COLTS NECK TOWNSHIP
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 13, 2024, 7:00 P.M.
TOWN HALL

---

1. Mayor Rizzuto called the meeting to order at 7:00 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 March 13, 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."

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

Present:	Mayor Frank Rizzuto, Deputy Mayor Tara Torchia Buss, Committeeman Michael Viola, and Committeewoman Sue Fitzpatrick
Also Present:	Kathleen Capristo, Township Administrator, Trina Lindsey, Municipal Clerk and Meghan Bennett, Township Counsel
Absent:	Committeeman J.P. Bartolomeo

5. **Proclamation(s):**

   a. Supporting Women's History Month – March 2024

Deputy Mayor Buss read the proclamation and presented it to Anita Dedalis, Prevention Alliance.

   b. In honor of Colts Neck Woman's Club 60th Anniversary

Committeewoman Fitzpatrick read the proclamation and presented it to Patricia Eastman on behalf of the Colts Neck Woman's Club.

Committeewoman Fitzpatrick presented yellow roses to the women in the audience in celebration of Women's History month.

County Commissioner Sue Kiley was present and spoke briefly about Colts Neck being a very easy town for the County to work with and Monmouth County being the best County in the State of New Jersey.

6. **Approval of minutes:**

   a. February 24, 2024 – Budget workshop
   b. February 28, 2024 – Regular meeting
   c. March 5, 2024 – Special meeting
   d. March 5, 2024 – Executive session

Mayor Rizzuto called for a motion to approve. On a motion by Deputy Mayor Buss, seconded by Committeeman Viola and a majority roll call vote, the minutes were approved as presented. Committeewoman Fitzpatrick abstained from the minutes of February 24, 2024.

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

7. **Old business:**

   a. Ordinance 2024-5: An ordinance of Colts Neck Township, in the County of Monmouth and the State of New Jersey repealing section 102.46.4 "Stormwater Control" and reestablishing new section 46.4 entitled "Stormwater Control" in Article VI, Chapter 102 Development Regulations of the code of Colts Neck Township

Mayor Rizzuto read the ordinance by title for second reading/public hearing. Mayor Rizzuto called for comments. Township Planner, Tim Anfuso stated that the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) has made a third amendment to the NJDEP model ordinance which then requires municipalities to adopt a minimum requirement stormwater control ordinance. Mr. Anfuso stated that the ordinance must be submitted to the County for approval, which has been done and now the township is holding the public hearing for this ordinance. Mr. Anfuso reviewed the various changes to the ordinance. Hearing no further comments, Mayor Rizzuto called for a motion to open public comment. On a motion by Deputy Mayor Buss, seconded by Committeeman Viola and a majority voice vote, public comment was open.

Kevin O'Brien, resident, stated that he attended the Planning Board meeting that was held last night. Mr. O'Brien stated that he feels the township could do better with a proactive approach and do more than just the minimum required by the NJDEP. Mr. O'Brien spoke about developments going to ground water recharge and spoke about reduction in water discharge into the roads, enhancing the local aquifer. Mr. O'Brien spoke about Preakness Drive and the removal of trees and spoke about another option being more trees for managing run off and roots soaking up the water.

Hearing no further comments 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 majority 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 majority 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					

   b. Ordinance 2024-8: An ordinance of Colts Neck Township in the County of Monmouth and the State of New Jersey establishing new article V entitled "Privately-owned salt storage" of the code of Colts Neck Township

Mayor Rizzuto read the ordinance by title for second reading/public hearing. Mayor Rizzuto called for comments. Township Planner Anfuso stated that this is a NJDEP requirement and stated that the NJDEP is now extending private salt storage container requirements to private properties and commercial businesses. Mr. Anfuso outlined the

requirements of the ordinance. Hearing no further comments, Mayor Rizzuto called for a motion to open the public hearing. On a motion by Deputy Mayor Buss, seconded by Committeeman Viola, and a majority voice vote, the public hearing was open. Mayor Rizzuto called for comments from the public. As there were no comments from the public, Mayor Rizzuto called for a motion to close the public hearing. On a motion by Committeeman Viola, seconded by Committeewoman Fitzpatrick and a majority voice vote, public comment was closed. Mayor Rizzuto called for a motion to approve. On a motion by Deputy Mayor Buss, seconded by Committeewoman Fitzpatrick and a majority roll call vote, the ordinance 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					

c. Ordinance 2024-9: 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" (Commercial Vehicles)

Mayor Rizzuto read the ordinance by title for second reading/public hearing. Mayor Rizzuto called for comments. Township Planner Anfuso reviewed the changes of the ordinance stating that this is a relaxation of the township's current ordinance. Mr. Anfuso explained that in this ordinance the A2, A3 and A7 zones will be allowed one commercial vehicle, the A7 zone be allowed two commercial vehicles. Mr. Anfuso stated that single rear axle vehicles are allowable only, dual axles are prohibited per the ordinance and cannot be parked on residential property. Mr. Anfuso stated any commercial vehicle must have a valid registration and must be owned and registered to the property owner or the tenant of the property. Mr. Anfuso stated that farm vehicles are exempt and are covered by Right to Farm.

Administrator Capristo stated that this has been a long-standing issue for the municipality and thanked the Long-Range Planning Committee who worked tirelessly on finding something that works for Colts Neck. Administrator Capristo stated that this will give the Code Enforcement Manager good, clear guidance.

Deputy Mayor Buss stated that the effort that went into this ordinance was tremendous. Deputy Mayor Buss stated that there are many Colts Neck residents that have a commercial vehicle which is their primary vehicle.

Hearing no further comments, Mayor Rizzuto called for a motion to open the public hearing. On a motion by Committeeman Viola, seconded by Deputy Mayor Buss and a majority voice vote, public comment was open.

Kevin O'Brien, resident, commented that the commercial vehicle ordinance was ignored just like the overnight street parking ordinance and state law for facing the wrong direction. Mr. O'Brien stated that he walks every morning and during that walk he has passed multiple pick-up trucks, work trucks and an oversized van. Mr. O'Brien stated that he never imagined viewing landscape trucks, salt spreaders, etc. in Colts Neck. Mr. O'Brien stated that he feels the ordinance should not allow for more commercial vehicles in certain zones, all zones should be allowed the same number. Mr. O'Brien asked if the Township Committee views Colts Neck as an upscale community that is worthy of a higher standard. Mr. O'Brien stated that he has shared pictures of commercial vehicles in his area of town via Report a Concern, as well the commercial vehicle ordinance from Oradell where it is required that the commercial vehicle be parked in a garage with the doors closed. Mr. O'Brien stated that he appreciates the time and effort of the Long-Range Committee. Mr. O'Brien asked that the Township Committee be receptive of feedback from the residents.

Hearing no further comments from the public, Mayor Rizzuto called for a motion to close public comment. On a motion by Committeeman Viola, seconded by Deputy Mayor Buss and a majority voice vote, public hearing was closed. Mayor Rizzuto called for a motion to approve. On a motion by Committeeman Viola, seconded by Deputy Mayor Buss and a majority 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					

d. Ordinance 2024-10: 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" (Trailers, Campers, Boats)

Mayor Rizzuto read the ordinance by title for second reading/public hearing. Mayor Rizzuto called for comments. Township Planner, Tim Anfuso stated that this ordinance is tightening the regulations on trailers, campers, boats and other recreational vehicles, however the ordinance is eliminating the provision of being screened. Mr. Anfuso stated that residents are limited to two recreational vehicles per home. Mr. Anfuso stated that trailers are limited to two rear axles and all recreational vehicles must be registered and owned by the homeowner or tenant residing in the home. Mr. Anfuso reviewed front and side yard setbacks that are outlined in the ordinance.

Deputy Mayor Buss stated that someone at the Planning Board meeting raised a question regarding tarps and if they are allowable. Mr. Anfuso responded that tarps are not outlined in the ordinance and a resident would be permitted to protect their recreational vehicle from the elements with a tarp.

Hearing no further comments, Mayor Rizzuto called for a motion to open the public hearing. On a motion by Deputy Mayor Buss, seconded by Committeewoman Fitzpatrick and a majority voice vote, the public hearing was opened. Mayor Rizzuto called for comments from the public.

Kevin O'Brien, resident, commented that Middletown Township limits trailers to one as do many other towns. Mr. O'Brien stated that in other towns the trailer or recreational vehicle must be parked in the rear, not on the side and it must be screened. Mr. O'Brien commented that Colts Neck will turn into Long Branch. Mr. O'Brien commented that no one thinks their boat is an eye sore or their car that is on jacks in their driveway. Mr. O'Brien spoke about Colts Neck being a more upscale community, however, having a more relaxed ordinance than other towns. Mr. O'Brien mentioned a trailer on Maple Drive that has been parked there for five years with no license plate and the township has done nothing about it. Mr. O'Brien also asked about the black trailer that has been parked in the town shopping center for six years and has not moved. Mr. O'Brien asked the township committee to table the ordinance tonight and to consider a more restrictive ordinance.

Hearing no further comments, Mayor Rizzuto called for a motion to close public comment. On a motion by Deputy Mayor Buss, seconded by Committeewoman Fitzpatrick and a majority voice vote, public comment was closed. Mayor Rizzuto called for a motion to approve. On a motion by Deputy Mayor Buss, seconded by Committeewoman Fitzpatrick and tie vote, the ordinance did not pass.
Aye: Buss, Rizzuto
Nay: Viola, Fitzpatrick

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					

e. Ordinance 2024-12: An ordinance to exceed the municipal budget appropriation limits and to establish a cap bank (N.J.S.A.: 4-45.14)

Mayor Rizzuto read the ordinance by title for second reading/public hearing. Mayor Rizzuto called for comments. Committeeman Viola explained that every municipality adopts a cap bank ordinance. Committeeman Viola stated that he has never seen the township use those funds. Hearing no further comments, Mayor Rizzuto called for a motion to open the public hearing. On a motion by Committeeman Viola, seconded by Committeewoman Fitzpatrick and a majority voice vote, the public hearing was open. 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 Deputy Mayor Buss, seconded by Committeewoman Fitzpatrick and a majority voice vote, the public hearing was closed. Mayor Rizzuto called for a motion to approve. On a motion by Committeeman Viola, seconded by Deputy Mayor Buss and a majority 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					

8. <u>New business:</u>

a. Resolution 2024-55: Resolution confirming and certifying the Length of Service Award Program (LOSAP) credits for 2023 for the First Aid Squad

Mayor Rizzuto called for comments. Deputy Mayor Buss thanked the first responders for their service and all that they do for the community. Mayor Rizzuto explained that the LOSAP program is a deferred compensation program. Committeeman Viola added that this program is based off of the number of calls a first responder responds to and that they must have a certain percentage to qualify. 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 majority 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					

b. Resolution 2024-56: Resolution confirming and certifying Length of Service Award Program (LOSAP) credits for 2023 for the Colts Neck Fire Department

Mayor Rizzuto called for comments. Hearing none, Mayor Rizzuto called for a motion to approve. On a motion by Deputy Mayor Buss, seconded by Committeewoman Fitzpatrick and a majority 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					

c. Resolution 2024-57: Amending temporary budget for 2024.

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 majority 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					

d. Resolution 2024-58: Authorizing rejection of bid for Disposal of Leaves

Mayor Rizzuto called for comments. Administrator Capristo stated that the township received one bid. Administrator Capristo stated that the prospective bidder pulled and submitted the incorrect bid package from the township's website, therefore the township must rebid. Hearing no further comments, Mayor Rizzuto called for a motion to approve. On a motion by Committeewoman Fitzpatrick, seconded by Committeeman Viola and a majority 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					X
Fitzpatrick	M	X			
M - Moved S - Seconded X - indicates vote NV - Not Voting Ab - Absent					

e. Resolution 2024-59: Authorizing rejection of bids for the Five Points Park Recreation Building

Mayor Rizzuto called for comments. Mayor Rizzuto commented that the bids for this project came in over the project budget, therefore the township will take a look at the plans to determine what can be done to bring the project to budget. 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 majority 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					

f. Consent Agenda:

a. Resolution 2024-60: Authorizing the release of two letters of credit, a performance guarantee, inspection fee and unexpended escrow funds for Block 7.30, Lot 3.16 – PB618

b. Resolution 2024-61: Authorizing the release of a performance guarantee, cash performance guarantee, inspection fee, special performance guarantee and unexpended escrow funds for Block 22, Lot 18 – PB617 – Manor Homes

Mayor Rizzuto called for a motion to approve the consent agenda. On a motion by Committeeman Viola, seconded by Committeewoman Fitzpatrick and a majority roll call vote, the resolutions on the consent agenda were 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					

g. Approval of Vouchers:

Committeeman Viola stated that he reviewed all of the vouchers and found all to be in order. Committeeman Viola noted several large invoices on the bill list such as the new fire truck that was delivered, payment to the Monmouth County Improvement Authority, the Colts Neck Board of Education, and a payment for pensions. Committeeman Viola made a motion to approve the bill list.

Mayor Rizzuto called for a second to Committeeman Viola's motion, seconded by Deputy Mayor Buss and a majority 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	S	X			
Viola	M	X			
Bartolomeo					X
Fitzpatrick		X			
M - Moved S - Seconded X - indicates vote NV - Not Voting Ab - Absent					

h. Administrator's Report

Administrator Capristo stated that the township is in receipt of a request from a resident whose property abuts Bucks Mill Park. Administrator Capristo stated that this resident is hosting a wedding celebration on Saturday, June 22, 2024. They will be serving alcohol and part of the celebration will take place in Bucks Mill Park. Administrator Capristo stated that the resident is seeking approval from the Township Committee to have alcohol present in the park. Administrator Capristo stated that they have filed all appropriate applications with the Department of Recreation.

The Governing Body approved the request.

i. Township Committee reports:

Committeewoman Fitzpatrick

- Committeewoman Fitzpatrick reported that the Farmland and Open Space Committee met on Monday and reviewed sites that are of interest for preservation. Committeewoman Fitzpatrick stated that the committee also discussed an open space tax referendum on the ballot for the upcoming General Election in November, especially with affordable housing legislation in Trenton that will not be favorable to the community. Committeewoman Fitzpatrick stated that the committee members are in favor of the referendum.
- Committeewoman Fitzpatrick stated that the Long- Range Planning Committee met last night and discussed sign ordinances, specifically on commercial properties. Committeewoman Fitzpatrick stated that the committee discussed less signage, size of signs and quantity for safety.
- Committeewoman Fitzpatrick stated that the Colts Neck Business Association's 14th annual luncheon at Trump National will be on March 20, 2024, at 11:30am. Tickets can be purchased on their website.
- Committeewoman Fitzpatrick stated that the Colts Neck Woman's Club will have their Federation luncheon tomorrow and congratulated the Woman's Club on their 60th Anniversary and thanked them for all that they do for the community.

Committeeman Viola:

- Committeeman Viola stated that the Senior Citizen Club has a trip next week.
- Committeeman Viola stated that no decision has been received from the court in regard to the affordable housing round 3 obligation.
- Committeeman Viola stated that the Recreation Committee meets next week. Committeeman Viola stated that the annual Easter Egg Hunt is scheduled for Saturday, March 16, 2024, at Fire Company #1. Committeeman Viola stated that the Farm House 5K is being planned for May 19, 2024, and the Recreation Department is planning for the Memorial Day Parade and festivities.
- Committeeman Viola stated that the Department of Public Works continues to work on potholes throughout the township and urged residents to utilize the Report a Concern feature on the township's website to report a pothole.
- Committeeman Viola stated that the Brush pick and leaf schedule flyer has been mailed to all residents, which also has information for Clean Up Day. Committeeman Viola stated that the flyer is also posted on the township's website.
- Committeeman Viola stated that the cupola at Town Hall Annex is coming along greatly.
- Committeeman Viola stated that the township adopted the temporary budget for 2024 and will introduce the full year budget on March 27, 2024.

Deputy Mayor Buss:

- Deputy Mayor Buss stated that the Board of Education has launched live streaming through YouTube for anyone who cannot physically be present for the meeting.
- Deputy Mayor Buss stated that the Friends of the Library are still collecting books for their upcoming book sale in April. They will be collecting donated books until the end of March.

Mayor Rizzuto:

- Mayor Rizzuto stated that the Planning Board met last night and did a consistency review on the ordinances that were on the Township Committee meeting agenda tonight for second reading, Ordinances 2024-5, 2024-8, 2024-9 and 2024-10. Mayor Rizzuto stated that some of the ordinances may seem as though they are loose, but if you review the ordinances closely, they are not. Mayor Rizzuto stated that the township committee will take the comments from the public into account for Ordinance 2024-10 which did not pass tonight.
- Mayor Rizzuto stated that he continues to work on the budget with the Police Department.
- Mayor Rizzuto stated that he met with the First Aid Squad and continues to work with them on getting their building back to their standards.
- Mayor Rizzuto stated that the Office of Emergency Management met and discussed the beautification of the space across from Town Hall Annex where the gazebo was once located. Mayor Rizzuto stated that the township has a plaque that is dedicated to James Mitchell and the township will work on dedicating space that will honor Mr. Mitchell. Mayor Rizzuto stated that Mr. Mitchell volunteered frequently and was very involved with the community.

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

Mayor Rizzuto called for a motion to open public comment. On a motion by Deputy Mayor Buss, seconded by Committeewoman Fitzpatrick and a majority voice vote, public comment was opened.

Kevin O'Brien, resident, stated that he spoke at the Planning Board meeting last night and it was a refreshing experience. Mr. O'Brien stated that the Planning Board members did not talk down to residents, there was no hostility or inappropriate gestures. Mr. O'Brien spoke about the contractor on Preakness running heavy equipment and excavating in the drip line of the trees, as well as cutting down a mature tree on town property. Mr. O'Brien commented that the township has Tree City recognition and can do more. Mr. O'Brien spoke about 42 The Enclosure and asked why the Township Engineer isn't doing due diligence to ensure that the 7ft. wall won't leak. Mr. O'Brien spoke about the septic design for this residence and stated that the septic will leak where children will play. Mr. O'Brien asked where the pipe with affluent flow will drain. Mr. O'Brien stated that Freehold Soil recommended ground water recharge for stormwater, however the Township's engineer recommended a lower drain, which defeats the purpose of the ground water recharge. Mr. O'Brien stated that the Township Engineer's report on 42 The Enclosure seems to be lacking decision making ability and asked what he is paid to do.

Fulton Wilcox, resident, stated that there is very little interpretive material to highlight where the township stands with the budget. Mr. Wilcox stated that the town does not publish reports for the public to view. Mr. Wilcox stated that the township's worth went from $3.2 billion to almost $4 billion. Mr. Wilcox stated that the township purchased a new fire truck, however, has not published a report on utilization of the current vehicles and how they are used. Mr. Wilcox stated that everything is approached as an event instead of as thoughtful supply chain plan to get what we need when we need it. Mr. Wilcox stated that the Board of Education has gone to live streaming for those residents who are unable to attend meetings, which opens up the potential that the Township Committee could also live stream township meetings for those who are unable to attend.

Charlene Kiley, resident, commented that the township could consider rain gardens for the space across from Town Hall Annex where the gazebo used to be located.

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 Committeeman Viola, seconded by Deputy Mayor Buss and a unanimous voice vote, public comment was closed.

10. Discussion of Public Comment:

Committeeman Viola responded to Mr. O'Brien stating that the Zoning Board of Adjustment does not report to the Township Committee. Committeeman Viola also responded to Mr. O'Brien regarding his comments about the development on Preakness stating that the Township Committee cannot comment on an open application, however, this application was approved. Committeeman Viola stated that if a tree was removed, they have a tree replacement plan that was approved upon the approval of the application. Committeeman Viola stated that any trees in the tree replacement plan will not be planted until the project is completed.

Committeeman Viola responded to Mr. Wilcox stating that the township appraisal was just under $3.8 billion and is now $4 billion. Committeeman Viola also responded to Mr. Wilcox stating that the budget is working project until it is introduced.

Committeeman Viola responded to Mr. O'Brien stating that Round 4 obligation numbers have not been written into law yet.

11. Adjournment:

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 majority voice vote, the meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

Trina Lindsey, RMC
Municipal Clerk

APPROVED: 03/27/24