

**PILESGROVE TOWNSHIP
REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 11, 2008
MINUTES**

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

This meeting is called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings law. This meeting of March 11, 2008 was included in a list of meetings notice sent to the Today's Sunbeam and the Elmer Times on January 5, 2008, posted on the bulletin board at the Municipal Building on January 5, 2008 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
Michael Mulligan, Esq.
Ruth Moynihan

Motion made by Kille, 2nd by Miller to approve the minutes of the February 5, 8, 12(am) 12 (pm), 19 and 25, 2008 meetings. Ayes all.

Motion made by Kille, 2nd by Miller to approve the bill list in the amount of \$607,559.67 as presented by the Treasurer. Ayes all.

Ms. Moynihan explained the 2007 annual Tax Collectors report. The 2007 collection rate is 96.7%, down 1.2 % from 2006, due mainly from tax appeals as a result of the revaluation. Motion made by Miller, 2nd by Kille to accept the Tax Collectors annual report for the year 2007. Ayes all.

Motion made by Kille, 2nd by Miller to accept the Tax Collectors for February 2008. Ayes all.

Motion made by Kille, 2nd by Miller to approve Resolution 08-023, Appointment of Township Solicitor for the balance of the year 2008. Ayes all.

Mayor Bickford explained that due to pending cut in State aid, the Township 2008 Municipal Budget is not ready to be introduced. Motion made by Miller, 2nd by Kille to approve Resolution 08-024, Late Introduction of the 2008 Municipal Budget. Ayes all.

Mayor Bickford explained the purpose of Resolution 08-025. The resolution contains general provisions, and some very specific to Pilesgrove. Motion made by Kille, 2nd by Miller to approve Resolution 08-025, Opposing the Failure of the Governor's Proposed State Budget for the 2008-2009 Fiscal Year to Treat Property Tax Relief as our Priority. Ayes all.

Motion made by Kille, 2nd by Miller to approve Resolution 08-026, Accepting and Adopting the Gloucester, Salem, Cumberland Counties Joint Insurance Fund Loss Control Program. Ayes all. Mr. Kille asked the Clerk to explain the Resolution and the recent honor the Township received from the TRICO JIF for the Township safety program. The Clerk explained that the Township was one of 3 of the 34 member municipalities to achieve the "gold award" for our safety program: reports were turned in on time; the Township had no workers compensation claims, etc. The result is an increase in the amount of money that the Township will receive in safety incentive program and optional safety budget funds from the JIF.

Motion made by Miller, 2nd by Kille to approve Resolution 08-027, Endorsing the Submission of the 2007 Recycling Tonnage Grant Application. Ayes all.

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

Ordinance 08-01
An Ordinance Amending the Code
of the Township of Pilesgrove to
Provide for Temporary Trailers

Ayes all.

Resident Phyllis Sauer asked if this ordinance affects the Four Seasons Campground in any way. Mayor Bickford advised it does not. Mr. Mulligan explained that the structures at the campground are all supposed to be temporary structures, so a fire or loss to a temporary structure would just result in replacing it with another temporary structure. Mr. Miller pointed out the bonding provisions of the ordinance. There being no further public comment, motion made by Kille, 2nd by Miller to close the public hearing on Ordinance 08-01. Ayes all. Motion made by Kille, 2nd by Miller, to adopt on second reading Ordinance 08-01.

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

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

Ordinance 08-02
An Ordinance to Exceed the Municipal Budget
Appropriations Limit and to Establish a Cap Bank

CFO Moynihan explained the purpose of the ordinance. Resident Donald String inquired on the implications on the cap with the recent reduction in State aid to the Township. The Clerk explained that the State does provide an exception to the cap for the funding that is being cut as a result of the reduction in State aid.

There being no further public comment, motion made by Kille, 2nd by Miller to close the public hearing on Ordinance 08-02. Ayes all.

Motion made by Kille, 2nd by Miller to adopt on second reading, Ordinance 08-02.

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

Motion made by Miller, 2nd by Kille to open the public comment portion of the meeting. Ayes all. Resident Cheryl Reardon inquired if Resolution 08-025 is worded to express opposition to eliminate of the State Department of Agriculture? Mayor Bickford advised that Resolution 08-025 included that subject.

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 approve the resolution authorizing a closed session to discuss matters in accordance with N.J.S.A.10: 4-12. Ayes all.

Motion made by Kille, 2nd by Miller to reopen the meeting to the public.

Motion made by Kille, 2nd by Miller to authorize Township Solicitor Mulligan to execute a settlement agreement based on the specific guidance and authorization discussed in closed session in the matter of the CJS Investments v Pilesgrove. Ayes all.

Motion made by Kille, 2nd by Miller to authorize Township Solicitor Mulligan to present to plaintiffs counsel a settlement proposal in a prerogative writ matter of the Estate of Mabel Costill v Pilesgrove, as discussed in closed session. Plaintiff will make a payment of \$1,500.00 toward the outstanding balance of professional fees. This settlement will allow the Chairman and Secretary of the Planning Board to sign the deeds to perfect the subdivision. Ayes all.

There being no further business motion made by Kille, 2nd by Miller to adjourn at 7:45 PM. Ayes all.

Maureen R. Abdill, Clerk