

**MINUTES OF THE  
BOROUGH OF CLEMENTON  
JANUARY 15, 2019  
CAUCUS/COUNCIL MEETING  
OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL**

**OPENING:** Mayor Weaver called the meeting to order at 7:03PM.

**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."

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

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

**ENGINEER REPORT:** Mark Basehore of Bach Associates introduced himself and noted that he would be replacing Wayne Roorda who had recently left the firm. Mr. Basehore presented a written engineering report, which has been filed in the appropriate manner, and verbally reported on the following items:

**REPAIRS AT BOTTOMS LAKE DAM-** Mr. Basehore stated that his office had received and reviewed comments from the NJDEP on the July 26, 2018 revised permit application materials. Mr. Basehore reported that his office was preparing a revised plan with supporting calculations for submission to NJDEP.

**IMPROVEMENTS AT BARRY PLACE-** Mr. Basehore reported that his office had investigated existing drainage pipes on Chews Landing Road and confirmed that there was no pipe in the vicinity of Barry Place. Mr. Basehore stated that his office would investigate in-kind replacement of exiting pipe at the cul-de-sac in lieu of connecting to the County system.

**CAMDEN COUNTY CDBG FY2018 FUNDING-** Mr. Basehore reported that his office had received a copy of correspondence from Camden County confirming the award of \$242,049.00 for improvements at Lake Avenue and Cherry Lane. Regarding the NJDOT FY 2018 Funding for Lake Avenue, Mr. Basehore stated that his office was coordinating with the mayor for obtaining the right of entry releases for re-grading onto three properties. Mr. Basehore noted that his office had met with Borough personnel at Cherry Lane and confirmed the final scope of work for the proposed curb, driveway, and storm water improvements. Mr. Basehore stated that his office would be preparing easement documentation for the proposed improvements, and noted that bid documents would be concurrent with the execution of the easement documentation.

**NJDOT FY2016-OHIO AVE PHASE II-** Mr. Basehore stated that his office would be confirming the location of the proposed speed hump with representatives of the Borough, with an approximate location between 166 and 168 Ohio Avenue.

**PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR FOR A TOTAL TIME NOT TO EXCEED 10 MINUTES FOR ITEMS  
APPEARING ON THE AGENDA ONLY:**

**Brenda Franks, Clementon Borough-** Mrs. Franks stated that she had concerns with the configuration of the Dunkin Donuts driveway on the White Horse Pike, noting that several accidents occur at that location.

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 18, 2018 CAUCUS/COUNCIL MEETING- Councilman Applegate motioned to approve, seconded by Councilwoman Strobl and motion was carried upon the call of roll. Ayes: Applegate; Fisher; Milano; Shaw; Strobl. Absent: Armbruster.

**ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:**

RESOLUTION R19-37 AUTHORIZING SPONSORSHIP OF KIMBERLY OTT TO THE CLASS I POLICE ACADEMY AND CONTINGENT HIRE UPON SUCCESSFUL CERTIFICATION. Mayor Weaver read by title. Councilwoman Milano motioned to approve, seconded by Councilman Fisher and motion was carried upon the call of roll. Ayes: Applegate; Fisher; Milano; Shaw; Strobl. Absent: Armbruster.

RESOLUTION R19-38 CONFIRMING SUPPORT OF THE ROUTE 30 AND GIBBSBORO ROAD INTERSECTION PROJECT IN COOPERATION WITH THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION. Mayor Weaver read by title. Councilman Fisher motioned to approve, seconded by Councilman Shaw and motion was carried upon the call of roll. Ayes: Applegate; Fisher; Milano; Shaw; Strobl. Absent: Armbruster.

RESOLUTION R19-39 AUTHORIZING REFUND OF CERTAIN FIRE SAFETY FEES. Mayor Weaver read by title. Councilman Fisher motioned to approve, seconded by Councilwoman Milano and motion was carried upon the call of roll. Ayes: Applegate; Fisher; Milano; Shaw; Strobl. Absent: Armbruster.

RESOLUTION R19-40 AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN AND ACCEPTANCE OF SUMNER STATION FOUNDATION GRANT FUNDING FOR YEAR 2019. Mayor Weaver read by title. Councilman Fisher motioned to approve, seconded by Councilman Shaw and motion was carried upon the call of roll. Ayes: Applegate; Fisher; Milano; Shaw; Strobl. Absent: Armbruster.

RESOLUTION R19-41 AUTHORIZING CERTAIN APPOINTMENTS FOR 2019. Mayor Weaver read by title. Councilman Applegate motioned to approve, seconded by Councilman Fisher and motion was carried upon the call of roll. Ayes: Applegate; Fisher; Milano; Shaw; Strobl. Absent: Armbruster.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Councilman Fisher noted that the Playground on Albertson Avenue was nearing completion and he was seeking approval for dedicating the ground in memory of Nikki Williams, with a formal dedication to be scheduled in the spring. Councilman Applegate motioned to name the playground on Albertson Avenue "The Nikki Williams Park" in her memory. Motion was seconded by Councilman Shaw and carried upon the call of roll. Ayes: Applegate; Fisher; Milano; Shaw; Strobl. Absent: Armbruster. **(MEMORIALIZED BY RESOLUTION R19-42)**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

REQUEST FROM CLEMENTON FIRE COMPANY FOR USE OF MEETING ROOM AT FIRE HALL FROM 7:30-9PM ON THE FIRST THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH FOR YEAR 2019- Councilman Fisher motioned to approve the request submitted by Clementon Fire Company as presented, seconded by Councilman Shaw and motion was carried upon the call of roll. Ayes: Applegate; Fisher; Milano; Shaw; Strobl. Absent: Armbruster. **(MEMORIALIZED RESOLUTION R19-43).**

Councilman Shaw stated that he wished to schedule a town meeting regarding the future of the Fire Rescue operation, which would be held on January 30<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at the Community Center, located at 165 Gibbsboro Road.

Hearing no objection, it was determined that the meeting would be advertised and posted pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act.

Councilman Fisher stated that there was a significant need to get additional staffing in the upstairs offices of the Administrator and Construction Department. After brief discussion, it was determined that there was no objection to hiring a temp employee for a period not to exceed 90 days.

Mayor Weaver noted that there was a need to appoint an Emergency Management Coordinator. Mayor Weaver stated that it was his desire to appoint Miles Dumbleton to the position of OEM Coordinator. Councilman Fisher motioned to consent to the appointment of Miles Dumbleton as the Emergency Management Coordinator, seconded by Councilman Shaw and hearing none opposed, motion was carried. (MEMORIALIZED BY RESOLUTION R19-44).

**PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:** Mayor Weaver opened the floor to the public for comment.

*Leah Freiling, 57 Lincoln Avenue-* Ms. Freiling stated that her comments were directed toward Councilman Fisher and Councilman Shaw. Ms. Freiling stated that she sent an email to both members requesting approval to send members to Fire School which was scheduled to start on January 24<sup>th</sup>. It was noted that the Public Safety Committee was scheduled to meet prior to the end of the week, and a decision would be rendered at that time.

*Richard Godin, 180 Park Ave-* Mr. Godin inquired why Councilman Fisher was stalling on making a decision regarding sending volunteers to class. Mr. Godin argued that it did not make sense to wait to come to a decision.

*Patrick Morrissey, Spruce Lane-* Mr. Morrissey stated that he did not agree with council requiring approval for all expenses and noted that Leah was the leader, who was asked to obtain members, but was being met with resistance when trying to send them to training. Mayor Weaver asked how long the course was and when it was scheduled to start. Lieutenant Leah Freiling stated that the course was 170 hours and slated to commence on January 24, 2019.

*Melanie Hummel, 36 East Walnut-* Ms. Hummel stated that the department had met with the mayor and his main concern indicated had been staffing. Ms. Hummel stated that she had heard rumors that councilmembers were cautioning residents not to join Clementon Fire Rescue, noting that she was referring to Councilman Fisher. Councilman Fisher denied that allegation that he was discouraging membership.

*Danielle Aubrey, 24 Elton Avenue-* Ms. Aubrey stated that she had spoken to Councilman Fisher and he had recommended that she not join. Ms. Aubrey also asked if the Committee was supposed to be running the fire department, or the officer appointed to do so.

*Dina Bove Massey, 19 Elm Avenue-* Mrs. Massey asked if the fire fighters were considered employees or volunteers. Jenai Johnson advised Ms. Massey that they were volunteer status.

*Richard Godin, Clementon Borough-* Mr. Godin inquired why Council members could make comments to the potential volunteers if they were representative of the Borough.

*Danielle Aubrey, Clementon Borough-* Ms. Aubrey stated that Clementon Fire Rescue routinely trained with the Laurel Lake Alliance and was unsure where information was being obtained that stated they did not.

*Jordan Busch, 26 Elm Ave-* Mr. Busch stated that he wished to know who was in charge of the Public Safety Committee. Mr. Busch was informed that the members of the Public Safety Committee included the Mayor, Councilman Fisher and Councilman Shaw. Councilman Fisher noted that he had attending the alliance training on prior occasions and Clementon Fire Rescue attendance had been lacking.

*John Redrow, 118 Chelsea Circle-* Mr Redrow stated that he had the need to make an emergency call to the fire department and had sufficient fire fighters show up.

*Robert Freiling, Clementon Borough-* Robert Freiling stated that he was interested in and qualified for the position of Fire Chief, and wanted to know what his Public Works position had to do with his ability to serve as the Fire Chief.

Mayor Weaver stated that in the past, the Borough had adopted practice to avoid having Borough department heads serve in the capacity of Fire Chief.

Councilman Shaw suggested that the Fire Rescue Department send two candidates to the Fire School as requested, and asked who would be attending. Lieutenant Leah Freiling stated that it would be her recommendation to send Shasta Freiling and Danielle Aubrey to the course. Councilman Shaw motioned to send Shasta Freiling and Danielle Aubrey to Fire School with a cost of \$250.00 each. Motion was seconded by Councilman Applegate and hearing none opposed, motion was carried.

*Dina Bove Massey, Clementon Borough-* Mrs. Massey stated that previous conversation had indicated that a truck was able to dispatch to a fire with one or two people on the truck. Mrs. Massey stated that NFPA Standards required four members to respond.

*Lenny Staab, 21 Atlantic Avenue-* Mr. Staab stated that he was concerned with obtaining services from surrounding towns due to the confusing address designation in Clementon Borough, specifically alternate addresses on Garfield Avenue where he resides.

*Brenda Franks, 46 Erie Avenue-* Mrs. Franks stated that she appreciates the plan for the Town Meeting regarding the future of the Clementon Fire Rescue, and requested documentation on how the figures were conceived for the proposed shared service agreement for fire services.

*Christopher Hammond, 22 Higgins Ave-* Mr. Hammond asked for a status update on the steps being taken to reduce speeding on Higgins Avenue. Mr. Higgins stated that discussion had occurred at the last meeting in which Councilman Armbruster had indicated that he would contact the County. Mayor Weaver noted that Councilman Armbruster had contacted the County and data and statistics were needed before any agreement could be reached for the installation of signage. Mayor Weaver noted that discussions have continued during monthly engineering meetings and statistics had been obtained from then Chief. Mr. Basehore of Bach Associates stated that a traffic study would be required to show the number of accidents.

Mr. Hammond stated that another resident had asked him to propose the idea of live streaming or recording Council Meetings to benefit those that are unable to attend. Mayor Weaver stated that the meetings were allowed to be recorded or video taped with prior notification and approval.

Mr. Hammond stated that he had been notified by Janet Cuthbert that she was aware of several properties in town that needed to be addressed for property maintenance issues. Mayor Weaver advised Mr. Hammond that she should contact Miles Dumbleton, the Code Enforcement Officer, to notify him of the specific properties for which she had concern. Mayor Weaver stated that if the properties were found to be in violation, Mr. Dumbleton would have the ability to cite them.

Mr. Hammond inquired regarding the status of the property formerly called "Walker's ". Mayor Weaver noted that the property was privately owned and in the construction phase.

Mr. Hammond stated that a resident had contacted him regarding a request for the installation of stop signs on Silver Lake Avenue. Mayor Weaver stated that the residents bringing forth such requests would need to come to a meeting to propose and discuss any concerns that they may have.

*Sheila Freiling, 57 Lincoln Avenue-* Mrs. Freiling stated that she wished to obtain information on the timeline of events for Clementon Fire Rescue, inclusive of meetings that occurred between the Council Committee and Fire Rescue Department.

Mayor Weaver stated that there had been a meeting at the request of the Fire Rescue Department, attended by members of the Public Safety Committee. Mrs. Freiling inquired when a formal decision would be made regarding



the future of the Fire Department. Mayor Weaver indicated that a decision would be made no later than the end of February. Mrs. Freiling stated that the governing body froze their funding, and inquired if Council would be approving new membership. Mrs. Freiling stated that it was her opinion that the Governing Body was not supporting the membership or the plan to continue services. Mayor Weaver noted that no major purchases would be approved until a determination was made on the future course of action for the volunteer department.

John Redrow, Clementon Borough- Mr. Redrow inquired if there was State funding available for the department and asked who would make the ultimate decision on the continued operation of the department, or the decision to follow through with a shared service agreement. It was noted that the Councilmembers would vote to determine the course of action. Mr. Redrow stated that the decision would only be made by six people, and he would rather see the library close.

Hearing no further comments from the public, Mayor Weaver closed the public comment period.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Councilman Fisher motioned to enter executive session at 8:03PM for a period of approximately ten minutes regarding the following matter:

**DISCUSSION REGARDING NEGOTIATIONS OF COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CPA/FOP AND THE BOROUGH OF CLEMENTON**

Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Strobl and hearing none opposed, motion was carried.

(Memorialized by Resolution R19-45)

Councilman Shaw motioned to re-enter open session at 8:36PM, seconded by Councilwoman Strobl and hearing none opposed, motion was carried.

**ACTION AS A RESULT OF CLOSED SESSION:**

No action was taken as a result of executive session.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Councilwoman Strobl motioned to adjourn at 8:36PM, seconded by Councilman Shaw and hearing none opposed, motion was carried.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,**



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