

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES JUNE 8, 2020- 7:30 PM

Special Meeting Notice

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, that in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act of the State of New Jersey, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, the Township of Tabernacle governing body does hereby notify the public that a **Special Meeting of the Township of Tabernacle will be held on June 8, 2020 at 7:30 P.M.**

The purpose of this meeting to the extent known is, in compliance with the requirements of OPMA is to 1) hold the second reading on Ordinance 2020-1, 2) open public hearing to adopt the 2020 Municipal Budget and 3) any other business of the Township Committee which may be necessary and lawful. This special meeting shall replace and supersede all discussion of the Committee and action taken at May 26, 2020 meeting.

It will be conducted electronically to protect the health, safety and welfare of our citizens while ensuring the continued operations of government during COVID -19.

Members of the public who wish to participate in the public comment portion of the meeting may do so by visiting the Tabernacle Township website at www.townshipoftabernacle-nj.gov for information on the use of computer audio or telephone for public comment during the meeting; this information will be posted prior to the start of the meeting. **Official action will be taken relative to the public agenda on the website.**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Brown called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Mayor Brown led in the flag salute.

OPMA STATEMENT

Municipal Clerk Barber read the Open Public Meetings Act Statement: "This Special Meeting was called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act. Notice of this meeting was sent to the Burlington County Times, Courier Post and the Central Record on May 29, 2020. In addition, copies of the notice was posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building and filed in the office of the Municipal Clerk on May 29, 2020.

ROLL CALL

Municipal Clerk Barber announced the Roll Call of members: Mr. Barton, Ms. McGinnis, Mr. Moore (was seen on the presenter's platform, but could not be heard; he called in via telephone and was heard), Mr. Sunbury and Mayor Brown – were present.

- Professionals also in attendance: Rodney Haines, Chief Financial Officer; Douglas Cramer, Administrator; Dante Guzzi, Engineer; Peter C. Lange, Solicitor; William Burns, Special Counsel and La Shawn Barber, Municipal Clerk.

OPENING REMARKS BY SPECIAL COUNSEL BURNS

- Attorney Burns explained that they are re-doing the meeting held last week as an abundance of caution. This meeting shall replace and supersede all discussions of the Committee and actions taken at the May 26, 2020 meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Brown offered public comment to attendees on agenda item and announced that she un-muted the microphones just in case no hands were raised on the webinar. There were no comments.

ORDINANCE ON SECOND READING

Explanatory Statement: This Ordinance is to increase the municipal budget limits up to 2.5% unless authorized by ordinance to increase it to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, subject to certain exceptions.

PUBLIC HEARING - ORDINANCE 2020-1: ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK

Chief Financial Officer Haines provided a brief summary of the ordinance which will allow us to raise the budget appropriations if needed up to 3.5% over the prior year in case of the need in the future.

Mayor Brown opened the meeting for public hearing on Ordinance 2020-1. There were none.

At this time, Peter Lange, Esq., advised the members that he received a text message that attendees are unable to electronically participate in the meeting, they could hear the broadcast; however, they could not be heard. Mayor Brown advised seeing registered attendees listed on the broadcast; the attendees were unmuted and advised they were able to participate. Mr. Lange felt that it is unusual that Mr. and Mrs. Brooks would not participate and take their opportunity to be heard. Mayor Brown referenced that at the last electronic meeting Mr. and Mrs. Brooks was able to participate with no problems or issues.

Mayor Brown asked everyone to disconnect from the current session and reconnect. Upon everyone resigning back into this meeting, it was determined, the same registered attendees were present. After several attempts by Mayor Brown to recognize the Brooks, she determined that it was in the best interest of the public to adjourn the meeting and reschedule again for next Monday (June 15th).

MOTION – Mr. Moore made a motion to reschedule the meeting for June 15th at 7:30 p.m. and adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mayor Brown. Ayes – Barton, McGinnis, Moore, Sunbury, Brown. Nays – None. **Motion Carried.** The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully,

La Shawn R. Barber, RMC/CMR
Municipal Clerk

Approved: July 27, 2020