

**MANCHESTER TOWNSHIP
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
April 20, 2017
Manchester Township High School**

The meeting of the Manchester Township Council was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Council President Sam Fusaro. 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.”

FLAG SALUTE

This was followed by following roll call:

ROLL CALL

The following roll call was taken by the Deputy Municipal Clerk:

Councilwoman Joan Brush	- present
Councilman Charles Frattini	- present
Councilman Craig Wallis	- absent
Councilman James Vaccaro	- absent
Councilman Sam Fusaro	- present

The Municipal Clerk noted for the record that also present were Township Attorney Angela Koutsouris, Robert Chilton and Jesse Castellanos from Gabel Associates and Tim Richmond from Tri-Eagle Energy.

PRESENTATION – Gabel Associates and Tri-Eagle Energy

Mayor Palmer said that he supports the program. During his campaign several residents said a major concern for them was the rising cost of electric. Most of the homes in Manchester are all electric and many residents cannot afford their bills. The cost savings with energy aggregation has been proven by other neighboring towns. This has been thoroughly investigated by Council. Mayor Palmer felt that some residents may potentially save around 800 dollars a year. Mr. Fusaro said the program has been vetted by Township Attorneys and the contract was written to protect the interests of the residents. The contract price will remain the same for two years.

Jesse Castellanos gave a presentation on how Energy Aggregation including the bid process and the savings that the residents of Manchester will see over the course of two years. Tim Richmond of Tri-Eagle Energy offered an over-view of his company and how they will offer service to residents. After the presentation, Mr. Castellanos opened the floor to questions.

Ron Owen – Leisure Village West: Mr. Owen thought this was a good concept and thanked Council for starting the program.

Jack Early – Renaissance: Mr. Early asked if there was any benefit to Manchester Township. Mr. Fusaro said there is no cost or profit for the Township. This is being done solely for the benefit of the residents.

Resident of Holly Oaks: The resident asked what the cost savings would be to the Township by switching to Tri-Eagle. Mr. Chilton advised that municipalities and school districts are in their own electrical coops. This program is for residents only.

Paul – Crestwood Village: Paul was worried if this would affect his benefits from Ocean Inc. that offset the cost of his electric bill. Mr. Castellanos advised this program will not affect his benefits.

Gary – Whiting: Gary asked if JCP&L raised their rates would the Tri-Eagle rates go up. Mr. Castellanos advised that Tri-Eagle rates would stay the same because they are locked in for two years.

Joe Curtis – Leisure Village West: Mr. Curtis said he was looking forward to the benefit of the program but wondered if this would affect his budget plan. Mr. Castellanos said this would not affect his budget plan.

Marsha – Holly Oaks: Marsha was concerned with the delivery charges being raised by JCP&L because she had a bad experience with that in the past.

Frank – Whiting: Frank asked how Gabel Associates came up with the average cost savings that the residents will realize. Mr. Chilton said there is a formula that is used that includes kilowatt per hour and the amount of residential homes in Manchester.

Dale – Pine Lake Park: Dale asked how a resident opts out of the program. Mr. Castellanos explained the process to Dale.

Richie – Leisure Village West: Richie wanted to make sure that only the Basic Generation Charge was changing. Mr. Castellanos explained that it would only be the Basic Generation Charge changing.

Katrina – Leisure Village West: Katrina asked if she opted out how long it would take to see the change on her bill back to JCP&L. Mr. Castellanos said the change would take effect immediately but she may not see it on her bill for one to two billing cycles.

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

REPORTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further comments or business to come before Council at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m. on a motion by Mr. Frattini, seconded by Ms. Brush and approved by the following roll call vote: Councilpersons Brush, Frattini, Fusaro; yea.

Sam F. Fusaro, Jr.
Council President
Township Clerk

Sabina T. Skibo, RMC

Date Approved