

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING – SEPTEMBER 4, 2014

Mayor Brantley called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and requested the Clerk to call the roll. The following members were present: J. Randy Bishop, Eric J. Houghtaling, Mary Beth Jahn, Kevin B. McMillan and Mayor Michael Brantley.

Also present at the dais were Richard J. Cuttrell, Municipal Clerk; Vito D. Gadaleta, Township Administrator; Michael J. Bascom, Chief Financial Officer; and Gene Anthony, Township Attorney.

Mayor Brantley announced that the notice requirements of R.S. 10:4-18 have been satisfied by the publication of the required advertisement in the Asbury Park Press and The Coaster on August 28, 2014, posting the notice on the Board in the Municipal Complex, and filing a copy of said notice with the Municipal Clerk. In addition, the meeting agenda, resolutions and ordinances are posted online at www.neptunetownship.org.

AUTHORIZE AN EXECUTIVE SESSION AS AUTHORIZED BY THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT - TABLED

Mr. Bishop offered a motion, moved and seconded by Ms. Jahn, that a resolution to "Authorize an Executive Session as Authorized by the Open Public Meetings Act" be tabled. All were in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON RESOLUTIONS

The Mayor requested comments on resolutions presented on this agenda. There were no public comments.

Mr. Bascom recommended Deputy Chief James Hunt for appointment to the position of Chief of Police. Mr. Bascom outlined Deputy Chief's Hunt experience and professional training and certifications. He further stated that Deputy Chief Hunt is an excellent choice in leading the Department forward.

APPOINT CHIEF OF POLICE

Mr. Houghtaling offered the following resolution, moved and seconded by Mr. McMillan, that it be adopted:

WHEREAS, due to the retirement of Robert Adams, there is a vacancy in the position of Chief of Police; and,

WHEREAS, Administrative and Executive staff have made their recommendation to promote Deputy Chief James Hunt to this position; and,

WHEREAS, funds for this purpose will be provided in the 2014 budget in the appropriation entitled Police S&W and the Chief Financial Officer has so certified in writing,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune that James Hunt be and is hereby appointed to the position of Chief of Police in the Township of Neptune effective September 5, 2014; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to execute an Employment Agreement in connection with this appointment; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Business Administrator, Chief Financial Officer, Assistant C.F.O and Human Resources.

The resolution was adopted on the following vote:

Bishop, aye; stating the Freeholder Arnone expressed his regrets for not being able to attend this evening. He sends his best wishes to Chief Hunt, particularly since is a product of Neptune City.

Mr. Bishop added that James Hunt is the right person at the right time as the Department finishes the accreditation process. It has been great to watch him grow as Deputy over the last 17 months. He is very proud of him and very proud of the Police Department.

Houghtaling, aye; stating that since the retirement of Chief Adams, the Committee has looked to James Hunt for the past 17 months to lead the Department as Deputy Chief. He is very happy with the results and with the changes that have been instituted in the Department. He is the right person to lead this Department and to improve the Department, which is a difficult thing to do because the Department is already so good. The Committee is ready to help with anything that is

needed

Jahn, aye; stating that it has been a great 17 months as we move to future. We have one of the best Police Departments and James Hunt is the right person to lead it. She has full faith in his ability to lead and to protect the citizens of Neptune.

McMillan, aye; stating that James Hunt comes in early to work, is a hard worker and will do a fantastic job.

Brantley, aye, stating that during the time that there was not a Police Chief, the Committee took the time to look at ways to make the Department even better. We did our research, came up with ideas and James Hunt is leading us through that. Our Police Department is moving forward, we are progressive, we have a great Police Department and our future is bright. He expressed happiness that James Hunt will be our Police Chief and anything that is needed will be provided by the Committee.

Mayor Brantley administered the Oath of Office to Police Chief Hunt.

Chief Hunt thanked everyone for attending and stated that he was humbled by this honor. He thanked Mayor Brantley and the Township Committee for their confidence in his leadership. He thanked his girlfriend and his children. He thanked his fellow officers and Mike Bascom who is has worked closely with during his time as Deputy Chief. He recognized his superior officers who meet with him on a daily basis. They do tremendous job and he has great confidence in them. He recognized fellow law enforcement officers from various agencies in attendance. He is looking forward to greatness and thanked everyone for their support.

APPOINT POLICE DIRECTOR

Ms. Jahn offered the following resolution, moved and seconded by Mr. Bishop, that it be adopted:

WHEREAS, the Township Committee adopted Ordinance No. 14-31 which defines the structure and responsibilities of certain positions within the Police Department; and,

WHEREAS, said Ordinance establishes the duties of Police Director and the Township Committee desires to appoint the Acting Police Director to this position,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune that Michael Bascom be and is appointed as Police Director in the Township of Neptune effective September 5, 2014 at no change in annual salary; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Business Administrator, Chief Financial Officer, Assistant C.F.O and Human Resources.

The resolution was adopted on the following vote: Bishop, aye; Houghtaling, aye; Jahn, aye; McMillan, aye; and Brantley, aye.

Mr. Bishop offered a motion, seconded by Mr. McMillan, to adjourn. All were in favor.

Richard J. Cuttrel,
Municipal Clerk