

**TOWNSHIP OF MANSFIELD
BURLINGTON COUNTY
MEETING MINUTES
September 6, 2018
Regular Session – 6:00PM**

The Regular Meeting of the Mansfield Township Committee was held on the aforementioned date with the following in attendance: **Mayor Robert Higgins, Deputy Mayor Janice DiGiuseppe, Committeeman Sean Gable, Committeeman Michael Magee, Committeeman Frederick Cain, Township Administrator Michael Fitzpatrick, Solicitor Katelyn McElmoyl, Chief Financial Officer Joseph Monzo, Township Engineer Chris Briglia, and Municipal Clerk Linda Semus.**

Deputy Mayor DiGiuseppe called the meeting to order at 6:02PM, followed by the following opening statement read by **Municipal Clerk Semus**:

Public notice of this meeting pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act NJSA 10:4-6 to 10:4-21 has been satisfied. Notice of this meeting was properly given in the annual notice, which was adopted by the Mansfield Township Committee on January 3, 2018. Said Resolution was transmitted to the Burlington County Times and the Trenton Times, filed with the Clerk of the Township of Mansfield, posted on the official bulletin board at the Municipal Complex, filed with the members of this body and mailed to each person who has prepaid any charge fixed for such service. All of the mailing, posting, and filing having been accomplished as of January 7, 2018.

The above was followed by the Flag Salute and moment of silence.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Township Engineer Briglia summarized the Engineer's Report as follows: the Axe Factory Road resurfacing project is nearing completion; Mansfield Road East has been milled, paved, and striped; the NJDOT gave approval for bid advertisement of Phase II for improvements to Mansfield Road East; the designs for the resurfacing of Mt. Pleasant Road and Chesterfield-Georgetown Road are soon to be completed; the repairs on White Pine Road may require the solicitation of quotes, should the contractor for Mansfield Road East be unable to incorporate the repairs in their current project; the improvements at Georgetown Community Park are complete; a feasible repair option was determined for the basketball and tennis courts at Hedding Park at no cost to the township; the subdivision for the boundary and topographical survey was approved, but still requires an application with the Burlington County Planning Board; Carroll Engineering submitted a proposal to provide for drainage improvements at Manchester Court; and the Manheim New Jersey site improvements have commenced with no issues to date.

Mayor Higgins entered the meeting at 6:09PM.

Committeeman Cain inquired about the portion of Mansfield Road East that will be resurfaced in Phase II. **Township Engineer Briglia** responded that the proposed boundaries are from the Elementary School to the intersection at Island Road, with a cost estimate of approximately \$93,000 including labor, construction observation, and core testing. **Committeeman Cain** asked if there is an anticipated start date for the project. **Township Engineer Briglia** explained that bids can be solicited as early as the end of September, but due to the change in seasons, construction may not begin until spring of next year.

Deputy Mayor DiGiuseppe requested that the repairs on White Pine Road not be included with the current Mansfield Road East project, as it may delay the latter from being completed as expected.

Township Administrator Fitzpatrick requested that Committee take action on the proposal from Carroll Engineering to address the drainage issues at Manchester Court. **Mayor Higgins** asked that Township Committee delay approval of said approval for further consideration. A motion was offered by **Deputy Mayor DiGiuseppe** and seconded by **Committeeman Cain** to table approval of Carroll Engineer's proposal for Manchester Court. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

AYE: DIGIUSEPPE, CAIN, GABLE, MAGEE, HIGGINS
NAY: ABSTAIN: ABSENT:

PROCLAMATION

Municipal Clerk Semus read aloud the below proclamation, which was presented to Colleen Brennan-Riehl in acknowledgement of her volunteerism to Mansfield.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING COLLEEN BRENNAN-RIEHL FOR HER OUTSTANDING AND DEVOTED SERVICE TO MANSFIELD TOWNSHIP, BURLINGTON COUNTY

WHEREAS, Mansfield Township has many caring citizens who have a desire to share with others, participate in the lives of their community, and exhibit their talents and resources; and

WHEREAS, Colleen Brennan-Riehl became a part of the Special Events Committee in 2009 at which time she actively participated in Community Events; and

WHEREAS, Colleen's energy and love for her community was reflected when she assumed the role of Chairperson in 2009; and

WHEREAS, Field Day and the Wagon Ride Tours continued to be a vital part of the Community activities led by the enthusiasm, dedication and hard work ethics of Colleen for the past 10 years; and

WHEREAS, Colleen undertook the planning, and contributed countless hours, whether unwinding Christmas lights, suffering with frigid fingers in attempts to decorate the park for the wagon rides, worrying about rain on Field Day, or convincing her husband and children to help out, without any thought of recognition.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Mansfield Township Committee, on behalf of the Township, the officials, employees and residents thereof, does hereby express its gratitude to Colleen Brennan-Riehl for her many years of dedicated service rendered to this Township and to the residents therein, and to see that such recognition is permanently made a part of the record of this Township.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, although Colleen will be deeply missed after her relocation to South Carolina, the Township Committee thanks her for her dedication to her community and wishes her many years of health and happiness.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION 2018-9-1

RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION 2018-1-36 FIXING TIME AND PLACE OF REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE AND THE BOARD OF HEALTH

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A 10:4-6 et seq. establishes that the governing body of a municipality may designate a schedule of meetings by publishing a yearly calendar of the same; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Mansfield, at its Reorganization Meeting of January 3, 2018, adopted Resolution 2018-1-8, formally setting forth the official Calendar of Meetings for the year 2018; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee subsequently adopted Resolution 2018-1-36, effectively amending the aforementioned Calendar of Meetings to set forth a fixed time of 5:30PM for Executive Session meetings; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee is determined to amend said Resolution 2018-1-36 to change the time of Executive Session solely for the meeting of September 19, 2018 to 4:30PM, with all other Executive Session meetings commencing at 5:30PM as previously scheduled.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Mansfield, that the Executive Session meeting to be held on September 19, 2018 shall commence at 4:30PM.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all other provisions as set forth in Resolution 2018-1-8 and Resolution 2018-1-36 shall remain in full force and effect.

A motion was offered by **Committeeman Magee** and seconded by **Committeeman Gable** to adopt Resolution 2018-9-1. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2018-9-2

RESOLUTION APPROVING A PROPERTY TAX REDUCTION FOR 1091 FLORENCE ROAD LOCATED AT BLOCK 47.02 LOT 6 ON MANSFIELD TOWNSHIP TAX MAP

WHEREAS, on April 12, 2018, a fire completely destroyed the house located at 1091 Florence Road, also known as Block 47.02 Lot 6 on the Mansfield Township Tax Map; and

WHEREAS, because of this fire damage, the owner of the property submitted a written request with the Township for the reduction in the property tax assessment;

WHEREAS, the owner request relief from paying the improvement portion of the property's tax assessment, which is presently assessed at \$251,300.00, but agrees to pay the land and Pole Barn portion of the property tax assessment, which is presently assessed at \$133,100.00; and

WHEREAS, the Tax Assessor ~~Tax Collector~~ has consented to assess the property located at 1091 Florence Road for the land and Pole Barn portion only; and

WHEREAS, the property taxes for 1091 Florence Road shall be immediately reassessed by the Tax Assessor's Office to full fair market value when the property's improvements are rebuilt and final inspections are complete.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee that the owner's written request for the property tax reduction at 1091 Florence Road, also known as Block 47.02 Lot 6 on the Mansfield Township Tax Map, is granted as follows and shall be retroactive to April 12, 2018:

1. The improvement portion of the tax assessment for 1091 Florence Road, which is presently assessed at \$251,300.00, shall be cancelled.
2. The land and Pole Barn portion of the assessment, which is presently assessed at \$133,100.00, shall be due and owing in the normal course of payment.
3. The Tax Assessor's Office shall immediately reassess the tax assessment for 1091 Florence Road to full fair market value when the property's improvements are rebuilt and final inspections are complete.

Solicitor McElmoyl stated that the above resolution contains an error, and the fourth clause should read as "Tax Assessor" rather than "Tax Collector." Accordingly, a motion should be made to adopt the aforementioned resolution as corrected.

A motion was offered by **Committeeman Magee** and seconded by **Committeeman Cain** to adopt Resolution 2018-9-2 as corrected. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

AYE: MAGEE, CAIN, GABLE, DIGIUSEPPE, HIGGINS
NAY: ABSTAIN: ABSENT:

RESOLUTION 2018-9-3
RESOLUTION AWARDING OF A PROFESSIONAL SERVICE CONTRACT TO
REMINGTON AND VERNICK ENGINEERS, 232 KING'S HIGHWAY EAST,
HADDONFIELD, NEW JERSEY, 08033, FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR THE
PREPARATION OF TWO (2) FY' 2019 NJDOT MUNICIPAL AID APPLICATIONS FOR THE
TOWNSHIP OF MANSFIELD

WHEREAS, Remington and Vernick engineers had submitted a proposal on August 21, 2018, not to exceed \$2,100.00 to provide the engineering services requested; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Mansfield, County of Burlington, State of New Jersey that:

1. The Township Committee hereby awards a Contract to Remington and Vernick Engineers, of Haddonfield, New Jersey for engineering services for the preparation of FY' 2019 Application For Railroad Avenue & White Pine Road and preparation of NJDOT FY' 2019 Application for Gaunt's Bridge Road not to exceed \$2,100.00 for both applications.
2. The Mayor and Township Clerk, as necessary, are hereby authorized to execute a Contract and any related documents necessary to effectuate this award.
3. This award is made available through account numbers: 01-201-20-165-127

A motion was offered by **Committeeman Cain** and seconded by **Committeeman Gable** to adopt Resolution 2018-9-3. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

AYE: CAIN, GABLE, MAGEE, DIGIUSEPPE, HIGGINS
NAY: ABSTAIN: ABSENT:

RESOLUTION 2018-9-4
RESOLUTION AWARDING A PROFESSIONAL SERVICE CONTRACT TO
CME ASSOCIATES, 1460 ROUTE 9 SOUTH, HOWELL, NEW JERSEY 07731, FOR ENGINEERING
SERVICES FOR PREPARATION OF A WETLANDS LOCATION MAP FOR THE MUNICIPAL COMPLEX

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Mansfield is determined to provide for a Wetlands Location Map in connection with the Municipal Complex Conceptual Site Plan; and

WHEREAS, CME Associates, 1460 Route 9 South, Howell, New Jersey 07731, has submitted a proposal dated August 23, 2018, said proposal attached hereto and made part hereof, to provide for the formulation of a Wetlands Location Map at the Municipal Complex in an amount not to exceed \$3,000.00; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Mansfield desires to award a contract to CME Associates in the amount of \$3,000.00 to provide for the aforementioned services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Mansfield, County of Burlington, State of New Jersey that:

1. The Township Committee hereby awards a contract to CME Associates, 1460 Route 9 South, Howell, New Jersey 07731, for the production of a Wetlands Location Map in connection with the Municipal Complex Conceptual Site Plan in an amount not to exceed \$3,000.00.
2. The Mayor and Township Clerk, as necessary, are hereby authorized to execute a contract and any related documents necessary to effectuate the same.
3. This award is made available through account numbers: 04-215-20-081-810

Mayor Higgins confirmed with **CFO Monzo** that the funds to be expended from the above resolution will be provided through Ordinance 2018-9 in order to remain transparent to the public.

A motion was offered by **Committeeman Gable** and seconded by **Committeeman Cain** to adopt Resolution 2018-9-4. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

AYE: GABLE, CAIN, MAGEE, DIGIUSEPPE, HIGGINS
NAY: ABSTAIN: ABSENT:

A motion was offered by **Committeeman Magee** and seconded by **Deputy Mayor DiGiuseppe** to amend the agenda for the purpose of adding an Executive Session to same. Motion carried.

Solicitor McElmoyl stated that an unforeseen matter has arisen necessitating an Executive Session, in which the purpose is to discuss anticipated litigation, matters involving attorney-client privilege, and contract negotiations.

A motion was offered by **Deputy Mayor DiGiuseppe** and seconded by **Committeeman Cain** to include Resolution 2018-9-5, authorizing Executive Session, to be placed after Mayor and Committee Comments on the agenda. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

AYE: GABLE, CAIN, MAGEE, DIGIUSEPPE, HIGGINS
NAY: ABSTAIN: ABSENT:

BILL LIST

A motion was offered by **Committeeman Gable** and seconded by **Committeeman Cain** to approve the bill list. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

AYE: GABLE, CAIN, MAGEE, DIGIUSEPPE, HIGGINS
NAY: ABSTAIN: ABSENT:

DISCUSSION

A. Doug Borgstrom – Franklin Fire Benefit for Bill Stricker: Mr. Borgstrom explained that Bill Stricker, a former police officer, firefighter, EMS, and Public Works laborer for the township, has declined in health. Accordingly, the Franklin Fire Company will be holding a benefit to raise money to help support Mr. Stricker’s medical needs. **Deputy Mayor DiGiuseppe** requested that Mr. Borgstrom file a Facilities Use Permit with the Municipal Clerk’s Office for the same, and **Mayor Higgins** requested that Mr. Borgstrom ensure compliance is met with the NJABC regarding the sale of alcohol. **Committeeman Cain** inquired if the benefit is open to the public. Mr. Borgstrom confirmed.

A motion was offered by **Deputy Mayor DiGiuseppe** and seconded by **Committeeman Cain** to approve the aforementioned benefit with the provision that all required documents are provided to both the state and township. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

AYE: DIGIUSEPPE, CAIN, MAGEE, HIGGINS
NAY: ABSTAIN: GABLE ABSENT:

Committeeman Gable spoke very highly of Mr. Stricker, but due to his involvement in the Fire Company, he had to abstain from the above vote.

On a separate topic, Mr. Borgstrom noted that the Franklin Fire Company received a grant from FEMA in the amount of \$160,000 to help provide for the needs of the organization.

B. Non-Compliance Quaker House and Parking: **Mayor Higgins** requested that this topic be discussed at a later date.

C. West Main Street Property Maintenance Update: **Township Administrator Fitzpatrick** explained that a foreclosure purchased on West Main Street has been found noncompliant with the Property Maintenance Code. After various attempts via certified mail and direct conversation with the new owner, the problem failed to be rectified. A court summons was issued twice, followed by a bench warrant issued for arrest.

D. Traffic Study on Axe Factory Road: **Township Administrator Fitzpatrick** stated that upon advice from Al Litwornia, Traffic Engineer, a traffic study must be completed in order to reduce the speed limit on Axe Factory Road to 35mph as discussed at a previous Committee Meeting. Mr. Litwornia quoted a price of \$1,800 to provide for such study, but stated that if the Police Department conducted the radar analysis, the price could be reduced to approximately \$900. However, Mr. Fitzpatrick noted that Mr. Litwornia recommend a police presence to enforce the speed limit prior to opting for a costly traffic study.

Mayor Higgins expressed that the latter option offered by Mr. Litwornia is more favorable, as a police presence will be necessary regardless to enforce the new speed limit of 35mph. **Committeeman Gable** also recommended the use of a speed limit device to monitor traffic patterns, as there is not enough manpower to warrant constant enforcement, particularly when there are other areas of heavier traffic in need of the same. Township Committee agreed with the above comments, and no action was taken on the approval of a traffic study.

E. PSEG Proposed Dates for Tower Presentation: **Township Administrator Fitzpatrick** noted that PSEG has sixteen (16) high tension powerlines throughout Mansfield that need to be replaced

over the course of five (5) years. Accordingly, representatives from PSEG would like to come before Township Committee to present a comprehensive timeframe of the aforementioned replacement plan. It was decided that a date in October would be most beneficial.

F. Comprehensive 3 or 5 year Plan for Municipal Complex: Committeeman Cain summarized the need for Township Committee to formulate a plan on how the Municipal Building will be utilized, as there is a significant amount of unused space within the same. Mr. Cain recommended that, with the assistance of a qualified architect, the unused space be made workable in order for the same to be rented to different organizations to offset the unforeseen costs spent on the building. **Committeeman Gable** agreed with various points made by **Committeeman Cain**, and expanded upon the same. **Committeeman Magee** and **CFO Monzo** noted that due to the Local Bond Law, the township cannot surpass a certain amount of income generated by rental space, as it would cause previously issued bonds to lose tax-exempt status, consequently prohibiting the bond owner from utilizing the same.

G. EMS:

Mayor Higgins: *“Janice stop me if I say anything improper. There has been several questions that Janice has been dealing with about the EMS. She’s brought some of them up to me. Some of them I agree with 100%. Some of them I’m wishy-washy on. I believe you wrote a letter. You asked me to review the letter. I think the letter was a result of the meeting between yourself, Joe, Fred, and Michael. I reviewed the letter, and I didn’t agree with it 100%. And I actually met with you for breakfast, and I said I had some problems with it. So you asked that I put it on the agenda, then you went away last meeting, so this is the meeting – it’s on the agenda now. If you could, bring Committee up to speed on your concerns, because some of them were valid.”*

Deputy Mayor DiGiuseppe: *“You are correct, we did have a meeting. Actually, this issue was brought up to Michael’s attention by Tim Irons, who is our Risk Management Consultant. That is how I got involved. We had a meeting with our administrator, Fred Cain, myself, and Joe Monzo. We reviewed all of the documents, the contracts, and the requirements according to our township ordinance that non-profits are supposed to comply with, and there are issues. I did not – I’m going to correct you – I gave you the letter to review because you asked me to review it. My contention was that the letter should have been sent and we could have gotten an accountability response from the EMS. That letter has not gone out. I did not ask to have this on the agenda tonight, because my contention is that the request for compliance according to the ordinance should have gone out first, we would have gotten the response, either accommodating or refusing to accommodate, and then we could have put it on the agenda. But that’s where I stand. My belief is, and I believe Committeeman Cain as well as our CFO and Tim Irons also agree, and I had a long conversation with Committeeman Gable today, that we should get accountability according to our township ordinance that requires it.”*

Mayor Higgins: *“I respectfully disagree. I did not ask to review it. And we have emails to show that you asked me to review it. I’m not going to argue with you, but don’t misstate the facts.”*

Committeeman Magee: *“Let’s move along.”*

Mayor Higgins: *“Okay, fine. Secondly, you can send the letter out anytime you want. If you’re asking me to sign it....”*

Deputy Mayor DiGiuseppe: *“I did not ask you to sign it.”*

Mayor Higgins: *“Then why didn’t you just send it out?”*

Deputy Mayor DiGiuseppe: *“I’m going to ask our CFO to get involved, because he was in that meeting. Joe sent me an email asking who was going to sign it, and I suggested that Joe sign it. But you had asked to review the letter, and you told me clearly you didn’t want it to go out, and that’s why it didn’t go out. You told me that you were.... I’m not going to argue with you. To the EMS people that are here, I did not ask that this be put on the agenda tonight, but I do believe we have an ordinance that requires accountability for financial responses, and that’s all I’m asking for.”*

Mayor Higgins: *“Okay fine, I’m wrong. I’ll live with that, okay? It’s not worth getting into this. But I believe that if we look backwards and reviewed the facts, I would be accurate on this one. What exactly are your concerns?”*

Deputy Mayor DiGiuseppe: *“I just said. My concern is that... we send something in writing to the EMS with our concerns with compliance to the ordinance and let them respond to us.”*

Mayor Higgins: *“What are they not complying with?”*

Deputy Mayor DiGiuseppe: *“I’m not going to discuss that now, tonight at this meeting.”*

Committeeman Gable: *“My only comment on this situation is that past history in working with the EMS, EMS Board, and Chief Lewis, they provided the information that we’ve asked for. So I think they’ve been giving us what we asked for. And it may not be exactly what is asked for in writing, that is part of the ordinance, but Chief Lewis has always said if there is any information we want, let him know, and he will provide it. So I think if we let him know what information we want, he will provide it. I don’t see how it will be an issue.”*

CFO Monzo: *“Okay, I think that’s a fairly informal process, and I think the tenor of the contract we have with the EMS, sorry, the Mansfield Township First Aid Squad, that’s their official title – the contract we have with them, our township ordinance calls for specific information to be provided to us. There are certain deadlines for that. And some of this information we reviewed has had some inaccuracies in it. Just as an example, some of the documents still had Dick Archer’s name on it, I forget exactly which document it was, had his name on it after he passed away. So obviously there are some inaccuracies. So if you, the Mayor, don’t care who signs it, and the Deputy Mayor doesn’t care who signs it, I will sign the letter that we drafted. I will sign it. That is one of the reasons why I withheld a balance of the final payment this evening, if you notice on the bill list, there is a payment of \$20,000. The squad had asked for their last \$40,000. My response to that was I would approve \$20,000 on the bill list, because after reviewing the last five years, the last ten payments to the squad, in two of the last four years, not counting this year, two of those years the last payment went out in October, and in two of those years, the last payment went out in September. So to even get half of the last payment at the September 6th meeting is early. So I have the information that was contained in the letter that laid out the concerns that myself, Janice, Fred, and Mike had. I will put that on township letter head, and I will send it out under my signature. And we will wait for the squad to respond with the information I asked them for, and if they do appropriately, then we will schedule the last payment. If they don’t, or inappropriately, we will have a discussion with Committee about how we go about getting the information we are asking for. I had hope that this discussion would have been in Executive Session, but I was overridden by a township attorney, who thought it...not this township attorney, the other one....who thought it was more appropriate to have this discussion in open session.”*

Mayor Higgins: *“Can I ask you, when I read the letter...one of the items of non-compliance was that the information was supposed to be received by May 15th of every year. Is that correct?”*

CFO Monzo: *“I don’t recall the exact wording of the letter.”*

Mayor Higgins: *“Have you ever enforced that with any of the non-profits that we deal with?”*

CFO Monzo: *“No, but that doesn’t make it right.”*

Mayor Higgins: *“Does it make it your responsibility to contact them and ask them for the information?”*

CFO Monzo: *“Yes, but it doesn’t make it right...”*

Mayor Higgins: *“You have always allowed them....May 15th, and I’m just a dumb accountant, but May 15th is the basic due date of non-profit return that is on a calendar year basis. Is that a fair statement?”*

CFO Monzo: *“Yes.”*

Mayor Higgins: *“You can also file an extension. And we’ve always relied on letting them get the information done by the extension date. Is that fair?”*

CFO Monzo: “Yes.”

Mayor Higgins: “So if you were to change your opinion this year, do you think you should have notified the non-profits?”

CFO Monzo: “Well we only deal with two of significance, the Fire Company and the First Aid Squad.”

Mayor Higgins: “And the NBIAA.”

CFO Monzo: “Well what I said was, whether I did it rightly or wrongly, and tried to correct it, doesn’t make it inaccurate.”

Mayor Higgins: “Okay. I mean, did you ever make a follow up call to say ‘Hey, we would like this returned to us as fast as possible?’”

CFO Monzo: “No, I haven’t. And I think right now this discussion is getting out of bounds based on the tenor of the meeting.”

Mayor Higgins: “Okay. So fine.”

Deputy Mayor DiGiuseppe: “That’s right. And I just have one more comment. Whatever Joe did or did not do, it doesn’t waive the fact that these non-profits have to comply with the ordinance. So, we’re not going to sit here and criticize, we are trying to just get some information to understand why we have to give almost \$300,000 to a non-profit organization without accountability documentation. That’s all.”

Committeeman Magee: “I make a motion to table this until the letter goes out and Ryan has a chance to respond. I make that motion.”

Committeeman Gable: “Second.”

Deputy Mayor DiGiuseppe: “Are we are tabling this so Ryan can have an opportunity to respond in writing to us?”

Committeeman Magee: “Correct.”

AYE: MAGEE, GABLE, CAIN, DIGIUSEPPE, HIGGINS

NAY: ABSTAIN: GABLE ABSENT:

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ryan Lewis, resident of 24786 E. Main Street and Chief of the Ambulance Corp, stated that the organization was not aware of said ordinance, adopted in 1999, that required non-profits to file financial documents by May 15th of each year. Additionally, the organization was never notified that they were noncompliant. However, Mr. Lewis stated that the Ambulance Corp has no objection to providing said documents within the timeframe specified in the Township Code. Mr. Lewis also noted that he brought the requested documents to the meeting tonight.

Before continuing his comments, **Committeeman Magee** requested that Mr. Lewis provide his responses in writing. **Mayor Higgins** concurred.

Colleen Herbert, 2 Millennium Drive, stated that as a former member of the NBIAA, the organization was never asked to provide financial documents until this year. Accordingly, Ms. Herbert went on to express her support for **Deputy Mayor DiGiuseppe** to require compliance as an elected official, but also commended Mr. Lewis for immediately complying upon being notified of the aforementioned ordinance as it reflects transparency. Finally, Ms. Herbert commented on the contention between Township Committee regarding the Ambulance Corp, as she feels it is unnecessary and unproductive.

Carl Schwartz, 40 Fitzgerald Lane, inquired if an official plan has been established to complete Municipal Complex. **Mayor Higgins** explained that once the wetlands location map has been completed as approved by Resolution 2018-9-4, it will allow Township Committee to make

finalized decisions regarding the Municipal Complex so a concept plan for the same can be formulated. Slight discussion ensued on the same.

MAYOR AND COMMITTEE COMMENTS

Committeeman Cain stated that Township Committee is determined to spend funds wisely.

Committeeman Gable thanked the public for attending and expressed his appreciation for public input.

Committeeman Magee asked that the public be aware of school buses and students on the roadways now that school is back in session.

Mayor Higgins encouraged the public to attend the Italian Festival to be held at the Fairgrounds in Springfield Township.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

RESOLUTION 2018-9-5 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION

WHEREAS, Section 7 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 213, P.L. 1975 [NJSA 10:4-12(B)] permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exists.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Mansfield, County of Burlington and State of New Jersey as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from discussion of, action on and reviewing the Minutes of the hereinafter specified matters.
2. The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows:
Contract Negotiations, Anticipated Litigation, Attorney-Client Privilege
3. It is anticipated at this time that the above subject matter will be made public when the matter has been resolved and approved for release by the Township Solicitor.

A motion was offered by **Committeeman Cain** and seconded by **Committeeman Gable** to adopt Resolution 2018-9-5 and convene into Executive Session. Motion carried.

Mayor Higgins stated that Committee may take formal action after Executive Session. Committee entered the same at 7:25PM.

A motion was offered by **Committeeman Cain** and seconded by **Committeeman Gable** to exit Executive Session. Motion carried. Committee returned to the public portion of the meeting at 8:11PM.

Solicitor McElmoyl explained that the purpose of Executive Session was to discuss contract negotiations, anticipated litigation, and other matters involving attorney-client privilege.

Solicitor McElmoyl stated that violations, as well as a cease and desist letter, have been issued for the Ad-Dawah Center. Since their issuance, the property owner has submitted a variance to the Planning Board, resulting in the violations being suspended until the next board meeting wherein members of the public can voice comments regarding parking, lighting, and excavation at the center.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was offered by **Committeeman Gable** and seconded by **Committeeman Cain** to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:13PM.

Prepared by:

Respectfully submitted by:

Caitlin Midgette, Deputy Clerk

Linda Semus, Municipal Clerk

APPROVED: September 19, 2018