

**TOWNSHIP OF PEMBERTON
ANNUAL REORGANIZATION MEETING
AND FIRST REGULAR MEETING**

**January 6, 2016
6:30 P.M.**

Township Clerk Amy P. Cosnoski welcomed everyone to Council's Reorganization and First Regular Meeting of the year and announced that notice of the meeting was given in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

Mrs. Cosnoski announced the Presentation of Colors.

Colors were presented by the Pemberton Township JROTC and then led in the Pledge of Allegiance, following by the Invocation by Pastor Smith.

CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Cosnoski called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and proceeded with roll call of the Township Council.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Letha Jackson
Diane Stinney
Jack Tompkins
Norma Trueblood
Jason Allen

ABSENT

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

NOMINATIONS FOR PRESIDENT OF THE PEMBERTON TOWNSHIP COUNCIL

Mrs. Cosnoski opened nominations for Council President

Councilwoman Stinney and Councilwoman Jackson nominated Councilman Jason Allen for Council President.

There being no other nominations submitted, Council closed the nominations.

Motion by Jackson and Trueblood to close nominations for Council President. Jackson, yes, Trueblood, yes; Stinney, yes; Allen, yes; Tompkins, yes. Motion carried.

Mrs. Cosnoski requested a motion appointing Councilman Jason Allen as Council President for 2016.

Motion by Jackson and Trueblood to appoint Councilman Jason Allen as Council President for 2016. Jackson, yes; Trueblood, yes; Stinney, yes; Allen, yes; Tompkins, yes. Motion carried.

OATH OF OFFICE

At this time Mr. Bayer administered the Oath of Office to Council President Allen.

Council President Allen thanked Council for their support and Councilwoman Stinney for her kind words and confidence in him.

PRESENTATION

Terry Maldonado gave a presentation regarding bullying and played a video produced by the School District and provided Council with copies of the video.

Councilwoman Stinney excused herself from the meeting momentarily and then returned.

Councilwoman Stinney shared an idea she had from working with the kids in Willingboro for their respect program. Ms. Maldonado shared other ideas she had including using a

professional song writer. Stated that she just wanted to share the video with Council and that they are looking at other ways to promote the school district.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Council President Allen opened the meeting up to general public comments. Seeing no one wishing to be heard 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.

Councilman Tompkins asked to pull Resolution 32-2016 as well as Reports and Communications and the Bill List.

CONSENT AGENDA

RESOLUTIONS

***REORGANIZATION CONSENT RESOLUTIONS**

- *1-2016 Adopts Temporary Municipal Budget for 2016.
- *2-2016 Adopts Temporary Municipal Budget- Water Utility Fund for 2016
- *3-2016 Appoints Amy P. Cosnoski as Municipal Improvement Search Officer.
- *4-2016 Appoints Sunshine Dashiell as Deputy Township Clerk
- *5-2016 Appoints Alison Varrelmann as Tax Search Officer.
- *6-2016 Appoints Amy P. Cosnoski as Public Agency Compliance Officer per Affirmative Action Regulations.
- *7-2016 Establishes Pemberton Township's Cash Management Plan.
- *8-2016 Establishes Council Regular Meeting Dates.
- *9-2016 Designates Township Holiday schedule.
- *10-2016 Designates Official Newspapers for Township.
- *11-2016 Establishes rate of interest for delinquent tax payments.
- *12-2016 Establishes disposition of tax overpayments.
- *13-2016 Authorizes Tax Assessor to execute Stipulations of Settlement, file Rollback Assessments on behalf of the Township and further authorizes Tax Assessor or Township Solicitor to file appeals as may be necessary.
- *14-2016 Concurs in the Appointment of Dennis Gonzalez as Commissioner to the Burlington County Joint Insurance Fund.
- *15-2016 Concurs in the Appointment of Michele Brown as Alternate Commissioner to the Burlington County Joint Insurance Fund.
- *16-2016 Concurs in the Appointment of Joyce Tinnes and Michele Brown as Safety Delegate Representatives to the Burlington County Joint Insurance Fund.
- *17-2016 Concurs in the Appointment of Michele Brown as Township Claims Administrator to the Burlington County Joint Insurance Fund.
- *18-2016 Concurs in the Appointment of Dennis Gonzalez as the Township Contact Person for Employment Practices Attorney Consultation Services for the Burlington County Joint Insurance Fund.
- *19-2016 Consents to the Mayor's Zoning Board appointments of Albert Hopkins, T. Stephen Thompson and Maurice Tyndell.

REGULAR BUSINESS CONSENT RESOLUTIONS

- *24-2016 Authorizes CFO to deposit premium lien money to the Miscellaneous Revenue Not Anticipated Account from the April 9, 2013 Tax Sale in the amount of \$1,100.00.
- *25-2016 Authorizes CFO to deposit premium lien money to the Miscellaneous Revenue Not Anticipated Account from the September 21, 2010 Tax Sale in the amount of \$900.00.

- *26-2016 Authorizes CFO to deposit premium lien money to the Miscellaneous Revenue Not Anticipated Account from the September 21, 2010 Tax Sale in the amount of \$100.00.
- *27-2016 Authorize application to the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse for the FY2017 Municipal Alliance Grant.
- *28-2016 Authorizes refund of Tax Overpayment to CitiMortgage on Block 839.01, Lot 11.04 in the amount of \$927.28.
- *29-2016 Authorizes refund of Tax Overpayment to Henry Barr Jr. and IM Chung on Block 1096, Lot 3 in the amount of \$1,710.46.
- *30-2016 Authorizes refund of Tax Overpayment to Corelogic on Block 233, Lot 21 in the amount of \$812.14.
- *31-2016 Authorizes refund of Tax Overpayment to William B. And Mary Anna G. Groff on Block 676, Lot 49 in the amount of \$912.23.
- *32-2016 *Pulled from the Consent Agenda and considered later in the meeting.*
- *33-2016 Authorizes acceptance of grant funds from the New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety's Drunk Driving Enforcement Fund in the amount of \$5,386.14.
- *34-2016 Authorizes Council to go into Closed Session. (*Approved but not used*)

***10. MINUTES FILED BY CLERK**

Regular Meeting, December 16, 2015.

***11. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

- a. JIF Property Schedule
- b. Fleet Inventory

12. NEW BUSINESS

- *a. Purchases over \$2,000
 - 1. Township Clerk – Codification of Ordinances through 2015 from General Code in the amount of \$7,595.55.
- *b. Annual License Renewals
 - Dealer of Jewelry, Secondhand – Jay's Studio Jewelers

- *13. Approval by Council required for payment of vouchers on bill list dated 12/31/2015.

Motion by Tompkins and Jackson to approve the Consent Agenda as amended. Tompkins, yes; Jackson, yes; Trueblood, yes; Stinney, yes; Allen, yes. Motion carried.

RESOLUTIONS

- *32-2016 Authorizes Transfer of Funds in the CY2015 Budget in the total amount of \$37,000.00. *Pulled from the Consent Agenda.*

Councilman Tompkins questioned the transfer of the money and why it is being done. Council President Allen advised that he had spoken to Administration prior to the meeting and explained the money was no longer needed for the Police Department. Councilman Tompkins asked if this was for legal expenses and did it include litigation. Mr. Gonzalez advised that legal expenses includes litigation. Councilman Tompkins advised he had questions for closed session and noted it would be in regards to the Browns Mills Emergency Squad litigation.

Motion by Jackson and Trueblood to approve Resolution 32-2016. Jackson, yes; Trueblood, yes; Stinney, yes; Tompkins, no; Allen, yes. Motion carried.

OTHER RESOLUTIONS

- 20-2016 Appoints members to the Senior Citizens Council.

Council President Allen advised that the names received were Ebba Liguori and Francis Love.

Motion by Tompkins and Jackson to approve Resolution 20-2016. Tompkins, yes; Jackson, yes; Trueblood, yes; Stinney, yes; Allen, yes. Motion carried.

- 21-2016 Appoints members to the Veterans' Advisory Committee.

Council President Allen advised that the name received was Rudolf Irizarry.

Motion by Tompkins and Stinney to approve Resolution 21-2016. Tompkins, yes; Stinney, yes; Trueblood, yes; Jackson, yes; Allen, yes. Motion carried.

22-2016 Appoints Members to Township Alliance Group.

Council President Allen advised that he had previously served as the Council Liaison and Councilwoman Jackson as the vice chair. Asked Councilwoman Jackson if she was still interested in the vice chair position. Councilwoman Jackson stated she was. Stated that if no one else was interested, he did not mind being the TAG Liaison again. Councilwoman Stinney asked Council President Allen for a report from TAG at a future meeting.

Motion by Tompkins and Trueblood to approve Resolution 22-2016. Tompkins, yes; Trueblood, yes; Stinney, yes; Jackson, yes; Allen, yes. Motion carried.

23-2016 Appoints Class III Member to Planning Board (Member of Council).

Council President Allen advised that Councilwoman Trueblood had served last year and asked if she was still interested. Councilwoman Trueblood stated she was.

Motion by Stinney and Jackson to approve Resolution 23-2016. Stinney, yes; Jackson, yes; Tompkins, yes; Trueblood, yes; Allen, yes. Motion carried.

REPORTS & COMMUNICATIONS

Councilman Tompkins noted he saw the reports and does not see anything about the 3 new buildings purchased or anything about the Presidential Lakes Firehouse and was concerned if these were covered by the JIF. Mr. Gonzalez advised that the building is covered and that this report provided to Council was a property inventory of the JIF that was prepared at the beginning of the year and he would check to be sure these are added. Councilman Tompkins asked about the Fleet Management report and additional information on the report that is not needed. Mr. Gonzalez advised that Council was given the information asked for and advised why they would keep some junk cars.

Motion by Jackson and Trueblood to accept the Reports & Communications. Jackson, yes; Trueblood, yes; Stinney, yes; Tompkins, no; Allen, yes. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion and possible introduction of proposed ordinance amending Chapter 25 regarding volunteer membership criteria of the Pemberton Volunteer Fire Company.

Council President Allen noted that this is an ordinance amending the criteria and noted that the Fire Chief would like to enlarge the recruiting area for fire and EMS. Councilwoman Stinney asked how he wanted to enlarge this. Councilman Tompkins stated the Chief wants to recruit people from other towns and stated he feels that would hamper volunteers for other towns. Noted the problem with reckless driving by responders to incidents with their blue lights on and this opening up that issue even more. Stated he does not have a problem with this but doesn't think the residency requirement needs to be revised. Noted he is concerned with compensating the volunteers and the liability issues that come with using compensated volunteers from other companies and the uniforms. Mayor Patriarca stated that it was not intended, by the fire department, to suck members from other towns and felt that the comment was offensive and an apology should happen. Advised that the amendment would provide more opportunities to non-residents and they had discussed the issues of volunteers coming from other towns. Mayor Patriarca commented on the blue lights issue, noting he is the one that approves those permits and has not approved a permit for anyone living outside of town. Commented on the compensation issue and his thought that someday Pemberton Township would have a paid Emergency Services program as the volunteer pool is diminishing daily. Mayor Patriarca stated we have great volunteers and have a sufficient amount currently but it is challenging. Stated that if people do not want to volunteer in their own township that is up to them but if they want to volunteer here and are good and qualified then they could be on a duty crew. Mayor Patriarca then advised that a duty crew is on site at the station ready to respond. Noted our duty right now is to continue the service with volunteers. Councilwoman Stinney questioned if a certain distance outside of the Township should be considered. Stated we had the Borough but asked who else would be considered. Mayor Patriarca advised that military was included but was not sure if

the ordinance stated they must be on Joint Base. Stated they want to be able to provide a valuable service to the residents. Council President Allen agreed and stated that when he sat on the Environmental Commission they had a member who came from Mount Holly. Mr. Gonzalez added that the initial discussion about the proposed change came from the Volunteer Fire Company itself and it's leadership with support from Chief Augustoni as they are getting inquiries for Fire and EMS. Councilwoman Jackson questioned if our volunteers are called first or anyone can be called at any time. Mayor Patriarca advised that when an emergency occurs, central puts out a call to the department that services that area and then it goes out to others as needed. Mr. Gonzalez advised that this would be people interested in volunteering from within our structure not other towns. Councilwoman Jackson noted that the main thing is that the Fire Department is asking for this. Stated if they see a need we should be listening to them. Councilman Tompkins questioned who would be training these volunteers and who would pay for the training. Mayor Patriarca noted they would join the Fire Department like anyone else and then we send them to the academy. Councilman Tompkins and the Mayor discussed payment and training and where this would take place. Councilwoman Stinney stated we should pay for the training and then some. Noted that it is her thought that every firefighter that we have here in this town should be compensated. Stated that she has commented before about compensating firefighters previously. Noted we expect them to come out in the freezing cold to put our house fires out and save us. Councilman Tompkins asked if Councilwoman Stinney was willing to double the taxes for a paid fire district. Councilwoman Stinney stated she was not willing to double the taxes but that you can look at other means for compensation. Mr. Bayer noted that the portion of the ordinance that is presented here is the residency requirement and stated that the change being asked for is from being a Township or Borough resident to a State of New Jersey resident. Noted that there was also an exception the residency requirement in the existing ordinance stating if you once lived in Pemberton and then moved you could maintain your membership if you moved to certain towns. Noted this could be removed if changed to State resident. Council President Allen noted that there was nothing wrong with wanting to increase the amount of volunteers as it is a benefit to our residents. Councilwoman Trueblood agreed that if this is what is in their hearts and they are willing to service our Township and the volunteers are asking for this then lets open it up for more.

Motion by Trueblood and Stinney to introduce Ordinance 1-2016 with a Public Hearing to be held on January 20, 2016. Trueblood, yes; Stinney, yes; Tompkins, no; Jackson, yes; Allen, yes. Motion carried.

BILL LIST

Approval by Council required for payment of vouchers on bill list dated 12/31/2015.

Councilman Tompkins questioned the sub code inspections. Mr. Gonzalez advised that some of the inspections are done by an outside company that the Township contracts with. It was noted that it is done when a permit requires it to be done. Councilman Tompkins asked if our Code Enforcement personnel are not equipped to do this. Mr. Gonzalez advised they are not and these are State licensed Sub Code Officials under the Uniform Construction Code.

Councilwoman Jackson pulled PO#15-03050 from page #8 for Buildings & Grounds fees and permits for site remediation as Council President Allen would need to abstain.

Motion by Tompkins and Jackson to approve the Bill List as amended. Tompkins, yes; Jackson, yes; Trueblood, yes; Stinney, yes; Allen, yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Jackson and Tompkins to approve 5-01-26-31-000-470. Jackson, yes; Tompkins, yes; Trueblood, yes; Stinney, yes; Allen, abstain. Motion carried.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

Mr. Bayer reported: Nothing for the public and congratulated Council President Allen on his re-appointment to President.

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

Mayor Patriarca reported: Noted that in 1952 all were introduced to Charlie Brown and Lucy on this day and hopes this will be a good year. Feels we have a lot of good things coming up ahead from meetings he has attended. Noted he hopes that Lucy never pulls the football out from under us.

CLOSED SESSION

35-2016 Authorizes Council to go into Closed Session.
Litigation - Browns Mills Emergency Squad

Motion by Tompkins and Trueblood to add Resolution 35-2016. Tompkins, yes; Trueblood, yes; Stinney, yes; Jackson, yes; Allen, yes. Motion carried.

COMMENTS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Councilman Tompkins - Questioned if there were updates on the Presidential Lakes Firehouse. Mayor Patriarca noted they are looking into two options, refurbishing the building and having Public Works do the work inside the building. Noted he also got a quote on replacing the building and has Public Works working on an estimate of the cost for them to do the interior themselves if the exterior was built by someone else. Looking to compare the two options to see what the best course of action would be. Noted he will have a mock up draft of the lay out tomorrow so they can move forward with pricing out the materials. Councilman Tompkins questioned if the selection had been made for the Revaluation bid. Mayor Patriarca noted they have met with the responders of the bid and have asked that they go back and sharpen their pencils but hopes to have something for Council by the next meeting. Councilman Tompkins noted he had met with Mr. Gonzalez to review the Police locker rooms. Noted he felt it was a nice facility that can not be utilized. Commented on the facilities available and the current policy not allowing them to be on the premise 7 minutes prior to the start of their shift. Noted he would like to have a town hall meeting on a Saturday some time this month.

Councilwoman Jackson - Wished everyone a Happy New Year and congratulated Council President Allen on his re-appointment as President. Thanked everyone for coming out and to have a safe trip home.

Councilwoman Stinney - Commented on discussing with the Mayor, homes for Veterans in Pemberton Township. Stated she gave the Clerk documents to get copies to the Mayor. Discussed some of the programs. Mayor Patriarca stated they are currently working with Habitat for Humanity. Thanked everyone for their many prayers and well wishes. Wished everyone a Happy New Year. Sated she was so proud of Council President Allen and talked about bringing others over her shoulder to help. Commented on not always agreeing but talking about it to see where everyone is coming from. Thanked everyone, God bless and to have a nice 2016.

Councilwoman Trueblood - Wished everyone a Happy New Year and stated she is looking forward to what 2016 will bring for this Township and this Council. Stated it is great to see the invocation at the start and end of the meeting. Thanked everyone for coming out and she is looking forward to this year.

Council President Allen - Wished everyone a happy and blessed 2016. Thanked the public for coming out to the meeting. Thanked the new Township Auditor Mr. Oliwa for coming out to the meeting.

BENEDICTION

Reverend Dr. Ernest Trueblood came forward and gave the benediction.

CLOSED SESSION AND FORMAL ACTION PURSUANT TO CLOSED SESSION

Motion by Tompkins and Trueblood to approve Resolution 35-2016. Tompkins, yes; Trueblood, yes; Stinney, yes; Jackson, yes; Allen, yes. Motion carried.

Council recessed the meeting to go into Closed Session and the returned to continue Open Session.

Council President Allen advised there would be no formal action pursuant to closed session.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Amy P. Cosnoski, RMC, Township Clerk