

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE ALLAMUCHY TOWNSHIP COUNCIL HELD MARCH 23, 2017 AT 6:00 P.M.**

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:05 P.M. by Mayor DeTombeur.
2. At this time, the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence was held. Mayor DeTombeur stated that Councilman Ochwat continues to recover from surgery and to keep him in thoughts and prayers. A moment of silence was also held for Mr. Kozimor's (CFO) father who passed away on March 22, 2017.
3. Mayor DeTombeur advised that this meeting was held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act as prescribed by State Statute.
4. **PRESENT:** Mayor DeTombeur, Councilman Koppel, Councilman Lomonaco and Councilman Quinoa; **ABSENT** – Councilman Ochwat.

5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

- a. Regular Meeting – 02/23/2017 as corrected:

- Councilman Ochwat was absent and the minutes should be reflected as such in the roll call votes.

Motion by Councilman Koppel, seconded by Councilman Lomonaco, and approved on roll call vote: **AYES** - Councilman Koppel, Councilman Lomonaco and Councilman Quinoa; **ABSENT** – Councilman Ochwat.

6. John Ursin, Attorney, was present and filled in for Attorney McBriar who was unable to attend this meeting.
7. **RESOLUTION** – Self Examination of the 2017 Municipal Budget (**ATTACHMENT 1**).

Motion by Councilman Quinoa, seconded by Councilman Lomonaco, and approved on roll call vote: **AYES** – Councilpersons Koppel, Lomonaco, Quinoa and Mayor DeTombeur; **ABSENT** – Councilman Ochwat.

**INTRODUCTION OF THE 2017 MUNICIPAL BUDGET (ATTACHMENT 2).**

Motion by Councilman Lomonaco, seconded by Councilman Koppel, and approved on roll call vote: **AYES** – Councilpersons Koppel, Lomonaco, Quinoa and Mayor DeTombeur; **ABSENT** – Councilman Ochwat.

The Municipal Clerk advised that Sheet A of the budget will be changed to reflect the correct spelling of Councilman Quinoa's name.

**INTRODUCTION OF THE 2017 SOLID WASTE BUDGET (ATTACHMENT 3).**

Motion by Mayor DeTombeur, seconded by Councilman Lomonaco, and approved on roll call vote: **AYES** – Councilpersons Koppel, Lomonaco, Quinoa and Mayor DeTombeur; **ABSENT** – Councilman Ochwat.

The Municipal Clerk advised that Sheet A will be changed to reflect the Municipal Attorney as Robert B. McBriar.

8. Trooper T. VanTassel, N.J.S.P. Hope Station, was present to discuss the status of the N.J.S.P. in Allamuchy Township. He was present to answer any questions or address any concerns that the Township Council may have.

The Municipal Clerk stated that she would like to commend the N.J.S.P. for the quick response to an incident that occurred in the municipal building on this date. The response time was within 5 minutes and a report was taken and the matter was addressed.

Mayor DeTombeur stated that he would like to thank the N.J.S.P. for their services and thanked Trooper VanTassel for his presence at this meeting.

**9. MAYOR'S REPORT:**

Mayor DeTombeur stated that he wanted to thank the DPW for their services with the March 14, 2017 snow storm. The roads were kept open and clear the next day.

Mayor DeTombeur stated that the municipal building is in the process of being repainted. It looks great and was in need of a make over.

Mayor DeTombeur stated that he would like to have pictures of the past Mayors in the lobby of the Municipal Building. This display would be similar to the pictures at the fire house of the past chiefs.

Mayor DeTombeur advised that the service line break at 82 Bald Eagle has been repaired. There have been a few other incidents and the matter is being reviewed.

Mayor DeTombeur stated that letters were mailed to businesses in the Township regarding grease trap inspections. The Township Water and Sewer Department will be doing those inspections within the next few weeks.

On April 10, 2017 the Allamuchy Elementary School will be presenting a school bullying program at the school – Ryan's Story. The Township Council is invited to attend this presentation.

Mayor DeTombeur advised that letters were sent to residents on Puffer Road regarding the ordinance designating a portion of Puffer Road as "one way." The letter invited the residents to attend the meeting and express any concerns they may have.

Mayor DeTombeur advised that Congressman Josh Gottheimer will be conducting a grant summit at Town Hall on 04/19/2017. He advised that constituents and government officials are invited to attend this summit.

Mayor DeTombeur stated that he had been made aware that another car almost hit the General Store but ran into a snow bank. He advised for the record that the Township is doing everything possible, the ordinance for Puffer Road, working on permit signage and working with the school for signage. The Mayor also stated that the Township is looking at the traffic signal and will be meeting with Department of Transportation to get the timing of the lights changed. He is also working with Mr. Gottheimer on the westbound exit ramp and addressing the traffic issues related to this ramp.

#### 10. TOWNSHIP COUNCIL REPORTS:

- a. Councilman Quinoa advised that the basketball season is over. The 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade boys did very well. The 5th and 6th grade boys did not do so well - the 8th grade boys did well and won. The girls team for all grades came in second place in the Championship. The travel Teams – there are two teams in the Lafayette Tournament finals both the 4th grade team and the 8th grade team.
- b. Councilman Lomonaco stated that emergency services is having difficulty finding house numbers in the Village of Old Farm. He had met with Mr. Begley, PVPOA General Manager, Mr. Miranda, President of Old Farm Village, Lou Caruso, Captain of the Allamuchy-Green First Aid Squad and a few residents that live in the Village of Old Farm.

Councilman Lomonaco stated that he is trying to get Warren County Public Safety to include building numbers when emergency services are dispatched. They are working with the OEM Coordinator on this matter.

Councilman Lomonaco expressed his appreciation to PVPOA and Old Farm Village with their assistance and willingness to install additional signage and assist in this matter.

Councilman Lomonaco advised that the Dog Park Tricky Tray fundraiser will be held on 03/31/2017. The Dog Park Committee is getting an estimate from Anviro Contractors for the removal of the asphalt and the installation of a water line at the proposed location off of Freeborn Lane.

Mayor DeTombeur stated that he has received feedback that he is against the dog park. He stated that he is not against the dog park but he wants a plan as to how this park will run and maintained.

Councilman Lomonaco stated that there will be a registration fee to use the park which those funds will be used to pay for bags and maintenance costs. There will be two fundraisers a year and those funds will be used to upkeep the park.

Mayor DeTombeur advised that the lawn gets mowed now but inside the fence is the issue. He questioned who will pick up after the dogs.

Councilman Lomonaco stated that it is being assumed that the owners will pick up after their dog and two side gates will be installed. If there is an issue with the dog park then the access card system will allow for the tracking of the users of the park.

Councilman Lomonaco stated that he would also like to explore the installation of cameras. The dog park will be turned over to the Recreation Commission for overseeing after it is constructed.

Mayor DeTombeur stated that all these issues should be worked out before the construction so these questions are answered. He also suggested running this proposed location by the Village of Old Farm residents to make sure there are no problems.

Councilman Koppel stated that he was concerned with the potential liability if a child is bitten by a dog.

Councilman Lomonaco advised that all this information was given to the previous attorney and reviewed. He stated that he would be happy to look at it again. The dogs need proper vaccinations and supervised by an adult.

Councilman Koppel stated that the Water and Sewer Committee is looking into the Goldfinch Court area. There have been approximately 7 water main breaks in the past year and is in need of new piping. There are several options being looked at and the cost factors involved.

Councilman Koppel advised that there is a new person working at the Water/Sewer Department – Dave Berkenbush. Mr. Berkenbush is on a part time basis and is inputting information and dealing with the vendors. The Water/Sewer employees will be going for CPR training.

Councilman Koppel stated that the municipal budget will have a .005% increase in the Allamuchy tax rate, a reduction in the debt of 10% each year and raises have been allocated in the budget. The laptops for the Township Council will be picked up and an anti-virus program will be installed on each laptop.

**11. MUNICIPAL CLERK'S REPORT:**

- a. The Municipal Clerk advised that the audit was distributed to the Township Council. A resolution will be on the 04/27/17 meeting for action.

12. Mike Devilliers, representative from Congressman Josh Gottheimer's office was present and stated that he works out of Congressman Gottheimer's Newton location which is 94 Spring Street, Newton, N.J.

Mr. Devilliers stated that he was present to talk about the mobile outreach program which was launched by the Congressman. There are Federal and State level services offered. He stated that there are dollars being sent to Washington D.C. and Congressman Gottheimer is fighting to make sure some of those dollars come back to the district. There

are grant monies available through the U.S. Dept. of Agricultural for rural area development. There is also information available as to how to write a grant and letter of endorsement will be available upon request.

Mr. Devilliers thanked the Mayor and Council for allowing him to be present at this meeting and to be able to advise what is being offered in terms of grant money.

13. **ENGINEER'S REPORT:**

There were no items requiring action by the Township Council.

14. **ATTORNEY'S REPORT:**

Attorney Ursin stated that an updated letter to the residents regarding the installation of the remaining water meters in the Village of Allamuchy was made. There are a few meters that still need to be installed.

The Attorney advised that the Water and Sewer Regulations were still being reviewed and work is continuing on this matter.

Councilman Quinoa questioned if there has been any contact with Verizon regarding the nodes request that was discussed at previous meetings.

Attorney Ursin advised that an escrow account has been created but he was not sure what the status is with the meeting with PVPOA.

15. **PUBLIC SESSION:**

Motion by Mayor DeTombeur, seconded by Councilman Koppel, carried to open the meeting to the public. Roll call vote: **AYES** – Councilpersons Koppel, Lomonaco, Quinoa and Mayor DeTombeur; **ABSENT** – Councilman Ochwat.

a. Betty Schultheis, Sandpiper Drive, was present and stated that with regard to the sewer line breaks that were mentioned earlier in the meeting, the municipality has aggressive soil – limestone and granite. With the soil moving, the pipes were laying on rock shelves in the past where breaks occurred.

Mayor DeTombeur advised that the problem was with the laterals. With regard to Goldfinch Court, those pipes will be replaced with plastic pipes.

Councilman Koppel stated that the option is to either dig up the old lines or there is a method where plastic pipe could be inserted into the old pipe. This method causes less disruption to the homeowners.

Ms. Schultheis advised that the Township may want to look at the aggressive soil with the new piping being used.

Mayor DeTombeur stated that currently 7 different locations are being looked at where the water main needs to be replaced.

- b. Ms. Schultheis advised that Candy Church was appointed to the Recreation Commission and she is responsible for the playground and the dog park (after construction). The Dog Park Committee visited various dog parks and reviewed the rules and regulations of those parks. It is a professional package that was put together by the committee and this information will be handed over to Attorney McBriar.
- c. Tom Laura, Puffer Road, was present and stated that if time is going to be added to the traffic light on old Hackettstown Road then it should also be added to the Route 517 light - especially if Puffer Road is going to be one way.

Mayor DeTombeur thanked Mr. Laura for his comment and advised that this matter will be addressed with the DOT.

- d. Dean Peshkopia, Allamuchy General Store, questioned if there were any updates regarding traffic and speed control in the Village area.

Mayor DeTombeur stated that he has reported on this matter earlier. The Municipal Engineer reached out to the County Engineer's Office, a State Trooper was present at this meeting and a tactical unit will be assigned for speed control and school signage is also being looked into.

Mr. Peshkopia advised that concrete bollards will be installed in front of his building but the issue is the whole area – not just to protect the building. Enforcement, engineering and education is what the County Engineer's office focused on. There needs to be more than one sign – there has to be several signs.

Mayor DeTombeur stated that the Township is trying to take care of the situation – the roads are not Township roads so there are limits to what the Township can and can not do.

Mr. Peshkopia understood and thanked the Mayor for coming out and reviewing the situation.

#### 16. **ORDINANCES - FIRST READING:**

- a. # 2017-05 – **CALENDAR YEAR 2017 - ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A: 45.14)**

Motion by Mayor DeTombeur, seconded by Councilman Koppel, carried to introduce Ordinance # 2017-05 on first reading. Roll call vote: **AYES** – Councilpersons Koppel, Lomonaco, Quinoa and Mayor DeTombeur; **ABSENT** – Councilman Ochwat.

Second reading to take place on April 27, 2017.

17. **ORDINANCES – SECOND READING:**

- a. 2017-04 - **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AN ORDINANCE RELATIVE TO VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC IN CHAPTER 130 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ALLAMUCHY TO DESIGNATE A PORTION OF PUFFER ROAD AS A ONE-WAY STREET.**

Motion by Mayor DeTombeur, seconded by Councilman Quinoa, carried to adopt Ordinance # 2017-04 on first reading.

At this time, the meeting was opened to the public.

There were no comments from the public and the public session was closed.

Roll call vote: **AYES** – Councilpersons Koppel, Lomonaco, Quinoa and Mayor DeTombeur; **ABSENT** – Councilman Ochwat.

18. **RESOLUTIONS:**

- a. Interlocal Services Agreement with Warren County 911 (**ATTACHMENT 4**).

Motion by Mayor DeTombeur, seconded by Councilman Quinoa, and approved on roll call vote: **AYES** – Councilpersons Koppel, Lomonaco, Quinoa and Mayor DeTombeur; **ABSENT** – Councilman Ochwat.

- b. Resolution Authorizing Reduction in Performance Guarantee for Site Improvements Associated with Mallard Drive Extension (**ATTACHMENT 5**).

Motion by Councilman Koppel, seconded by Councilman Quinoa, and approved on roll call vote: **AYES** – Councilpersons Koppel, Lomonaco, Quinoa and Mayor DeTombeur; **ABSENT** – Councilman Ochwat.

- c. Resolution authorizing Shared Services Agreement with Hackettstown Municipal Utility Authority (**ATTACHMENT 6**).

Motion by Councilman Koppel, seconded by Councilman Quinoa, and approved on roll call vote: **AYES** – Councilpersons Koppel, Lomonaco, Quinoa and Mayor DeTombeur; **ABSENT** – Councilman Ochwat.

- d. Resolution authorizing a Professional Services Agreement with Max Spann R.E. Auction & Co. (**ATTACHMENT 7**).

Motion by Councilman Koppel, seconded by Councilman Quinoa, and approved on roll call vote: **AYES** – Councilpersons Koppel, Lomonaco, Quinoa and Mayor DeTombeur; **ABSENT** – Councilman Ochwat.

e. Transfers (**ATTACHMENT 8**).

Motion by Councilman Quinoa, seconded by Mayor DeTombeur, and approved on roll call vote: **AYES** – Councilpersons Koppel, Lomonaco, Quinoa and Mayor DeTombeur; **ABSENT** – Councilman Ochwat.

f. Approval of Tax Refund (**ATTACHMENT 9**).

Approval of a Tax Sale Redemption (**ATTACHMENT 10**).

Approval of a Water/Sewer Refund (**ATTACHMENT 11**).

Motion by Councilman Koppel, seconded by Councilman Quinoa, and approved as a consent agenda. Roll call vote: **AYES** – Councilpersons Koppel, Lomonaco, Quinoa and Mayor DeTombeur; **ABSENT** – Councilman Ochwat.

g. **"BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Township Council of the Township of Allamuchy, County of Warren, State of New Jersey, that authorization is hereby given to proceed with the acquisition of a ford pickup from Cherry Hill Winner Ford – 2017 Ford 250 Extended Cab Pickup truck – state of New Jersey Contract Number A88726T2100 – value of \$30,883.00 for the Allamuchy Township Fire Department."

Motion by Councilman Quinoa, seconded by Councilman Koppel, and approved on roll call vote: **AYES** – Councilpersons Koppel, Lomonaco, Quinoa and Mayor DeTombeur; **ABSENT** – Councilman Ochwat.

19. **OTHER/NEW BUSINESS:**

a. Approval of Raffle Application – Pet Adoption League – April 30, 2017 at Rutherford Hall.

Motion by Councilman Lomonaco, seconded by Councilman Koppel, and approved on roll call vote: **AYES** – Councilpersons Koppel, Quinoa and Mayor DeTombeur; **ABSTAIN** – Councilman Lomonaco; **ABSENT** – Councilman Ochwat.

20. **APPROVAL OF BILL LIST AND ADD-ON LIST (ATTACHMENT 12).**

**The Municipal Clerk requested that the following bill be added:**

**Always on Time Doors - \$440.00 – Repairs to Fire House Doors.**

Motion by Councilman Lomonaco, seconded by Councilman Quinoa, carried to approve the bill list and add-on list as submitted. **Roll call vote: AYES** - Councilpersons Koppel, Lomonaco, Quinoa and Mayor DeTombeur; **ABSTAIN** - Councilman Ochwat.

21. Councilman Quinoa questioned when the salary resolution will be presented.

22. Mayor DeTombeur advised that this matter will be discussed at the April 12, 2017 workshop meeting.

23. **ADJOURNMENT - 7:40 P.M.**

There being no further business, motion by Mayor DeTombeur, seconded by Councilman Koppel, and approved on roll call vote: **AYES** - Councilpersons Koppel, Lomonaco, Ochwat, Quinoa and Mayor DeTombeur; **ABSENT** – Councilman Ochwat.

Respectfully Submitted,

Anne Marie Tracy, Municipal Clerk

Keith DeTombeur, Mayor