

**MANCHESTER TOWNSHIP
MEETING MINUTES
August 10, 2020**

The meeting of the Manchester Township Council was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Councilman Sam Fusaro. The following statement was read by Sabina T. Martin, Municipal Clerk:

“Adequate notice of this meeting was provided in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, pursuant to P.L. 1975, Chapter 231. Said notice was advertised in the Asbury Park Press, Star Ledger and was posted on all entrances to the Municipal Buildings, on Township Website, and Township Facebook page in accordance with A3850/S2294.”

FLAG SALUTE

ROLL CALL

The following roll call was taken by the Municipal Clerk:

Councilman Robert A. Hudak	- present
Councilman James Vaccaro	- present
Councilwoman Joan Brush	- present
Councilman Craig Wallis	- present
Councilman Sam Fusaro	- present

The Municipal Clerk noted for the record that also present were Business Administrator Donna Markulic, Asst. BA James Gant, Mayor Palmer, Township Attorney Martin Buckley, Township Auditor Andrew Zabiega, CFO Diane Lapp, Court Administrator Tracy Barcus, Deputy Municipal Clerk Teri Giercyk, and Josh Schnoor as Moderator.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Tracy Barcus, Court Administrator: Mrs. Barcus gave an update about the virtual municipal court sessions, which has been virtual since May 6th. So far, municipal court has been a complete success, and defendants found it very easy to log on. First municipality in the County to be connected to the jail for Court sessions. Up to about 100 per session. Josh, his IT Staff, and her Court staff has done a great job and continue to do a great job. Thank you for all your support.

Mr. Fusaro: Commented that he wanted the residents to know how the various departments are working together.

Martin Buckley: Prosecutor for Barnegat Township; Josh and Tracy were a great help in getting them online. Their leadership is appreciated and they have done a great job getting the County up and running.

BUDGET HEARING

Mayor Palmer briefly discussed some high points of the budget he will give his full presentation next meeting. Budget went up \$1.1 million from last year first because of new EMS program, and new line item for reserve for retiree allowance for police officers. There will be \$250,000 going to be set aside in that reserve. \$3-4 million worth of time that will be paid out. Ended last year with \$7.2 million in surplus, using \$4 million this year in our budget. That will leave us with \$3.2 million left in surplus. Additional revenues are anticipated for next year.

Councilman Fusaro asked if any member of Council had any comments on this ordinance. Seeing no comments from Council, Councilman Fusaro asked if there were any comments from the public.

Seeing no comments from the public, Councilman Fusaro closed this portion of the meeting.

#20-314 – 2020 MUNICIPAL BUDGET DOCUMENT – a motion table this resolution was offered by Councilman Wallis, seconded by Councilman Hudak and TABLED by the following roll call vote: Councilmembers Hudak, Vaccaro, Brush, Wallis, and Fusaro; yea. Tabled to the August 24th meeting.

SUBMISSION OF BILLS

#20-315 - Authorizing payment of bills from the Current Fund in the amount of \$9,380,514.10 was offered by Councilman Hudak, seconded by Councilwoman Brush and approved by the following roll call vote: Councilmembers Hudak, Vaccaro, Brush, Wallis, and Fusaro; yea.

#20-316 - Authorizing payment of bills from the Eastern Service Area in the amount of \$310,950.86 was offered by Councilman Hudak, seconded by Councilman Vaccaro and approved by the following roll call vote: Councilmembers Hudak, Vaccaro, Brush, Wallis, and Fusaro; yea.

#20-317 - Authorizing payment of bills from the Western Service Area in the amount of \$107,055.43 was offered by Councilman Hudak, seconded by Councilman Wallis and approved by the following roll call vote: Councilmembers Hudak, Vaccaro, Brush, Wallis, and Fusaro; yea.

ORDINANCES – Second Reading, Public Hearing and Final Action

#20-026 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 245 TO INCLUDE NEW SECTION 245-5(B) ENTITLED “GRANDFATHER CLAUSE; NONCONFORMING SETBACK & ACCESSORY BUILDING” AND AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 245 ATTACHMENT TO APPENDIX 2 ENTITLED “LIST OF SENIOR CITIZEN PROJECTS”

Councilman Fusaro asked if any member of Council had any comments on this ordinance. Seeing no comments from Council, Councilman Fusaro asked if there were any comments from the public.

Seeing no comments from the public, Councilman Fusaro closed this portion of the meeting.

The above ordinance was offered upon a motion by Councilman Hudak, seconded by Councilwoman Brush and approved by the following roll call vote: Councilmembers Hudak, Vaccaro, Brush, Wallis, and Fusaro; yea.

ORDINANCES –First Reading and Introduction

#20-027 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING 15 YEAR TAX EXEMPTION FOR A SELF-STORAGE FACILITY PROJECT TO BE CONSTRUCTED BY WHITING STORAGE URBAN RENEWAL, LLC, AN URBAN RENEWAL ENTITY, PURSUANT TO THE LONG TERM TAX EXEMPTION LAW

The above ordinance was offered upon a motion by Councilman Wallis, seconded by Councilwoman Brush and approved by the following roll call vote: Councilmembers Hudak, Vaccaro, Brush, Wallis, and Fusaro; yea.

CONSENT AGENDA

The items listed below are considered to be routine by the Township of Manchester and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no formal discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, this item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.

Councilman Fusaro asked if any member of Council had any comments on these Resolutions.

Seeing no comments from Council, Councilman Fusaro asked if there were any comments from the public.

Seeing no comments from the public, Councilman Fusaro closed this portion of the meeting.

Resolutions #20-318 through #20-319, were considered routine by the Manchester Township Council and were enacted by one motion offered by Councilman Hudak, seconded by Councilman Wallis and adopted by the following roll call vote: Councilmembers Hudak, Vaccaro, Brush, Wallis, and Fusaro; yea.

A. FINANCE

#20-318 RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING THE REFUNDS REQUESTED BY THE TAX COLLECTOR

B. CONTRACTS/AGREEMENTS

#20-319 RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT FOR THE LEAF AND VEGETATIVE WASTE COMPOSTING PROGRAM WITH THE COUNTY OF OCEAN FOR 2020-2024

REPORTS:

Mr. Hudak: Mr. Hudak attended the Planning Board meeting last Monday concerning the Brentwood application for a subdivision, at this time it is adjourned. Not sure that September will be the date because notice is required for that meeting. No date at this point.

Mr. Vaccaro: Mr. Vaccaro attended the biweekly and Planning Board Meeting. He reminded the public to wear their PPE, wash hands, and continue practicing social distancing. He wished every to be well and stay safe.

Mrs. Brush: Mrs. Brush reminded the residents that the luau was rescheduled for this Friday the 14th at 7 p.m.

Mr. Wallis: Mr. Wallis commented on the incident at the ASCAR property and he commented that the EMS service, Fire Department, and police department did an outstanding job. Everyone is working really well together. Resolution to encourage the Governor and the state to move along with the recovery process and opening the State up for business

Mr. Fusaro: No report.

Mayor Palmer: Mayor Palmer commented that many residents lost power due to tropical storm last week. Representative Ron Crocker from JCP&L was very responsive and thanked him for his hard work. Donna and Jim organized the cooling stations for the residents very quickly. Art Abline, EMS, Fire Companies, and Police all worked together to staff the cooling stations, and he was very impressed.

Mrs. Markulic: No report.

Jim Gant: Mr. Gant thanked Deputy OEM Mark Pellicchia for stepping up during this time; he was readily available for the cooling stations.

Mrs. Martin: Mrs. Martin reminded the residents to respond to the 2020 census. Manchester Township is #137 in responses for municipalities. Makes a big difference when it comes to grant money available. She asked everyone to remind his or her neighbors to respond.

Diane Lapp: Mrs. Lapp commented on Budget amendment coming next couple of weeks because we are receiving some grants.

PUBLIC:

Carly Fredericks: Thanked Mr. Hudak for addressing the Brentwood Estates question. She asked if the meeting could be broken up to two meetings. Ms. Fredericks inquired if the meeting transcripts are available to the public, since most seniors have difficulty attending Zoom meetings. She asked where she could address any rental property questions to at the Township.

Mr. Hudak suggested that she put her request in writing to the Planning Board Secretary

Sabina Martin: Minutes are available online and available through an OPRA request

Mr. Fusaro: Suggested the Zoning officer in the building department or the director of the building department.

Jim Gant also mentioned that the replay of the meetings are available on the website.

Ed Lynch, Country Walk: Mr. Lynch supports the resolution Mr. Vaccaro has suggested in the past regarding marijuana and asked when the Township would consider putting it on the Agenda.

Mr. Fusaro stated that there are laws already in place, and there is a question on the ballot for the November General Election. At this time, it would be premature.

John Pagenkopf, Hovnanian: Mr. Pagenkopf wanted to correct his comment from last meeting where he stated the Hovnanian family pays over \$300,000 a year in taxes, corrected to \$250,000 a year in taxes at the Heritage Minerals site.

No further public comment.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

#20-320 RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 2 OF THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT, CHAPTER 231, PUBLIC LAWS OF 1975

A motion to enter into Executive Session at 6:48 p.m. was made by Councilman Wallis, seconded by Councilman Hudak and approved by the following roll call vote: Councilmembers Hudak, Vaccaro, Brush, Wallis, and Fusaro; yea.

The Executive Session was adjourned at 8:00 p.m. upon a motion by Councilman Hudak, seconded by Councilman Vaccaro and approved by the following roll call vote: Councilmembers Hudak, Vaccaro, Brush, and Wallis; yea. Mr. Fusaro, absent.

A motion to reconvene into Regular Session at 8:02 p.m. was made by Councilman Wallis, seconded by Councilwoman Brush and approved by the following roll call vote: Councilmembers Hudak, Brush, and Wallis; yea. Mr. Vaccaro and Mr. Fusaro, absent.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further comments or business to come before Council at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 8:03 p.m. upon a motion by Councilman Hudak seconded by Councilwoman Brush and approved by the following roll call vote: Councilmembers Hudak, Brush, and Wallis; yea. Mr. Vaccaro and Mr. Fusaro, absent.

Sam Fusaro
Council President

Sabina T. Martin, RMC
Municipal Clerk

8/24/2020
Date Approved