

**TOWNSHIP OF PEMBERTON
REGULAR MEETING**

**March 6, 2019
6:00 P.M.**

FLAG SALUTE

Council President Trueblood led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance, announced that notice of the meeting was given in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, and followed by roll call.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Elisabeth McCartney
Jason Allen
Donovan Gardner
Gaye Burton
Norma Trueblood

ABSENT

Also, present: Mayor David Patriarca, Business Administrator Dennis Gonzalez, Solicitor Andrew Bayer and Township Clerk, Amy P. Cosnoski.

CALL TO ORDER

Council President Trueblood called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION

76-2019 Authorizes Council to go into Closed Session – Not adopted

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Council President Trueblood opened the meeting up to general public comments.

Sandra Armstrong, Pemberton Township – 1. Asked about Resolution 77-2019 and if the amount was correct and what the emergencies were. Mr. Gonzalez explained that it is not really an emergency but that this is what the statute calls it. Advised on the reason for the Emergency Budget Appropriation and the budget adoption process.

George Petronis, Browns Mills – 1. Stated that he had attended the MUA meeting the evening before. Noted that the public speaking portion used to be at the end of the meetings and is still at the end at the MUA and would like to see it changed at the Council meetings as he feels it is a better way to go. **2.** Stated he is trying to understand the process of the dissolution of the MUA. Asked if it is based on whether it is more cost efficient and would be better for the taxpayers in the long run. Asked if the ordinance introduced two meetings ago if adopted would dissolve the MUA. It was noted it would. Mr. Petronis asked Council what plan was in place for improving the efficiency of the MUA once dissolved. Council President Trueblood advised that the introduced ordinance went along with a Resolution and after the Local Finance Board reviews it it will come back to Council for final determination. Mr. Gonzalez explained the application process and what the Local Finance Board would require including plans. Mr. Petronis asked what the reason was for wanting to dissolve the MUA. Mayor Patriarca advised that there were many reasons but one of the main reasons was reducing government which most people would be in favor of. Mayor Patriarca advised that the Township currently owns the assets of the MUA and further explained what happened. Stated he believes the Township can invest and improve the infrastructure more aggressively. Added that if you follow our water division you will see we are doing it here as well as with streets and roads. Mr. Petronis stated that Council has a separate responsibility and is wondering if any of them have done their own research before they moved forward with introducing this ordinance. Council President Trueblood stated that she did research and reviewed the presentation given by the Engineer, not Administration. Stated that Council would make sure that all of the t's were crossed and the i's dotted before making their decision. Mr. Gonzalez advised that the Division of Local Government Services asks the question each year on their questionnaire and provided further explanation. Mayor Patriarca noted that what he said could be considered an opinion but stated that he has the information to back it up. Advised on his opinion. A discussion ensued on the dissolution of the MUA. Mr. Bayer explained that the introduction of the ordinance was the beginning of a process.

James Boland, 226 Filbert St. – 1. Stated that Press Avenue was not looking so hot. **2.** Stated that Birmingham Road and Solstice are still an issue. **3.** Noted he was at the MUA meeting last evening and he cannot speak on the politics of it but was here when the ordinance was introduced. Stated it did not raise any red flags to him at the time. Commented that one of the things it calls for is the reevaluation of employees and that is not political but it is people’s jobs. Council President Trueblood noted that as she understands it, the employees would be relocated here. A discussion ensued on the employees and the operation of the MUA. Mr. Boland stated he does not feel we need to fix what is not broken. A discussion ensued on the financial aspect of it. Councilwoman Burton suggested he read the report to form his own opinion. Council President Trueblood noted that the introduction of the ordinance was just part of the process and there is still a long way to go before a decision is made. **4.** A discussion ensued on Press Avenue.

America Phillips, Presidential Lakes – 1. Noted that the Mayor had stated that the old septic system from the Municipal building was going to be used at the firehouse in Presidential Lakes. Mayor Patriarca advised that had they been able to repurpose the tank they would have because it is a fairly new system; however, the system was not large enough for the firehouse so they are getting a new one. **2.** Asked if the areas of town that do not have water would have water some time in the future. Mayor Patriarca stated that he thinks all areas should have water and they have made applications to Pinelands who is holding it up. Stated he feels they should have sewer and water and Ms. Phillips agreed. **3.** Asked why Administration does not put the solid waste bill with the taxes. Mayor Patriarca advised that we charge for what it costs us for solid waste. Stated that if they charged differently the price would go up if taxes went up. **4.** Ms. Phillips asked if Administration could revisit the idea of doing leaf pick up twice a year. **5.** Stated she heard a rumor that Wawa was planning to purchase the old Acme site to put a gas station there. Mayor Patriarca stated that he has been in discussions with several developers with Wawa being one of them. Stated the problem is they want to put gas there and it is not a permitted use in the redevelopment zone. **6.** Ms. Phillips asked for an update on Solstice. Mr. Bayer advised on his comments from the previous Council meeting.

Seeing no other residents wishing to be heard, this portion of the meeting was closed to the public.

Consent Agenda: All items listed with an asterisk (*) are considered to be routine by the Township Council and will be enacted by one motion. Should a Council Member wish to discuss a consent agenda item separately, that item can be removed from the consent agenda and considered in its normal sequence on the regular agenda.

Council President Trueblood advised that Resolution 84-2019 would need to be added to the Consent Agenda.

Motion by Allen and McCartney to add Resolution 84-2019 to the Consent agenda. Allen, yes; McCartney, yes; Gardner, yes; Burton, yes; Trueblood, yes. Motion carried.

Councilman Allen asked to pull Resolutions 79-2019, 81-2019, 84-2019 and New Business item A2.

CONSENT AGENDA

***CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS**

77-2018	Authorizes a CY2019 Emergency Temporary Budget Appropriation; in the amount of \$5,056.350.00.
78-2019	<i>Pulled from the Consent Agenda and considered later in the meeting.</i>
79-2019	Authorizes the purchase of four Chi Mode 3216 Steel Galvanized Garage Door and Four Liftmaster H523 L5 Garage Door Openers from Louis A. Jammer Co., Inc. under State Contract #85294 in the total amount of \$25,000.00.
80-2019	Authorizes various routine refunds in the total amount of \$95.00.
81-2019	<i>Pulled from the Consent Agenda and considered later in the meeting.</i>
82-2019	Authorizes the purchase of two new 2019 Ford Police Interceptors SUVs with related option from Beyer Ford through the Cranford Police Cooperative Pricing

System, Contract #47-CPCPS in the total amount of \$74,099.50.

83-2019 Approves Memorandum of Understanding with PBA Local 260 and authorizing the Mayor to execute a collective negotiations agreement with PBA Local 260 for a term commencing January 1, 2018 and ending December 31, 2021.

84-2019 *Pulled from the Consent Agenda and considered later in the meeting.*
ADDED

NEW BUSINESS

*a. Purchase over \$2,000.00.

1. Public Works - Repair/Replacement of the Tangent Guide Rail End on Choctaw Drive as outlined in Quote #18-618 from Road Safety Systems, LLC, in the total amount of \$5,350.00.

2. Public Works - Asbestos removal from 8 Kelsonville Road, from SPC Technologies in the total amount of \$8,800.00. *Pulled from the Consent Agenda and considered later in the meeting.*

Motion by Burton and Gardner to approve the Consent Agenda as amended. Burton, yes; Gardner, yes; McCartney, yes; Allen, yes; Trueblood, yes. Motion carried.

RESOLUTIONS

79-2019 Authorizes the purchase of four Chi Mode 3216 Steel Galvanized Garage Doors and Four Liftmaster H523 L5 Garage Door Openers from Louis A. Jammer Co., Inc. under State Contract #85294 in the total amount of \$25,000.00. *Pulled from the Consent Agenda.*

Councilman Allen confirmed that these doors were for the Presidential Lakes firehouse and community center. Mr. Gonzalez stated that was correct.

Motion by Allen and Gardner to approve Resolution 79-2019. Allen, yes; Gardner, yes; Burton, yes; McCartney, yes; Trueblood, yes. Motion carried.

81-2019 Authorizes the lease of a Pothole Killer Truck and purchase of Emulsion and Aggregate from Patch Management, Inc. under State Contract #45646 in an amount not to exceed \$28,995.00. *Pulled from the Consent Agenda.*

Councilman Allen asked if we had a schedule for this years Road Paving program and if so when it will begin. Mr. Gonzalez stated that there is a list and tentative schedule subject to weather and a few other things. Advised he would be able to send the information to the Clerk for Council. Stated that when it begins depends on the weather and when the asphalt plants are open. Added that the Public Works department has been doing some of the preparation work over the winter to include drainage. Councilman Allen asked if Administration could provide a status update on the paving program from last year. Mr. Gonzalez said he would provide something.

Motion by Allen and McCartney to approve Resolution 81-2019. Allen, yes; McCartney, yes; Gardner, yes; Burton, yes; Trueblood, yes. Motion carried.

84-2019 **ADDED** Authorizes a contract with NV5, Inc. for preliminary engineering services for the Phase I Busansky/Emmons Schools Multimodal Improvements and Walking Route Improvements Project in an amount not to exceed \$87,804.00. *Pulled from the Consent Agenda.*

Councilman Allen asked if Administration could share some information on this project. Mayor Patriarca stated that this has been waiting for a long time to be done. Explained that we were approved for the grant and that the State would be providing the Engineer to fund designing this. Noted that this is for sidewalks in the Lake Valley area and the first round will cover about half of them. Stated he is hoping they will get funding for this again in 2019 as you can apply every two years. Councilman Allen congratulated Administration on obtaining another grant for the Township and requested a report on the amount of grant funding the Township has received during budget time. Mayor Patriarca stated he would get that for Council and advised on another grant they had just received.

Motion by Allen and Burton to approve Resolution 84-2019. Allen, yes; Burton, yes; Gardner, yes; McCartney, yes; Trueblood, yes. Motion carried.

Council President Trueblood advised that Ordinance 9-2019 would need to be tabled until the next Council meeting

ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION

ORDINANCE NO. 9-2019

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PEMBERTON AMENDING CHAPTER 186 OF THE TOWNSHIP CODE, ENTITLED "WATER"

Motion by McCartney and Burton to table Ordinance 9-2019, until the March 20th meeting. McCartney, yes; Burton, yes; Gardner, yes; Allen, yes; Trueblood, yes. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

*a. Purchase over \$2,000.00.

2. Public Works - Asbestos removal from 8 Kelsonville Road, from SPC Technologies in the total amount of \$8,800.00. *Pulled from the Consent Agenda.*

Councilman Allen asked why the Township was taking on a project for a private residential structure. Mr. Gonzalez advised that this was a privately owned residential structure that is in a substantial state of disrepair and has been declared an imminent hazard by our construction official. Advised on the process and how the construction official can make that declaration under State authority. Stated if the owner does not demolish within the time given we then have the authority to deal with it even though it is private property. Commented that before we can demolish, we have to remove any asbestos so as not to bring harm to the workers. Stated that all demolition costs would be placed as a lien on the remaining land.

Motion by Allen and Gardner to approve New Business Item A2. Allen, yes; Gardner, yes; Burton, yes; McCartney, yes; Trueblood, yes. Motion carried.

REPORTS & COMMUNICATIONS

a. Engineer's Report – 2/28/2019

Councilwoman Burton asked if the application and fee has been submitted to the Burlington County Health Department for the septic system for Presidential Lakes firehouse. Mr. Gonzalez stated they were submitted. Councilman Allen asked if when the firehouse and community center were complete if Council could get a tour of the facility. Added that he thinks it would be a good idea to notify the residents that this facility is available and open for use as well as list our other facilities to include rental rates.

BILL LIST

Approval by Council required for payment of vouchers on bill list dated 3/1/2019.

Motion by Gardner and Burton to approve the Bill List. Gardner, yes; Burton, yes; McCartney, yes; Allen, yes with the exception of any and all grants and bills pertaining to the NJ State Police or the Attorney General's; Trueblood, yes. Motion carried.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

Mr. Bayer reported: Nothing to report.

MAYOR'S AND/OR BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Patriarca reported: Noted that the recreation center and Station #2 firehouse in Presidential Lakes are on schedule and the building section placement was started today. Stated that the application for West End Park would be submitted to Pinelands within the next week. Stated that this project is starting to gain some movement. Lastly, noted that the resolution that Council had approved at the last meeting for the well should start within the next couple days.

COMMENTS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Councilman Gardner – Noted that the concerns Mr. Petronis and Mr. Boland have for Press Avenue are his concerns also and he is in agreement with them. Advised that he would be speaking to the Mayor about the concerns. Commented to Ms. Phillips that he is

on her side with the leaf pick up. Mayor stated he will provide whatever service the residents want to pay for. Councilman Gardner commented that people should come to the meeting with facts and not emotion to get more done. Thanked all for coming out and will see all at the next meeting.

Councilwoman Burton – Thanked everyone for coming out and expressing their concerns.

Councilman Allen – Stated he would like to continue to uplift the Council and voice his pleasure in working with each member. Stated he knows that this is a diligent Council and he appreciates the thoughtfulness that goes into the items on the agenda. Wanted to encourage them and thanked all. Thanked the public for coming out and he looks forward to seeing them all at the next meeting.

Councilwoman McCartney – Noted that the MUA is very important and she believes that each member of Council and Administration are doing their due diligence to make sure that the processes and procedures are followed. Thanked those that came out and for expressing their concerns. Stated there is a lot of talk around town about this issue but she can speak for herself that Council is going to look at the information and all of the facts. Thanked Mayor Patriarca and Michele Brown for their support for PTHS student, Jacob Patrick. Stated that they had arranged for him to have a mock interview as practice for his competition. Noted that he had qualified for Regionals and States and hopefully internationals. Noted that he was very appreciative and stated that Michele had spent a lot of time with him. Advised that if anyone is interested in any of the BMIA events going on, there is a Facebook page. Commented that there would be a family game night at 7:00 p.m. on March 22nd. Advised that on Sunday March 24th at 2:00 p.m., Judge O'Brien would be there and discussing the necessity of a family will. Added that Superintendent Tony Trongone would also be giving an update on the School Budget. Thanked all for coming out.

Council President Trueblood – Thanked all for coming out on this cold night. Thanked all for their questions and Council hopes that they can answer as much as they can with what they have. Stated she was hoping that the new building will be added to all of the Recreation information. Commented that Ms. Phillips must be excited as is Council. Noted that the Reflection sign had been broken and the Public Works had fixed it so quickly. Wished all a good night and will see them at the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Amy P. Cosnoski

Amy P. Cosnoski, RMC, Township Clerk