

ELSINBORO TOWNSHIP

September 8, 2020

The regular meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by Mayor Elwell as advertised. The requirements of the Sunshine Law were met by notifying the South Jersey Times within the time prescribed by law. Notice was also posted on the bulletin board at the Emergency Management Building and posted on the website as this meeting was held by teleconference due to COVID 19 protocol.

Mayor Elwell called this September 8, 2020 township committee meeting to order.

Please stand for the flag salute

Present were: Mayor Elwell, Deputy Mayor McAllister, Committeeman Doug Hogate, CFO, John Willadsen, Solicitor Trunk, Clerk Uzdakovics, Several residents

Motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the previous meeting and to approve as submitted

Motion McAllister Second Hogate RCV 3 yes

Motion to pay bills after inspection and sufficient funds are available

Motion McAllister Second Hogate RCV 3 yes

RESOLUTION to be approved

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-45

RESOLUTION REGARDING HIGH SPEED INTERNET SERVICE

WHEREAS, rural areas of the State of New Jersey are serviced by service providers with respect to aerial line high-speed internet service; and

WHEREAS, having access to aerial line high-speed internet service is a necessary and vital part of living in society today, and

WHEREAS, the recent pandemic of COVID-19 further illustrates how vital access to aerial line high-speed internet has become to society, especially during times of crisis or emergencies and how not having access to aerial line high speed internet has the potential to cripple a community, particularly a rural one, denying the community the capacity for remote student learning and remote working arrangements with a resident's employer;

AND FURTHERMORE. That during a time of crisis not having access to aerial line high-speed internet has the potential to shutdown all functions of government by denying essential employees and elected officials from the ability to work, communicate, distribute information, conduct meetings, and perform the other requirements of a functioning government through remote capabilities; and

WHEREAS, Elsinboro Township believes that the service providers of aerial line high-speed internet in the State of New Jersey are more than capable of ad financially sound enough to achieve a 100% rate of aerial line high-speed internet accessibility but choose not to pursue that goal unless forced to through regulation because the providers feel it is not profitable; and

WHEREAS, not having access to aerial line high-speed internet service is a plight on students, reducing their educational opportunities and ability to learn in a modern world; and

WHEREAS, not having access to aerial line high-speed internet service could potentially have life and death consequences for the elderly or those with various health complications; and

WHEREAS, not having access to aerial line high-speed internet service causes a great burden to businesses, places them at a disadvantage, and reduces chances for economic development in rural areas; and

WHEREAS, not having access to aerial line high-speed internet service can cause rural healthcare facilities to shut down because they cannot access required networks to function, thereby further creating negative impacts on New Jersey residents' health; and

WHEREAS, Elsinboro Township's successful commitment to farmland preservation has delivered to Elsinboro Township the unintended penalty of being good stewards of the environment through farmland preservation while preventing Elsinboro Township from ever having the population density to cost-justify a telecommunications infrastructure to build out in the Township; and

WHEREAS, nearly % of Elsinboro Township in Salem County is zoned for agricultural use and % of the agriculturally zoned lands have already been enrolled in permanent farmland preservation with more farms in the preservation pipeline; and

WHEREAS, Elsinboro Township's good stewardship of the environment by according a high priority to farmland and open space preservation should be rewarded, not penalized, with some quid pro quo consideration requiring deployment of aerial line high-speed internet access to the farms, businesses and residents of Elsinboro Township.

WHEREAS, other rural municipalities experience this same burden due to their rural characteristics and environmental stewardship; and

WHEREAS, Elsinboro Township is desirous of assisting and cooperating with other public entities and State officials to pursue a petition before the Board of Public Utilities to enact regulations requiring a 100% rate of aerial line high-speed internet accessibility in each individual municipality throughout the State of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, unless the Board of Public Utilities requires service providers of aerial line high-speed internet to provide 100% aerial line high-speed internet access in Elsinboro Township and all municipalities through New Jersey, the state will have unintentionally subverted the public's significant investment in farmland and open space preservation by not allowing those preserved farm businesses to be economically competitive and viable over the long term.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE Township Committee of the Township of Elsinboro Salem County that the Board of Public Utilities is requested to order all service providers of aerial line high-speed internet to provide aerial line high-speed internet service to all municipalities throughout the state with each municipality being afforded a 100% rate of high-speed internet access for each individual municipality throughout the state of New Jersey; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that our State representatives use their authority to require service providers of aerial line high-speed internet to achieve a 100% rate of high-speed internet access for each individual municipality throughout the State of New Jersey; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the clerk for the Township of Elsinboro be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Governor of the State of New Jersey, the Senate President of the New Jersey State Senate, the Speaker of the Assembly of the State of New Jersey, the Salem County Board of Chosen Freeholders, and the Board of Public Utilities; and

BE IT FURTHERMORE RESOLVED, that the clerk for the Township of Elsinboro be directed to send a copy of this resolution to other clerks encouraging them to pass similar resolutions so that during times of crisis and emergency all New Jersey residents have access to the vital resource of aerial line high-speed internet access thus allowing employees to work remotely, healthcare providers to function, governments to continue to function ensuring the health,

safety, and welfare of residents, and also so that all children in the State of New Jersey have an equal opportunity to access information critical to furthering their educators.

Motion McAllister Second Hogate RCV 3 yes

**RESOLUTION 2020-46
RESOLUTION TO AWARDING QUOTE FOR Paint and Repair**

WHEREAS, Elsinboro Township has a need repair the walls and paint the municipal building; and

WHEREAS, CWA was the lowest quote for \$4499.00; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the governing body of the Township of Elsinboro, to award the lowest quote to Preferred Construction.

Motion McAllister Second Hogate RCV 3 yes
(Quotes – CWA \$4499.00 Loves –\$6500.00 Sickler no response)

ORDINANCE for introduction

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-06 Use of low speed vehicles on township roads
By title only

Motion McAllister Second Hogate RCV 3 yes

Motion to approve raffle license

Motion McAllister Second Hogate RCV 2 yes
Elwell Abstains

Police Report, Tax Collector report, construction and housing to be kept on file

The Township Solicitor had nothing to report at this time

Committee Reports

Emergency Management.- Deputy Mayor McAllister said Emergency Management has nothing to report at this time. He also mentions school has been open for 5 days and all went well.

Community Development-Mayor Elwell wants to ad activity on the walking path and there is a young man who wants to work towards his eagle scout badge by helping us with this. Clean Communities will be on October 3, 2020. Mayor Elwell also reported the Sustainable Jersey Grant was denied.

Township Roads- Committeeman Hogate informed us Locust Avenue is finished and they fixed the pipe along the roadway.

Insurance-Committeeman Hogate attended the JIF meetings by teleconference again this month and all is going well.

Administration- Mayor Elwell told us the Municipal Building is still closed to the public and may remain that way until the end of the year.

OPEN TO PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Cocchi asked about the status of the beach replenishment. Mayor Elwell said that will be contingent on funding. The state inspects the beach after every storm and once a year. Mr. Cocchi also asked how the parking spots at the point would be limited for social distancing. Mayor Elwell said PSE&G will handle the restrictions in the parking lot.

Date of Next Meeting: October 5, 2020

Motion for Adjournment **Motion McAllister Second Hogate**
RCV 3 yes