COLTS NECK TOWNSHIP
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 12, 2024, 6:30 P.M.
TOWN HALL

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1. Mayor Rizzuto called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. Mayor Rizzuto asked everyone to join him in the salute to the flag.

3. Administrator Capristo read the following Sunshine Statement: "The notice requirements of the New Jersey Public Meetings Law have been satisfied by noticing the Asbury Park Press and the Two River Times on January 8, 2024, stating that a regular meeting of the Township Committee would be held on June 12, 2024, at 7:00 p.m., 1 Veterans Way, Colts Neck, NJ 07722, Town Hall. A copy is on file in the office of the Township Clerk."

   "Further notice was provided to the Asbury Park Press on June 3, 2024, noting the meeting time change from 7:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m."

4. Roll call by Municipal Clerk Lindsey indicated the following:

Present:	Mayor Frank Rizzuto, Deputy Mayor Tara Torchia Buss, Committeeman Michael Viola, Committeeman J.P. Bartolomeo and Committeewoman Sue Fitzpatrick
Also Present:	Kathleen Capristo, Township Administrator, Trina Lindsey, Municipal Clerk, and Meghan Bennett, Township Counsel
Absent:	None

5. Resolution 2024-88: Executive Session – Potential Litigation

   Mayor Rizzuto called for a motion to approve. On a motion by Committeeman Viola, seconded by Deputy Mayor Buss and a unanimous roll call vote, the resolution was adopted.

RECORD OF VOTE					
	M S	Yes	No	NV	Ab
Mayor Rizzuto		X			
Deputy Mayor Buss	S	X			
Viola	M	X			
Bartolomeo		X			
Fitzpatrick		X			
M - Moved S - Seconded X - indicates vote NV - Not Voting Ab - Absent					

   After executive session, Mayor Rizzuto called for a motion to return to open session at 7:08 pm. On a motion by Deputy Mayor Buss, seconded Committeeman Viola and a unanimous voice vote, the meeting was back in open session.

6. **Approval of minutes:**

   a. May 22, 2024 – Regular Meeting

   Mayor Rizzuto called for a motion to approve. On a motion by Committeeman Viola, seconded by Committeewoman Fitzpatrick and a unanimous roll call vote, the minutes were approved as presented.

RECORD OF VOTE					
	M S	Yes	No	NV	Ab
Mayor Rizzuto		X			
Deputy Mayor Buss		X			
Viola	M	X			
Bartolomeo		X			
Fitzpatrick	S	X			
M - Moved S - Seconded X - indicates vote NV - Not Voting Ab - Absent					

7. **Old Business:**

a. Ordinance 2024-15: An ordinance of Colts Neck Township in the County of Monmouth and the State of New Jersey amending and supplementing Chapter 102 of the Code of Colts Neck Township, entitled "Development Regulations"

Mayor Rizzuto read the ordinance by title for second reading/public hearing. Mayor Rizzuto called for comments. Township Planner, Tim Anfuso, reviewed the changes and updates to the ordinance for the public. Mayor Rizzuto called for a motion to open the public hearing. On a motion by Committeeman Bartolomeo, seconded by Deputy Mayor Buss and a unanimous voice vote, the public hearing was opened.

Kevin O'Brien, resident, stated that he appreciated the Committee member who voted no against this ordinance the first time. Mr. O'Brien stated that he is still concerned about what appears at our front doors. Mr. O'Brien stated that he does not want to look at trailers from a neighbor's house. Mr. O'Brien stated that he has shared pictures of a resident who has a trailer in their front yard with no license plates and is not registered. Mr. O'Brien stated that the trailer is clearly a violation, and the violation is not addressed by the town. Mr. O'Brien stated that he does not understand the logic and concept of changing the ordinance.

Hearing no further comments from the public, Mayor Rizzuto called for a motion to close the public hearing. On a motion by Committeeman Viola, seconded by Deputy Mayor Buss and a unanimous voice vote, the public hearing was closed. Mayor Rizzuto called for a motion to approve. On a motion by Committeeman Bartolomeo, seconded by Committeewoman Fitzpatrick and a unanimous roll call vote, the ordinance was adopted.

RECORD OF VOTE					
	M S	Yes	No	NV	Ab
Mayor Rizzuto		X			
Deputy Mayor Buss		X			
Viola		X			
Bartolomeo	M	X			
Fitzpatrick	S	X			
M - Moved S - Seconded X - indicates vote NV - Not Voting Ab - Absent					

b. Ordinance 2024-16: Capital ordinance providing for various general capital improvements, by and in Colts Neck Township, in the County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey; appropriating $2,623,250 therefor ($2,282,767 from the capital improvement fund and a $340,483 grant from the New Jersey Department of Transportation) to pay the cost thereof

Mayor Rizzuto read the ordinance by title for second reading/public hearing. Mayor Rizzuto called for comments. Hearing none, Mayor Rizzuto called for a motion to open the public hearing. On a motion by Committeeman Bartolomeo, seconded by Committeeman Viola and a unanimous voice vote, the public hearing was opened.

Mayor Rizzuto called for comments from the public. Hearing none, Mayor Rizzuto called for a motion to close the public hearing. On a motion by Committeeman Viola, seconded by Committeeman Bartolomeo and a unanimous voice vote, the public

hearing was closed. Mayor Rizzuto called for a motion to approve. On a motion by Committeeman Viola, seconded by Committeeman Bartolomeo and a unanimous roll call vote, the ordinance was adopted.

RECORD OF VOTE					
	M S	Yes	No	NV	Ab
Mayor Rizzuto		X			
Deputy Mayor Buss		X			
Viola	M	X			
Bartolomeo	S	X			
Fitzpatrick		X			
M - Moved S - Seconded X - indicates vote NV - Not Voting Ab - Absent					

8. New business:

a. Ordinance 2024-17: An ordinance of Colts Neck Township in the County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey, amending ordinance 2024-13, an ordinance setting the salary and wage ranges for township employees

Mayor Rizzuto read the ordinance by title for first reading/introduction. Mayor Rizzuto called for comments. Administrator Capristo stated that this ordinance introduction is specific to summer camp and a few additional positions. Hearing no further comments, Mayor Rizzuto called for a motion to approve. On a motion by Committeeman Viola, seconded by Committeeman Bartolomeo and a unanimous roll call vote, the ordinance was approved for introduction/first reading. Mayor Rizzuto stated that the public hearing is scheduled for June 26, 2024.

RECORD OF VOTE					
	M S	Yes	No	NV	Ab
Mayor Rizzuto		X			
Deputy Mayor Buss		X			
Viola	M	X			
Bartolomeo	S	X			
Fitzpatrick		X			
M - Moved S - Seconded X - indicates vote NV - Not Voting Ab - Absent					

b. Resolution 2024-89: Confirming hiring Colts Neck Township Laborer for the Department of Public Works, John J. Price

Mayor Rizzuto called for comments. Hearing none, Mayor Rizzuto called for a motion to approve. On a motion by Committeeman Bartolomeo, seconded by Committeeman Viola and a unanimous roll call vote, the resolution was adopted.

RECORD OF VOTE					
	M S	Yes	No	NV	Ab
Mayor Rizzuto		X			
Deputy Mayor Buss		X			
Viola	S	X			
Bartolomeo	M	X			
Fitzpatrick		X			
M - Moved S - Seconded X - indicates vote NV - Not Voting Ab - Absent					

c. Resolution 2024-90: Confirming hiring Colts Neck Township Social Media/Marketing Summer Intern for the Recreation and Parks Department

Mayor Rizzuto called for comments. Administrator Capristo stated that this resolution is to hire a local college student for the summer internship position in the Recreation

Department. Hearing no further comments, Mayor Rizzuto called for a motion to approve. On a motion by Committeeman Bartolomeo, seconded by Committeewoman Fitzpatrick and a unanimous roll call vote, the resolution was adopted.

RECORD OF VOTE					
	M S	Yes	No	NV	Ab
Mayor Rizzuto		X			
Deputy Mayor Buss		X			
Viola		X			
Bartolomeo	M	X			
Fitzpatrick	S	X			
M - Moved S - Seconded X - indicates vote NV - Not Voting Ab - Absent					

d. Resolution 2024-91: Confirming the promotion and appointment of Daniel DeVito to the position of Chief of Police, Colts Neck Police Department

Mayor Rizzuto called for comments. Mayor Rizzuto stated that as Chief Santucci prepares to retire as of June 30, 2024, this resolution supports the promotion and appointment of Lieutenant DeVito to Chief of Police, effective July 1, 2024. Hearing no further comments, Mayor Rizzuto called for a motion to approve. On a motion by Committeewoman Fitzpatrick, seconded by Deputy Mayor Buss and a unanimous roll call vote, the resolution was adopted.

RECORD OF VOTE					
	M S	Yes	No	NV	Ab
Mayor Rizzuto		X			
Deputy Mayor Buss	S	X			
Viola		X			
Bartolomeo		X			
Fitzpatrick	M	X			
M - Moved S - Seconded X - indicates vote NV - Not Voting Ab - Absent					

e. Resolution 2024-92: Authorizing and approving execution of an employment agreement, Daniel DeVito

Mayor Rizzuto called for comments. Hearing none, Mayor Rizzuto called for a motion to approve. On a motion by Committeeman Viola, seconded by Deputy Mayor Buss and a unanimous roll call vote, the resolution was adopted.

RECORD OF VOTE					
	M S	Yes	No	NV	Ab
Mayor Rizzuto		X			
Deputy Mayor Buss	S	X			
Viola	M	X			
Bartolomeo		X			
Fitzpatrick		X			
M - Moved S - Seconded X - indicates vote NV - Not Voting Ab - Absent					

f. Resolution 2024-93: Authoring and approving execution of an employment agreement, Kathleen Capristo

Mayor Rizzuto called for comments. Committeeman Viola stated that this agreement is well deserved. Committeeman Viola stated that in the seven (7) years that he has been on the township committee the township has accomplished a number of things under Administrator Capristo's leadership, which have all been done effectively and efficiently. The entire Governing Body seconded Committeeman Viola's comments. Hearing no further comments, Mayor Rizzuto called for a motion to approve. On a

motion by Deputy Mayor Buss, seconded by Committeewoman Fitzpatrick and a unanimous roll call vote, the resolution was adopted.

RECORD OF VOTE					
	M S	Yes	No	NV	Ab
Mayor Rizzuto		X			
Deputy Mayor Buss	M	X			
Viola		X			
Bartolomeo		X			
Fitzpatrick	S	X			
M - Moved S - Seconded X - indicates vote NV - Not Voting Ab - Absent					

g. Resolution 2024-94: Authorizing award of contract for Janitorial and Cleaning Services, Bailey's Square Janitorial Services, Inc., August 1, 2024 – July 31, 2026

Mayor Rizzuto called for comments. Hearing none, Mayor Rizzuto called for a motion to approve. On a motion by Committeeman Bartolomeo, seconded by Committeewoman Fitzpatrick and a unanimous roll call vote, the resolution was adopted.

RECORD OF VOTE					
	M S	Yes	No	NV	Ab
Mayor Rizzuto		X			
Deputy Mayor Buss		X			
Viola		X			
Bartolomeo	M	X			
Fitzpatrick	S	X			
M - Moved S - Seconded X - indicates vote NV - Not Voting Ab - Absent					

h. Resolution 2024-95: Authorizing rejection of bid for Colts Neck Township Municipal Building Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning upgrades

Mayor Rizzuto called for comments. Administrator Capristo stated that the Township received one bid, which was astronomically priced over the anticipated cost of the project. Administrator Capristo stated that the township will be working with the Architect and the Engineer to determine if there is an opportunity to rebid the project. Hearing no further comments, Mayor Rizzuto called for a motion to approve. On a motion by Committeeman Viola, seconded by Committeeman Bartolomeo and a unanimous roll call vote, the resolution was adopted.

RECORD OF VOTE					
	M S	Yes	No	NV	Ab
Mayor Rizzuto		X			
Deputy Mayor Buss		X			
Viola	M	X			
Bartolomeo	S	X			
Fitzpatrick		X			
M - Moved S - Seconded X - indicates vote NV - Not Voting Ab - Absent					

i. Consent Agenda

All items listed on the "Consent Agenda" are considered routine by the Township and are adopted or approved collectively by a single motion and roll-call vote of a majority of the Township Committee. If discussion is desired on any item, it is considered separately.

a. Resolution 2024-96: Authorizing fireworks display at Trump National Golf, One Trump Boulevard, Garden State Fireworks

b. Resolution 2024-97: Authorizing fireworks display on July 3, 2024, at Bucks Mill Park, Colts Neck Business Association

c. Resolution 2024-98: Authorizing acceptance of a performance guarantee and an inspection fee for a street opening permit for Block 40.05, Lot 8 – 15 Jockey Terrace North

d. Resolution 2024-99: A resolution authorizing and approving a Shared Services Agreement for the provision of security monitors between Colts Neck Township and Colts Neck School District

e. Resolution 2024-100: Authorizing extension of contract, Real Property Data Collection and Verification Services, January 1, 2024 – December 31, 2026

f. Resolution 2024-101: Authorizing permit fee refund, Big Brook Preserve, Alexander Elementary School

g. Resolution 2024-102: Approving insertion of Special Item of Revenue, Clean Communities Grant

h. Resolution 2024-103: Authorizing acceptance of a performance guarantee surety bond, a performance surety bond cash guarantee, a buffer and landscape inspection fee, a first project inspection and a safety and stabilization guarantee for Colts Neck Manor, Block 22, Lot 18, PB743

i. Resolution 2024-104: Authorizing the Mayor and Municipal Clerk to execute a Shared Services Agreement for the Western Monmouth Active Shooter Training Group

Mayor Rizzuto called for a motion to approve. On a motion by Deputy Mayor Buss, seconded by Committeewoman Fitzpatrick and a unanimous roll call vote, the resolution was adopted.

RECORD OF VOTE					
	M S	Yes	No	NV	Ab
Mayor Rizzuto		X			
Deputy Mayor Buss	M	X			
Viola		X			
Bartolomeo		X			
Fitzpatrick	S	X			
M - Moved S - Seconded X - indicates vote NV - Not Voting Ab - Absent					

j. Approval of Vouchers

Committeeman Viola stated that he reviewed all of the vouchers and found all to be in order. Committeeman Viola noted that 86% of the bills list is Freehold Regional tax. Committeeman Viola stated that an invoice for the electric cots for the First Aid Squad is on the bill list. Committeeman Viola made a motion to approve the bill list.

Mayor Rizzuto called for a second to Committeeman Viola's motion, seconded by Committeewoman Fitzpatrick and a unanimous roll call vote, the bills list was approved.

RECORD OF VOTE					
	M S	Yes	No	NV	Ab
Mayor Rizzuto		X			
Deputy Mayor Buss		X			
Viola	M	X			

Bartolomeo		X				
Fitzpatrick	S	X				
M - Moved S - Seconded X - indicates vote NV - Not Voting Ab - Absent						

Mayor Rizzuto recuses from any bills/vouchers in connection with the Colts Neck Fire Department.

Deputy Mayor Buss recuses from any bills/vouchers in connection with the shared municipal court with Holmdel Township.

Committeeman Viola recuses from any bills/vouchers in connection with Best Horticultural and Joleen Landscaping.

k. Administrator's Report
None

l. Township Committee Reports

Committeeman Bartolomeo

- Committeeman Bartolomeo stated that the Shade Tree Commission meeting was cancelled this month.
- Committeeman Bartolomeo stated that things are quiet for the Sports Foundation as they wrapped up with the Super Bowl.

Committeewoman Fitzpatrick

- Committeewoman Fitzpatrick reported that the Holmdel Environmental Commission asked if any surrounding Commissions had an interest in identifying common environmental/flooding factors. Committeewoman Fitzpatrick stated that she attended the initial meeting, which was a Regional Watershed Forum on May 23, 2024, at Bell Works to discuss mutual watershed issues with ten (10) other municipalities and twenty-seven (27) people in attendance. Committeewoman Fitzpatrick stated that the meeting was very informative and interesting as there are many state mandates that municipalities must adhere to.
- Committeewoman Fitzpatrick stated that the Memorial Day Parade was a wonderful event and was so well supported by the community. Committeewoman Fitzpatrick stated that the weather held out and everyone got to the Fire House just in time to enjoy hot dogs. Committeewoman Fitzpatrick thanked all of the volunteers and the Ryan family for being the short order chefs all of these years and making it look so easy to serve 1,000 hot dogs.
- Committeewoman Fitzpatrick stated that on May 29, 2024, she and Committeeman Viola met with Administrator Capristo and some department heads to review procedures for the upcoming Colts Neck Business Association (CNBA) fireworks on July 3, 2024. Committeewoman Fitzpatrick stated that last year was the perfect storm where the neighboring towns cancelled their fireworks, and everyone came to Colts Neck. Committeewoman Fitzpatrick stated that there was an amazing crowd with no issues other than the fact that it was very crowded. Committeewoman Fitzpatrick stated that this year it was determined to close the entrance at 8:30 p.m. if the parking becomes an issue.
- Committeewoman Fitzpatrick stated that on June 7, 2024, she attended the Naval Weapons Station Earle Battle of the Midway Remembrance ceremony along with Deputy Mayor Buss and Committeeman Viola. Committeewoman Fitzpatrick stated that there were two World War II veterans who were both over 90 years old in attendance, which was just amazing. Committeewoman Fitzpatrick stated that she also stayed for the promotion ceremony for the seaman moving up in rank.
- Committeewoman Fitzpatrick stated that last night the Colts Neck Business Association (CNBA) held a ribbon cutting ceremony for three new businesses in the Orchards Plaza; Ant & Andy Ice Cream, Mambo Italiano, and La Candela which is Mexican food. Committeewoman Fitzpatrick stated that there was great attendance, and she enjoyed the delicious food samples from the

businesses. Committeewoman Fitzpatrick stated that Deputy Mayor Buss and Committeeman Viola were also in attendance.

- Committeewoman Fitzpatrick stated that Long Range Planning also met last night to firm up the fireworks ordinance. Committeewoman Fitzpatric stated that the Environmental Commission and Green Team Advisory Committee submitted an electronic version of the Environmental Resource Inventory (ERI) to Township Planner, Tim Anfuso to review and forward it to the Long-Range Planning Committee for review. Committeewoman Fitzpatrick stated that there will be eight (8) weeks to review the document and submit any edits. Once that is done it will be submitted to the Planning Board for adoption and finally submitted to be included in the Master Plan.
- Committeewoman Fitzpatrick stated that on Sunday, June 7, 2024, neighbors from Fairway East and Fairway West got together to clean up the entrance to Schlesinger Park. Committeewoman Fitzpatrick stated that they pulled out branches that had fallen down as well as removed branches from the fallen trees that were too big for the volunteers to saw into logs. Committeewoman Fitzpatrick stated that piles were made close to the road for easy pick up by the Department of Public Works. Committeewoman Fitzpatrick stated that future clean up's are in the works.
- Committeewoman Fitzpatrick stated that the Summer Concert Series is hosting a concert tomorrow night at Town Hall from 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. with the Monmouth County Brass Band playing.
- Committeewoman Fitzpatrick stated that Friday is Flag Day. In discussion with the entire township committee, the township has opted to leave the flags that are placed around Town Hall and Heyers Mill Road on display from Memorial Day until July 4th. Committeewoman Fitzpatrick stated that the flags on Heyers Mill will be removed on July 3rd to be placed at the entrance to Bucks Mill Park for the Independence Day/Fireworks celebration. Committeewoman Fitzpatrick stated that we can never celebrate too much our great country.

Committeeman Viola:

- Committeeman Viola reported that the Farmhouse 5K held on May 9, 2024, was well attended.
- Committeeman Viola stated that the Summer Concert Series continues tomorrow night at Town Hall.
- Committeeman Viola stated that the Father's Day Fishing Derby will be held this Sunday at Bucks Mill Park and there will be a number of awards provided.
- Committeeman Viola stated that the May 22, 2024, meeting held at the Conover Road Primary School for affordable housing had approximately 200 chairs set up for attendance and less than half of them were filled.
- Committeeman Viola urged any seniors' citizens in town to join the Colts Neck Seniors Club for $10. Committeeman Viola stated that the seniors meeting monthly and plan several trips throughout the year.
- Committeeman Viola reported that the resurfacing on Cedar Drive will begin in a few weeks.

Deputy Mayor Buss:

- Deputy Mayor Buss stated that the Board of Education reached a settlement agreement in relation to the Colts Neck Education Association (CNTEA) suit regarding an unfair practice charge with the Public Employees Relations Commission of the State of New Jersey (PERC) filed under Docket No. CO-2024-140. Deputy Mayor Buss stated that the Colts Neck Board of Education and the CNTEA settled the unfair practice charge.
- Deputy Mayor Buss reported that Christine Henbest of Cedar Drive Middle School is retiring after twenty-four (24) years of service to the District. Deputy Mayor Buss congratulated Ms. Henbest and stated that she appreciates all of the hard work and dedication these employees have provided to so many students over their many years of faithful service to our community.
- Deputy Mayor Buss thanked the Fire Department and Fire Police for their assistance in making the Memorial Day Parade a huge success and thanked Fire House #2 for opening their doors to welcome folks after the parade.
- Deputy Mayor Buss stated that the Friends of the Library will host another book sale on September 21st and September 22nd and will be accepting book

donations until August 31st. Deputy Mayor Buss stated that she left copies of the book sale information in the back of the room for the public to take.

Mayor Rizzuto:

- Mayor Rizzuto reported that the Planning Board met last night and reviewed one application which was Charleston Meadows who is complying with all of the requests from the Planning Board.
- Mayor Rizzuto stated that a final walkout ceremony will take place on June 26, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. for Chief Paul Santucci.
- Mayor Rizzuto stated that the Historic Preservation Committee continues to work on repairs at the Montrose School. Mayor Rizzuto stated that they are looking into grants to raise the foundation of the school.

9. Public Comment:

Mayor Rizzuto called for a motion to open public comment. On a motion by Deputy Mayor Buss, seconded by Committeeman Bartolomeo and a unanimous voice vote, public comment was opened.

Tracey Straley, resident, stated that her family moved here in July of last year for the great school system for their children. Ms. Straley spoke about an easement issue on Obre Road where she resides. Ms. Obre discussed a neighbor who pumps a significant amount of water onto Obre Road, which causes safety concerns and is damaging her property. Ms. Straley provided pictures and video to the Governing Body which detail the water on Obre Road and the driveway of her property. Ms. Straley stated that she is requesting that the Governing Body amend the township ordinance to prohibit water being pumped onto the road. Ms. Straley stated the Township Administrator and Attorney Bennett incorrectly stated it is not the town's responsibility to repair the non-functioning conservation easement. Ms. Straley stated that the NJDEP determined that it is the town's responsibility , and then the NJDEP later determined that it is the town's responsibility to ensure that the appropriate residents are responsible for the conservation easement. Ms. Straley spoke further about her concerns of her neighbor pumping water into the road when it rains stating that the kids have to walk through water to get on their bus, in the winter the water freezes which causes a safety concern and her family has difficulty accessing their mailbox.

Fulton Wilcox, resident, spoke about the rejection of the bid for the HVAC project and questioned if it is smart for the township to reject the bid when there is a scarcity of bidders. Mr. Wilcox questioned did the township reject when they possibly should have accepted. Mr. Wilcox stated that generally speaking the public attends these meetings and it's a complete surprise that something like the HVAC system needs upgrading because the Township Committee does not release status reports.

Dave Mann, resident, spoke about the dangers of electric vehicle fires, and spoke about a car fire in Colts Neck that he responded to with the fire department and the lengths that the fire department had to go to in order to put this fire out. Mr. Mann spoke about the dangers to the surrounding areas and the home. Mr. Mann spoke about a new system that fire departments are using in England which is a very high-pressure system that puts a hole in the floor of the vehicle. Mr. Mann also spoke about a company in California that is developing a blanket to put over the vehicle to protect the surrounding areas.

Marianne Cucolo, resident, asked Mayor Rizzuto why the police department purchased silencers. Ms. Cucolo spoke about the settlement agreement between the school union and the Board of Education stating that she was involved in education for over thirty (30) years and never saw in her career a school union sue the Board of Education over a comment. Ms. Cucolo stated that she thinks it was a sad day and is glad they settled it. Ms. Cucolo stated that the children are the only ones that matter, and, in the future, she hopes people can remember that and put their egos away.

Tom Orgo, resident, spoke about a Report a Concern that he entered a year ago and is still waiting on a response as to when the township is going to do something about the problem he reported. Mr. Orgo spoke about this establishment having parties there

continuously. Mr. Orgo spoke about the parking being horrendous due to these parties and that it is unfair to the neighbors.

Elaine Mann, resident, stated that she was surprised by the minutes of the last meeting stating that she questioned Committeeman Bartolomeo about misleading residents in regard to the 20 to 1 acres for the new municipal building and stated that it is 2 to 1. Ms. Mann thanked those members of the Township Committee who signed the petition to support a gross income tax credit for emergency volunteers for use of their personal vehicle. Ms. Mann commented on the bills list and the purchase of flags and asked if the township saved any of the flags from last year's Memorial Day celebration. Ms. Mann noted several other invoices on the bill list for landscaping, septic tank repairs, Griffin Engineering for the cupola at Town Hall Annex and Ms. Mann noted a possible error for Clean Communities listed twice with different check numbers and asked Committeeman Viola to look into it and make sure the invoice wasn't paid twice.

James Straley, resident, asked the Township Committee to take the water issue on Obre Road seriously stating that he is afraid of next year and what is to come.

Allan Ryan, resident, commented that the town did a great job at the Memorial Day Parade celebration. Mr. Ryan thanked the veterans, his wife and son and his brother firemen for helping to set up. Mr. Ryan stated that the event was well attended, and it was a beautiful patriotic day.

Gina Staniforth, resident, stated that she recently got married and her husband has been a resident of Colts Neck since 1995. Ms. Staniforth stated that her husband keeps their property very well maintained and does all of the work himself. Ms. Staniforth spoke about ponding on her property from the neighbor pumping water and stated that her husband unsuccessfully tried to repair the big ponding on their property. Ms. Staniforth stated that the conservation easement does need to be repaired. Ms. Staniforth stated that she is happy to be in Colts Neck and hopes that this issue gets resolved.

As there were no further comments and/or questions from the public, Mayor Rizzuto called for a motion to close public comment. On a motion by Deputy Mayor Buss, seconded by Committeeman Viola and a unanimous voice vote, public comment was closed.

10. <u>Discussion of Public Comment:</u>

Committeeman Viola responded to Mr. Wilcox stating that the township has been talking about the HVAC upgrade at Town Hall Annex for some time. Committeeman Viola stated that Mr. Wilcox would not have wanted the township to accept the bid which was overpriced.

Committeeman Viola responded to Ms. Mann stating that Griffin Engineering is still a consult for the township.

Mayor Rizzuto responded to Ms. Cucolo stating that patrol rifles are very loud, the silencers were purchased for ear protection and also for disposing of wildlife. Mayor Rizzuto stated that it saves the township money on worker's compensation claims for hearing loss.

Deputy Mayor Buss responded to Ms. Straley stating that the recommendation to amend the ordinance was sent to the Long-Range Planning Committee who have decided not to move forward with amending the ordinance. Deputy Mayor Buss stated that the decision not to move forward with amending the ordinance does not mean that the township is not taking the issue seriously.

Committeeman Bartolomeo responded to Mr. Orgo explaining the process of Report a Concern. Committeeman Bartolomeo stated that when a resident submits a Report a Concern, the concern is assigned to the appropriate department, typically the Code Enforcement Manager who then investigates the claim. Committeeman Bartolomeo stated that if there is a violation the communication is with the person who is in violation, not with the person who reported the violation./concern. Committeeman Bartolomeo stated that it is not the responsibility of the Governing Body to report to the complainant as to what is happening with who they reported.

Attorney Bennett stated that when a Report a Concern is submitted it is the duty of the Administrator to assign the appropriate department such as Code Enforcement, the Police, etc.

Committeewoman Fitzpatrick responded to Ms. Mann in regard to the landscaping for the municipal complex. Committeewoman Fitzpatrick stated that when spring comes everyone wants their yards to look nice and the same goes for this building and the municipal complex. Committeewoman Fitzpatrick stated that what the township spends on landscaping is not frivolous, it matches what should be expected for this complex.

Mayor Rizzuto announced that the June 26, 2024, meeting time has been changed from 7:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

11. <u>Adjournment</u>:

As there was no further business, Mayor Rizzuto called for a motion to adjourn. On a motion by Committeeman Viola, seconded by Committeewoman Fitzpatrick and a unanimous voice vote, the meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Trina Lindsey, RMC
Municipal Clerk

APPROVED: 06/26/24