

BUENA VISTA TOWNSHIP
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
February 25, 2016 5:00 p.m.

The Special Meeting Session of Buena Vista Township Committee was held on the above date at 5:00 p.m. in the Committee Chambers, 890 Harding Highway, Buena, NJ, with Mayor Chuck Chiarello presiding.

Mayor Chiarello called the meeting to order at 5:10 p.m.

Committee Members present: Armato, Kelly, Martinelli, Williams and Mayor Chiarello

Absent: None

Also present were: Township Clerk Lisa A. Tilton, Township Administrator / CFO Kenia Nunez-Acuna, Environmental Solicitor Louis Goldshore, Environmental Engineer Ken Hart, NJDEP Bob Gallagher, NJDEP Drew Sykes, NJDEP Heather Swartz

Deputy Mayor Teresa Kelly was present via telephone.

Mayor Chiarello led the Flag Salute

84-16 – Authorize Committee to go into Executive Session (action may be taken)

On a motion of Armato seconded by Williams and carried the above Resolution was adopted: (Roll Call Vote: Armato, Aye; Chiarello, Aye; Kelly, Aye; Martinelli, Aye; Williams, Aye)

There being no further business on a motion of Armato seconded by Williams and carried the meeting was adjourned at 5:13 p.m. for Executive Session.

The Regular Meeting reconvened at 6:10 p.m.

Deputy Mayor Teresa was present at the meeting.

Discussion Content

Drinking water issues that are being investigated in the area of Post Road, Union Road, LeJan Terrace, and Cimino Blvd.

Mayor Chiarello addressed the public by providing a brief update regarding the investigation that is being conducted by the NJDEP along the area of Post Road. Chiarello stated the Township is working with the NJDEP regarding the investigation. Mayor Chiarello stated the Township has hired an Environmental Attorney Louis Goldshore and an Environmental Engineer Ken Hart to assist the Township in the investigation.

Members of the NJDEP introduced themselves to the public. Bob Gallagher from the NJDEP gave a brief presentation regarding the investigation from time period of 2014 to current. A map was provided by the NJDEP for the public to view.

Bob Gallagher reviewed the various contaminants that were found in the area of testing. 105 wells have been tested and 43 wells were found to have some levels of contaminants. Of those wells, 13 contained contaminants that were also found in the Township's landfill.

Engineer Ken Hart stated the Township will perform an investigation on the landfill located on Union Road and compile a remediation plan under the direction of the NJDEP.

Attorney Louis Goldshore stated the Township has been researching insurance coverage that may have been available during the 1980's.

Mayor Chiarello stated the landfill was closed approximately 1982 and around 1985 insurance companies began to exclude environmental coverage on landfills.

Mayor Chiarello opened the meeting to the Public where members of the public were able to address concerns to the Township Committee and members of the NJDEP.

Public Comment:

- Don Fiocchi questioned when the landfill will be cleaned and if the wells that were tested that came up clean be retested. The NJDEP responded they will continue to monitor the wells.
- Joe Battistini questioned if his house will be retested. The NJDEP responded for the resident to contact the DEP to be placed on a monitoring system.
- Mary Taft stated she paid for her initial test and the NJDEP did her confirmation test but she was denied by the Spill Fund to be reimbursed for her test. The NJDEP responded stating the initial tests are able to be reimbursed.
- Rick from the Health Department in the City of Vineland stated is if a water line is installed do the homes that are not contaminated have to hook up to city water. The NJDEP stated yes it would be required by the town through an Ordinance.
- Norma Smith stated if there would be a time to talk to the NJDEP and would the wells have to be capped. NJDEP said potable wells would have to be capped but not irrigation wells.

No other members from the public spoke. Mayor Chiarello invited the public to remain after the meeting and discuss any concerns with the NJDEP they may have. Mayor Chiarello stated they will conduct another meeting in the Fall.

There being no further business on a motion of Williams seconded by Armato and carried the meeting was adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Lisa A. Tilton

Lisa A. Tilton, Township Clerk

Approved:

/s/ Chuck Chiarello

Mayor Chuck Chiarello