

Minutes - Livingston Township Council Conference Meeting #9—April 2, 2018

Present: Mayor Meinhardt; Councilmembers Anthony, Fernandez, Klein, Silverman; Township Manager Lewis; Deputy Township Manager Jones; Township Attorney Weiner; Township Clerk Turtleaub

The Conference meeting commenced at 7:05 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 3, 2018.

The Council approved the **Minutes** of March 19, 2018 (Conference and Closed).

The Council approved the **Legal Fees** of McCarter & English (January 2018) and Genova Burns (February 2018).

As to the **Pool Committee** report, Township Manager Lewis pointed out a lack of information as to the cost of one pool. He suggested that when the matter is presented to that public, that there be three options presented, including the most expensive, moderately priced, and least expensive options. The discussion will continue at an upcoming Conference meeting.

Discussion of the **RAM Truck Event** will be continued until the next (April 16) Conference meeting.

The Council agreed to the recommendation of Township Engineer Harduby and Deputy Township Manager Jones, and a Resolution providing for Change Order and Final Payment for **2016 Process Blower Replacement** will be placed on the April 16 Regular Agenda for consideration.

The Council agreed to the request of **JFS Rachel Coalition** to hold its Candlelight Vigil at the Oval on Thursday, October 11.

The Council reviewed and agreed that an Ordinance allowing **alcohol on Township property on July 4** should be listed for First Reading at the April 16 Regular meeting.

The Council considered the request of the Memorial Day Committee for permission to **hang a Banner** across Livingston Avenue. It was noted that "other towns do it." Councilmember Fernandez stated he felt it was a "slippery slope" and that requests from many other entities would follow. It was suggested that a policy be created (e.g., banners be limited to just the July 4 and Memorial Day holidays). Township Attorney Weiner will look into what County input and approval would be required.

The Council agreed to discussed the request of Township Engineer Harduby for awarding of contracts for **PASPS Force Main and Downstream Gravity Sewer Upgrades**. Additional information will be provided, and the matter will be listed on both the Conference and Regular Meeting Agendas for April 16.

Diversity Committee Chair Susan Berkenbush distributed "**Paint the Town Purple**" materials. Cheryl Francione gave a presentation addressing "brain health" awareness, noting the issue encompasses "intergenerational activity" and that a "healthy lifestyle wards off mental decline". She stressed that she was not asking for money, but rather to raise awareness and advise of learning opportunities. She asked the Council that it issue a proclamation naming June as **Mental Health Month**, pointing out that the Township would become just the second municipality to participate in the program. Mayor Meinhardt thanked Ms. Francione for her presentation and thanked Ms. Berkenbush "for all her committee does."

The Council met with **Vision 20/20** Co-chairs Alan Karpas and Steve Kroll and Committee members. Mr. Kroll led a presentation of the Committee's Report on Communications including its survey results. Also in attendance were Committee Members Marty Meyers and Township Communications Coordinator Judith Heller. Councilmember Klein stated that the development of a Township App and appointment of the new Town Manager addressed many of the concerns raised in the Report. Councilmember Silverman pointed out that the Township had been aware of such concerns, that "we made the change" in response, and that it was now necessary to "let the change take effect." He pointed out that the interviews in the Report are now "moot". Committee member Walter LeVine claimed the "communications problem" was due in part to the age diversity in town, as "there is a big portion of the population that doesn't use internet." Mr. LeVine urged the Township to use "a multiplicity" of avenues. Councilmember Klein asked the Committee for its feedback regarding how the new website was working, and whether there were other means of communication which should be used.

Public Comment

Fred Friedman, 1304 Pointe Gate Drive, asked about the status of the new Township logo, the Township "mission statement," and "mural." He was shown the new logo and it was explained that the "Expect More. Experience More" tagline appearing on the new logo is what he is refers to as a "mission statement." It was not known what Dr. Friedman was referring to by the "mural."

Margie Rieger, 190 E. Northfield Rd., asked "speak with the Council in closed session." She was advised that the Rules did not permit that, and Township Manager Lewis offered to meet outside the meeting for a few minutes to hear her concerns. Ms. Rieger agreed to this procedure. Mr. Lewis left the meeting for a few minutes' discussion with Ms. Rieger, after

which Mr. Lewis returned to the meeting.

Alan Karpas advised of dates for **Youth Appreciation Week** activities, and that May 14 would be the date for LTV and a Live Kickoff. He added that the "Bike Livingston" would be held on June 3.

Councilmember Silverman discussed his meeting with the **BID**, and the BID's request that the new Township Manager come to their May 24 meeting.

Councilmember Klein advised of a request he had received to hold a **Senior Summit**, and that an Agenda for the Summit be prepared listing discussion topics for input by seniors.

RESOLUTION—Authorizing Closed Session—Negotiations (CWA)

At 8:05 p.m., the following Resolution was considered:

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 2nd day of April, 2018, that the Township Council of the Township of Livingston will go into Closed Session for the purpose of discussing Negotiations 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 8:50 p.m., the Closed Session ended.

Respectfully submitted,

GLENN R. TURTLETAUB
Township Clerk