

**COLTS NECK TOWNSHIP
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING
JANUARY 8, 2020, 7:30 P.M.
TOWN HALL**

The meeting of the Colts Neck Township Committee was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Rizzuto, followed by the Salute to the Flag. The following statement was read by Township Administrator, Kathleen Capristo: "The notice requirements of the New Jersey Public Meetings Law have been satisfied by noticing the News Transcript on December 12, 2019 stating that a regular meeting of the Colts Neck Township Committee would be held on January 8, 2020 at 7:30 p.m., Town Hall. The notice was posted on the Township website, and a copy is on file in the office of the Township Clerk."

Roll call by Ms. Lindsey indicated the following:

Present: Mayor Frank Rizzuto, Deputy Mayor Michael Viola; Committeeman J.P. Bartolomeo, Committeewoman Sue Fitzpatrick and Committeeman Tom Orgo

Also Present: Kathleen Capristo, Administrator, Municipal Clerk Trina Lindsey; and Township Counsel Meghan Ann Bennett, Esq.

Absent: None

- 1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** MEETING OF DECEMBER 11, 2019. Mayor Rizzuto asked for comments. Hearing none, Mayor Rizzuto called for a motion to approve. Committeeman Bartolomeo made a motion to approve, seconded by Committeeman Orgo and unanimously carried.

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

- 2. RESOLUTION 2020-27:** AUTHORIZING THE AMENDMENT OF RESOLUTION 2020-22 ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER

Mayor Rizzuto asked for comments. Township Attorney Meghan Bennett explained that this resolution is to limit public comments to four (4) minutes per person. As there were no further comments, Mayor Rizzuto called for a motion to approve. On a motion by Committeeman Orgo, seconded by Committeeman Bartolomeo and a unanimous roll call vote, the resolution was adopted.

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

3. **RESOLUTION 2020-28:** AUTHORIZING FORMAL TRANSFER OF FUND 2019 BUDGET

Mayor Rizzuto asked for comments. Administrator Capristo explained that this is a routine transfer for this time of year. Ms. Capristo stated that the transfer of funds totals \$3,500. As there were no further comments, Mayor Rizzuto called for a motion to approve. On a motion by Deputy Mayor Viola, seconded by Committeewoman Fitzpatrick and a unanimous roll call vote, the resolution was adopted.

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

4. **RESOLUTION 2020-29:** CONFIRMING APPOINTMENT OF SECRETARY TO THE ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW COMMITTEE, MS. CHRISTINE VISCI

Mayor Rizzuto called for comments, hearing none, Mayor Rizzuto called for a motion to approve. On a motion by Committeeman Bartolomeo, seconded by Committee Orgo and a unanimous roll call vote, the resolution was adopted.

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

5. **ORDINANCE 2020-1:** AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED THE 2020 SALARY ORDINANCE FOR COLTS NECK TOWNSHIP (COLLECTIVE BARGAINING UNIT CONTRACTS)

This ordinance was read by Mayor Rizzuto for first reading by title only. Mayor Rizzuto read the ordinance by title and asked for comments, hearing none, Mayor Rizzuto called for a motion to approve. On a motion by Committeeman Bartolomeo, seconded by Committeewoman Fitzpatrick and a unanimous roll call vote, the ordinance was approved for first reading. Mayor Rizzuto announced that the public hearing for this ordinance is scheduled for January 29, 2020.

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

6. **DISCUSSION:**

RETROACTIVE TAX REFUND DISABLED VETERANS – KATHLEEN CAPRISTO, WILLIAM LAIRD

Administrator Capristo and Tax Assessor William Laird explained that this tax refund would be for veterans who are deemed 100% disabled. Ms. Capristo explained that these disabled veterans are eligible by state law for an exemption on property taxes. Ms. Capristo explained that the New Jersey state law allows Governing Bodies to determine how far back the exemption will be granted.

Mr. Laird stated that he would like to have a uniform policy in place regarding disabled veterans and retroactive tax refunds. Mr. Laird recommended that the year in which a disabled veteran applies for and is approved for an exemption, a retroactive tax refund shall be limited to January 1st of that calendar year.

The Governing Body briefly discussed creating such an ordinance and discussed surviving spouses also being eligible for the tax exemption.

The Governing Body directed Attorney Bennett to draft an ordinance for first reading at the January 29, 2020 meeting.

7. **MOTION TO ADOPT A CONSENT AGENDA:**

All items listed on the "Consent Agenda" are considered routine by the Township and are adopted or approved collectively by a single motion and roll-call vote of a majority of the Township Committee. If discussion is desired on any item, it is considered separately.

***RESOLUTION 2020-30: AUTHORIZING REFUND OF PROPERTY TAX OVERPAYMENT**

Mayor Rizzuto called for a motion to approve. On a motion by Deputy Mayor Viola, seconded by Committeeman Bartolomeo and a unanimous roll call vote, the resolution on the consent agenda was approved.

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

8. **MOTION TO APPROVE VOUCHERS:**

Deputy Mayor Viola stated that he reviewed all the vouchers and invoices for payment and found all to be in order. Deputy Mayor Viola made a motion to approve the vouchers for payment, seconded by Committeeman Bartolomeo and a unanimous roll call vote, the vouchers were approved for payment.

Mayor Rizzuto recuses from any vouchers for the Colts Neck Fire Department. Committeeman Orgo recuses from any vouchers for Pine Tree Landscaping, Best Horticultural Services and Sakoutis Brothers Disposal, Inc.

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

9. **ADMINISTRATORS REPORT:**

Administrator Capristo reported that the Monmouth County Park Systems submitted information and a map for approval of the upcoming E. Murray Todd Half-Marathon. Ms. Capristo passed the map around to the Governing Body members which showed the sections of Colts Neck Township that will be affected by the Half-Marathon. Ms. Capristo reported that the Half-Marathon will take place on Sunday, March 8, 2020 beginning at 8:30 a.m. Ms. Capristo stated if the Governing Body has no objection, she will direct the Municipal Clerk to inform Monmouth County Park System to move forward with the logistics with Colts Neck Township Police Chief, Paul Santucci. The Governing Body had no objection.

Administrator Capristo announced that the Budget Workshop will be held on Saturday, February 29, 2020 from 8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Administrator Capristo stated that leaf collection is over; however there are still several leaf piles throughout the Township. Ms. Capristo stated that Code Enforcement is working to have those leaf piles removed by the homeowners before fines are issued.

10. **TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

COMMITTEEMAN ORGO - Nothing to report

COMMITTEEWOMAN FITZPATRICK

- Committeewoman Fitzpatrick reported that the Environmental Commission met on Monday and discussed the NJ State bill up for vote on plastics. Ms. Fitzpatrick also reported that the Environmental Commission will be looking into applying for grants through Monmouth County.
- Committeewoman Fitzpatrick reported that the Board of Health discussed sanitation of preparation of foods at their meeting. Ms. Fitzpatrick reported that the flu shot clinic reported that 101 people were vaccinated. Ms. Fitzpatrick reported that there will be a free rabies clinic held on January 18, 2020 at Colts Neck Fire Company # 2. Ms. Fitzpatrick provided flyers for anyone interested in attending.
- Committeewoman Fitzpatrick stated that the Friends of the Library meeting will be held at the end of the week. Ms. Fitzpatrick stated that the library has a book sale coming up on January 13, 2020 and January 14, 2020 for anyone interested in attending that event.
- Committeewoman Fitzpatrick commented that the annual Reorganization Meeting was a great night. Ms. Fitzpatrick congratulated Mayor Rizzuto and Deputy Mayor Viola and wished them both much success.

COMMITTEEMAN BARTOLOMEO

- Committeeman Bartolomeo commented on the leaf pile situation throughout the Township stating that the Governing Body should task Public Works Director, Lou Bader, to draft several options for solutions on how to handle leaf and brush pick up.
- Committeeman Bartolomeo reported that basketball is in full swing, and baseball is preparing for their season. Mr. Bartolomeo stated that the multipurpose field is being used constantly.
- Committeeman Bartolomeo stated that the Father/Daughter Dance does not have a set date yet and he will report that date once it is scheduled.
- Committeeman Bartolomeo discussed amending the ordinance for the Recreation Committee to add a fixed seat on the committee. That seat will be filled by someone from the Sports Foundation. Attorney Bennett was directed to draft an ordinance for first reading at the January 29, 2020 meeting.
- Committeeman Bartolomeo stated that the School Board is having a State of the District meeting the same night as the next Township Committee Meeting, January 29, 2020.
- Committeeman Bartolomeo reported that the Colts Neck Business Association's annual luncheon will be held on March 24, 2020 at Trump

National Golf Club. Mr. Bartolomeo reported that the CNBA has a new website which is up and running, the website is www.coltsneckbusiness.org. Mr. Bartolomeo reported that the CNBA is interested in getting involved in the beautification of the intersection of Route 34 and Route 537. Mr. Bartolomeo stated that the CNBA has suggested possibly having a tree at the intersection that will be seasonally lit as well as a "Welcome to Colts Neck" sign.

DEPUTY MAYOR VIOLA

- Deputy Mayor Viola reported that the Senior Citizens had a lovely luncheon that he attended the day before.
- Deputy Mayor Viola reported that he attended the December Executive Fire Council meeting and they have requested that the Governing Body review some suggested changes to Chapter 28; those suggested changes will be distributed to the Governing Body for discussion at the January 29, 2020 meeting.

MAYOR RIZZUTO

- Mayor Rizzuto reported that he attended a meeting with NJ Natural Gas regarding the new municipal building.
- Mayor Rizzuto reported that the Governing Body will hold a Special Meeting on January 29, 2020 to have a public presentation on the new municipal building. Mr. Rizzuto reported that the time has not been set yet, but the meeting will most likely begin at 5:30 p.m. Notice will be given in advance of the meeting as well be on the Township website.
- Mayor Rizzuto thanked all who came to the Reorganization meeting and welcomed Committeewoman Sue Fitzpatrick.

11. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Mayor Rizzuto called for a motion to open comments from the public. On a motion by Committeeman Bartolomeo, seconded by Deputy Mayor Viola and a unanimous voice vote, comments from the public was opened.

Fulton Wilcox, resident, commented that he submitted an OPRA request for information on the new municipal building and that there was an embargo on OPRA.

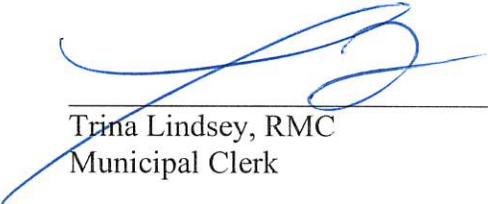
Attorney Bennet responded stating that the information Mr. Wilcox was requesting was deliberative and was not available to the public.

With no further comments from the public Mayor Rizzuto called for a motion to close public comments. On a motion by Committeeman Bartolomeo, seconded by Deputy Mayor Viola and a unanimous voice vote, public comments were closed.

12. DISCUSSION OF PUBLIC COMMENTS:

There was no discussion amongst the Governing Body regarding public comments.

- 13. MOTION TO ADJOURN:** As there was no further business, Mayor Rizzuto called for a motion to adjourn. On a motion by Committeeman Bartolomeo, seconded by Deputy Mayor Viola and a unanimous voice vote, the meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m. Mayor Rizzuto announced that the next Township Committee meeting will be on January 29, 2020 at 7:30 p.m. at Town Hall.



Trina Lindsey, RMC
Municipal Clerk

APPROVED: 01/29/2020