



BOROUGH OF HADDON HEIGHTS
COUNCIL BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, May 19, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.
ZOOM

Council President Stephanie Madden called the meeting to Order at 7:00 p.m. She then read the following statement:

“In accordance with Section 5 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, notice of this meeting was posted on the bulletin board designed for that purpose and notice was transmitted to the official newspapers provided by Resolution adopted January 4, 2020.”

ROLL CALL:

Council President Madden asked the Clerk for roll call.

Under roll call, Council President Madden, Councilmen Schreiber, Morgan and Ottoson were present as well as Borough Solicitor Howard Long, Borough Clerk Kelly Santosusso and Administrative Assistant Marian Hauser. Mayor Houck was absent but excused. Councilwoman Kurtz was absent but excused. Councilman Mrozinski was absent.

CAUCUS SESSION:

Update on COVID19

Council President Madden provided an update on the COVID19 pandemic. Over 100 cases diagnosed in Camden County with ten deaths. 5,819 positive cases and 280 deaths in Camden County, 22 cases in Haddon Heights, one (1) death. She encouraged all to continue to practice social distancing, use good hygiene and continue to support our local businesses. Various businesses and services are opening and some outdoor activities. She asked all to please be patient and trust the process. We are here to work with the community. Any concerns should be emailed to Mayor Houck at mayor@haddonhts.com. Mayor Houck has been in discussion with the school district regarding graduation. More information will be available soon.

Councilman Mrozinski joined the meeting at 7:04 pm.

Update on 2020 Census

Council President Madden reported that Haddon Heights doing fairly well as we are currently at a 78% completion rate. We need to get to 85%. It is important to realize that funding is contingent on how many answer the Census. She asked that anyone who has not filed, please to online at 2020census.gov and complete as it takes less than 10 mins. \$88 million in funding for the Cares Act arrived to the County as the County is over 500,000 in population.

Memorial Day

Council President Madden announced that unfortunately, no formal ceremony will take place due to restrictions on social distancing due to COVID19. She said that Mayor and Council want to ensure that everyone is safe however, we are inviting everyone wishing to lay a wreath at both WWI Memorial at 6 W. Atlantic Avenue and the WWII Memorial at the Cannons 10th and Station Avenues. Please be sure to maintain social distancing practices while doing so.

Solicitor Howard Long provided an update on the Governor’s issuance of Executive Order 147 which allows for certain outdoor recreational activities that were previously closed by paragraph 9 of the Executive Order 107 with certain limitations. The following businesses or activities are permitted to reopen effective, Friday, May 22 at

6 am: archery ranges; batting cages; golf driving ranges; horseback riding; shooting ranges; and tennis clubs. However, at the aforementioned businesses permitted to reopen, the following areas at those locations must remain closed: picnic areas; playgrounds; pavilions; fitness centers; locker rooms and other buildings amenities, or facilities, except for restrooms and facilities providing access to an outdoor facility where no other means of access is available. Amusement parks, arcades and other places of public amusement located at outdoor recreational businesses or activities permitted to reopen shall remain closed. Indoor bike rentals are permitted to reopen for rentals.

Councilman Schreiber said we are hoping to receive information on the reopening of our local sporting organizations and swim clubs. Council President Madden says community pools guidance should be coming by the end of the week.

RECESS OF CAUCUS SESSION 7:10 p.m.

COMMENCEMENT OF BUSINESS SESSION:

Council President Madden called the Business Session to order at 7:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND MOMENT OF SILENCE:

Council President Madden asked all to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON CAUCUS AND AGENDA ITEMS ONLY:

Council President called for Public Comment on Caucus and Agenda items only.

Seeing and hearing no movement, the public comment portion was closed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Council President Madden asked for a motion to approve the Council Work Session Meeting Minutes of May 5, 2020. A motion to approve was made by Councilman Schreiber, seconded by Council President Madden. All members present were in favor.

Council President asked for a motion to approve the Executive Session Minutes of May 5, 2020. A motion to approve was made by Councilman Schreiber, seconded by Councilman Morgan. All members were in favor.

COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS:

Council President Madden had no report.

Councilman Ottoson announced that the Environmental Commission meeting will be held tomorrow evening via ZOOM.

Councilman Morgan reported he attended the Municipal Alliance meeting held Monday evening. He announced they will begin a social media page and reported they are planning a virtual Firecracker 5K Run. Details will follow. The Farmers Market on the first weekend with a good turnout, a drive thru layout allowing for preordering and picking up. It was good to see some business occurring on Station Avenue.

Council President Madden added that we commend HIP and Joe Gentile for being innovative and keeping the Farmer's Market's presence and active during the crisis.

Councilman Mrozinski had no report.

Councilman Schreiber said that first and foremost, he would like to thank all of our veterans, both those with us and those who have passed, as was we approach Memorial Day. He said we owe an eternal debt of gratitude to

these men and women. He went on to report that the Shade Tree Commission will resume on May 27th via ZOOM, details for joining the meeting are on the website. Schreiber thanked those who have beautified our downtown area and expressed his appreciation for their efforts.

BOROUGH ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Craig Reilly, 304 White Horse Pike – said he would rely on his written submitted report but highlighted the following items:

The 2019 Camden County Open Space \$100,000 grant for design, construction and inspection/construction management for Phase 1 of this project. The Multi-use Trail connecting the Dell at Haddon Lake Park to the Devon Avenue recreational facilities. He explained that his office will bid the project under the same contract as the FY 2020 NJDOT Municipal Aid Funding as Devon Avenue project is in close proximity of the other and may be more cost efficient to maximize the grant awards.

He went on to announce that the FY 2020 recreational facility enhancement application deadline was May 1st. Submissions for pickle ball striping and additional pedestrian accessibility improvements for Devon Avenue recreation facility.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Introduction of Ordinance 2020:1488 – An Ordinance Amending Chapter 100 of the Code of the Borough of Haddon Heights Entitled Handicapped Parking

Public Hearing and Final Adoption is scheduled for Wednesday, June 3, 2020 at 7:00 pm in the Municipal Building located at 625 Station Avenue, Haddon Heights, New Jersey 08035. *Meeting may be conducted via ZOOM due to circumstances related to COVID-19*

Council President asked for a motion to Introduce Ordinance 2020:1488. A motion was made by Councilman Schreiber, seconded by Councilman Ottoson. Upon a roll call vote, all members present were in favor.

Introduction of Ordinance 2020:1489 – An Ordinance Amending Ordinance 2018:1453 An Ordinance Entitled "Residential Certificate Of Continued Occupancy" of the Code of the Borough of Haddon Heights, In the County of Camden, State of New Jersey

Public Hearing and Final Adoption is scheduled for Wednesday, June 3, 2020 at 7:00 pm in the Municipal Building located at 625 Station Avenue, Haddon Heights, New Jersey 08035. *Meeting may be conducted via ZOOM due to circumstances related to COVID-19.*

Council President Madden asked for a motion to Introduce Ordinance 2020:1489. A motion was made by Councilman Schreiber, seconded by Councilman Ottoson. Upon a roll call vote, all members present were in favor.

Borough Solicitor Howard Long announced that we will remove Resolution 2020:110 from the Agenda as there is no longer a need for an Executive Session this evening.

Resolution 2020:105 – Resolution Appointing Marian Hauser to the Position of Registrar of Vital Statistics

Resolution 2020:106 – Resolution Authorizing a Refund of a Street Opening Permit Fee to New Jersey American Water Company

Resolution 2020:107 – Resolution Authorizing a Refund of a Cabin Rental Fee

Resolution 2020:108 – Resolution Amending Resolution 2020:31 Resolution Concerning Appointments

Resolution 2020:109 – Resolution Authorizing the Payment of Bills and Claims for the 2nd Half of May

Resolution 2020:110 – A Resolution Providing For a Meeting Not Open to the Public in Accordance with the Provisions of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12. ***1.) Matters of Attorney Client Privilege. Discussion is expected to be ½ hour in duration. Formal action may be taken following Executive Session. REMOVED FROM AGENDA***

Council President Madden asked for a motion to adopt Resolutions 2020:105 through Resolution 2020:109. A motion to adopt Resolutions 2020:105 through 2020:109 was made by Councilman Ottoson, seconded by Council President Madden. Under a roll call vote, all members present voted yes.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Council President Madden called for Public Comment on any matter.

Derek Eisenberg, 202 Fourth Avenue – Mr. Eisenberg requested further information on the closing of the parks and recreational fields. Madden responded that we have reopened the town parks consistent with the state and County although no organized sports can be played; families are able to use the fields. We ask people to continue to observe social distancing practices. Our tennis and basketball courts remain closed. Eisenberg asked if these decisions are at the discretion of the Governor. Madden explained that Hoff's playground is within our discretion but the County playground near the Dell is not. She said that at this point, we do not feel comfortable opening the playground due to not being sure proper sanitization practices can take place. Eisenberg asks if there is a timeline on Hoff's Playground being reopened. Madden responded that we do not want to make any decision that would conflict with the Governor's orders. Eisenberg his opinion that he feels it is time for us to reopen and get back to our lives. Madden thanked Mr. Eisenberg for his comments.

A member of the public who attended the meeting with the participant ID of iPad2 attempted to make comment but appeared to be having technical difficulties. Solicitor Long communicated via the chat option in the ZOOM platform. He waited a couple of minutes and then said that the member appeared to have dropped off of the meeting.

Solicitor Long then opined on the opening of playgrounds and sanitation practices. He said that the decision is not up to us in Haddon Heights at this point. Although he understands that everyone is anxious, he clarified that any decision by us to open our playground would be in violation of the Executive Order.

Seeing none, a motion to close the public comment portion meeting was made by Councilman Morgan, seconded by Council President Madden. All members were in favor.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Councilman Ottoson, seconded by Councilman Morgan. All members present were in favor.

8:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Kelly Santosusso, RMC, CMR