

**MINUTES OF THE
BOROUGH OF CLEMENTON
JULY 21, 2020
COUNCIL MEETING
OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL**

OPENING: Mayor Weaver called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

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: MAYOR WEAVER, COUNCILMAN APPLGATE, COUNCILMAN ARMBRUSTER, COUNCILMAN HAMMOND, COUNCILWOMAN MILANO, COUNCILMAN SHAW, COUNCIL WOMAN STROBL

Lisa West called the roll which resulted in the following members present: Mayor Thomas J. Weaver; Councilman Melvin Applegate; Councilman Mark Armbruster; Councilman Christopher Hammond; Councilwoman Milano; Councilman Thomas Shaw; Councilwoman Holly Strobl. Also present was Solicitor George J. Botcheos.

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

ENGINEER REPORT: Mark Basehore from Bach Associates reported the following:

FY 2021 NJDOT APPLICATION: NJDOT has announced applications for FY2021 Municipal Aid are being accepted with an application deadline of July 1, 2020. Council concurred with the Engineering Committee recommendation for a 2021 Road Program – E. Atlantic Avenue Phase 2, Norway Avenue, Reed Avenue, Koller Avenue and Francis Avenue per Resolution R20-94. Bach Associates prepared the application and submitted it through the NJDOT SAGE system.

FY2020 NJDOT: At the request of the Mayor, our office prepared and submitted a FY2020 Local Aid Infrastructure Fund (Discretionary Aid) application to NJDOT for pedestrian improvements at the intersection of Gibbsboro Road and Berlin Road. The Cross County Connection report for the Clementon Elementary School Travel Plan was submitted as an attachment to the application. Three sealed copies of a supporting Resolution will need to be submitted by July 28, 2020.

OPEN SPACE: Bach Associates received a request from the Planning Board Chairman and Open Space Committee to provide a proposal for updating the 2005 Open Space and Recreation Plan prepared by Churchill Consulting Engineers. Our office submitted a proposal to the Mayor on June 23, 2020 to update the report. Upon Council approval, our office will move forward with the scope of work outlined in the proposal.

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 appearing on the agenda only. Hearing no comments from the public, Mayor Weaver closed the public comment portion. Mayor Weaver did mention during this portion that Robert Reed, a young Clementonian, was attending the meeting to earn a badge for attending same.

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

RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION R20-100 AUTHORIZING APPLICATION OF PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CHARGES FOR VARIOUS PROPERTIES LOCATED 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: Applegate, Armbruster, Hammond, Milano, Shaw, Strobl

RESOLUTION R20-101 CONFIRMING ADJUSTMENTS TO CERTAIN WATER AND SEWER ACCOUNTS IN THE BOROUGH OF CLEMENTON: Mayor Weaver read by title. Councilwoman Strobl motioned to approve, seconded by Councilman Applegate and motion was carried upon the call of roll. Ayes: Applegate, Armbruster, Hammond, Milano, Shaw and Strobl.

RESOLUTION R20-102 AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF SUSTAINABLE JERSEY GRANT APPLICATION: Mayor Weaver read by title. Councilman Applegate motioned to approve, seconded by Councilwoman Strobl and motion was carried upon the call of roll. Ayes: Applegate, Armbruster, Hammond, Milano, Shaw and Strobl.

RESOLUTION R20-103 AUTHORIZING ADJUSTMENT OF WATER AND SEWER ACCOUNT FOR BLOCK 130, LOT 1: Mayor Weaver read by title. Councilwoman Shaw motioned to approve, seconded by Councilman Armbruster and motion was carried upon the call of roll. Ayes: Applegate, Armbruster, Hammond, Milano, Shaw and Strobl.

RESOLUTION R20-104 CONFIRMING CANCELLATION OF PROPERTY TAXES FOR BLOCK 159, LOT 9 AND 10, DUE TO 100% DISABLED VETERAN EXEMPTION: Mayor Weaver read by title. Councilman Shaw motioned to approve, seconded by Councilman Armbruster and motion was carried upon the call of roll. Ayes: Applegate, Armbruster, Hammond, Milano, Shaw and Strobl.

RESOLUTION R20-105 AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN COOPERATIVE PRICING WITH THE COUNTY OF CAMDEN FOR SINGLE STREAM RECYCLING: Mayor Weaver read by title. Councilwoman Milano motioned to approve, seconded by Councilman Armbruster and motion was carried upon the call of roll. Ayes: Applegate, Armbruster, Hammond, Milano, Shaw and Strobl.

RESOLUTION R20-106 AUTHORIZING FINAL PAYMENT TO LANDBERG CONSTRUCTION, LLC IN THE AMOUNT OF \$24,023.19 FOR 2018-2019 NJDOT/CDBG ROADS PROGRAM: Mayor Weaver read by title. Councilman Armbruster motioned to approve, seconded by Councilwoman Milano and motion was carried upon the call of roll. Ayes: Applegate, Armbruster, Hammond, Milano, Shaw and Strobl.

RESOLUTION R20-107 AUTHORIZING APPOINTMENT OF KEVIN GARRETSON, SR. TO THE POSITION OF PROVISIONAL PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR IN THE BOROUGH OF CLEMENTON: Mayor Weaver read by title. Councilman Armbruster motioned to approve, seconded by Councilman Applegate and motion was carried upon the call of roll. Ayes: Applegate, Armbruster, Hammond, Milano, Shaw and Strobl.

RESOLUTION R20-108 AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND MUNICIPAL CLERK TO EXECUTE EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN KEVIN GARRETSON, SR. AND THE BOROUGH OF CLEMENTON: Mayor Weaver read by title. Councilwoman Applegate motioned to approve, seconded by Councilman Armbruster and motion was carried upon the call of roll. Ayes: Applegate, Armbruster, Hammond, Milano, Shaw and Strobl.

RESOLUTION R20-109 APPROVAL TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION AND EXECUTE A GRANT CONTRACT WITH NJDOT FOR THE FY2020 LOCAL AID INFRASTRUCTURE FUND GIBBSBORO ROAD AND BERLIN ROAD INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS: Mayor Weaver read by title. Councilman Applegate motioned to approve, seconded by Councilwoman Milano and motion was carried upon the call of roll. Ayes: Applegate, Armbruster, Hammond, Milano, Shaw and Strobl.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Discussion as to the Go Go Application. Councilwoman Strobl was inquiring if the Borough was going forward with this. Trial is for a term of (60) sixty days. Cost for Public Works, Water and Sewer, and Council are \$4,800.00 and Code Enforcement is \$4,600.00. Funds would be shared through different departments. Councilman Armbruster suggested a copy of the contract to should be sent to George Botcheos for review. A motion was entered. Councilwoman Strobl motioned to approve, seconded by Councilman Shaw and motion was carried upon the call of roll. Ayes: Applegate, Armbruster, Hammond, Milano, Shaw and Strobl.

NEW BUSINESS: Councilman Shaw met with Fire Marshall John Zuggi and Fire Chief Randall Freiling about using the dedicated fund to purchase six sets of turn out gear. Money will not exceed \$1,900.00. A motion was entered. Councilman Shaw motioned to approve, seconded by Councilman Armbruster and motion was carried upon the call of roll. Ayes: Armbruster, Hammond, Milano, Shaw and Strobl.

Councilman Hammond inquired as to when the Senior Center was to re-open. Councilman Armbruster advised that he had no idea as to when it will re-open. Also, a resident had asked as to why our Mayor and Council did not have profiles for our website. Councilman Hammond asked the Mayor and Council give him a brief description of themselves so that he could add it to the website.

Councilman Hammond also discussed the fall edition of the Clementonian. Cost will be approximately \$250.00 for printing by Sandoval Graphics and Printing. Block Captains will deliver the Clementonian to the residents. Mayor and Council agreed that printing will not exceed \$500.00 in cost. A motion was entered. Councilman Hammond motioned to approve, seconded by Councilman Shaw and motion was carried upon the call of roll. Ayes: Armbruster, Hammond, Milano, Shaw and Strobl.

Councilman Hammond inquired if we can continue with the Municipal Alliance Events. Mayor Weaver advised that he is unsure if we can. Councilman Armbruster advised that we could possibly contact the County to see if we could use the money in other ways, possibly for the school.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

Mayor Weaver opened the public comment period for anyone in virtual attendance who wished to speak.

Lance, Gibbsboro Road – Is concerned about how drivers use Gibbsboro road as two lanes as it is not safe. He would like to know if Borough can stripe the road. Councilman Armbruster advised that this is a County road and is not sure the County would allow us to stripe a county road. Mr. Basehore from Bach Associates advised that a Resolution would have to be obtained from the County Engineer and the Freeholders. Municipality would have to take responsibility for the cost. Mr. Basehore advised that we could look into it again. Attorney Botcheos advised that we need to address the County. Councilman Armbruster advised that he will reach out to the County.

Melaynie Crow, 146 Pawnee Avenue – Wanted to congratulate the Boy Scouts. Asked Mayor Weaver about the Mayor's Pledge and what the status is. She would like to know if Mayor is reviewing policy and procedures, etc. Inquired about the Go Go Application and how it can be accessed. Councilwoman Strobl advised that there will be training. Ms. Crow asked why the Borough does not have a dedicated Facebook page where residents can be informed. Councilman Armbruster agreed that we should have a Facebook Page. Attorney Botcheos and Mayor Weaver advised that this would have to be discussed further.

Dina Massey – Elm Avenue – Ms. Massey is concerned about the storm drains. Several of them do not have any grates and have large openings.

Jessica Cheeseman – Discussion as to the Mayor's Pledge. Pledge is four parts. When is Mayor in reviewing the pledge? What is next step in setting up meeting and how can we prioritize? Mayor Weaver advised that he is still reviewing Part I and that a meeting will not be set up with the Public Safety Board until the Public Safety Board and the Mayor meet. Mayor Weaver also advised that he should be completed with his review by October or early November.

Mike Travani – Trout Avenue - Mr. Travani is concerned about the two vacant houses on either side of him as many trees have fallen due to the recent storms. Mr. Travani has used his own money to take down several trees as well. He would like to know what remedies can be taken.

Rebecca Holloway – Francis Avenue – Discussion as to Mayor's Pledge. Ms. Holloway asked Mayor and Council if they watched the Town Hall Meeting on July 16th as to the use of force. She would like the Mayor and Council to familiarize their selves with that meeting by our next council meeting. She will email the Mayor and Council with the link to that meeting. Ms. Holloway also commented on how the Borough looks outdated and out of touch for not using Facebook. Mayor reiterated to her that he and Council will have a discussion as to same.

Dave Cornwell – Advised that the Friends of Clementon Food Pantry was granted a full resource from South Jersey Food Bank and will have federal food coming first week of August. They have fed 3,000 people and would he would like to thank everyone who has helped. Mr. Cromwell is requesting use of the of the downstairs room of the library for dry goods food storage, as they will be receiving a lot of dry goods and needs to use it for storage. Councilman Armbruster suggested a room at the Community Center. Mr. Cromwell advised that they will need a secure and less active area. Councilman Armbruster suggested the Senior Center and Mr. Cromwell advised that that would be a more logistically and feasible place. Mr. Cromwell also advised that the dry goods would be stored on pallets and that the Pantry would absorb the cost for an exterminator. Councilman Armbruster advised that the Borough already exterminates the building. Councilman Shaw questioned as to if there was a secondary plan when things begin to open throughout the Borough. Mr. Cromwell asked that if approved that they would need time to remove the dry goods and that he was also going to look into a store front as well. Mayor and Council agreed that the food pantry can utilize a room at the Senior Center for at least (60) days and will re-evaluate same in September. Mr. Cromwell, Councilman Hammond and Melaynie Crow will have keys to access the Senior Center.

Mr. Cromwell asked Mayor and Council if they could contact Comcast on the food pantry's behalf so that they can obtain Wi-Fi at St. Mary's Church for a food bank live setup. Mayor and Council advised that they do not have a representative from Comcast to contact but are willing to do a letter of recommendation to endorse the food pantry.

Donna Rimby – White Horse Avenue – Ms. Rimby inquired as to the Hideaway Tavern as they have poured a concrete slab and a tent was erected on the slab. Councilman Armbruster was not aware of any permits with the ABC. Planning and Zoning already denied use of seating in that area and have done all this without government approvals. The owner of the Hideaway stated to Ms. Rimby that he already had the proper permits from the ABC and local Governing Body. Mr. Feldman advised that the Hideaway was already denied twice as to an expansion in that area already. Mayor Weaver understanding that the owner from the Hideaway applied to the ABC and that the Police Chief and Fire Inspector were notified and an inspection would be completed. Mayor Weaver did not receive anything and advises that this is in the process. The Hideaway can come to the Borough for an expansion as to the outdoor seating pursuant to the Governor's Executive Order.

Joseph Feldman – Question as to Resolution R20-107. What is the salary for a provisional employee? Mayor Weaver advised that Kevin Garretson, Sr. is provisional until he goes through Civil Service. Mr. Feldman asked if we could provide him with his salary. It was noted by Councilman Armbruster that Mr. Garretson's contract has not been signed and that we should not divulge his salary. Solicitor Botcheos was in agreeance.

Bri Barton – How she can obtain the Policy and Procedures as to the Police Department. Councilman Armbruster advised that an OPRA Request has to be filed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Councilman Applegate motioned to enter into executive session at 8:53 p.m. for a matter regarding the pending or anticipated litigation ALT VS. CLEMENTON. It was noted that the anticipated duration of the closed session was five minutes, and no formal action will be taken. Councilwoman Milano seconded the motion, and hearing none opposed, motion was carried.

Councilman Shaw motioned to re-enter open session at 9:02 p.m., seconded by Councilman Armbruster and hearing none opposed, motion was carried.

ADJOURNMENT: Councilman Armbruster motioned to adjourn at 9:03 p.m., seconded by Councilman Applegate and hearing none opposed, motion was carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa M. West
Deputy Municipal Clerk