

September 1, 2021
Municipal Building
121 Evergreen Road
New Egypt, NJ 08533

The Plumsted Township Committee meeting of September 1, 2021 was called to order by Mayor Marinari.

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 Trenton Times and posted on the Bulletin Board.

Clerk Witham read the following statement regarding remote meetings:

Please be advised that this meeting is being held in person and 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 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 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.

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.

THOSE OFFICIALS PRESENT:

COMMITTEEMAN BOWEN COMMITTEEMAN GRILLETTO COMMITTEEMAN TROTTA
DEPUTY MAYOR SORCHIK MAYOR MARINARI ATTORNEY ZABARSKY CLERK WITHAM

Dave Leutwyler was also in attendance.

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

Mayor Marinari asked Committeeman Grilletto to speak about the Scout that was here tonight. Grilletto stated that Shawn Abate was here and would like to work on his Eagle Scout project; he is part of Troop 9. Abate came forward to present his idea. He would like to install flag retirement box at the municipal building. He shared photos with the Township Committee for what it might look like. He said that it is important for flags to be retired properly. Scouts of Troop 9 would burn them; retire them properly. It will be a drop box put on a cement slab. He would need to know where it should be placed. He is looking to have the project complete by Veteran's Day. Marinari asked Grilletto if he had any ideas on where to place the box. Grilletto suggested Marinari, Witham and Priest all get together with him to decide. Marinari said we could do that this week. The box will be recognizable as a retirement flag box. It will be painted and labeled with a plaque and will be locked. Abate is looking for paperwork to be signed. The committee thanked Abate for presenting.

Marinari asked for any comments from the committee members about the agenda.

Bowen spoke about their finance committee meeting. He is hoping to be able to present the financial aspect of the engineer proposals 21-268 through 21-273 but it isn't ready yet so he is hesitant to proceed on those resolutions. He has asked for an opinion as to whether or not we can use the American Rescue Plan monies to fund engineer costs on these projects but we haven't heard back on that opinion yet. Bowen didn't know if we could hold off until the October meeting.

Grilletto asked about the projects. Bowen said that these are the resolutions for stormwater infrastructure projects. So they may be an eligible usage for the ARP dollars. Would allow us to use federal dollars instead of bonding it which would then be debt service to the Township. That would seem to be the best option. Marinari asked if he was looking to pull those resolutions.

Engineer Walt Bronson spoke. He said that the funding may be used for that. The iBank has granted their application to fund these projects. We needed to exceed \$1 million to complete the application with them, with the addition of Kuzyk and a little bit of work on Hopkins, we are at \$1.4 million now. There is some extra in there but we will need to use this money with iBank. Some of the projects don't require extra permitting but others will take 6-9 months to permit once plans submitted. Will take probably 3 months to get plans together between surveying, wetlands surveys, putting applications together, etc. and then getting them approved. It will be a years' time before these projects will be done. There is good reason to get these projects moving. Some will move forward more quickly and others will be a year out. The iBank will fund engineering costs, not just construction costs. The two projects in line are Tower and Hopkins; they are DOT grants. Those projects are completely designed and approved by DOT and into

iBank to be approved. The committee already approved these to go out to bid. Hoping to have a recommendation for award at the next meeting so that we can get them paved before the end of the year. That money, as far as engineering is already spent. The projects remaining after that are a lot of drainage with associated road work that go with them. Not sure what the purpose would be to wait on those.

Bowen said the resolutions are to bond the projects or see if by October we can use the ARP funding. But there isn't enough to pay for all projects, we will need the iBank. iBank is at least 20 years. Bowen is still hoping to have info for next month. Grilletto said the resolutions are approved under the bond ordinance from 2020. If Lakeview is awarded by DOT, it would be pulled from the iBank application and then we would be under the \$1 million.

The Brynmore pipe has already collapsed in front of the First Aid building once and the Kuzyk Culvert is a more urgent safety issue at this point. Deputy Mayor Sorchik clarified this is ARP funding, not CARES.

Marinari asked if the resolutions were delayed until October, where will that put us? Trotta and Marinari met as the Streets and Roads committee approved moving forward with this but the Finance committee is asking basically where the money is coming from. Bowen said the resolutions are certified by the CFO that we have the bond money to pay for this but that would be borrowed money. We would then add to our debt service so the other option might be to use ARP dollars in lieu which will save us \$200,000 in bonded money, which would be \$20,000 of debt service. Bronson said that the two projects with collapsed culverts on the streets is something the committee should consider moving forward. There is a time limit on using the iBank funding as well; three years to use the money. Witham asked what the time frame was for starting a project. Bronson said we have to award a project by the November meeting, which includes Tower and Hopkins. There is a certain time period to begin projects.

Trotta thinks we need to move forward with these projects. Deputy Mayor Sorchik and he have received some information that will be discussed in the executive session which will affect thoughts of ARP funding. Bronson continued with some additional review of his report.

Marinari asked about increases in material. Bronson said they went up substantially for houses but the price of wood is starting to come down now. He wasn't sure about asphalt. Lisa Peterson said that steel is up and asphalt is steady. The drainage materials are primarily plastic today.

Regarding Lepky potholes. Bronson confirmed that the potholes are in the beginning section, prior to where the road was paved last year. Maintenance will be filling those potholes as a temporary fix. We are about a year in and Lennar is quite a bit ahead; sections 4, 5 & 6 are mostly done. The remaining three sections were submitted to the LUB. Grading approval was issued on 129 units already; 67 units approval for occupancy. The stormwater management plan is now complete and approved by the county. As far as Oakford Lake Dam, we are trying to find a mechanic for the gates. Witham said that she spoke with Artie Reece of the County Road department today and he took a look at it this week. He is also responsible for bridges and he said that it is way beyond their realm. He advised Witham a couple of names to call as resources. Bronson said that it is not a typical lever and may turn into a real project. Witham said that Reece said that same and once the debris is cleaned out underneath that may actually turn out to be part of the problem. The street assessment project will start the end of this month or early October – a few weeks away.

Marinari asked for any other agenda items. Grilletto spoke about the Medal of Honor winner. He just got the results from the Clerk. There were 7 votes for the clock parking lot, then Meadowbrook Lane. There was discussion among the committee. Bowen said he is happy to use the votes and perhaps call it a square, instead of a parking lot. Trotta agrees with the parking lot. He wanted to point this out. He has heard many months in a row that this is about a Medal of Honor winner but he said that he is a recipient. No one wants to win this. Many times the person dies in the process so I think we should change our term to recipient. Marinari would have selected dedicating Meadowbrook Lane since the Legion is there. Grilletto didn't see the results before tonight. Sorchik agreed with the clock parking lot.

Trotta referred to 21-263 to renew the agreement with CivicPlus to host our website. He thinks that our relationship with CivicPlus has been a positive one. It is a user-friendly site compared to our old site. It is updated continuously compared to the old site when we were relying on another company. This has been a great thing for the town and he will be voting yes on that. The second is 21-266 and obviously we can't tell businesses exactly what to do but this one bothers him. One of the nights Laurita is going to do fireworks is 9/11 and he doesn't believe that fireworks is an appropriate thing to be doing on 9/11. They are a joyful thing and I don't believe they belong on that day.

Bronson came up to comment as Chairman of the MUA. He wanted to comment before the executive session. Mr. Minter resigned from the MUA and has been on the MUA about 12 years. His services will be missed. Certainly all honors to him. We do have two alternates on the MUA. Our second alternate is James Hagelstein who has been an active member since joining. He has been a great asset to us. He, on behalf of the entire MUA, recommends James move to the full-time member position as he has been

more active on the MUA. The other alternate has a job that prevents him from attending all meetings so that is why they are recommending James. This is the MUAs request. Marinari appreciated the recommendation since although the committee appoints members, he appreciates the input from the board. It was voted upon by the entire MUA at their last meeting to request James be appointed as a member.

Attorney Zabarsky was participating through Zoom and read into executive session.

ON MOTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR SORCHIK, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN TROTTA, RESOLUTION NO. 2021-262 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

ORDINANCE: Second Reading and Public Hearing - none

ORDINANCE: Introduction - none

RESOLUTION 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. 2021-244 – AWARDING A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT TO THE FIRM OF ROTHSTEIN, MANDELL, STROHM, HALM & CIPRIANI AS AFFORDABLE HOUSING COUNSEL

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-263 – AUTHORIZING THE RENEWAL OF AN AGREEMENT WITH CIVICPLUS TO PROVIDE WEBSITE HOSTING SERVICES TO PLUMSTED TOWNSHIP AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE AGREEMENT

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-264 - AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 21-188 AWARDING A CONTRACT TO CONVEXSERV FOR THE INSTALLATION OF SOFTWARE AND HARD DRIVES FOR BODY-WORN CAMERAS

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-265 – AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AN EASEMENT AGREEMENT WITH JERSEY CENTRAL POWER & LIGHT FOR BLOCK 40, LOT 4.02

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-266 - APPROVING THE PUBLIC DISPLAY OF FIREWORKS AT LAURITA WINERY FOR DATES IN SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER 2021

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-267 - APPOINTING SHARON GOWER AS THE DEPUTY CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMSTED

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-268 - AUTHORIZING TOWNSHIP ENGINEER DEWBERRY ENGINEERS INC., AS PROJECT ENGINEER FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF LAKEVIEW DRIVE

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-269 - AUTHORIZING TOWNSHIP ENGINEER DEWBERRY ENGINEERS INC., AS PROJECT ENGINEER FOR THE BRYNMORE ROAD CULVERT REPLACEMENT

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-270 – AUTHORIZING TOWNSHIP ENGINEER DEWBERRY ENGINEERS INC., AS PROJECT ENGINEER FOR THE POLICE STATION CULVERT REPLACEMENT

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-271 – AUTHORIZING TOWNSHIP ENGINEER DEWBERRY ENGINEERS INC., AS PROJECT ENGINEER FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF LEPKY AVENUE

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-272 – AUTHORIZING TOWNSHIP ENGINEER DEWBERRY ENGINEERS INC., AS PROJECT ENGINEER FOR MEADOWBROOK LANE

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-273 – AUTHORIZING TOWNSHIP ENGINEER DEWBERRY ENGINEERS INC., AS PROJECT ENGINEER FOR THE KUZYK ROAD CULVERT REPLACEMENT

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-274 – SUPPORTING ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 3574 (Sponsored by Assemblyman Eric Houghtaling District 11 and Assemblyman Ronald S. Dancer District 12)

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-275 –DESIGNATING EMPLOYEE SALARIES FOR VARIOUS POSITIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SALARY ORDINANCE FOR THE YEAR 2021

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-276 – SUPPORTING ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 3619 (Sponsored by Assemblyman Eric Houghtaling District 11, Assemblyman Ronald S. Dancer District 12, and Assemblyman John Armato, District 2)

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-277 – SUPPORTING ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 5714 (Sponsored by Assemblyman Ronald S. Dancer District 12)

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-278 – CANCELLING 2021 PROPERTY TAXES and REFUND 2021 3RD QUARTER TAXES DUE TO LENNAR PILOT PROGRAM

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-279 – AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF A CHECK FOR THE REDEMPTION OF A TAX SALE CERTIFICATE

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-280 – AUTHORIZING THE REFUND OF OVER BILLED TAXES (BLOCK 55, LOT 149 QFARM)

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-281 – AUTHORIZING THE REFUND OF OVER BILLED TAXES (BLOCK 76, LOT 77.06)

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-282 – AUTHORIZING THE REFUND OF OVERPAYMENT OF TAXES DUE TO COUNTY BOARD JUDGEMENT APPEAL

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-283 – AUTHORIZING THE REFUND OF 2021 3rd QUARTER DUPLICATE PAYMENT OF TAXES

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-284 – AUTHORIZING THE REFUND OF OVERPAYMENT OF TAXES DUE TO TOTALLY DISABLED VETERAN EXEMPTION

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-285 – CANCELLING 2021 PROPERTY TAXES AND REFUND 2021 3RD QUARTER TAXES DUE TO LENNAR PILOT PROGRAM

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-286 – AMENDING RESOLUTION 2021-120 AUTHORIZING DEWBERRY ENGINEERS, INC., TOWNSHIP ENGINEER AS PROJECT ENGINEER FOR THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION GRANT FY2021 MUNICIPAL AID PROGRAM FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO HOPKINS ROAD

ON MOTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR SORCHIK, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN BOWEN, RESOLUTIONS 2021-244 AND 2021-263 THROUGH 2021-286 ON PAGES ONE AND TWO OF THE AGENDA, WERE APPROVED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES WITH COMMITTEEMAN BOWEN ABSTAINING FROM 2021-268 THROUGH 2021-273, COMMITTEEMAN TROTТА AND MAYOR MARINARI ABSTAINING FROM 2021-274, 2021-276 AND 2021-277.

ADD ON RESOLUTIONS:

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN TROTТА, SECONDED BY DEPUTY MAYOR SORCHIK, RESOLUTION NO. 2021-287 AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMSTED AND PLUMSTED TOWNSHIP CHIEF OF POLICE EARL E. MERONEY, JR. WAS APPROVED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

ON MOTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR SORCHIK, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN TROTТА, RESOLUTION NO. 2021-288 AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMSTED AND PLUMSTED TOWNSHIP LIEUTENANT JASON R. REILLY WAS APPROVED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN TROTТА, SECONDED BY DEPUTY MAYOR SORCHIK, RESOLUTION NO. 2021-289 APPROVING A BONFIRE EVENT FOR POP WARNER AT THE NEW EGYPT RECREATION FIELDS ON SEPTEMBER 24, 2021 WAS APPROVED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

ON MOTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR SORCHIK, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN TROTТА, RESOLUTION NO. 2021-290 APPOINTING A MEMBER TO THE MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY WAS APPROVED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES WITH COMMITTEEMAN BOWEN AND COMMITTEEMAN GRILLETTO ABSTAINING.

REPORTS OF DEPARTMENTS AND PROFESSIONALS:

Mayor Marinari asked if there were any comments on the Amended Bill List of September 1, 2021.

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN TROTТА, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN BOWEN, THE AMENDED BILL LIST OF SEPTEMBER 1, 2021 WAS APPROVED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES WITH DEPUTY MAYOR SORCHIK ABSTAINING.

REPORTS SUBMITTED FOR COMMITTEE REVIEW: TOWNSHIP ENGINEER REPORT –September 1, 2021; CONSTRUCTION REPORT – July 2021 and New Hanover July 2021; TAX COLLECTOR REPORT – June 2021; FINANCIAL REPORTS –Revenue Summary by Month July 2021; Abbreviated Summary Budget Account Status July 2021; Treasurer’s Report July 2021; POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT – July 2021; PLUMSTED BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS DISTRICT #1 MEETING MINUTES – 7/6/21; PLUMSTED TOWNSHIP MUA MINUTES – 6/15/21 and 7/20/21.

Marinari asked about the increase in foot patrol on the police department report. Chief confirmed we had increased foot patrol at the recreation fields. Grilletto asked about suspicious persons. He asked where it was, in town on Main Street. If it was out of town, it would be an assist. This was within Plumsted Township. Marinari also asked about property checks. Chief discussed the same.

Marinari asked for a recess for the Plumsted Township Board of Health Special Meeting. The committee returned from the Board of Health meeting.

Mayor Marinari asked for old business. Bowen said that since it's been brought up a number of times, he knows the Clerk's office has been working on it in the midst of all the turmoil of the last year and a half. He wanted to thank them for posting both the agenda and all the attachments for this meeting. He looked at it this afternoon and he appreciates their hard work and sticking with it. There have been a lot of obstacles. He thinks it allows the community to be better engaged and informed. Marinari said it is a work in progress and knows Witham will take care of any issues that arise. Witham said they are taking baby steps and will continue to work with the program.

Sorchik said that he had a comment about the LUB having a hierarchy process of people coming on and moving up. He disagrees. He has been on the LUB for 16 years. They've always had a hard time finding people. It shouldn't be used as a political stepping stone. The whole idea of the LUB is trying to get people focused on continuing to adhere to our master plan. If we have an opportunity to bring someone on and can contribute greatly to it, then he would encourage them and want them as a full-time member, provided they come to meetings. That has been an issue as well. However, he thinks that we can drive people away if we have a hierarchal system. This is a volunteer position, without pay. If they have certain mechanics, that is why the committee selects people; not to create a dynasty. He has never worked on a committee that has a process like that and he has served on numerous committees.

Regarding the cell tower. The proposals will be returned September 15th. Many people reached out for the information and one even walked the grounds. It will increase service to our schools and the new Lennar development. It is encouraging we have gotten feedback on the request for proposals.

Marinari asked for any new business; there was none.

Mayor Marinari asked for any public comment. No comments received to the clerk prior the meeting. Hagelstein was unable to connect with us through Zoom as he is under the weather but thanked everyone for their comments. There were no other comments.

There is no need to go into a second executive session. ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN TROTTA, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN GRILLETTO, THE SEPTEMBER 1, 2021 MEETING WAS ADJOURNED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer Witham, RMC, CMR
Municipal Clerk