

Special Meeting of Mayor and Council August 13, 2018  
Town Hall Council Chambers, 100 Central Avenue  
Public Session 7:00 P.M.

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

**ATTENDANCE ROLL CALL**

Councilperson:

Furgione - Present

Giralo - Present

Gribbin - Present

Rodio- Present

Sacco - Present

Torrissi – Present

Mayor DiDonato - Present

**PRESENT ALSO**

Brian Howell, Conflict Solicitor

Bob Vettese of ARH, Town Engineer

Jerry Barberio, Public Works Manager/Business Administrator

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Notice of this meeting has been posted and given to official newspapers.

Please familiarize yourselves with the fire exits to the right and rear of the Council Chambers.

Please do not proceed beyond the front benches without invitation from the Mayor to do so.

Also, each person who wishes to address Council will be allotted 5 minutes.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**PUBLIC HEARD FOR AGENDA ACTION ITEMS**

- **Mayor Stephen DiDonato** - made opening statement about the property purchase and the water issue the Town faces. The amount of water capacity the current site has and the Pinelands issue.
- **Council person Steve Furgione** - Commented on the new sludge system the sewer dept is purchasing. The savings that it will have for the dept.
- **Council Person Gribbin** - Commented on the Sludge drying system and if it would cause an odor.
- **Cheryl Calletta 442 Elm Street** - Made comment on the effluent issue and the earth can use this water. Doesn't understand the issue. Helping one of the citizens of the Town should not be the issue.
- **Brian Howell Conflict Solicitor** - Commented on the lease that the Town is negotiating. Will Golf course still be able to be in operation?
- **Sharon Scaltrito 476 14<sup>th</sup> Street** - Reviewed timeline for the effluent at the Boyer Ave plant. Asked if in the years 2017 thru 2018 the Town has ever discharged into the stream? The Town should do a cost estimate before moving on the project

- **Mayor Stephen DiDonato** - Spoke about how much water is being disposed of on the site now.
- **Councilperson Steve Furguione** - Commented on the soccer fields and the plan of the overland drip. The cost for overland is more cost effective.
- **Mayor Stephen DiDonato** - The property that the Town is planning to purchase is conducive to the Town's needs. He explained the estimated cost for alternatives. Spoke about the process to get to this point.
- **Councilperson Torrissi** - Asked about open space funds, are there available for the purchase of this property?
- **Town Engineer Bob Vettese** - Open Space Funding is not available for this project.
- **Councilperson Brooke Sacco** - Thanked the public for their comments and questions. There should be a deed restriction put on this property!
- **Mayor Stephen DiDonato** - Agreed that the whole 150 plus acres should be deed restricted.
- **Brian Howell Conflict Solicitor** - Is the Town ok with the property having a joint use. Golf course and effluent discharge? He is concerned about the double use and explained the lease agreement.
- **Doug Cody Attorney for Frog Rock** - Timeline for closing is September Need to execute the contract and lease. Once that is completed, we can hold off on closing to a later date.
- **Councilperson Gribbin** - Questioned the 99 year lease. The Town can't commit to that term.
- **Rob Derosé 21 Toni Lynn Court** - Suggested purchasing the entire property.
- **Anthony Rizzotte 500 Wilbur Ave** - Is there a sheriffs sale or litigation currently on this property?
- **Mayor DiDonato** - Commented on the cost of polishing the water to go into stream. Very costly for the Town to do this.
- **Councilperson Furgione** - Agreed with the Mayor on the cost to polish water. To costly. The cost to install drip into the forest is cheaper. Staying out of the stream is a must. How much overland drip do we need?
- **Bob Vettese Town Engineer**- The Town currently has about 117 acres on the current location. We need about 20 acres to get ride of effluent.
- **Councilperson Gribbin** - Solution is to purchase the property, but What about use as a golf course?
- **Mr. Chew 38 Rocha Court** - Commented on how much water per day that we need to get ride of. Is there a need for this purchase?
- **Councilperson Sacco** - Spoke about Mr. Chews Issues.
- **Wanda Basin Road** - Issue of Noise on her property from Farm on her road.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION Resolution # 102-2018**

**Motion by Councilperson Torrissi Seconded Furgione**  
Enter into Closed Session

**Motion by Councilperson Torrissi Seconded Furgione**  
Motion to exit closed session and open to public

**DISPENSE WITH REGULAR ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**Authorization of appraisal Boyer Ave Land Only Block 4303 Lots 13,14,15,16 and 20.**

- **Town received 3 quotes:**
  - 1) Appraisal One, Inc. \$3,500.00.
  - 2) Curini Appraisal \$3,900.00
  - 3) William Kennedy \$6,000.00

Motion by Council Person Furgione Second Torrissi  
**TABLE the Appraisal for Boyer Ave, block and lots as stated above.**

Councilperson Gribbin – Understands the voting, but at this time he feels that at this time the appraisal should be approved.

Councilperson Giraldo – Do we gamble and go with the \$3,500.00 so we can move forward?

**Roll Call**

Councilperson:  
Furgione – Yes  
Giraldo – Yes  
Gribbin - No  
Rodio- Yes  
Sacco - No  
Torrissi – Yes  
Mayor DiDonato - No

Mayor DiDonato declares motion is carried

**Approval Medical Marijuana Growing Facility Variety Farms and letter of Support from Mayor**

**RESOLUTION # 103-2018  
RESOLUTION ENDORSING APPROVAL  
TO VARIETY FARMS, INC. AND AFFILIATES  
FOR A MEDICAL MARIJUANA GROWING FACILITY**

WHEREAS, Variety Farms, Inc. and affiliates, at 548 Pleasant Mills Road in Hammonton, is requesting approval from the Town of Hammonton's Mayor and Council to approve a Medical Marijuana Growing Facility by issuing a letter of support for this project; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Town of Hammonton of the County of Atlantic, State of New Jersey that the Mayor is hereby authorized to execute a letter of support for Medical Marijuana Growing Facility operated by Variety Farms, Inc. and affiliates located at 548 Pleasant Mills Road Hammonton.

Motion by Council Person Torrissi Second Giraldo

**Table the resolution and letter of support for Variety Farms.**

Roll Call

Councilperson:

Furgione – Yes

Giraldo – Yes

Gribbin - Yes

Rodio- Yes

Sacco - Yes

Torrissi – Yes

Mayor DiDonato - Yes

Mayor DiDonato declares motion is carried

**Cancel Special Meeting Set for August 20<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> 2018**

Motion by Council Person Furgione Second Torrissi

**Cancel special meetings of Mayor and Council on August 20, 2018 and August 22, 2018**

- Councilperson Furgione - There are issue that need to be determined regarding the lease.
- Councilperson Sacco – There are issues regarding the lease and is part of the negotiations and they are legal issue that should not be discussed in the public forum.
- Councilperson Gribbin – Agreed that this is contract issue and can not be discussed in public.

Roll Call

Councilperson:

Furgione – Yes

Giraldo – No

Gribbin - Yes

Rodio- Yes

Sacco - Yes

Torrissi – Yes

Mayor DiDonato - No

Mayor DiDonato declares motion is carried

**PUBLIC HEARD**

**Sharon Scaltrito 476 14<sup>th</sup> Street** - Wanted to make sure there was no additional meeting on this subject? That the next meeting will be on August 27<sup>th</sup>?

**MEETING ADJOURNED**

Motion by Council Person Giraldo Second Gribbin