

**NORTH BRUNSWICK TOWNSHIP |
MINUTES....**

**REGULAR MEETING
February 22, 2022**

A regular meeting of the North Brunswick Township Council was held on Tuesday, February 22, 2022 **(Via Go to Meeting)** at 7:00 pm in the Municipal Complex located at 710 Hermann Road, North Brunswick, Middlesex County, New Jersey.

Council President Davis called the meeting to order.

Roll call:

Present: Ms. Guadagnino, Messrs. Mehta, Davis and Socio
Absent: Lopez and Andrews

Ms. Russo announced that the notice requirements of the law have been satisfied. Notices were sent by certified mail on January 4, 2022 to the following:

- a) The Home News Tribune
- b) Star Ledger
- c) North Brunswick Sentinel

Notice receipts are on file in the Municipal Clerk's Office. Also, notices were posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Complex and filed in the Municipal Clerk's Office.

Council President Davis lead the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Also present: (Via Go to Meeting) Business Administrator Justine Progebin, Sapana Shah, Esq., Director of DPRC&S Lou Ann Benson, Director of Community Development Michael Hritz, Chief Financial Officer Cavel Gallimore, Public Safety Chief Joe Battaglia, Clerk Lisa Russo and Administrative Secretary Marilu Ruiz.

Council President Davis asked council members if any items are to be removed from the Consent Agenda.

Ms. Guadagnino asked that item 4f be pulled from the consent agenda for further discussion.

Council President Davis called for a motion to approve items 4a to 4e and 4g to 4h on the consent agenda. Motion made by Ms. Guadagnino to approve items 4a to 4e and 4g to 4h on the agenda, second by Mr. Socio.

Roll call:

Present: Ms. Guadagnino, Messrs. Mehta, Andrews, Davis and Socio
Absent: Lopez

Mr. Andrews Arrived at 7:06 pm

Mayor Womack Arrived at 7:08 pm

Ms. Guadagnino had questions about the water/sewer credits. The credits should come sooner not 4 or 5 months later. With the new system residents know that their consumption is high.

Mr. Socio asked when did the resident reach out to the Township.

Ms. Progebin replied that the Landlord notified the township 4 to 5 months after. Aug, Sept., and partial for Oct. the leak was resolved in October.

Council President Davis wanted to know who contacted the Township was it the Landlord or Tenant?

Ms. Progebin explained the Landlord was engaged with the township. The toilet was leaking for 4 months. He was only eligible for 3 months credit.

Council President Davis wanted to know why it took 3 to 4 months to correct the leak and when did the Landlord bring in the plumber.

Ms. Progebin said the Landlord or Tenant have up to 3 months to identify the leak and repair it. It took them longer.

Ms. Guadagnino – Did the Landlord/Tenant pay their bill? Was there an acknowledgement that the tenant left the home?

Mr. Socio – Is the Homeowner getting the bill or is the tenant getting the bill?

Mayor Womack – The Landlord is responsible for the bill.

Council President Davis – Did the Landlord receive any alerts of high-water usage?

Mr. Andrews – Who receives the notice the Landlord or the Tenant of high-water usage.

Mr. Andrews- if the Landlord takes a few months to correct leak who can hold the tenant responsible?

Ms. Progebin – The Township does not get involved with the Landlord/Tenant. The bill does belong to the Landlord.

Ms. Progebin – The bill goes to the home owner only. If they request it can go to the tenant as well. Either one can sign up for the alerts.

Mr. Andrews – suggested discussing the landlord / tenant language. Maybe the township should require that both the landlord and tenant get the alerts.

Mayor Womack asked should resolution 82-2.22 be pulled for further discussion or keep it on the consent agenda.

Mayor Womack called for a motion to approve Acct. 20520-0,6009-0 and 6436-0 from resolution 82-2.22 on the consent agenda. Motion made by Ms. Guadagnino to approve acct. 20520-0, 6009-0 and 6436-0 on the agenda, second by Mr. Andrews.

Consent Agenda

- a. 77-2.22 Authorizing North Brunswick Police Department to participate in the Defense Logistics Agency, Law Enforcement Support Office, 1033 Program to enable the

- North Brunswick Police Department to request and acquire excess Department of Defense Equipment
- b. 78-2.22 Authorizing an amendment to Contract BID19002 with C3 Technologies, LLC Reporting, Consulting, Maintenance and Repair of Municipal Underground Storage Tanks
 - c. 79-2.22 Authorizing a Change in Scope to the 2022 PSA with USA Architects, Planners and Interior Designers Ltd. to provide Architectural and Structural Engineering Services associated with Design Mitigation and Remediation Work for the exterior of the Municipal Complex Building
 - d. 80-2.22 Supporting the application of NJ Green Scene LLC to the State of New Jersey Cannabis Regulatory Commission for a Class 5 Retail Cannabis License within North Brunswick, New Jersey
 - e. 81-2.22 Supporting the application of Cultivarx NJ LLC to the State of New Jersey Cannabis Regulatory Commission for a Class 5 Retail Cannabis License within North Brunswick, New Jersey
 - f. 82-2.22 Authorizing A Credit to Township Customers for Their Water-Sewer Utility Account
 - g. 83-2.22 Supporting the leasing of Fire Equipment by the North Brunswick Volunteer Fire rescue Company 3
 - h. 84-2.22 BillList

5. Approval of Minutes

- a. Approval of Minutes/ Regular Meeting/ 02.07.22
- b. Approval of Minutes/ Special Council Meeting/ 01.31.22

Mayor Womack called for a motion to approve item #5a on the agenda Approval of Regular Council Meeting Minutes February 7, 2022 so moved by Mr. Socio second by Ms. Guadagnino.

Mayor Womack called for a motion to approve item #5b on the agenda Approval of Special Council Meeting Minutes January 31, 2022 so moved by Mr. Mehta second by Mr. Socio.

Ordinances / First Reading / Introduction:

#22-06 - An Ordinance authorizing Permanent Water Utility Easements over a portion of the property known as 1980 Route 1, North Brunswick, New Jersey, also known as Block 148, Lot 35.01 on the Official Tax Map of the Township of North Brunswick, Middlesex County, State of New Jersey

Mayor Womack called for a motion to introduce Ordinance #22-06, So moved by Mr. Socio second by Ms. Guadagnino second reading and public hearing to be held at a regular meeting on March 7, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Complex, 710 Hermann Road, North Brunswick, Middlesex County, New Jersey Following legal publication in the March 10, 2022 issue of the Home News Tribune according to the law. This ordinance is posted in the Municipal Complex, 710 Hermann Road, North Brunswick, Middlesex County, New Jersey and copies are available upon request.

Roll call:

Present: Ms. Guadagnino, Messrs. Mehta, Davis, Andrews, and Socio
Absent: Lopez

Ordinances/Second Reading/Public Hearing:

#22-03 - An Ordinance amending and supplementing Chapter 69-19 appointment to Department of the Code of the Township of North Brunswick authorizing an alternative process to hiring qualified Police Officers pursuant to N.J.S.A. UA:4-13

Mayor Womack opened the Public Hearing. No comments from the public.

Mayor Womack called for a motion to close Public Hearing so moved by Mr. Davis second by Ms. Guadagnino.

Mayor Womack called for a motion to adopt Ordinance #22-03 So moved Mr. Socio second by Ms. Guadagnino that Ordinance #22-03 approved on second and final reading and referred to the Mayor for his action and then published in the February 25, 2022 issue of the Home News Tribune according to the Law. This ordinance is posted in the Municipal Complex, 710 Hermann Road, North Brunswick, Middlesex County, New Jersey and copies are available upon request.

Roll call:

Present: Ms. Guadagnino, Messrs. Mehta, Andrews, Davis and Socio
Absent: Lopez

#22-04 - An Ordinance amending and supplementing Chapter 334 Vehicles and Traffic of the Code of the Township of North Brunswick to amend Traffic Controls on Lincoln Place and Ruth Road

Mayor Womack opened the Public Hearing. No comments from the public.

Mayor Womack called for a motion to close Public Hearing so moved by Council President Davis second by Ms. Guadagnino.

Mayor Womack called for a motion to adopt Ordinance #22-04 So moved Mr. Andrews second by Council President Davis that Ordinance #22-04 approved on second and final reading and referred to the Mayor for his action and then published in the February 25, 2022 issue of the Home News Tribune according to the Law. This ordinance is posted in the Municipal Complex, 710 Hermann Road, North Brunswick, Middlesex County, New Jersey and copies are available upon request.

Roll call:

Present: Ms. Guadagnino, Messrs. Mehta, Andrews, Davis and Socio
Absent: Lopez

#22-05 - An Ordinance of the Township Council of North Brunswick amending and fixing the Salary and Wages for various officials and employees of the Township of North Brunswick and providing for the manner of payment thereof

Mayor Womack opened the Public Hearing. No comments from the public.

Mayor Womack called for a motion to close Public Hearing so moved by Mr. Socio second by Ms. Guadagnino.

Mayor Womack called for a motion to adopt Ordinance #22-05 So moved Council President Davis second by Mr. Socio that Ordinance #22-05 approved on second and final reading and referred to the Mayor for his action and then published in the February 25, 2022 issue of the Home News Tribune according to the Law. This ordinance is posted in the Municipal Complex, 710 Hermann Road, North Brunswick, Middlesex County, New Jersey and copies are available upon request.

Roll call:

Present: Ms. Guadagnino, Messrs. Mehta, Andrews, Davis and Socio
Absent: Lopez

Reports from Mayor, Council, Administrator, CFO

Mr. Andrews – Two years is too long for project on Adams Lane Bridge. It is going to create such havoc for the Town. At some point we have to be more proactive.

Mayor Womack- This has been discussed and project was pushed back to no earlier than June 25th. The Mayor would like to have broader Council meeting on the project. Bridge was owned by PA Railroad, Michael Hritz stated it was considered abandon. The Mayor would like the Bridge repaired with the least interruption as possible.

Michael Hritz, PIC – Public Information Center NJ DOT website. Public Meeting will be held not sure if it will be virtual or in person.

Mayor Womack – We need to have this meeting as soon as possible.

Mr. Socio- We need to get this information out to residents Adams Lane services resident forum.

Mr. Andrews – This will cause a lot of disruption. Not sure why NJ is still using the pre-historic system.

Mr. Davis – Did they have this project for 6-mile run?

Mr. Andrews – Residents have to be involved it's getting really old with How Lane and other areas like Livingston Avenue.

Mayor Womack- We will move as quickly as possible to have a meeting regarding this.

Mayor Womack opened the Public Hearing. No comments from the public.

Mayor Womack called for a motion to close Public Hearing, so moved Mr. Socio second by Mr. Andrews.

Mayor Womack called for a motion to adjourn the meeting so moved by Council President Davis second by Mr. Andrews.

Adjourn 7:37 pm

Lisa Russo
Municipal Clerk