

**PILESGROVE TOWNSHIP
WORK SESSION MEETING
June 28,2022
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 June 28, 2022, posted on the bulletin board at the Municipal Building on January 3, 2022, posted on the Township website on January 6, 2022 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.

Mayor Eachus advised that proper notice having been given; the Clerk is directed to include this statement in the minutes of this meeting.

Attendance: Kevin Eachus
Joseph Crevino
Kelsey Mitchell, CFO
Niki Arbittier, Esq.

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

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

Motion made by Crevino, 2nd by Eachus to approve the bill list as presented by the Treasurer. Ayes all.

Evan Palmer came to discuss the options for funding the Update to the Farmland Preservation Plan. Since this update would be paid from Open Space and that is a separate tax rate all spending needs to be accounted for and should be done during budget time. Evan suggested doing a resolution to amend the budget at the next meeting, which should include and other foreseen speeding out of the Open Space Fund. Joe Crevino asked if this would be an audit finding, Evan stated no since the resolution will be passed before spending any money. Mayor Eachus asked how much debt is left that is being paid out of the Open Space. Evan stated around 2 million is left and 47% of what is collected in Open Space goes to pay down the debt each year. Mayor Eachus would like to build the fund balance up and suggest next year some of the debt is paid from another account. Evan informed Committee as the warehouses are built on Route 40 and the net value for the town increases so will the Open Space tax rate, which will help offset the cost of updating the target area for farmland preservation.

Chuck McSweeney came and discussed the changes within the ambulance company and provided details on how the operation is now ran. They would like Pilesgrove Township to enter into a Shared Service Agreement with Carneys Point as the lead agency. Chuck stated all funds would be paid directly to American Legion. Committee advised to date Pilesgrove has not seen a fee schedule, which was asked for during first discussions of a Shared Service Agreement. The Clerk will send email addresses to Chuck McSweeney and he will send the Share Service Agreement and Fee Schedule for Committee to review.

Committee reviewed and discussed the scoring sheets for Engineering Service for the ADA Grant at Marlton Park. The Township had two proposal submitted and the scoring was pretty close. It was noted that CME did not update their proposal fully as it made a few references to Deerfield Township and a hockey rink. Committee felt that Alaimo showed more experience with project this size and had a clearer timeline for completion.

Motion made by Crevino, 2nd by Eachus to approve Resolution 22-064, approving Alaimo as top scoring responding engineer services for NJ DCA FY 2022 for Marlton Park ADA Project. Ayes all.

Discussion items –

Juneteenth is a Federal Holiday and was observed on June 13, 2022. The Township did not have this on the Holiday schedule due to the fact at time of Reorganization meeting observing this holiday was up to the individual Municipality. Township Committee would like to approve a floating holiday for 2022 in observance of Jeenteenth. Township Committee will discuss at 2023 Reorganization the holiday moving forward.

Motion made by Crevino, 2nd by Eachus to approve Resolution 22-065, Amending the Holiday Schedule for 2022 to include an additional floating holiday to observe Juneteenth. Ayes all.

The Township received a letter from Century 21, who was representing a resident interested in purchasing B:91 L:14 on Yorktown Road. The Tax Assessor has provided the lowest bid, which is \$4,100.00. The Clerk will prepare the notices and set a date for the sealed auction.

The Clerk received a letter from a resident interested in purchasing B:39 L:14 on Whig Lane Road. The Tax Collector confirmed Pilesgrove Township owns it. Committee asked that the Tax Assessor give a fair market value to start the process.

Committee reviewed Jim McKelvie's response to North Point's request to start construction prior to obtaining outside approvals. Niki Arbittier advised Committee whatever is decided on this project would also have to be considered for future projects. Committee has decided to wait to make any decisions until after Planning Board has approved the North Point application.

The Clerk received a request for waiving street opening fees for Off-Grid Communications LLC. The Township has never waived fee before and based off past practice is denying the request.

Township Planning Board is requesting a meeting to discuss COAH and cannabis in the Township. Committee advised the Clerk to send a memo to Planning board stating that the Planner is reviewing COAH and would like to wait to discuss COAH until we have that report. Also, a discussion was had regarding cannabis and currently there is not a majority that is for cannabis in the Township. Committee advised the Clerk to send a memo informing Planning Board of this vote.

There was new guidance released by DCA regarding rental homes and lead based paint testing. Niki Arbittier is waiting on a few clarifications before discussing this further.

Motion made by Crevino, 2nd by Eachus to open the public comment. Ayes all. Hearing no comments Motion made by Crevino, 2nd by Eachus to close the public comment. Ayes all.

Motion made by Crevino, 2nd by Eachus to go into closed session to discuss protected information. Ayes all.

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

Motion made by Eachus, 2nd by Crevino to adjourn at 8:53 PM. Ayes all.

Melissa Fackler, Clerk