

**MINUTES OF THE
BOROUGH OF CLEMENTON
August 18, 2020
COUNCIL MEETING
OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL**

OPENING: Mayor Thomas J. 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; Councilwoman Holly Strobl. Absent: Councilman Melvin Applegate; Councilman Thomas Shaw.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG: Mayor Weaver led 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 comments relating to matters appearing on the agenda. Hearing no comments from the public in attendance, Mayor Weaver closed the floor to the public.

ENGINEER REPORT: Mark Basehore of Bach Engineering was in attendance and provided a written report which has been filed in the appropriate manner. Mr. Basehore briefly reviewed the status of items appearing on his report.

APPROVAL OF THE BILL LIST: Councilman Armbruster motioned to approve the bill list upon proper review and certification. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Strobl and carried upon the call of roll. Ayes: Armbruster; Hammond; Milano; Strobl. Absent: Applegate; Shaw.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

INTRODUCTION/FIRST READING

ORDINANCE 2020-11 BOND ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE COMPLETION OF VARIOUS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS AND THE ACQUISITION OF VARIOUS CAPITAL EQUIPMENT IN AND FOR THE BOROUGH OF CLEMENTON, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, NEW JERSEY; APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF \$935,800 THEREFOR; AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS OR BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES OF THE BOROUGH OF CLEMENTON, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, NEW JERSEY, IN THE AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF UP TO \$889,010; MAKING CERTAIN DETERMINATIONS AND COVENANTS; AND AUTHORIZING CERTAIN RELATED ACTIONS IN CONNECTION WITH THE FOREGOING. Mayor Weaver read by title. Councilman Armbruster motioned to approve on first reading, seconded by Councilwoman Milano and motion was carried upon the call of roll. Ayes: Armbruster; Hammond; Milano; Strobl. Absent: Applegate; Shaw.

It was announced that the public hearing would be held September 15, 2020.

INTRODUCTION/FIRST READING

ORDINANCE 2020-12 BOND ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE COMPLETION OF VARIOUS SEWER UTILITY IMPROVEMENTS IN THE BOROUGH OF CLEMENTON, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, NEW JERSEY; APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF \$115,000 THEREFOR; AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS OR BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES OF THE BOROUGH OF CLEMENTON, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, NEW JERSEY, IN THE AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF UP TO \$115,000; MAKING CERTAIN DETERMINATIONS AND COVENANTS; AND AUTHORIZING CERTAIN RELATED ACTIONS IN CONNECTION WITH THE FOREGOING

Mayor Weaver read by title. Councilman Armbruster motioned to approve on first reading, seconded by Councilwoman Strobl and motion was carried upon the call of roll. Ayes: Armbruster; Hammond; Milano; Strobl. Absent: Applegate; Shaw.

It was announced that the public hearing would be held September 15, 2020.

INTRODUCTION/FIRST READING

ORDINANCE 2020-13 BOND ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE COMPLETION OF VARIOUS IMPROVEMENTS AND THE ACQUISITION OF VARIOUS EQUIPMENT FOR THE WATER UTILITY IN THE BOROUGH OF CLEMENTON, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, NEW JERSEY; APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF \$1,350,000 THEREFOR; AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS OR BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES OF THE BOROUGH OF CLEMENTON, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, NEW JERSEY, IN THE AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF UP TO \$1,282,500; MAKING CERTAIN DETERMINATIONS AND COVENANTS; AND AUTHORIZING CERTAIN RELATED ACTIONS IN CONNECTION WITH THE FOREGOING

Mayor Weaver read by title. Councilman Armbruster motioned to approve on first reading, seconded by Councilwoman Milano and motion was carried upon the call of roll. Ayes: Armbruster; Hammond; Milano; Strobl. Absent: Applegate; Shaw.

It was announced that the public hearing would be held September 15, 2020.

RESOLUTION R20-110 AMENDING ORDINANCE 2020-10 AMENDING SALARIES AND WAGES OF EMPLOYEES AND OFFICIALS IN THE BOROUGH OF CLEMENTON RETROACTIVE TO JANUARY 1, 2020. Mayor Weaver read by title. Councilman Armbruster motioned to approve seconded by Councilwoman Strobl and motion was carried upon the call of roll. Ayes: Armbruster; Hammond; Milano; Strobl. Absent: Applegate; Shaw.

RESOLUTION R20-111 AUTHORIZING AMENDMENT TO CAPITAL BUDGET FOR THE BOROUGH OF CLEMENTON. 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; Strobl. Absent: Applegate; Shaw.

RESOLUTION R20-112 AUTHORIZING APPLICATION OF PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CHARGES TO CERTAIN PROPERTIES IN THE BOROUGH OF CLEMENTON. 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; Strobl. Absent: Applegate; Shaw.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: There were no discussions regarding unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS:

Councilman Armbruster reported that he had been contacted by Thomas Steinert of the Environmental Commission. Mr. Steinert was seeking support and possible action by the governing body to preserve a historical property in the Borough, noting that the Environmental Commission would be seeking grant funding for the project. Councilman Armbruster inquired if any of the members of the governing body objected to his cooperation with the Environmental Committee to attempt to obtain the property, which was on the market for \$37,000.00. There were no objections.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

Mayor Weaver opened the portion of the meeting to allow public comment, and the following individuals were recognized:

Melynie Crow, Clementon Borough- Mrs. Crow inquired as to the status of the prior public request and proposal for the Borough to create and maintain a government Facebook page to increase communication with the public. Mrs. Crow noted that the general public was more engaged with Facebook, and suggested that it would be a useful platform for Borough information.

Rebecca Holloway, Clementon Borough- Ms. Holloway stated that she wished to make the governing body aware of the fact that the municipal website was not secure and suggested that the issue be rectified. Councilman Hammond responded that the site did not receive traffic that would justify the expense, and noted that the most severe issue had been minimum spam comments. Councilman Armbruster also noted that the site was hosted off-site, and was not connected to the Borough servers, which minimized any security risks associated with the website.

Ms. Holloway inquired if any further discussion or decisions had been reached related to the previous discussion regarding the creation of an official Borough Facebook. Brief discussion on the possible creation of a Facebook page ensued and the majority of the governing body did not note objection to the concept. Councilman Christopher Hammond was tasked with further exploring the feasibility of the project.

Jessica Cheesman, Clementon Borough- Ms. Cheesman wished to obtain a status update regarding progress made by the Mayor in response to the Mayor's Pledge that he had signed. Ms. Cheesman noted that it was her desire to meet and discuss the police rules and regulations as soon as the Mayor had the opportunity to complete his review. Mayor Weaver stated that he hoped to schedule a meeting in the beginning of September. It was agreed that the Mayor would contact Ms. Cheesman to attempt to coordinate participants and schedule a meeting that would be in compliance with the COVID 19 social distancing measures.

Melynie Crow, Clementon Borough- Mrs. Crow stated that she wished to include the school, police and road activity in the information that would be distributed via the proposed Borough Facebook Page.

Nickoles Stankowski, Clementon Borough- Mr. Stankowski stated that he had concerns relative to the number of lawsuits involving the Police Department, the background information of the Chief of Police, and professional qualifications of the municipal solicitor. Mr. Stankowski questioned the credibility and performance of multiple municipal officials and employees, and claimed that the Borough lacked accountability.

Melynie Crow, Clementon Borough- Mrs. Crow stated that she wished to make the Borough aware of concerns that she had with a recent experience, in which she had located a bag of bullets and drug paraphernalia in the vicinity of her home.

Seeing and hearing no additional public wishing to be acknowledged, Mayor Weaver closed the public portion of the meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Councilwoman Strobl motioned to enter executive session at 8:05, for matters regarding pending litigation for an anticipated duration of 10 minutes. Motion was seconded by Councilman Armbruster. Hearing none opposed, motion was carried.

Councilman Armbruster motioned to re-enter open session at 8:11PM, with a second from Councilwoman Strobl and hearing none opposed, motion was carried.

ACTION AS A RESULT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION:

No action was taken as a result of closed session.

ADJOURNMENT: Councilman Armbruster motioned to adjourn at 8:12PM with a second from Councilwoman Milano. Hearing none opposed, meeting was adjourned.

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