

GLEN ARBOR TOWNSHIP

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Peter Van Nort, Supervisor

Pam Laureto, Clerk

Lee Houtteman, Treasurer

John Peppler, Trustee

Don Lewis, Trustee

Special Board Meeting Minutes

2/26/20

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Van Nort at 1:02 PM in the Glen Arbor Town Hall meeting room. Roll Call – Houtteman, Laureto, Peppler, Lewis and Van Nort were present. Park Commissioner Ron Calsbeek was also present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The purpose of this meeting was to discuss a proposal to dissolve the elected Park Commission in favor of an appointed Park Board and to handle two additional Township matters.

Laureto reported on her conversations with MTA attorney Catherine Mulhupt and Township attorney Richard Figura regarding the process of dissolving the elected Park Commission. Of note, Mulhupt indicated that it is “rare” for a Township to have an elected Park Commission and that most Townships with elected Park Commissions have dissolved them in favor of a Park Board.

Discussions ensued about the advantages of an appointed Park Board. The primary advantage would be having staggered terms and eliminating the problem of all Park Commissioners changing over at one time. It was felt that this would bring greater continuity to the oversight of the Township Park. Calsbeek said all the current Park Commissioners are in favor of this and they will draft a letter requesting the Town Board to pursue action to dissolve the elected Park Commission.

Laureto said the process will involve circulating petitions and acquiring signatures from 8% of the Glen Arbor Township electors. Once those are presented to the Town Board the Board will need to draft a resolution to dissolve the Park Commission and have ballot proposal language drafted for presentation to all electors at either the August 4th or November 3rd election. The deadline for placing a proposal on the August 4th ballot is April 28, 2020. **Motion Van Nort, support Peppler, for the Board to take action to dissolve the elected Park Commission and appoint a Park Board with staggered terms. Motion Carried 5:0.**

Further discussion included preparing a press release to explain the reasoning to the Township residents, creating specific job descriptions for the appointed Park Board, and the potential to create overlap with and training by some of the current Park Commissions.

Motion VanNort, support Peppler, to pay 3 time-sensitive bills. Motion carried 5:0.

Laureto shared that in her review of prior Trustee salary resolutions she uncovered an error in Resolution #4-2019 that involved the 3% salary increase being based on an incorrect number resulting in a \$100.00 pay deficit for each trustee in FY 2019-2020. **Motion VanNort, support Laureto, to pay each trustee the amount they were underpaid. Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Houtteman, Laureto, Van Nort; Nays – none; Abstain – Peppler, Lewis**

Laureto motioned, support Van Nort to amend Trustee Salary Resolution #7-2020 to reflect the corrected FY 2019-2020 salary bringing the proposed FY 2020-2021 salary to \$3532.38. Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Houtteman, Laureto, Van Nort; Nays – none; Abstain – Peppler, Lewis

Meeting adjourned at 2:16 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Laureto
Township Clerk