

Minutes - Livingston Township Council Conference Meeting #2—January 27, 2020

Present: Mayor Fernandez; Councilmembers Anthony, Klein, Meinhardt, Vieira; Township Manager Lewis; Deputy Township Manager Jones; Township Attorney Weiner; Township Clerk Turteltaub; Deputy Township Clerk Mazzucco

The Conference meeting commenced at 7:45 p.m. The Mayor stated that all the requirements of the “Open Public Meetings Law” had been met. “Annual Notice” was faxed to the *West Essex Tribune and the Star Ledger* on January 2, 2020. 48-Hour notice was faxed to the same publications on Friday, January 24, 2020.

The Council approved the **Conference and Closed Minutes** of January 6, 2020

Township Manager Lewis explained the final change order for the **Primary Digester Upgrades** that resulted in a decrease of expenditures by the Township of \$157,897.14.

Township Manager Lewis agreed with Township Engineer Harduby’s recommendation to award a contract to Matrix New World Engineering, Inc for **Town Hall Remediation**.

Mayor Fernandez asked for comments on Ordinance 3-2020, **Amending and Supplementing Chapter 29 Traffic and Parking**, and Councilmember Klein commented that the stop sign for Arlington Drive and Falcon Road intersection should be installed on Arlington Drive. The Ordinance was corrected to reflect Arlington Drive instead of Falcon Drive, and would be introduced at tonight’s Regular meeting, January 27, 2020, with the correction.

Township Manager Lewis explained that Resolution 20-68 on the Regular Agenda of January 27, 2020, **Approving Commodity Demand Regional Water Sales Agreement with New Jersey American Water**, allows the Township to do commodity purchasing for its water and will save the Township significant money.

Mr. Bob Wild, 13 E Harrison St, asked Councilmembers to adopt a regulation for **Permit Parking on E Harrison St** due to the congestion of employee parking from businesses located on S Livingston Ave. Mr. Wild added that he’d like Permit Parking for 7 days a week from 9am – 5pm. Township Manager Lewis agreed to follow up with LPD.

Mr. Gary Grewal, a Veteran of the US Army, inquired if the Township would become a **Certified Veteran Friendly Municipality**. Mayor Fernandez stated that the Township supports the Veteran community and inquired about how many municipalities have passed a Resolution to become a Certified Veteran Friendly Municipality. Township Manager Lewis stated he would create a comprehensive list of Township initiatives for Veterans, which would be developed into a Resolution. Councilmember Vieira mentioned that two parking spaces by the Memorial should be reserved for Veterans.

Mayor Fernandez distributed a list of committee members for the **Ad Hoc Strahman / Licari Committee**. A Resolution appointing these individuals will be added to the February 3, 2020 Regular Agenda.

Township Manager Lewis explained that the Township was waiting to receive proposals from engineers on upgrades to the **Community Center Sound System**.

Township Manager Lewis mentioned that he will circulate dates for the **Budget Meeting**.

At 8:15 p.m., the Conference meeting adjourned so the Council could attend the Regular meeting.

At 9:00 p.m., the Conference meeting resumed with everyone previously in attendance present.

The Council approved the **Legal Fees** of Murphy McKeon (December 2019), Genova Burns (December 2019) and McCarter & English (December 2019).

Councilmember Klein stated that since the State’s Plastic Bag Legislation was not passed as expected, the Township should review the findings from the **Ad Hoc Plastics Committee** and added that 60 other municipalities in NJ have passed plastic bag ban Ordinances already. He explained the caveats that were carved out in the Committee’s proposed Ordinance. Mayor Fernandez inquired if anyone had spoken with the schools and the impact it would have on them. Many questions were raised, including if the \$.10 charge for paper bags was too much and if a full ban on plastic utensils was appropriate. Scott Goldman, a member of the Ad Hoc Plastics Committee, mentioned that there is no recycling venue for Styrofoam anymore. Another member, Stacey Abenstein, mentioned that Shop Rite and Kings were on board with the plastic bag ban. Deputy Mayor Klein stated that hardship requests would be reviewed by the LEC.

The Council discussed invitations to events and other **dates of importance**.

9:32 p.m., the following Resolution was considered:

Resolution Authorizing Closed Session – Attorney-Client

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 allows for a Public Body to go into closed session during a Public Meeting; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of the Township of Livingston has deemed it necessary to go into closed session to discuss certain matters which are exempted from the Public; and

WHEREAS, the Conference meeting of the Governing Body will reconvene; and

BE IT RESOLVED that this 27th day of January, 2020, that the Township Council of the Township of Livingston will go into Closed Session for the purpose of discussing Attorney-Client and such matters as may come before the Council and that are exempted from the public as outlined in N.J.S.A. 10:4-12.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the matters discussed in closed session will be made public upon disposition.

On motion duly made and seconded, and by voice vote, all members present voted YES.

At 10:15 p.m., the Closed Session ended.

At 10:15 p.m., the Conference meeting concluded.

Respectfully submitted,

CAROLYN MAZZUCCO
Township Clerk