

**PILESGROVE TOWNSHIP
REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 11, 2007
MINUTES**

Mayor Ernie Bickford called the rescheduled regular meeting of the Pilesgrove Township Committee to order at 7:00 PM, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. The Clerk read the notice statement:

This meeting is called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings law. This meeting of December 11, 2007 was included in a list of meetings sent to the Today's Sunbeam and the Elmer Times on January 3, 2007, posted on the bulletin board at the Municipal Building on January 3, 2007 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 Bickford advised that proper notice having been given; the Clerk is directed to include this statement in the minutes of this meeting.

Attendance: Ernest Bickford
Edward Kille
William Miller
William L. Horner, Esq.
Ruth Moynihan

Motion made by Kille, 2nd by Miller to approve the minutes of the November 6, 20 (AM), 20 (PM), and 27, 2007 meetings. Ayes all.

Motion made by Kille, 2nd by Miller to approve the bill list submitted by the Treasurer in the amount of \$578, 731.69. Ayes all.

Motion made by Miller, 2nd by Kille to approve the Tax Collectors report for November 2007. Ayes all.

Motion made by Kille, 2nd by Miller to approval of the blue light permit renewal application for James LaPalomanto of the Reliance Fire Company. Ayes. all.

Ms. Moynihan explained Resolution 07-116. Motion made by Kille, 2nd by Miller to approve Resolution 07-116, Refunding rebates received from the New Jersey Homeowner Rebate Program. Ayes all.

Motion made by Miller, 2nd by Kille, to approve Resolution 07-117, approving replaced and supplemental plantings and authorizing replacement of the Maintenance Guarantee of the First National Bank of Elmer. Ayes all.

Mayor Bickford provided background on the Vizzoni litigation. Motion made by Miller, 2nd by Kille to approve Resolution 07-118, Authorizing Special Counsel Jeffrey R. Surenian, Esq. to execute the proposed settlement agreement in the matter of Auburn Land Corp (Vizzoni) v. Pilesgrove. Ayes all.

Motion made by Kille, 2nd by Miller to approve on first reading

**Ordinance 07-20
An Ordinance Amending Chapter 145 "Land Use"
of the Code of the Township of Pilesgrove to
Eliminate Conservation Easement Requirements
in the Conservation (CONS) Planning Districts.**

Roll call: Bickford yes, Miller yes, Kille yes.

Motion made by Miller, 2nd by Kille to approve Resolution 07-119, Referring Ordinance 07-20 to the Township Planning Board for review and comment. Ayes all.

Motion made by Kille, 2nd by Miller to approve on first reading

Ordinance 07-21
An Ordinance Fixing the Salary Ranges
for Certain Officers and Employees
of the Township of Pilesgrove in the County of Salem

Mayor Bickford advised that this ordinance contains a 3% raise for all Township employees and no raise for members of the Township Committee.

Roll call: Kille yes, Miller yes, Bickford yes.

Motion made by Kille, 2nd by Miller to open the public hearing on

Ordinance 07-16
Amending Section 56-21 of the Code of the Township of Pilesgrove
to Establish the Fees for Dog Licenses.

Ayes all. The Clerk and CFO explained the ordinance, which increases the cost for dog licenses in the Township. Currently, the revenue from the licenses does not cover the expenditures for animal control and shelter services. The State recently passed legislation that permits the increase in license fees to a maximum of \$21.00. The township maximum for a non spayed/neutered dog will be \$18.00.

Resident Garry Reid, 10 Williams Road, inquired if residents will be turned in for not licensing their dogs and the Mayor advised that could happen. Resident Rich Warner inquired on the contract cost for Mr. Shimp, and Ms. Moynihan advised \$540.00 per month. Mr. Reid inquired on the possibility of a County animal shelter, and the Clerk advised that the County is researching that issue.

There being no further public comment, motion made by Kille, 2nd by Miller to close the public hearing on Ordinance 07-16.

Motion made by Miller, 2nd by Kille to adopt on second reading Ordinance 07-16.

Roll call: Bickford yes, Miller yes, Kille yes.

Motion made by Miller, 2nd by Kille to open the public hearing on

Ordinance 07-18
Amending Section 52-4. License Fee
of the Code of the Township of Pilesgrove

Ayes all. Mayor Bickford explained that the ordinance will increase the cost of liquor licenses in the Township from \$720.00 to \$864.00. There being no public comment, motion made by Kille, 2nd by Miller to close the public hearing on Ordinance 07-18.

Motion made by Miller, 2nd by Kille to adopt on second reading Ordinance 07-18.

Roll call: Kille yes, Miller yes, Bickford yes.

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

Resident Fred Sorbello, Point Airy Road, congratulated Mr. Kille on his re-election to Township Committee. Mr. Sorbello expressed his concerns that while the Township farmland preservation program is commendable, what is in place for future farmers? The farmland preservation is only one part of the process. Mr. Kille advised that sort of issue is the type of thing that the Township Agricultural Advisory Committee is charged with addressing. Mr. Kille advised that the next Township Planning Incentive Grant application is due to the State on December 15, and the application includes a fiscal plan through 2018 to preserve 100 acres of farmland per year. Mayor Bickford advised that any suggestions on preserving the farmer would be appreciated.

Resident Joe Hiles, 1085 Kings Highway, also congratulated Mr. Kille on his re-election and campaign. Mr. Hiles asked for an update on the LOSAP program. Mayor Bickford advised that the State requires an interlocal agreement with the Borough of Woodstown, and that agreement is being approved by the Borough tonight at their meeting. After approval by the Borough, the agreement goes to the State for approval.

Mr. Sorbello thanked the Mayor for the traffic light at the intersection of East Lake Road and Route 40. Mayor Bickford advised that Paul Langley, who owns the Wagon Wheel Restaurant, was really the lead on that light.

Resident Eileen Coombs inquired on any consideration on increasing minimum lot size in the Township - the Mayor advised that is not being discussed at this time.

Mr. Reid inquired on the fees being charged by the Planning Board Professionals – Mayor Bickford advised that should be discussed with the Planning Board.

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

Motion made by Kille, 2nd by Miller to go into closed session to discuss matters in accordance with N.J.S.A. 10:4-12, specifically pending litigation and matters involving attorney/client privilege. Ayes all.

Motion made by Kille, 2nd by Miller to adjourn at 8:25 PM. Ayes all.

Maureen R. Abdill, Clerk