

**MINUTES OF THE
BOROUGH OF CLEMENTON
SEPTEMBER 1, 2020
CAUCUS MEETING
OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL**

OPENING: Mayor Weaver called the meeting to order at 7:04PM

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT ANNOUNCEMENT: Mayor Weaver read the following statement, "This meeting has been properly advertised and posted pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-6, the Open Public Meetings Act. Notice has been posted on the Municipal Website of the change to the remote meeting format pursuant to the executive orders of the Governor of the State of New Jersey."

ROLL CALL: Jenai Johnson, Municipal Clerk/Administrator, called the roll which resulted in the following members present: Mayor Thomas J. Weaver; Councilman Mark Armbruster; Councilman Christopher Hammond; Councilwoman Meghan Milano; Councilman Thomas Shaw. Absent: Councilman Melvin Applegate; Councilwoman Holly Strobl.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG: Mayor Weaver lead in the salute to the flag.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR FOR A TOTAL TIME NOT TO EXCEED 10 MINUTES FOR ITEMS APPEARING ON THE AGENDA ONLY: Mayor Weaver opened the floor to the public for matters relating to items appearing on the agenda. Hearing no public wishing to speak, Mayor Weaver closed the public comment period.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION R20-113 AUTHORIZING VARIOUS APPOINTMENTS TO THE OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT. Mayor Weaver read by title. Councilman Armbruster motioned to approve, seconded by Councilwoman Milano and motion was carried upon the call of roll. Ayes: Armbruster; Hammond; Milano; Shaw. Absent: Applegate; Strobl.

RESOLUTION R20-114 AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN COOPERATIVE PRICING SYSTEM WITH THE TOWNSHIP OF CHERRY HILL. Mayor Weaver read by title. Councilwoman Milano motioned to approve, seconded by Councilman Armbruster and motion was carried upon the call of roll. Ayes: Armbruster; Hammond; Milano; Shaw. Absent: Applegate; Strobl.

RESOLUTION R20-115 AUTHORIZING REMOVAL OF BACK BILLED SEWER CHARGES AND REMOVAL OF PROPERTY FROM TAX SALE LIST. Mayor Weaver read by title. Councilman Armbruster motioned to approve, seconded by Councilwoman Milano and motion was carried upon the call of roll. Ayes; Armbruster; Hammond; Milano; Shaw. Absent: Applegate; Strobl.

RESOLUTION R20-116 TO CONFIRM INTEREST NOT CHARGED FOR CERTAIN PROPERTIES IN THE BOROUGH OF CLEMENTON. Mayor Weaver read by title. Councilwoman Milano motioned to approve, seconded by Councilman Armbruster and motion was carried upon the call of roll. Ayes: Armbruster; Hammond; Milano; Shaw. Absent: Applegate; Strobl.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Councilman Armbruster noted that Christopher Mecca, the Borough's Construction Official, had found individuals able to fill the vacancies that were created with the resignation of two part time inspectors. It was noted that they would be presented for consideration at the following meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

REQUEST FOR USE OF COMMUNITY CENTER FOR RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE-Sept 21, 2020 3pm-8pm- Jenai Johnson reported that she had been contacted by Lynn Lofland, who had requested approval of the use of the Community Center for the second annual blood drive with the American Red Cross in honor of Nikki Williams. Ms. Johnson noted that in speaking to Ms. Lofland she had confirmed that COVID precautions would be implemented. There was no objection to the use of the Community Center for this purpose.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

Mayor Weaver opened the floor to the public for anyone wishing to comment.

Donna Rimby, 251 White Horse Avenue- Mrs. Rimby stated that it was apparent that the Hideaway had received approval for the outdoor operation and wished to be informed of the hours of operation and restrictions on the facility. Ms. Johnson stated that the approval had been completed, as the governing did not have the ability to deny the application if the licensee complied with all of the zoning and public safety regulations. Ms. Johnson noted that the Hideaway was required to cease operations early due to the location in a residential neighborhood.

Brenda Franks, Clementon Borough- Mrs. Franks asked who was appointed to the Office of Emergency Management and for which positions they were appointed. Jenai Johnson advised her that Leah Freiling had been appointed as the Primary Deputy OEM Coordinator and Sheila Frieling had been appointed as a secondary deputy in the office. Mrs. Franks stated that she had been experiencing trash and recycling issues and was directed by the Mayor to call Kevin Garretson for resolution. Mrs. Franks stated that she had spoken to the owner of Sandbergs and wished to help save and possibly move the structure. Councilman Armbruster stated that the Environmental Commission had wished to obtain the property but were made aware that the property had already been purchased.

Cathy Carmino, 91 Higgins Ave- Ms. Carmino stated that she had been experiencing difficulty with appearing on the Planning and Zoning agenda for a fence variance. Ms. Carmino suggested that she had not been provided the appropriate information by the Code Enforcement Officer and had been forced to complete each task piece meal. Councilman Armbruster stated that if Ms. Carmino had proof of service to the properties on the 200ft list, she would be placed on the agenda for the next Joint Land Use meeting.

Jessica Cheesman, Clementon Borough- Ms. Cheesman stated that there must have been some confusion with scheduling a meeting with the Mayor. She noted that she had received a text the prior week, but wished to scheduled a community meeting with additional participants to review the outcome of the Mayor's Pledge actions. Mayor Weaver stated that he would contact her to discuss after the meeting.

Riley McElroy, Homeless Community- Mr. McElroy stated that he was a member of the homeless community and wished to know what could be done to support the community of approximately 20 individuals living on the train tracks. Mayor Weaver suggested contacting the County, who offered extensive programs for the homeless community. Councilman Hammond added that Families First and the County would have assistance programs, and Councilman Armbruster noted that the Housing Authority could help with locating low cost housing.

David Cornwell, Clementon Borough- Mr. Cornwell stated that he had been working with the homeless population, including Mr. McElroy and had been in direct contact with the VOA. It was the hope of Mr. Cornell that the Borough of Clementon would assist in providing WIFI that would be accessible, as he was able to obtain tablets for them, which would need the wifi service. Councilwoman Milano suggested that Mr. Cornwell contact Rob Jacobowski as the county was providing tablets with hot spots for the census staff, and would possibly be able to assist. Further discussion occurred related to the possibilities and Mr. Cornwell noted that he would reach out to Mr. Jacobowski for assistance.

Melanie Crow, Clementon Borough- Ms. Crow asked why the police discussions requested by Ms. Cheesman could not be held via Zoom, in the same fashion that the governing body were holding their meetings. Councilman Hammond stated that increased participation would degrade the video and audio on the meeting and pose challenges.

Ms. Crow also noted that she had called the municipal building and had left messages with no response. Ms. Crow wished to know when staff would be returning. Jenai Johnson advised that staff had returned on a staggered basis, to provide coverage each day. Ms. Johnson asked that future issues be reported to address.

Councilman Hammond noted that he had created a Borough Facebook, but had not activated it at present. Councilman Hammond stated that he had sent it out to the Mayor and Council to review and future discussion would need to occur regarding implementation if that was to be the chosen course.

Hearing no further comments from the public, Mayor Weaver closed the public comment portion of the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: Councilman Armbruster motioned to adjourn at 7:57PM, with a second by Councilwoman Milano and hearing none opposed, motion was carried.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jenai L. Johnson,
Municipal Clerk/Administrator