

**PILESGROVE TOWNSHIP
WORK SESSION MEETING
FEBRUARY 22, 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 February 22, 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
David Bonowski
Joseph Crevino
Kelsey Mitchell, CFO
Niki Arbittier, Esq.

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

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

Motion made by Bonowski, 2nd by Crevino to accept the Tax Collector's report for the month of January, 2022. Ayes all.

Motion made by Bonowski, 2nd by Crevino to approve Resolution 22-024, Appointing Christopher Quirk as CDL Driver. Ayes all.

Motion made by Bonowski, 2nd by Crevino to approve Resolution 22-025, Appointing Michael Stocklos as Deputy Tax Assessor. Ayes all.

Motion made by Bonowski, 2nd by Crevino to approve Resolution 22-026, Authorization of Refund for 2021 Taxes for a Total Disabled Veteran. Ayes all.

Committee reviewed the Total Disabled Veteran Ordinance with the Tax Assessor that the Clerk and Solicitor worked on. The ordinance will be on the agenda for March 8, 2022.

Motion made by Crevino, 2nd by Bonowski to approve Resolution 22-027, Granting Final Approval to Christen and Melissa Williams Farmland Preservation Easement and Commitment to Cost Sharing Agreement. Ayes all.

Motion made by Bonowski, 2nd by Crevino to approve Resolution 22-028, Emergency Temporary Appropriations for the 2022 Budget. Ayes all.

Motion made by Bonowski, 2nd by Crevino to amend Resolution 22-029, Appointing Autumn Davis as Acting Planning Board Secretary Pending Planning Board Approval during the March 16, 2022 meeting. Ayes all.

Motion made by Bonowski, 2nd by Crevino to approve Resolution 22-029, Appointing Autumn Davis as Acting Planning Board Secretary Pending Planning Board Approval during the March 16, 2022 meeting. Ayes all.

Motion made by Crevino, 2nd by Bonowski to approve Resolution 22-030, Authorizing Extending a Contract for 2021 Sanitary Landfill Monitoring Wells Sampling and Lab Analysis. Ayes all.

Motion made by Eachus, 2nd by Crevino to go into close session to discuss matters in accordance with N.J.S.A. 10:4-12, specifically potential litigation. Ayes all.

Motion made by Bonowski, 2nd by Eachus to reopen the meeting to the public. Ayes all.

Close session was for litigation discussions and no actions were taken.

Budget Discussion for 2022 Municipal Budget took place. Evan Palmer, Auditor and Kelsey Mitchell reviewed budget documents relating to surplus, capital, and debt payments. Kelsey Mitchell, CFO stated that the American Rescue Funds can now be put in the budget to offset any lost revenue.

Bonowski stated he would like to see an increase in capital to \$250,000.00 and we are currently at \$210,000.00.

Evan stated that the final payment of debt for affordable housing and the fire truck will be paid in 2023.

Allen Coulter presented a list of items that Public Works will need replaced over the next 5 years. Crevino asked that the list be prioritized of highest importance and presented again the next budget discussion.

The next budget meeting will be held March 22, 2022. The Township is hoping to introduce the budget on April 12, 2022 and adopt on May 10, 2022.

Motion made by Crevino, 2nd by Bonowski to go into close session to discuss matters in accordance with N.J.S.A. 10:4-12, specifically contract negotiations. Ayes all.

Motion made by Eachus, 2nd by Bonowski to reopen the meeting to the public. Ayes all.

Close session discussion was regarding potential contract negotiations and authorizing was given to the Clerk to reach out.

Discussion items –

The Clerk reviewed the changes for the cell phone plan due to Sprint being taken over by T-Mobile. Switching the plan to a T-Mobile business will save the Township around \$50.00 per month plus offer better service with less dropped calls.

USDA has extended the application deadline for the Reconnect Program Funding for Broad band services to March 9, 2022. Committee has asked the Clerk to look into how to apply.

An update on the drainage issues at the Fire House took place. The Mayor has pointed out that additional water is going to the pipe from a ditch and would like to know if this ditch was above by any ordinance or if any engineer work was done and approved. Currently we are waiting to hear the results from the video taken of the pipe.

We have received one quote for the back vestibule and are waiting on a few more before making a decision. Kelsey Mitchell asked if the insurance company could pay the vendor directly considering the Township currently is working off a temporary budget. The Clerk will reach out to the insurance company and find out more details.

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

Motion made by Eachus, 2nd by Bonowski to adjourn at 9:14 PM. Ayes all.

Melissa Fackler, Clerk