

**MINUTES OF A CAUCUS MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HADDON, IN THE
COUNTY OF CAMDEN, NEW JERSEY, HELD ON JANUARY 15, 2013,
IN THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING AT 7:00 PM.**

A caucus meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Haddon was convened in the Municipal Building, 135 Haddon Avenue, Westmont, NJ on Tuesday, January 15, 2013 at 7:00 PM.

Mayor Teague requested all stand for the flag salute

Mayor Teague announced that Chapter 231, Public Law 1975 requires adequate notice of this meeting be provided specifying time, place and agenda. This was done by placing Annual Notice in the Courier-Post and Retrospect Newspapers and by posting on two bulletin boards in the Municipal Building.

ROLL CALL:	Mayor Teague	Present
	Commissioner Foley	Present
	Commissioner Dougherty	Present

Eric Riso, Esq., Greg Fusco, P.E., Jim Stevenson, Lee Palo, Kate Burns and Darlene Alfonsi were present.

**PRESENTATION BY RENEE PAPANERI AND MARGE HOWLEY OF THE
COMMUNITY GARDEN GROUP:**

Ms. Papaneri stated reasons why a community garden group would be beneficial to the Township of Haddon. Ms. Papaneri also reported that there are already 42 residents signed up to participate. Mayor Teague inquired about site location and costs. The group suggested that the Champion School would be a primary choice due to ample parking, a perimeter fence, as well as space size. The group and the Commissioners continued discussing obstacles and solutions that could lead to making this project a success. Commissioner Foley wrapped up the conversation by suggesting that the group consider getting a cost analysis from other garden groups.

Commissioner Foley moved, seconded by Commissioner Dougherty that the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on December 18, 2012 be approved, with all members voting in the affirmative.

ORDINANCE(S): (for consideration January 22, 2013)

RESOLUTIONS: (FOR APPROVAL THIS EVENING)

Commissioner Foley moved, seconded by Commissioner Dougherty that the following resolution be approved with all members voting in the affirmative:

#2013-001 – Ratifying Appointment of Hank Voigtsberger as Emergency Management Coordinator

Commissioner Foley moved, seconded by Commissioner Dougherty that the following resolution be approved with all members voting in the affirmative:

#2013-003 – Appointment of Louis Cernava (Tenant Member) to the Housing Authority

Commissioner Foley moved, seconded by Commissioner Dougherty that the following resolution be approved with all members voting in the affirmative:

#2013-004 – Appointment of Chris Jandoli to the Planning Board

Commissioner Foley moved, seconded by Commissioner Dougherty that the following resolution be approved with all members voting in the affirmative:

#2013-005 – Appointing Charles Pusatere as Municipal Coordinator on Aging

The Mayor reported that the governing body made a motion to reissue RFQ (Request for Quotes) for the position of Public Defender at their last meeting. Charles Wigginton responded with \$225.00 per session cost and Charlene Cathcart responded with \$175 per session cost.

Commissioner Dougherty made a motion to appoint Charles Wigginton as Public Defender. After reviewing both submissions and both resumes, Commissioner Dougherty felt that both applicants met the necessary qualifications. Commissioner Dougherty further commented that Mr. Wigginton's 15 years of experience and position as Public Defender in 7 towns is his reasoning for this motion. No complaints were on record against Mr. Wigginton.

The Mayor commented that he agreed that there haven't been any complaints against Mr. Wigginton. Mayor Teague stated in Mrs. Cathcart's defense, that she is a resident of Haddon Township, that her experience is comparable to Mr. Wigginton's and most importantly there was a \$2,000 difference in cost.

Commissioner Foley commented that he looked at the dollar amount and both submissions have similar experiences. The Public Defender is an important position and Commissioner Foley believes that the Township would be served well by choosing Ms. Cathcart and given her residency in town and the lower cost; he would recommend Ms. Cathcart for the position.

Due to the fact that there was no second to Commissioner Dougherty's motion, the motion failed.

Motion made by Commissioner Foley to nominate Charlene Cathcart as the Public Defender for Haddon Township for 2013.

Commissioner Dougherty asks if Mayor Teague will be voting on this appointment or abstaining. The Mayor stated that he will be voting and discloses to the public that he does pay rent to Ms. Cathcart. Mayor Teague further stated he consulted Stuart Platt, the Township Solicitor and requested that he review the law and see if a conflict of interest was present. Mayor Teague reported that the Solicitor stated that in his opinion, a conflict of interest does not exist and that the Mayor may vote. Commissioner Dougherty read N.J.S.A. 40A: 9-22.5. Commissioner Dougherty requests that the Mayor abstain from voting, and mentions labor counsel being involved as well as local ethic laws. Commissioner Dougherty also reports that he conferred with Chris Orlando (Brown and Connery) and Mr. Orlando advised that there was a potential for appearance of impropriety and Mayor Teague should abstain from voting. Mayor Teague once again reiterated that the Township Solicitor reported that it wasn't a conflict. Commissioner Dougherty commented that if Mayor Teague votes after he has stated his objection then anyone in town can file a claim. Eric Riso, Esquire reiterated that there has to be a financial conflict, a financial benefit, the mere fact that this woman is Mayor Teague's landlord is not a conflict and not a reason for Mayor Teague not to vote on this appointment. Commissioner Foley inquired as to whether there is a dollar amount attached to this law and Mr. Riso stated that there is no limit under this law. Mayor Teague reported that there is no financial benefit coming back to him for this appointment. At this point, Mayor Teague reports that he will abstain from voting and

requests that RFQs be readvertised. Commissioner Foley commented that he feels strongly about Mayor Teague not abstaining since the Solicitor stated there is no conflict. Commissioner Dougherty disagrees with the Solicitor.

Mayor Teague moved, seconded by Commissioner Foley that RFQs be reissued for the position of Public Defender for 2013, with both members voting in the affirmative. Commissioner Dougherty voted no.

RESOLUTIONS (for consideration January 22, 2013)

#2013-006 - Bill Resolution

#2013-007 - Authorizing the Tax/Utility Collector to Process Posting Corrections and Various Other Adjustments and Deductions

OTHER BUSINESS (for consideration January 22, 2013)

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Greg Fusco, PE reviewed the Engineer's Report for January 15, 2013.

Public Works, Water/Sewer Department: Mr. Stevenson reported that he talked to Greg Fusco about getting starting work on Toledo Avenue and the 2nd Phase of Briarwood Avenue as soon as school is out. Public works will be working on Park and Albertson pump stations, work on West Park Drive tying into the main. Leafing continues and the street sweeper is out. Mr. Stevenson spoke with the asphalt companies and tomorrow pot hole maintenance will begin, and the Public Works garage is a couple weeks from completion..

The Mayor reported that he spoke with Darlene Alfonsi about the Crystal Lake Pool and the intent is to keep pool costs the same due to the fact that the revenues are up. Mayor Teague also reported that he spoke to the county Inspector and Engineer regarding the Bridge on Park and there was a problem with the cement. They are meeting tomorrow to propose a plan to tear up the substandard cement job and devise a plan for completion.

BID/Township Events: Kate Burns reported the Business Improvement District had its' first meeting of 2013 and they discussed prioritizing their goals and objectives, and working on 2013 budget so that it may be presented next month. Ms. Burns reported that quotes were received for snow removal for the Westmont District. She reported the Township's looking to merge htpd.org site and moving it towards the haddontwp.org site. Ms. Burns commented that they are looking to place a search engine of businesses on the BID page. Ms. Burns stated the BID is having their first meeting for Philly Beer Week which is scheduled for the 1st week of June and planning St. Patty's Day which falls on a Sunday this year. Mr. Stevenson and Ms. Burns met with a led lighting company for possibilities for costs savings with street scape. There is a new business opening on the White Horse Pike, a bakery that does designer cakes. Ms. Burns reported there are three potential other businesses, a produce store, a restaurant, and a catering & gourmet take out establishment. Ms. Burns is also preparing two proclamations for next week's meeting.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- Proclaiming February 7-14, 2013 as Congestive Heart Failure Week
- Resolution – Municipal Recycling Tonnage Grant Application for 2012
- Resolution – Authorizing Purchases from State Contract Vendors
- Resolution – Refund of Dumpster Permit Fee in the amount of \$70.00
- Resolution – Administrative Authorization in Lieu of Vendor Certification
- Resolution – Appointing Martin Blaskey as the Authorized Agent to Represent the Township for Tax Appeals

- Police Promotions – Commissioner Dougherty reported that he put this topic on to discuss as possible promotions in the Police Department for next week’s meeting. For the governing body’s consideration, he recommended Scott Bishop as lieutenant and Officer Benham as Sergeant and proceeded to list their individual credentials. Mayor Teague pointed out that according to the Ordinance recommendations for promotions within the Police Department should come from the Chief of Police. Chief Cavallo commented that this is the first time he is hearing of these promotions and he feels uncomfortable discussing individual’s names in public and that this is not the normal procedure for promotions. Commissioner Dougherty reported that it is important to appoint a sergeant due to the cost factor, when an Officer in Charge is in that position for over a year it costs the Town over \$4,000 more than what is paid to a sergeant. Commissioner Foley commented that he thought the Chief was uncomfortable with this discussion. Mayor Teague commented in order to follow the ordinance, these promotions must be recommended by the Chief and he will wait and hear what the Chief recommends and whether or not he wants to conduct other interviews.
- Resolution – Authorizing the Appointment of Reps and Alternate Reps of the Camden County Development Advisory Board
- Proclamation for Madison Bradley in Recognition for Winning National Punt Pass Kick Competition

GENERAL DISCUSSION

- Budget Preparation
- Crystal Lake Pool
- Adoption of Tort Claim Form

There being no further agenda business, Commissioner Foley moved to open the meeting to the public, seconded by Commissioner Dougherty, with all members voting in the affirmative.

There being no comments from the public, Commissioner Foley made a motion to close the meeting to the public, seconded by Mayor Teague, with all members voting in the affirmative.

There being no further business to discuss, Commissioner Foley moved, seconded by Mayor Teague that the meeting be adjourned at 7:50 PM with all members voting in the affirmative.

January 15, 2013

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

DAWN M. PENNOCK,
TOWNSHIP CLERK

Randall W. Teague, Mayor

John C. Foley, Commissioner

Paul Dougherty, Commissioner