

MAY 4, 2021

PAULSBORO, N.J.

6:00 P.M.

REGULAR TELECONFERENCE MEETING

Council Chamber:

Council President Giovannitti presided at the Regular Teleconference Meeting of Council, until Mayor Stevenson arrived at 6:15 p.m., held on the above date, place and by going to Zoom at <https://zoom.us>, enter Meeting ID: 860 3874 0610 and the passcode: 751776 to enter the meeting or at the following link:

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86038740610?pwd=K3h3eVQxKzcweEl0elBXcWNoL1k4Zz09>

Meeting ID:860 3874 0610

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Due to the public health emergency caused by the Coronavirus (COVID-19), and the subsequent issuance of the Governor's Executive Order 107, the Borough of Paulsboro, effective April 7, 2020 and until further notice, will conduct all future meetings remotely and by electronic means without providing a physical meeting place. The Borough Hall will not be open to the public for this meeting. The electronic public meeting is being held in lieu of an in-person public meeting due to the state of emergency arising from the

current situation involving the COVID-19 virus and to ensure the health, safety and welfare of the public.

Council President Giovannitti called the Regular Teleconference Meeting to order.

Council President Giovannitti read the opening statement regarding the Open Public Meetings Act. Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.A.C. 5:39-1.1-1.7 and P.L. 2020, C. 34, adequate notice of this Regular Teleconference Meeting, as required by said Act, has been provided by contacting each Council Member, posting the scheduled meeting on the Municipal Bulletin Board and doors, and on the Borough's website, emailed and faxed to the South Jersey Times and the Courier Post and filed with the Borough Clerk on January 5, 2021.

Members present were: Council President Giovannitti, Councilman DiTonno, Councilman Giampola, Councilman Holloway. Absent: Councilman Haynes and Councilman Kidd.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Teleconference Regular Meeting, April 6, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

Summary of reports and copies of minutes of meeting.

Councilman Giampola moved and Councilman DiTonno seconded to receive, file and approve the above minutes. All were in favor of the motion

COMMUNICATION – CORRESPONDENCE:

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance Committee: Councilman Giampola, Chairman:

Councilman Giampola discussed the 2021 Budget that is being introduced. The budget will increase three (3) cents which would amount to about \$26.00 per year. Several reasons for the increase are the following:

1. Police Pension increased \$100,000.
2. PERS increased \$25,000.
3. This year is the final year for the Axeon tax appeal.

Services will stay the same and the Borough will be completing several projects such as Washington Street, between Delaware Street and Wert Street and the carbon filters at the Treatment Plant.

Council President Giovannitti commended the Finance Committee on their work on the Budget.

Public Property Committee: Councilman Holloway, II, Chairman:

Councilman Holloway stated the Borough will be holding its first annual Juneteenth event on Saturday, June 19th from 12:00 to 4:00 p.m. It will be held in the parking lot between the Borough Hall and the Post Office. It celebrates the liberation of all African Americans in 1865. It will be a fun filled day of celebration.

Public Safety Committee: Councilman DiTonno, Chairman:

Councilman DiTonno stated the Borough Police Department will host a program called "Straight to Rehab" which anyone can come to the Borough Hall to request help and be taken to get that help. It will be held every Monday afternoon.

Construction and Licensing Committee: Council President Giovannitti, Chairman:

Council President Giovannitti stated the Code Office has been busy and the process is ongoing to hire a part-time individual to assist in the office. If anyone sees any violations, to go on the website to report it.

ORDINANCES ON INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING:

RESOLUTIONS/TRANSFERS – BILLS:

R. #94.21: RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE PAYMENT OF BILLS OUT OF THE 2021 TEMPORARY BUDGET FOR THE THIRD WEEK OF THE MONTH (April 20, 2021).

R. #95.21: RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE PAYMENT OF BILLS OUT OF THE 2021 TEMPORARY BUDGET.

Councilman Giampola moved and Councilman DiTonno seconded to pay all bills properly signed and adopt R. #94.21 and R. #95.21. Roll call: Ayes: Council President Giovannitti, Councilman DiTonno, Councilman Giampola, Councilman Holloway. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

INTRODUCTION: 2021 Budget:

R. #96.21: 2021 BUDGET: – Introduction. Councilman Giampola moved and Councilman DiTonno seconded to introduce the 2021 budget, schedule the public hearing on June 1, 2021 and adopt R. #96.21 on introduction. Roll call: Council

President Giovannitti, Councilman DiTonno, Councilman Giampola, Councilman Holloway. Nays: None. Motion carried.

RESOLUTIONS ON CONSENT AGENDA:

R. #97.21: RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE CANCELLATION OF CERTAIN BALANCE ON WATER ACCOUNT.

R. #98.21: A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF PAULSBORO AUTHORIZING THE PAYOUT OF ACCUMULATED VACATION FOR AN EMPLOYEE WHO HAS SEPARATED FROM THE BOROUGH OF PAULSBORO AS OF MAY 1, 2021.

R. #99.21: RESOLUTION ENTERING INTO A SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GLOUCESTER COUNTY IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY AND THE BOROUGH OF PAULSBORO REGARDING USAGE OF CERTAIN STAGE UNITS.

Councilman Giampola moved and Councilman DiTonno seconded to adopt R. #97.21, R. #98.21, and R. #99.21. Roll call: Ayes: Council President Giovannitti, Councilman DiTonno, Councilman Giampola, Councilman Holloway. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Raffles/Permits/Firemen's Association Membership Applications:

RESOLUTIONS NOT ON CONSENT:

ORDINANCES ON SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING:

O. #04.21: BOND ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF VARIOUS EQUIPMENT AND THE REPAIR AND/OR RECONSTRUCTION OF VARIOUS STREETS IN THE BOROUGH OF PAULSBORO, COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER, NEW JERSEY; APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF \$379,300 THEREFOR; AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS OR BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES OF THE BOROUGH OF PAULSBORO, COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER, NEW JERSEY, IN THE AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF UP TO \$360,335; MAKING CERTAIN DETERMINATIONS AND COVENANTS; AND AUTHORIZING CERTAIN RELATED ACTIONS IN CONNECTION WITH THE FOREGOING.

Councilman Giampola moved and Councilman DiTonno seconded to open the floor to the public regarding this Ordinance. All were in favor of the motion.

There was not any public participation.

Councilman Giampola moved and Councilman DiTonno seconded to close the floor to the public and adopt O. #04.21 on second and final reading. Roll call: Ayes: Council President Giovannitti, Councilman DiTonno, Councilman Giampola, Councilman Holloway. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

At this time, 6:15 p.m. Mayor Stevenson joined in the meeting.

O. #05.21: ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING SALE OF BLOCK 41 LOT 11, ALSO KNOWN AS 40 RIVERVIEW AVENUE, AND THE EXECUTION OF ALL NECESSARY DOCUMENTS. Councilman Giampola moved and Councilman DiTonno seconded to open the floor to the public regarding this Ordinance. All were in favor of the motion.

There was not any public participation.

Councilman Giampola moved and Councilman DiTonno seconded to close the floor to the public and adopt O. #05.21 on second and final reading. Roll call: Ayes: Council President Giovannitti, Councilman DiTonno, Councilman Giampola, Councilman Holloway. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

Administrator's Report:

Administrator Jacobucci stated the Spring Cleanup and Shred Day was a success. There were over 100 cars who came out for the Shredding event and a great tonnage day for the Borough. There were about 70 people who came out for the Cleanup event.

Administrator Jacobucci discussed the Verizon Tax Issue and Resolution. The Borough has to cancel the Verizon tax in the amount of \$26,000 and it will be moved to surplus.

Administrator Jacobucci also discussed the AFSCME contract negotiations. She would recommend Council adopt the Resolution to approve the contract contingent upon the Union passing it. The employees will receive a two percent (2%) increase with no retro. The contract will be approved for four (4) years. The Union can also take personal and sick time based on two (2) hour increments.

R. #100.21: RESOLUTION TO CANCEL TAX PAYMENTS MADE BY VERZION NJ C/O DUFF & PHELPS IN 2017 WHICH RESULTED IN OVER PAYMENTS. Councilman Giampola moved and Councilman DiTonno seconded to adopt R. #100.21. Roll call: Ayes: Council President Giovannitti, Councilman DiTonno, Councilman Giampola, Councilman Holloway. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

R. #101.21: RESOLUTION APPROVING AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE BOROUGH OF PAULSBORO AND THE AFSCME COUNCIL 63, AMERICAN FEDERATION OF STATE, COUNTY, AND MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES (AFSCME), FOR THE PERIOD BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2021 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2024, *CONTINGENT* UPON APPROVAL OF THE MEMBERS OF AFSCME COUNCIL 63. Councilman Giampola moved and Councilman DiTonno seconded to adopt R. #101.21. Roll call: Ayes: Council President Giovannitti, Councilman DiTonno, Councilman Giampola, Councilman Holloway. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

Engineer's Report:

Borough Engineer Biermann stated the applications to USDA & EDA for the Water Treatment Plant filters have been submitted and they have received comments.

Borough Engineer Biermann reported the Billingsport & Paulsboro Marine Terminal Water Main Improvement project is moving along and the clean-up is being done.

Borough Engineer Biermann also reported the draft plans have been done for the West Washington Street project.

Letter from Erik K. Biermann, Sickels & Associates, Inc., regarding Partial Payment No. 3 for the Billingsport & Paulsboro Marine Terminal Water Main Improvements to R.E. Pierson Construction Co., Inc. in the amount of \$516,435.15. Councilman Giampola moved and Councilman DiTonno seconded to receive and file the letter. All were in favor of the motion.

R. #102.21: RESOLUTION PROVIDING PARTIAL PAYMENT NO. 3 FOR THE BILLINGSPORT & PAULSBORO MARINE TERMINAL WATER MAIN IMPROVEMENT PROJECT. Councilman Giampola moved and Councilman DiTonno seconded to adopt R. #102.21. Roll call: Ayes: Council President Giovannitti, Councilman DiTonno, Councilman Giampola, Councilman Holloway. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

Councilman Giampola stated most of the paving is done, but will they be paving Beacon Avenue.

Borough Engineer Biermann stated yes, they will be.

Councilman DiTonno stated he has been receiving complaints regarding the painting of the water tower in Billingsport.

Borough Engineer Biermann stated it needs pressure washing. The Borough would have to set aside funding.

Councilman DiTonno questioned if the tower can be painted red.

Borough Engineer Biermann stated yes.

Mayor Stevenson questioned how much it would cost.

Borough Engineer Biermann stated \$30,000 +/-.

Councilman Giampola stated it is not funded in this year's budget. If the Borough can find the funding this year, it will be done but will have to put in the budget next year.

Police Chief's Report:

Police Chief Kille stated the Borough Police Department is hosting a program called "Straight to Treatment" for anyone who needs treatment. It will be held every Monday from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. This is beneficial for the residents.

Memo from Chief Gary Kille regarding Paulsboro "Straight to Treatment" Program. Councilman DiTonno moved and Councilman Giampola seconded to receive and file the memo. All were in favor of the motion.

Chief Kille stated he had requested to discuss a personnel matter but he asked to have it removed from the agenda and he will discuss with Council individually.

Chief Kille also discussed the towing ordinance. The contract is up the end of June. He will be contacting the towing companies to submit another contract and those companies are Riehl's Towing and Mario's.

Chief Kille congratulated Sergeant Gilcrest on his retirement and reported that two (2) new hires have started. The Department will be fully functioning.

Chief Kille further discussed the purchasing of police vehicles. He is entertaining the idea to purchase a 4th vehicle which is a Ford F-150 Pick Up Truck. Winner Ford has a State Contract.

Councilman Giampola moved and Councilman DiTonno seconded to authorize the Police Department to receive towing bids. All were in favor of the motion.

Councilman DiTonno stated the Police Department is trying to purchase one (1)

Pick up truck. Woolwich Township has them and will bring a truck to the Borough to view. He stated the Department would like to purchase three (3) SUVs and one (1) Pick-up truck.

Chief Kille stated the pick-up truck is a quad cab and it is no different than the SUV. The Police lighting will be the same with an open bed.

Councilman Giampola suggested passing this on to Administrator Jacobucci but felt the Borough should purchase one (1) pick-up truck for the Police Department.

Councilman DiTonno moved and Councilman Giampola seconded to bond for the purchase of one (1) Pick-up Truck and three (3) SUVs. All were in favor of the motion.

Councilman Holloway questioned where the money was coming from.

Administrator Jacobucci stated it would be funded through a General Obligation Bond for \$375,000 for equipment for the Police Department, firefighter turnout gear, Public Works fuel tank replacement, etc. which are all capital items. She further explained using Bonds for purchasing. The use of life is under 10 years and the Borough can pay over a period of ten (10) years.

Chief Kille thanked Mayor and Council for their support.

Mayor Stevenson stated there was a meeting with Chief Kille, the Code Office and the owners and manager of the Blue Manor. Some issues were addressed. He also spoke with the owners of Cedar Knoll and letters will be sent to the residents. He has put them on a short leash but with a little bit of leeway. He asked Chief Kille to address parking on the corners.

Chief Kille stated he has received documentation from the owner and he is hopeful.

Mayor Stevenson questioned the status of the homeless person.

Chief Kille stated it has been addressed and the person is in a treatment program for a long time.

Mayor Stevenson thanked Council President Giovannitti for handling the first 15 minutes of the meeting.

Mayor Stevenson stated there will be a Memorial Day event on Memorial Day at Veteran's Park. The Fire Company will be doing their ceremony at 9:00 a.m. and the Borough will conduct its ceremony at 10:00 a.m. He will be putting out a Flyer.

There will be a few wreaths and he was thankful for the wreath donations. He reported the Dollar General will be open in two (2) weeks. He has met with the Senior Citizens to get the building open soon. CVS has put parking blocks in the Buck Street driveway. He is looking to see what can be done in the area where the blocks are such as a community garden or park. He further reported there are a couple of houses being demolished. The Port has set up some tours. They are a little bit behind schedule and then will be doing a hiring process.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

Mayor Stevenson opened the floor to the public and asked anyone speaking to give their name, address and reminded everyone there was a five (5) minute time limit.

Councilman Giampola moved and Councilman DiTonno seconded to open the floor to the public at 6:50 p.m. All were in favor of the motion.

Mayor Stevenson questioned if there was going to be a 4th of July Parade.

Jennifer Maden stated the Chamber will work on the Parade and tentatively the Borough will hold a parade.

Jennifer Turner, Buck Street, discussed the water tower and what can be done to make it look better and the tree there does not look healthy. The playgrounds are not up to par. She questioned if there was any plans or monies to get new equipment to upgrade the parks. She would like to see the parks designed for families and not just for the kids. She questioned the community Policing. There are cars speeding on Buck Street.

Chief Kille stated radar enforcement is being done and there is one (1) car that has been issued a plethora of speeding tickets. Bicycle patrols will be out. He is accepting resumes for Class I SLEOs.

Ms. Turner also questioned no parking signs and painting curbs yellow.

Chief Kille stated summonses have been issued.

Ms. Turner further discussed the playgrounds and thinks the Borough could do more for the kids.

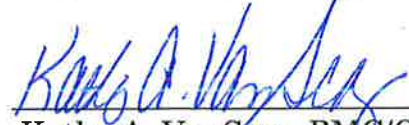
Mayor Stevenson stated the Borough will be addressing the parks issue, he will be talking to CVS regarding the area and he will be reaching out to the residents in the area.

There was not any further public participation.

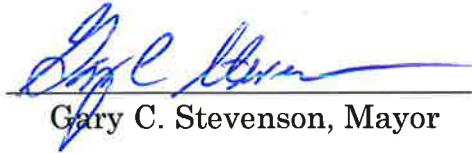
Council President Giovannitti moved and Councilman DiTonno seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 p.m. All were in favor of the motion.

This is a brief summary of the Teleconference Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Paulsboro held on May 4, 2021 and should not be considered a verbatim transcript of the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,



Kathy A. VanScoy, RMC/CMC/CMR
Borough Clerk



Gary C. Stevenson, Mayor