
**TOWNSHIP OF HARRISON
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING
114 BRIDGETON PIKE, MULLICA HILL NJ 08062
DECEMBER 20, 2010 AT 7:30 P.M.**

MINUTES

Mayor Louis Manzo called the meeting to order at 7:36p.m. which was held at the Municipal Building.

ROLL CALL: Diane Malloy, Municipal Clerk, called the roll which resulted in the following:
Township Committee Members present: Deputy Mayor Clowney; Committee Member Matthew Diggons, Heim and Shearer; Mayor Manzo. Absent: None.

Others present: Carole Rieck, Administrator, John Cantwell, Township Engineer, Brian Duffield, Solicitor, Mike Gonskerkevis, Dennis Chambers and Chief Rodgers.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT ANNOUNCEMENT: Ms. Malloy read the following statement: “In compliance with Chapter 231 of the Public Laws of 1975, notice of this meeting was given by way of annual notice filed with the Gloucester County Times and the Courier Post newspapers and posted on the bulletin board in the municipal building on January 6TH 2010”.

Mayor Manzo called for a moment of recognition for our troops, followed by the flag salute.

PROCLAMATION: Lee Bowers - Committee Member Clowney read aloud the Proclamation honoring Veteran Lee Bowers, recognizing the service he gave of himself to others by his service in the United States Armed Forces. The proclamation was then presented to Mr. Bowers.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR: Committee Member Clowney motioned to open the meeting to the public, seconded by Committee Member Heim, motion carried.

Chris Knisely, 72 N. Main Street – Asked that the barrels in front of the old Rios Market be removed.

Committee Member Clowney motioned to close the meeting to the public, seconded by Mayor Manzo, motion carried.

PAYMENT OF THE BILLS: Committee Member Diggons made a motion to pay the bills. Mayor asked about the payment to Omni Environmental, to which Ms. Rieck replied. Mayor Manzo offered a second on the motion to pay the bills, which passed unanimously on the following vote:
AYES: Deputy Mayor Clowney, Committee Member Diggons, Committee Member Heim, Committee Member Shearer, Mayor Manzo. **NOES:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None.

REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

COUNTY LIAISON’S REPORT – Mayor Manzo announced that the ‘switch was flipped’ at Clems Run, and asked Chief Rodgers if he is aware of any issues at the new intersection. Dennis Chambers mentioned that motorists appear to be overlooking the new flashing sign warning of the changes at Spicer Street. Mayor Manzo acknowledged the new signals at High Street, noting that the heads are yellow rather than black, as requested. The color of the various guide rails and street signs throughout town was discussed.

Dennis Chambers informed Township Committee that the process of painting the guide rails could be labor intensive and costly. Mayor Manzo informed Township Committee that he met with someone with regard to the issues discussed at the last meeting, concerning Swamp Road. He discussed some the Township's options with Mr. Duffield.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION – Committee Member Heim noted that Chairman Phil Grouse has shown interest in continuing as Chair of the commission. He also mentioned that Mr. Malane should be considered for membership during reorganization.

RECREATION COMMISSION – Deputy Mayor Clowney informed Township Committee that Mr. DiFelice will not returning as a member of the Recreation Commission for the year 2011. He went on to discuss some upcoming events.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL – Committee Member Shearer reported that EDC is preparing for reorganization.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION – Mayor Manzo asked Mr. Chris Knisely, 72 N. Main Street, for any input on the most recent HPC meeting. Mr. Knisely mentioned an application which was rejected, and reported that intended HPC appointments were discussed. Mr. Duffield confirmed that although the Commission recommended Ms. Scarlett Lovell move to regular membership, if she is not eligible for a Class 'B' membership, she may not be appointed to a term which carries a Class 'B' classification.

LIAISON TO CLEARVIEW REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION- Committee Member Shearer reported that they are still working aggressively toward a contract. He went on to discuss the outcome of his conversation with the Superintendent concerning Township Committee's desire to hold a town meeting concerning the dangers of social networking internet sites.

LIAISON TO HARRISON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION – Deputy Mayor Clowney was informed that things are moving along smoothly, and mediation is still underway.

LIAISON TO BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS – Committee Member Heim relayed concerns from our local EMS with regard to the County dispatching neighboring EMS, in cases where Harrison Township could respond in a timelier manner. He expressed the importance of residents displaying their house number clearly, and suggested the matter perhaps be addressed within the next Township e-newsletter. Committee Member Heim mentioned that the local budget increased by \$60,000.00, however the Commission is able to subsidize the increase without burdening taxpayers.

LIAISON TO MULLICA HILL MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION – Mayor Manzo has nothing to report at this time.

ADHOC – Committee Member Heim mentioned that a subcommittee of the Environmental Commission recently visited the landfill. The Pond Committee is discussing a spring clean-up. Committee Member Heim inquired about the status of the Stewart Trust property purchase, to which Mr. Duffield responded.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

BOARD OF HEALTH – Nothing new to report at this time, report is on file

COMMUNICATIONS – Ms. Rieck is currently working on the 2011-2012 Community Calendar, and asked that any changes be submitted as soon as possible. Mayor Manzo expressed an interest in having new photos taken, but does not want to incur the additional cost. Mayor Manzo suggested that the Township Seal be displayed on the calendar, surrounded by a collage of photos.

PUBLIC PROPERTY – Deputy Mayor Clowney referred to Dennis Chambers, who reported that their department is chiefly operating out of the new building, with the exception of the Secretary. Mr. Chambers and Chief Rodgers discussed some of the traffic issues encountered at Rt 45 and Mullica Road during the last snowfall, and stated that the short stretch of Mullica Road along the Old Mill is the responsibility of the Township. Mr. Chambers also reported that he is working to have ‘No Tolerance for Speeders’ signs posted along Rt 322. Mayor Manzo and County Engineer Vince Voltaggio visited areas of concern on Rt 322, reviewing the newly established passing and no-passing zones. Township Committee discussed a letter from a resident who expressed frustration with trucks engine braking near the intersection of Rt 322 and Clems Run. Mayor Manzo will discuss the matter further with County representatives.

PUBLIC SAFETY – Chief Rodgers stated that his report is on file, and further spoke of two (2) letters of appreciation from Senior Citizens who attended the holiday dinner last month. He informed Township Committee that the Department’s participation in the ‘American Medicine Chest Challenge’ was very successful.

WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT OPERATIONS REPORT – Mr. Gonserkevis stated that his report is on file. Mayor Manzo recognized the success of the solar panels at the Wastewater Treatment facility.

WASTE MANAGEMENT – Mayor Manzo asked what is involved in collecting the trash locally, to which Ms. Rieck responded. Committee Member Shearer inquired about recycle banking for the Township, and Ms. Rieck explained that banking programs are being done away with by neighboring municipalities.

FINANCE – Ms. Rieck is preparing the 2011 budget, however the Sewer budget is complete. She noted that the new sewer ordinance should be ready for introduction by the second meeting in January. She and Mayor Manzo discussed the benefits of the new Ordinance, noting that future billing will reflect actual usage.

TRICO JOINT INSURANCE FUND – Ms. Rieck reported that everything was business as usual during the recent meeting. She noted that tonight’s agenda includes some Resolutions recommended by JIF, and explained the importance of Resolution No. 229-2010.

LPAC – Deputy Mayor Clowney has nothing new to report at this time.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

ORDINANCE NO. 34-2010 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HARRISON, COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER, STATE OF NEW JERSEY CREATING A NEW CHAPTER OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HARRISON ENTITLED "ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL" (1st Reading December 6, 2010, Public Hearing December 20, 2010) Deputy Mayor Clowney made a motion to open the matter to the public, seconded by Committee Member Diggons. Chris Knisely, 72 N. Main Street noted a typographical error. Deputy Mayor Clowney made a motion to close the matter to the public, seconded Committee Member Diggons. Deputy Mayor Clowney made a motion to adopt, seconded by Committee Member Heim. The motion passed unanimously on the following vote: **AYES:** Deputy Mayor Clowney, Committee Member Diggons, Committee Member Heim, Committee Member Shearer, Mayor Manzo. **NOES:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None.

RESOLUTION NO. 223 2010 - RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HARRISON AUTHORIZING THE RELEASE OF THE STREET LIGHT GUARANTEE FOR THE ARBOR ESTATES SUBDIVISION AFFECTING A PARCEL KNOWN AS BLOCK 17, LOT 8 ON THE OFFICIAL TAX MAP OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HARRISON, COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, RELATING TO PLANNING BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 30-2007. Deputy Mayor Clowney made a motion to adopt, seconded by Mayor Manzo. The motion passed unanimously on the following vote: **AYES:** Deputy Mayor Clowney, Committee Member Diggons, Committee Member Heim, Committee Member Shearer, Mayor Manzo. **NOES:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None.

RESOLUTION NO. 224-2010 - RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HARRISON, COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER, STATE OF NEW JERSEY SUPPORTING A REPEAL OF SICK LEAVE INJURY. Deputy Mayor Clowney made a motion to adopt, seconded by Committee Member Heim. The motion passed unanimously on the following vote: **AYES:** Deputy Mayor Clowney, Committee Member Diggons, Committee Member Heim, Committee Member Shearer, Mayor Manzo. **NOES:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None.

RESOLUTION NO. 225-2010 - RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HARRISON, COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER, STATE OF NEW JERSEY SUPPORTING S-2333 AND A-3432 TO AMEND TITLE 59 TO PROVIDE IMMUNITIES FOR BEACHES, BOARDWALKS AND SIMILAR PROPERTY. Committee Member Diggons made a motion to adopt, seconded by Deputy Mayor Clowney. The motion passed unanimously on the following vote: **AYES:** Deputy Mayor Clowney, Committee Member Diggons, Committee Member Heim, Committee Member Shearer, Mayor Manzo. **NOES:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None.

RESOLUTION NO. 226-2010 - RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HARRISON, COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER, STATE OF NEW JERSEY SUPPORTING A-3430 TO AMEND TITLE 59 BY STRENGTHENING WEATHER IMMUNITY. Committee Member Diggons made a motion to adopt, seconded by Deputy Mayor Clowney. The motion passed unanimously on the following vote: **AYES:** Deputy Mayor Clowney, Committee Member Diggons, Committee Member Heim, Committee Member Shearer, Mayor Manzo. **NOES:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None.

RESOLUTION NO. 227-2010 - RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HARRISON, COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER, STATE OF NEW JERSEY SUPPORTING A3431 TO AMEND TITLE 59 BY GRANTING IMMUNITY TO PUBLIC ENTITIES FOR SIDEWALK INJURIES WHERE THE HOMEOWNER IS RESPONSIBLE FOR SIDEWALK MAINTENANCE BY ORDINANCE. Committee Member Diggons made a motion to adopt, seconded by Mayor Manzo. The motion passed unanimously on the following vote: **AYES:** Deputy Mayor Clowney, Committee Member Diggons, Committee Member Heim, Committee Member Shearer, Mayor Manzo. **NOES:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None.

RESOLUTION NO. 228-2010 - RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HARRISON, COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER, STATE OF NEW JERSEY CAPPING ATTORNEY FEES IN LITIGATION AGAINST PUBLIC ENTITIES. Committee Member Diggons made a motion to adopt, seconded by Committee Member Shearer. The motion passed unanimously on the following vote: **AYES:** Deputy Mayor Clowney, Committee Member Diggons, Committee Member Heim, Committee Member Shearer, Mayor Manzo. **NOES:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None.

RESOLUTION NO. 229-2010 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HARRISON, COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER, STATE OF NEW JERSEY CALLING ON THE STATE LEGISLATURE AND THE GOVERNOR TO EXEMPT THE RESERVE FOR UNCOLLECTED TAXES FROM THE 2% CAP. Committee Member Heim made a motion to adopt, seconded by Committee Member Diggons. The motion passed unanimously on the following vote: **AYES:** Deputy Mayor Clowney, Committee Member Diggons, Committee Member Heim, Committee Member Shearer, Mayor Manzo. **NOES:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None.

RESOLUTION NO. 230-2010 - RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HARRISON AUTHORIZING THE CANCELLATION OF FOURTH QUARTER TAXES LEVIED AGAINST BLOCK 57.19, LOT 40.01 (UNDERWOOD MEMORIAL HOSPITAL) FOR THE YEAR 2010. Deputy Mayor Clowney made a motion to adopt, seconded by Committee Member Diggons. The motion passed unanimously on the following vote: **AYES:** Deputy Mayor Clowney, Committee Member Diggons, Committee Member Heim, Committee Member Shearer, Mayor Manzo. **NOES:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None.

RESOLUTION NO. 231-2010 - RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HARRISON AUTHORIZING RELEASE OF THE MAINTENANCE BONDS PROVIDED BY PAPANONE AT SARATOGA, L.L.C. FOR SECTIONS 2 AND 3 OF THE MANORS AT SARATOGA SUBDIVISION, AFFECTING A PARCEL KNOWN AS BLOCK 54, LOT 4.01 ON THE OFFICIAL TAX MAP OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HARRISON, COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, RELATING TO PLANNING BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 29-2001. Deputy Mayor Clowney made a motion to adopt, seconded by Mayor Manzo. John Cantwell explained that this is simply a maintenance bond and they are not aware of any outstanding issues. Committee Member Diggons discussed some concerns, and Mr. Cantwell took note of the concerns. Mr. Duffield suggested that the matter be tabled pending an attempt to have the developer address some concerns. Deputy Mayor Clowney withdrew his motion to adopt, and motioned to table the matter to the next meeting. The motion was seconded by Committee Member Shearer and passed unanimously on the following vote: **AYES:** Deputy Mayor Clowney, Committee Member Diggons, Committee Member Heim, Committee Member Shearer, Mayor Manzo. Township Committee authorized John Cantwell to send a letter to the HOA point of contact addressing the issues brought up by Committee Member Diggons, and to include some cracked sidewalk issues which need to be addressed.

RESOLUTION NO. 232-2010 - RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HARRISON AUTHORIZING THE SETTLEMENT OF STATE TAX COURT LITIGATION RELATING TO 295 BRIDGETON PIKE, MULICA HILL, HARRISON TOWNSHIP, NEW JERSEY IDENTIFIED AS BLOCK 57, LOTS 10 AND 10.01 Mr. Duffield offered a brief explanation of this Resolution, as well as Resolution Nos. 236 and 237. Deputy Mayor Clowney made a motion to adopt, seconded by Mayor Manzo. The motion passed unanimously on the following vote: **AYES:** Deputy Mayor Clowney, Committee Member Diggons, Committee Member Heim, Committee Member Shearer, Mayor Manzo. **NOES:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None.

RESOLUTION NO. 233-2010 - RESOLUTION BY THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HARRISON, IN THE COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING TRANSFERS OF CERTAIN 2010 BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS. Ms. Rieck mentioned that she is still working with some Department Heads on this Resolution. Deputy Mayor Clowney made a motion to table this Resolution to a future meeting, seconded by Committee Member Heim. **AYES:** Deputy Mayor Clowney, Committee Member Diggons, Committee Member Heim, Committee Member Shearer, Mayor Manzo. **NOES:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None.

RESOLUTION NO. 236-2010 - RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HARRISON AUTHORIZING THE SETTLEMENT OF STATE TAX COURT LITIGATION RELATING TO HARRISON TOWNSHIP, NEW JERSEY IDENTIFIED AS BLOCK 61, LOT 6 (18 East Avenue) Deputy Mayor Clowney made a motion to adopt, seconded by Mayor Manzo. The motion passed unanimously on the following vote: **AYES:** Deputy Mayor Clowney, Committee Member Diggons, Committee Member Heim, Committee Member Shearer, Mayor Manzo. **NOES:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None.

RESOLUTION NO. 237-2010 - RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HARRISON AUTHORIZING THE SETTLEMENT OF STATE TAX COURT LITIGATION RELATING TO 25 WOODDUCK DRIVE, MULICA HILL, HARRISON TOWNSHIP, NEW JERSEY IDENTIFIED AS BLOCK 55.01, LOT 69. Deputy Mayor Clowney made a motion to adopt, seconded by Committee Member Heim. The motion passed unanimously on the following vote: **AYES:** Deputy Mayor Clowney, Committee Member Diggons, Committee Member Heim, Committee Member Shearer, Mayor Manzo. **NOES:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None.

ENGINEERS REPORT: Mr. Cantwell reported that his report is on file, and provided a brief update on the Bishop Road project.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: Ms. Rieck requested Township Committee's approval for a survey in the Pond area, and based upon recent proposals, recommends the survey be done by Datz Engineering. Committee Member Heim made a motion to approve Datz Engineering for the appraisal, seconded by Committee Member Diggons. The motion passed unanimously on the following vote: **AYES:** Deputy Mayor Clowney, Committee Member Diggons, Committee Member Heim, Committee Member Shearer, Mayor Manzo. **NOES:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None.

Ms. Rieck requested Township Committee's approval for a survey in the Pond area, and based upon recent proposals, recommends the survey be done by Datz Engineering. Committee Member Heim motioned to approve the request, seconded by Committee Member Diggons. The motion passed unanimously on the following vote: **AYES:** Deputy Mayor Clowney, Committee Member Diggons, Committee Member Heim, Committee Member Shearer, Mayor Manzo. **NOES:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None.

Ms. Rieck asked Township Committee to consider recommending that the Planning Board require subdivisions to bring the top coat up to meet manholes, to avoid damage to snow plow equipment. Ms. Rieck asked that employees to be permitted to work half a day on Thursday December 23rd, to which Township Committee approved.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Nothing at this time

NEW BUSINESS: Mayor Manzo asked Mr. Duffield for his recommendation on a three-year farm lease with Santo Maccherone. Mayor Manzo expressed Mr. Maccherone's interest in renting the existing home for \$1,000.00 yearly, for use as office space. It was agreed to discuss the matter further at the next meeting.

OTHER MATTERS: The Save-A-Friend Foundation is requesting permission to hold a raffle on January 15, 2011. Proceeds are to help offset medical expenses for a local member of the community. Chief Rodgers reported no reason on why this application should not be approved. Your approval is requested contingent upon the applicant's compliance with Chapter 155 of the code of the Township of Harrison. Deputy Mayor Clowney made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Committee Member Shearer. **AYES:** Deputy Mayor Clowney, Committee Member Diggons, Committee Member Heim, Committee Member Shearer, Mayor Manzo.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR: Deputy Mayor Clowney motioned to open the meeting to the public, seconded by Committee Member Diggons, motion carried at 9:22 p.m. Chris Knisely, 72 N. Main Street asked that the sign for High Street be made more visible. Mr. Knisely asked about the Environmental Commission's decision to have Mr. Grous as Chairperson, prior to their reorganization meeting. Committee Member Heim and Ms. Rieck responded to Mr. Knisely's concerns.

Mayor Manzo motioned to close the meeting to the public, seconded by Committee Member Diggons, motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 234-2010 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HARRISON, IN THE COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER, AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 10:4-13 OF THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT. MATTER(S) OF DISCUSSION PERTAIN TO POTENTIAL LITIGATION RELATIVE TO THE HENRY HARRIS LANDFILL AND CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS RELATIVE TO CONTRACT FOR THE CHIEF OF POLICE. Deputy Mayor Clowney made a motion to adopt, seconded by Committee Member Heim. **AYES:** Deputy Mayor Clowney, Committee Member Diggons, Committee Member Heim, Committee Member Shearer, Mayor Manzo.

Township Committee returned to open session at 9:58 p.m.

Deputy Mayor Clowney made a motion to move forward with the Chief's employment contract. The motion was seconded by Committee Member Heim and passed unanimously on the following vote: **AYES:** Deputy Mayor Clowney, Committee Member Diggons, Committee Member Heim, Committee Member Shearer, Mayor Manzo. **NOES:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAIN:** None.

Mayor Manzo recommended that this year's towing contract be made on a month-to-month basis. He would like to see Gulf station cleaned up and landscaped. Dennis Clowney will discuss the matter with Chief Rodgers to ensure none of the stored vehicles are the responsibility of the Township. Mayor Manzo also expressed a desire to have the land around the Municipal Building landscaped and maintained. Mayor Manzo went on to discuss a vacant property on the southwest corner of Rt 322 and Rt 45, and asked Mr. Duffield look into the Township's options.

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING: Deputy Mayor Heim made a motion to adjourn at 10:20 p.m., seconded by Committee Member Diggons motion carried, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Diane L. Malloy, R.M.C.
Municipal Clerk