TAA having two scholarships is not part of their mission and they can pay the entire cost of the medical insurance that the township is covering, and some fair share of the liability insurance.

Another issue Ms. Brooks has is with legal fees of 501c3 organizations and advice given to TAA from the Township. She would like those fees reimbursed to the Township as well as all the money for out of town children.

At this point, Ms. Brooks argued that TAA has quite a bit of money, with a huge surplus, and they are giving money away for scholarships when they should be taking care of the things that are most important.

Ms. Brooks spoke of the lack of monitoring of the ordinance by the Township Committee to make sure they are in conformance.

Ms. Brooks spoke about the staff tightening and recommending not receiving the proposed two percent salary increase for the employees, and spoke that the Committee should consider reducing their salary.

Jamie Wood, Kenmere Drive, spoke that she is also a taxpayer and commented that Fran is only one person and she does not speak for all and spoke that the people in her circle are thrilled about what we do for the kids in the community. Ms. Wood further spoke that her facts are not straight, as there is a surcharge tax on out of town children to cover that insurance with a waiver from that town, so you are not paying for that insurance. The scholarship back in the day was given annually. As far as the money in the "kitty", it is used for improvements. Ms. Wood spoke that she 100% supports the decision of giving its employees two percent raise because the employees deserve that raise.

Stuart Brooks, Moores Meadow Road, expressed his support for the work of TAA; however not pleased with the oversight of the reporting. Spoke that Township has the discretions to pay the insurance for TAA. Mr. Brooks commented that he would like to see this Committee take control of their review of TAA to make sure they are compliant with the ordinance, finances are in order and worthy in a business sense of having the insurance paid. The lack of performance is egregious, and wants the Committee to withhold the insurance or make a discretionary payment until TAA gets their financial house in order.

Mr. Brooks questioned items in the budget with respect to anticipated surplus and realized cash and spoke that he would like to see a small tax increase every year and regular instead of a two cent increase.

Mr. Frenia provided clarification of surplus used to balance the budget and spoke on capital surplus items.

Betsy Piner, 75 Bozarthtown Road, spoke of comments made. If residents knew about problems going on they would be concerned. The fact that there is a low turnout is because the residents are quite confident with the decisions the Township Committee make. Ms. Piner echoes the words of Ms. Woods that certainly our employees deserve a raise. It is in the budget and hope they get it.

Ms. Brooks, 78 Moores Meadow Road, responded to Mr. Cramer's comments about TAA contributions of payments received for out-of-town children.

Mr. Cramer spoke of the TAA program providing service for the children of this community at a far lower cost than comparable programs that are municipally run in other townships. Mr. Cramer agrees with Ms. Brooks about having better reporting and he spoke that he will do a better job monitoring.

Close to the public.

RESOLUTION 2013-59: BUDGET AMENDMENT:

WHEREAS, the Local Municipal Budget for the year 2013 was approved on the 11th day of March 2013, and;

WHEREAS, the public hearing on said budget has been held as advertised, and;

WHEREAS, it is the desire to amend said approved budget;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Tabernacle, County of Burlington that the following amendments to the approved budget of 2013 be made:

RECORDED VOTE: AYES 3 NAYS 0 ABSTAINED 0 ABSENT 2

CURRENT FUND:	FROM	TO
GENERAL REVENUES:		
3. Miscellaneous Revenues - Section F :		
Special Items of General Revenue Anticipated		
With Prior Written Consent of Director of Division		
of Local Government Services - Public & Private		
Revenues Offset with Appropriations:		
Recycling Tonnage Grant	\$ -0-	\$ 17,135
Clean Communities Grant	-0-	18,830
Supplemental Fire Services	2,636	-0-
Total Miscellaneous Revenues - Section F:		
Special Items of General Revenue Anticipated		
With Prior Written Consent of Director of Division		
of Local Government Services - Public & Private		
Revenues Offset with Appropriations	80,481	113,810
Summary of Revenues:		
Total Miscellaneous Revenues - Section F:		
Special Items of General Revenue Anticipated		
With Prior Written Consent of Director of Division		
of Local Government Services - Public & Private		
Revenues Offset with Appropriations	80,481	113,810
4. Total Miscellaneous Revenues	999,142	1,032,471
5. Subtotal General Revenues	1,299,142	1,332,471
6. Amount to be Raised by Taxes for Support of Municipal Budget:		
(a) Local Tax for Municipal Purposes Including Reserve		
for Uncollected Taxes	1,892,438	1,893,468
7. Total General Revenues	\$ 3,191,580	\$ 3,225,939
GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS:		
(A) Operations - Within "CAPS"		
Employee Group Insurance	\$ 248,393	\$ 252,104
Total Operations {Item 8(A)} Within "CAPS"	2,341,261	2,344,972
Total Operations Including Contingent Within "CAPS"	2,361,261	2,364,972
Detail:		
Other Expenses (Including Contingent)	1,542,150	1,545,861
(H-1) Total General Appropriations for Municipal Purposes		
Within "CAPS"	2,520,455	2,524,166
(A) Other Operations Excluded from "CAPS":		

Employee Group Insurance	15,607	11,896
Total Other Operations - Excluded from "CAPS"	15,607	11,896
(A) Public & Private Programs Offset by Revenues:		
Recycling Tonnage Grant	-0-	17,135
Clean Communities Grant	-0-	18,830
Total Public & Private Programs Offset by Revenues	83,681	119,646
(A) Total Operations - Excluded from "CAPS"	99,288	131,542
Detail:		
Other Expenses	99,288	131,542
(H-2) Total General Appropriations for Municipal Purposes Excluded from "CAPS"	541,020	573,274
(O) Total General Appropriations Excluded from "CAPS"	541,020	573,274
(L) Subtotal General Appropriations Items (H-1) & (O)	3,061,475	3,097,440
(M) Reserve for Uncollected Taxes	130,105	128,499
9. Total General Appropriations	\$ 3,191,580	\$ 3,225,939

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that two certified copies of this resolution be filed forthwith in the Office of the Director

of the Division of Local Government Services for his certification of the Local Municipal budget so amended.

- Public Comment. None. Closed.

Motion: On a motion made by Mr. Barton, seconded by Mr. Yates, Resolution 2013-59, was offered for adoption. Upon a roll call, the vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Roll Call: Barton, Yates, Lee Ayes: 3 Nays: 0 Absent: 2

- **Adopt 2013 Municipal Budget.**

• **Motion:** On a motion made by Mr. Barton, seconded by Mr. Yates, 2013 Municipal Budget was offered for adoption. Upon a roll call, the vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Roll Call: Barton, Yates, Lee Ayes: 3 Nays: 0 Absent: 2

RESSOLUTION 2013-60: APPOINTING DEPUTY COURT ADMINISTRATOR.

WHEREAS, Tabernacle Township Committee has since become aware of the need to fill the position of a Deputy Court Administrator after Cheryl Beaumont had submitted her resignation from the Township of Tabernacle; and

WHEREAS, recommendation was made by the Municipal Court Administrator and Municipal Court Judge to appoint Stacy McBride as the Deputy Municipal Court Administrator on the basis of her qualifications, experience and certification as a Municipal Court Administrator.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Tabernacle, County of Burlington, State of New Jersey, hereby approve the appointment for **Stacy McBride as Deputy Court Administrator for a salary of \$112.00 per court session, effective immediately.**

- **Motion:** On a motion made by Mr. Barton, seconded by Mr. Yates, 2013-60, was offered for adoption. Upon a roll call, the vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Roll Call: Barton, Yates, Lee Ayes: 3 Nays: 0 Absent: 2

RESOLUTION NO. 2013-61: GRANTING RAFFLE LICENSES TO TABERNACLE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

WHEREAS, the **Tabernacle Athletic Association, Inc.** has filed an application with the Township Committee for raffle licenses to conduct raffles and the applicant has paid the proper fees for said licenses; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Tabernacle believes that said applicant is qualified to conduct the raffles are bona fide active members of said organization and that the raffle will be conducted in accordance with the New Jersey administrative Code 13:47; and

WHEREAS, the following **raffle licenses** are requested on the dates listed:

RA: 2013-11	On-Premise Draw	Dates: MAY 4, 2013 Location: 122 Patty Bowker Road (Park)	Time 3:00 PM
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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Tabernacle, in the County of Burlington and State of New Jersey, as follow:

1. That the Township Committee hereby approves the issuance of the aforementioned raffle license.
 2. That the Township Clerk is hereby authorized to issue said license on behalf of the Township of Tabernacle.
- **Motion:** On a motion made by Mr. Yates, seconded by Mr. Barton, Resolution 2013-61 was offered for adoption. Upon a roll call, the vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Roll Call: Barton, Yates, Lee Ayes: 3 Nays: 0 Absent: 2

RESOLUTION 2013-62: A RESOLUTION OF THE TABERNACLE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 16, SECTION 13.1 OF THE TOWNSHIP'S REVISED ORDINANCES APPROVING A PERFORMANCE GUARANTEE

WHEREAS, James Gaskill, a final major site plan applicant with property located in the Township of Tabernacle at Block 1002, Lots 7.01, 8 and 9, is desirous of posting a Performance Guarantee as required by the Township's revised Ordinances at Section 16-13.1; and

WHEREAS, the Township's Engineer by letter dated November 27, 2012 has provided the required cost estimate for the installation of the above-referenced project's required improvements; and

WHEREAS, James Gaskill has submitted an irrevocable stand-by letter of credit covering the performance of the site improvements dated April 3, 2013 in a form which has been reviewed and approved by the Township Solicitor; and

WHEREAS, Local Ordinance Section 16-13.1 requires acceptance and approval of the proposed performance guarantee by the Township Committee;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Tabernacle Township Committee that the Performance Guarantee associated with the major site plan approval for James Gaskill to be constructed on Block 1002, Lots 7.01, 8 and 9 shall be and is hereby approved and accepted by the Township Committee.

- **Motion:** On a motion made by Mr. Barton, seconded by Mr. Yates, Resolution 2013-62 was offered for adoption. Upon a roll call, the vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Roll Call: Barton, Yates, Lee Ayes: 3 Nays: 0 Absent: 2

Report of the Township Administrator

Mr. Cramer acknowledged and thanked Noah Moran, a Boy Scout for completing his project over the weekend providing a jump up exercise station at Pricketts Mill Park.

Mr. Cramer reported on the future waste water service area for Burlington County Wastewater Map. He has been working with Doug Stuart. A larger version of the draft was requested to see the individual lots in Tabernacle. It may be likely for the County to attend our May meeting to provide updates.

AmeriCorps team will be coming to Tabernacle May 12-31, 2013. They will be working with Col. Lowe to develop and distribute a public preparedness packet for each resident.

Report of the Township Solicitor

Mr. Lange reported the approved Township wide re-assessment process will begin with an announced and well publicized meeting with the Tax Assessor to explain the process and respond to questions for the Township residents and taxpayers.

Report of the Township Committee

Mayor Lee reported attending TAA opening day for baseball and softball at Patty Bowker Park.

Mayor Lee expressed his excitement, at opportunity that he has as being Mayor to announce that Tabernacle Township has settled the litigation with Medford Farms Fire Company. He and Mr. Cramer met with the executive board for the fire company in February and came to a settlement. Details of that settlement will be available in the office of the Municipal Clerk. We are very excited that this chapter in our Township is behind us.

Public Comment

Stuart Brooks, 78 Moores Meadow Road, spoke of his observations on not seeing any articles regarding the budget or upcoming hearing in any of the local newspapers. He further addressed his opinion about the Township Committee's practices to engage the press to let the public know about important Township issues, including the press' obligation to engage the Township Committee. Mr. Brooks spoke that both are failing because of the lack of information and it is the public that suffers.

Mr. Brooks spoke about comments previously made regarding TAA and spoke of the defensive attitude being detected on the board and staff. Mr. Brooks further expressed his opinion on the basic responsibility of government.

Mayor Lee expressed his comments regarding TAA and he spoke that we work better as a community if we work together as a unit. There were some issues with reporting, which we have previously talked about at length and we are working on. It is believed that we have beaten this horse pretty good in terms of there are issues regarding TAA reporting.

Mayor Lee made it very clear that his family has been here for seven generations, and his concern is what is best for the community today, tomorrow and the future, long after he is gone. We have been a small and close community for a long time and that is why we have to work together. At the end of the day, we need to think about where we are as a community and support each other and work together as a group.

Mayor Lee further spoke that he was pleased to announce that the litigation with Fire Company was done, because it was a bad period for our community. In closing, Mayor Lee indicated that he appreciates the comments of Mr. Brooks and spoke that he fully supports the work of this Committee, the professionals and every organization that is in this town.

Mr. Cramer spoke that he is working with TAA reporting in accordance to the ordinance. He asks for time to resolve the issue because we can only move forward from here.

Fran Brooks, 78 Moores Meadow Road, spoke of her experience with organizations and her need to submit OPRA requests as a citizen. Ms. Brooks also questioned if the Committee decided to put the meeting audio on the website.

Mr. Cramer responded that an issue is regarding the availability of space on our current website.

Closed to the public.

Seeing no further comment, Mayor Lee asked for a motion for adjournment.

Adjournment.

On a motion made by Mr. Barton, seconded by Mr. Yates the meeting was adjourned at 8:46 p.m.

Roll Call: Barton, Yates, Lee Ayes: 3 Nays: 0 Absent: 2

Respectfully submitted,
La Shawn R. Barber, RMC/CMR
Township Clerk

Approved: 05/28/2013