



TOWNSHIP OF HOWELL

Office of the Township Manager

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From the Howell Township Governing Body:

March 19, 2020

To the residents of Howell Township,

As a reminder, all Municipal Buildings are closed for public access and will remain closed. Nevertheless, the Governing Body has a need to meet and conduct business. In light of recent circumstances, we must modify our normal procedure. In an effort to remain transparent and still conduct business, while protecting our residents, staff, and ourselves, we must implement common sense practices widely advocated by medical professionals and the CDC. At the same time, we must remain compliant with the Open Public Meetings Act and directives from the Department of Community Affairs.

Therefore, our next Council Meeting will be scheduled for 6:00 p.m. on March 24, 2020. The meeting will be recorded as always and posted to our website. Additionally we will be live streaming a video feed of the meeting at <https://www.youtube.com/c/howelltownshiptv/live>, -or by selecting the link titled 03/24/2020- Live Council Meeting feed, located at www.twp.howell.nj.us/COVID19. There will be no Executive session. The Regular Meeting time has been adjusted to allow for the meeting to conclude, with sufficient time for Elected Officials and Employees to travel home, in compliance with Governor Murphy's recommended travel ban.

There are three different areas of this upcoming agenda that will allow for public participation. The first is the "Hearing of Citizens". This is for general comments or addressing those items listed in the consent agenda.

The second is a requirement to hold a Public Hearing for the 2020 Budget for Fire District #2 (Adelphia). The Township Manager and CFO have met with representatives of the Fire District. They have worked together and found an additional \$50,000 to be cut from this budget. The Manager will be recommending these cuts to the Governing Body and has received assurances from the Fire District that those reductions will not have a negative impact on their ability to provide Fire Protection Services to their District.

The third area of Public Participation includes a public hearing for the adoption of ordinance O20-5, an Ordinance amending Chapter 139 Fees, Article XVII Land Use, Section 55, Annual Landlord Registration and Registration for Abandoned Residential Property. This ordinance allows an increase in fees charged for certain properties that are bank owned and ensure their maintenance and upkeep.

Comments and questions will be accepted anytime up to the conclusion of the public session during the Live Stream. To better organize Public input, we request that your comments and questions be separated into the respective category of “General, Fire Budget, and Ordinance”. This will better allow us to read the comments into the record at the appropriate time during the meeting.

In an effort to accommodate Public Participation in the meeting, you may either call 732-938-4500 x2155, or email publicaccess@twp.howell.nj.us , and post your comments or questions to either. During the “Public Participation” portions of the agenda, the Governing Body will take a brief recess. This will allow time for the Clerk’s office to compile the questions/comments; which will then be read into record during the live broadcast. Governing Body members or Professionals can then respond to those questions and comments as appropriate.