

**MINUTES
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 29, 2020**

Mayor Kelly called the Special Meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Chatham to order at 7:30 P.M.

Adequate Notice of this meeting of the Township Committee was given as required by the Open Public Meetings Act as follows: Notice was given to both The Chatham Courier and the Morris County Daily Record on January 24, 2020; notice was posted on the bulletin board in the main hallway of the Municipal Building on January 24, 2020; and notice was filed with the Township Clerk on January 24, 2020.

Mayor Kelly led the Flag Salute.

Roll Call

Answering present to the roll call were Committeewoman Ewald, Committeewoman Fondaco, Deputy Mayor Ness and Mayor Kelly. Committeewoman Swartz was absent.

Approval of Agenda

Mayor Kelly explained that the purpose of this meeting was misreported on social media. He said that the meeting was noticed per the Open Public Meetings Act, and the agenda is to enter Executive Session. Mayor Kelly also noted that there is also time for public comment in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act. Mayor Kelly further explained the purpose of the Executive Session. He also stated that the 4:00 PM start time was due to the availability of Township Committee members and Township professionals, and was not an attempt to subvert the presence of the public. Mayor Kelly also said that there is a regular meeting on January 30th at 7:30 PM.

Deputy Mayor Ness moved to approve the agenda. Committeewoman Ewald seconded the agenda.

Hearing of Citizens

Mayor Kelly opened the Hearing of Citizens.

1. Earl Davis, 822 River Road, said that evaluation of traffic patterns in the Township and Borough have not been discussed. He said that with the forthcoming affordable housing, traffic impacts will need to be discussed. Deputy Mayor Ness said that the Police are updating traffic counts on Southern Boulevard. She also said that the County has been asked to perform a regional traffic study, noting that all municipalities will be addressing their affordable housing obligations. Deputy Mayor Ness noted that there is a lot of pass-through traffic flowing through the Township. Mr. Davis noted he does not know what the solution to potential traffic problems will be. Deputy Mayor Ness noted some potential solutions, stating that the process is no further along than it was two years ago. She also commented on the Borough's most recent study on their downtown traffic. Mr. Davis commented on the impact that roadwork on Springfield Avenue will have on River Road.
2. Paul Payton, 67 Candace Lane, said he had campaigned for proper turn signs at the junction of River Road and Fairmount Avenue, and someone had used electrical tape to indicate the presence of a turn. Mr. Payton also commented on construction in Florham Park dumping traffic into Livingston and Chatham Borough, and he wonders how an additional exit from Route 24 would impact traffic patterns there. Mr. Payton also wondered if the Borough is considering development of affordable housing in a proposed project at the intersection of Watchung Avenue and River Road.

3. Mark Lois, 15 Gates Ave, said that he had previously discussed improvements to a park on his street following a conversation he had with Mayor Kelly. Mr. Lois also addressed potential savings to the Township on postage by using permit-rate options available to non-profit organizations. He further said that Chatham Borough has a sally port at the Police Headquarters, and he commented on the potential for shared services. Mr. Lois offered to share further information with the Township Committee.
4. Rich Rein, 11 Rolling Hill Drive, said that residents of the Rolling Hill neighborhood recently had a meeting to discuss affordable housing. Mr. Rein said that there was extreme distress among those in attendance at the idea of potentially moving the Police Department to Meyersville Road. He also said that there are still concerns about potential parking issues at the 24 affordable units to be built at the Skate Park site. Mr. Rein also said that the residents of the Rolling Hill area would like to see the Township's affordable housing obligation be met equitably by building on several sites rather than developing only one location.

Seeing no further comment, Mayor Kelly closed the Hearing of Citizens.

Executive Session

**RESOLUTION 2020-P-03
RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF
CHATHAM IN THE COUNTY OF MORRIS, STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
AUTHORIZING CONFERENCE OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE WITH THE
PUBLIC EXCLUDED**

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 of the Open Public Meetings Act permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Chatham is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Chatham, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from discussion of the specified subject matter.
2. The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows:
 - a. Litigation: In the Matter of the Township of Chatham for a Judgment of Compliance of its Third Round Housing Element and Fair Share Plan Docket No. MRS-L-1659-15
 - b. Litigation: Christopher & Ashley Felice v. Township of Chatham Docket No. MRS-L-002717-19
 - c. Potential Litigation: Personnel Matter
 - d. Any discussion involving tactics and techniques utilized in public safety:
3. It is anticipated that the minutes on the subject matter of the Executive Session will be made public upon conclusion of the matter under discussion; and in any event, when appropriate pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-7 and 4-13.
4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Mayor Kelly said that the Township will not be taking formal action following the Executive Session. Attorney Cruz asked that the draft resolution be amended to take out the standard language about potential action following the Executive Session.

Committeewoman Ewald moved to adopt Resolution 2020-P-03 to enter Executive Session at 4:24 PM. Deputy Mayor Ness seconded the motion.

Roll call: Committeewoman Ewald, Aye; Committeewoman Fondaco, Aye; Committeewoman Swartz, Absent; Deputy Mayor Ness, Aye; Mayor Kelly, Aye.

The Township Committee returned to public session at 7:40 PM.

Committeewoman Fondaco moved to adjourn at 7:40 PM. Deputy Mayor Ness seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Gregory J. LaConte
Municipal Clerk