COLTS NECK TOWNSHIP
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 10, 2024, 6:00 P.M.
TOWN HALL

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1. Mayor Rizzuto called the meeting to order at 6:00 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 April 10, 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 April 2, 2024, noting the meeting time change from 7:00 p.m. to 6:00 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 John Glynn, Township Counsel
Absent:	None

5. Resolution 2024-66: Executive session – contract negotiation and personnel

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

RECORD OF VOTE					
	M S	Yes	No	NV	Ab
Mayor Rizzuto		X			
Deputy Mayor Buss	S	X			
Viola		X			
Bartolomeo	M	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 6:56pm. On a motion by Committeeman Viola, seconded Committeeman Bartolomeo and a unanimous voice vote, the meeting was back in open session.

6. **<u>Proclamation(s):</u>**

a. Arbor Day in Colts Neck Township, April 26, 2024

Mayor Rizzuto read the proclamation and presented it to Committeeman Bartolomeo, liaison to the Shade Tree Commission.

Committeeman Bartolomeo reminded everyone that the Shade Tree Commission will host the annual saplings giveaway on Saturday, April 27, 2024, at the Recreation Center building.

7. **Approval of minutes:**

a. March 27, 2024 – Regular meeting
b. April 1, 2024 – Special meeting
c. April 1, 2024 – Executive session

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 minutes were approved as presented.

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					

8. **Old business:**

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

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 public comment. On a motion by Deputy Mayor Buss, seconded by Committeewoman Fitzpatrick and a unanimous voice vote, public comment was open.

Hearing no comments or questions from the public, Mayor Rizzuto called for a motion to close public comment. On a motion by Committeeman Viola, seconded by Committeewoman Fitzpatrick and a unanimous voice vote, public comment was closed. 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 ordinance 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					

9. **New business:**

a. Resolution 2024-67: Confirming appointment of Township Professional pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5, FSD Enterprises, LLC

Mayor Rizzuto announced that this resolution is being tabled.

b. Resolution 2024-68: Authorizing award of bid for disposal of leaves to Mazza Mulch, Inc., two years with third year option

Mayor Rizzuto called for comments. Administrator Capristo stated that the township went out to bid for this service and Mazza Mulch was the lowest

responsible bidder. Hearing no further comments, Mayor Rizzuto called for a motion to approve. On a motion by Deputy Mayor Buss, 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	M	X			
Viola	S	X			
Bartolomeo		X			
Fitzpatrick		X			
M - Moved S - Seconded X - indicates vote NV - Not Voting Ab - Absent					

c. Resolution 2024-70: Participant's resolution Leap Implementation Grant

Mayor Rizzuto called for comments. Administrator Capristo stated that this resolution is in support of Monmouth County making an application for Leap grant funds. Administrator Capristo stated that there is $7.5 million dollars in funds available from the state, and the portion Monmouth County is hoping to obtain is $400,000.00. Hearing no further comments, 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 resolution was adopted.

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					

d. Consent Agenda

a. Resolution 2024-69: Authorizing refund of overpayment and cancellation for 100% disabled vet 2024 property taxes

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					

e. Approval of Vouchers:

Committeeman Viola stated that he reviewed all of the vouchers and found all to be in order. 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.

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.

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					

f. Administrator's Report
None

g. Township Committee reports:

Committeeman Bartolomeo

- Committeeman Bartolomeo stated that opening day for baseball was last Saturday and was very well attended.

Committeewoman Fitzpatrick

- Committeewoman Fitzpatrick reported that she attended opening day for baseball and softball last Saturday and stated it was a wonderful turnout of players and families.
- Committeewoman Fitzpatrick stated the Long-Range Planning Committee met last night to review and amend the recreational vehicle ordinance and to review the open burn ordinance in lieu of the fire that occurred at the Colts Neck Golf Course along Heyers Mill Road. Committeewoman Fitzpatrick stated that it is the policy of Colts Neck to protect the public health, comfort, safety, welfare and quality of life.
- Committeewoman Fitzpatrick reported that the Colts Neck Business Association (CNBA) held a networking event and ribbon cutting for CSAV's new office space. Committeewoman Fitzpatrick stated that everyone congratulates Glenn Dalakian and his staff on the growth and success of CSAV. Committeewoman Fitzpatrick stated that it was very nice to see the community support a local business.
- Committeewoman Fitzpatrick stated that it is with great sadness and sympathy for the family that she attended the funeral of long time resident and Shade Tree Commissioner, Henry Hammond, yesterday, at the Colts Neck Reformed Church.

Committeeman Viola:

- Committeeman Viola stated that it is also with great sadness that he attended the funeral for Henry Hammond and stated that he appreciates all that Mr. Hammond did for the community of Colts Neck.
- Committeeman Viola stated that the Senior Citizen Club is planning a four-day, three nights in Rhode Island.
- Committeeman Viola reported that there is still no decision from the court in relation to affordable housing. Committeeman Viola stated that the Township

Committee is moving the May 29th to May 22nd which will be held at the Colts Neck Primary School and the committee will conduct regular business and then have a presentation on affordable housing round 4 rules. Committeeman Viola stated that this will be an open town hall with the public.

- Committeeman Viola stated that the recreation department has eleven (11) concerts scheduled for concerts in the park this year. Committeeman Viola stated that summer camp planning is also in full swing.
- Committeeman Viola stated that leaf pick up is complete and brush pick up is done in zone 1 and moving on to zone 2. Committeeman Viola reminded residents that Clean Up Day is scheduled for Saturday, May 4, 2024. Committeeman Viola stated that the DPW Convenience Yard is back open on Saturday's for drop off and will remain open on Saturdays until November.
- Committeeman Viola reminded residents to utilize the Report a Concern feature on the township's website to report potholes throughout the township.
- Committeeman Viola stated that the Kentucky Derby hosted by the Colts Neck Lion's Club is scheduled for May 4, 2024, and tickets can be purchased on the Lion's Club website.
- Committeeman Viola urged residents to sign up for news and notifications on the township's website and stated that the township has a QR code that can now be scanned and is posted on the meeting room doors.

Deputy Mayor Buss:

- Deputy Mayor Buss stated that the Board of Health met and came up with a list of topics to inform and educate the public on various topics. Deputy Mayor stated that the Health Director reported that COVID numbers are low in Monmouth County, however, flu numbers are still high throughout the County.

Mayor Rizzuto:

- Mayor Rizzuto stated that there are no updates for the Office of Emergency Management (OEM), they continue to work on the five-year plan.
- Mayor Rizzuto stated that the selection process for the new Chief of Police is ongoing.
- Mayor Rizzuto stated that the First Aid Squad is still in the process of restoring their building after moving back in.
- Mayor Rizzuto stated that the Historic Preservation Committee is hosting a visit to the Montrose School by the third-grade classes. Mayor Rizzuto thanked the Department of Public Works, and everyone involved in prepping the school for this trip.

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

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

Kevin O'Brien, resident, asked what FSD Enterprises is being hired for and asked if the township is putting up a new cell tower, and if so where will that cell tower be located. Mr. O'Brien stated that the trailer ordinance is not being enforced and asked what the township is doing to enforce the ordinance that is already in place. Mr. O'Brien questioned the police department's fleet of vehicles and asked why there is one vehicle per officer. Mr. O'Brien spoke about the police department issuing warnings for parking violations and overnight parking violations stating that it has been four months since he suggested this, and he has not received an answer if the police department will start issuing warnings. Mr. O'Brien stated that once again a meeting agenda for a committee or board was not posted timely and stated that the violation of OPMA falls under the Governing Body. Mr. O'Brien stated that he would like to see more interaction with public comments and asked if the Governing Body would consider receiving comments from the public 24 hours in advance of a committee meeting. Mr. O'Brien stated that the Department of Public Works picked up the brush and leaves in a very timely fashion and commended their work.

Melinda Martin, resident, echoed Mr. O'Brien's comment stating that the Department of Public Works picked up brush and leaves in a very timely fashion. Ms. Martin stated

that there is curb damage from the machines picking up brush and leaves and stated that the technique of picking up brush and leaves needs to be changed and noted that replacing the curbs will be very costly.

Allan Ryan, resident, stated that he is a proud member of Colts Neck Fire Department #2 and spoke about an incident that occurred last night involving first responders and commended all of the first responders in Colts Neck. Mr. Ryan stated that they are truly our heroes, and he is honored to be a member. Mr. Ryan also stated that the new cupola on Town Hall Annex looks great.

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.

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

The Governing Body all thanked Mr. Ryan for his service to Colts Neck and thanked all of the first responders for their service.

Committeeman Viola responded to Ms. Martin stating that the curb damage from brush and leaf pick up could be mitigated by residents if they followed the rule of placing their brush and leaves 2 ft. from the curb where the machine bucket would not hit the curb when collecting their debris.

Deputy Mayor Buss thanked Mr. O'Brien for the suggestion of pre-submitted comments and stated the Governing Body can consider that.

Mayor Rizzuto responded to Mr. O'Brien stating that the fleet management for the police department is in good shape. Mayor Rizzuto stated that Colts Neck has 25 officers and 34 miles of roads and explained that the older white vehicles in the fleet are used for things such as road jobs and Class III officer cars. Mayor Rizzuto stated that a lot of time and management goes into managing the fleet of police cars. Mayor Rizzuto stated that the detectives and the Chief of Police do have take home cars so they can respond to emergencies immediately.

Committeeman Viola responded to Mr. O'Brien stating that five years ago the township had a big problem with the fleet of vehicles, and it took time to bring them to this point with the fleet of vehicles. Committeeman Viola stated that no vehicles were requested to be replaced this year by the Chief of Police in the budget process.

12. <u>Adjournment</u>:

As there was no further business, Mayor Rizzuto called for a motion to adjourn. On a motion by Deputy Mayor Buss, seconded by Committeeman Viola and a unanimous voice vote, the meeting adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

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Trina Lindsey, RMC
Municipal Clerk

APPROVED: