

August 16, 2016

AGENDA

Regular Meeting of the Hazlet Township Committee held at 8:07 p.m.

Salute to the flag and moment of silent prayer called by the Mayor.

Mayor's Statement – Open Public Meetings Act & Emergency Fire Exits.

In Compliance with the “Open Public Meetings Act” of the State of New Jersey, adequate notice of this meeting of the Township Committee was provided in the following manner:

- (A) On January 4, 2016, advance written notice of this meeting was posted at:
1766 Union Avenue, Hazlet, New Jersey.
- (B) On January 7, 2016, advance written notice of this meeting was forwarded to the Independent and Asbury Park Press. It was also published in the Asbury Park Press on February 10, 2016.
- (C) On January 4, 2016, copies of advance written notice of this meeting were mailed to all persons who requested and paid for such notices on or before January 1, 2016.

FIRE EXITS are located in the directions I am indicating:

Farther down at the end of the room, through the doors and down the stairs, directly out the front door.

To my right is the door, make a right down the hallway which leads to the stairs and directly out the rear of the building.

If you are alerted for fire, please move in a calm and orderly manner to the nearest exit. Finally, let the record reflect that the minutes of this meeting will accurately reflect the topics addressed during this meeting but will not be a verbatim transcript of tonight's proceedings. Thank you. I direct the Municipal Clerk to enter into the minutes of this meeting these announcements.

<u>ROLL CALL</u>	<u>PRESENT</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Committeeman DiNardo	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Committeewoman Ronchetti	<u> </u>	<u> X </u>
Committeeman Sachs	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Deputy Mayor Kiley	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Mayor Aagre	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>

Approval of Minutes – Workshop Meeting – August 2, 2016.
Regular Meeting – August 2, 2016.

Offered Deputy Mayor Kiley

2nd Committeeman Sachs

Roll Call: Committeeman DiNardo Yes

Committeewoman Ronchetti Absent

Committeeman Sachs Yes

Deputy Mayor Kiley Yes

Mayor Aagre Yes

Approval of Executive Session Minutes – August 2, 2016.

Offered Deputy Mayor Kiley

2nd Committeeman Sachs

Roll Call: Committeeman DiNardo Yes

Committeewoman Ronchetti Absent

Committeeman Sachs Yes

Deputy Mayor Kiley Yes

Mayor Aagre Yes

PUBLIC HEARING ON AN OPEN SPACE GRANT FOR THE “NATCO PARK BUILDING PROJECT” TO DEVELOP A PARK BUILDING TO INCLUDE RESTROOMS, OFFICE AND CONFERENCE ROOM WHICH WILL BE UTILIZED BY THE PUBLIC, THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION OR OTHER TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY AGENCIES LOCATED IN NATCO PARK ON BLOCK 120, LOT 75.01

Published in Asbury Park Press, issue of August 6, 2016. Proof on file.
Hearing scheduled for August 16, 2016.

Hearing:

Brian Bocanfusco, Engineer, CME Associates- I am here tonight to make a short presentation on a possible grant application that we have been asked to look into preparing on behalf of Hazlet Township. The proposal would be through a Monmouth County Municipal Open Space Grant application. It is for a new parking lot, a recreational restroom and activity building within a new parking lot that would provide access to Natco Park. If you look at the easel to my right the middle exhibit is a floor layout of the building and would be approximately 800 square feet as currently proposed. This is in the very early stages at this point and we are just having a discussion about it so obviously that is subject to change. The building as currently proposed would include a unisex bathroom, an activities room multi-purpose room of approximately 20ft by 20ft, a storage room, mechanical room and an office. We have done similar projects to this in other municipalities specifically in Manalapan where we did a slightly larger building it was approximately 50ft by 20ft. It was a pre-fabricated. I don't like to use that word more of a pre-engineered building because it does not show up all in one piece there is some assembly required but it is designed before it gets to the site. All the fixtures are included, hot water heater it is climate control so it has heat and air conditioning. It does include grab bars in the rest rooms, toilet paper rolls all of those fixtures but the activity room is pretty standard does not have too

much improvement. The grant process itself is administered by the Monmouth County Municipal Open Space Grant program. The maximum grant amount permitted to any one municipality is \$250,000.00 and it is a 50/50 matching grant structure so whatever amount of money the township spends up to \$500,000.00 if a grant is approved the county would fund half of that. The application deadline is September 14, 2016 if the governing body wishes for us to finalize and submit a grant application we would need a resolution authorizing us to do so prior to that date. It is my understanding that there is another committee meeting at the beginning of September. The governing body does not have to act here tonight but we would need a resolution if you wish to proceed before that deadline. The only eligible agencies that can receive grant money are municipalities in the County of Monmouth. It is my understanding that there is approximately two-million dollars available for county municipalities on any given year. This would be an eligible project if it does fit into the grant guidelines. On the agenda tonight we do have a public contract up for consideration for the parking lot aspect of this project and included in that was the extension of utilities for the future connection to the proposed building. If those are not included in the contract we could certainly modify the grant application request if the township wants us to proceed with that to include those utilities and it would basically increase the estimate of the improvements by the amount of the utility improvements. Based upon our review of the similar building that we constructed in Manalapan we estimate that the building would cost not including the utility extensions from the mains the building cost would be approximately \$400,000.00. The building in Manalapan was about \$480,000.00 but it was about as I said 1,000 square feet and this particular building is about 800 square feet, it is about 80% therefore about 80% of the cost somewhere in the ballpark of \$400,000.00. If the township wishes we could obviously reduce the scope of the building thereby reducing the estimated costs certainly something we can consider. In summary I think it is pretty straight forward what we are presenting here and certainly up to the discretion of the township as to whether or not they want us to proceed but as I mentioned we would need some kind of formal resolution if the township needs to file a grant application. I am available for questions from the governing body and/or the public.

Mayor Aagre- Anyone in the public that would like to comment on this please state your name and address.

Joe Marques – It is just my initial reaction but what is this building going to be made out of?

Mr. Bocanfusco, CME- It would be a pre-engineered steel building.

Mr. Marques- \$400,000.00 and we already own the land.

Mr. Bocanfusco, CME- Yes

Mr. Marques- What kind of plumbing are we talking about. It is 800 square foot building?

Mr. Bocanfusco- The preliminary design is an 800 square foot building yes.

Mr. Marques- Do you have details of what is going into this because I am blown away by this, I am amazed at the \$400,000.00 construction cost. I don't know what questions to ask at this point because I have not seen the project itself but just hearing those numbers. Just my opinion it is absolutely absurd and that is all I have to say.

Rosemary Mazza- I would like to express my thanks as a citizen and as a member of the environmental commission for this effort. It has been a long time coming and we are very excited and it would be good to see the breakdown of the costs but the fact that it is on the table and you are pushing for it and you have someone here who is a professional to write the grant is very rewarding. I am curious as to what you read in the beginning, did you read the agenda item and said other township organizations. Please re-read that.

Mayor Aagre- Which would be utilized by the public, environmental commission or other township community agencies.

Ms. Mazza- Do you have any idea what other agencies?

Administrator Pino- Anyone.

Mayor Aagre- Recreation may use it or clean communities.

Attorney Gorman- You can let the Boy Scouts use it whatever that is.

Ms. Mazza- That is to be determined. On behalf of myself and I am a long time member of the Environmental Commission I like to say thank you and thank you for working closely with us. Have you told the members of the audience about the location?

Mayor Aagre- Natco Park which is about 250 acres of natural habitat pretty much is situated right down the road here and not known by many people but if you visit the website there is tons of information about wildlife and flora that is in there. The entrance into it from the township side is a great plus and as Rosemary mentioned it has been something discussed for many years and nice to see it going forward.

Ms. Mazza- The proposed location is going to be on Middle Road.

Mayor Aagre- Middle Road is the entrance that is correct.

Ms. Mazza- This is a jewel of the bayshore area, it is unspoiled, unsettled, untouched pine barons. The only ones in Monmouth County that are close to the Englishtown Aquafer with flora and fauna that are unbelievable in a compact space and we have managed to keep it clean and green for more than 30 years which is when the original environmental commission pushed to have it declared and bought as green acres. It is beautiful and it has never had its own entrance which it deserves and when we use the word park we mean "green park". It's not a place where people have to worry about swing sets or golf courses it is a beautiful green space and to have its own entrance right in the middle of town would be a wonderful thing. Thank you all very much and we are here to support your efforts.

Scott Goldsbury- I have never heard of the park and I have been here 11 years. I am not certain why we would spend hundreds of thousands of dollars to put a building in someplace no residents really know. Whose idea was this to come forward and present this and put this on the table?

Mayor Aagre- As you mentioned you have been here for 11 years and not even know about it, that is one of the issues. Right now currently with the activities that the Environmental Commission, Open Space or anyone who gets into the park basically the park behind Lakeside Manor and you can enter from there. All the woods back there to Middle Road are natural passive park area. There is actually a grant that is in the process of being done which is an enhancement of the trails for walking paths. On Middle Road just west of Buckingham right up from the high school there will be a road going in there so residents can visit the park and connect to the trails and the trails go on for miles for nature walks. You can speak to the Environmental Commission and they will give you a tour.

Mr. Goldsbury – This is Hazlet Committee putting it forward.

Mayor Aagre- The road and small parking area is basically going forward. The grant is for the building itself and of course the cost of it we will certainly work to bring that down because that does seem high. The next couple of weeks we will look to see if we are going forward with it or not.

Mr. Goldsbury- O.K. thank you.

Frances Haies- I am also a member of RAGE. I am absolutely appalled that you are considering spending \$200,000.00 on a building when there is a legal fight that has to occur to fight JCP&L. We all know that is appalling. That fact that we are finding out accidentally is even more appalling. We are at the cusp of history here our town is going to be changed by the JCP&L project.

Committeeman DiNardo- You can only talk about this hearing.

Ms. Haies- It does relate because I strongly suggest that you consider not putting dollars real dollars and putting this project on hold for a year or two and put \$200,000.00 towards experts and legal fees that we need to fight this project. It is a serious matter and we will not get another chance it is now or never. I am shocked and appalled that this could even be considered there could always be a bathroom put in but there will never be another chance to fight JCP&L.

Attorney Gorman- One thing the public should understand is that the Township has an Open Space Fund and that Open Space Fund is limited to the acquisition or improvement of park planning and the monies for the improvements on this property would be coming from a dedicated Open Space Fund that can't be used to pay salaries or pay electric bills or pay for police officer or pay for me or anyone that might be hired to represent the township on JCP&L issues. We are really talking about apples and oranges. It is a dedicated fund that is well over \$1 million dollars of funds that have accumulated throughout the years. You all pay the tax and it is put on by referendum years ago and this is a proposal that would draw upon those funds with the County paying 50% of the project costs. I understand your concern but those funds can't be used for what you want them to be used for. They are not interchangeable with anything else and if the Committee decides to go forward with this recognize that it is a fund for the improvement of parks, for the acquisition of parks and that it would be 50% funding from the county. It is not a black or white situation that you proposed.

Chris Cavanaugh- Many of you know me I am a prior Chairman of the Open Space Council as a well as the Advisory Committee and as well as a member of the Environmental Committee and a

few other boards in town. I strongly support the proposal I think it is a fantastic idea and we have been talking about it for a long time. Rosemary said it the best. This park is a gem in this area and the entire county. It is bigger part of Hazlet then Central Park is of NYC. It is unique in Monmouth County and unique on the Bayshore area and it is an asset that shouldn't be touched. It is an asset that needs access and there really is no access and people are not getting the benefit from this magnificent park. The project is very well conceived and the location is very well conceived. It is a highly appropriate use of the Open Space Funds and I think the amount of the expenditure is quite reasonable subject to final designs. I applaud each and every one of you and I think it is a great idea and I hope it happens because it has been a long time coming.

Bill Shewan- I am a tax payer in the Township of Hazlet and I understand the concerns of RAGE as a citizen not as a politician. I also served on the Open Space and I will substantiate exactly what Attorney Gorman indicated that these funds are dedicated funds coming from Open Space that cannot be touched and used for any other purpose and at some point they should be spent, of course, but they cannot go to help fund an attorney, which I am for if we are going to pursue RAGE. I have attended a couple of those meetings. I am 110% for this and I had said that in the past. It is a jewel Natco and we do not have a township entry to that park and I find that this is an investment for today and for the future. Future generations will appreciate that. I also am concerned when citizens are unaware of a park of that nature in this town. I also found the same was true with the pool club and the tennis club when we had some problems with that closing and many of our citizens of the jewel that we have there. With regard to that I have written down some names so that when this goes through you will recognize in that building the individuals and I don't know all of them and I was not one of them that made NATCO possible. The Mayor at that time was Henry Perkarsky, Claire Vetta was involved, Mike Pelletier, Bob Weigand and the person that has overseen that park for the past 25 years or maybe even longer was Barbara Leidja. I do think this part of the activities center can recognize as a history of how the park was purchased and as well as the history of the township which I have spoken to Dennis a few times and this would be an ideal place for that. As far as Natco goes many young people have been in there through the Boy Scouts and the Girl Scouts to walk through there is such a pleasure and this is a much needed access to the park and again I support it 110%.

Motion to close hearing:

Offered Mayor Aagre

2nd Deputy Mayor Kiley

Voice vote: Yes

Resolution S-1 – Authorizing the Mayor to submit an Open Space Application for the Natco Building Project.

Offered Mayor Aagre

2nd Deputy Mayor Kiley

Roll Call: Committeeman DiNardo No

Committeewoman Ronchetti Absent

Committeeman Sachs Yes

Deputy Mayor Kiley Yes

Mayor Aagre Yes

PUBLIC HEARING

Anyone who would like to address the Township Committee regarding the below listed Resolutions on the Agenda, please come up, print your name and address on the sign in sheet and then state your name and address for the Committee.

No one spoke at hearing.

Offered Mayor Aagre

2nd Deputy Mayor Kiley

Voice Vote Yes

RESOLUTIONS:

228. Authorizing the settlement of tax appeals regarding Lot 1 in Block 217 as set forth on the official tax maps of the Township of Hazlet for properties owned by Gietel Associates LLC.

Offered Committeeman Sachs

2nd Committeeman DiNardo

Roll Call: Committeeman DiNardo Yes

Committeewoman Ronchetti Absent

Committeeman Sachs Yes

Deputy Mayor Kiley Yes

Mayor Aagre Yes

229. Award of the base bid to Precise Construction Inc. for the Natco Park Parking Lot.

Offered Mayor Aagre

2nd Committeeman Sachs

Roll Call: Committeeman DiNardo Yes

Committeewoman Ronchetti Absent

Committeeman Sachs Yes

Deputy Mayor Kiley Yes

Mayor Aagre Yes

230. Award of bid to Shorelands Construction, Inc. for the Leocadia Court Municipal Garage.

Offered Committeeman DiNardo

2nd Deputy Mayor Kiley

Roll Call: Committeeman DiNardo Yes

Committeewoman Ronchetti Absent

Committeeman Sachs Yes

Deputy Mayor Kiley Yes

Mayor Aagre Yes

231. Authorizing the payment of Accumulated Absences for James Broderick.

Offered Committeeman DiNardo

2nd Committeeman Sachs

Roll Call: Committeeman DiNardo Yes

Committeewoman Ronchetti Absent

Committeeman Sachs Yes

Deputy Mayor Kiley Yes

Mayor Aagre Yes

Citizens Hearing:

Tara Clark- I live approximately 411 feet from the proposed high voltage transmission line project that JCP&L has proposed. Over the last month I have knocked on the doors of more than 200 homes within 1000 feet of the Hazlet Train Station to talk and listen to the concerns of Hazlet residents whose lives will be devastated should the Monmouth County Reliability Project be approved. Time is of the essence since the 671 page application was formally submitted to the Board of Public Utilities last week we need to act now. Tonight I am here because I want you our Township Committee to get actively involved on our behalf, nowhere in the entire United States has a project been proposed like this before. There has never been high voltage transmission lines installed over a 10 mile radius at heights soaring up to 210 feet over an active rail line in so densely populated area. We need to stop this project not just because it will decimate our five communities from a health, financial, safety, environmental and ecstic's standpoint but because it will set a legal precedent that will be repeated across the United States in other communities just like ours. I am requesting as a resident who has lived in Hazlet over 27 years that you come to an mutual agreement with the township committee's in Aberdeen, Holmdel, Middletown and Red Bank to immediately establish a budget to cover the legal expenses that will be incurred to fight this project over the next two years. I also most importantly want to set aside money to hire a world class engineering firm to evaluate formerly Ferks P7 violation at the Red Bank Substation that JCP&L maintains as the driving factor behind this heinous project. JCP&L is using the electrical issue at the Red Bank Substation as an excuse to implement their proposal. In their original application they projected the cost to be a measly \$22 million and they subsequently raised it to \$75 million and now it is slated to be \$111 million dollars. The project is 400% over budget and it hasn't even begun. While JCP&L maintains that the project is needed to improve the overall reliability of the system we know especially the members of RAGE that this is totally not true. The real reason that its parent company First Energy of Akron Ohio will receive special money incentives from the Federal Government to install all new transmission lines, ours being one of them. There rate of return with the added incentives will be guaranteed rate of 10-12%. First Energy of Akron Ohio will pocket millions of dollars in transmission money while passing on these outrages costs to the rate payers of Monmouth County and to us living in Hazlet. Our communities will be forever ruined because of their greed and lack of moral composes. So therefore, tonight I implore all of you to make it your primary mission to immediately work with our federal and state representatives because this will change the lives of Hazlet and all the communities nearby. If the power lines are installed in our towns from Aberdeen to Red Bank that will become our legacy. People who will drive down the Jersey Shore for years in the future will see those monstrous poles and wonder who allowed those structures to be built, how could we have let that happen. Please protect the citizens of Hazlet let your legacy and our legacy for the all people sitting here right now be that the five communities came together for the betterment of everyone to stop this reprehensible project. Thank you.

Mayor Aagre- I have been meeting with Ms. Clark and a couple of other Ragers and talking with the adjacent town mayors. I believe we met last Thursday, Friday I had a conference call with the five mayors we have another meeting with both groups for this Thursday. I believe you are well aware that Hazlet was the first town to put together a resolution opposing this so we are certainly in recognition that this is something we don't want. The towns are currently working on coming up with names of specialized engineers, attorneys and that is one of the topics we will be talking about on Thursday. We cannot put a dollar amount on it because we do not know what that is yet. We are trying to put a cost together and point in opposition is to make the best effective and efficient use of the monies spent so you want to make sure you have the right people. All five towns I gave the update to Ms. Clark last week and each town is working on providing walking lists so as far as notifying people that might not be aware of the project to get them aware of it. We are in the process of obtaining the engineer attorney. There are several items we are working on as a group, all five mayors and I want to make everyone aware that we are actively involved in this and working with the two groups between the residents and mayors and also with the state and local officials.

Attorney Gorman- You all know what the status of the application is. The application went in last week and it is going to go to an administrative law judge to hold the hearings and then the administrative law judge will make recommendations back to BPU which will be acted upon whatever fashion by the commissioners at BPU. That process is going to take a while and I recognize that we can't sit back forever but it has been less than one week since they filed the application. The mayor has been on top of this and ahead of this since the first rumor started. As soon as JCP&L was telling people they were going to do it Mayor Aagre was there organizing and holding meeting here and holding meetings with you and really leading the mayors in the bayshore to get organized. Assemblywoman Handlin has been very involved, Congressman Pallone and Congressman Smith I think that bells are sounding and I hope that you all understand that everyone here is doing everything they can to protect the Townships interest on this. Sometimes people get up and have a tendency to yell at the committee and the old saying goes you get more with honey then vinegar. Being yelled at sometimes gets everyone in a somewhat tense and nervous position when everyone gets up and starts yelling at the committee. I don't what else the public could ask at this point and time other than the mayors meeting with all five mayors are getting together on Thursday night to organize and come up with a plan to talk about allegation talk about engineers and attorneys and I think that is all in place. I want everyone to understand that is happening.

Deputy Mayor Kiley- We are passionately opposed.

Debra White- I live right along the tracks. If this was to get approved and to go through and there were lines above us and they had an emergency as far as fire or any kind of problem with the lines is there special training needed by the fire department in order to handle an emergency dealing with this particular type of high intensity power line. Also if it is special types of training that is needed who will pay for it? Will the township be responsible for paying for this training and as far as our ladder trucks how high they go?

Committeeman Sachs- They are 100 feet and there is no specialized training and as of right now as a former fireman these guys will sit there and watch it burn until the power is shut down they will not touch anything. The power will have to be shut down completely and DE energize before any fire companies and by the time the power will go out the fire will go out and the

lineman would come in and do whatever has to be done. The firemen will not attempt it they will stand by and protect the surrounding areas, homes, woods, etc.

Ms. White- You just have to deal with the consequences if something were to occur.

Committeeman Sachs- Yes and the firemen will deal with the surrounding structures of wherever the fire to keep it contained to the power system and then JCP&L whoever is in charge will take over from there.

Ms. White- What about the access because you are talking about this Right-of-Way which is not very wide.

Committeeman Sachs- The access is a Right-of-Way of NJ Transit we don't have any control over that that is NJ Transits property.

Mayor Aagre- JCP&L will have to have access along that line somehow. They have to get there also.

Ms. White- My husband had emailed all the fire chiefs in all five towns and hadn't heard anything back from anyone regarding that question.

Mayor Aagre- You can copy me on those and I will follow up for you.

Joe Marques- Jim and I don't normally agree on things but right now I am in 100% agreement with Jim that you guys should all be commended on the action you have taken so far. Scott you have been very forthcoming with information and I greatly appreciate it. I know as elected officials your hands are tied as far as a lot of what you can do. Hopefully you will find the correct engineering firm and legal counsel one that is not connected to either party or any of the individual towns. That is really my greatest hope to get a big name of someone who is very familiar with this type of law because it is a specialized line of law. One of the reasons I came here tonight was not to complain about what you are doing but to commend and the real reason is to talk to people who are connected with RAGE itself because I believe the only way we are truly going to defeat this project is by us getting more media attention drawn to it. When you watch tv I have seen commercials about the reliability project over and over again, CNN, ESPN all different channels. There are people out there who think this is a good thing. We need to get our message out in a better way. I am certainly not afraid to propose what I have proposed before that we should have a protest rally at the train stations because NJ Transit is as complicit as the electric company on trying to get this project in. I know you cannot condone it I know you cannot condone any type of action but I want people to know that we need to organize and we have a great organization with Tara Clark and their social media is as good as any I have seen out there. We need to start communicating with each other a little bit better and establish some dates and times and rally at the Middletown and Hazlet Train Stations and we need to slow these trains down and we need to make sure they understand we mean business. We are not going to let a bully come into my town and ruin my neighborhood.

Attorney Gorman- Hand out whatever you want but stay off the tracks. If you stand on those tracks in front of those trains I guarantee post 911 laws that will land you with federal charges that you are interfering with Interstate commerce. That some poor guy or woman that just started their first day on the job is going to be late because the train is not going to make it to NY

because something will happen in Penn Station, do whatever you want, be peaceful and hand out, talk and stay off the tracks and if you do it you are warned. When you do it you will be arrested and you may make the news but I know my spouse will be very unimpressed that is how I made the news.

Motion to close hearing:

Offered Committeeman Sachs

2nd Deputy Mayor Kiley

Voice vote: Yes

Motion to adjourn:

Offered Committeeman Sachs

2nd Deputy Mayor Kiley

Voice vote: Yes

Time: 8:54 PM