

Regular Meeting

April 14, 2022

7:30 PM

Mayor Sullivan called the meeting to order with a flag salute. This meeting was duly advertised in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Law, PL 1975, Chapter 231.

Call of the Roll: Mayor Sullivan, Mr. Carrow, Mr. Miller, Mr. Corwonski, Mr. Linton and Mr. Grova. Absent: Mrs. Pierce. Also present was Solicitor Rybeck.

Mayor Sullivan presented plaques to Bill Quigley and Gerald Marandino for their many years of service on the planning Board and to the community.

Committee Reports

Public Safety Chair-Mr. Grova distributed the February police report and advised that a discussion will take place later in closed session. Mr. Grova provided council with the Fire Department report for February.

Finance Chair- Mr. Carrow reported that his committee has been working on the budget and there is no increase in the local purpose tax for this year. Last year we increased taxes by one cent. Over the past five years there has been a six-cent decrease in municipal taxes. It has been the county and school taxes that have increased taxes. Mayor Sullivan thanked Mr. Carrow and the finance committee for their hard work and dedication.

Water- Mr. Corwonski reported that a Shade Tree Committee Meeting has been scheduled for April 27 at 7:00 PM

License & Inspection/Health& Welfare – Mr. Linton reported that 8 permits were issued for the month of March totaling 1,053. He noted that he is working on getting the signage and painting of curbs for the new ordinances that were adopted. Mayor Sullivan noted that there may be programs that are available through Gloucester County to assist with the painting of the curbs. Clerk Van Camp advised Clean Communities may have a program.

Recycling and Trash/ Buildings, Grounds, Roads Chair- Mr. Miller reported that the shred event was a success. The Road Department has begun the collection of the curb collection of grass and leaves. Mr. Miller advised the intended deadline for grass and leaf pick up is May 15. It was suggested a one call will be sent to all residents a week ahead of time to try and enforce this deadline. Mr. Miller suggested that we put up signs a week ahead of time to let people know that it is the final week for leave pickup After leaf collection is done, a flushing schedule will be implemented.

Mr. Miller advised that they finished their project in the Grove which involved replacing the brick on the band stand. He requested additional police presence in the grove. Mr. Carrow advised that there is \$10,000 in the budget for tree removal. Mr. Miller advised that there are no serious tree issues because they have been maintained each year.

Solicitor's Report - Mr. Rybeck addressed Resolution 31-22, He noted the tree ordinance is dispersed throughout the Zoning Code so this will condense that into one chapter of the zoning code. Mr. Rybeck recommended that an ordinance be created and

then sent to the planning board for their review to determine if any inconsistencies with the master plan exist and recommendations and any other matters the planning board deems appropriate.

Comcast Application - Solicitor Mr. Rybeck advised that The State of NJ Board of Public Utilities (BPU) enacted a statute that requires the municipality with a cable TV operation going on or access to potentially renew their municipal consent.

Comcast Application Public Hearing- Comcast Cable filed a franchise renewal application in the Borough of Newfield back in December of 2021, which can be voted on based on the application, whether to have Comcast in the Borough of Newfield. If the Borough agrees, it is responsible for adopting a municipal consent ordinance granting the renewal. Mr. Grova made a motion to open the public hearing and Mr., Corwonski seconded the motion. AIF. Mia Arrison asked if the Borough has any say over the renewal process. Mr. Rybeck advised it is governed by the BPU. Solicitor Rybeck noted that this is to decide whether or not to continue with the franchise. The BPU controls and regulates the cable television system of a municipality. Mrs. Arrison asked if there is any say over the wiring or the hardware that they provide for the residents. Solicitor Rybeck advised it is handled by the BPU. Mrs. Arrison asked if Comcast can take their cable services away from the Borough. Solicitor Rybeck advised they would first have to go through the BPU and there would be a notice and a hearing. Mrs. Arrison asked if the

Borough can regulate their fees. Mr. Rybeck advised it is the BPU that regulates this matter. Mr. Rybeck advised the contract is for 15 years. Mr. Grova made a motion to close the public hearing and Mr. Corwonski seconded the motion. AIF. Motion carried. A motion was made by Mr. Grova to renew the franchise (Comcast Cable Television); Mr. Carrow seconded the motion. RCV: Unanimous. Motion carried.

Engineer's Report - Mr. Johnson advised that he completed the Water Audit and well #5 was below the 30 million gallons allocated. The water accountability will have to be started this year. There are certain items that must be completed to be in compliance. Mr. Nicholson, Licensed Water Operator advised that mapping of the water infrastructure and asset management plan is a requirement. Mr. Johnson advised that we had to do a GPS system for the stormwater system. Water tower repairs are also part of the water accountability plan. Mr. Carrow noted that monies will be allocated for this purpose. Mr. Carrow also advised that we may consider an interlocal agreement with Wenonah for the water department.

Mr. Johnson advised that the State has not finalized Columbia Avenue as of this date.

Public Participation-Mr. Carrow made a motion to open the meeting to the public and Mr. Corwonski seconded the motion. AIF. No one in the public addressed council regarding the

agenda. Mr. Grova made a motion to close the public portion and Mr. Miller seconded the motion. AIF.

Mr. Carrow made a motion to approve the minutes from March 10, 2022 and Tax Collector's Report. Mr. Corwonski seconded the motion. RCV: Unanimous.

Old Business - PUBLIC HEARING

ORDINANCE NUMBER 2022-8 AN ORDINANCE ABOLISHING & REPLACING THE NEWFIELD RECREATION COMMISSION WITH THE NEWFIELD COMMUNITY EVENTS COMMITTEE-

Mr. Miller made a motion to open the public hearing and Mr. Grova seconded the motion. AIF. No one in the public commented on ordinance 2022-8. Mr. Miller made a motion to close the public hearing and Mr. Grova seconded the motion. AIF. Mr. Carrow made a motion to adopt ordinance 2022-8 and Mr. Corwonski seconded the motion. RCV: Unanimous. Motion carried.

Ordinance 2022-9 FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP JOINT COURT AGREEMENT- Mayor Sullivan noted that ordinance 2022-9 is postponed.

New Business -

RESOLUTION #31 -22 RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF NEWFIELD, COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, REFERRING CERTAIN MATTERS TO THE NEWFIELD PLANNING BOARD FOR REIEW AND RECOMMENDATION PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40:55D-26 – Mr. Grova made a motion to approve resolution #31-22. Mr. Corwonski seconded the motion. RCV: Unanimous. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #33-22 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH OF NEWFIELD TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH NORTH JERSEY WASTEWATER COOPERATIVE PRICING SYSTEM-- Mr. Grova made a motion to approve resolution #31-22. Mr. Corwonski seconded the motion. RCV: Unanimous. Motion carried.

Public Participation-Mr. Carrow made a motion to open the meeting to the public and Mr. Corwonski seconded the motion. AIF.

Mia Arrison, Wood Street addressed council regarding the web site. It appears that the website is not working again, the agendas and minutes are not on the site and wanted to know when it was going to be resolved. Clerk advised they met with Mr. Coffee to discuss the issues and everything was sent to him that should have resolved these issues and been placed on the website. Mrs. Arrison also noted that the recreation events website was not on the website. The easter egg hunt for the children's weekend was not on the website or on the calendar. Mayor advised he will discuss this matter with Council Pierce

Ms. Arrison addressed the sign located in front of the big gun that has been vandalized and thought something should done to repair it. Mr. Carrow advised that it would be replaced by Memorial Day. Mr. Grova made a motion to close the meeting to the public and Mr. Corwonski seconded the motion AIF. Motion carried.

DISBURSEMENTS Resolution #34-22-Mr. Carrow made a motion to approve **the disbarments and Mr. Miller seconded the motion. RCV: Unanimous. Motion carried.**

Fire Department Application- Stephen Hartman-Mr. Grova made a motion to approve the fire

department application and Mr. Corwonski seconded the motion. AIF. Motion carried.

Letter from Sam Barbagli- copies given to council- Retiring 10/1

Letter from Gloucester County regarding Catawba Avenue and West Boulevard intersection- copies given to council

Appoint Frank Scancellia to Planning Board Unexpired term 12/31/24- Mr. Grova made a motion to approve Frank Scancellia to the Planning Board. Mr. Miller seconded the motion. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #32-22 EXECUTIVE SESSION-Contract Negotiations - Mr. Corwonski made a motion to approve the executive session. Mr. Miller seconded the motion. RCV: Unanimous. Motion carried.

The meeting was reopened to the public at 9:15 pm. Being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Miller to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Mr. Grova; AIF. The Meeting was adjourned at 9: 15 PM

Clerk

