The Public Meeting of the Mount Olive Township Council was called to order at 7:00pm by President Nicastro.

Pledge of Allegiance

MOMENT OF REFLECTION in recognition of the men and women fighting terrorism and those who have lost their lives defending the freedom we all enjoy

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT ANNOUNCEMENT

Miss Gouveia: According to the Open Public Meetings Act, adequate notice of this meeting has been given to the Daily Record. Notice has been posted in the Municipal Building, 204 Flanders-Drakestown Road, Mount Olive Township, New Jersey and notices were sent to those requesting the same.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mr. Amianda, Mr. Ferrante, Mrs. Labow, Mr. Mania, Mr. Stewart, Mr. Roman and Mr. Nicastro

Absent: None

Also Present: Susan Gouveia, Deputy Township Clerk; Sue Sharpe, Township Attorney; Robert Greenbaum, Mayor; Andrew Tatarenko, Business Administrator; Claudia Tomasello, Assistant Business Administrator; and Sherry Kolody, CFO

Election of 2019 Council President

President Nicastro: First order of business is the 2019 election for Council President. Do we have a nomination?

Mr. Mania: I make the nomination; Joe Nicastro as Council President.

Mr. Stewart: Second.

Mrs. Labow: Second.

President Nicastro: Thank you. All in favor? Or . . .

Mr. Mania: Aye

President Nicastro: . . . we need a Roll . . .

Mrs. Labow: Aye

President Nicastro: . . . we need a Roll Call. I’m sorry.

Mr. Roman: Do we need a motion . . .

Mrs. Labow: Do we need a Roll Call?

Mr. Roman: . . . motion to close nominations?

Mr. Stewart: Second.

President Nicastro: And a second . . . second? Roll Call please.

ROLL CALL: Passed unanimously

President Nicastro: I’ll say yes. Thank you all again. I appreciate the opportunity to serve you again this year and I really just want to say I thank you all for your time and effort that you guys put in. You guys really are a . . . a great team up here. I think we are a great team and that you guys put a lot of time in. Everyone puts a lot of effort and I know everything we do up here is for the benefit of all Mount Olive residents and we try to do the best we can for them. I appreciate that very much. Next item is the Vice President. Do we have a motion for Council Vice President?
Mr. Mania: So moved, Mr. President.

Mr. Stewart: No. I nominate . . . Alex Roman . . .

Mrs. Labow: Alex Roman.

Mr. Stewart: . . . for the job for Vice President.

Mrs. Labow: Second.

President Nicastro: I guess we need a motion to close the . . .

Mrs. Labow: Motion to close nominations.

Mr. Amianda: Second.

President Nicastro: Second, Mr. Amianda. Roll Call please.

ROLL CALL: Passed unanimously

President Nicastro: Congratulations again, Mr. Roman.

Mr. Roman: Thank you, once again.

President Nicastro: At this time, I’d like to ask Pastor Serena Rice from Abiding Peace Lutheran Church to come up and do an invocation for us please.

Invocation – Pastor Serena Rice, Abiding Peace Lutheran Church

Pastor Rice: Please join me in prayer. God of Grace and Life, we ask your blessing on this coming year and especially on the work of this Council. May those who work on this Council be blessed by their service and may they be a blessing to those they serve. We ask for your wisdom to guide their decisions, for your peace to be present in all discussions where there are differences of opinion, and for the decisions of this Council to be for the good of all who live in and around this area. May the work of this Council bring light, and hope, and joy to this community and may this community be grateful for the service of these Council people. We ask especially for your wisdom with Joe Nicastro and Alex Roman in their leadership; that they lead for the good of all, and we thank you for drawing this community together, for those who are willing to serve, and for those who live in this community. May we all have hearts of gratitude throughout this year and we ask this all in gratitude for the chance to bring our wishes and our hopes to you. Amen.

President Nicastro: Thank you, very much.

Pastor Rice: Thank you.

President Nicastro: Mayor has the State of the Township Address.

Mayor’s State of the Township Address

Mayor Greenbaum: Thank you, Council President. Council President, members of the Town Council, Municipal employees, friends, relatives and fellow residents of Mount Olive, I once again thank you for the opportunity to report on the 2019 State of the Township of Mount Olive.

As I enter the final year of my second term as Mayor, I think back on all that we have accomplished.

For the seventh year in a row, we will be introducing a municipal budget that will include no municipal tax increase for the residents.

We have made this possible through encouraging growth, taking on shared services and being vigilant on governmental spending;

At the same time, we have carefully managed the use of our current fund balance to insure financial stability for future years.
By working with the School Board, we have instilled a sense of community and pride in Mount Olive.

We have accomplished this through improved municipal and school facilities and what we have to offer our residents. I often hear from residents and non-residents alike, how wonderful our facilities like Turkey Brook and/or our High School are, facts which are difficult to argue.

We have affectively found and utilized all forms of communication. Before I first took office, I often heard that residents complained that they were unaware of what was happening in Town. Through the use of social media, radio, signs and newspapers, Mount Olive residents are always connected to the happenings in Mount Olive. Our communication efforts and successes are the envy of all of our surrounding towns.

We have attempted and in most instances been responsive to the individual municipal needs of our residents. Our municipal departments understand that we work for the taxpayers and in many instances have gone above and beyond to resolve individual homeowner issues.

Of course, all of the accomplishments could not have been achieved without the hard work and support of the Governing Body. We work collaboratively as a team in Mount Olive. I would like to thank Joe Nicastro for his leadership in 2018 and look forward to working with him again this year in 2019. I congratulate Joe on his appointment to another term, I believe an unprecedented fourth consecutive term as Council President, and thank him and the rest of the Town Council.

While I generally get the credit, the successes are equally shared with and earned by the Town Council. So too, I would be remiss by not highlighting the outstanding work and accomplishments of your department heads and employees.

Starting with the Administration:

**Administration**

The Administration Department continues to coordinate all aspects of local government and is responsible for the day-to-day operations associated with all municipal activities. As with any large organization, a significant amount of time was spent on human resources, hiring seventeen new employees and processing eight retirements. We will continue to look for dedicated individuals to best serve our Township. Additionally, a new contract was negotiated with the Mount Olive Township Public Employee Association, a new Personnel Manual was adopted and five Township employees received their Certified Public Manager Certification from Rutgers University.

The department also conducted several internal audits to review wireless communication leases and insurance plans, resulting in thousands of dollars’ worth of credits and back payments being made to the Township.

Legislatively, we supported policies and made changes to our ordinances to reflect the current environment and we will continue to make recommendations as we encounter issues throughout the year.

Remediation continues at the Cobblestone property as we look forward to Homeless Solutions bringing affordable housing to our residents. We have increased our effort to maintain Budd Lake with a more aggressive treatment plan and discussions have been held with the DEP and DOT to work together on continued efforts. A Sister City was entered into with Carpegna, Italy to enhance our business relationship with Fratelli Berreta, a community video was produced to highlight the Township and we are moving forward with bringing public sewers to a section of Old Flanders.

The Administration Department was also successful in negotiating a lease agreement which has been extended for 2019, with Centercourt Club and Sports for the use of their pool facility. Over 1,000 residents took advantage of the new service that was offered without impacting the budget or increasing taxes. The Private-Public partnership was recognized by the NJ League of Municipalities, winning the 2018 Innovation in Governance Award.

Our shared services continue to expand as more municipalities are relying on Mount Olive to deliver
exceptional service. Being the provider has allowed us to generate additional revenue without jeopardizing our own services along with offering a sense of job security to our employees.

Over half a million dollars was awarded in grants from Federal, State and County agencies and we will continue to look for additional grant opportunities to offset our expenditures.

Two job fairs were hosted to provide employment opportunities due to major layoffs in Town and we will continue to be a proactive partner with local businesses and our corporate community.

Finance Department

The Finance Department, which consists of finance, collection and assessment divisions exceeded operating expectations. Our projected surplus balances in all funds are slated to be higher than prior year balances, most notably in our main operating budget which is expected to exceed last year by over $375,000.

With respect to the tax assessment division, the Township received over $600,000 in revenue from added assessments and settled forty-six (46) County tax board judgments and two (2) State tax appeals which resulted in no refunds. For 2019, our property values are expected to grow by $24,000,000 or almost 1%. We have the lowest number of pending State tax appeals in comparison to similar Morris County towns and are near the top in added assessment revenue increases.

In the collection division, we implemented a WIPP tax and utility feature that allows residents to view and print tax bills and project interest for payment purposes. We also provided the residents with an additional payment option through the use of VISA. Our tax collection, which collects over $105 million each year, exceeded 99% which we have been able to do since 2014. A successful tax sale also resulted in over $300,000 in premiums which will return to the Township in five years pending no lien redemptions.

In the purchasing area, we completed twenty-five (25) bids, one (1) request for proposals and used three (3) national cooperative contracts, saving the Township thousands of dollars.

In the finance division, the 2017 audit was completed for the tenth year in a row with no audit recommendations along with no recommendations for the LOSAP audit, the JIF audit, the pension audit and the arbitrage audit. Congratulations, Sherry, it’s quite a record.

Mrs. Kolody: Thank you.

Mayor Greenbaum: The best practice checklist was completed satisfactorily to obtain our final allotment of state aid; continuing disclosure requirements were met and the local budget examination was complete with no issues. All non-vested LOSAP accounts were closed resulting in an additional $40,000 to the Township and our bi-yearly bond sale was complete resulting in almost $500,000 of premium to the Township. Finally, we participated in union contractual negotiations, tower rental analysis, the Old Flanders sewer assessment project and the annual water and sewer study.

Police Department

The prevention of crime, crashes and negative quality of life issues remains the focus of the Mount Olive Township Police Department. To do that effectively, we need the support of our community. The Police Department is determined to maintain and build those positive relationships by offering a number of community initiatives. The most notable ones are National Night Out, Coffee with a Cop, Keeping Seniors Safe, Touch a Truck and Law Enforcement Against Drugs.

The Police Department has also strengthened its partnership with the Mount Olive Township Board of Education by hiring Special Class Officers and assigning a School Resource Officer to the High School and Middle School. We look forward to our collaborative relationship working to improve school safety.

The Police Department is determined to be an approachable and responsive department providing the highest standard of professional service. The department has been an accredited agency through the New Jersey State Chiefs of Police since 2013. Continued accreditation requires reaccreditation every three years. This past year our Police Department went through the reaccreditation process successfully. Accreditation confirms that the Police Department’s policies and procedures meet best practices standards. Our Accredited status represents our commitment to the Mount Olive Township Community in providing the best possible service.
The Parks, Buildings and Grounds Department assisted the Recreation Department in all twelve (12) special events. Additionally, the department supported the various sports associations by providing assistance on the following improvements: New fencing was installed for the soccer and lacrosse programs, drainage and field grading improvements at Russ Nagle Field, new ADA bleachers were installed for the football program and a state-of-the-art soccer turf field was constructed at Turkey Brook Park.

With the re-opening of Budd Lake, extensive improvements were made to the beach area. Over 250 tons of new sand was brought in, electric was installed along with water and sewer connections for a new bathroom trailer, parking lot improvements were made and a water aeration system was installed in the swimming area.

Other park improvements included finalizing construction on the new maintenance garage, rehabilitating the walking path and installing a new paver patio at Flanders Park, installing additional fencing around the gazebo and splash pad and repurposing an old equipment trailer to be used as a mobile stage during special events.

In the Roads Department, employees had a very challenging year keeping up with pothole repairs left by a long winter season with numerous snow events. Approximately $2,000,000 was used to cover 22.4 lane miles of roadway. International North, Pleasant Hill Road and the Indian Park development were among some of the improved areas. Improvements were also made to drainage issues throughout Town, including Spring Street, which was funded with a Community Development Block Grant.

The Water Department rehabilitated two Overlook water towers and is working on a similar project for the Sutton Plaza water tower next spring. The public water system was also extended to areas that had their well water compromised by the Combe Land fill.

The Sewer Department took on some major construction projects as well, expanding the Cloverhill Sewer Plant office building and replacing the filtration system at the Flanders Waste Treatment Plant.

The Sanitation Department continued with another successful town-wide large item cleanup and expanded residential services by allowing grass, leaf and brush drop off at the Township recycling center on Saturdays. A new recycling app, funded by the DEP, has also been made available to help residents stay informed of the pickup schedule.

The Fleet Department continues to handle all maintenance issues for Township vehicles which was expanded to include the fire and rescue vehicles. The garage space was also increased by creating three (3) full surface bays and a successful auction was conducted which resulted in the sale of twenty (20) obsolete vehicles.

The Recreation Department held 12 special events in 2018 with more than 57,000 attendees, 387 business sponsors and over 100 volunteers. Three new events debuted, including the Bubble Palooza 5K, Sounds of Summer Weekend and the Chili Brewfest.

During the school year, 80 children’s programs were offered with 1,300 participants and there were 21 adult programs with 566 participants. A summer camp was also offered with fourteen (14) programs with 544 participants.

As stated earlier, Budd Lake Beach reopened in 2018. A donation from the Katharine E. Jensen Memorial Foundation made it possible for residents to have free memberships—456 beach memberships were issued—and there were over 1,600 daily visitors throughout the year.

The Recreation Department was also kept very busy coordinating the Township Pool Program which came together very quickly and was a huge success. We issued 375 memberships, approximately 2,000 guest passes and had over 10,000 visitors during the summer season.

Pirates Cove at Mount Playmore opened on Memorial Day Weekend and closed at the end of Labor Day. There were about 23,000 visitors throughout the season.

The Recreation Department has updated their website to be mobile friendly and revamped their online registration program to be easier to navigate. Social media videos were added to the marketing plans for events and e-newsletters are sent weekly to over 8,000 people.
Health Department

The Health Department convened a group of approximately 30 community partners to create the Mt. Olive Health Improvement Coalition. The Coalition has begun work on a community health assessment. This assessment includes an analysis of existing health data and collection of primary data through key informant interviews, focus groups, and a community survey. The data will be used to assess the current health status and the health needs of the Township. Once this is complete, the Coalition will begin working on designing interventions to address those identified needs.

The Health Department’s Deputy Director obtained his Health Officer’s License. This additional State license enhances the Health Department’s ability to provide additional administrative oversight; increasing the department’s ability to attract additional public health shared service contracts. This reduces the department’s financial burden on the Township of Mount Olive and its taxpayers.

We have also negotiated and will be entering into a new shared services agreement with the Borough of Mine Hill to provide public health services and have expanded our contract with the Borough of Wharton to provide Animal Control and are in the process of negotiating a shared service with Washington Township for Senior Transportation.

The Council designated our Animal Control Officer, Frank Nelson, to serve as the Township’s Humane Law Enforcement Officer in accordance with new regulations from Trenton that transfers the authority of the NJSPCA to municipalities. Animal Control also held two rabies clinics and vaccinated over 440 dogs and cats.

The Health Department continues to coordinate the Township’s annual holiday gift program. This year, gifts to 50 children and 24 Mt. Olive families were distributed. This program is only possible because of the generous donations of our residents. We thank them along with the Lion’s Club, Ledgewood Baptist Church, Mt. Olive High School, Budd Lake Chapel, Saint Elizabeth’s, Mountain Top Church and others who kindly donate gift cards so that we can help needy families.

The department increased its efforts toward the protection of local public health. Throughout the past year, the Environmental Division has worked with NJDEP, Aquatic Analytics, and other respective Township departments in the surveillance of Hazardous Algae Blooms (HABs) within Budd Lake. Public notifications, increased water sampling, recreational bathing facility closures, and the participation in HAB related meetings and trainings were also initiated to ensure the public health protection of recreational facility users. The Division also initiated its Proprietary Campground Surveillance Program, aimed at ensuring suitable levels of public health and safety within the Township’s campgrounds.

Due to the demand of our senior population needing transportation, our Senior Transportation Program continues to grow with a 50% year-over-year increase in the number of medical appointment rides.

The Health Department also participated in, hosted or sponsored Older American’s Month activities, including lunch at Stroudsmoor, Mini Golf, an Ice Cream Social, Bocce Ball Tournament and our 42nd Annual Senior Picnic.

IT Department

The IT Department took on a handful of projects to add security and to better protect the Township’s network. Specifically, a new layer of protection was added with a WatchGuard Firewall which provides intrusion prevention, gateway antivirus and an Advanced Persistent Threat blocker which monitors all traffic providing real-time protection against network threats. The network is now protected by three layers of security against malware and ransomware attacks.

All Township employee mailboxes have been migrated to the cloud, providing advanced security and reliability to protect Township email from known viruses and spam, adding yet another level of protection to the Sophos Email Security platform which blocks thousands of new threats discovered every hour. The backup service has been updated which protects the Township’s data against local disasters and data loss by again using the cloud to cost-effectively get our data off-site. This allows us to securely and efficiently replicate the Township’s data for off-site protection on a daily basis.

A new server was also installed which manages all alarms, panic buttons and door access within the building along with a no-cost upgrade to Township phones and network switches which allows for a significant speed increase. The upgrade allows for better manageability, quality of service, data transfer and mobility. In the event of an emergency or Township outage, any Township IP based phone can work remotely with an internet
connection which is ideal for emergency calls.

Planning Department

The Planning Department was successful in appearing in front of Superior Court for the Final Hearing to secure approval of the Township’s Housing Element & Fair Share Plan in accordance with a Settlement Agreement with the Fair Share Housing Center. Upon favorable recommendation of the court-appointed Master, the Judge approved the Settlement and granted Third Round Substantive Certification which protects the Township through the year 2025.

This settlement, and the Housing Element & Fair Share Plan, reduced the Township’s affordable housing obligation from over 1,200 units to 634. As part of the requirements to achieve substantive certification from the Court, the Planning Department prepared comprehensive changes to the Township regulations concerning all aspects of affordable housing.

The Planning Department also assisted in drafting changes to Township regulations concerning food trucks and other transient-type merchants to enhance performance requirements while also providing greater flexibility for such merchants along with drafting a new Ordinance to require registration of vacant and abandoned properties.

With a full-time licensed planner on staff in 2018, the Township has been able to save thousands of dollars as site plan review and attendance at Planning Board meetings is now handled by our planner instead of being charged to an outside consultant.

Application fees for Planning Board matters exceed $40,000 and a total of 270 Zoning Permits were issued. Additionally, over 400 OPRA requests were addressed by the Planning Department staff.

The Township Planner, who is also the Zoning Officer and Property Maintenance Officer, issued several dozen warning letters and violation notices for various infractions, particularly for uncut grass over the summer months. In an effort to resolve such matters with the Township residents and businesses, it was possible to avoid issuing summons to Municipal Court in all but a handful of cases.

Finally, we have begun the legal process of demolishing various dilapidated structures to make the Route 46 corridor more attractive and more conducive to future business development.

Construction Department

Renovation projects and new developments continue to keep the Construction Department busy. Over 1,900 permits were issued generating over $1,000,000 in permit fees. Ninety-four (94) permits were for new homes with the remaining balance going toward new furnaces, pools, decks, alterations and additions. The department also conducted close to 6,000 construction inspections.

Fire Prevention

The Fire Marshal’s Office enforces fire safety regulations to every commercial building and business in the Township, along with providing a shared service to Chester Borough, Hackettstown and Allamuchy. Over 1,800 businesses are inspected annually. In addition to the commercial inspections, the Fire Marshal’s Office conducted 686 smoke detector inspections in private dwellings and have investigated over 20 fires in 2018.

Although I don’t have anything in my State of the Township Address involving the court, I can tell you that they had a very successful year. We were very fortunate to bring on a new Court Administrator this year and look forward to a great year in the court again, in 2019, which leads me to my conclusion:

Conclusion

This is only a snap shot of the many achievements and accomplishments our Township departments and employees have achieved this past year. I will continue to strive to make Mount Olive Township the best place to live, work and raise a family. I consider every member of the community a family member. The pride that you have shown me, the dedication for our community and the support that we have for one another is overwhelming.

I know there are still many things upon which we need to improve and promise to do my best to accomplish those. I look forward to and ask for the residents’ support for many years to come. In closing, I would like to thank the Township Council, our Business Administrator, Andrew Tatarenko, and all of our municipal employees for a job well done in 2018. May the new year bring you good health, happiness, and prosperity.
With gratitude and appreciation,
Rob Greenbaum
Mayor, Mount Olive Township

Thank you.

President Nicastro: Thank you, Mayor. I speak for all of us: We appreciate all the hard work and time that you put in as well because you certainly care about the Town and that shows. We appreciate that. Next item on the Agenda are Appointments. We’re going to read the Mayor’s Appointments.

Appointments:

a. Mayor’s Appointments

Morris County Community Development Revenue Sharing Committee
Andrew Tatarenko, 1 year term expires 12/31/2019
Claudia Tomasello, Alternate, 1 year term 12/31/2019

Planning Board
Henry Fastert, Member Class IV, 3 year term expires 12/31/2021
Rhonda Cohen, Member Class II, 1 year term expires 12/31/2019
Joseph Ouimet, Alt. II Class IV, 2 year term expires 1/31/2020

Environmental Committee
Henry Fastert, Planning Board Liaison, 3 year term expires 12/31/2021
Joe Fleischner, 3 year term expires 12/31/2021
Kathy Murphy, Alt. I, 2 year term expires 12/31/2020
Tracy Wadhams, 3 year term expires 12/31/2021
Kim Mott, 3 year unexpired term expires 12/31/2020

Open Space Committee
Gray Tuttle, (Mayor’s Appt.) 3 year term expires 12/31/2021
Tracy Wadhams, (Environ. Comm. Liaison - Mayor’s Appt.) 3 year term expires 12/31/2021
VACANCY, Karen McConnell resigned (Recreation Adv. Comm. Liaison – selected by committee) 3 year term expires 12/31/2021

President Nicastro: Mayor’s Appointment with Advice and Consent of Council. The Township Attorney, Fred . . . oh, what did I . . .? That’s Roll Call, I’m sorry. Roll Call please. Thank you.

Miss Gouveia: Do we need . . . a second?

President Nicastro: Do we have a motion to accept the Mayor’s . . .

Mr. Roman: I make a motion . . .

Mr. Mania: So moved.

Mr. Roman: . . . that we accept the Mayor’s appointments.

Mrs. Labow: Second.

Mayor Greenbaum: I don’t believe that’s right.

President Nicastro: Roll Call please.

Roll Call: Passed unanimously

b. Mayor’s Appointments with Advice & Consent of Council

Township Attorney, Fred Semrau, Esq., 1 year term expires 12/31/2019
Judge of the Municipal Court, Brian J. Levine, 3 year term expires 12/31/2021
Prosecutor, Brian Mason, Esq., 1 year term expires 12/31/2019
Public Defender, Anthony Arbore Esq., 1 year term expires 12/31/2019
Economic Development Committee  
John Cavanaugh, 3 year term expires 12/31/2021  
Tracy Wadhams, 3 year term expires 12/31/2021  
Jason Waldstein, 3 year term expires 12/31/2021

Library Board  
Marion Fleischner, 5 year term expires 12/31/2023  
Diane Lapsley, 5 year term expires 12/31/2023

Pride Committee  
Amanda Fink, 1 year term expires 12/31/2019  
Susan Caufield, 1 year term expires 12/31/2019  
Rachel Marlowe, 1 year term expires 12/31/2019  
Mary Lalama, 2 year term expires 12/31/2020  
Karen McConnell, 2 year term expires 12/31/2020  
Lourdes Roman, 2 year term expires 12/31/2020  
Rebecca Horst, 3 year unexpired term 12/31/2019

President Nicastro: Recreation Advisory Committee, Adam Fink, 3-year term . . .

Mr. Roman: No, Amanda.

President Nicastro: Oh, I’m sorry. Amanda, I keep saying Adam.

Recreation Advisory Committee  
Amanda Fink, (RAC) 3 year term expires 12/31/2021  
Rebecca Horst, (RAC) unexpired 3 year term expires 12/31/2021  
Rachel Marlowe, (MAC) unexpired 3 year term expires 12/31/2019  
Karen McConnell, (RAC) 3 year term expires 12/31/2021  
Antoine Gayles, BOE Liaison, 1 year term expires 12/31/2019

President Nicastro: Do we have a motion to accept?

Mr. Roman: So moved.

Mr. Mania: So moved.

Mrs. Labow: Second.

President Nicastro: Roll Call please.

Roll Call: Passed unanimously

c. Council Appointments

All Subcommittees of the Township Council previously created are extended through 2019:

Library Board Liaison, John Ferrante, 1 year term expires 12/31/2019  
Pride Committee Council Liaison, Alex Roman, 1 year term expires 12/31/2019  
Recreation Board Liaison, Alex Roman, 1 year term expires 12/31/2019  
Board of Education Liaison, Daniel Amianda, 1 year term expires 12/31/2019  
Legislative Committee, John Mania, 1 year term expires 12/31/2019  
Committee RE: Lake/Environment Issues, John Ferrante, 1 year term expires 12/31/2019  
Community Development Revenue Sharing Committee, Richard Escobar, 1 year term expires 12/31/2019  
Economic Development Committee Liaison, Greg Stewart, 1 year term expires 12/31/2019  
Planning Board, John Mania, Councilmember, Class III, 1 year term expires 12/31/2019  
Senior Citizen Liaison, Daniel Amianda, 1 year term expires 12/31/2019  
Open Space Committee Liaison, Colleen Labow, 1 year term expires 12/31/2019  
Community Action Panel, Greg Stewart, 1 year term expires 12/31/2019  
Stigma Committee, Colleen Labow, 1 year term expires 12/31/2019

Township Clerk, Michelle Masser, 3 year term expires 12/31/2021
President Nicastro: Do we have a motion to accept?

Mr. Roman: So moved.

Mr. Mania: So moved.

Mrs. Labow: Second.

President Nicastro: Roll Call please.

Roll Call: Passed unanimously

RESOLUTIONS

Consent Resolutions Agenda:
Resolutions on Consent Agenda List are considered to be routine and non-controversial by the Township Council and will be approved by one motion (one vote). There will be no separate discussion or debate on each of these resolutions except for the possibility of brief clarifying statements which may be offered. If one or more council members requests, any individual resolution on the consent agenda may be removed from the Consent Agenda List and acted on separately.

1. Resolution of the Township Council of the Township of Mount Olive Designating the Official Newspapers of the Municipality for the Purpose of Publication of Legal Notices.

2. Resolution of the Township Council of the Township of Mount Olive Establishing the Annual Schedule of Meetings and Other Requirements Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act.


5. Resolution of the Township Council of the Township of Mount Olive Fixing the Rate of Interest to be Charged on Delinquent Taxes or Assessments.


8. Resolution of the Township of Mount Olive Authorizing the Cancellation of Water, Sewer, Sewer Assessment and Tax Receivable Overpayments and Balances $1.00 or Less.

9. Resolution of the Township Council of the Township of Mount Olive Establishing a Petty Cash Fund for
10. Resolution of the Township Council of the Township of Mount Olive Establishing a Temporary Budget for 2019 for the Current, Water, Sewer and Recreation Utility as well as the Sanitation District.


12. Resolution of the Township Council of the Township of Mount Olive Appointing Richard Escobar as Council Representative to the Community Development Revenue Sharing Committee.

13. Resolution of the Township Council of the Township of Mount Olive Appointing Claudia Tomasello, Assistant Business Administrator to the Morris County Joint Insurance Fund as the Fund Commissioner and Andrew Tatarenko, Business Administrator, as the Alternate Commissioner for 2019.


15. Resolution of the Township Council of the Township of Mount Olive Authorizing the Tax Assessor and/or the Township Attorney to File and Prosecute Tax Appeals/Rollbacks.


President Nicastro: We have 17 Resolutions. Does anyone have any questions on the Resolutions? Does anyone from the public wish to be heard on any Resolutions? No. Okay, closed to the public on that. Do we have a Roll Call please? A motion to accept the Resolutions.

Mr. Roman: I make a motion that we accept Resolutions one through seventeen.

Mrs. Labow: Second.

Mr. Mania: Second.

President Nicastro: Roll Call please.

Roll Call: Passed unanimously

President Nicastro: Council ... closing Council Comments. Mr. Amianda, anything? I’m sorry. I did. Oh, public portion, I’m sorry. Does anyone have anything from the public, have anything to say at this time? If you do, just please stand up and state your name and address for the record, please. I was reading it wrong.

Public Portion

Ms. Spaldo: Hello, good evening, my name is Nicole Spaldo. I live at 11 Brewster Place in Flanders down in the Cloverhill section. I am here to talk tonight about an issue with the senior citizen community. I am an Occupational Therapist and I work for homecare with the VNA and I have had the privilege to be in many homes in our community and there is a big problem of what a lot of people consider to be hoarding. The way that it really starts is with garbage and what a lot of my patients have is limited mobility in that they can be perfectly independent in their homes because of Meals on Wheels; Morris Area Paratransit System (MAPS) can come and bring them to doctor’s appointments, but they can’t get their garbage from their home to the curb. So, one bag of garbage stays in their home because they don’t want to go outside with it. Then it becomes two bags of garbage, and then it’s three, and then we have an entire bedroom full of old magazines, and it becomes a real safety hazard. So, I was wondering if there was anything that we could do, maybe offer a subscription that seniors could pay an additional fee per month to have their garbage bin picked up from their door or just outside their garage and wheeled out to the street to prevent some of the accumulation of trash and then the spread of disease, infection, things like that.
President Nicastro: Mayor.

Mayor Greenbaum: Well, first of all, our DPW Director happens to be here and he comes to all the meetings so, I’m glad that he’s here to actually hear this. We go out of our way with respect to residents’ needs when they’re identified to us.

Ms. Spaldo: Sure.

Mayor Greenbaum: So, to the extent that we’re aware of a problem, I mean, obviously we don’t have the manpower to go in and clean out somebody’s house . . .

Ms. Spaldo: Oh, of course, yeah.

Mayor Greenbaum: . . . but that’s not what you’re talking about.

Ms. Spaldo: Right, well, actually the County does that if you call the social worker, I’m sure.

Mayor Greenbaum: If we are advised of a situation of a special need, we will make arrangements to make sure that appropriate manpower is put to aid the senior citizens or the ill to make sure that the trash gets from the porch to the . . . to the . . .

Ms. Spaldo: To the curb.

Mayor Greenbaum: . . . garbage truck.

Ms. Spaldo: Is there a way, or is there somewhere that people would know about that? I think a big barrier is embarrassment. Like, people don’t want to admit that they’re having, you know, a problem and they don’t want to be more of a burden so is there somewhere that that’s advertised on the community website? Or . . .

Mayor Greenbaum: It’s not something . . . it’s not something that we advertise . . .

Ms. Spaldo: Sure.

Mayor Greenbaum: . . . it’s something which you’ve just raised that now I’m going to deal with.

Ms. Spaldo: Oh. Sure, okay.

Mayor Greenbaum: So, I was unaware of this particular . . . I haven’t thought about this issue.

Ms. Spaldo: Yeah.

Mayor Greenbaum: We will find a way . . . what you should do is contact me. You can . . . on like the Mayor’s Page, do you go on the Mayor’s page?

Ms. Spaldo: Sure.

Mayor Greenbaum: Send me an inbox and you know, to remind me that this is . . . and we’ll discuss what methods are available to get it out to the people who are in need . . .

Ms. Spaldo: Okay.

Mayor Greenbaum: . . . and then we’ll implement that and DPW will take all strides to make sure that we’re able to help the people who need it.

Ms. Spaldo: Okay.

Mayor Greenbaum: So, it’s going to require some effort on your part and . . .
Ms. Spaldo: Yeah, of course.

Mayor Greenbaum: . . . my part to get to a communication level that we can get the message out.

Ms. Spaldo: Sure.

Mrs. Labow: I’ll also help out with that and I want to say that when I was first Chair of the Board of Health, a couple years ago, the first time . . . and I volunteered to do Meals on Wheels to help out and you know, to learn what’s going on in the Health Department. There was this one elderly lady who was wheelchair bound over in Village Green and I would bring her, her meals and I would set things up for her, put it in her refrigerator, and the one day she said to me, she goes “I really hate to bother you but is there any way you could take my garbage out for me?”

Ms. Spaldo: Yeah.

Mrs. Labow: I didn’t even think about the fact that there’s a lot of people that probably have that situation . . .

Ms. Spaldo: Sure.

Mrs. Labow: . . . and I felt so bad that she . . . so then what I started doing was, everyone I went to after that I would ask them “Can I help you with anything?” and I took out a lot of garbage . . .

Ms. Spaldo: That actually surprises me because I was under the assumption that in an apartment complex, you didn’t have to take your garbage to somewhere but . . .

Mrs. Labow: Yeah . . .

Ms. Spaldo: . . . you do.

Mrs. Labow: . . . with the dumpster and she . . . there’s . . .

Ms. Spaldo: Oh . . .

Mrs. Labow: . . . no way she could’ve gotten it to the dumpster.

Ms. Spaldo: Okay, so . . .

Mayor Greenbaum: It depends on the apartment complex in Town.

Mrs. Labow: Right.

Ms. Spaldo: Sure.

Mayor Greenbaum: Overlook is different, you put it out in front of your door . . .

Mrs. Labow: Mhm.

Ms. Spaldo: Okay.

Mayor Greenbaum: . . . and they have like a valet service which . . .

Ms. Spaldo: And I’m sure in like the Mount Olive Senior Housing you don’t have to take it to a dumpster.

Mrs. Labow: Right. No.

Mayor Greenbaum: I’m sure that’s . . .

Ms. Spaldo: Right.
Mayor Greenbaum: . . . I’m sure that’s true.

Ms. Spaldo: But maybe for the ones up here on Wolfe Road, across from the Middle School, I don’t know about . . . what’s that, Kings Village?

Mrs. Labow: My one neighbor just recently, her husband passed away and my next-door neighbor brings her garbage out to the road and . . .

Ms. Spaldo: Right.

Mrs. Labow: . . . we all take turns like bringing the cans in . . .

Ms. Spaldo: Yeah.

Mrs. Labow: . . . and also, Boy Scouts a lot of times are looking for community service projects so, maybe there’s something that we could work out where there’s . . . if there’s some scouts that are in the neighborhood, Boy Scouts or Girl Scouts, who could get their community service and meet with these people. I think it would be a really great . . .

Ms. Spaldo: I think identifying the people that need it is . . . like you said, like if we see that our neighbor hasn’t put their trash out for a few weeks, we make sure to go and get it. Or if it’s raining . . .

Mrs. Labow: Yeah.

Ms. Spaldo: . . . I’d go take her can from the garage out to the curb but not everybody does that or has neighbors that are close enough to notice that.

Mayor Greenbaum: Leaving aside the apartments for the time being, which is . . . creates all kinds of other issues. I agree with you. The two hardest things are going to be identifying people who need the help and communicating with the people . . .

Ms. Spaldo: Right.

Mayor Greenbaum: . . . because, although you recognize that maybe they’re just . . . don’t want to be identified as a hoarder or sometimes these people don’t want help from other people.

Ms. Spaldo: Right.

Mayor Greenbaum: We’ve had that situation with . . .

Mrs. Labow: Yep.

Mayor Greenbaum: . . . buildings that were falling down around the people . . .

Ms. Spaldo: Yeah.

Mayor Greenbaum: . . . and we tried to get . . .

Ms. Spaldo: I see that too.

Mayor Greenbaum: . . . we tried to get the Construction Department in to try and . . . they just see it as an intrusion and the first step in terms of government being in their business and creating issues for them . . .

Ms. Spaldo: Right.

Mayor Greenbaum: . . . down the road. So, like I said, if you inbox me, we’ll come up with the first step of a communication plan.
Ms. Spaldo: Sure.

Mayor Greenbaum: Then we’ll implement through the DPW. We do a lot of special garbage pick-ups throughout the year when someone, you know, missed the garbage or . . . so I see this as kind of the same thing where . . . where a resident needs our help, within reason, we’re going to be able to provide that service. If it’s simply getting a trash can from the porch to the garbage truck, I think that’s . . .

Ms. Spaldo: Right.

Mayor Greenbaum: . . . a service well . . . well provided by the municipality.

Ms. Spaldo: Sure. Okay.

Mayor Greenbaum: Okay.

Ms. Spaldo: Thank you.

Mayor Greenbaum: Thank you.

President Nicastro: Can you do me a favor and just spell your last name again, so she can . . .

Ms. Spaldo: Yeah . . .

President Nicastro: get it for the . . .

Ms. Spaldo: . . . S as in Sam, P as in Peter, A – L – D as in dog, O.

Miss Gouveia: Thank you.

President Nicastro: Thank you and thank you for bringing this up. As the Mayor said, it was something I never even thought of but it is a good . . .

Mr. Roman: Thank you.

Mr. Mania: Joe.

President Nicastro: . . . a good idea. Yes, John.

Mr. Mania: Just a matter; it’s not only garbage. There are many times people are homebound; can’t even go out and buy their groceries. I take it upon myself at times to go to their houses and ask them if I can pick something up for them. So, it’s not just garbage. It’s . . . buying their . . .

Mayor Greenbaum: Can only . . .

Mr. Mania: . . . their groceries.

Mayor Greenbaum: . . . can only tackle . . . can only tackle one problem at a time, though, John.

President Nicastro: Thank you. Anyone else from the public wish to be heard at this time? Seeing none. Closed to the public. Any Council Closing Comments? Mr. Amianda.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mr. Amianda: Mr. President, in the last year, 2018, we accomplished a lot and it is my wish and goal that we continue on that accomplishment.

President Nicastro: Yes.

Mr. Amianda: Thank you.
President Nicastro: Thank you, Mr. Ferrante.

Mr. Ferrante: Yeah, I just want to look . . . look forward to working with everybody for another successful year and thank you, Mayor, for leading us down a great path.

President Nicastro: Mrs. Labow.

Mrs. Labow: Thank you, Mr. President. I just want to say it’s an honor to serve on this Council and helping out all of our residents in Mount Olive. I think Mayor Greenbaum, you and your staff are doing an awesome job as well as the Council, everybody . . . it’s just so nice. When I first started on Council and Mayor Greenbaum was also there in the very beginning and Mr. Roman came in a couple . . . two years later, it wasn’t so nice. It was kind of rough and it was really frustrating to put a lot of hours of your time away from your family, sometimes away from your job, only to have bickering and fighting and have nothing get done. So, the past seven years have been phenomenal to actually get things done. No tax increase, more community services, more communication, it’s just a dream come true. People don’t believe that that could actually happen in politics, but I think it’s due to Rob’s personality, which I absolutely love, he’s fantastic, and everybody here on Council, getting along and working so hard and I thank all of you from the bottom of my heart. Like I said, it’s an honor to be working with all of you.

President Nicastro: Thank you. Mr. Mania.

Mr. Mania: Happy, healthy, prosperous new year. God bless you all.

President Nicastro: Mr. Stewart.

Mr. Stewart: In echoing the comments of everybody else, I do want to recognize everybody in the Township for their efforts and also, a big shout out and thank you to all the community volunteers for participating in all the committees, thank you to everybody.

President Nicastro: Mr. Roman.

Mr. Roman: As much as it pains me, I’d like to congratulate again, the Mayor for a great 2018. I look forward to working with you in 2019 and I agree with all the sentiments that, you know, it’s not for the working together that things do get accomplished and I am so grateful that we are in a position that when issues are presented by residents, as Ms. Spaldo just did, that we have a . . . an avenue and a means by which to make a positive change.

Mrs. Labow: Yup.

Mr. Roman: So, I look forward to another great 2019.

President Nicastro: I’ll just ditto all the same comments as everyone. There isn’t much more to say than that. I appreciate again, everyone here and look forward to a great year. Do we have a . . . oh, Sue, I’m sorry. You’d like to say something.

Mrs. Sharpe: Thank you. Once again, I’d just like to, on behalf of Fred and everyone at the firm. Thank you all for the reappointment for continuing to entrust us with working with you. We’ve been involved in many of the matters that the Mayor reviewed today but I think we’re most particularly proud of helping to resolve the affordable housing matter and I just want to again, give a shout out that the judge in that matter, really held Mount Olive up as an example of how affordable housing should be dealt with and you all should be very proud of that. I also want to give a shout out again, to Michelle and Susan for all their help with OPRA. Mount Olive has some of the largest numbers of OPRA’s that I deal with in any of our towns, including the Police Department, as you know, Chief. Everyone does a terrific job and during the year I met with the department heads and with the Administrator to try to answer questions. Hopefully that helped but it seems to really have helped streamline. So, again, thank you everyone for trusting us.

Miss Gouveia: Thank you, Sue.

President Nicastro: Thank you, Sue. We have the benediction now from Pastor Matt from Mountaintop Church.

Pastor Matt: If I could just take one moment; my wife and I were just talking this holiday season and I just realized we just started our 18th year in Mount Olive here. I’m just amazed.
Mr. Roman: Awesome.

Mr. Stewart: Wow.

Pastor Matt: You know, we sort of came here to be a blessing to this community but this community has been a blessing to my family. Our children came home at Christmastime and all three of my children are graduates of Mount Olive High School. The have all landed wonderful jobs, they have wonderful families themselves now, and we thought “What a wonderful community this has been to bring up our family and to live in.” and we just want to thank the many of you because you serve the way that you serve. Mr. Mayor Greenbaum, we thank you so much for all that you do. Our Town Council; our many department heads that are here, I see Chief Beecher here, and Tim Quinn. Our Fire Department, First Aid Squad, we are very grateful for all of you and the hard work and it has been my honor to walk side by side with many of you as a leader of a religious community, to work with you and it’s been my honor and we are glad to be here another year, in Mount Olive, with all of you. Father, we thank you so much for your goodness and we thank you for your mercy. Lord, we do thank you very much for this Town Council. Lord, we pray blessings for our Mayor. Lord, we pray blessings for each one here on our Town Council; elected officials. We pray for those, Lord God, who are workers in our Town, employed by this Town, Lord, and the various departments that they work in. Father, we ask you now Lord God, that you would bless them . . . bless their families, Lord, that you give efficacy to the work that they do, Lord that you give wisdom Lord God, that you would also give creativity and strategy, Lord God, for the many challenges that come to us throughout this year. Lord, we pray for our residents, Lord we pray for safety, Lord we pray for good health. Lord, we pray Lord, that needs would be met in this place and Father we invoke the name of Christ, Lord God, that you would bless this community for it says that “He who builds a house, labors in vain if you are not the one who is the center builder.” So, Lord we bless you, we thank you, and we pray, Lord for a spirit of . . . continued spirit of cooperation; a continued spirit of unity. We ask for all these things in Christ’s name. Amen.

President Nicastro: Thank you. Do we have a motion to adjourn?

ADJOURNMENT - Motion made and seconded. All in favor, none opposed, the meeting was adjourned at 7:51pm.

Joe Nicastro, Council President

I, Michelle Masser, Township Clerk of Mount Olive do hereby certify that the foregoing Minutes are a true and correct copy of the Minutes approved at a legally convened meeting of the Mount Olive Township Council duly held on February 5, 2019.

Michelle Masser, Township Clerk