

MINUTES OF THE MINE HILL TOWNSHIP COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING – July 31, 2014

1-2014-07-31

Council President Bloom called the regular meeting of the Mine Hill Township Council to order at 7:10 pm and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS NOTICE

Mr. Bloom announced that adequate notice for this meeting had been given as required by law.

ROLL CALL: Present – Mr. Bloom; Mr. Coranato; Ms. Kanzenbach; Mr. Pepperman (Arrived two minutes after meeting started.)
Absent – Mr. Willis
Also Present – Mr. Morris, Mayor; Ms. Istvan, Deputy Municipal Clerk
Public Present – 2

COMMUNICATIONS & PETITIONS

The following items of correspondence were noted:

a. County of Morris Deer Carcass Removal

Mr. Pepperman arrived at this time.

b. Health Department June 2014 Report

c. Explanation of Computed Tax Rates for Mine Hill Township

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Ms. Kanzenbach and seconded by Mr. Pepperman to approve the minutes of July 17, 2014 as presented. The roll was called, and the minutes were approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Ms. Kanzenbach; Mr. Pepperman; Mr. Bloom

Nays: none

Absent: Mr. Willis

Abstentions: Mr. Coranato

CONSIDERATION & APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

None

PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCES PREVIOUSLY INTRODUCED

Ordinance 21-14 Traffic Calming Ordinance

Upon motion made and seconded and a voice vote, the public hearing on this ordinance was opened.

Seeing no discussion, the public hearing on this ordinance was closed.

A motion was made by Ms. Kanzenbach and seconded by Mr. Coranato to adopt the ordinance. The roll was called, and the ordinance was adopted by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Coranato; Ms. Kanzenbach; Mr. Pepperman; Mr. Bloom

Nays: none

Absent: Mr. Willis

Abstentions: none

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Township Council of the Township of Mine Hill, in the County of Morris, and State of New Jersey, as follows:

SECTION 1. The Revised General Ordinances of the Township of Mine Hill are hereby amended by amending Chapter 10 entitled “Vehicles and Traffic”, Section 10.08.020 “Stop Intersection” to add the following intersections to Schedule VIII “Stop Intersections”:

Intersection	Stop Sign at
Clark St. and Bassett Avenue.	Both (Four Way)
Clark St. and Hillside Avenue	Both (Four Way)
Clark St. and Oakwood Avenue	Both (Three Way)
Hillside Avenue and Chestnut St.	Both (Four Way)

Bassett Ave. and Chestnut St.	Both (Four Way)
Bissell Avenue and 5th Avenue	Bissell and 5th Avenue Northbound Only (Three Way)
Dickerson Mine Road and Green Road	Both (Three Way)

SECTION 2. The Revised General Ordinances of the Township of Mine Hill are hereby amended by the following amendment to Chapter 10 entitled “Vehicles and Traffic”, Section 10.12 “Schedule XVI Speed Limits”:

Name of Street	Direction	Speed	Location
Randall Avenue	Both	25 mph	Entire length.

SECTION 3. This Ordinance may be renumbered for codification purposes.

SECTION 4. All Ordinances of the Township of Mine Hill which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

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SECTION 5. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is for any reason held to be unconstitutional or invalid, such decision shall not affect the remaining portions of this Ordinance.

SECTION 6. This Ordinance shall take effect as required by law.

ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA

Mayor Sam Morris discussed that the bases for the lights and conduits are in on Delores Path from the corner of Baker Street out to Delores Place. The County inspectors came out and are very happy with the progress. Canfield School is very interested in running theirs down and around in front of the school. The circuitry is wired to feed all the way from in front of the school and from the corner all the way down to the Fire House. Once the Town has it all set up with the correct brightness etc., the School will be set up.

The Renaming Baker Street and Second due to the confusion it causes for the school and also since there is another Second Street down below. There is one house, and the Town will need to talk to them and also talk to the Post Master and Chief of Police.

A letter was sent out to James Street about pulling out the sidewalks and the Mayor only received one call. DPW started digging out the sidewalks on Xenia and should be done by next week.

NJ Natural Gas has completed the gas runs on George Street, Dickerson Mine Road and Green Road. There is a huge turnout of interest on Hurd Street. There is also a number of residents interested down in the Flats. There is one issue on Dickerson Mine Road due to an old concrete pipe from the 50's and DPW supervised and made sure they crossed it cleanly. Alan Lane will be approached to hopefully obtain more interested residents.

One resident on Randolph Avenue had a failing septic system. Randolph Health came out and when RVRSA received all the paper work the executive director emailed the Mayor saying the resident would be hooked up to sewer. The whole process went very smoothly.

A question was asked about the status of Gillen Street and replacing the sewer line. The Mayor said no one has shown an interest or provided a quote even after numerous attempts to obtain one and not sure what the reason is. It was discussed that it might relate to the fact that the line is so deep it makes the project much more involved than normal. Mayor Morris will be meeting with the Town Engineer next week to discuss the possibility of DPW completing the work.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

None at this time.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

Ordinance 22-14 Capital Ordinance

A motion was made by Ms. Kanzenbach and seconded by Mr. Pepperman to introduce the ordinance. It was noted that the public hearing on this ordinance will take place on August 14, 2014. The roll was called and the ordinance was introduced by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Coranato; Ms. Kanzenbach; Mr. Pepperman; Mr. Bloom

Nays: none

Absent: Mr. Willis

Abstentions: none

WHEREAS, the Township of Mine Hill, in the County of Morris, New Jersey (the "Township"), has heretofore authorized the following public improvements and acquisitions: (A) resurfacing of South 1st Street, North 1st Street and other roads; (B) undertaking of various improvements to municipal facilities; and (C) acquisition of various equipment and machinery for the use of the Department of Public Works in, by and for the Township, and appropriated therefor the sum of \$120,000 pursuant to Ordinance No. 12-14 adopted by the Township Council of the Township on May 15, 2014 (the "Prior Ordinance"); and

WHEREAS, the Township Council now finds and determines that the additional sum of \$50,000 is required for such improvements and acquisitions and that such sum is available from the Township's Capital Improvement Fund to pay the additional cost of such improvements and acquisitions,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Council of the Township of Mine Hill, in the County of Morris, New Jersey, as follows:

Section 1. The additional sum of \$50,000 is hereby appropriated to the payment of the cost of the improvements and acquisitions authorized and described in the Prior Ordinance (hereinafter referred to as "purpose"). Said appropriation shall be raised from the Capital Improvement Fund of the Township, as hereinafter provided. The sum of \$50,000 is hereby appropriated from the Capital Improvement Fund of the Township to the payment of the cost of said purpose. No debt is authorized by this ordinance because funds on hand are available and being appropriated.

Section 2. Said improvements and acquisitions are lawful capital improvements of the Township having a period of usefulness of at least five (5) years. Said improvements and acquisitions have been and shall be made as general improvements, no part of the cost of which shall be assessed against property specially benefited.

Section 3. The capital budget is hereby amended to conform with the provisions of this capital ordinance to the extent of any inconsistency therewith and the resolutions promulgated by the Local Finance Board showing full detail of the amended capital budget and capital program as approved by the Director, Division of Local Government Services, is on file with the Township Clerk and is available for public inspection.

CONSENT RESOLUTIONS

None

NON-CONSENT RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 093-14 Acceptance of a New Member of the Mine Hill Township Fire Department

A motion was made by Ms. Kanzenbach and seconded by Mr. Pepperman to approve the resolution. The roll was called, and the resolution was approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Coranato; Ms. Kanzenbach; Mr. Pepperman; Mr. Bloom

Nays: none

Absent: Mr. Willis

Abstentions: none

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Mine Hill in the County of Morris and State of New Jersey that the Township Council accepts the following new member of the Mine Hill Township Fire Department:

Oliver Bejarano

Resolution 094-14 Amend 2014 Capital Budget

A motion was made by Ms. Kanzenbach and seconded by Mr. Coranato to approve the resolution. The roll was called, and the resolution was approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Mr. Coranato; Ms. Kanzenbach; Mr. Pepperman; Mr. Bloom

Nays: none

Absent: Mr. Willis

Abstentions: none

WHEREAS, the Township of Mine Hill, County of Morris, desires to amend the 2014 Capital Budget of said municipality by inserting thereon or correcting the items therein as shown in such budget for the following reason:

Additional Costs for the Resurfacing 1st Street and North 1st Street, Various Improvements to Municipal Facilities, and Various DPW Equipment

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Mine Hill of the County of Morris, as follows:

Section 1. The 2014 Capital Budget of the Township of Mine Hill is hereby amended by adding thereto a Schedule to read as follows:

**AMENDMENT NO. 2
CAPITAL BUDGET OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF MINE HILL, COUNTY OF MORRIS
Projects Schedules for 2014 Method of Financing**

GENERAL PROJECT	ESTIMATED	CAPITAL IMPROV.	NOTES/BONDS
	COST	FUND	
As Listed Above -	<u>\$ 50,000</u>	<u>\$50,000</u>	None

Section 2. The Clerk be and is authorized and directed to file a certified copy of this resolution with the Division of Local Government Services, Department of Community Affairs, State of New Jersey, within three days after the adoption of these projects for 2014 Capital Budget, to be included in the 2014 Capital Budget as adopted.

NEW & OLD BUSINESS

Mayor Morris reported that the Town had a half hour phone conference with the Standard and Poors. They asked 16 questions. Questions such as does the Town have any unreasonable debts, has the Town had any huge losses of industry, etc. It was explained to the representative that the Town does neither budgetary borrowing nor capital borrowing. If the Town does not have the money, it does not spend. The representative from the company seemed impressed. A report will be issued and the Town will receive a full copy. A new grade will be given with explanations of why the Town is either upgraded or downgraded. The question was asked how does having a Federal Rating help. It was discussed that if there is a need to borrow the Town will get a lower rate. The rating is a reflection of the management of the Town.

The Community Development Block Grant Program, which is a flexible program that provides communities with resources to address a wide range of unique community development needs, and the new demographics were briefly discussed. It was mentioned that it does not look favorable for the Town. It has to do with income levels and census data on different areas, they put you in economic zones. A grant was applied for to pave Thomastown but the income was too high and the same thing happened with South First Avenue.

Ms. Kanzenbach mentioned she was trying to make contact with someone from MAIN (Morris Automated Information Network) but did not hear back from anyone. There may be legislation to create a district library. County College of Morris has an online catalogue and anyone who has a Morris County Library card can use it. There was also discussion about the need to have someone pick up the books from CCM to bring them to the Mine Hill Library for residents to pick up. The Mayor mentioned we need to look for new volunteers to help with the library. Programs available in other towns were discussed like “Read to a Dog”. Various solutions and ideas were discussed like approaching and developing a shared usage with other towns or establishing some type of community involvement relationship with Barnes and Nobles to help with the situation.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

None at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, a motion was made by Ms. Kanzenbach and seconded by Mr. Pepperman to adjourn the meeting at 7:48 PM. The motion was approved by a voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marcia H. Istvan
Mine Hill Deputy Municipal Clerk

Approved on this 14th day of August, 2014

Council President