

**MAURICE RIVER TOWNSHIP
Special Meeting
Port Elizabeth Library Lease
Wednesday, January 11, 2017 at 10:30 AM**

This meeting has been advertised in accordance with the statutes of the State of New Jersey.

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor Gross

Roll Call

Discussion

1. Port Elizabeth Library Lease

ADJOURNMENT

MAURICE RIVER TOWNSHIP
Special Meeting
Port Elizabeth Library Lease
Wednesday, January 11, 2017 at 10:30 AM

Present: Patricia Gross, Mayor
J. Roy Oliver, Deputy Mayor
Ken Whildin, Committeeman
Frank DiDomenico, Solicitor
Cormac Morrissey, Engineer
Gordon Gross, Construction Official
Denise Peterson, Municipal Clerk

This meeting has been advertised in accordance with the statutes of the State of New Jersey.

Mrs. Gross called the meeting to order; the Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Roll Call: Mrs. Gross, present
Mr. Oliver, present
Mr. Whildin, present

The purpose of this special meeting was to discuss the Port Elizabeth Library pending lease agreement with the Maurice River Heritage Society and ADA Compliance concerns.

Members of the Maurice River Heritage Society were in attendance: Dennis Baily, Penny Wells, Leslie Ficcaglia, Karen Lee and William Hawn.

Discussion

1. Port Elizabeth Library Lease

Mrs. Gross stated that the meeting today was to discuss the use of the Port Elizabeth Library and the Heritage Society. Mrs. Gross stated there are a couple items of concern that need to be addressed regarding the building. Mrs. Gross asked Mr. Morrissey to provide information regarding ADA compliance.

Mr. Morrissey stated that he evaluated the site for the installation of a handicapped accessible ramp and lift. Pictures of the Port Elizabeth Library were provided to the Township Committee. Drawings of the ramp and lift as well sidewalk access were provided also. Mr. Morrissey explained alternatives such as wood versus steel ramping. Mr. Morrissey provided information for handicapped property on the property. The building is 24' by 46' and the lot is 33' by 62.7; a survey should be done to determine exactly where the building lies in relationship to the lot. Mr.

Morrissey provided comparisons to having the ramp/lift installed on the front of the building and on the back. Cost options were provided for having the ramp installed on the front and the back; \$16,348.80 – front and \$19,164.00 –back. The estimated additional cost to install a lift versus ramp would be \$3,000 more.

The Heritage Society representatives expressed concern over the cost and stated that they currently are in no position to take on the expense of making the building ADA compliant.

Mrs. Gross expressed concern that bringing the building up to meet ADA compliance is only one issue with leasing the building. Other areas of concern are parking, bathroom facilities, and the utility expenses. She expressed that expenses should not be the responsibility of the resident tax payers for monthly expenses such as utilities.

Mr. Oliver stated that he does not want to just let the building sit there, not being used. The township has already spent over \$14,000 demoing the chimney and installing a new HVAC system.

The Township Committee determined that there are many unanswered questions and this subject will need to be discussed further before deciding to lease the building.

ADJOURNMENT

Denise L. Peterson, Municipal Clerk