Present: Mayor Fernandez; Councilmembers Anthony, Klein, Meinhardt, Vieira; Township Manager Lewis; Deputy Township Manager Jones; Township Attorney Weiner; Township Clerk Turtletaub; Deputy 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 2, 2020.


Township Manager Lewis stated that he suggests the services of a Redevelopment Counsel in connection with the new Department of Public Works Facility project. He recommended a “non-fair and open” contract with McManimon, Scotland & Baumann, LLC for redevelopment counsel services.

Township Manager Lewis recommended an award of contract to R&D trucking for removal and off-site disposal of liquid sludge.

Township Manager Lewis mentioned that NJDOT has authorized a grant of $475,000 to fund the Two-Inch Mill and Pave of Chestnut Street – North Section. He added that since the contract with Ischia Cop is less money, sidewalks will be replaced and that this additional work will qualify for reimbursement under the Township’s existing grant application.

Township Manager Lewis explained that CMS Construction, Inc. won the bid on the Wardell Road Pedestrian Bridge contract, which is authorized in the Open Space Trust Fund.

Monte Ehrenkranz described the Summerfest 2020 event scheduled for June 14, 2020. He mentioned that last year was a huge success. This year, they plan on adding more food trucks, as they ran out of food last year due to the overwhelming attendance. He added that the Club is communicating with various departments in the Township to figure out the logistics of the event.

Mayor Fernandez stated that there would be more follow up at the next Township Council Conference meeting, February 24, 2020, on the Plastic Bags Ordinance.

Township Clerk Turtletaub mentioned that Patty Spango, the Deputy Superintendent of Elections and Deputy Commissioner of Registration for Essex County, asked if the April 20, 2020 Regular Township Council meeting would be feasible for them to do a presentation on the new voting machines and the mayor approved the date. Mayor Fernandez also asked Township Clerk Turtletaub to coordinate with other Township venues for voting machine demonstrations.

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

At 8:18 p.m., the Conference meeting resumed with everyone previously in attendance present.

Mayor Fernandez inquired if initiatives were being made in the Township to increase public awareness of the 2020 Census, and asked Township Clerk Turtletaub to follow up.

Councilmember Vieira asked if the DPW would be able to fix the falling stones at the Force home.

Councilmember Meinhardt mentioned that the Sports Council meeting was last week and they were exploring different locations for turf fields.

Councilmember Klein suggested that in light of MONOC closing, a rescue squad operation like South Orange should be considered. He added that April 19th is Earth Day, and suggested it should be Pick-it-Up Day in Livingston.

Township Manager Lewis stated that the Township extended the Forestry Management Plan.

Township Manager Lewis congratulated Township SYLS employees Liliana Branquinho and Jennifer Walker for their efforts on the GROTTA grant, providing $75,000 per year, for three years, to support age friendly initiatives in the Township.

Deputy Township Manager Jones mentioned that proposals have been received for electronic recycling.

Councilmember Klein commented that the Green Team is working towards a sustainable NJ.

At 8:30 p.m., the following Resolution was considered:
Resolution Authorizing Closed Session – Zoning

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 allows for a Public Body to go into closed session during a Public Meeting; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of the Township of Livingston has deemed it necessary to go into closed session to discuss certain matters which are exempted from the Public; and

WHEREAS, the Conference meeting of the Governing Body will reconvene; and

BE IT RESOLVED that this 3rd day of February, 2020, that the Township Council of the Township of Livingston will go into Closed Session for the purpose of discussing Zoning and such matters as may come before the Council and that are exempted from the public as outlined in N.J.S.A. 10:4-12.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the matters discussed in closed session will be made public upon disposition.

On motion duly made and seconded, and by voice vote, all members present voted YES.

At 10:00 p.m., the Closed Session ended.

At 10:00 p.m., the Conference meeting concluded.

Respectfully submitted,

CAROLYN MAZZUCCO
Deputy Township Clerk