

TOWNSHIP OF MOORESTOWN
TOWNSHIP COUNCIL
OFFICIAL ACTION MEETING
January 23, 2023

The Regular Meeting of the Moorestown Township Council was called to order by Mayor Gillespie at 7:00 p.m. at Town Hall, Council Chamber, 111 West Second Street, Moorestown. Attendance was as follows:

Nicole Gillespie, Councilmember	Kevin E. Aberant, Township Manager
Quinton Law, Deputy Mayor	Patricia L. Hunt, Township Clerk
Sue Mammarella, Councilmember	Douglas Heinold, Township Attorney
Jake Van Dyken, Councilmember (absent)	
David Zipin, Councilmember	

CALL TO ORDER: At 7:00 p.m., Mayor Gillespie read the Open Public Meetings Act statement in full, as printed on the agenda.

MAYOR'S STATEMENT

"Notice of this meeting has been provided in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act"
by:

1. Posting a copy of the agenda on the bulletin board at the Municipal Complex.
2. Filing a copy of the agenda in the office of the Township Clerk at the Municipal Complex.
3. Mailing a copy of the agenda to the Burlington County Times and Courier Post.
4. Forwarding written notice to each person who has requested copies of the regular meeting schedule.

All of the above posting, filing and mailing have taken place on January 20, 2023.

MOMENT OF SILENCE AND FLAG SALUTE: The Official Action meeting began with a moment of silence and flag salute.

ROLL CALL: Mayor Gillespie took roll call. All were present.

PROCLAMATIONS & PRESENTATIONS:

Presentation by the Friends of Percheron Park: Ann Langerhans, 83 Westbrook Drive, on behalf of the Trustees and Friends of Percheron Park, thanked, Council, staff, Township professionals and those who worked behind the scenes to make the park a reality. She said that because of all, where there was once an eyesore, now a beautiful public space exists where residents and visitors can gather for many years to come. She said the space is now a tribute to the town's equestrian heritage; marks the importance of the Percheron horse in the development of New Jersey and in America; and honors one of Moorestown's most outstanding past citizens, Edward Harris, II. Ms. Langerhans spoke of the dedication ceremony for the park and how so many arrived to see the long-awaited unveiling of the "Diligence" statue, sculpted by Joshua Kauffman, which so fittingly sits between the two homes which Harris lived in. She stated that the park is a testimony of the collaborative spirit of Harris when citizens and government work together for the common good. She asked that Council accept their deepest gratitude and it take

pride in all it has done to make the park possible. Mayor Gillespie thanked the Friends of Percheron Park for its “diligence” in seeing the project through. She especially thanked Margo Foster, as it was her original idea and vision

DISCUSSION

Reports from Members of Council: Mr. Zipin advised that the Planning Board and Open Space Advisory Committee held their reorganization meetings. He advised on the Planning Board’s upcoming meeting.

Ms. Mammarella thanked the Friends of Percheron Park noting it was her honor and pleasure to vote in favor of it. She advised that the Appearance committee reviewed the subdivision plan for the property on Chester Avenue (old funeral home); the demolition has been ordered. Ms. Mammarella advised that she attended her first meeting with Sustainable Moorestown; she complimented the committee. She reported to them, in consideration of the certification process, that the Township has a recycling project where bins are in Town Hall and the Library to collect plastics and when there is enough collected, the Township gets a free bench.

Mr. Law thanked the Friends of Percheron Park for its dedication in making the park a reality and indicated that he is glad to have had a part in getting the project over the line. Mr. Law thanked the Township Manager, Kelly Flynn and the staff that has worked to improve the Township’s website and encouraged all to visit the site. He reported that Arbor Day is being planned by the Tree Planting and Preservation Committee. Mr. Law advised that the Better Together Advisory Committee had its first meeting in December and the next meeting is on February 7. He complimented the committee.

Mayor Gillespie commended Ms. Mammarella and Kelly Flynn for the website upgrade, which includes a community calendar where non-profit charitable organizations can post upcoming events, noting it looks great. Mayor Gillespie announced that next Wednesday, Karen Reiner will be honored as Citizen of the Year. She commended Ms. Reiner for all her good works and encouraged the public to attend the dinner. Mayor Gillespie advised that the Environmental Advisory Committee met this week; she is new to the committee; they continue to work on the Environmental Resources Inventory (ERI). Mayor Gillespie asked if Council needed to adopt a resolution to accept the report; Mr. Aberant will check into it. Mayor Gillespie advised that the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission would like to be present for the presentation of the ERI on February 27. Mayor Gillespie advised that the Economic Development Advisory Committee meets tomorrow.

Upcoming Meeting(s) Hybrid: Mayor Gillespie read the upcoming meetings aloud.

February 6, 2023 – 7:00 p.m. (Official Action)

February 27, 2023 – 7:00 p.m. (Official Action)

Agenda Updates: None.

Adopting Consent Agenda Resolution No. CA 01 23 2023: Mayor Gillespie asked for a motion to adopt the Consent Agenda.

MOTIONED BY: Mr. Zipin
SECONDED BY: Mr. Law
ABSENT: Mr. Van Dyken
ROLL CALL VOTE: All in favor

RESOLUTION APPROVING CONSENT AGENDA CA 01 23 2023

WHEREAS, Consent Agendas include routine items of business which are not controversial; do not require individual discussion; and are voted upon as one item by the Governing Body; and

WHEREAS, any item may be removed from the Consent Agenda by the request of any Council Member; and

WHEREAS, if so removed, said item(s) will be treated as a separate matter(s); and

WHEREAS, the Township Council has reviewed the Consent Agenda and determined that the matters listed are matters, which require official action; but do not require further deliberation or discussion.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Moorestown, County of Burlington, State of New Jersey, that it hereby:

- _____ x a. Approves the Consent Agenda as written on the agenda.
_____ b. Approves the Consent Agenda as written with the exception of the following:
_____ C. Requests that all matters on the Consent Agenda be handled separately.

NJ Historic Trust Planning Grant: Ms. Mammarella said was thrilled to have Dorothy Guzzo, Executive Director, New Jersey Historic Trust, at the meeting tonight. She advised that there have been discussions over the past six months (mostly about the funeral home) when it was asked what could be done to save the building from demolition and it was decided that action needs to be taken on historic preservation in town. Mayor Gillespie advised that Ms. Mammarella and Ms. Guzzo have had discussions and the first step is to apply for a (planning) grant (up to \$100,000/town's commitment is twenty-five percent). Ms. Mammarella gave a quick overview of historic preservation actions in the past. She firmly believed that the Township needs a commission today and the planning grant will help the Township to move in that direction. She expressed her desire to move forward in order to protect structures from demolition in the future.

Mayor Gillespie noted that this is a complex issue; it has been tried in the past and met with contention. A lot of decisions will need to be made; this is the first step. She felt it is important to move forward, noting that there is a balance between preservation and the rights of private property owners. Mayor Gillespie advised that the grant application is due April 19, 2023. Council will be looking to hire a professional to assist in thinking it through and appointing a subcommittee. It was noted that the Township would not know about the grant results until the end of this year or the beginning of next. The Township would have to provide a twenty-five

percent match of up to a \$100,000 grant. Mayor Gillespie said the funding would pay for a professional planner to assist in writing an ordinance to create a commission that would work on the grant. Mr. Zipin asked questions on how to ensure the Township is not overstepping its bounds. Ms. Guzzo provided an explanation which included that a commission would be guided by the ordinance, zoning and NJ Historic Trust guidelines.

Lenny Wagner, 182 Foxwood Drive, President of the Historical Society, thanked Council for addressing this matter. He advised that the Society is one-hundred percent in support of this initiative. He said they see it as critical and that if it works for Haddonfield and Collingswood, it can work for Moorestown.

David Schill, MIA, advised that that association is one-hundred percent in support of this initiative.

Wayne Urffer, 254 West Main Street, member of the Appearance Committee (but speaking for himself), advised that prior to moving to Moorestown, he lived in Philadelphia; he has experience and a background in historic preservation. He said he was surprised to find that the town's heritage is not protected. He expressed his disappointment to see in the Historic Society's archives, photos of historic structures that have been destroyed for "progress" in Moorestown. He advised that he was involved with the first historic preservation ordinance; he felt it is time to revisit historic preservation in town. He said historic preservation efforts are a benefit to towns (economically, culturally, etc.). He urged Council to move forward with the grant and seriously consider empaneling a committee with power to maintain Moorestown's beauty for the benefit of the future.

Greg Newcomer, 235 Fellowship Road, advised that he served on the Appearance Committee and Planning Board where he saw a whole lot of buildings and houses demolished. He supported an ordinance that would have teeth. He noted the importance of historic preservation and preserving the beauty and character of the town.

Mayor Gillespie asked for any more comment; there was none. She reminded all that there will be plenty of discussion on this matter.

Mr. Law asked what public engagement would look like. Ms. Mammarella advised that the public would not be involved with the first phase which would be drafting an ordinance establishing a commission; the planner would assist in that regard. The public would be involved when design guidelines are being developed i.e., providing the public with education concerning the importance of preservation and regulation. The commission would continue to be a resource to the public. She noted how she would have loved to have been able to consult with a commission when she was rehabbing her house. She advised of the benefits to the public by having a commission.

Renaming Beech Street Park to Armydis Sordon Park: Mayor Gillespie advised that David Schill initiated the initiative to have Beech Street Park renamed to Armydis Sordon Park. U.S. Army Private (USAP) Sordon was a resident and a twenty-three year old soldier that died while serving in World War I; he lived at 18 Beech Street where the park is now located. She asked Council to consider renaming Beech Street Park to Armydis Sordon Park in honor of a black army

veteran who died during the war. She suggested the renaming to be done in February in recognition of Black History Month. Ms. Mammarella thanked Mr. Schill for bringing this initiative forward. She advised that USAP Sordon died shortly after arriving in Europe of bronchial pneumonia. His mother and grandmother resided at the address until around 1940. Ms. Mammarella provided family background. Mr. Law felt this is an important step in remembering some of the black history in Moorestown. He hoped some family members could be found and asked to attend the dedication. He looked forward to celebrating Black History Month in Moorestown. Mr. Zipin supported the renaming and hoped family could be contacted. Mayor Gillespie looked forward to introducing an ordinance at the next meeting.

MANAGER'S REPORT: Mr. Aberant reported:

- Ms. Jamanow has been working on revisions to Chapter 158 (site plan review process); the Township's ordinance is very outdated. A draft will be presented in the near future.
- Recent New Jersey law requires:
 - municipalities to maintain insurance information on businesses and rentals; any rental, not just residential. A draft ordinance will be presented in near the future.
 - a mandatory inspection of any residential (only) rental property, built prior to 1978, that contains lead-based paint; inspections must be within two years. Need to adopt an ordinance.

Draft ordinances will be coming before Council in the near future.

- A meeting was held with staff, the contractor and engineer for the Lenola Streetscape Improvements project. Work is scheduled to begin when the weather allows; materials are scheduled to be delivered to the site in mid-February.
- Next Friday, a meeting will be held with representatives of Congressman Kim's office to discuss the Main Street water main funding.

ORDINANCES ON SECOND READING: None.

ORDINANCES ON FIRST READING: None.

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS: The Township Manager read the consent agenda resolutions by title.

51-2023 AUTHORIZING A SECOND AND FINAL ONE-YEAR EXTENSION OF A CONTRACT TO INTEGRATED TURF MANAGEMENT FOR 2023 CORING AND SEEDING OF ATHLETIC FIELDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$26,645

52-2023 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP OF MOORESTOWN, THROUGH THE MOORESTOWN POLICE DEPARTMENT, TO PARTICIPATE IN THE DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY, LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPPORT OFFICE, 1033 PROGRAM TO ENABLE THE MOORESTOWN POLICE DEPARTMENT TO REQUEST AND ACQUIRE EXCESS DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE EQUIPMENT FROM 1/1/2023 THROUGH 12/31/2023

53-2023 AUTHORIZING THE CLOSING OF ROADS IN MOORESTOWN FOR COMMUNITY EVENTS

54-2023 AUTHORIZING APPLICATION AND EXECUTION OF FY 2023 LOCAL RECREATION IMPROVEMENT GRANT OFFERED BY THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS TO CONSTRUCT FOUR (4) PICKLE BALL COURTS AT JEFF YOUNG PARK (BLOCK 1300, LOT 3)

55-2023 APPROVING A COMMUNITY EVENT AND SPECIAL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE PERMIT APPLICATION FOR PADDLEBOARD KAYAK RACE | FESTIVAL AT STRAWBRIDGE LAKE PARK SPONSORED BY THE STRAWBRIDGE LAKE BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE, INC.

56-2023 AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FROM THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST FUND FOR SERVICES RECEIVED IN CONNECTION WITH THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF A HOUSING PLAN FOR MOORESTOWN TOWNSHIP, BURLINGTON COUNTY (HEINOLD, SURENIAN, CGP&H)

57-2023 AUTHORIZING THE TAX COLLECTOR TO CANCEL AND REFUND TAXES DUE TO STATE COURT JUDGMENT

58-2023 AUTHORIZING THE CANCELLATION OF WATER CHARGES DUE TO MISREAD

59-2023 AUTHORIZING THE TAX COLLECTOR TO REFUND WATER OVERPAYMENTS

Mayor Gillespie opened the floor for public comment. There were no comments.

Mayor Gillespie asked for discussion by Council. Mr. Law expressed his excitement about the pickleball court grant application.

Mayor Gillespie asked for a motion to adopt the resolutions.

MOTIONED BY: Mr. Zipin
SECONDED BY: Ms. Mammarella
ABSENT: Mr. Van Dyken
ROLL CALL VOTE: All in favor

MINUTES: None.

APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURES: Mayor Gillespie asked for comment or a motion to approve the bill list.

MOTIONED BY: Mr. Law
SECONDED BY: Mr. Zipin
ABSENT: Mr. Van Dyken
ROLL CALL VOTE: All in favor

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC (Items listed on and/or off the Agenda):

Greg Newcomer, 235 Fellowship Road, indicated he has been bringing up the same subject for the past fourteen years; he asked what is the status of solar and renewable energy discussions. He gave examples of solar projects that could be considered. He also advised that there are conduits on the town hall site for charging stations and solar on the roof.

Kathy Sutherland, 417 North Church Street, expressed her concern with the lack of what is happening with the traffic study that was done in July on North Church Street. She advised of recent accidents and asked if she should reach out to the County Board of Commissioners. Mayor Gillespie advised that the Township will follow up with them. Ms. Sutherland expressed her appreciation for what has been done, along with her disappointment with the lack of response after so much time has passed. Ms. Sutherland asked what the status of the Reddy litigation is. Mr. Heinold advised that the developer has received funding notification and has filed a motion to expedite the appeal process; the Township will be joining the motion. Ms. Sutherland said that when the Navy Captain appeared before Council, she was the only one from town that asked questions. She had asked then why did the Navy wait so long to object and was advised that it was an oversight. She said that everyone had a chance then to ask questions and make their point(s) known.

Dawn Delconte, 7 Hayfield Court, advised that she sent an email regarding the parking on her street and the fact that students can no longer park on Deer Rest Road and Windsock Way so they have moved to Hayfield Court. She also said the neighbors were not informed that a sign was not going to go up. She requested that the ordinance be amended to include Hayfield Court. Mr. Aberant advised that he received comments from the residents – some in favor and some opposed. Mayor Gillespie acknowledged her concerns. She felt that the Board of Education needs to address the situation and consider building for more parking. She said she did not have a problem with adding signage.

Barbara Jordan, 1 Tyndale Court, advised that there are sixty cars parked outside of her home. She expressed her dismay and said it is getting worse, the problem has been passed along and there needs to be a solution. Mayor Gillespie advised that Council is limited on what it can do. Council is trying to restrict parking in the morning and will discuss expanding the restrictions at the next meeting, but that is not going to solve the problem. She urged the residents to address the Board of Education

CLOSING COMMENTS BY COUNCIL: Mr. Zipin thanked all for attending noting it is always interesting to receive the public's feedback and perspective. He acknowledged that Council is limited in what it can do. He advised that Council cannot fix this situation alone; it requires the cooperation of the school board and public support for the cost of infrastructure is also necessary.

Ms. Mammarella thanked all for attending. She thanked the Moorestown Improvement Association for getting the ball rolling on historic preservation, the Appearance Committee and Dorothy Guzzo.

Mr. Law advised that a solution to the parking problem will take a team effort between, which includes the residents and the Board of Education. He felt that, together, a solution can be found. He expressed his sentiment about long-standing buildings in town and their importance (both historically and personal sentiment). He was excited to embark upon historic preservation discussion

Mayor Gillespie thanked all for coming out and for what they bring to the process.

CLOSED SESSION (IF NECESSARY) (RESOLUTION NO. CS 01 23 2023): None.

ADJOURNMENT: At 8:37 p.m., there being no further business, a motion was made to adjourn.

MOTIONED BY:	Ms. Mammarella
SECONDED BY:	Mr. Zipin
ABSENT:	Mr. Van Dyken
VOTE:	All in favor

PATRICIA L. HUNT, RMC
Township Clerk