

Little Egg Harbor Township Committee Meeting

March 23, 2017

7:00 P.M.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT

Township Clerk Diana McCracken read the Open Public Meeting Statement and opened the meeting.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Schlick Yes Mr. Kehm Yes Ms. Stevens Yes

Mrs. Crea Yes Mr. Gormley Absent

PROCLAMATION

- National Autism Month read by Committeewoman Lisa Stevens
- Alcohol Awareness Month read by Committeeman Dave Schlick

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- March 9, 2017 Township Meeting

Motion to Approve: Stevens

Second: Schlick

All in favor

ORDINANCE – First Reading and Introduction

2017-04 An Ordinance authorizing the increase of final appropriations to exceed the municipal budget appropriation limits for CY 2017 and to establish a cap bank pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40a:4-45.14

Township Administrator Garrett Loesch gave a brief explanation on the cap bank.

Motion to Introduce: Kehm

Second: Stevens

Roll Call:

Schlick Yes

Kehm Yes

Stevens Yes

Crea Yes

Gormley Absent

CONSENT AGENDA

A Consent Agenda includes items of business which are not controversial and do not require individual discussion. The Consent Agenda is moved, seconded, and voted upon as one item by the Governing Body.

2017-99 A Resolution rescinding Resolution No. 2017-88 and authorizing the reduction of the Open Space Tax pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:12-15.7(b) for CY 2017

2017-100 A Resolution appointing William Armitage as Little Egg Harbor Township's representative to the Pinelands Municipal Council

- 2017-101 A Resolution requesting a Comprehensive Study be initiated of potential mitigation to reduce the future impacts of major storms to lives and properties surrounding Barnegat Bay, Tuckerton Bay, Little Egg Harbor Bay and Great Bay
- 2017-102 A Resolution supporting 9th District Legislative Assembly Bill A-986 Veterans' Surviving Spouse Benefits
- 2017-103 A Resolution approving the acceptance of the Safe and Secure Grant and participation in the Federal Grant Program
- 2017-104 A Resolution authorizing the execution of a Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Department Heads, AFSCME Council 71
- 2017-105 A Resolution authorizing the Chairperson of the Personnel Subcommittee of the Township Committee to act as the Appropriate Authority in personnel matters in which the Administrator has a conflict
- 2017-106 A Resolution authorizing the execution of a Shared Services Agreement with Parkertown Volunteer Fire Department for vehicle maintenance services

Motion to Open to Public: Schlick Second: Kehm All in favor

PUBLIC COMMENT – Introduced Ordinance and Consent Agenda Only

Mr. Art Mooney: Asked for information on Resolution 2017-101.

Township Engineer Jason Worth explained the process of the Comprehensive Study. There is no cost to the township.

Ms. Gail Miner: Questioned the resolution authorizing the reduction of Open Space Tax.

Township Administrator Garrett Loesch explained since Super Storm Sandy the committee has looked to reduce the amount of money put into Open Space to aid in the recovery of tax payers.

Ms. Gail Miner: Spoke about the benefits of Open Space.

Township Administrator Garrett Loesch explained the committee's position on preserving land. Committeeman John Kehm stated the town has ample funds for open space.

Committeeman Dave Schlick asked how much is in the account.

Township Administrator Garrett Loesch stated we are in excess of 2.1 million dollars.

Ms. Pat Johnson: Asked if Stafford Township is involved in the comprehensive study.

Deputy Mayor Crea stated yes Stafford is involved.

Ms. Pat Johnson: Asked if the township received money for the Safe and Secure Grant.

Deputy Mayor Crea stated yes about sixty thousand dollars was received.

Ms. Pat Johnson: Asked for details on the Collective Bargaining Agreement with Department Heads.

Township Administrator Garrett Loesch explained this is executing the full written form of the contract. The attorneys' and union got together to ensure all is in proper contract form. There was a zero increase in 2015, 2% increases in 2016, 2017 and 2018.

Ms. Pat Johnson: Asked for the number of Department Heads.

Township Administrator Garrett Loesch believes the contract covers six Department Heads.

Mr. Bill Armitage: Thanked the committee for their confidence in re-appointing him to the Pinelands Municipal Council.

Motion to Close to Public: Schlick Second: Kehm All in favor

Motion to Approve Consent Agenda: Kehm	Second: Stevens	Roll Call:	Schlick	No on 2017- 104, yes to rest
			Kehm	<u>Yes</u>
			Stevens	<u>Yes</u>
			Crea	<u>Yes</u>
			Gormley	<u>Absent</u>

RESOLUTION(S)

2017-107 A Resolution introducing the 2017 Municipal Budget
Township Administrator Garrett Loesch briefly discussed the time and effort put into preparing the budget.
Committeewoman Lisa Stevens thanked Mr. Loesch for his diligent work on the budget and the Department Heads for their cost saving efforts.

Motion to Approve: Stevens	Second: Kehm	Roll Call:	Schlick	<u>Yes</u>
			Kehm	<u>Yes</u>
			Stevens	<u>Yes</u>
			Crea	<u>Yes</u>
			Gormley	<u>Absent</u>

Township Administrator Garrett Loesch stated we are looking to adopt the budget on April 27, and will announce the workshop information at the next meeting.
Deputy Mayor Crea announced anyone is welcome to attend the workshop. Copies of the budget will be available starting tomorrow at the Township Clerk's office.

BILL RESOLUTION

2017-108 A Resolution authorizing the Payment of Bills in the Amount of \$1,989,040.36
 ➤ Current Account: \$1,861,238.16
 ➤ Third Party Account: \$127,802.20

Motion to Approve: Stevens	Second: Schlick	Roll Call:	Schlick	<u>Yes</u>
			Kehm	<u>Yes</u>
			Stevens	<u>Yes</u>
			Crea	<u>Abstain on 1703052, yes to balance</u>
			Gormley	<u>Absent</u>

MISCELLANEOUS APPROVALS

- Raffle applications for West Tuckerton Fire Company, 50/50 and Gift Auction on June 3, 2017 at the West Tuckerton Fire House
- Raffle applications for PTO of Little Egg Harbor, 50/50 and Gift Auction on April 29, 2017 at the Frog Pond School
- Raffle application for West Tuckerton Fire Company 50/50 raffle on May 13, 2017 at Parkertown Fire House

Motion to Approve: Kehm	Second: Stevens	All in favor
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TOWNSHIP ENGINEER COMMENTS

Jason Worth reported that Earle Asphalt will begin the Drainage Project on East Hudson and Great Bay Boulevard next week. The Oak Lane and Otis Bog Road paving projects will be advertised tomorrow and bids will be taken April 7. The Street Scape Project was put off due to the cold weather and will re-start next week. Lastly, the road repair on Radio Road and Playhouse Drive should begin tomorrow.

Committeewoman Lisa Stevens mentioned they are breaking ground on the Oak Lane Project. Jason Worth explained they began clearing and dirt work earlier this week and expect the project to take about eleven months.

Committeeman Dave Schlick asked if there has been progress on the four way stop at Giffordtown Road and Stage Road.

Jason Worth stated he will follow up with the county.

Committeeman Dave Schlick asked for an update on Roberts Pond.

Jason Worth explained the work on the pond is underway and he will have more information tomorrow.

PUBLIC COMMENT – any topic

Motion to Open: Schlick

Second: Kehm

All in favor

Mr. Art Mooney: Asked if the town will receive a stipend in lieu of lost taxes on the Oak Lane project.

Township Administrator Garrett Loesch explained the PILOT Program was already established by resolution and is based on the income of the units.

Jason Worth explained it is a percentage of the revenue of the rental units.

Mr. Art Mooney: Asked if the town received a finalization on the amount of funds they will receive and when it will begin.

Township Administrator Garrett Loesch stated we do not have a final amount, just preliminary. He believes it is adjusted annually based on their revenues of the prior year.

Mr. Art Mooney: Expressed his concerns for transparency and the township website. He asked when the Community Advisory Committee will be on the website.

Township Administrator Garrett Loesch stated he will look into making the site more user friendly.

Mr. Ed Gautier: Spoke about abandoned homes and their effect on the town.

Committeewoman Lisa Stevens discussed ways other towns are handling their abandoned homes.

Mr. Ed Gautier: Asked what portion of Oak Lane will be paved and when.

Jason Worth explained paving on Oak Lane will be from Route 9 to Center Street before summer.

Mr. Ed Gautier: Spoke about the importance of the dredging project and discussed some of his concerns.

Jason Worth gave a brief explanation of the project.

Committeeman Dave Schlick believes this project is becoming smaller because the money is getting used up. He suggested similar to road paving, dredging certain lagoons on an annual basis.

Committeeman John Kehm spoke about the difficulty the town had in the past finding a location for the dredge spoils and obtaining permits. He suggested putting it on a referendum for public vote.

Committeewoman Lisa Stevens discussed her work with NJ Future and BRS as well as the Township Engineer in hopes of obtaining additional grants. She does not want it to be a tax payer burden.

Jason Worth spoke about the projects estimated cost and how certain permit conditions can affect it.

Deputy Mayor Crea discussed the importance of the lagoon dredging and Marsh Restoration Program.

Mr. Howie Binowitz: Asked for details on the bill list.

Township Administrator Garrett Loesch explained the bill list procedures and how they are processed.

Mr. Howie Binowitz: Asked how many homes were taken off the tax bill due to Super Storm Sandy.

Township Administrator Garrett Loesch stated about a thousand substantial damage letters were issued by the Zoning Department.

Mr. Howie Binowitz: Spoke about the tax increase on his home.

Committeeman John Kehm explained the taxes are broken down with 25% to the township, 25% to the County and 50% to the schools.

Ms. Kim Brown: Spoke about her animal rescue "Kimmy's Safe Haven Rescue." She introduced children from the Frog Pond Elementary School and Pinelands Regional High School. The students read prepared statements and requested the governing body consider adopting an ordinance for animal protection.

The governing body thanked Ms. Brown and the students for their presentation.

Motion to Close: Schlick

Second: Kehm

All in favor

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE COMMENTS

Schlick: Mentioned the upcoming clean-up at Stafford Forge and the Community Center. AARP is offering free assistance with income taxes at Saint Theresa's Faith Formation Center and the Senior Citizen Expo will be held May 3rd.

Kehm: No comment.

Stevens: Announced Ocean County Long Term Recovery will be at the Community Center on April 5th. She invited residents to attend the Easter Egg Hunt at Community Center on April 8th.

Crea: Thanked Mr. Armitage and all the volunteers for their dedication and the Township Administrator for his work on the budget.

Being no further business,

Motion to Adjourn: Stevens

Second: Schlick

All in favor

Respectfully submitted,



Diana K. McCracken, RMC
Township Clerk

