



**TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE  
TOWNSHIP OF MENDHAM  
August 8, 2016 – 6:30 p.m. Executive Session  
7:30 p.m. Regular session**

**ROLL CALL:**

Mr. Baumann	Absent
Mrs. Orban Brown	Present
Mrs. Thomas	Present
Mr. Tolley	Present
Mayor Cioppettini	Present

Also Present: John M. Mills, III, Esq., Township Attorney  
Debbie Bonanno, Township Administrator  
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 8, 2016. Notice was posted on the Bulletin Board in the Township Offices and Notice was filed with the Township Clerk.

**PRESENTATION**

Morris County Board of Chosen Freeholders Christine Myers and Kathy Defillipo presented the 2016 budget. (Attached)

**PROCLAMATION**

Childhood Cancer Awareness Month

The Mayor read a proclamation proclaiming September National Childhood Cancer Month in honor of Nicholas DaSilva.

**HEARING PERSONS PRESENT**

**Michael Merrit, 73 Mountainside Road**, suggested the freeholder budget be posted to our website.

**Peter Dumovic, 3 Shelton Road**, suggested there may be residents of Mendham Township who can assist the Freeholder Budget Committee and are prepared to volunteer their time and expertise to help find avenues to drive economic development in Morris County.

**Rob Myers, 87 Mosle Road**, explained the need for practice fields with lights and asked to have the use of Mosle Field. He explained how important sports were for children and Mosle field had ample parking, one way traffic flow for safety and the neighbors effected by the lights have stated they do not mind. The coach of the flag football team reiterated what Mr. Myers said and added they would be off the fields by 8:30 PM, Monday through Thursday and 6:45 on Fridays, with no weekends.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

July 26, 2016, executive

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

July 26, 2016, regular

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

**ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READING**

**ORDINANCE 2016-15**

**AMENDING THE SEWER SERVICE CHARGES FOR THE MENDHAM WEST WATER POLLUTION CONTROL SYSTEM**

Mayor Cioppettini read the Ordinance by title and called for a motion to introduce. Mrs. Orban Brown moved. Mr. Tolley seconded. All members present voted to approve. This ordinance will be on for second reading and public hearing at the August 23, 2016 Township Committee Meeting.

**RESOLUTIONS**

**RESOLUTION 2016-110**

**AUTHORIZING REFUND OF OVERPAYMENT OF 2016 TAXES**

Mayor Cioppettini called for a motion. Mrs. Thomas moved. Mr. Tolley seconded. All members present voted to approve.

**RESOLUTION 2016-111**

**ENDORING OPTION ONE OF THE SCHOOL FEASIBILITY REPORT**

Mayor Cioppettini called for a motion. Mrs. Thomas moved. Mrs. Orban Brown seconded. The Mayor explained that Option 1 called for a binding referendum to split the high schools which would mean a tremendous savings to the Township, and feels the voters should decide. Mrs. Orban Brown remarked that shared services are normally the way to go, but not for this. In the case of the high schools it is better to go their separate ways and the most reasonable is Option 1. All members present voted to approve.

**RESOLUTION 2016-112**

**AUTHORIZING THE APPROVAL OF CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN**

Mayor Cioppettini called for a motion. Mr. Tolley moved. Mrs. Thomas seconded. All members present voted to approve.

**RESOLUTION 2016-113**

**AWARDING TILCON THROUGH THE MORRIS COUNTY CO-OP THE PAVING OF VARIOUS ROADS NOT TO EXCEED \$254,510**

Mayor Cioppettini called for a motion. Mr. Tolley moved. Mrs. Thomas seconded. All members present voted to approve.

## **RESOLUTION 2016-114**

### **AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS**

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

### **DISCUSSION**

#### **Cold Hill Design**

Ms. Bonanno explained that Mr. Hansen, our Township engineer has asked to go ahead with the road design for the Cold Hill Road repaving project at a cost of approximately \$7500 even though the State has delayed the payment of Grants. He feels it would be better to have the plans ready to go when the State gives the go ahead. Mrs. Thomas does not think the Township should spend the money at this time. The Mayor suggested tabling the discussion until the August 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting and asked Ms. Bonanno to get more information from Mr. Hansen.

#### **Mosle Preserve lighting**

**Mrs. Orban Brown** recalls a soccer club using lights when Mosle Field was first acquired, but was not sure how that transpired and Mrs. Thomas said they used lights but did not have permission.

**Mrs. Thomas** stated that a promise was made to residents that there would never be lights on the field and feels they should be respected.

**Mayor Cioppettini** explained the ordinance in place states that parks are open from dusk to dawn and should obey that.

**Mrs. Orban Brown** asked if the Recreation Commission has been involved in this discussion.

**Mrs. Thomas** remarked that she had heard in the past the complaints of residents; parents of the players would go up to the doors of residents by the field asking where the field was and they found that quite unnerving.

**Mrs. Orban Brown** suggested that Mr. Myers and Mr. Lasorsa contact the recreation commission and let them do a survey of the residents.

**Mr. Tolley** agreed with the other Committee members in regards to the respect of the neighbors.

#### **Pitney Farm**

Mr. Tolley asked to get a price to have the remainder of the Pitney Farmhouse that was destroyed by fire, be demolished for safety reasons.

### **REPORTS**

**Administrator** – Ms. Bonanno stated she is working on updating the phone system and shared services.

**DPW** – Mr. Tolley said the Public works is on schedule for everything.

**Police**- Mrs. Orban Brown read Lt. Johnson's report which mentioned an increase in thefts of vehicles and reminded residents to keep their car doors locked at all times, even if it is in their garage. He also reminded residents to register with the Police for the Vacant House Check program if they were going to be on vacation.

Mrs. Orban Brown also mentioned they would be negotiating the PBA contracts soon. The committee will consist of an outside labor counsel, Mrs. Orban Brown and the Mayor.

**Finance** – Mr. Cioppettini expressed his concern over revenues for the first six months, largely due to the UCC fees which are very low this year because of lack of construction in the Township.

#### **HEARING PERSONS PRESENT**

**Tara Skirzenski, 4 Byram Court**, asked for more information regarding the Sewer West rate increase.

**Mrs. Orban Brown** told her the rate would be increased by 20% in October 2016 through 2018 and then a 5% increase. The Mayor suggested Ms. Fornaro would come to the August 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting to answer any questions.

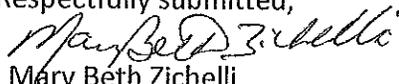
**Peter Dumovic, 3 Shelton Road**, applauded the Township Committee on passing the resolution endorsing Option 1 of a potential de-regionalization of current high school district, with creation of a new regional high school district serving just the Mendham's and the Chester's. He stated four reasons for his support of the resolution. (1) This step does not negatively impact the education of students in either of the two high schools; (2) There would be no change in Mendham Township's school district, with its superb elementary school and exemplary middle school; (3) There would be significant cost savings to residents of Mendham Township, with an approx. \$900 tax reduction annually for the average household; (4) Most importantly, this step will ultimately require a public referendum, so voters will now have the final word on approval or disapproval of the de-regionalization of high school district. He also stated that he looked forward to the BOE of the Mendham Township K-8 School District taking action on the resolution passed by the Township Committee tonight at the next BOE meeting.

Seeing no one else wished to speak the Mayor closed hearing persons present and announced that during Executive Session, the Committee authorized the CFO to pay the Insurance Company in regards to the Crawford case.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The Township Committee motioned to adjourn at 8:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Mary Beth Zichelli  
Township Clerk