

INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
Meeting held at the Municipal Building, Great Meadows, NJ.
February 13, 2018 7:00 p.m.

This is a regular meeting of the Township Committee of Independence Township, Warren County, New Jersey. This meeting was called to order by Mayor Robert Giordano at 7:00 p.m. with the following announcement: "Adequate notice of this meeting was given in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act by providing a schedule of regular meetings to the Star Gazette and The Express Times, posting a copy thereof on the Township bulletin board and filing a copy thereof in the office of the Municipal Clerk." The Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag was led by Mayor Giordano.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Mayor Robert Giordano, Deputy Mayor Cogle, Bonnie Kelsey, Mike Pennington, Tim Norton and Debi Hrebenak. Also present were Attorney Leslie Parikh and Engineer Michael Finelli.

Absent: None recorded

The Mayor announced that the Hackettstown High School Cheerleading came in 6th place at the National Cheerleading Championship and Budget to be approved at the March 13 Meeting.

Minutes Approval: 12.12.17 and 01.02.2018

Mrs. Kelsey made a motion to approve the 12.12.17 and 01.02.18 Minutes as written. Mr. Norton seconded the motion with roll call as follows:

Ayes: Mr. Cogle, Mrs. Kelsey, Mr. Pennington, Mr. Norton, and Mayor Giordano
Nays: None recorded
Abstain: None recorded

Motion carries with five (5) affirmative votes

CONSENT AGENDA:

Resolution 18-25

Title or Subject: Tax Refund

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector recommends to the Township Committee that the necessary administrative action be taken to authorize a refund of the following:

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Independence Township Committee, that the following refunds be made: see attached documentation.

Block	Lot	Name/Address	Reason	Total
19.01	18	Ann Coleman 2 Woodward Terrace Hackettstown, NJ 07840	Widow of Disabled Veteran	\$ 936.45
Total to be refunded				\$ 936.45

Deputy Mayor Cogle made a motion to approve Resolutions 18-25 as written. Mr. Norton seconded the motion with roll call as follows:

Ayes: Mr. Cogle, Mrs. Kelsey, Mr. Pennington, Mr. Norton, and Mayor Giordano
Nays: None recorded
Abstain: None recorded

Motion carries with five (5) affirmative votes

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Tax Collector - Posted

Construction/Zoning – Reports were submitted.

Environmental – Spring Clean and shredding event in May

Treasurer – Posted

Recreation/Green Acres – John Cummins gave a report. Easter Egg Hunt, 2 members are needed for recreation committee, softball registration and basketball court lights until 9 pm.

Police – Report has been submitted. E-tickets in place. Discussed 2 new Ordinance: Marijuana dispensaries and towing/car impound

Emergency Services – First Aid Squad Nick Vasquez gave a report. Fire Department Shawn Snyder gave a report.

DPW – Report was submitted.

Municipal Clerk: Heavy collection for taxes. Dog licenses are being issued.

Land Use Board – No meeting in January. New Attorney for Land Use Board.

Seniors – 7-8 seniors attending on Thursday. Look into grants to fix up the building

Board of Education – Discussed the auditor report and state aid.

PROFESSIONAL REPORTS:

Attorney Parikh: Working with Suez on sale of IMUA.

Engineer Finelli: Discussion on the Wireless Edge Cell Tower. DEP annual audit done with DPW.

Mayor Giordano made a motion to approve Mike Finelli to complete a grant for the senior center from the Warren County Municipal Charitable Conservancy Trust Grant. Mrs. Kelsey seconded the motion with roll call as follows:

Ayes: Mr. Cogle, Mrs. Kelsey, Mr. Pennington, Mr. Norton, and Mayor Giordano

Nays: None recorded

Abstain: None recorded

Motion carries with five (5) affirmative votes

OLD BUSINESS:

Second reading of Ordinance 2018-01

**ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION
LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK**

(N.J.S.A.. 40A:4-45.14)

Deputy Mayor Cogle made a motion to open up discussion on this ordinance to the Public. Mrs. Kelsey seconded the motion with roll call as follows:

Ayes: Mr. Cogle, Mr. Norton, Mrs. Kelsey, Mr. Pennington, and Mayor Giordano

Nays: None recorded

Abstain: None recorded

Motion carries with five (5) affirmative votes.

As there were no comments, a motion was made by Deputy Mayor Cogle to close the public hearing. Mr. Norton seconded the motion with roll call as follows:

Ayes: Mr. Cogle, Mr. Norton, Mrs. Kelsey, Mr. Pennington, and Mayor Giordano

Nays: None recorded

Abstain: None recorded

Motion carries with five (5) affirmative votes.

A motion was made by Mr. Norton to adopt Ordinance 2018-01 as written. Deputy Mayor Cougle seconded the motion with roll call as follows:

Ayes: Mr. Cougle, Mr. Norton, Mrs. Kelsey, Mr. Pennington, and Mayor Giordano

Nays: None recorded

Abstain: None recorded

Motion carries with five (5) affirmative votes.

NEW BUSINESS:

Introduction Ordinance 2018-02:

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED SALARIES AND COMPENSATION

Be It Ordained by the Township Committee of the Township of Independence, the following salary ranges, being established for Township employees for the year 2018.

Administration	
Mayor	\$ 3,000 - 8,000
Deputy Mayor	\$ 2,000- 5,000
Township Committee Member	\$ 1,200 – 4,000
Municipal Clerk/Registrar	\$ 50,000 - 90,000
Administrator	\$ 8,000-15,000
Tax and Finance	
Chief Financial Officer	\$ 20,000 – 42,000
Tax Collector	\$ 20.00 - 40.00/hr.
Tax Assessor	\$ 20,000 – 40,000
Payroll Clerk	\$ 1,500 – 3,500
P/T Clerical	\$ 15.00-25.00/hr.
Municipal Court	
Judge	\$ 10,000 – 20,000
Prosecutor	\$ 6,000- 12,000
Court Administrator	\$ 10,000 – 25,000
Clerk	\$ 500- 1,000
Public Works	
Supervisor	\$ 29.00 - 35.00/hr
Truck Driver	\$ 15.00 – 30.00/hr.
Laborer	\$ 15.00 – 28.00/hr.
P/T Laborer	\$ 12.00-16.00/hr.
Building Janitor	\$ 12.00-16.00/hr.
Building – Zoning	
Construction Official/Fire Sub-Code Inspector/Building Sub-Code Official	\$ 20,000 – 25,000
P/T TACO	\$ 13.00-18.00/hr.
Fire Sub-Code Official	\$ 3,000-4,000
Electrical Inspector	\$ 5,500-7,000
Plumbing Inspector	\$ 6,000-8,000
Zoning Officer	\$ 7,000 –15,000
Land Use Board Administrator	\$ 7,500-10,000
Recreation	
Recreation Administrator/ Senior Coordinator	\$ 20.00-27.00/hr.
P/T Laborer	\$ 14-16.00/hr.
Recycling	
Recycling Coordinator	\$ 500-1,500
Public Safety	
Police Chief	\$ 85,000 –119,000
Clerk-Typist	\$ 25,000 – 50,000
Police Matron Call out	\$ 50.00-55.00

Matron Hrs. after call out	\$ 20.00-25.00
Emergency Management Coordinator	\$ 1,000 – 3,000
911 Coordinator	\$ 1,000 – 2,000
Police	
Lieutenant	\$ 92,439.62-96,174.18
Sergeant/1 st . Class	\$ 90,056.53-93,694.81
Patrolman	\$ 50,844.94-88,492.81
Probationary	\$ 41,616.00-43,297.29
Recruit	\$30,000-30,600

A motion was made by Mrs. Kelsey to adopt Ordinance 2018-02 for First Reading. Mr. Norton seconded the motion with roll call as follows:

Ayes: Mr. Cogle, Mrs. Kelsey, Mr. Norton, Mr. Pennington, and Mayor Giordano

Nays: None recorded

Abstain: None recorded.

Motion carries with five (5) affirmative votes.

Second reading and public hearing will be on March 13, 2018

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mr. Feula spoke regarding the Highland Act. Mr. Noble would like to service on the Musconetcong Watershed Association along with Deputy Mayor Cogle.

BILLS: A motion was made by Mr. Norton to pay the bills as presented. Mrs. Kelsey seconded the motion with roll call as follows:

Ayes: Mr. Norton, Mrs. Kelsey, Mr. Cogle, Mr. Pennington, and Mayor Giordano

Nays: None recorded

Abstain: None recorded

Motion carries with five (5) affirmative votes.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Mr. Norton to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m. Mrs. Kelsey seconded the motion with roll call as follows:

Ayes: Mr. Cogle, Mr. Norton, Mrs. Kelsey, Mr. Pennington, and Mayor Giordano

Nays: None recorded

Abstain: None recorded

Motion carries with five (5) affirmative votes.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah M. Hrebenak, RMC/CMR
Municipal Clerk