

**MINUTES OF THE OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF
UPPER DEERFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND, HELD ON
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2017, AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING,
HIGHWAY 77, SEABROOK, NEW JERSEY, PURSUANT TO NOTICE**

Present were: Bruce Peterson, John T. O'Neill, Sr., and Scott Smith all being members of the Township Committee. Also present were: Rocco Tedesco, Solicitor; Roy Spoltore, Township Administrator/Clerk; Amy Colaneri, Township Treasurer and Teresa Warburton, Recording Secretary. James Crilley and John Daddario were unable to attend the meeting.

The meeting was called to order by Committeeman John T. O'Neill and he read the following public meeting announcement.

"This meeting is being held in accordance with the "Open Public Meetings Act." Notice of the meeting has been provided and published as required by law in the Daily Journal and The Press, Cumberland County Edition. Notice has also been posted in the Municipal Building. The Clerk shall enter this statement in the minutes of this meeting. In compliance with State Fire Safety Statues the Chairman instructs those present how to exit the room in an emergency."

John T. O'Neill, Sr. asked for a moment of silence followed by the flag salute led by Bruce Peterson.

At this time John T. O'Neill, Sr. Vice Chairman opened the meeting for public comment.

Joe Lacotte of Centerton Road stated that he attended the July 6, 2017 Township Committee meeting where it was reported that modifications were being made to the mining ordinance and he requested an update. Mr. Tedesco reported that there have been a few drafts and he is currently reviewing the last draft that was completed by the planner approximately 1-2 weeks ago. Once the solicitor completes his review it should be able to be sent to the Planning Board for their input.

With no other public comments, John T. O'Neill, Sr., Vice Chairman called for the approval of minutes for the meeting of September 7, 2017. On a motion of Bruce Peterson, seconded by Scott Smith, to dispense with the reading of the minutes and to accept the minutes as received, and unanimously approved 3-0.

Vice Chairman John T. O'Neill, Sr. called for a public hearing on an ordinance entitled, Amending Chapter 165 of the Code of the Township of Upper Deerfield Entitled: "Construction Code Enforcement," Setting Fees for Construction Permits. The Clerk read the proposed Ordinance by title. On motion of by Bruce Peterson, seconded by Scott Smith to open the meeting for a public hearing on the proposed ordinance, and unanimously carried. The Chairman instructed the Clerk to distribute copies to those present. Roy Spoltore, Clerk gave an overview of the proposed ordinance. There being no public comments, on motion of Bruce Peterson, seconded by Scott Smith to close the public hearing and unanimously carried. On motion of Scott Smith, seconded by Bruce Peterson to approve and adopt proposed ordinance, unanimously carried 3-0, on a roll call vote.

INSERT ORDINANCE

John T. O'Neill, Sr., Vice Chairman called for a resolution Tax Payments to be refunded. On motion of Bruce Peterson, seconded by Scott Smith to approve and adopt said resolution, unanimously carried 3-0 on a roll call vote.

INSERT RESOLUTION

John T. O'Neill, Sr., Vice Chairman called for a resolution entitled Approval of Change Order #2 Small Cities – Parker. On motion of Bruce Peterson, seconded by Scott Smith to approve and adopt said resolution, unanimously carried 3-0 on a roll call vote.

INSERT RESOLUTION

John T. O'Neill, Sr., Vice Chairman called for a resolution entitled Authorizing Professional Contract with Clarke, Caton Hintz. On motion of Bruce Peterson, seconded by Scott Smith to approve and adopt said resolution, unanimously carried 3-0 on a roll call vote.

INSERT RESOLUTION

John T. O'Neill, Sr., Vice Chairman called for a resolution entitled Payment of Bills, in the amount of \$1,149,115.54. On motion of Bruce Peterson, seconded by Scott Smith, to approve and adopt said resolution, unanimously carried 3-0 on a roll call vote.

INSERT RESOLUTION

COMMITTEE COMMENTS

Scott Smith stated that Public Works is doing an awesome job with the water line installation on Love Lane and saving the township a lot of money.

Bruce Peterson explained to the public about the professional contract that was awarded to Clarke, Caton Hintz. Mr. Peterson's stated that the firm will prepare a fair share housing plan for the Township that will include a housing element describing how the Township will meet its "Affordable Housing" requirement established under guidelines of the State Legislature and the State Judiciary.

John T. O'Neill, Sr. added that the Township received a presentation at the last meeting on the Affordable Housing requirements for the Township.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Roy Spoltore, Township Administrator reported that State's Best Practices questionnaire has been completed and reviewed by the CFO, Treasurer and Administrator. A copy of the Best Practices was available showing the township was able to answer 23 of the 25 questions affirmatively or 92%. Lidl Grocery has paid their water connection fee and just had the sewer lines video-taped, the project is beginning to move forward. The Love Lane water line has crossed the street over to the Cumberland Regional High School side of the road. Public Works hopes to be done the project by the middle of next week. The GIS mapping program is now up on the Township website. As part of the program, the Township is looking into the usage of three additional applications. A consumer complaint form and a housing registration application are two of the apps that will be utilized. The County will be holding an online auction on 10/3/17 for electric rates and again 10/4/17 for the gas rates for their power consortium. The ACMJIF will be refunding \$3 million dollars in dividends to 42 municipalities for 2017. The JIF will be increasing the SIR from 300,000 to \$500,000 for 2018; this is the amount of the insurance claims that will be processed by the local JIF before they are passed on to the MEL. CDC representatives established Halloween Trick or Treat hours for 10/31/17 from 4-7 pm. The CCUA will be testing additional sites to determine where the suspended solid problem is originating. The township received a request from Gerald Sykes to have his tax interest waived because the Federal Reserve returned his check. The payment was made well in advance, through his bank but the check did not

clear the Federal Reserve. Mr. Sykes paid the taxes once the check was returned to him by the bank, but requested the interest be waived. On motion of Bruce Peterson, seconded by Scott Smith, unanimously approved 3-0 on a roll call vote.

DEPARTMENTAL MONTHLY REPORTS: August 2017

Animal Control and Dog Registrar Monthly Report
Clerks Monthly Report
Construction Office Monthly Report
Housing and Zoning
Municipal Court Monthly Report
Tax Collectors Report
Vital Statistics
Fire Marshall

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Rocco Tedesco, Solicitor explained that the committee needed to establish conditions for the Public Lands Auction. The committee determined that the four parcels with houses on the property will need to get a CO for the home or demolish the home within 18 months of the purchase of the property. John T. O'Neill, Sr., Vice Chairman called for a resolution entitled Authorizing Sale of Township Property. On motion of Bruce Peterson, seconded by Scott Smith, and unanimously carried 3-0 on a roll call vote.

INSERT RESOLUTION

At this time John T. O'Neill, Sr., Vice Chairman opened the meeting for additional public comments.

Lisa Kincaid of Centerton Road asked about the zoning on the house located on Centerton Road and if lots could be combined. She was informed that the Planning Board would have to be involved with the combining of lots and the zoning officer could answer her zoning question. Wayne Sabota of Quail Ridge asked if it is a substandard lot could they rebuild in the existing footprint. Mr. Tedesco is reviewing.

With no other public comments and no further business to come before the Committee John T. O'Neill, Sr., Vice Chairman called for a resolution Authorizing Closed Session to for a resolution Authorizing Closed Session to update the Committee on Litigation, and other matters requiring attorney client privileged confidential communications. The Clerk read the resolution by title. On motion of Bruce Peterson, seconded by Scott Smith to approve and adopt resolution, unanimously carried 3-0.

INSERT RESOLUTION

On a motion of Bruce Peterson, seconded by Scott Smith and unanimously approved 3-0, the meeting was reopened to the public.

With no public comments and no further business to come before the Committee, on a motion of Bruce Peterson, seconded by Scott Smith to adjourn the meeting, and unanimously carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Teresa L. Warburton, Recording Secretary

Roy J. Spoltore, Township Clerk