

Minutes - Livingston Township Council Conference Meeting—September 19, 2022

Present: Mayor Meinhardt, Deputy Mayor Vieira, Councilmember Klein, Councilmember Anthony, Councilmember Fernandez, Township Manager Lewis, Deputy Township Manager Jones, Assistant Township Loehner, Township Attorney Kantor, and Township Clerk Mazzucco.

The Conference meeting commenced at 7:00 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 6, 2022.

Quorum Roll Call

Legal Fees

The Council approved the following:

- 1) McCarter & English (August 2022)
- 2) Murphy McKeon, PC (August 2022 Tax Appeals & Open Space/Affordable Hsg)

New Business

Ilana Kipnis inquired about building a **wall symbolizing peace and inclusivity** after a family trip to Israel to celebrating her son's Bar Mitzvah this past summer. The wall in Israel was decorated with hand painted stones by community members and guests, creating a mural of stones written with individual thoughts and prayers on the other side. Councilmembers discussed specific wall locations in the Township and requested the Kipnis's to identify their first choice and then proceed from there.

Councilmembers discussed the **Holocaust Education Foundation Living Fitness Challenge** (Journey for the Living) and their request to walk around the Oval on November 13, 2022 at 11am. Councilmembers were receptive to the idea once the proper facility use forms were completed on Community Pass.

Township Field Coordinator Barbella submitted an email for an **increase in specific youth organization fees** and was asked to attend the October 3, 2022 meeting for further discussion.

Township Manager Lewis explained that the Township had to enter into an **emergency contract to repair storm water pipe damage** on Cornell Drive. A Resolution will be placed on tonight's September 19, 2022 Regular Agenda for the Township Council's consideration.

Township Manager Lewis expressed that the new Veterans Plaque dedication in Town Hall should be scheduled for October 17, 2022 in order to all for invitations to be created and mailed. Councilmembers agreed on a 6:15pm start time.

Councilmembers discussed upcoming **dates of importance** and decided to change the date of the November 10, 2022 meeting (previously Monday, November 7, 2022) to November 14, 2022.

At 7:30 p.m. the Conference meeting adjourned so the Council could attend the Regular meeting.

At 8:25 p.m., the Conference meeting resumed with everyone previously in attendance present.

Public Portion

There were no speakers.

Reports of Township Officials / Professionals

Deputy Township Manager Jones discussed the **Essex County Home Improvement Program** and councilmembers

asked Jones to arrange a presentation at a future meeting.

Council Reports

Mayor Meinhardt thanked Liliana Branquinho for a job well done with the 9-11 ceremony and Alan Karpas who organized a successful Youth Appreciation event.

Councilmembers followed up with Township Manager Lewis on various Township updates and discussed the large insurance premium increase recently approved by the Governor.

At 8:40 p.m. the following Resolution was considered.

RESOLUTION 22-240 — Authorizing Closed Session

WHEREAS: the Open Public Meetings Act, P.L. 1975, Chapter 231 permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS: the Township Council is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist; and

WHEREAS: the Township Council wishes to discuss:

- 1) Fair Share Housing Litigation (Attorney-Client Privilege)
- 2) Redevelopment Updates (Attorney- Client Privilege)

WHEREAS: minutes will be kept, and once the matter involving the confidentiality of the above no longer requires confidentiality, the minutes can be made public.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Livingston that the public be excluded from this meeting.

On motion duly made and seconded, and roll call vote, all members present voted YES.

At 9:20 p.m., the Closed Session ended.

At 9:20 p.m., the Conference meeting ended.

EDWARD MEINHARDT, Mayor

CAROLYN MAZZUCCO, RMC, Township Clerk