Minutes - Livingston Township Council Conference Meeting #4—February 24, 2020

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.


Lori Elbach, State Director for the National Federation of Independent Business, presented the positions of her group’s members (which included Livingston businesses) concerning a single use plastic reduction ordinance. The group will review and comment upon the draft Plastics ordinance currently under consideration. Participating in the discussion were Village Supermarkets (Shop Rite) Board Chairman and Executive Vice-President William Sumas and Kings Supermarket CEO Joseph Parisi.

BID Executive Director Beth Lippman presented the proposed BID 2020 Budget to the Council, and answered questions. She noted that the increase in marketing costs was due to the undertaking of more programs. The proposed Budget will be introduced by Resolution on this evening’s Regular Agenda.

R-20-81 (re: Collective Negotiations Agreement with CWA) was withdrawn from the evening’s Regular Agenda.

The Council agreed to the request for a proclamation recognizing National Nutrition Month, and Shop Rite dietitian Lena Mattero will accept the Proclamation and speak at a March Council meeting.

Township Manager Lewis updated the Council on matters involving the Camuso Shed, the Community Center Sound System, and East Harrison Parking.

The Manager and Council discussed possible Budget Meeting dates, and selected March 4, 2020 beginning at 5:30 p.m.

The Council considered the recommendation of Township Manager Lewis for an award of contract to Associated Appraisal Group Inc. to handle tax appeals for the year 2020. A resolution has been placed upon the evening’s Regular Agenda for consideration.

The Council considered the recommendation of the Township’s Architectural Engineers Parette Somjen, Director of Utilities Richard Tuttle, and Township Manager Lewis, for an award of contract to Northeast Roof Maintenance for WPCF Water Roof Replacements Phase 2, and a resolution has been placed on the evening’s Regular Agenda for consideration.

The Council considered to the request of IT manager Wachtel for declaration of certain computer personal property as surplus as they are no longer needed for public use, and a resolution authorizing the sale of those surplus computer items has been placed on the evening’s Regular Agenda for consideration.

The Council discussed the recommendation of Utility Engineer Kiracofoe and Manager Lewis for a Change Order and final payment to DeMaio Electrical Company, Inc. for Well 6 Packed Tower Aeration Facility improvements, and a resolution has been placed on the evening’s Regular Agenda for consideration.

Township manager Lewis explained his recommendation for a Non-fair and open contract to Preferred Planning Group, LLC, for Township Planner services, and a resolution has been placed on the evening’s Regular Agenda for consideration.

The Council agreed to the recommendation of Township Engineer Harduby and Manager Lewis for an award of contract to Matrix New World Engineering, Inc. for professional engineering services for the Dorsa Avenue Well Field. A resolution has been placed on the evening’s Regular Agenda for consideration.

The Council considered and approved Authorizing Planning Board to Conduct a Preliminary investigation, and a resolution has been placed on the evening’s Regular Agenda for consideration.

The Council considered and agreed to the recommendations of Township Engineer Harduby and Township Manager Lewis for an award of Contract for 2020 Road Improvements to Stanziale Construction LLC. A Resolution has been placed on the evening’s Regular Agenda for consideration.

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

At 8:20 p.m., the Conference meeting resumed with everyone previously in attendance present.

At 8:20 p.m., the following Resolution was considered:

Resolution Authorizing Closed Session – Contract Negotiations and Attorney Client Privilege (LCEA—Direct Energy): West Mt.
Pleasant Properties Proposed Redevelopment

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 24th day of February, 2020, that the Township Council of the Township of Livingston will go into Closed Session for the purpose of discussing Contract Negotiations, Attorney-Client Privilege, and such matters as may come before the Council and that are exempted from the public as outlined in N.J.S0.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 9:15 p.m., the Closed Session ended.

The Council approved the Legal Fees of Murphy McKeon and Genova Burns.

The Council agreed to the request of Dietitian Shop Rite Dietician to present to the Council in recognition of National Nutrition Month. A presentation will be scheduled for a March council meeting date.

The Council considered the letter from a West Orange resident concerning "Signal Timing and Lane Striping," and determined to take no action.

The Council considered the request of ‘Trail Blazers for Kids’ to hold a “Fastballs and Food Trucks” event. Additional information will be gathered as to the number of food trucks and where they will be placed, and the vendors should be advised to satisfy any health inspection requirements.

The Council agreed to honor Jane Horwitz who raised money and arranged to donate defibrillators to the Township.

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

Respectfully submitted,

GLENN R. TURTLETAUB
Township Clerk