

## Minutes - Livingston Township Council Conference Meeting—May 09, 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) Antonelli Kantor, PC (April 2022)

### New Business

Beth Lippman from the Livingston Community Partnership Corp. (BID), explained that the restaurants in the Township would like to continue **outdoor dining** this year, and that a recommendation plan had been submitted to the Planning Board. Concerns over parking to seating ratio were raised now that indoor dining had reopened. Township Manager Lewis commented that a temporary extension could be granted but the Township should reserve the right to put contingencies in place if needed.

Councilmember Fernandez explained that **senior discount cards**, as part of the Age Friendly Initiative, would offer senior citizens a discount at local businesses throughout the Township. Beth Lippman responded that she would follow up with Liliana Branquinho from Senior, Youth and Leisure Services.

Andrea Mintz, a Livingston resident, inquired about a proclamation for **National Gun Violence Awareness Day**, which is June 3, 2022.

The **Zoning Board Annual Report** was reviewed, and it was determined that discussions would continue at the next conference meeting on Thursday, May 26, 2022.

Scott Goldman, from the Electronics and Recycling committee, suggested amending the recycling ordinance, after many individuals have been using the recycling drop off area as a dump. It was decided to continue the conversation at the next conference meeting on Thursday, May 26, 2022.

Township Manager Lewis recommended **Stanziale Construction**, the lowest responsible bidder, for the 2022 road improvements contract for five (5) specific streets in Livingston, and that a resolution for the Council’s consideration would be on the May 9, 2022 Regular Agenda.

Township Manager Lewis explained the Police Chief’s request to declare two **vehicles** as **surplus**, and that a resolution for the Council’s consideration would be on the May 9, 2022 Regular Agenda.

Councilmembers expressed concern that NJ Water gave permission to the **Newark Academy** regarding their **firework** celebration.

Councilmembers discussed upcoming **dates of importance**.

### Public Portion

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

At 9:15 p.m., the Conference meeting resumed with everyone previously in attendance present.

## Reports of Township Officials / Professionals

Township Manager Lewis explained various ongoing items in the Township, such as the the new DPW garage, the hiring of an Affordable Housing consultant, pool committee progress, and the Veterans Plaque ceremony.

Councilmembers agreed to support menstrual equality in Livingston.

At 9:37 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) 70 S. Orange Ave Redevelopment (Attorney Client Privilege and Litigation and Contract Negotiations)
- 2) Cedar Street Commons (Attorney Client Privilege and Contract Negotiations)
- 3) Comcast Franchise Renewal (Contract Negotiations)
- 4) Livingston Mall (Attorney Client Privilege)
- 5) St. Barnabas Tax Appeal (Attorney Client Privilege)
- 6) 615 S Livingston Avenue (Attorney Client Privilege)
- 7) Women's Veterans Day (Attorney Client Privilege)
- 8) PFAS (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 10:15 p.m., the Closed Session ended.

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

EDWARD MEINHARDT, Mayor

CAROLYN MAZZUCCO, RMC, Township Clerk