

Regular monthly workshop meeting of the Lawrence Township Committee called to order at 7:30 pm as advertised, and held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act. Due to the Covid-19 outbreak, the meeting was conducted via teleconference, was advertised as such and notice placed on website to invite public participation.

Members present: Sheppard, Miletta, Clerk Dawson Participating remotely: Bowman and Solicitor Seeley.

Payment of approved vouchers authorized, motioned Bowman, seconded Miletta, unanimous roll call vote.

Committee reviewed draft plans and correspondence received from Architect, Ruth Barreiro, for Historical Society Building Project. Ms. Barreiro had various questions concerning committee preferences on flooring, HVAC unit, lighting, windows, doors etc. Committee discussed all issues to be addressed and Mr. Sheppard will relay the information to Ms. Barreiro.

Short discussion held regarding remote public meetings during the Covid -19 outbreak. Teleconference method audio only was used for recent Planning/Zoning Board meeting which worked well and was sufficient due to the business to be conducted. Planning/Zoning Board Solicitor Nathan Van Embden advised that if the board received an application the remote meeting would be required to be a visual method due to the various documents that would need to be seen by all participants and the public. Solicitor Seeley concurred. Mayor Sheppard stated that upcoming meetings for Redevelopment Plan and Master Plan reexamination should be put on hold until such time as they can be live and open to the public in person as participating electronically may be difficult for some residents and deter their participation. Both Mr. Miletta and Mr. Bowman agreed.

Mr. Bowman stated that he had concerns about the effect on property tax collections/cash flow due to the pandemic. He stated that projects such as the Historical Society Building project should be put on hold for the time being. Mr. Miletta and Mr. Sheppard agreed.

Mayor Sheppard advised that he has given a lot of thought to Giordano's proposed recycling facility on Maple Ave. The Giordano's have requested the mayors support which would be required for DEP consideration. Mayor Sheppard stated that it would be in the Townships best interest to not promote the site for this use as the property is too small and the location wrong. With 70 trucks per day to start, increasing to as many as 700 per day anticipated, too much traffic for the area/location. As Mr. Miletta and Mr. Bowman agreed, Mayor Sheppard authorized to correspond with the Giordano's to advise them that the Township will not support the project, motioned Miletta, seconded Bowman, unanimous vote.

Solicitor Seeley advised that William Lomberk and Maureen Ellis agreed to donation of sliver of land as requested by the Township for Thompson/Monroe connector road. The subdivision was approved by the Planning/Zoning Board and new deeds are being prepared.

Meeting opened for public comment motioned Miletta, seconded Bowman. Receiving no input, closed, motioned Bowman, seconded Miletta. With no further business to discuss, meeting adjourned at 8:03 pm as motioned Miletta, seconded Bowman.

Ruth Dawson, Clerk

April 13, 2020
Regular Monthly Meeting

The regular monthly meeting of the Lawrence Township Committee called to order at 7:30 pm and held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act. Meeting was held via teleconference as advertised and noted on Township website, due to current pandemic. The public was invited to

participate. Members present: Sheppard, Miletta, Clerk Dawson. Participating remotely, Bowman and Solicitor Seeley.

Following the pledge of allegiance, Reports for the month of March accepted, motioned Miletta, seconded Bowman, unanimous vote.

Resolution 2020-34, Cancelling taxes on properties donated to the Township approved, motioned Bowman, seconded Miletta, unanimous vote.

Ordinance No. 2020-418, Ordinance Amending Ordinance No 361, Authorizing Participation in the Joint Municipal Court Known As The Cumberland-Salem Regional Municipal Court, Amending Ordinance No. 387, Authorizing Downe Township to Join The CS Regional Municipal Court and Authorizing An Amendment To the Agreement For The Operation Of A Joint Municipal Court Between the Township Of Deerfield, Township Of Downe, Township Of Greenwich, Township of Hopewell, Township of Lawrence, Township of Pittsgrove, Borough Of Shiloh, Township Of Stow Creek and Township of Upper Deerfield, Approved on first reading motioned Bowman seconded Miletta unanimous vote. Public hearing for further consideration will take place at the regular meeting of May 11th.

Ordinance No. 2020-419 approved on first reading motioned Miletta, seconded Bowman Unanimous vote- Calendar Year 2020 Model Ordinance To Exceed The Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits And To Establish A Cap Bank. Public hearing for further consideration will be held at the regular meeting of May 11th.

Calendar Year 2020 Municipal Budget approved on first reading Motioned Bowman, seconded Miletta, unanimous vote. Public hearing will be held on May 11.

Contract award for purchase and delivery of Gasoline through the Cumberland County Cooperative Contract Pricing System made to Mansfield Oil Co., not Riggins, amend action taken on January 13th, approved motioned Bowman, seconded Miletta, unanimous vote.

Payment of additional approved vouchers authorized, motioned Miletta, seconded Bowman, unanimous vote.

Minutes of the March 5th and 9th meetings approved, motioned Bowman, seconded Miletta, unanimous vote.

Brief discussion held regarding notification received from Dakota regarding proposed solar facility. Clerk received email from their attorney stating that Dakota will not be moving forward with the project and the Township is to cease efforts with redevelopment zone proceedings. Mayor Sheppard stated that he would like to proceed with the redevelopment area. As the Planner was prepared to meet with the Planning Board but cancelled due to pandemic, Mr. Sheppard would like for Dakota to cover cost of her attendance at that meeting at least. Both Mr. Bowman and Mr. Miletta agree the Township should proceed. Mr. Bowman stated that the area in the redevelopment plan should be zoned industrial. Mr. Miletta stated that Dakota should honor agreement and pay the entire bill for redevelopment plan and master plan reexamination. Clerk instructed to contact planner for proposal to complete and Solicitor Seeley will contact Dakota's attorney, Steve Nehmad to see if his client is willing to cover the cost.

Meeting opened for public comments motioned Miletta, seconded Bowman. Receiving no public input, floor closed, motioned Bowman, seconded Miletta. With no further business, meeting adjourned at 8:13 PM, motioned Bowman, seconded Miletta.

