

## MINUTES - REORGANIZATION MEETING

March 5, 2024

Chairman John Gethins called the meeting to order on the above-mentioned date at 7:00 pm, at 10 Troy Hills Road, Whippany, NJ

Commissioners present: Cobane, Ehrich, Quinn, & Gethins,  
Commissioner-Elect: Brunner

Chairman Gethins read the following: Pursuant to Statute made and provided, let the minutes show that notice of this meeting was transmitted to the following newspaper: the Daily Record and filed with the Clerk of the Township of Hanover, the Clerk of this Board, and posted on the Whippany Fire Dept website.

### ELECTION RESULTS

The election results were announced as follows:

Elections were held on February 17th, 2024. Polls were open from 2-9 p.m.  
Commissioner John Gethins was re-elected with 294 votes.  
Commissioner Fred Brunner was elected with 363 votes.

The budget results were 210 FOR and 360 AGAINST. The proposed budget did NOT pass.  
The 2024 General Election results are attached to these minutes.

A motion was made by Comm. Gethins to declare all Commissioner seats vacated and to make Chief Paul Perrello acting temporary Chairman. It was seconded by Comm. Cobane and passed unanimously.

➤ At this time, nominations were made to fill the vacant seats.

Comm. Cobane nominated Comm. Gethins for the position of Chairman. It was seconded by Comm. Brunner.  
Comm. Quinn then nominated Comm. Cobane for Vice-Chairman. This nomination was seconded by Comm. Gethins.  
Comm. Quinn nominated Comm. Ehrich for Treasurer. This nomination was seconded by Comm. Cobane.  
Comm. Cobane nominated Comm. Quinn for Secretary. This nomination was seconded by Comm. Ehrich.

All the above nominations were voted on and passed unanimously by all Commissioners present.

At this time, the acting chairman relinquished the chair to the new permanent chairman, who took his position and the meeting proceeded.

### The New Board for the year 2024 - 2025 is:

Chairman: John Gethins  
Vice Chairman: Rob Cobane  
Secretary: Richard Quinn  
Treasurer: Al Ehrich  
Commissioner: Fred Brunner

At this time, the Board decided on their new Committee positions.

**Personnel:** Comm. Quinn

**Apparatus:** Comm. Cobane

**Insurance:** Comm. Ehrich.

**Building:** Comm. Brunner

**RESOLUTIONS:** Comm. Cobane now read the attached annual resolutions.

A Resolution naming the meeting schedule for the year 2024-2025. This schedule will be entered into the newspapers – and is as follows:

Monthly public Commissioners meetings to be held at 10 Troy Hills Road, Whippany, NJ 07981 at 7:30 p.m., with a working meeting beginning at 7 pm, until further notice, subject to change.

2024 – April 8<sup>th</sup>, May 13, June 10, July 8, August 12, September 9, October 14, November 11, December 9<sup>th</sup>.

2025 – January 13, February 10<sup>th</sup>, and March 10<sup>th</sup>.

A Resolution naming the Daily Record as the official newspaper of the Board for 2024-2025.

A Resolution naming Nisivoccia, LLP. as the auditor for the Board for 2024-2025.

A Resolution naming TD Bank as the official depository of the Board for 2024-2025.

If, in the future we decide to switch any of the above, for example, a new attorney or newspaper, it may be done with a motion and vote.

A Motion was made by Comm. Brunner that we accept the above Resolutions for the year 2024-2025. The motion was seconded by Comm. Quinn and passed by the following vote:

AYE: Brunner, Cobane, Ehrich, Gethins & Quinn

NAYS – NONE

The Board has tabled the naming of attorneys until the next meeting.

**PUBLIC PART OF THE MEETING** 7 members of the public attended.

Resident Terri Baird mentioned that she has been to many town meetings and with attorney contracts, there is typically a cap and then it can be addressed later if more is needed by using a Resolution.

Tom Braviak stated that a Resolution is a financial responsibility. He suggests a “not to exceed” number when using an attorney – that a task is given to them with the stipulation that it is not to exceed a certain number of hours. The attorney can be asked for an estimate. Is it going to take 2 hours? 3? And will it involve 2 paralegals? After the estimate, a vote can be taken to decide whether to proceed with the task.

You should always know what the bill is going to be and only get a bill for what was agreed upon.

At this time, Ian Bell congratulated the new and re-elected Board members.

Comm. Willans then made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Comm Brunner and passed by all commissioners present.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 –

Respectfully submitted, Janet Hammond, Assistant to the Board