



Founded 1749

**TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE  
TOWNSHIP OF MENDHAM  
March 13, 2017  
Regular Session 7:30 PM.**

**ROLL CALL**

Mr. Baumann	Absent
Mr. Cioppettini	Present
Mr. Diegnan	Present
Mr. Gisser	Present – absent for vote of resolution 2017-44, arrived at 7:35PM
Mayor Orban Brown	Present

Also Present: John M. Mills, III, Esq., Township Attorney  
Debbie Bonanno, Administrator  
Karen Fornaro, CFO  
Mary Beth Zichelli, Township Clerk

**SALUTE TO THE FLAG**

**STATEMENT OF ADEQUATE NOTICE:**

Adequate notice of this meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Mendham was given as required by the Open Public Meetings Act as follows: Notice was given to the Daily Record, Observer Tribune and the Star Ledger on January 7, 2017. Notice was posted on the Bulletin Board in the Township Offices and Notice was filed with the Township Clerk.

**RESOLUTION 2017-44**

**APPOINTING ROSS JOHNSON TO THE POSITION OF POLICE CHIEF**

Mayor Orban Brown called for a motion. Mr. Cioppettini moved. Mr. Gisser seconded. All members voted to approve.

**SWEARING IN OF POLICE CHIEF** – Mr. Mills swore the new Chief into office and the Mayor read the resolution.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor expressed her sympathy on the passing of Jeffrey Thornberry, a longtime resident and firefighter.

The Mayor reminded people of the Mendies event, taking place April 7<sup>th</sup> at the Community Club.

The Rotary Antique show is April 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> at the high school and the proceeds will go to High School scholarships.

Mr. Cioppettini announced that the high school mock trial team will be competing for the State Championship.

Ms. Bonnano announced that the Governor issued a blizzard warning and a state of emergency. Township offices will be closed Tuesday, March 14<sup>th</sup>.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

February 28, 2017, regular session

Mayor Orban Brown called for a motion. Mr. Cioppettini moved. Mr. Gisser seconded. All members present voted to approve.

February 28, 2017, executive session

Mayor Orban Brown called for a motion. Mr. Gisser moved. Mr. Diegnan seconded. All members present voted to approve.

## **PRESENTATION**

2017 Municipal Budget – Karen Fornaro, CFO (power point attached)

## **HEARING PERSONS PRESENT**

**Michael Merritt**, 73 Mountainside Rd, asked for a review of any line items changed in the budget and also expressed his opinion that the Committee owes a responsibility to the residents to support the resources such as schools and playgrounds.

**Amalia Duarte**, 22 Brockton Drive, expressed her disappointment in the Township Committee deferring the playground budget for next year.

**Robert Eberhart**, 3 Colonial Place, expressed his frustration with the Committee and their lack of compassion for the younger homeowners.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **RESOLUTIONS**

#### **RESOLUTION 2016-45**

##### **INTRODUCTION OF THE 2017 MUNICIPAL BUDGET**

Mayor Orban Brown called for a motion. Mr. Cioppettini moved. Mr. Gisser seconded. All members present voted to approve.

Second reading and public hearing scheduled for April 18, 2017

**RESOLUTION 2017-46**

**BUDGET TRANSFERS**

Mayor Orban Brown called for a motion. Mr. Gisser moved. Mr. Diegnan seconded. The resolution was divided into two portions; senior operating expenses and mayor and committee operating expenses were extracted and all members present voted to approve the resolution without them. The two extracted items were voted on. Mr. Cioppettini voted no, and the remaining three members present voted yes. It did not pass.

**RESOLUTION 2017-47**

**APPROVING ISSUANCE OF SOCIAL AFFAIR PERMIT TO FRIENDS OF MENDHAM TELEVISION**

Mayor Orban Brown called for a motion. Mr. Cioppettini moved. Mr. Diegnan seconded. All members voted to approve.

**RESOLUTION 2017-48**

**AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS**

Mayor Orban Brown called for a motion. Mr. Gisser moved. Mr. Diegnan seconded. All members voted to approve.

**DISCUSSION**

**HEARING PERSONS PRESENT**

**Peter Dumovic**, 39 Shelton Road, applauded the finance committee for a clear presentation and an excellent discussion amongst the Committee.


**Amalia Duarte**, 22 Brockton Drive, asked for support from the Committee for the playground.

**Michael Merritt**, 73 Mountainside Rd, stated he was not aware of the \$2000 transfer involving the Mendham TV and wanted the newer members of the Committee to be cognizant of what Mendham TV was requested of by the previous Mayor.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The Township Committee motioned to adjourn at 9:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Mary Beth Zichelli  
Township Clerk