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June 6, 2019

Workshop Meeting

Meeting called to order as advertised and held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

Members present: Bowman, Miletta, Sheppard.

Tim Daniels, Dakota Power Partners, and his attorney Stephen Nehmad appeared and provided a presentation regarding a 336 acre solar project. Also present was Edward Salmon (public relations), Walter and Wade Sjogren, property owners and Bill McManus, surveyor/planner. Mr. Nehmad advised that the proposed solar project site would be in the area of Shaw’s Mill and Factory Road, land that is remote and currently unimproved and vacant. Solar energy facility is an inherently beneficial use by law, and a win- win for the public. Solar produces no air emissions, uses no water, makes no noise and has no impact on municipal services. It would not be visible from the road. The design life of the facility is 30 years, with a $40 MM investment by Dakota. A brief design description of equipment was provided. The entire facility will be surrounded by a 6’fence topped with barbed wire and nicely landscaped. When the facility has completed operating, Dakota will remove all above and below ground equipment. Mr. Daniels advised that the proposed project could produce enough energy to power approximately 6,000 homes, and he hopes to secure additional surrounding land to increase the size of the facility to possibly 400-500 acres. Dakota proposes to enter into a PILOT agreement with the Township and its standard offer is $150,000 per year for a total of $4,500.000 over the 30 year term. The Township will have to adopt a redevelopment plan to be able to enter into the PILOT agreement. Mr. Nehmad advised that Dakota would finance all costs (Professional Planner, Legal fees, etc.) associated for master plan reexamination and redevelopment plan through a financing agreement. Solicitor Seeley asked for clarification that the Township would get 100% of the PILOT. Mr. Nehmad replied that the County would get 5 cents on a dollar, 95 would go to Township. Mr. Sheppard questioned if the PILOT was negotiable, Mr. Nehmad replied yes. He also advised that there are multiple Township owned lots adjacent to project area that Dakota would be interested in purchasing. The Pilot may be increased if the project area increased, also additional revenue through land sales. Mayor Bowman questioned what steps the Township needs to take to get started. Mr. Nehmad replied that funding agreement should be entered into and planner hired. Solicitor Seeley suggested that a memorandum of understanding outlining goals be prepared and approved by both parties. All agreed. Solicitor Seeley and Mr. Nehmad will prepare the MOU for further consideration of the Township Committee.

Clerk provided committeemen with copies of job applications received for Public Works position. Special meeting will be held on June 13th and 17th, at 5 pm to conduct interviews, motioned Sheppard, seconded Miletta, unanimous vote.

Draft resolution and letter of support for CRHS Agriculture program provided by CDC for review. Mayor Bowman advised that the Vo-Tech and CRHS are currently negotiating an agreement, therefor no action required by the township at this time. Matter tabled, motioned Miletta, seconded Sheppard, unanimous vote.

Clerk provided correspondence received from Engineer regarding NJDOT FY 2020 State Aid Program. Application must be submitted before July 19th. Further consideration will be given.

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

Discussion held regarding maintenance of vacant properties. Both Mayor Bowman and Committeeman Miletta are receiving numerous complaints from residents. Vacant Property Ordinance will be reviewed to determine if registration fees can be used for mowing and general clean- up of vacant properties. If need be, the ordinance may be amended.

Clerk advised that auditor instructed her to refund escrow held for installation of street lights on 4 applications. Mr. Sheppard suggested that planning board application and resolution be reviewed to determine if light installation was a requirement of the planning board prior to issuing refunds.

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There being no further business, meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm, motioned Miletta, seconded Sheppard.

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Ruth Dawson, Clerk

June 10, 2019

Regular meeting

The regular monthly meeting of the Lawrence Township Committee was called to order as advertised and held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act. Members present: Bowman, Sheppard, Miletta.

Following the pledge of allegiance, minutes of the May 9th and 13th meetings were approved, motioned Miletta, seconded Sheppard, unanimous vote. Reports for the month of May accepted, motioned Miletta, seconded Sheppard, unanimous vote.

Resolution 2019-34 Chapter 159, Insertion of Special Item of Revenue into the 2019 Budget, Clean Communities Grant, $13,699.36 approved, motioned Sheppard, seconded Miletta, unanimous vote.

A second Chapter 159, Resolution No. 2019-35 insertion of Special Item of Revenue, $271,164 New Jersey Transportation Trust Fund Authority Act approved, motioned Sheppard, seconded Miletta, unanimous vote.

Resolution 2019-36, Authorization to refund tax overpayment, block 136 lot 31.21 approved, motioned Miletta, seconded Sheppard, unanimous vote.

Resolution 2019-37, Authorization for the Lawrence Township EMS to conduct a coin drop on August 17th -18th, 2019 at the intersection of Main (553) and Maple (610), 6 am-2 pm, approved, motioned Miletta, seconded Sheppard, unanimous vote, contingent upon approval of the Cumberland County Freeholder Board and the NJ State Police.

Resolution 2019-38, Amend 2019 Capital Budget to reflect Ordinance No. 2019-413, Reconstruction of Lummistown Road approved, motioned Miletta, seconded Sheppard, unanimous vote.

Ordinance No. 2019-413, Capital ordinance Appropriating $296,164 From the Capital improvement Fund for the Reconstruction of Lummistown Road, Section III approved on first reading, motioned Sheppard, seconded Miletta. Further consideration for final adoption will take place following a public hearing to be held at the regular meeting of July 8, 2019.

Correspondence received from resident Jason Franks regarding code violations at property located on the corner on Main and North Ave. read by clerk as requested by Mr. Franks. Clerk advised that the Zoning Officer has been dealing with this property on and off for years. A copy of the letter will be provided to him.

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

Discussion held regarding 2020 NJDOT grant application. Clerk advised that engineer suggested submitting Lummistown Section IV. Mr. Miletta stated that that particular section of Lummistown is not bad. All agreed that paving Monroe would be beneficial for emergency vehicles as it’s a short cut to DeCarlo/ Ramah Road. Mr. Sheppard stated that 3 short roads in DeCarlo could be lumped together. Further consideration will be given after consulting with Public Works Supervisor.

Mayor Bowman advised that he has received additional complaints regarding high grass at vacant properties. He spoke to Roy Spoltore, Clerk of Upper Deerfield Township who provided a copy of their

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letter and ordinance dealing with high grass. In Upper Deerfield a letter is sent to the property owner

advising them that they have 10 days to resolve the issue or the Township will have the grass mowed and accrue the cost of the clean up as a lien against the property. Clerk Dawson advised that Lawrence under the adopted International Property Maintenance Code has used the same process for boarding up of vacant properties, but the Township has to incur the original expense. The Township is going to review and possibly amend the vacant property ordinance so that a portion of the registration fees collected can be used up front to remedy code violations. Further consideration will be given following review.

Mayor Bowman announced that he attended the Myron L. Powell awards ceremony, and that both he and Mr. Miletta attended the graduation ceremony. Mr. Miletta stated that he was very impressed , the students were really good speakers, very presentable, dressed like young adults. Mayor Bowman concurred and stated that he was recently at a meeting with educators and was told that high school students with the highest test scores come from Lawrence Township. All agreed that the school system is tops.

Mayor Bowman opened the floor to the public. Receiving no public comment the floor was closed and the meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm, motioned Sheppard, seconded Miletta,

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Ruth Dawson, Clerk

June 13, 2019

Special meeting

A special meeting of the Lawrence Township Committee was called to order at 5:00 PM as advertised

And held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act. Purpose of the meeting was to interview candidates for Public Works position. Members present: Bowman, Miletta, Sheppard. Mr. Bowman excused at 6:45 for another event.

Committee met with 5 applicants. Additional interviews will be held on June 17th after which time a decision will be made to fill the position.

Also reviewed were quotes for purchase of materials for pole barn, addition to Public Works building.

Diamond State Pole Buildings, Materials only 36,700.00

Delmarva Pole Buildings Materials only 39,183.00 Fully constructed 86,468.00

Millicent Davis, QPA advised that Diamond State was low bidder but expressed no interest in completing and submitting the required documents. Mr. Sheppard requested that Delmarva submit a more detailed material list for further consideration.

No further business to discuss, meeting adjourned at 6:45 pm, motioned Miletta, seconded Sheppard.

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Ruth Dawson, Clerk

June 17, 2019

Special Meeting

A special meeting of the Lawrence Township Committee was called to order at 5:00 PM as advertised and held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act. Purpose of the meeting was to interview applicants for Public Works position. Members present: Bowman, Sheppard, Miletta.

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Committee interviewed additional applicants. Discussed was one full time hire and one part time seasonal. A decision was made for the full time position if the applicant would be willing to accept position at 16.50 per hour. Clerk will reach out to him. If he declines the position, committee may consider one 12 month part time position and one seasonal part time position. Further consideration will be given and hourly rates determined.

Short discussion held regarding NJDOT 2020 Municipal Aid applications. Monroe Avenue will be submitted as primary. Mr. Sheppard suggested that some short roads be bundled, maybe Ruby, Harris and Kelly Lane. Clerk will reach out to Engineer to see if it can be done.

With no further business to discuss, meeting adjourned at 6:20 pm, motioned Sheppard, seconded Miletta.

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Ruth Dawson, Clerk