

**MANCHESTER TOWNSHIP
MEETING MINUTES
February 25, 2013**

The meeting of the Manchester Township Council was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Council Vice President Brendan Weiner. The following statement was read by the Municipal Clerk:

“Adequate notice of this meeting was provided in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, pursuant to P.L. 1975, Chapter 231. Said notice was advertised in the Asbury Park Press, Star Ledger and was posted in the lobby of the Municipal Building.”

This was followed by the salute to the flag and the following roll call:

FLAG SALUTE

ROLL CALL

The following roll call was taken by the Municipal Clerk:

Councilman Charles Frattini	- present
Councilman James Vaccaro	- present
Councilman Brendan Weiner	- present
Councilman Sam Fusaro	- present
Councilman Craig Wallis	- absent

The Clerk noted for the record that, also present were Business Administrator Elena Zsoldos, Township Attorney Steven Secare and Chief Financial Officer Diane Lapp.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

The reorganization minutes of January 2, 2013 were offered upon a motion by Mr. Weiner, seconded by Mr. Fusaro and **approved** by the following roll call vote: Councilmen Frattini, Vaccaro, Fusaro and Weiner; yea.

SUBMISSION OF BILLS:

Resolution #13-083 – Authorizing payment of bills from the Current Fund in the amount of \$1,330,411.28 was offered by Mr. Vaccaro, seconded by Mr. Fusaro and approved by the following roll call vote: Councilmen: Frattini, Vaccaro, Fusaro, and Weiner; yea.

Resolution #13-084 – Authorizing payment of bills from the Water and Sewer Fund in the amount of \$260,851.26 was offered by Mr. Vaccaro, seconded by Mr. Fusaro and approved by the following roll call vote: Councilmen: Frattini, Vaccaro, Fusaro and Weiner; yea.

Resolution #13-085 – Authorizing payment of bills from the Water and Sewer West Fund in the amount of \$67,572.66, was offered by Mr. Vaccaro, seconded by Mr. Fusaro and approved by the following roll call vote: Councilmen: Frattini, Vaccaro, Fusaro and Weiner; yea.

CONSENT AGENDA

The items listed below are considered to be routine by the Township of Manchester and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no formal discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, this item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.

Mr. Weiner asked if any Council members had any comments on any items on the consent agenda.

Seeing no comments from Council, Mr. Weiner asked if there were any comments from the public on any item on the consent agenda.

Fred Lund – LVW: Mr. Lund commented with regard to #13-089 and asked if this was a new expense. Mr. Secare advised that Mr. Gelfand is being hired as Labor Counsel on a confidential personnel matter. This is a continuing issue. Mr. Lund also questioned Resolution #13-090 and asked what the amount of his contract is. Mr. Secare advised that it may not cost us a penny but he has been awarded a contract in case a need arises for his services. His expenses will come out of the legal line item when he submits a bill. Mr. Lund also commented with regard to Resolution #13-091 and asked why he was being hired. Mr. Secare stated that his fees will come out of the prosecution line item. The Court felt that another Conflict Prosecutor was needed to be appointed and will only be used if the need arose.

Seeing no further comments, Mr. Weiner closed the public portion.

Resolutions #13-086 through #13-094 were considered routine by the Manchester Township Council and were enacted by one motion offered by Mr. Vaccaro seconded by Mr. Frattini and adopted by the following roll call vote: Councilmen: Frattini, Vaccaro, Fusaro and Weiner; yea.

A. FINANCE

#13-086 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING THE REFUNDS REQUESTED BY THE TAX COLLECTOR

B. PURCHASING

#13-087 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE DISPOSITION OF PROPERTY IN THE POSSESSION OF THE MANCHESTER TOWNSHIP AT AUCTION ON GOVDEALS.COM

C. GRANTS

#13-088 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING APPLICATION FOR AN OCEAN COUNTY TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM GRANT

D. CONTRACTS/AGREEMENTS

#13-089 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AWARDING A CONTRACT TO AND AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF TODD GELFAND, ESQUIRE OF THE FIRM OF BARKER, SCOTT, GELFAND AND JAMES AS MUNICIPAL LEGAL SERVICES LABOR COUNSEL PURSUANT TO AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 ET SEQ.

#13-090 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AWARDING A CONTRACT TO AND AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF JEFFERY SURENIAN, ESQUIRE OF THE FIRM OF JEFFREY SURENIAN AND ASSOCIATES, LLC AS MUNICIPAL LEGAL SERVICES COUNSEL OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING PURSUANT TO AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 ET SEQ.

#13-091 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AWARDING A CONTRACT TO AND AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF ERIC BERNSTEIN, ESQUIRE OF THE FIRM OF ERIC BERNSTEIN AND ASSOCIATES AS MUNICIPAL CONFLICT PROSECUTOR PURSUANT TO AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 ET SEQ.

E. APPOINTMENTS

#13-092 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, REAPPOINTING JODI PELLICANO AS DEPUTY MUNICIPAL CLERK IN THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER PURSUANT TO AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH N.J.S.A. 40A:9-135

F. ESCROW/BONDS

#13-093 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, RELEASING AN ESCROW POSTED BY WAWA FOOD MARKET #948 FOR A PROJECT KNOWN AS BLOCK 83 LOT 3.04

#13-094 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, RELEASING AN ESCROW POSTED BY VINTAGE AUTOMOBILE MUSEUM OF NEW JERSEY, INC. IN CONNECTION WITH BLOCK 109 LOT 5

REPORTS

Mr. Fusaro: None

Mr. Vaccaro: Mr. Vaccaro attended the Ground Breaking Ceremony for the Army Aviation Support Facility on February 22, 2013 located at the Joint Base McGuire – Ft. Dix – Lakehurst. Upon completion, it will be an 180,000 square foot building for the New Jersey National Guard Aviation Battalion. However, upon arrival, he was told that it would be rescheduled until March 8, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. due to inclement weather. On February 25, 2013 he attended a meeting of the Manchester Coordinating Council. Several items were topic of discussion such as the Clayton Railroad Crossing, the lack of bus routes in Whiting and sidewalks on Route 530.

Mr. Frattini: Mr. Frattini was working with the Business Administrator to find sites to be targeted for development. Ratables are needed within the Township to help the tax base.

Mr. Weiner: Mr. Weiner read the First Aid productivity report for January 2013. The Clerk is acquiring more information on energy aggregation. JCP&L will be raising rates to cover the cost of Hurricane Sandy damage. He felt the Township should act on energy aggregation now in order to save money. On February 12, 2013, Mr. Weiner spoke to the residents of Country Walk. They are questioning the need of an emergency access road out of the development. Mr. Weiner spoke to the Township Engineer and a bond is in place. A meeting of the Ocean County Mosquito Control Commission was held and Mr. Weiner attended. A contract was awarded to clean up storm debris on environmentally sensitive areas. The Manchester – Lakehurst Rotary will be holding a Fish Fry on March 8, 2013 at the Manchester Firehouse. All proceeds will be given back to the community.

Public

Larry Lee – Country Walk: Mr. Lee advised that the New Jersey Department of Transportation recognizes three railroad crossings in Manchester. They are Wranglebrook, Lacey and Diamond Rd. Ms. Zsoldos said she spoke to Todd Hurt of the NJDOT. It is not that they do not recognize Diamond Rd. as a railroad crossing, they do not feel the amount of traffic warrants the flashing light signal. Mr. Hurt did commit to say that after one month of the rail line being operational, he would send a diagnostic team out to monitor the traffic. Mr. Lee said it was a dangerous situation. Ms. Zsoldos said she will hold the NJDOT to their commitment of sending out the diagnostic team.

Fred Lund – LVW: Mr. Lund asked for a status of the 2013 budget. Ms. Zsoldos said they are still waiting for state aid figures and it should be introduced by April.

Carl Barna – River Pointe: Mr. Barna questioned the recent increase in his taxes and asked how a reassessment worked. Mr. Weiner explained the process of a reassessment and that the value of homes has held in some areas but the value of some of the senior villages has decreased. The value of the homes has been adjusted to adequately distribute the tax burden.

Renee Savage – 2041 Fourth Ave.: Ms. Savage commented with the rise of property taxes within the County due to Hurricane Sandy. She felt that people of Manchester did not have the luxury of living on the water and we should not have to pay the bill to bail out those residents of the shore area.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further comments or business to come before Council at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 6:57 p.m. on motion by Mr. Frattini, seconded by Mr. Fusaro and the approved by the following roll call vote: Councilmen: Frattini, Vaccaro, Fusaro and Weiner; yea.

Craig Wallis
Council President

Sabina Skibo, R.M.C.
Township Clerk

Date Adopted