

**Manchester Township Council
Meeting Minutes
November 26, 2012**

The meeting of the Manchester Township Council was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Council President Craig Wallis. 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:

The Clerk took the roll call:

Councilman Fred Trutkoff	-	absent
Councilman Warren Reiter	-	absent
Councilman Brendan Weiner	-	present
Councilman Sam Fusaro	-	present
Councilman Craig Wallis	-	present

Also present was Business Administrator Elena Zsoldos, Township Attorney Steven Secare and Chief Brian Klimakowski.

SUBMISSION OF BILLS:

Resolution #12-335 - Authorizing payment of bills from the Current Fund in the amount of \$1,077,216.12 was offered by Mr. Weiner, seconded by Mr. Fusaro and approved by the following roll call vote: Councilmen Weiner, Fusaro and Wallis; yea. Mr. Weiner abstained on check #1135.

Resolution #12-336 - Authorizing payment of bills from the Water and Sewer Fund in the amount of \$134,134.45 was offered by Mr. Weiner, seconded by Mr. Fusaro and approved by the following roll call vote: Councilmen Weiner, Fusaro and Wallis; yea.

Resolution #12-337 – Authorizing payment of bills from the Water and Sewer West Fund in the amount of \$94,638.94 was offered by Mr. Weiner, seconded by Mr. Fusaro and approved by the following roll call vote: Councilmen Weiner, Fusaro and Wallis; yea.

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ORDINANCES: First Reading and Introduction

#12-026 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, MAKING THE PROVISIONS OF SUBTITLE ONE OF TITLE 39 WITH VARIOUS TRAFFIC REGULATIONS APPLICABLE TO CRESTWOOD VILLAGE CO-OP THREE AND REGULATING THE USE OF SAID ROADWAYS, STREETS, DRIVEWAYS, AND PARKING LOTS BY MOTOR VEHICLES

The above ordinance was offered upon a motion by Mr. Weiner seconded by Mr. Fusaro and approved by the following roll call vote: Councilmen: Weiner, Fusaro and Wallis; yea.

#12-027 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, REQUIRING CRIMINAL HISTORY BACKGROUND CHECKS FOR EMERGENCY SERVICE/PUBLIC SAFETY VOLUNTEERS, AND ESTABLISHING THE PROCEDURES FOR THE PROCESSING OF CRIMINAL HISTORY BACKGROUND CHECKS

The above ordinance was offered upon a motion by Mr. Weiner seconded by Mr. Fusaro and approved by the following roll call vote: Councilmen: Weiner, Fusaro and Wallis; yea.

ORDINANCES: Second Reading, Public Hearing & Final Action

#12-024 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING THE SALARY RANGES AND POSITIONS OF BARGAINING UNIT EMPLOYEES

Mr. Wallis asked Council if they had any comments on the above ordinance. Seeing no comments from Council, Mr. Wallis opened this portion of the meeting to the public.

Hank Glen 29 Wycliffe Rd.: Mr. Glen asked for clarification on some positions on the salary ordinance. He didn't understand why the salary range of a person with an extra certification was lower than a regular laborer. Mr. Wallis explained that if a person in the lower position was in that position for 30 years they are at a top salary. The ordinance has to reflect that salary. The salary range reflects the seniority which may include longevity and years with good salary increases.

Seeing no further comments from the public, Mr. Wallis closed this portion of the meeting.

The above ordinance was offered upon a motion by Mr. Weiner seconded by Mr. Fusaro and **adopted** by the following roll call vote: Councilmen: Weiner, Fusaro and Wallis; yea.

#12-025 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING SALARY RANGES AND POSITIONS OF NON-BARGAINING UNIT EMPLOYEES

Mr. Wallis asked Council if they had any comments on the above ordinance. Seeing no comments from Council, Mr. Wallis opened this portion of the meeting to the public.

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Hank Glen - 29 Wycliffe Rd.: Mr. Glen felt sacrifices have to be made. Manchester has to exist with a lot of volunteers like our First Aid and Fire Departments. Mr. Glen was reviewing the Council's salary ordinance. He asked Council to think about not taking a salary for their position. He felt they ran for Town Council because they were interested in helping the Township and wanted to volunteer, not receive a pay check. Mr. Wallis said that most towns get paid and their elected officials get medical benefits. The Township Council does not take medical benefits. Mr. Secare explained that being on Council is not just attendance at twice a month meetings. In fact, there is more to it than that. The Mayor is in the office every day. Mr. Trutkoff and Mr. Reiter are in the office on a daily basis. Council has constant contact with one another through emails and phone calls. Mr. Fusaro even calls in from Maryland where he is working. Mr. Secare said Council really works hard. Ms. Zsoldos said the job is 24/7. They are stopped in ShopRite by residents who have complaints. Mr. Secare said the salaries are more than justified. The Township Committee from Lakewood has a \$25,000 benefit package that the Manchester Council does not receive. Mr. Glen suggested Council members should have more detailed reports. Mr. Glen felt that the reports would keep residents more abreast of situations. Mr. Wallis said Renaissance has not invited him to speak at any of their organizations. He is willing to do so if anyone wants to invite him. Mr. Wallis felt the salary that is paid to the Councilmen is fair.

Fred Lund – LVW: Mr. Lund said that after reading the salary ordinances that were on the agenda, the Township can anticipate some additional costs in the coming year's budget. He also asked if this was going to be covered by any additional income. Mr. Wallis said he was not aware of any anticipated income to cover this. Mr. Lund asked if expenses were going to be cut in order to cover the increases in salaries. Mr. Wallis said cuts are being made all the time. Mr. Lund said the budget has increased every year. We should start to make cuts. Mr. Lund said other towns have done it. He has newspaper articles to prove it. Mr. Wallis explained that budgets in other towns are inflated, so cuts are easy for them. We are continually fiscally responsible with our budgets, cutting what we can without impacting vital services. Manchester runs on a minimum budget. The problem is that there are not many areas to cut from. Manchester does not have enough personnel and employees are not being paid what they should be making if you compare it to every other municipality. Mr. Wallis said certain services have to be maintained such as Police, Fire and First Aid. The price of fuel has doubled in the last four years. The budget is being raised accordingly to deal with the increase in prices. Mr. Lund said the Recreation Department budget has been increased. Mr. Lund felt that recreation was not a function of government. Mr. Wallis disagreed with Mr. Lund. Mr. Weiner explained that Council was not voting on any salary increases. The salary ranges are being amended to bring them up to the proper ranges to make sure the Township is fiscally responsible. Mr. Lund felt that the Township budget is no different than a household budget. You should not spend more than you take in. Mr. Wallis agreed but you have to adjust your budget for increases. Mr. Lund said he was okay with the salary increases but felt that Council should come up with additional revenue to cover the increases. If not, expenses should be cut.

Seeing no further comments from the public, Mr. Wallis closed this portion of the meeting.

The above ordinance was offered upon a motion by Mr. Weiner seconded by Mr. Fusaro and **adopted** by the following roll call vote: Councilmen: Weiner, Fusaro and Wallis; yea.

Seeing no comments from the public, Mr. Wallis closed this portion of the meeting.

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RESOLUTIONS: 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. Wallis asked if any member of Council had any comments on any item on the consent agenda.

Seeing no comments from the Council, Mr. Wallis opened this portion of the meeting to the public.

Hank Glen – 29 Wycliffe Rd.: Mr. Glen commented with regard to the debris removal resolution. He wanted to know how it was going to work. Mr. Wallis said the Township is going into contract with Ocean County. The County is going to front the money to pick up all of the storm debris. They will be using a state contractor to pick it up. Once we receive our money from FE MA, we will pay the County back. Mr. Glen asked if the debris was going to be taken to the Ocean County Landfill. Ms. Zsoldos responded affirmatively. Mr. Fusaro advised that we would not be paying the landfill directly for our dumping fees. We only will be paying the contracted fee to the contractor picking up the debris. Mr. Glen asked if anyone has had a conversation with operators of the landfill to see if all the debris was going to shorten its lifespan. Mr. Fusaro said all of the debris, countywide, will only shorten its lifespan by a year.

Elaine Baumeister – LVW: Ms. Baumeister asked how she could get copies of the Senior Services grants that were on the agenda. Ms. Zsoldos said the grant application can be obtained in the Clerk's office. If Ms. Baumeister needed more specifics, Ms. Zsoldos said she could make an appointment to come and speak with her.

Fred Lund – LVW: Mr. Lund questioned Resolution #12-344 and asked if there were costs built into the price to cover the costs of handling fees. Mr Wallis advised that the cost covered the amount of the ticket and the bus fare. Mr. Lund suggested that charging a handling fee, could bring extra revenue into the town.

Seeing no further comments from the public, Mr. Wallis closed this portion of the meeting.

Resolutions #12-338 through #12-348 were considered routine by the Manchester Township Council and were enacted by one motion offered by Mr. Fusaro, seconded by Mr. Weiner and adopted by the following roll call vote: Councilmen Weiner, Fusaro and Wallis; yea.

A. FINANCE

#12-338 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING A DEDICATION BY RIDER FOR SNOW REMOVAL

#12-339 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE TAX COLLECTOR TO CANCEL TAXES AS TO BLOCK 75.05 LOT 3FOR A TOTALLY DISABLED VETERAN B.

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#12-340 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE TAX COLLECTOR TO CANCEL TAXES AS TO BLOCK 61.10 LOT 157 FOR A TOTALLY DISABLED VETERAN

#12-342 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE TAX COLLECTOR TO CANCEL TAXES AS TO BLOCK 61.13 LOT 427 FOR A TOTALLY DISABLED VETERAN

#12-343 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE TAX COLLECTOR TO CANCEL TAXES AS TO BLOCK 71.01 LOT 58 FOR A TOTALLY DISABLED VETERAN

#12-344 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, ESTABLISHING CERTAIN FEES FOR RECREATION THEATER TRIPS

#12-345 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, REFUNDING OVERPAYMENT OF A PERMIT FEE TO GEORGE LABOY FOR 1841 FOURTH AVE., BLOCK 1.81 LOT 26

B. GRANTS

#12-346 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF A GRANT AWARD THROUGH THE OFFICE OF SENIOR SERVICES

#12-347 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF A GRANT AWARD THROUGH THE OFFICE OF SENIOR SERVICES

#12-348 - RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT FOR SHARED SERVICES WITH THE COUNTY OF OCEAN FOR DEBRIS REMOVAL

REPORTS

Mr. Weiner: Mr. Weiner thanked Ms. Zsoldos for answering his questions regarding the salary ordinances. Mr. Weiner thanked residents for coming out to Council meetings to keep them on their toes. Being a Councilman is very challenging. It is very hard to find a happy medium to provide services that you would want and like, at a price that is affordable. Mr. Weiner attended the Ocean County Mosquito Commission meeting on November 19. They discussed Hurricane Sandy that caused boats to wash up on to sensitive marsh areas. They are in discussion with the Ocean County Freeholders on how they can get boats off of the environmentally sensitive areas with minimal damage. Mosquito Commission vehicles may be used to remove the boats. Mr. Weiner hopes to see the storm debris cleaned up shortly and hoped we can return to a sense of normalcy.

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Mr. Fusaro: Mr. Fusaro advised that there are some funds in the TY 2012 budget for storm cleanup. The Township has only expended 54% percent of what was projected. The County will now be picking up some of the costs for cleanup. Mr. Fusaro advised residents to be careful of tree limbs that are on the road. Public Works is doing everything they can to clean it up. The Police Department has received fifty four thousand calls to date. If you factor that out, it is a call every eight minutes around the clock. Sometimes the Police can take over five minutes to respond to your call if you consider the size of the municipality. The police budget has gone up nine million dollars, which is approximately fifty percent in twenty two years. The Township keeps up a relatively small budget. Mr. Fusaro went to the Manchester Coordinating Council meeting. Art Abline was invited to speak. At the meeting, Mr. Abline stressed the importance of signing up for the Reverse 911 system. If you do not have a land line then you may register your cell phone. Several emergency service items were discussed at the meeting. Mr. Fusaro thanked Mr. Abline and the employees of the Township for their hard work during the storm.

Mr. Wallis: Mr. Wallis read the Manchester First Aid activity report for October 2012. Mr. Wallis thanked Art Abline and Marisa Wilkins for their hard work during Hurricane Sandy as well as the First Aid, Fire and Police. The Clerk's Office worked long hours during the Presidential election to make sure it ran smoothly. Mr. Wallis thanked them for a job well done.

Ms. Zsoldos: Ms. Zsoldos advised that a company was hired by the County to do storm cleanup. The Public Works Department will work with the company to get the storm debris picked up as soon as possible. Ms. Zsoldos advised residents to be cautious when going out because there was still debris in the streets.

Mr. Secare: Mr. Secare thanked everyone for all of the hard work they did to get the debris removal resolution on the agenda. This took a lot of hard work because Council felt they had a legal and moral obligation to the residents to do this.

Ms. Skibo: Ms. Skibo announced the Clerk's Office adopts a family for Christmas time. Donations are collected from local businesses, residents, and employees. The Clerk's office shops and wraps. Further, Regional Day School has a Christmas tree down in the lobby. Ms. Skibo urged everyone to take a tag and buy an item for the children. The Township works very closely with Regional Day school. The students work in Township offices and help out wherever needed.

Ms. Pellicano: Ms. Pellicano reiterated what Ms. Skibo reported. One student has been with the Clerk's Office for a few years. She is a joy to work with and a big help. Ms. Pellicano urged residents to bring in a gift for Regional Day.

PUBLIC

Rich Slezak - Pine Acres Manor: Mr. Slezak asked how the debris removal contract would work. Ms. Zsoldos advised that the contract is to hire the State approved contractor that will clean up the debris in the entire Township. Mr. Slezak asked why this was not being kept in house. Mr. Zsoldos explained that Mr. Stanziano, Director of Public Works, said his department was understaffed. He felt that they could not handle the extra work.

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There being no further business at this time on motion by Mr. Fusaro and seconded by Mr. Weiner and unanimous voice vote of Council, the meeting was hereby adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Craig Wallis
Council President

Sabina T. Skibo, RMC
Municipal Clerk

Date Approved

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