The meeting was called to order by Mayor Gorman at 5:32 p.m.

**ROLL CALL:**

Present: Clute, Crawford, Gorman

Present via Zoom Software: Coppola, DiPietro, Maldonado, Santo

Absent:

On December 16, 2020, official notice of this meeting was given to The Press of Atlantic City, the Mainland Journal, and the Galloway Patriot and was duly posted in Council Chambers and on the Township website.

Also Present: Christian Johansen, Manager

 Kelli Danieli, Township Clerk

 Chuck Uhl, Chief, OEM

 Charles Fior, Solicitor - via Zoom

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

1. **Regular Meeting Minutes – December 22, 2020**

Motions: Crawford/Santo

Roll Call: Clute-Y, Coppola-Y, Crawford-Y, DiPietro-Y, Maldonado–Y, Santo-Y, & Gorman-Y

**COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS**: N/A

**ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION (First Reading): N/A**

**ORDINANCES FOR PUBLIC HEARING: (Second Reading) N/A**

**RESOLUTIONS:**

**039-21** **Payment of bills in the amount of $671,329.67**

Public Comment: N/A

Council Comment: N/A

Motions: Maldonado/Crawford

Roll Call: Clute-Y (abstaining from fire related payments), Coppola-Y, Crawford–Y, DiPietro-Y, Maldonado–Y, Santo-Y, and Gorman-Y

**40-21** **Authorize Council to go into Closed Session N/A**

**Consent Agenda**

*Consent Agenda includes items of business which are not controversial & do not require individual discussion. A Motion approving the Consent Agenda is moved, seconded & voted upon as one item by the Township Council. If any discussion is requested on a Consent Agenda item, it is removed from the Consent Agenda to the Regular Agenda.*

**Consent Agenda Resolution**

**041-21** Authorizing the Tax Assessor to file petition of appeal(s) and roll back tax appeals for 2021

**042-21** Authorize towing renewal companies for 2021

**043-21** Authorize appointment of Alim Parks as Deputy Clerk

**044-21** Authorizing the release of a performance guarantee

**Raffles/Permits/Firemen’s Association Membership** *– N/A*

Council Comments: *N/A*

Public Comment: N/*A*

 Motions: Maldonado/Crawford

Roll Call: Clute- Y, Coppola-Y, Crawford–Y, DiPietro-Y, Maldonado–Y, Santo-Y, and Gorman-Y

***The Mayor Abstained from Resolution 042-21***

**MANAGERS REPORT**: Congratulation Mr. Parks on your promotion to Deputy Clerk. Taxes are due February 1st 2021. Tax bills was sent out last July. Sewer bills will be mailed out in two weeks.

The Manager and CFO are working on the Township Budget.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

Councilman Clute –Congratulations Alim Parks, he has big shoes to fill. Businesses need to open soon; some may not make it. We need to get back to normal Council meetings. Hopefully we can have the meetings at Absegami High School.

Councilman Coppola – Happy New Year!

Deputy Mayor Crawford – Welcome Alim Parks & the new committee members. Looking forward to a productive 2021.

Councilman DiPietro – Welcome Alim Parks. Happy New Year!

Councilman Maldonado – Happy New Year! Congratulations Alim Parks. The Manager is doing a great job. He also stated that our professionals will not over charge the Township because the manager oversees those figures. Also, send condolences to Mr. Hackney.

Councilman Santo – Congratulations Mr. Parks. Chief Uhl is doing a great job with testing and dealing with the Pandemic.

Mayor Gorman – Wants things to get back to normal. Happy New Year, Thank You All.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Anna Jezycki, Gail Lane – Darrin Lord was an outstanding Public Defender. Seth’s location is the issue. His office is too far away for his clients to visit him that do not have transportation. Why wouldn’t we choose someone who is closer? Mrs. J asked Councilman Coppola was Seth’s job performance an issue? Councilman Coppola replied “it’s not his job performance, he’s not assessable to his clients”. Mrs. Jezycki also asked if Seth Shaine can be removed? Township Solicitor gave advice that we would have to ask the Court/AOC to look into any complaints. However, Seth Shaine can be removed by “Cause”.

Bill Reynolds – Thanked everyone for his appointment.

Harshel, owner of Days Inn – questioned the turnaround time for the Manager to respond to emails. He stated he sent emails to the Manager on two occasions December 1st and December 17th 2020. The Mayor responded we had the Police Chief respond to your complaint.

Sheila Hurless New York Road– Wished everyone a happy New Year. Hope we all work together. Small business

loans are now available. She wants to see more local businesses take advantage of the opportunity.

Hearing no further comment from the public, the mayor asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. A motion was made by Councilman Maldonado and seconded by Deputy Mayor Crawford.Meeting adjourned at 6:22 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Accepted:

Kelli Danieli, RMC /s/ Mary Crawford /s/

Kelli Danieli, RMC, Township Clerk Mary Crawford, Deputy Mayor