

## Minutes - Livingston Township Council Conference Meeting—November 21, 2022

**Present:** Mayor Meinhardt, Deputy Mayor Vieira, Councilmember Anthony, Councilmember Fernandez, Councilmember Klein, Councilmember-Elect Bagolie, Township Manager Lewis, Deputy Township Manager Jones, Assistant Township Manager Loehner, Township Attorney Kantor, and Deputy Township Clerk Peterson.

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 (October 2022)

### New Business

The Mayor and Council reviewed the **Environmental Commission meeting minutes** from May 5th, June 2nd, and October 6, 2023. Deputy Mayor Vieira stated that all committees should submit minutes for review by Township Council.

Council members discussed the draft **2023 Annual Meeting Calendar**. Mayor Meinhardt stated that the annual reorganization meeting will tentatively be scheduled for January 2nd, and added that the meeting listed for Monday, September 11th should be changed to Tuesday, September 12th.

Township Manager Lewis explained that the **2022 Best Practice Inventory** is a standard annual report for all towns and that overall the Township of Livingston performed well.

Council members discussed **upcoming council calendar invitations**.

Township Manager Lewis noted that a Resolution will be on tonight's November 21, 2022 Regular Agenda regarding the **Sale of Surplus Property** for the Township Council's consideration.

### Reports of Township Officials / Professionals

Mayor Meinhardt stated that Resolution 22-274, Authorizing a Developer's Agreement with 630 W Mt Pleasant Ave., will be removed from tonight's November 21, 2022 Regular Agenda.

Township Attorney Kantor mentioned that he sent a memo to the West Essex Tribune regarding the ability of Councilwoman-elect Bagolie to attend portions of closed sessions prior to being sworn into office, to promote a smooth transition. He indicated she would leave the room when attorney-client privilege items are discussed.

Township Manager Lewis stated that he had a conversation with Fire Chief Mullin about the lack of volunteer fire fighters, and added that the Fire Department had received another fire truck last year.

### Council Reports

Councilmember-elect Bagolie raised the issue of whether youth members would be able to be on the Livingston Environmental Commission (LEC) and Township Attorney Kantor stated he would present an Ordinance for Council member review at the next meeting.

Deputy Mayor Vieira asked if volunteer fire fighter membership could include non-Township residents. Township Manager Lewis said that he will discuss with Fire Chief Mullin on how to promote and publicize the need for volunteer fire fighters, including relaxing the residency requirements.

Councilmember Klein mentioned various items of business including an upgrade to the firehouse roof, status of the basketball court, an RFQ for construction manager, license plate readers, and difference cards.

Councilmember-elect Bagolie asked for clarification regarding the construction manager.

### **Public Portion**

Elliot Sherman, active life member of the Livingston First Aid Squad, asked if the First Aid Squad membership could be expanded to include non-residents, as is being considered for the Fire Department.

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

At 8:15 p.m. the Conference meeting resumed with everyone previously in attendance present.

Deputy Township Manager Jones said that Mike Laffey is retiring after 41 years of service and deserves to be recognized at an upcoming meeting. Mayor Meinhardt agreed, and requested Mr. Laffey's recognition to be added to the December 5, 2022 Regular Agenda.

At 8:20 p.m., the Conference meeting ended.

EDWARD MEINHARDT, Mayor

ELIZABETH PETERSON, Deputy Township Clerk