

**Millstone Township Committee Regular Meeting
Minutes for December 16, 2020**

Mayor Masci calls the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. at the Millstone Township Meeting Room, 215 Millstone Road, Millstone Twp., NJ 08535

Statement Of Notice As Required By P.L. 1975, C231 Is Read.

I hereby announce that pursuant to the Open Public Meeting Act, adequate notice of this meeting has been provided in the annual notice of meetings which was mailed to the Asbury Park Press and the Trenton Times, posted on the public announcements bulletin board in Town Hall and filed in the Office of the Township Clerk on December 18, 2019.

ROLL CALL: Mayor Masci – present, Committeeman Dorfman – present, Committeeman Ferro - present, Committeewoman Grbelja – present, Committeeman Kuczinski – present. Also, in attendance: Robert Munoz - Township Attorney, Business Administrator – Kevin Abernethy and Kathleen Hart - Municipal Clerk.

Municipal Clerk read Resolution 20-341 Authorizing the Holding of an Executive Session, at Which the Public Shall be Excluded

Motion to adopt Resolution 20-341 was moved by DM/Grbelja; second by C/Ferro.
Committee Discussion: None

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: C/Dorfman, C/Ferro, DM/Grbelja, C/Kuczinski, M/Masci
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

Motion to adjourn Executive Session was moved by DM/Grbelja; second by C/Dorfman. All in Favor

Time In: 7:09 p.m.; Time Out: 7:55 p.m.

Mayor Masci calls the Regular Meeting to order at 8:02 p.m. followed by a flag salute by Leslie Stone and a moment of silence.

Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic State of Emergency the Millstone Township Committee meeting was also held using the Zoom platform. Members of the public have the option to attend the meeting via Zoom or in person. The Township Committee along with the Township Attorney attended the meeting via Zoom; Business Administrator and Municipal Clerk were present at the meeting room.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81235756182?pwd=dG9DVFNMK3VOUnJtWFFqY2NkY2tVUT09>

Meeting ID: 812 3575 6182; Passcode: 409148

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,81235756182# US (Washington D.C); +13126266799,,81235756182# US (Chicago)

Dial by your location

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For public comment section you can also email askmillstone@millstonenj.gov with your questions or public comments along with your name and address. Your comments will be read into the record. This meeting will also be recorded and be replayed on the Millstone PEG Channel.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Letter from the Monmouth County Board of Chosen Freeholders thanking Millstone Township for declaring the town “Stigma Free.
2. Letter from residents on Ivins Lane and Filmore Lane regarding the proposed widening of these roads.

ORDINANCES:

SECOND READING

ORDINANCE 20-36

AMENDING CHAPTER II (ADMINISTRATION) PAYROLL OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MILLSTONE BY FIXING SALARY RANGES OF THE TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES; IN THE TOWNSHIP OF MILLSTONE, COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT: This Ordinance fixes salary ranges for Township Officials and Employees.

Affidavit of Publication Presented

Mayor Masci opens the public hearing at 8:05 p.m.

Mayor Masci closes the public hearing at 8:06 p.m.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 20-36 on second reading was moved by DM/Grbelja; second by C/Kuczinski.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: C/Ferro, DM/Grbelja, C/Kuczinski, C/Dorfman, M/Masci

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

SECOND READING

ORDINANCE 20-37

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER II (ADMINISTRATION), ARTICLE V (BOARDS, COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS), SECTION 2-27 (BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSIONERS) OF THE REVISED ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MILLSTONE, COUNTY OF MONMOUTH AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT: This Ordinance gives the Recreation Commission the authority to change or modify a recreation fee under certain emergent circumstances.

Affidavit of Publication Presented

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Mayor Masci opens the public hearing at 8:07 p.m.

Mayor Masci closes the public hearing at 8:08 p.m.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 20-37 on second reading was moved by C/Kuczinski; second by C/Dorfman.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: DM/Grbelja, C/Kuczinski, C/Dorfman, C/Ferro, M/Masci

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

RESOLUTIONS: CONSENT RESOLUTION POSTED ON BULLETIN BOARD.

ALL MATTERS LISTED UNDER ITEM "CONSENT AGENDA" ARE CONSIDERED ROUTINE BY THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE AND WILL BE ENACTED BY ONE (1) MOTION IN THE FORM LISTED BELOW. THERE WILL BE NO SEPARATE DISCUSSION ON THESE ITEMS, IF DISCUSSION IS DESIRED OF ANY ITEM, THAT ITEM WILL BE CONSIDERED SEPARATELY.

- 20-342 Payment of Vouchers – December 16, 2020
- 20-343 Resolution Authorizing Shared Services Agreement for Sign Making Services with Freehold Township
- 20-344 Resolution Authorizing Millstone Township's Comprehensive Farmland Preservation Plan To Be Submitted To The State Agriculture Development Committee's Municipal Planning Incentive Grant Program
- 20-345 Resolution Establishing the 2021 Annual Schedule of Meetings for the Millstone Township Committee
- 20-346 Resolution Authorizing Schedule of Holidays for 2021
- 20-347 Resolution Listing Holidays to be Observed by the Mining Operators in Millstone Township for 2021
- 20-348 Resolution to Designate Official Newspapers Which Will Receive Public Notices for 2021
- 20-349 Authorizing 2021 Salaries for Union and Non-Union Employees
- 20-350 Resolution to Report Additions and Deletions to the Fixed Assets
- 20-351 Resolution Authorizing Voiding of Checks and Adding Funds Back to Millstone Township Accounts
- 20-352 Resolution Confirming the Sale of \$11,395,000 General Improvement Bonds, Series 2020 of the Township of Millstone, in the County of Monmouth, New Jersey to the Monmouth County Improvement Authority
- 20-353 Appointing Kevin Abernethy as Township Administrator

Motion to adopt Consent Agenda Resolutions 20-342 through 20-353 was moved by DM/Grbelja; second by C/Kuczinski.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: C/Dorfman, C/Ferro, DM/Grbelja, C/Kuczinski, M/Masci

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

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REPORTS FROM VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS FOR NOVEMBER 2020:

Tax Collector	\$8,880,499.19
Clerks Report	\$ 1,663.20
Dog License	\$ 104.00
Recreation	\$ 665.08
Building Department	\$ 75,017.00
COAH	\$ 0.00
Municipal Court	\$ 8,059.20
2020 Interest Revenue	

Motion to file, Moved C/Kuczinski; Second DM/Grbelja. All in Favor.

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MINUTES:

1. Executive Meeting Minutes – December 2, 2020

Motion to adopt Executive Meeting Minutes of December 2, 2020 was moved by C/Ferro; second by C/Dorfman.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: C/Ferro, DM/Grbelja, C/Kuczinski, C/Dorfman
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: M/Masci
ABSENT: None

2. Executive Meeting Minutes – December 2, 2020

Motion to adopt Regular Meeting Minutes of December 2, 2020 was moved by C/Kuczinski; second by C/Ferro.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: DM/Grbelja, C/Kuczinski, C/Dorfman, C/Ferro
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: M/Masci

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Buck Mine – Permit Renewal 2020-2022: Township Engineer updates the Township Committee on the request to renew mining permit for Buck Mine. All the mines are up for renewal every two years in June. The Township passed a resolution regarding a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) extending Buck Mine to December 31, 2020. They were to finish up, work with the County and Campo to restore the mine and sell but this did not happen. Buck Mine has a customer purchasing soil and is requesting to renew the mining permit until June 2022. Township Engineer reports that Buck Mine has been complying with its previous conditions of approval and has also reviewed their bond. Buck Mine repaired Pine Hill Road (asphalt) a few days ago and is still communicating with the County. Township Engineer recommends conditional approval of the mining permit. Maureen Leslie Stone states that due to COVID and other issues, no soil was removed until recently. They are in contact with the County and are still interested in selling. The wall between Campo and Buck will be taken down by Buck; Campo is not responding.

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M/Masci asks what can be done to move this process along and have Campo respond and work with us. Township Engineer states we have a bond with Campo that could be used to restore the site and he has also reached out to their Engineer, but has not heard back from Campo. C/Ferro questions the Township Engineer on what provisions were put into place, how much was done in the time frame that we allotted them to do and what can be done about Campo? Township Engineer states that the mine was closed for almost a whole year with some dirt to be removed and the wall between the two mines still need to come down. He will reach out again to Campo to see what is going on and report back. Township Attorney states we have the bond with Campo with the right to enforce and will send letter to Campo. DM/Grbelja asks if the removal of the soil is in line with the restoration that needed to be done with the County and Township. Township Engineer said that yes, it is in line with the restoration and the wall that needs to come down is about 60'. C/Kuczinski ask why wasn't the responsible parties working on this before COVID and left unattended until now. Maureen Leslie Stone states that by the time the MOU was done it was August 2019. They sold some soil up until winter and then COVID hit and no jobs were done in 2020. They are trying to get this resolved and finally dropped the price on the soil and has a few customers. They just want to be done with this. DM/Grbelja requests that monthly reports and quarterly inspections be done by the Township Engineer. Maureen Leslie Stone said that these monthly reports are expensive and is willing to send pictures and the dairy to the Township Engineer on a monthly basis. M/Masci asks the Township Committee if they have any problems with renewing the permit. C/Ferro asks if Buck Mine doesn't move forward and these milestones are not met, what is our recourse? Township Engineer states that we can issue a violation, stop order and/or take action on their bond. DM/Grbelja states that the County was interested in both Campo and Buck Mine, however, Campo has not been responsive to any entity. DM/Grbelja said if Buck Mine is removing the soil and restoring the property that was discussed previously with the County Park System and the Township, she has no problem with granting Buck Mine the permit. DM/Grbelja will try to get the parties involved again so that this entire project be done as we had hoped several years ago. The Township Committee consensus is to move forward with renewing the mining permit until June 2022 for Buck Mine per the Township Engineer recommendations.

DM/Grbelja made a motion to move forward with the renewal of the mining permit for Buck Mine until June 2022, including monthly reports provided by Buck Mine to the Township Engineer; second by C/Kuczinski.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: DM/Grbelja, C/Kuczinski, C/Dorfman, C/Ferro, M/Masci

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

2. Reorganization Meeting – January 6, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. Township Administrator hopes that people join by Zoom as space will be limited at the Court Building.

OLD BUSINESS:

Township Administrator discusses a letter received from residents who live on Ivins Lane and Fillmore Lane regarding concerns with the plans to widen these roads and hopes that the township will reconsider and not move forward with this project. These roads are included in the 2020 Road Program. The Township Administrator and Township Engineer went out to inspect the roads and met with some concerned residents who are not in favor of widening the road. Township Engineer states that in the last few years he has received complaints on the conditions of these roads and how narrow they are. The roads are not in good shape, some sections are exposing the stone base at the edge of the road is wearing away and in sections is about 14' – 15' wide. You can't have two cars on the road at the same time. There are also some drainage issues on the north side of Fillmore, issues with the intersection of Ivins and

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Millstone Road and an issue with emergency vehicles not being able to get down. The road program proposes to increase to 20'. The code requires a minimum of 18' to 20' wide for roads. After discussions with the residents, the Township Engineer proposed to reduce from 20' wide to 18' wide due to safety issues and to not take any trees down except north of Fillmore Lane where the road is actually on private property. Township Administrator states we spoke to most residents and will try to minimize impact to the residents. M/Masci said the letter is an opposition letter and signed by 13 residents out of 18 and asks if it was brought to the attention of these resident that if an emergency vehicle has to come down that road would these residents take liability if it can't get down. Township Administrator said it was brought to their attention and they said no. C/Ferro asks if these residents are alright with widening to 18' and is that a safety issue still? Township Engineer said that 18' is an acceptable width. C/Dorfman says that if it is the law, we need to comply and we would be exposing the risk of liability if we don't comply.

M/Masci asks if anyone on Zoom that would be impacted or signed the letters would like to speak to the Township Committee regarding this matter. Toni Albanese is not in favor, understand the safety issues and states that there is a fireman who lives on the street who also signed the letter. Anthony McMillan also is against it and says that this road has a country charm to it. During the pandemic, the majority of the residents are getting deliveries with delivery driver's speed. Paving would increase speed. Helen Scibilia says it is a very tight knit neighborhood and this has never been an issue and does not want to invite more traffic.

The Township Committee discusses and states the deciding factor is if the emergency vehicle can get down safely. The Township Administrator will set up a date and time for the professionals along with the fire department to come out with a fire truck and ambulance to see if they can get down the roads.

M/Masci thanks the residents for their concerns and will try to come to a consensus.

COMMENTS FROM THE DAIS:

M/Masci said he has served on the Township Committee for the past 12 years. It has been an honor to work for this Township and all the people I have worked with. These experiences have been real life lessons. Most importantly I have learned and became a better person. Extremely grateful for the people who work hard every day at the Township, the professionals and all the volunteers who serve on the boards and commissions. I have also been proud to work with all the people on the dais, each and every one is committed to do their best for Millstone residents. I am proud to call you my coworkers and wish each one of you my best.

DM/Grbelja states that is has been an absolute pleasure working with Fiore Masci and happy to serve as his Deputy Mayor for the last two years. You bring a calmness to the Township Committee. Throughout the years, you have worked extremely hard for Millstone Township and its residents. I have mutual respect and you are a friend for life.

DM/Grbelja also acknowledges C/Kuczinski as this is his last meeting too. He has done a tremendous job watching over our finances and what you have accomplished with the First Aid. You have been a valuable asset to the Township Committee and it is a great loss and a big hole to fill.

C/Kuczinski said thank you to all and it has been a pleasure. It wasn't a job; I was just doing the right thing for the Township. We all have the same goals and mindset to make Millstone Township a better place. Will miss everyone and thank all for the opportunity.

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C/Ferro said thank you to both Mike and Fiore for your time and tenure on the Township Committee and your vision in the past and present to make Millstone it is today.

C/Dorfman said that both of you have been incredibly valuable to the Township and to me. Wish you both well and you will be missed!! There are two huge holes to fill all at once and thank you very much.

Kathleen Hart thanks both for their support over the years and you both will be missed!

Kevin Abernethy said it is a pleasure serving both of you over the last year. Together with the Township Committee and employees we accomplished a lot. Thank you.

Matt Shafai said that he will miss both of you!

Bob Munoz said it has been a pleasure serving with both of you and complimented C/Kuczinski on the accomplishments of First Aid and getting it to where it is now. This is a tremendous feather in your cap and could become a model in other municipalities.

M/Masci said it was an honor being Deputy Mayor to Michael Kuczinski. We will run into each other as I don't plan on leaving Millstone anytime soon.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR (Limited to ½ Hour)

Mayor Masci opens the meeting to the public at 9:48 p.m.

C/Kuczinski asks residents to prepare for the winter storm that is projected to be worse tomorrow.

M/Masci asks residents to be careful and that DPW is out plowing and salting the roads.

Business Administrator received two emails: Anthony McMillan thanking the Township Committee for taking the time to address our concerns and that safety is first; Louise San Nicola thanking Mayor Masci and Committeeman Kuczinski for your many years of service to our town.

Mayor Masci closes the meeting to the public at 9:53 p.m.

Members of the public participating by remote internet access or telephonic access shall be allotted up to three (3) minutes.

Motion to adjourn was Moved by C/Kuczinski; Second by DM/Grbelja. All in Favor.

Time Out: 9:54 p.m.

Audio of the meeting is available in the Municipal Clerks Office.

December 16, 2020 Township Committee meeting minutes approved at a Township Committee meeting held on January 20, 2021.

Kathleen Hart, RMC
Municipal Clerk