

A REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF ANDOVER, COUNTY OF SUSSEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY WAS HELD ON MONDAY, APRIL 13th, 2020 AT THE BOROUGH HALL BEGINNING AT 7:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Mayor Morgan, Council Members: Dennison, Hoag, Smith, Walter, Pearson and Delfing.

ABSENT: None.

Mayor Morgan called the meeting to order with a salute to the flag and in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act by advertising notice of meeting in the N.J. Herald, posting copy of notice in the Borough Hall and on the Borough website. This meeting is being held remotely as an electronic public meeting as recommended due to the current situation involving the COVID-19 virus and directives of State and County governments.

MINUTES:

A MOTION was made by Mr. Smith, seconded by, Mrs. Delfing to approve the minutes of the meeting held on January 13th, 2020. Upon roll call the following votes were cast: YES: Dennison, Hoag, Smith, Pearson, Walter and Delfing. NAYS: None. ABSTAIN: None. Motion carried.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Smith, seconded by, Mrs. Delfing to approve the minutes of the meeting held on February 10, 2020. Upon roll call the following votes were cast: YES: Dennison, Hoag, Smith, Walter and Delfing. NAYS: None. ABSTAIN: Pearson. Motion carried.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Smith, seconded by, Mrs. Delfing to approve the minutes of the meeting held on February 19, 2020. Upon roll call the following votes were cast: YES: Hoag, Smith, Walter and Delfing. NAYS: None. ABSTAIN: Dennison and Pearson. Motion carried.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Smith, seconded by, Mrs. Delfing to approve the minutes of the meeting held on March 9th, 2020. Upon roll call the following votes were cast: YES: Dennison, Hoag, Smith, Pearson, Walter and Delfing. NAYS: None. ABSTAIN: None. Motion carried.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Smith, seconded by, Mrs. Delfing to approve the minutes of the meeting held on March 11th, 2020. Upon roll call the following votes were cast: YES: Smith, Pearson, Walter and Delfing. NAYS: None. ABSTAIN: Dennison and Hoag. Motion carried.

OFFICIALS REPORTS:

A MOTION was made by Mr. Dennison, seconded by Mr. Hoag to accept the following reports and place on file: Andover Joint Court for February, ABFD Report for March, Lakeland Emergency Squad Financial report for 2019. Upon roll call the following votes were cast: YES: Dennison, Hoag, Smith, Pearson, Walter and Delfing. NAYS: None. ABSTAIN: None. Motion carried.

CFO:

A MOTION was made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mrs. Walter to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Upon roll call the following votes were cast: YES: Dennison, Hoag, Smith, Pearson, Walter and Delfing. NAYS: None. ABSTAIN: None. Motion carried

CORRESPONDENCE: The following was presented to the governing body and placed on file:

NJ Office of Planning Advocacy re: Request for notification in writing that Andover Borough decided to not renew its center designation.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Hoag, seconded by Mr. Pearson to no renew the center designation. Upon roll call the following votes were cast: YES: Dennison, Hoag, Smith, Pearson, Walter and Delfing. NAYS: None. ABSTAIN: None. Motion carried.

Sussex County Dept of Taxation re: Preliminary Equalization Table for County for year 2020

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION: None.

REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

SWAC & SC Water Quality Management: Mr. Landrith was absent. No report.

Borough Land Report: Mr. Dennison reported that he hasn't been able to talk with Newton Salvage with all that is going on, but he will reach out.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

Administrative & Executive: Mr. Pearson reported that quotes for copiers are being reviewed. Consideration to lease one is being reviewed as maintenance and repairs may make it cost effective.

Celebration of Public Events: Mrs. Walter reported that the Easter Egg Hunt was canceled due to the COVID virus concerns. Alternatives to using the candy are being explored. Also, Garage Sale weekend has been canceled. The next celebration will be Memorial Day and is not expected to be canceled.

Finance: Mr. Dennison reported that the salary ordinance and budget are slated for review. The budget introduction is likely moving to the May meeting. He continued to report that the State will extend the fiscal year to 9/30/20. The discussion continued to move to the subject of the school budget and how much we will have to send as budget may be extended to mid-May.

Parks & Playgrounds: Mr. Hoag reported that there are branches down at the park from today's storm and the port-o-john was tipped over. The tipped over port-o-john was remedied quickly by the company. Mr. Hoag continued to report that he has all the flags at half-mast as directed by executive order. He continued to report that Clarence will be returning to work and will be contacted to provide a doctor's note giving the okay. Lastly, it was reported that the Eagle Scout project to install two new signs in the park have been installed.

Public Bldgs. & Grounds: Mr. Smith reported that the heat is off at the park building, but still on in the Borough Hall. The Mayor reported that he replanted the hostas from the park into the planters at the mini park and that the landscaping work by the park building is being worked on. Mr. Hoag reported that he contacted ServPro Cleaning for estimates on COVID and regular cleaning. It was mentioned that there is a way to be reimbursed for COVID cleaning. Lastly, the ABFD is in good shape as far as cleaning.

Public Safety: Mrs. Delfing reported that the flower sale by the ABFD was done electronically, but didn't yield the funds of prior years. Lower Maple Street is still waiting on power and the ABFD are tending the situation. Mr. Dennison mentioned that LES drove through the borough with the Easter Bunny in the ambulance to wave to the children in town.

Streets & Roads: Mr. Hoag reported that lower Maple Street is closed at the moment due to fallen power lines from high winds. There was some concern that extension of municipal grants may not be on the horizon due to the economic concerns pertaining to the COVID virus.

Water Utility: Mr. Smith reported that the water tower was cleared of vegetation and the pump house is still being worked on.

2020 MUNICIPAL BUDGET:

The matter of estimated tax bills was discussed. Through some review it was determined that a percentage of 1.02 should be prepared for resolution to be passed at the May meeting.

ORDINANCE:

SALARY ORDINANCE: The second reading of the 2020 salary ordinance was tabled to the next meeting.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Hoag, seconded by Mr. Smith to table second reading of the 2020 Salary Ordinance. Upon roll call the following votes were cast: AYES: All in favor. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS: There was a brief discussion to confirm that the pedestrian crossing sign at the park should be put in the garage until next September and the need for three binders to be ordered to meet Right to Know requirements.

NEW BUSINESS:

Service Electric Consent:

The Resolution authorizing execution of agreement was reviewed.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Hoag, seconded by Mr. Pearson to approve a “**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AGREEMENT CONSENTING TO TRANSFER AND ASSIGNMENT REGARDING CABLE TELEVISION FRANCHISE**”. Upon roll call the following votes were cast: AYES: Dennison, Hoag, Smith, Pearson, Walter, Delfing. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

Planet Network:

The Resolution prepared for Planet Network Consent was reviewed.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Hoag, seconded by Mr. Dennison to approve a “**RESOLUTION CONSENTING TO THE USE OF UTILITY POLES WITHIN THE PUBLIC RIGHTS-OF-WAY WITHIN ANDOVER BOROUGH BY PLANET NETWORKS, INC. TO DEPLOY FIBER OPTIC CABLING**”. Upon roll call the following votes were cast: AYES: Dennison, Hoag, Smith, Pearson, Walter, Delfing. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

Sussex Warren Area Energy Cooperative provided an update to their authorized contract to notify customers of its effect. This information is also posted to the website.

RESOLUTIONS:

Escrow Reimbursement:

A MOTION was made by Mr. Dennison, seconded by Mr. Pearson, Hoag to approve escrow reimbursement for rental to Manzo. Upon roll call the following votes were cast: YES: Dennison, Hoag, Smith, Pearson, Walter and Delfing. NAYS: None. ABSTAIN: None. Motion carried.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Dennison, seconded by Mr. Pearson, Hoag to approve escrow reimbursement for rental to Mills. Upon roll call the following votes were cast: YES: Dennison, Hoag, Smith, Pearson, Walter and Delfing. NAYS: None. ABSTAIN: None. Motion carried.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Dennison, seconded by Mr. Pearson, Hoag to approve escrow reimbursement for rental to Gnecco. Upon roll call the following votes were cast: YES: Dennison, Hoag, Smith, Pearson, Walter and Delfing. NAYS: None. ABSTAIN: None. Motion carried.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION: None.

MOTION TO PAY THE BILLS:

A MOTION was made by Mrs. Delfing, seconded by Mr. Pearson to pass the following Resolution: BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body to approve the payment of all vouchers on the bill listed April 13th, 2020, submitted by the Chief Financial Officer for payment. Upon roll call the following votes were cast: YES: Dennison, Hoag, Smith, Pearson, Walter and Delfing. NAYS: None. ABSTAIN: None. Motion carried.

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

A MOTION was made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Hoag to adjourn the meeting. AYES: All in favor. NAYS: None. ABSTAIN: None. Motion carried.

Beth Brothman
Municipal Clerk