

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

Proposals received for Planning services, Tiffany CuvIELLO, PP, LLC and Sarah Birdsall Planning Consultant for Master Plan Reexamination and Redevelopment Plan reviewed. Committee agreed that both professional planners were highly qualified. Award made to Tiffany CuvIELLO based on her extensive experience in the area of Redevelopment motioned Miletta, seconded Sheppard, unanimous vote.

Discussion held regarding replacement of steps and sidewalk in front of Municipal Building. Mayor Bowman has talked to various contractors, and as of date only one proposal received, Masonry Concrete of America, new resident Scott White, who proposes to do the work at no cost with Township providing materials. Committee agreed to have him resubmit quote with cost for labor and materials, and will continue to attempt to get additional quotes.

Correspondence received from Robert Brewer, County Planning Director, regarding the proposed amendment to the lower Delaware Water Quality Management Plan. Mr. Brewer requests a statement of consent by the Township and provided a sample resolution for same, or a written objection stating any reasons for the objection. Upon review members of the committee determined they did indeed support the amendment. The resolution in support will be prepared for the regular meeting.

Clerk presented proposed land sale list for committee review to establish minimum bids. Land sale has been postponed due to delay in receiving final judgement on recent foreclosure, which last day to redeem is September 5th. Solicitor Seeley suggested an October sale. Special meeting set for October 24th to hold the sale at 6PM, motioned Sheppard, seconded Miletta, unanimous vote.

Clerk provided copies of proposed amendment to employee manual regarding sick leave policy. The amendment is to bring the policy into compliance with the NJ Sick Leave Law. Amendment approved motioned Miletta, seconded Sheppard, unanimous vote.

Discussion held regarding developers escrow funds held for street lights. A light will be ordered for the end of Easy Street and two on Factory Road, location to be determined..

With no further business to discuss, meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM motioned Miletta, seconded Sheppard, unanimous vote.

Ruth Dawson, Clerk

Monday August 12, 2019
Regular Monthly Meeting

Meeting called to order at 7:30 as advertised and held in accordance with the Open Public meetings Act. Members present: Bowman Miletta, Absent: Sheppard.

Pledge of allegiance conducted. Minutes of the July 8th meeting approved, motioned Miletta, seconded Bowman, unanimous vote. Reports for the month of July accepted, motioned Miletta, seconded Bowman, unanimous vote.

Zac Meyer representing Soltage Renewable Energy Provider appeared before the committee to provide information regarding the New Jersey Community Solar Program. Soltage is making an application with the NJ Board of Public Utilities to develop two community solar facilities in Lawrence

Township and is seeking a letter of support from the Township to strengthen the applications. Mr. Meyer stated that the community solar program provides an opportunity for subscribers- residential, commercial, industrial or public entities to participate and purchase electricity produced at the site at a discounted rate. Low and middle class residents can participate without upfront cost of solar. He also stated that the Township would have the opportunity to subscribe and save on cost of electricity. Mr. Miletta questioned what effect the solar facilities would have on tax base. The sites (land) which are currently farmland assessed would be assessed as a commercial use/value and the increased tax liability would be paid by Soltage. Clerk advised that both sites would be subject to roll back tax. The two sites proposed are 33 acres on Main St. belonging to John Tisa and 20 acres on New Rd. belonging to Lester Woody. Mr. Woody was present. Mayor Bowman questioned if Mr. Woody would retain any farmland. Mr. Woody replied yes. Jackie Cook who accompanied her father, Mr. Woody also advised that the lease agreement stipulates that Soltage will provide all maintenance to the site and will restore the site back to it's natural state at the end of the lease agreement. Mr. Meyer advised that applications are due to BPU early September with awards being made by end of year. If approved, Soltage will make applications with the Planning/Zoning Board to seek approvals. If all goes well it could be operational in 2020. Both Mayor Bowman and Mr. Miletta agreed that the solar project would be beneficial, motioned Miletta, seconded Bowman, unanimous vote that letter of support be issued.

Resolution 2019-45, Authorization to transfer preliminary tax payments from old block and lots to new block and lots approved, motioned Miletta, seconded Bowman, unanimous vote.

Resolution 2019-46, Resolution to make application for exemption from the requirement of having a Public Works Manager approved, motioned Miletta, seconded Bowman, unanimous vote.

Chapter 159 Resolution 2019-4, Authorize insertion of \$13,598.00 in the 2019 Municipal Budget for the Municipal Alliance on Alcohol and Drug Abuse line item appropriation approved, motioned Miletta, seconded Bowman.

Grace period on 3rd quarter tax installment extended to August 26th, due to a delay in billing, Resolution 2019-48 approved, motioned Miletta, seconded Sheppard, unanimous vote.

Resolution 2019-49, Authorization for the Tax collector to refund various tax overpayments approved, motioned Miletta, seconded Bowman, Unanimous vote.

Public hearing opened as advertised, Ordinance No. 2019-414, An Ordinance Appropriating \$39,000 from the Capital Improvement Fund, \$26,000 for the Public Works Addition and \$12,500 for the Agricultural Museum addition to Senior Center. Receiving no public input, the hearing closed and ordinance adopted, motioned Miletta, seconded Bowman, unanimous vote.

Ordinance 2019-415, Amending 2019 Salary ordinance No. 2019-411 approved on first reading, motioned Miletta seconded Bowman, unanimous vote. Public hearing for further consideration of final adoption will take place at the regular meeting of September 9th.

Mayor Bowman stated that he had a conversation with an Official from Hopewell Twp regarding zoning violations. They have their Public Works Department report to the Zoning Officer any violations such as trash, high grass, etc. to the Zoning Officer. Mayor Bowman will have a discussion with George Ripper, Public Works Supervisor to do the same.

Mayor Bowman question if the County's emergency communications tower was up and running. Mr. Miletta replied that it is, but new radios have not yet been purchased and provided.

Floor opened for public comment. Receiving none, meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm, motioned Miletta, seconded Bowman.

