

**TOWNSHIP OF MENDHAM
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING**

DATE: Thursday, January 18, 2024
TIME: 6:30 PM- FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
7:30 PM- REGULAR MEETING
LOCATION: **MENDHAM TOWNSHIP MIDDLE SCHOOL**
All Purpose Room
16 Washington Valley Road, Brookside; and
And via the Zoom communications platform (referenced herein as “Zoom”)

ROLL CALL

Ms. Duarte	Present
Mr. Monaghan	Present
Ms. Moreen	Present
Ms. Spirig	Present
Mayor Neibart	Present

Also, present:
Mr. Jason Gabloff, Township Administrator
Karen Orgera, Acting Township Clerk
Mr. John M. Mills, Esq.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG-LED BY MAYOR NEIBART

STATEMENT OF ADEQUATE NOTICE- READ BY MAYOR NEIBART

Adequate Notice of this meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Mendham was given as required by the Open Public Meetings Act as follows: Notice was given to the Observer Tribune and Daily Record on January 5, 2024. Notice was posted on the bulletin board in the Township offices and notice was filed with the Township Clerk.

PROCLAMATION

Welcoming Proclamation

Mayor Neibart presented and read aloud the Township Committee’s proclamation proclaiming the importance of continued efforts by the Township’s community to join together in building a more unified and welcoming community to people of all races, orientations, ethnicities, and faiths.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Neibart had the following announcements:

1. Another weather system is moving in on Friday, January 19, 2024. Department of Public Works is already preparing for it. Mayor Neibart thanked the DPW for all their efforts with the recent storms.
2. Senior luncheon was rescheduled to January 24, 2024. Starts at 11am and is being held at the Brookside Community Club.
3. Friday, February 9th, 2024 is the recreation Valentines event at Pitney Park.
4. Blood drive will be February 14, 2024 at Brookside Community Club.

Ms. Duarte had the following announcements:

1. Stigma Free Task Force will be having their “Beating the Winter Blues” party February 25, 2024 at the Brookside Community Club. Information will have information on the Stigma Free Facebook page.
2. Great Swamp watershed association is sponsoring a free webinar on plants for pollinator series. Continues on February 15, 2024, March 13, 2024 and ends on April 1, 2024. Visit greatswamp.org for more information.
3. Municipal Alliance had their kickoff meeting on January 18, 2024. Funding comes through the State of NJ for substance abuse and mental health.
4. Senator Bucco responded to Ms. Duarte’s email about the Resolution passed by the Township Committee about the Ash Tree issues. Senator Bucco will look into the possibility of funding.

Mr. Monaghan had the following announcement:

1. Read a letter received from Scott Bellows, Assistant of Building and Grounds for the Mendham Township School District thanking the Department of Public Works (DPW) for responding so quickly to help get the Elementary School and Middle School cleaned up from the past snowstorm. School snowplows broke down and the Township DPW helped clean up both schools to get them re-opened.

Mayor Neibart announced the Finance Committee meeting dates:

- January 18, 2024 was the first finance budget presentation
- January 22, 2024
- January 30, 2024
- February 6, 2024
- February 10, 2024 facilities tour around town
- February 22, 2024
- February 27, 2024
- March 5, 2024- final finance budget review
- March 11, 2024
- March 21, 2024- Budget Intro
- April 8, 2024
- April 24, 2024- Budget adoption
- May 13, 2024-Capital Budget

RECOGNIZING NEW MEMBER

Mayor Neibart recognized Michael J (MJ) Melillo for joining Ralston Engine Company #1 as an active member.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Mayor Neibart opened for public comments.

Jane MacNeil, East Main Street, Brookside NJ commented that she would like to see the Old Police Station be turned into a Fitness Center for seniors, kids activities center.

Ms. MacNeil also inquired if a new resident letter is being sent out and if not, could the Township consider sending out one that includes important Township Information about recycling, etc.

Bob Elsholz, 79 Mountain Avenue, Mendham, NJ commented that he is pickle ball player and thanked the Township Committee for considering the pickle ball court proposal. The courts at Mount Pleasant are in bad condition. Mr. Elsholz further commented that Mendham Borough should consider installing a pickle ball court.

Frank Zammataro, 41 Corey Lane, Mendham, NJ representing Mendham Alliance for Preservation Conservation (MAPC) commented that MAPC is working with the Raritan Watershed and starting February 7, 2024, there will a training activity to become a citizen scientist to help educate residents. There are 2 spots available to attend the training activity.

Kim Hart, 17 North Gate Road, Mendham, NJ thanked the Township Committee for listening to and revising the proposed Backer Brewery letter to the Morris County Agricultural Board. Ms. Hart provided a few more suggestions to the Township Committee which were for under the noise paragraph to strike the word special and have it say all events. Heading for #5 to include parking. Consider serving hours to 8pm on Saturday. Add sentence at end The Township Committee of the Township of Mendham reserves the right to further supplement this response.

George Koenig, 13 North Gate Road, Mendham, NJ commented that the idea of a senior type center for the old police station was a good idea. Mr. Koenig provided his thanks to the Township Committee on the thoughtfulness that went into the revised letter to the Morris County Agricultural Board on the proposed Backer Brewery.

Peter Banos, 47 Ironia Road, Mendham, NJ provided his thanks to the Township Committee on the thoughtfulness that went into the revised letter to the Morris County Agricultural Board on the proposed Backer Brewery. Mr. Banos further commented on his concerns regarding noise and how it will be enforced if an issue arises.

Terrill Doyle, 5 Cross Way, Mendham, NJ participated via Zoom provided her thanks to the Township Committee regarding the revised letter to the Morris County Agricultural Board for the proposed Backer Brewery.

Seeing and hearing no one wishing to be heard, Mayor Neibart asked for a motion to close public comments.

Motion to close public comment period was made by Ms. Duarte and seconded by Ms. Spirig, with all members present voting in favor, no one opposed.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

- December 27, 2023- Regular Meeting Minutes
- January 4, 2024-Reorganization

A motion to call question was made by Ms. Duarte, seconded by Ms. Spirig.

MOVED AS ONE

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE	MOTION	SECOND	ROLL CALL VOTE		
			YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Ms. Duarte	X		X		
Mr. Monaghan		X	X		
Ms. Moreen			X		
Ms. Spirig			X		
Mayor Neibart			X		

REGULAR AGENDA RESOLUTIONS

**2024-034 RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MENDHAM FOR THE SALE OF GARBAGE STICKERS
BY RECYCLE TRACK SYSTEMS, LLC**

A motion to call question was made by Ms. Duarte, seconded by Mr. Monaghan.

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE	MOTION	SECOND	ROLL CALL VOTE		
			YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Ms. Duarte	X		X		
Mr. Monaghan			X		
Ms. Moreen			X		
Ms. Spirig		X	X		
Mayor Neibart			X		

PUBLIC INPUT & IDEAS ON TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE WORK & PROJECTS FOR 2024

Mayor Neibart opened for public comments.

Frank Zammataro, 41 Corey Lane, Mendham, NJ representing Mendham Alliance for Preservation Conservation (MAPC) followed up on an email sent to the Township Committee on January 9, 2024, pertaining to the Affordable Housing Act. New quotas from the State of New Jersey will affect the towns greatly. Mr. Zammataro asked if the Township is considering sending a letter to State representatives.

Seeing and hearing no one wishing to be heard, Mayor Neibart closed public comments.

DISCUSSION

Town Hall Renovation Update

Renovations are currently ahead of schedule. Sheetrock should be going up within the next few weeks.

Cable Franchise Agreement

The Comcast Cable agreement expires in 2025. The agreement is a 10-year contract. The Township receives grant money from this agreement to improve technology. The Township Attorney will receive the new agreement.

Sewer East & West Update

The West plant is operating well. The East plant has been having flow issues. Equipment that needed repair due to a power surge is up and running. Only 1 haul was needed from the one big storm that came through recently. The Township is considering selling the two sewer plants, but it would need to go to referendum and public bid.

Morris County Hazard Mitigation Plan

Last submitted in 2020. Concerns now are flooding. Morris County conducted a survey, and each municipality can do their own hazard mitigation plan. The Township would like to solicit feedback from the residents on areas of concern. Once the plan is submitted, there are grants available to apply for.

PBA contract negotiation committee

PBA will expire on December 31, 2024. Two Committee members will need to be delegated to the negotiation committee. Mayor Neibart and Committeeman Monaghan will be on the committee.

RTS Sticker price

Tipping fees have increased from the Morris County Municipal Authority (MUA) which resulted in an increase to the sticker price. Resolution 2024-034 was passed earlier in the meeting authorizing the increase.

Liaisons

	Assignments				
Liaison	Duarte	Monaghan	Moreen	Neibart	Spirig
DPW		x			x
Environmental Commission	x			x	
Fire Department		x	x		
First Aid Squad	x				x
Health		x			
Historic Preservation Committee		x	x		
Library					x
Marketing - Ad Hoc - Keep/focus on outreach	x				
Mendham TV					x
Police		x		x	
Recreation Committee				x	x
Schools - Mendham Township			x		x
Schools - Regional				x	x
Shared Court	x				
Tax Assessor				x	
Tree Committee	x		x		
Zoning/Construction			x		
Committee Requests					
Finance			x	x	
Municipal Complex Construction		x		x	
Old Police Station Reuse	x	x			
Planning Board		x	x		
Sewer Advisory Committee		x		x	
Open Space		x	x		
Stigma Free	x				
Surrounding Town Outreach	x			x	
Municipal Alliance	x				

Letter to the MCAB re: Backer Brewery Proposal

Final edits to the letter being submitted to the Morris County Agricultural Board (MCAB):

- 1. Under the “Noise” paragraph: strike the last sentence that starts with “Special events that have music...”. End that paragraph with the previous sentence reworded to: “To be clear, no music should be heard outside at any time, including all events”.
- 2. Please revise #5’s title to include: “Alcoholic Beverage Service/Serving Hours/Parking.”
- 3. Under the hours of operation in the #5 section (but before the following paragraph), add a line that says: “These hours apply to all brewery events”.
- 4. Revise the last sentence in the paragraph under the brewery hours of operation (but before #6 lighting) to: “Finally, the Township has prohibited parking on Ironia Road.”
- 5. At the end of the letter before sign-off, please add this line: “The Township Committee of the Township of Mendham reserves the right to further supplement this response.”

A motion to move amendments was made by Ms. Duarte and seconded by Ms. Spirig.

A motion to call the question was made by Ms. Duarte and seconded by Ms. Spirig

Vote on amendments:

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE	MOTION	SECOND	ROLL CALL VOTE		
			YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Ms. Duarte	X		X		
Mr. Monaghan			X		
Ms. Moreen			X		
Ms. Spirig		X	X		
Mayor Neibart			X		

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Mayor Neibart opened for public comments.

Kim Hart, 17 North Gate Road, Mendham, NJ thanked the Township Committee for making the additional edits to the letter to the MCAB.

Frank Zammataro, 41 Corey Lane, Mendham, NJ for the Mendham Alliance for Preservation Conservation (MAPC) provided the link to the webinar he attended. The link is Streamlineclimate.com. Ties into State and Federal grants.

George Koenig, 13 North Gate Road, Mendham, NJ thanked the Township Committee for the additional edits to the letter to the MCAB.

Seeing and hearing no one wishing to be heard, Mayor Neibart asked for a motion to close public comments.

Motion to close public comment period was made by Ms. Duarte and seconded by Mr. Monaghan, with all members present voting in favor, no one opposed.

ADJOURN

Having no further business to conduct, a motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Duarte; seconded by Mr. Monaghan, with all members present voting in favor, no one opposed.

The regular meeting of the Mendham Township Committee was adjourned at 8:44 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Distributed: 01/25/2024
Approved: 01/29/2024

Karen Orgera
Acting Township Clerk
TOWNSHIP OF MENDHAM

RESOLUTION 2024- 034
RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MENDHAM FOR THE SALE OF GARBAGE STICKERS
BY RECYCLE TRACK SYSTEMS, LLC

WHEREAS, Recycle Track Systems NJ LLC (RTS) is the approved contracted vendor for garbage and bulk waste pickup for Mendham Township; and

WHEREAS, RTS incurs fees from the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority transfer station known as tipping fees; and

WHEREAS, RTS and The Township, as agreed upon in the garbage and bulk waste hauling contract that residents will purchase garbage stickers to offset the cost of the tipping fees; and

WHEREAS, the tipping fees cost has increased from \$109 per ton to \$111.25 per ton and the sticker price is based on each sticker being worth approximately 15lbs of garbage; and

WHEREAS, the price of stickers will be 85 cents per sticker based upon the following formula – price per ton/2,000 lbs. x 15 lbs. per sticker or $(111.25/2000 \text{ lbs}) * 15\text{lbs} = .85$; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Mendham, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, to allow RTS to adjust the garbage sticker price to 85 cents per sticker for calendar 2024; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLOVED, that the Mayor and Committee of Township of Mendham, County Morris, State of New Jersey agree to adjust the sticker rate annually based upon an increases or decreases in tipping fess from the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority

Adopted: January 18, 2024