

April 21, 2020

AGENDA

Regular Meeting of the Hazlet Township Committee held at ____p.m.

Salute to the flag and moment of silent prayer called by the Mayor.

Mayor’s Statement – Open Public Meetings Act & Emergency Fire Exits.

In Compliance with the “Open Public Meetings Act” of the State of New Jersey, adequate notice of this meeting of the Township Committee was provided in the following manner:

- (A) On April 15, 2020, advance written notice of this meeting was posted at:
1766 Union Avenue, Hazlet, New Jersey
- (B) On April 15, 2020 advance written notice of this meeting was forwarded to the Independent and the Asbury Park Press.
- (C) On April 15, 2020, copies of advance written notice of this meeting were mailed to all persons who requested and paid for such notices on or before January 1, 2020.

Time will be allotted for public comment at this meeting. Each speaker will be allotted a 5 minute time limit when recognized by the Mayor. Individuals wishing to address the Committee, shall give their name and address. Although the Township Committee encourages public participation, it reserves the right, through the Mayor, to terminate remarks to and/or by an individual not in keeping with the conduct of a proper and efficient meeting. The Township Committee will not, during the public portion of this meeting, discuss matters involving any specific, prospective or current employee.

FIRE EXITS are located in the directions I am indicating: Farther down at the end of the room, through the doors and down the stairs, directly out the front door.

To my right is the door, make a right down the hallway which leads to the stairs and directly out the rear of the building.

If you are alerted for fire, please move in a calm and orderly manner to the nearest exit. Finally, let the record reflect that the minutes of this meeting will accurately reflect the topics addressed during this meeting but will not be a verbatim transcript of tonight’s proceedings. Thank you. I direct the Municipal Clerk to enter into the minutes of this meeting these announcements.

<u>ROLL CALL</u>	<u>PRESENT</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Committeeman Aagre	_____	_____
Committeeman McKay	_____	_____
Committeeman Sachs	_____	_____
Deputy Mayor Clark	_____	_____
Mayor Glackin	_____	_____

Resolutions, Motions and Appointments:

100. Re-affirming Opposition to the Northeast Supply Enhancement Project.

Offered _____ 2nd _____

Roll Call: Committeeman Aagre _____ Committeeman McKay _____

Committeeman Sachs _____ Deputy Mayor Clark _____

Mayor Glackin _____

Payment of Bills:

Advance bill lists have been supplied to each Committee Member.

Offered _____ 2nd _____

Roll Call: Committeeman Aagre _____ Committeeman McKay _____

Committeeman Sachs _____ Deputy Mayor Clark _____

Mayor Glackin _____

Motion to adjourn:

Offered _____ 2nd _____

Voice vote: _____

Time: _____

RESOLUTION

Re-Affirming Opposition to the Northeast Supply Enhancement Project and Requesting the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection to Extend the Public Comment Period and Conduct a Public Hearing in the Bayshore Area

WHEREAS, Williams-Transco is proposing to build a 23.4 mile methane gas pipeline through the Raritan Bay, Lower New York Bay and Atlantic Ocean from Old Bridge, New Jersey to Rockaway, New York; called the Northeast Supply Enhancement Project; and

WHEREAS, the alleged purpose of the proposed project is to transport 400 million cubic feet of methane gas, extracted through the environmentally destructive process of hydraulic fracturing, from the Marcellus Shale to New York thereby significantly contributing to climate change; and

WHEREAS, on January 21, 2020 Williams-Transco submitted a new application for the proposed project to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, which marks the fourth time the applicant has sought approval by the Department for the project; and

WHEREAS, the project will in no way serve the interests of the State of New Jersey, or its residents, and will only supply climate-altering-methane-gas to Brooklyn, Queens and Long Island New York; and

WHEREAS, the Williams/NESE pipeline will have severe negative impacts to the Raritan and Lower New York Bays, such as disruption of roughly 14,165 acres of the seabed of the Raritan Bay, the discharge of 690,000 gallons of drilling fluid and chemicals into the bay, the re-suspending over 1,090,000 tons of toxic muck contaminated by PCBs, dioxin, lead, mercury and arsenic and the destruction of over 1,000 acres of benthic habitat that houses marine fish, shellfish and larva; and

WHEREAS, the project poses serious concerns related to environmental harm to marine and coastal ecosystems, as well as negative impacts to the safety, health and wellbeing of Bayshore coastal communities, resulting in well documented public opposition; and

WHEREAS, the Williams/NESE pipeline will endanger marine and wildlife through decreased water quality from re-suspended toxins, the sieving of over 3.5 million gallons of seawater destroying any living thing that is caught in the process, and the creation of loud sounds and powerful vibrations that accompany pipeline development which will impact migration patterns, communication systems and other important biological processes; and

WHEREAS, the Williams/NESE pipeline will adversely impact industries to the New Jersey Bayshore communities, disturb commercial and recreational fishing and shell fishing activities and potentially damage the tourism industry; and

WHEREAS, on June 5, 2019, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection denied Williams-Transco's application for the development of the pipeline based, in part, on the significant impacts to the water quality and ecosystem of the Raritan and Lower New York Bay; and

WHEREAS, the ocean disposal of the contaminated material would harm the marine environment by leaving the contaminated sediment exposed and subject to bioaccumulation in the food chain and would utilize the limited remaining capacity at the Historic Area Remediation Site which must be preserved for needed maintenance dredging for navigational projects; and

WHEREAS, the Williams/NESE pipeline will have significant upstream environmental impacts that will directly harm the Raritan Bay, such as negatively affecting 41 acres of wetlands, including approximately 20 acres of forested wetland; and

WHEREAS, the NESE project also calls for the construction of a new methane-gas-powered compressor station in Franklin Township, called Compressor Station 206 which will emit known harmful air pollutants such as Carbon Monoxide, Particulate Matter 2.5, Nitrogen Oxides, Sulfur Dioxide, Volatile Organic Compounds, and Formaldehyde; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey has never achieved federal air quality standards for ground-level ozone, which is a pollutant that is unhealthy for children, the elderly and those with respiratory ailments and the construction of the proposed Compressor Station 206 will further reduce air quality by increasing ground level ozone; and

WHEREAS, the American Lung Association's 2019 "State of the Air" report gave Monmouth County an F for the second consecutive year for ozone pollution and notes that ozone can cause respiratory problems, including worsening of asthma and other respiratory diseases and cardiovascular effects, including cardiac arrhythmia, heart attacks and stroke; and

WHEREAS, despite being directly affected by the proposed Williams/NESE pipeline, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection has failed to conduct a public hearing in the Bayshore area on the proposed project during any of the previous three permit evaluations; and

WHEREAS, the Williams/NESE pipeline will increase dependency on fossil fuels, thereby contributing significantly to climate change through increased carbon dioxide and methane emissions; and

WHEREAS, the companies Williams and associate Transcontinental Gas Pipeline Company (Transco) demonstrate a history of mismanaged facilities that resulted in explosions and fires and do not show results of pipeline tests to governing bodies in any municipalities through which the existing pipeline runs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that on this date April 21, 2020 Hazlet Township hereby re-affirms its strong opposition to the construction and installation of a 23.4 mile methane gas pipeline through Raritan Bay from Old Bridge, New Jersey to Rockaway, New York. Construction of the pipeline will negatively impact the health of the Bayshore, coastal ecosystems, marine life, benthic habitats and coastal communities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Hazlet Township urges the company Williams-Transco to eliminate any further consideration for a pipeline; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Hazlet Township urges the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection to conduct a public hearing on the proposed NESE Project in the Bayshore area to allow for the residents, whom will be directly adversely affected by the proposed pipeline, to voice their opinions on the applications; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be certified and forwarded to the New Jersey Governor Philip D. Murphy, Commissioner Catherine R. McCabe of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Joslin Tamagno, Environmental Supervisor of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Division of Land Use Regulations, Senator Declan J. O'Scanlon, Jr., Assemblywoman Serena DiMaso and Assemblyman Gerard Scharfenberger.

CERTIFICATION

I, EVELYN A. GRANDI, Municipal Clerk of Hazlet Township, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of a Resolution duly passed and adopted by the Township Committee at its meeting held on the 21st day of April, 2020.

Evelyn A. Grandi
Municipal Clerk