

February 3, 2021
Municipal Building
121 Evergreen Road
New Egypt, NJ 08533

The Plumsted Township Committee meeting of February 3, 2021 was called to order by Mayor Marinari. Due to the emergent situation with COVID-19 and the municipal building being closed, the meeting was conducted through Zoom.com for the public to participate.

STATEMENT: "This meeting is being held in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act." It was presented for publication to the Asbury Park Press and posted on the Bulletin Board.

Clerk Witham read the following statement regarding remote meetings:

Please be advised that this meeting is being held remotely according to DLGS guidelines as presented in Resolution No. 2020-351 that was adopted at the December 28, 2020 Township Committee meeting. Participants' audio will be muted until the public comment portion of the meeting. We ask that each participant mute themselves as well to avoid any interference in the recorded meeting.

There will be an opportunity for public comment during the regular session of the meeting which shall be limited to 5 minutes per person. At the time you wish to make public comment, you may unmute yourself accordingly.

Should there be any disruption from the public during the remote meeting, they will be warned and should the conduct continue, they will be muted or removed from the public meeting.

Thank you for your cooperation.

THOSE OFFICIALS PRESENT:

In the Meeting Room:

COMMITTEEMAN GRILLETTO COMMITTEEMAN BOWEN DEPUTY MAYOR SORCHIK
MAYOR MARINARI CDC DAVE LEUTWYLER ATTORNEY ZABARSKY BA/CLERK WITHAM
LT REILLY

Committeeman Trotta, Chief Meroney and Township Engineer Bronson were in attendance through Zoom.

Mayor Marinari asked everyone to rise for the flag salute followed by a moment of silence.

Marinari said he has a few things to mention during the workshop session. This is Black History Month. It is also National Women Physicians Day. He had the honor to work with several female doctors in the 1980s. He did not realize it at the time, but now, he appreciates all they went through to achieve that position. They were great physicians. He thanks all the female physicians in our area and elsewhere.

Marinari said the topic came up in the Drug Alliance Meeting this past Monday about the township doing proclamations, etc. The township has not been doing them because of COVID. He thinks it would be something that could be done in the future.

Marinari thanked all those who have been involved in the four days of snow. The snow clearing personnel, our police and fire and EMTs are always involved in keeping our community safe and the roads as passable as they can be.

Marinari spoke about a meeting held last night with Lennar. The understanding is that Lennar will have approximately 34 homes completed by the end of this year and another 60 homes in 2022. Hopefully, the development will bring some needed funds to our community.

Marinari said there has been a discussion among businesses in town about a possible fireworks display on July 10, 2021. At this point, there is not going to be anything other than fireworks. It will depend on COVID restrictions in effect at the time. He hopes it will bring back a little normalcy to our community. People can hopefully come and sit on the high school grounds and enjoy a picnic and just enjoy that event. He hopes that it does come to fruition. At this point, it is about 90% secured.

Marinari said Marti's newsletter this month has an article about a group at the Presbyterian Church that has established a community garden. They are looking for volunteers to maintain weeds, etc.

Marinari said another issue that came up in the Drug and Alcohol meeting is the increased risk of suicide by students, the elderly and those "in the middle," due to COVID. They ask that any family

member or associate who knows of someone who is having problems reach out to their local physician. It is a horrific disease and is showing its face not only in physical damage, but in mental issues as well.

Marinari reviewed the agenda. There are various resolutions. Marinari said that Resolution No. 2021-126 authorizing an agreement with the Plumsted Board of Education for the 2020-2021 school year is being pulled from the agenda. Although the CFO was provided the dollar amount for busing, we do not yet have the agreement. Marinari said that normally in previous years the school board and the township committee did have meetings. They were completely eliminated last year. Marinari and Witham have talked to the Superintendent about resuming meetings as soon as possible. These kind of items can be discussed at that point.

Marinari asked for any comments from the committee members.

Committeeman Bowen said he hopes to provide an update on invocation at the next meeting.

Bowen said that he and Committeeman Grilletto have been working with the Arts Council. The council has had an exciting year this past year. He said wonderful things will be going on at the New Egypt Flea Market when the weather gets better.

Due to technical issues with the meeting laptop (microphone stopped working), it was decided to go into executive session at this time. The laptop will be switched out in preparation of the regular session.

Attorney Zabarsky read Resolution No. 2021-106, authorizing the convening of an executive session. The following matters will be discussed: personnel; contractual with regard to Block 40, Lot 1; litigation with regard to Block 58 Lot 13.

ON MOTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR SORCHIK, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN TROTТА, RESOLUTION NO. 2021-106, AUTHORIZING THE CONVENING OF AN EXECUTIVE SESSION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT WAS ADOPTED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

The committee returned from Executive Session. Mayor Marinari called the Regular Session to order.

MINUTES TO BE CONSIDERED FOR APPROVAL: None

CORRESPONDENCE: None

PRESENTATIONS: None

PROCLAMATIONS: None

ORDINANCE - Introduction:

Marinari said the next item on the agenda is the first reading of Ordinance No. 2020-01. This is the COLA ordinance that is done each year.

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN TROTТА, SECONDED BY DEPUTY MAYOR SORCHIK, AN ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14) WAS INTRODUCED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

The second reading and public hearing on Ordinance 2021-01 will be March 3, 2021.

There is one resolution on the non-consent agenda to be voted upon separately. Marinari asked if there were any comments from the committee; there were none.

ON MOTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR SORCHIK, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN BOWEN, RESOLUTION NO. 2021-115 - AMENDING THE TEMPORARY BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 2021 WAS APPROVED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES WITH COMMITTEEMAN TROTТА VOTING NO.

CONSENT AGENDA:

THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS ON A CONSENT AGENDA ARE CONSIDERED ROUTINE AND SHALL BE ENACTED BY ONE MOTION. SHOULD ANY MEMBER OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE SEEK SEPARATE DISCUSSION OF ANY ITEM, THAT ITEM SHALL BE REMOVED AND DISCUSSED SEPARATELY. THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS WILL BE VOTED ON IN ONE VOTE.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-107– AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 2021-55 APPROVING THE 2021 ROTATING LIST OF TOWERS AND STORAGE AS SUBMITTED BY THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-108– AUTHORIZING THE PLUMSTED TOWNSHIP CONSTRUCTION OFFICIAL TO WAIVE THE COLLECTION OF FEES ON BLOCK 44, LOT 54 (161 WEST MILLSTREAM ROAD)

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-109– AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF CHANGE ORDER #1 TO THE CONTRACT WITH EARLE ASPHALT COMPANY FOR EMERGENCY REPAIR TO LEPKY AVENUE

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-110– AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF A CHECK FOR THE REDEMPTION OF A TAX SALE CERTIFICATE

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-111 - AUTHORIZING THE RENEWAL OF A SHARED SERVICE AGREEMENT BETWEEN PLUMSTED TOWNSHIP AND THE PLUMSTED TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION TO PROVIDE COURTESY BUSING FOR HAZARDOUS ROUTES FOR THE YEAR 2019-2020

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-112 - AUTHORIZING THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER TO DISPOSE OF OR RECYCLE OBSOLETE ITEMS NO LONGER NEEDED FOR PUBLIC USE

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-113 - ADOPTING COVID-19 PROTOCOLS

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-114 - SUPPORTING ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 803 (Sponsored by Assemblyman Ronald S. Dancer District 12, Assemblyman Anthony S. Verrelli District 35 and Assemblyman Benjie E. Wimberly District 35)

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-116 - AUTHORIZING THE REFUND OF LAND USE BOARD ESCROWS TO BOHONYI CORP dba NEW EGYPT AGWAY

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-117 - AUTHORIZING THE REFUND OF UNUSED ESCROWS TO ATLANTIS FINE HOMES & HOME IMPROVEMENT LLC

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-118 - ISSUING A 2021 TEMPORARY TRAILER PERMIT FOR FARM OFFICE USE TO GOOD TREE FARM, BLOCK 25, LOT 35, IN THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMSTED

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-119 - AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF CHANGE ORDER #2 TO THE CONTRACT WITH EARLE ASPHALT COMPANY FOR FY2019 NJDOT MUNICIPAL AID ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS TO LOVEMAN ROAD

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-120 - AUTHORIZING DEWBERRY ENGINEERING, INC., TOWNSHIP ENGINEER AS PROJECT ENGINEER FOR THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION GRANT FY2021 MUNICIPAL AID PROGRAM FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO HOPKINS ROAD

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-121 - AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP TO ESCHEAT UNSPENT ESCROW AND MAINTENANCE BOND FEES FOR BLOCK 76, LOT 77.11

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-122 - AUTHORIZING THE ADVERTISEMENT AND RECEIPT OF BIDS FOR THE LEASE OF CERTAIN PORTIONS OF PUBLIC PROPERTY PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:12-14

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-123 - TO AUTHORIZE THE RELEASE OF THE PERFORMANCE GUARANTEE AND ACCEPTING THE MAINTENANCE GUARANTEE FOR THE NJDOT MUNICIPAL AID FY 2019 GRANT – ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS TO LOVEMAN ROAD

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-124 – AUTHORIZING THE DEMOLITION OF BLOCK 19, LOT 10, A/K/A 6 EVERGREEN ROAD IN THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMSTED

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-125 – AUTHORIZING A TRANSFER OF APPROPRIATIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF N.J.S.A. 40A:4-59

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-126 – AUTHORIZING THE RENEWAL OF A SHARED SERVICE AGREEMENT BETWEEN PLUMSTED TOWNSHIP AND THE PLUMSTED TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION TO PROVIDE COURTESY BUSING FOR HAZARDOUS ROUTES FOR THE YEAR 2020-2021

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-127 – AUTHORIZING THE EXCHANGE OF CONSTRUCTION CODE SERVICES

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-128 - AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF A REQUEST FOR QUOTES FOR PUBLIC GROUNDS LAWN MOWING SERVICES FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMSTED

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-129 - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMSTED AND EASTERN ARMORED CAR SERVICE

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-130 - APPOINTING OFFICERS TO THE PLUMSTED TOWNSHIP COUNCIL FOR THE ARTS FOR THE YEAR 2021

ON MOTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR SORCHIK, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN GRILLETTO, THE AFOREMENTIONED RESOLUTIONS 2021-107 THROUGH 2021-130 ON PAGES 1 AND 2 OF THE CONSENT AGENDA, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF 2021-111 AND 2021-126 AS THEY WERE PULLED FROM THE AGENDA FOR FURTHER REVIEW, WERE APPROVED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES WITH COMMITTEEMAN TROTTA VOTING NO ON RESOLUTION NO. 2021-108 AND 2021-124

ADD ON RESOLUTION:

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN TROTTA, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN BOWEN, RESOLUTION NO. 2021-131 AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP CLERK TO ADVERTISE FOR THE RECEIPT OF BIDS FOR THE NJDOT FY2020 MUNICIPAL AID GRANT ROAD PROGRAM FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO TOWER ROAD WAS APPROVED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES

MOTION TO CONSIDER: None

REPORTS OF DEPARTMENTS AND PROFESSIONALS:

Mayor Marinari asked if there were any comments on the Bill List; there were none.

ON MOTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR SORCHIK, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN BOWEN, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF PO# 20-00904, THE BILL LIST OF FEBRUARY 3, 2021 WAS APPROVED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

REPORTS SUBMITTED FOR COMMITTEE REVIEW: TOWNSHIP ENGINEER REPORT – February 3, 2021; CONSTRUCTION REPORT – December 2020; TAX COLLECTOR REPORT – none; FINANCIAL REPORTS – 2020 Annual Debt Statement; Temporary Budget Amended 1/4/21; Revenue Summary by Month December 2020; Abbreviated Summary Budget Account Status December 2020; Treasurer’s Report November 2020 Amended; Treasurer’s Report December 2020; POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT – December 2020; End-of-Year Report 2020; COURT REPORTS – none; PLUMSTED BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS DISTRICT #1 MEETING MINUTES – 11/2/20 & 12/7/20; PLUMSTED TOWNSHIP MUA MINUTES –12/15/20

Marinari asked if there were any questions about the reports; there were none.

Township Engineer Walter Bronson reviewed his report. He provided a status of the work done by Earle Asphalt on Lepky Avenue and the investigation being done by Dewberry for a permanent solution to the problems with the street. Site work is complete on the first three phases at the planned retirement community. The sanitary sewer system is close to completion. Residents are scheduled to move into the development sometime in March. Final approval of the next three phases was approved at last night’s Land Use Board’s meeting. Loveman Road project is being closed out. NJDOT FY2020 Tower Road project will be going out to bid. The township needs permission from NJDOT Local Aid before it can be advertised. The design of FY2021 Local Aid Hopkins Road project has been approved. Committeeman Grilletto asked about using funds from the I-bank to complete the design.

Bronson spoke about the status of the Township’s funding application to I-bank. He also spoke about the amount of funding available and the projects the township may want to include in the application. Bronson spoke about stormwater management and discussions with NJDEP relative to a potential public parking lot along Main Street.

Marinari asked if there was any old business from the committee.

Grilletto said another market analysis was done on Main Street by Beth Kimmick. She will send it to Witham by the end of the week. He said a meeting was held with the Historical Society about preservation of the building on Main Street. He spoke about a volunteer group cleanup that was held at Paradise Park. Another cleanup will be held in the spring. There is a barrel in the vestibule of the Municipal Building for people to donate bird feed for Paradise Park. He is also looking at having a barrel at the Marketplace for donation of bird feed. He wants to make the park a centerpiece for people who come to the township. He spoke about the need for repair of the gazebo.

Grilletto provided an overview of the meeting he attended regarding the development in Jackson. The next meeting about the development is on April 5, 2021. Grilletto said today is the 75th anniversary of the sinking of the Dorchester, which was a troop transport going to Greenland. There were four ministers on the ship who comforted people and went down with the ship. The American Legion will have a ceremony this Friday night commemorating the event.

Marinari asked if there was any other old business. There was none.

Marinari asked if there was any new business from the committee.

Committeeman Bowen asked about the method in place to clear sidewalks that have not been cleared of snow, particularly on the routes to school. He said it becomes a public safety issue when children are walking in the street on their way to school if a sidewalk had not been cleared. Trotta said he agrees that sidewalks need to be cleared. He also said that busing is provided for every student in the school district. Leutwyler spoke about what has been done in the past when property owners do not maintain their sidewalks.

Marinari said that the township wants to make sure that cars are off Main Street when it needs to be plowed. He spoke about putting signs up on Main Street to remove cars when it snows. The problem is that there is limited space for people to park off Main Street.

Sorchik thanked Deputy Clerk Cicero for putting together the cell tower specifications. He also thanked BA/Clerk Witham for putting the COVID program together. He said it is very difficult because the rules change every day.

Sorchik said that regarding COVID, the governor has decreed that restaurants are now at 35% capacity. The ten o'clock closing time is waived. He thinks the township should allow restaurants themselves to determine the best time to close.

There was a discussion about police body cameras and whether or not the state will reimburse the township for their purchase. Witham spoke about quotes received for body cameras. Chief Meroney provided details on the company he thinks is the most feasible and that he favors for body cameras.

Attorney Zabarsky explained the statutes mandating police body cameras. He said the statute for police body cameras becomes operative June 1, 2021. The Assembly passed legislation in December 12, 2020 funding the purchase of body cameras. Funding under the Assembly bill is available on or after January 1, 2022 at the earliest. It is still waiting for legislative approval. Right now, the mandate of having the body worn cameras effective June 1 is subject to appropriation limitations. He said the township may or may not be reimbursed by the state.

Zabarsky said the statute that was passed in November 2020 included an amendment that specifically provided that forfeiture money can be used to purchase body cameras. It would have to be approved by the Attorney General.

Sorchik said the township will have to see where it is in the budget and have idea of how much the township is going to be reimbursed. That is a lot of money that was not planned for. There was also a discussion about updating SOPs and training, and body camera redactions for OPRA requests.

Marinari asked if there was any other new business. There was none.

Mayor Marinari opened up the meeting for public comment. Clerk Witham read the remote meetings statement once again as it is the regular portion of the meeting. The Clerk did not receive any questions or comments from the public prior to the meeting.

Marinari asked if there were any public comments; there were none. Public comments were closed.

The committee returned for a second executive session. It was announced by Witham that they would return from the executive session and official action may be taken.

The committee returned from executive session.

ON MOTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR SORCHIK, SECONDED BY COMMITTEE BOWEN, THE APPEAL OF THE GRIEVANCE WAS DENIED AND THE BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR'S DENIAL OF THE GRIEVANCE WAS AFFIRMED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN TROTTA, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN BOWEN, THE FEBRUARY 3, 2021 MEETING WAS ADJOURNED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer Witham, RMC, CMR
Municipal Clerk