

Townhall
March 4, 2021

The Mannington Township Committee meeting was called to order by Mayor Asay at 7:00 PM. The following were in attendance: Asay, Patrick, Emel, Horner, Mitchell, Bowman, Carmer, Patti Davis and Bethanne Patrick.

Clerk certified that this meeting had been advertised in accordance with the Sunshine Law.

Motion was made by Emel, seconded by Patrick, approving the minutes for the meeting held on 2/4/2021. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Patrick, seconded by Emel, approving the attached bill list for payment. Beginning with computer check number 16680, ending with computer check number 16721. Beginning payroll check number 6841, ending with payroll check number 6878 . Roll call vote as follows:

Asay - yes
Patrick - yes
Emel - yes

Community Healthcare Assoc.

3/4/2021	ck#1051	\$ 444.00	William L. Horner, Esquire
3/4/2021	ck#1052	\$14,022.50	McManimon, Scotland & Baumann

Open Space

3/4/2021	ck#2032	\$ 6,400.00	Land Engineering, LLC
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Storm Recovery Trust

3/4/2021	ck#1065	\$ 32.99	Williams Auto Parts
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CFO submitted a Summary Budget Status as of March 4, 2021 for the 2020 and 2021 Budget Accounts. Also submitted was a Report of Reconciled Cash Balances for the month ending January 31, 2021.

ZONING REPORT:

A written and verbal report was given by Carmer for the month of February 2021.

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion was made by Emel, seconded by Patrick, approving of the Mayor to sign a treatment agreement for the NJ Department of Agriculture to treat some Township-owned properties for the Spotted Lanternfly. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Patrick, seconded by Emel, adopting the following resolution approving a Revised Mid Salem County Municipal Court Memorandum of Understanding. Motion carried. A revision was necessary due to an employee resignation.

TOWNSHIP OF MANNINGTON

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING
REVISED 2021 MID SALEM COUNTY MUNICIPAL COURT
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)**

WHEREAS, the Mannington Township Committee has adopted Ordinance No. 11-01, dated March 16, 2011, to establish a joint municipal court with Woodstown Borough, Elmer Borough, Quinton Township and Oldmans Township pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 2B:12-1, et seq.* (referred to as the “Mid Salem County Municipal Court”); and

WHEREAS, the above-named municipalities have adopted similar ordinances for such purpose; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the above cited Ordinance and statute Mannington Township has entered into an agreement on April 6, 2011 with the other named municipalities entitled “Agreement Between the Borough of Woodstown, the Township of Mannington, the Borough of Elmer, the Township of Quinton, and the Township of Oldmans to Establish the Mid Salem County Municipal Court”; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the above cited Ordinance and Agreement Mannington Township has each year entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”) with the other named municipalities, the first of which was entitled “2011 Memorandum of Understanding – Mid Salem County Municipal Court – Woodstown – Mannington – Elmer – Quinton – Oldmans”, in order to confirm matters pertaining to administration of the Mid Salem County Municipal Court for each year from 2011 through 2020, including but not limited to the following:

- Percentage responsibilities for shared expenses;
- Salaries and wages;
- Hours of operation;
- Court schedule;
- Administrative fee apportionment;
- Billing;
- Budget; and
- Vacation policy;

AND WHEREAS, pursuant to the above cited Ordinance and Agreement, the Mannington Township Committee has entered into an MOU with the other named municipalities for the year 2021 entitled “2021 Memorandum of Understanding – Mid Salem County Municipal Court – Woodstown –

Mannington – Elmer – Quinton – Oldmans” in order to confirm matters pertaining to administration of the Mid Salem County Municipal Court for the year 2021; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the above cited Ordinance and Agreement, the Mannington Township Committee has reviewed and is prepared to enter into a revised MOU with the other named municipalities for the year 2021 entitled “Revised 2021 Memorandum of Understanding – Mid Salem County Municipal Court – Woodstown – Mannington – Elmer – Quinton – Oldmans” in order to confirm matters pertaining to administration of the Mid Salem County Municipal Court for the year 2021;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mannington Township Committee, as follows:

1. The Mannington Township Committee approves and hereby adopts the “Revised 2021 Memorandum of Understanding – Mid Salem County Municipal Court – Woodstown – Mannington – Elmer – Quinton – Oldmans” as the terms and conditions upon which the administrative matters addressed therein shall be governed for the year 2021.

Motion was made by Patrick, seconded by Emel, adopting the following resolution. Roll call vote as follows:

Asay - yes
 Patrick - yes
 Emel - yes

**MANNINGTON TOWNSHIP
 RESOLUTION**

APPROPRIATION RESERVE TRANSFER OF FUNDS

WHEREAS, various 2020 bills have been presented for payment; and

WHEREAS, it is determined by the Chief Financial Officer that sufficient funds are not available to cover the cost of the bills presented for payment in the respective appropriation;

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-58 provides the transfer of the amount during the first three months of the fiscal year any excess from any appropriation reserve over and above the amount deemed to be necessary to fulfill the purpose of such appropriation to expend for any of the purposes specified in the budget an amount in excess of the respective sums appropriated therefore;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of Mannington Township that the transfers in the amount of \$29,879.12 between the 2020 Budget Appropriation Reserves as follows:

Transfer From:		
Account	Name	Amount
0-01- -121-111	RRM SW	\$19,102.75
0-01- -121-201	RRM OE	\$10,776.37
Transfer To:		
0-01- -121-202	Snow Removal-OE	\$29,879.12

Motion was made by Patrick, seconded by Emel, adopting the following resolution. Roll call vote as follows:

Asay - yes
 Patrick - yes
 Emel - yes

**TOWNSHIP OF MANNINGTON
 RESOLUTION
 EMERGENCY TEMPORARY RESOLUTION N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20**

WHEREAS, an emergency condition has arisen with respect to the need to provide budgetary funds for 2021, and

WHEREAS, the cause of the emergency is due to the fact that the Township is unable to adopt the 2021 Annual Budget, and

WHEREAS, it is considered necessary for the health and welfare of the community to continue to provide necessary services, and

WHEREAS, the total emergency temporary resolutions adopted in the year 2021 pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 96 P.L. 1951 (N.J.S.A. 40A4-20) including this resolution totals \$444,891.00 for the Current Fund.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, (not less than two-thirds of all the members thereof affirmatively concurring) that in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A.40A:4-20:

1. Emergency temporary appropriations be made and the same is hereby made for the following in the indicated amount.

1-01- -101-111	Ad & Ex/Municipal Clerk SW	\$30,000.00
1-01- -101-112	Ad & Ex/Mayor & Com SW	\$4,000.00
1-01- -102-111	Financial Admin SW	\$5,500.00
1-01- -103-111	Assessment of Taxes SW	\$5,500.00
1-01- -104-111	Collection of Taxes SW	\$4,000.00
1-01- -105-201	Legal OE	\$7,750.00
1-01- -110-111	Planning Board SW	\$750.00
1-01- -111-201	Data Processing OE	\$3,500.00
1-01- -114-201	Fire Hydrants OE	\$6,000.00
1-01- -121-111	RRM SW	\$25,000.00
1-01- -121-112	Storm Recovery SW	\$1,500.00
1-01- -121-201	RRM OE	\$5,000.00
1-01- -123-201	Garbage/Tipping OE	\$15,000.00
1-01- -140-204	Animal Pound Contract	\$1,400.00
1-01- -192-201	Social Security/Medicare OE	\$4,000.00
	Total	\$118,900.00

2. That said emergency temporary appropriations will be provided in the 2021 budget as presented in proceeding.
3. That three certified copies of this resolution be filed with the Director of Local Government Services.

Motion was made by Patrick, seconded by Emel, adopting the following resolution. Motion carried.

**MANNINGTON TOWNSHIP
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING LETTER
IN SUPPORT OF PSEG NUCLEAR**

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of Mannington Township, in the County of Salem and State of New Jersey, has received the following information from PSEG Nuclear:

For decades, the Salem and Hope Creek nuclear generating stations have provided millions of New Jersey homes and businesses with safe, clean, affordable and around-the-clock electricity. Here in Salem County, they have supported thousands of good-paying jobs and pumped more than \$1.2 billion into the economy every year. Now, like other nuclear plants across the U.S., Salem and Hope Creek are at risk of closing. Nuclear power protects the air we all breathe, helps keep our energy costs low and provides enough carbon-free energy to power 3.8 million homes year-round.

AND WHEREAS, PSEG Nuclear has informed the Mannington Township Committee of the following primary points:

1. Economic and Civic: PSEG Nuclear is a major economic engine in South Jersey, and in particular, Salem County. The plants account for over 1,600 direct jobs and thousands more through indirect suppliers and contractors. The loss of these nuclear plants and the high-paying jobs they provide would be devastating and would remove \$1.2 billion per year from the state's economy.
2. Salem Region: PSEG Nuclear is an active Corporate Citizen. Employees are engaged and genuinely care about and are a part of our community.
3. Environmental Benefits: PSEG Nuclear supplies around 40% of the electricity generated in the State, but more importantly provides 90% of the carbon-free power. Nuclear provides the same environmental and climate benefits as renewable generation, but at a fraction of the cost to the ratepayer.
4. Reliability: A diverse fuel mix supports and strengthens a resilient energy grid to maintain reliability.

AND WHEREAS, PSEG Nuclear has also informed the Mannington Township Committee that, presently, PSEG Nuclear is going through the New Jersey Board of Public Utility's Zero Emission Certificates (ZECs) application process, and that the ZEC Program has helped to preserve the operations of Salem and Hope Creek during the past two years; and

WHEREAS, PSEG Nuclear has requested a statement of support containing the above information that will be sent out by the Salem County Board of Chosen Commissioners with the Mayor representing the Township of Mannington as a signatory, and has also requested a digital copy of the Mannington Township seal to be utilized in connection with the statement of support; and

WHEREAS, based on the above information that has been provided by PSEG Nuclear, the Mayor and members of the Mannington Township Committee, as elected officials, wish to acknowledge the economic, environmental and human value of preserving New Jersey's nuclear generation to South Jersey and to the entire state, and to acknowledge further that:

1. for forty years PSEG Nuclear has been part of the fabric of our communities;

2. two years ago the State of New Jersey made the wise decision to support its nuclear plants as described above;
3. Nuclear power is important when it comes to protecting South Jersey's environment, our economy and our workforce; and
4. as the duly elected representatives of the people, community and government of Mannington Township we encourage the State to continue that support, not only for our residents, our community and our region, but because it provides energy security for New Jersey.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mannington Township Committee, that, for the reasons stated above, the Mayor of Mannington Township is hereby authorized to sign the requested letter of support on behalf of the Mannington Township Committee; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mannington Township Clerk is hereby authorized to provide PSEG Nuclear with a digital copy of the Mannington Township seal as requested, with the understanding that the seal will only be utilized in connection with the Mayor's statement of support and for no other purpose.

Mayor Asay reported on a visit he had from Fire Chief Butcher. Butcher voiced safety concerns of two (2) missing fire hydrants. He also spoke with a few people from the Salem Water & Sewer Department. The Committee discussed this briefly and decided to start with a letter to the Mayor & Council.

Horner explained the new Cannabis legislation, which recently went into effect. He gave an overview on the impacts of the legislation. He explained there was a one hundred eighty (180) day period where municipalities can adopt an ordinance to opt out. Horner's recommendation, bases on past acts, would be to adopt an ordinance prohibiting cannabis. He stated that 180 days was not enough time for municipalities to plan carefully. After having time to plan, the ordinance can always be amended to permit a part or any parts of the legislation. Motion was made by Emel, seconded by Asay, authorizing Horner to put together a "placeholder" ordinance. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE: 1. NJ DEP Green Acres Program, Re: Fenwick Recreation Park. Horner will look into any deed restrictions and find out options of what the Township can do with the land.

2. NJ SADC made appropriations announcement for the Planning Incentive Grant for 2021. Asay suggested maybe the Ag Environmental Committee may want to look at the parameters to qualify and possibly extend the acreage. 3. Dave Kitt of Mannington Mills sent an application form for a permit, which required the Mayor's signature. Kitts would like to schedule a Monday night meeting to explain to the Committee where they are at now with the remediation project. 4. Mayor Asay shared, as an FYI, the Amended 2020 Equalization Values Table. Mannington Township is at 93.90%. 5. The Committee received a letter of resignation from Linda Jones, Treasurer, effective June 30, 2021. Mrs. Jones is going to retire. At this time, CFO Bowman submitted to Mayor Asay an application for the position. The applicant is currently receiving training in Carney's Point Township from Linda Jones. Ms. Bowman stated the applicant also has a position in Pilesgrove Township.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:

Patrick gave a verbal Public Works report. The department has been trying to use the old salt up but thinks they will have enough to last the winter. The workers are servicing and/or repairing the mowing equipment. They have been filling potholes and performing general maintenance. Patrick discussed the truck needing a new bed and lift-gate. Patrick said Ron is getting prices.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Motion was made by Emel, seconded by Patrick, opening Public Comment period. Motion carried. There being no comments, motion was made by Emel, seconded by Patrick, closing Public Comment period. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Asay, seconded by Patrick, adopting the following resolution. Motion carried.

**MANNINGTON TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
RESOLUTION FOR CLOSED SESSION
(March 4, 2021)**

WHEREAS, the Mannington Township Committee will now conduct a closed session for discussions from which the public may be lawfully excluded pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act (*N.J.S.A. 10:4-6, et seq.*);

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mannington Township Committee, as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from the closed session discussions which are the subject of this resolution.
2. The general nature of the subjects to be discussed during the closed session is as follows:
Pending or anticipated litigation in which Mannington Township is or may be a party, and matters falling within the attorney-client privilege, relating to John S. DiGregorio's hunting activities on the Juska farm and the Township's appeal of the Salem County Agriculture Development Board's decision as memorialized in its October 28, 2020 resolution; and pending or anticipated contract negotiation in which Mannington Township is or may be a party, and matters falling within the attorney-client privilege, relating to the possible sale of Township-owned lands.
3. The discussions conducted during the closed session will be disclosed to the public as follows:
 - a. with respect to matters involving pending or anticipated litigation, after such matters have been resolved and any periods of appeal have expired;
 - b. with respect to other matters, when the need for confidentiality no longer exists.
4. No action will be taken during the closed session, but action may be taken following the closed session.

The meeting was open to the public.

Mayor Asay asked the Committee to review the parcels for sale and the virtual auction quote submitted by Rich Warner and they will discuss at the next meeting on March 29, 2021.

Patrick said Ron Owens, Public Works Foreman is going to coordinate with Guy Paving to schedule the Marshalltown Road job as the weather permits.

REPORTS :

The following reports were filed:

Tax Collector reported receipts for February in the amount of \$942,200.06.

Mid-Salem County Court submitted a check in the amount of \$1,376.20 for fines received in February.

Registrar's receipts for February totaled \$1,550.00.

There were sixteen (16) dog licenses issued in February, totaling \$288.00.

Finance reported receipts of \$949,898.19 for the month of February.

There being no further business to transact, the Mayor adjourned the meeting by regular motion at 9:53 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Esther A. Mitchell, Clerk

March 8, 2021 NO QUORUM