

Minutes - Livingston Township Council Conference Meeting—April 25, 2022

Present: Mayor Meinhardt, Councilmember Anthony, Councilmember Fernandez, Councilmember Klein, Township Manager Lewis, Deputy Township Manager Jones, Township Attorney Kantor, 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) Murphy McKeon (Tax Appeals)
- 2) Antonelli Kantor, PC (April 2022)
- 3) Genova Burns (March 2022)
- 4) Antonelli Kantor, PC (March 2022)
- 5) Antonelli Kantor, PC (Tax Appeals March 2022)

New Business

Shilpa and Vishwas Kulkarni explained their plans for a **Pride Picnic** on Sunday, June 5th from 5p.m. to 8 p.m.. They suggested a family fun festival event including music, games, food and art projects concluding with a solidarity walk around the Oval to support of LGBTQ and Pride movement.

Anthony Keyes discussed a **Juneteenth** ceremony on June 17, 2022 at 5 p.m. in front of Town Hall as a sign of unity and to support the African American community. Alyse Berger Heilpern recommended a **Pride flag raising** ceremony on Wednesday, June 1, 2022 at 6pm.

A request for a “**Save the Soil**” event at the area between the library and S. Livingston Ave was considered for Saturday, April 30th from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.. Councilmembers agreed that the Library should be contacted about use of their electrical outlet.

Councilmembers discussed concerns raised on Ordinance 12-2022 regarding the number of 3 bedroom units, and Ordinance 5-2022, regarding exemption from fees, which were both on the April 25, 2022 Regular Agenda. It was decided to delay introducing Ordinance 12-2022 and to amend Ordinance 5-2022. Resolution 22-151 was also discussed, and pulled from the April 25, 2022 Agenda.

Public Portion

At 7:35 p.m. the Conference meeting adjourned so the Council could attend the Regular meeting.

At 9:35 p.m., the Conference meeting resumed with everyone previously in attendance present.

Reports of Township Officials / Professionals

Councilmembers approved **Trial Blazers for Kids** request to add food trucks to their event on Sunday, June 5th from 1p.m. – 4p.m., contingent on Health Department approval.

The **Business Improvement District (BID)** requested advisement on the **relaxed requirements** instituted during COVID. Councilmembers supported outdoor dining, but parking related concerns were raised. Township Manager Lewis stated he will follow up with Beth Lippman to discuss parking requirements and how to move forward this year during the warmer months before officially changing Township code.

Councilmember discussed upcoming **dates of importance**.

Township Manager Lewis mentioned various ongoing items such as the construction of the new DPW garage, ribbon cutting for the new gazebo which is almost near completion, and budget meeting dates. Regarding marijuana, Councilmember Fernandez stated that Planning Board Chair Klein is drafting an Ordinance for the Council to consider. Councilmember Klein inquired about a consultant for the next round of Affordable Housing in 2025, and Township Manager Lewis mentioned he reached out to the Township Planner about hiring a special master from another county, and also stated he would reach out to Madison Borough as requested. Among other miscellaneous issues raised, councilmembers discussed the Town Center and its disrepair, recycling drop off solutions, the planting of new trees, hiring of a pool consultant, and the Licari property.

At 10:22 p.m., the following Resolution was considered:

RESOLUTION 22-154—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) Affordable Housing Litigation (Attorney Client Privilege and Litigation)
- 2) CPMC Tax Appeal Litigation (Attorney Client Privilege and Litigation)
- 3) Sale of Township Property (Contract Negotiations)

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 10:42 p.m., the Closed Session ended.

EDWARD MEINHARDT, Mayor

CAROLYN MAZZUCCO, RMC, Township Clerk