



Mayor and Common Council Borough of Flemington

March 23, 2020

Council Meeting Room

Work Session (Canceled)

Regular Meeting (7:30 PM)

This meeting is being held in conformance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

Held online through the Go To Meeting app; advertised on Borough website, with notice on Borough Hall door, and notice to area newspapers. Called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Driver.

Flag Salute

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Caitlin Giles-McCormick	Council President	Present	
Jessica Hand	Council Member	Present	
Michael Harris	Council Member	Present	
Jeremy Long	Council Member	Present	
Christopher Runion	Council Member	Present	
Kimberly Tilly	Council Vice President	Present	
Betsy Driver	Mayor	Present	

I. Mayor's Report

She broadcast a Facebook Live session with OEM Coordinator McNally today; about 75 people tuned in. She plans to do this twice weekly.

A state of emergency was declared one week ago. We're following guidance from the state issued in Executive Orders 107 and 108. Borough Hall is closed to the public; someone is staffing the office Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., and staff are working remotely, answering emails and returning voice messages.

Tuccamirgan Park is a Green Acres park and must remain open, but the playground equipment has been roped off. Police are contacting businesses to ensure compliance, and most are compliant. We anticipate receiving further guidance about code enforcement operations. The well operator is only coming to town to test the wells then he's leaving, to minimize his exposure to anyone. We're setting up redundancy with other towns.

Currently there are 18 cases of COVID-19 in Flemington Borough; she gets Health Department updates if that number changes and has had no updates since Saturday.

At the next meeting, April 13, the intent is to introduce the 2020 budget. She has been notified that we can't change when the property tax bills are due, May 1.

Public hearings on Ordinances 2020-2 and 2020-3, which were to happen on March 25, have been postponed until further notice.

The Mayor asked Attorney St. Angelo to discuss guidance she's received on electronic operations. Ms. St. Angelo said she's shared a couple of tips she's received from the Governor's Office and the Division of Local Government Services on using electronic media to hold a public meeting; best advice is to sign in to a meeting through an app on your phone, or by a computer, so the program recognizes you by name. She said it is likely meetings will be held only electronically for the next month or two.

Mr. Harris, Attorney St. Angelo and Mayor Driver discussed how commenting during a public hearing can work electronically.

Mr. Runion said he'd been contacted by a resident who wanted to participate but didn't have access to a computer. Attorney St. Angelo said people can use their phones to call in to a meeting, or leave comments in the dropbox at Borough Hall. There was discussion about how to provide information to the public on how to participate in an electronic meeting.

II. Council Members' Reports

Council President Giles-McCormick

She's trying to stay up to date with guidance from our Office of Emergency Management. Meetings, aside from Council, have been canceled and Borough buildings are closed. The FCP has been getting feedback from businesses; the FCP is looking for help regarding the disruption of services, and helping businesses figure out how to operate safely.

Council Member Harris

Shade Tree meeting was canceled due to safety concerns. In the community, he's been shopping, using safety precautions, and said shopkeepers are doing the same. He urged people to reach out to their neighbors to check on them.

Council Member Hand

She thanked the Mayor, Council President Giles-McCormick and OEM liaison Tilly for their efforts, saying there's so much uncharted territory. She also thanked the OEM and staff for their dedication.

Council Member Long

He noted all board and commission meetings have been canceled. He urged residents to do what they can for the businesses that remain open; everyone's in a tough position, so whatever people can do is helpful. He asked about resources for people with anxiety and depression. Mayor Driver said during the Facebook Live call a resident mentioned starting a Facebook group, Flemington Helping Flemington. The United Way is stepping up its efforts, and Hunterdon

Helpline is a good resource. Ms. Giles-McCormick said there's a statewide NJ Mental Health Care line people can also call: 866-202-HELP (4357).

Council Member Runion

The last Environmental Commission meeting was canceled. He asked if all commission meetings are being canceled; Mayor Driver said she would check with Attorney St. Angelo on the latest guidance, since electronic meetings are possible.

Council Vice President Tilly

She thanked first responders and Borough employees for all their efforts. She urged people to support local businesses. For information on COVID-19, she said people can call 211 for general information. To receive alerts/updates, people can also text NJCOVID to 898211. The Historic Preservation Commission has not met; there have been no applications.

III. Public Comments - Session I (up to 3 minutes each, for a maximum of 30 minutes)

No comments.

IV. Approval of Minutes

Motion To: **Approve Minutes: March 9, 2020 Regular Council Meeting**

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Michael Harris, Council Member
SECONDER:	Caitlin Giles-McCormick, Council President
AYES:	Giles-McCormick, Hand, Harris, Long, Runion, Tilly

Motion To: **Approve Minutes: March 9, 2020 Exec. Session**

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Michael Harris, Council Member
SECONDER:	Caitlin Giles-McCormick, Council President
AYES:	Giles-McCormick, Hand, Harris, Long, Runion, Tilly

Mr. Harris voted in favor of adopting the minutes from the first part of the session, at which he was present. He abstained from voting on minutes from the portion of the meeting that continued after his departure.

Regular Agenda

1. ORDINANCE 2020-4: SECOND READING: AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF BOROUGH-OWNED PROPERTY LOCATED AT 144 MAIN STREET

Attorney St. Angelo explained that municipally-owned property has to be sold in compliance with N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13(a), which requires that the property be offered for sale at a public auction, properly advertised. If all bids are rejected

as too low, it can then be sold through a private sale. In looking back through the history, she found that the property was never properly advertised in the newspaper and offered for sale at a public auction; it was just listed with a realtor to generate interest. This ordinance will remedy that defect.

Ms. Giles-McCormick moved and Ms. Tilly seconded opening the public hearing. All voted in favor. There were no comments. Ms. Giles-McCormick moved to close the public hearing, seconded by Ms. Tilly. There was no council discussion.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Caitlin Giles-McCormick, Council President
SECONDER:	Kimberly Tilly, Council Vice President
AYES:	Giles-McCormick, Hand, Harris, Long, Runion, Tilly

2. ORDINANCE 2020-5: SECOND READING: REGULATING AND PERMITTING COMMERCIAL, TELEVISION, MOVIE AND STILL FILMING ON PUBLIC PROPERTY WITHIN THE BOROUGH OF FLEMINGTON

Mr. Harris moved and Mr. Long seconded opening the public hearing. All voted in favor. There were no comments. Ms. Tilly moved and Mr. Harris seconded closing the public hearing.

Mr. Harris asked if other communities have similar ordinances. Ms. Driver said it was recommended by the Hunterdon County Economic Development Department. Attorney St. Angelo said it mirrors an ordinance in Clinton.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Kimberly Tilly, Council Vice President
SECONDER:	Jeremy Long, Council Member
AYES:	Giles-McCormick, Hand, Harris, Long, Runion, Tilly

3. RESOLUTION 2020-74: WAIVING FEES FOR INSPECTIONS REQUIRED FOR HOME SALES AND OCCUPANCY CHANGES DURING A PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY REGARDING COVID-19

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Michael Harris, Council Member
SECONDER:	Caitlin Giles-McCormick, Council President
AYES:	Giles-McCormick, Hand, Harris, Long, Runion, Tilly

4. RESOLUTION 2020-75: APPROVING SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION FROM CONNOR ATKINSON TO THE NJ FIREMAN'S ASSOCIATION AND HIS MEMBERSHIP IN THE FLEMINGTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Kimberly Tilly, Council Vice President
SECONDER:	Caitlin Giles-McCormick, Council President
AYES:	Giles-McCormick, Hand, Harris, Long, Runion, Tilly

5. RESOLUTION 2020-76: AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF A 1999 FORD ECONOLINE VAN, VIN# 1FTSE34F4XHC00160, TO THE FLEMINGTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Kimberly Tilly, Council Vice President
SECONDER:	Michael Harris, Council Member
AYES:	Giles-McCormick, Hand, Harris, Long, Runion, Tilly

V. Public Comments - Session II (up to 3 minutes each, for a maximum of 30 minutes)

No comments.

VI. Attorney's Report

Attorney St. Angelo is tracking guidance coming from the State during the COVID-19 crisis; we're awaiting word on construction inspections and land use matters, and more guidance may be forthcoming on government operations.

VII. Payment of the Bills

Motion To: **Pay the Bills in the Amount of \$249,726.58**

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Kimberly Tilly, Council Vice President
SECONDER:	Caitlin Giles-McCormick, Council President
AYES:	Giles-McCormick, Hand, Harris, Long, Runion, Tilly

VIII. Executive Session for Any Other Applicable Matter Identified During the Regular Meeting (Action May Be Taken)

None needed.

IX. Adjournment

Mr. Runion moved and Ms. Tilly seconded adjourning the meeting. All members voted in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

Attest: _____
Sallie Graziano, Borough Clerk