

Minutes - Livingston Township Council Conference Meeting—March 21, 2022

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

The Conference meeting commenced at 7:04 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) Genova Burns (February 2022)
- 2) McCarter & English (February 2022)
- 3) Murphy McKeon (January 2022)
- 4) Murphy McKeon (February 2022)

New Business

Allyse Berger Helpern, 4 Highland Dr, and co-chair of the Livingston Community Diversity and Inclusion committee, and Steve Delman, 1105 Pointe Gate Drive, discussed raising awareness for **Women Veterans Day**, June 12th in Livingston. They explained that NJ statute 36:2-365 has designated June 12th each year as “Womens Veterans Appreciation Day”, and they are seeking permission to have a short 1 – 1 ½ hour ceremony at the Oval on June 12th.

Alan Karpas explained the previously well-attended statewide **Livingston Robotics Club** event called FLL (First Lego League) Explore Expo). The annual event is scheduled for Saturday May 21st, rain or shine, from 9am to 4pm. Approximately 1,000 to 1,500 attendees are expected. He also proposed the week of September 12th for **Youth Appreciation Week**, which would culminate with the Family Festival Day on Saturday, September 17th at the Oval.

Livingston Celebrates Israel requested a the Israeli flag raising on Wednesday, May 4th at 5:30pm sharp to celebrate **Israel's 74th Independence Day**.

The **Fire Department** requested to hold their **100 Year Celebration** at the Oval one Saturday in October.

The **Happy Jack Run** scheduled for Sunday, May 21st at the Oval, is now requesting music and food trucks at their event. Council discussed the sound from their music possibly disrupting church services, and requested clarification on type of music and positioning of music source at the Oval.

Township Manager Lewis explained that there is a Resolution to be considered on tonight's Agenda to declare two DPW trucks as **surplus vehicles**, as they are no long needed for public use.

Public Portion

At 7:32 the Conference meeting adjourned so the Council could attend the Regular meeting.

At 8:10 p.m., the Conference meeting resumed with everyone previously in attendance present.

Reports of Township Officials / Professionals

Councilmembers followed up with Township Manager Lewis on the status of various open items such as the hiring of the Grant Consultant, new DPW warehouse plans, Cannabis Committee timeline, temporary sign language, Affordable Housing Consultant, Pool Committee updates, drive-thru Ordinance, as well as property sale on Shrewsbury. Mayor Meinhardt mentioned that the first 5 on 5 will be held April 11th. He also commented that Livingston Pickleball club is looking to possibly add two (2) more courts at Northland.

At 8:39 p.m., the following Resolution was considered:

RESOLUTION 22-126—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 Update (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 9:18 p.m., the Closed Session ended.

EDWARD MEINHARDT, Mayor

CAROLYN MAZZUCCO, Deputy Township Clerk