

Townhall  
September 1, 2022

The Mannington Township Committee meeting was called to order by Mayor Asay at 5:30 PM. The following were in attendance: Asay, Patrick, Dunham, Horner, Mitchell, Elwell, Davis with Schmid arriving at 6:10 pm.

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

**BILLS FOR PAYMENT:**

Motion was made by Patrick, seconded by Dunham, approving the attached bill list for payment. Roll call vote as follows:

Asay - yes      Patrick - yes      Dunham - yes

CFO submitted a Summary Budget Status Report as of September 1, 2022, along with a Report of Reconciled Cash Balances for the month ending July 31, 2022.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Motion was made by Patrick, seconded by Dunham, approving of the minutes for the meeting held on July 25, 2022. Motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Mayor Asay shared with the Committee the comments he made at the hearing regarding the sale of the Salem Medical Center (Salem Hospital) property.

There was no report from Dunham on the SC Agriculture Tour as Dunham was not aware the group was meeting at the SC Fair Grounds to catch the bus.

As the Mayor attend a virtual meeting with representatives from the NJDEP Stormwater section he updated the Committee on the State's explanation of the rule change that is causing the township to change from a Tier B to a Tier A Stormwater Permit. All NJ towns with a current Tier B permit are being directed, beginning January 2023, they

must now apply for a Tier A permit and meet those standards. The NJDEP is being directed from the Environmental Protection Agency to make this change. Prior to this meeting, Mayor Asay sent a letter of appeal to the NJDEP. The Township Engineer estimates an initial cost between \$10,000 - \$15,000, with help from the Township employees. The estimated cost, with no help from the Township is \$30,000 - \$35,000. The State said they will have a grant program next year to help offset those costs. The Committee discussed several requirements of the Tier A Stormwater Permit and the idea of creating a shared service for a majority of the items. One particular requirement for Tier A is street sweeping. Asay spoke with the representatives about this as we are a rural community. They clarified that only asphalt or concrete Township-owned roads/streets are required to be swept, not oil and chipped roads.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

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

**MANNINGTON TOWNSHIP**

**Resolution Opposing the Proposed Increases to the State Health Benefits Program**

**WHEREAS**, the State Health Benefits Program (SHBP), governed by N.J.S.A. 52:14-17.25 et seq., offers medical, prescription drug, and dental coverage to qualified State and participating local government public employees, retirees, and eligible dependents; and

**WHEREAS**, all SHBP plans are self-funded meaning that the money paid out for benefits comes directly from a SHBP fund supplied by the State, participating local employers, and member premiums; and

**WHEREAS**, the Division of Pensions and Benefits is responsible for the daily administrative activities of the SHBP, the State Health Benefits Commission is the executive organization responsible for overseeing the SHBP; and

**WHEREAS**, the State Health Benefits Commission, comprised of state officials and union representatives, annually consider the calendar year premium levels for the Local Government Employer Group of the SHBP based on recommendations found in the Rate Setting Recommendation Analysis of the Local Government Employee Group; and

**WHEREAS**, the preliminary rate increase for the 2023 Local Government Employer Group is 22.8%, which includes a 21.6% increase for Active, a 13% increase in Early Retiree, and a 0.7% increase for Medicare Retiree; and

**WHEREAS**, subsequent news accounts has Department of Treasury noting “rates for active members and early retirees would likely be increase between 12-20% across the various plans for the upcoming year”; and

**WHEREAS**, such proposed exorbitant rate increases will fall upon the local property taxpayer along with the local public employees at a time where there is record inflation, and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed premium increase for most active employees will take thousands more out of their paychecks annually and lead to expanded costs for local governments that will translate into higher property tax bills for struggling families; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the governing body of the Township of Mannington, in the County of Salem, call up the State Health Benefit Commission to reconsider the rate increase and strike a rate increase that is appropriate in the current economic conditions; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Township Committee of the Township of Mannington, in the County of Salem, urge the legislature to adopt legislation expanding the composition of the State Health Benefits Commission to include representatives from both municipal and county government management; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Governor Murphy, State Treasurer Muoio, Senate President Scutari, Assembly Speaker Coughlin, Third District Senator Durr, Third District Assemblywoman McCarthy Patrick, Third District Assemblywoman Sawyer, and New Jersey State League of Municipalities.

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

Asay - yes  
Patrick - yes  
Dunham - yes

**MANNINGTON TOWNSHIP  
RESOLUTION ACCEPTING BID OF  
ARAWAK PAVING CO., INC. FOR  
MANNINGTON YORKTOWN ROAD PHASE I RESURFACING  
(2022)**

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Mannington issued an invitation for bids to be received on or before July 21, 2022 (11:00 a.m.) for the Township’s project known as “Mannington Yorktown Road Phase I Resurfacing” as set forth in the requirements and specifications prepared by the Township Engineer, Robert A. Mulford, III, P.E. & C.M.E., of Fralinger Engineering, P.A. (the “Invitation to Bid”); and

**WHEREAS**, the Township received six (6) bids in response to the Invitation to Bid, which responses were submitted by Arawak Paving Co., Inc.; Landberg Construction LLC; Paving Plus LLC; Richard E. Pierson Construction Co., Inc.; Ricky Slade Construction, Inc.; and South State, Inc., before the specified deadline; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Engineer has issued correspondence dated July 22, 2022, by which he has confirmed that the low bid was submitted by Arawak Paving Co., Inc., in the amount of \$186,136.00 (Base \$161,300.00; Alternate #1 \$24,836.00), and by which he has approved the types and quantities of materials proposed in that low bid, all as more particularly set forth in his Bid Summary that was provided with the correspondence; and

**WHEREAS**, based on the above, and with the understanding that the Township has received a grant from the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) in the amount of \$202,979.00 that covers construction costs, construction inspection, and material testing, the Township Engineer has

recommended in his aforesaid correspondence that the Base Bid should be awarded to Arawak Paving Co., Inc., in the amount of \$161,300.00, subject to the Township Solicitor's review and approval of the bid documents for compliance with bidding requirements, and the Township Treasurer's certification of available funds; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Engineer has also advised that, if the contract is awarded, three (3) copies of the form entitled "New Jersey Department of Transportation Division of Local Aid and Economic Development Recommendation of Award State Aid Project" (Form SA-22-11/98) should be signed by the Mannington Township Mayor and Clerk and returned to the Township Engineer for submission to NJDOT; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Solicitor has reviewed and approved the bid documents of the low bidder Arawak Paving Co., Inc., for compliance with the bidding requirements, as confirmed in his email to the Township Clerk dated July 26, 2022;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Township Committee of the Township of Mannington, in the County of Salem and State of New Jersey, that the Base Bid of Arawak Paving Co., Inc., in the amount of \$161,300.00, for the Township's project known as "Mannington Yorktown Road Phase I Resurfacing," is hereby accepted by the Township Committee subject to the Township Solicitor's approval of a contract and related documents consistent with the requirements and specifications set forth in the Invitation to Bid; the Township's insurers' and/or Risk Management Officer's confirmation that all insurance requirements of the Invitation to Bid are satisfied; and the Township Treasurer's certification of available funds; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Mannington Township Mayor or Deputy Mayor, and the Mannington Township Clerk, are hereby authorized to sign and date three copies of the above referenced Recommendation of Award Form and return the signed, dated copies to the Township Engineer for submission to NJDOT; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Mannington Township Mayor or Deputy Mayor, and the Mannington Township Clerk, are hereby authorized to sign a contract with of Arawak Paving Co., Inc., for the Township's project known as "Mannington Yorktown Road Phase I Resurfacing" after the Township Clerk receives the aforesaid contract approval, insurance confirmation, and certification of funds.

Motion was made by Patrick, seconded by Dunham, adopting the following-named ordinance on first reading. Roll call vote as follows:

Asay - yes  
Patrick - yes  
Dunham - yes

#### **MANNINGTON TOWNSHIP**

#### **ORDINANCE NO. 22- 04**

#### **AN ORDINANCE REQUIRING LANDLORD REGISTRATION OF NON-OWNER-OCCUPIED ONE-DWELLING AND TWO-DWELLING RENTAL UNITS PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 46:8-27, ET SEQ., AND N.J.A.C. 5:29-1.1, ET SEQ**

The Public Hearing on the above ordinance was set for October 6, 2022 at 6:00 pm.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

1. Salem County Engineer's Office sent notification they will no longer be conducting Stormwater Education at the Salem County Fair.
2. A Franchise Renewal packet was received from Comcast.

**PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:**

A verbal report for the month of August was given by Patrick.

Types of trees for replacement in the front of Townhall was briefly discussed. No decision was made at this time.

The Mayor suggested Foreman Owens attend the League of Municipalities Conference in November where he may be able to speak to vendors about trucks and brine equipment.

A letter from Township resident, Robert Eller, seeking full-time employment if a position became available, was reviewed and filed.

A quote from Frank Comerford to replace the pillars at the entrance's of Townhall was received and reviewed. As the Committee thought the quote was high, the department will seek additional quotes.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

1. Mayor Asay reported speaking with the Alloway Township Solicitor, Niki Arbittier, about Brown Street, (located off Penton Station Road in Alloway Twp.), as to whether the Alloway had in the past vacated that portion of the street. He then sent her all information he had regarding Brown Street. Horner also gave an update on the topic.

2. The Ag Advisory Committee plans to meet soon to review and recommend an updated Target Farm List and review and approve of the letter to go out to qualified farmland qualified land owners within the township.

3. Horner reported he is holding off speaking with Solicitor Ken Miller about B51, L15 until he has more finalized information. He suggests contacting the NJDOT to see if there would be any opposition for placement of the drive on Route 45 for entrance and egress.

**ZONING REPORT:**

A written and verbal zoning report for the month of August was given by Schmid.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

This portion of the meeting was opened and closed by regular motion with no comments.

**REPORTS:**

The following reports were filed:

Tax Collector reported receipts for August in the amount of \$1,355,679.76.

Mid-Salem County Court submitted one check in the amount of \$2,118.85 for fines received in August.

Registrar's receipts for August totaled \$2,380.00.

There were no dog licenses issued in August.

Finance reported receipts of \$435,051.56 for the month of August.

There being no further business to transact, the Mayor adjourned the meeting by regular motion at 6:26 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Esther A. Mitchell, Clerk

<b>September 12, 2022</b>	<b>NO QUORUM</b>
<b>September 19, 2022</b>	<b>NO QUORUM</b>
<b>September 26, 2022</b>	<b>NO QUORUM</b>
<b>October 3, 2022</b>	<b>NO QUORUM</b>