

PILESGROVE TOWNSHIP
REGULAR MEETING
February 13, 2024
MINUTES

Mayor Kevin Eachus called the regular meeting of the Pilesgrove Township Committee to order at 7:00 P.M. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Eachus directed the Clerk to read the following Annual Notice:

This meeting is called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings law. Notice of this meeting of February 13, 2024, posted on the bulletin board at the Municipal Building on January 8, 2024, posted on the Township website on January 8, 2024 and has remained continuously posted as the required notices under the Statute. In addition, a copy of this notice is and has been available to the public and is on file in the office of the Municipal Clerk.

Attendance:	Kevin Eachus	Ekaterine N. Eleftheriou, Esq.
	David Bonowski	Kelsey Mitchell, CFO
	Joseph Crevino	

Motion made by Crevino, 2nd by Bonowski to approve the minutes of the Reorganization Meeting, January 2, and January 23 meetings and closed session minutes from January 23, 2024. Ayes all.

Motion made by Bonowski, 2nd by Crevino to approve the bill list as submitted by the treasurer. Ayes all.

Motion made by Bonowski, 2nd by Crevino to accept the Tax Collector's report for the month of January, 2024, Ayes all.

Motion made by Eachus, 2nd by Bonowski to open the public comment portion of the meeting. Ayes all.

A resident of South Harrison came to discuss the proposed warehouse application currently in front of their Planning Board. The warehouse is near Lincoln Road and could potentially have an impact of Township traffic and roads. Her daughter Samantha McDonald is a resident of the Township and lives at 670 Eldridges Hill Road. Ms. McDonald also spoke regarding the impact the Township might see and expressed her concerns for a few intersections, which Committee suggested these concerns be brought up at the South Harrison Planning Board for the applicant to address and possibly complete a traffic study. She also asked if the Township was noticed of the hearing and the Clerk will look into this and give them a call to confirm.

There being no other public comments, motion made by Crevino, 2nd by Bonowski to close the public comment portion of the meeting. Ayes all.

Joe Gebely presented his Emergency Management report.

Representative from Woodstown Chapter of Future Farmers of America came to receive their Proclamation Recognizing the week of February 19th through the 23rd as National FFA week. The three representatives read the creed and stated what they learned at the conference this year and stood up front while Mayor Eachus presented them with their proclamation.

Motion made by Crevino, 2nd by Bonowski to execute the farm lease between Pilesgrove Township and Martin Catalano for Block 26, Lot 4 and Block 10. Loy 1. All ayes.

Motion made by Crevino, 2nd by Bonowski to approve the execution of the following professional services for 2024:
Legal Services for Township Solicitor and Prosecutor.
Auditor Services
Ayes all.

Motion made by Crevino, 2nd by Bonowski to introduce on first reading Ordinance 24-01:

**PILESGROVE TOWNSHIP
ORDINANCE NO. 24-01
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING
PILESGROVE TOWNSHIP CODE CHAPTER 145 "LAND USE"**

Roll call: Bonowski yes, Crevino yes, Bonowski yes.

Motion made by Crevino, 2nd by Bonowski to approve in bulk:
Resolution 24-019, Referring proposed Land Use Ordinance 24-01 amendment to Planning Board.

Resolution 24-020, Authorizing NJDCA FY24 Local Recreation Improvement Grant.

Resolution 24-021, Transfer Resolution.

Resolution 24-022, Appointing James Pratta as Acting Sub-Electrical Inspector.

Resolution 24-023, Civil Rights Resolution.

Ayes all.

Motion made by Bonowski, 2nd by Crevino to approve the Mayor to sign the following documents in bulk:

Schedule G, Certification Regarding Debarment and Suspension for Local Recreation Grant.

Schedule H, Certification Regarding Lobbying for Local Recreation Grant.

Ayes all.

Committee discussed potential uses for the money and would like to do a playground plus lighting in the upper parking lot, if funds allow both to be done. Next year Committee would like to look into the possibility of pickleball courts, if the grant is offered again.

Discussion items –

Elected Official Training is due by May 1, 2024. The Clerk will send out the information.

Allen Coulter updated Committee on the GMC truck that is currently broken down. Allen has received a few quotes and the lowest quote is \$8,279.00. Allen also updated Committee on the current state contracting price for trucks for budget time, which are coming in around \$55,250.00. Allen discussed the vacant position within Public Works and would like to try running the department with 2 full timers and then the part time help. Committee agreed and the Township will not be moving forward with filling that position.

Motion made by Bonowski, 2nd by Crevino to repair the GMC truck at Al Foote's. Ayes all.

The Clerk asked if Committee had any suggestions for the newsletter and informed them all suggestions would need to be in by Thursday.

April 25, 2024 is Pilesgrove's turn to host the Salem County Local Government Dinner and Committee would like to have it at Creekside and briefly discussed guest speakers, which were Fredrick Young or someone from SADC to speak on Farmland Preservation.

There is a request from a current preservation application (Block 79 Lot 12) to add an additional exception area for a future farmstand. The Clerk received an estimate of \$600.00 from Land Engineering to add an exception area. Township Committee agreed that the exception area should be located where the State is suggesting, but other than that there is no objection.

The 3rd District reached out to the Mayor with a survey pertaining to the largest issues currently facing the Township and currently Committee discussed Ambulance Services, Animal Shelter, and Regional Planning for Warehouses. The Clerk will respond to the survey.

RSVP for the Salem and Hope Creek Nuclear Generating Stations is coming up soon. Mayor Eachus and Dave Bonowski are interested in attending. The Clerk will RSVP.

Motion made by Bonowski, 2nd by Crevino to open the public comment portion of the meeting. Ayes all.

There being no other public comment, motion made by Crevino, 2nd by Bonowski to close this public comment portion of the meeting. Ayes all.

Motion made by Eachus, 2nd by Bonowski to go into closed session to discuss matters in accordance with NJSA 10:4-12, Specifically protentional litigation. Ayes all.

Motion made by Eachus, 2nd by Bonowski to return to open session. Ayes all.

Committee authorized Township Attorney to move forward with preparing a submission of a petition to be filled with the Surface Transportation Board regarding SMS and the Township by a motion from Crevino and 2nd by Bonowski. Ayes all.

Motion made by Eachus, 2nd by Bonowski to adjourn at 8:37 PM. Ayes all.

Melissa Fackler, Clerk