

## Minutes - Livingston Township Council Conference Meeting #3--February 6, 2012

Present: Mayor Santola; Councilmembers Fernandez, Rieber, Schneiderman, Shapiro; Township Manager Meade; Deputy Township Manager Jones; Township Attorney Weiner; Township Clerk Turtletaub

The Conference meeting commenced at 7:30 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 3, 2012.

The Council approved the **Minutes** of January 23, 2012 (Conference and Closed), and the Budget Meeting minutes of January 22, 2012, January 26, 2012 and February 1, 2012.

The Council discussed the invitation to join "**Mayors Against Illegal Guns**". Councilmember Shapiro stated she was opposed to the request, and that the proposed program was a "bad program". Councilmembers Schneiderman and Fernandez stated they were "opposed to illegal guns." Mayor Santola stated the matter should be relisted on the following week's agenda for a final decision.

Transportation Advisory Committee Chair Merle Kalishman addressed the Council concerning placement of a **bus stop** at Eastbound Route 10, noting that the Livingston Police had advised her of their support. She pointed out that Eastbound on Rt 10 was not a designated spot, that Community Coach had advised her that the Township must designate the location for a bus stop. Mayor Santola pointed out that the request had come to the Council from residents of the Fairways, that he had taken a look at the location, and that the Transportation Committee had recommended that the Bus Stop should be moved.

Township Attorney Weiner presented a **Release and Hold Harmless Agreement** which she had prepared, and which she recommended be authorized by the Council, which would give the Township permission to use and display Memorabilia submitted to it in connection with the Bicentennial, and providing the Township a measure of protection from liability.

The Council considered the **Open Positions Report** for January 2012.

The Manager's recommendation for issuance of Change Order 1 and Final Payment for **Milling and Repaving of Hillside Avenue-Section 6** was discussed, and the matter will be listed on the February 13, 2012 Regular Agenda.

The Council discussed the recommendation of SYLS and Manager Meade for an increase in **2012 Pool Fees**. Manager Meade distributed a sheet comparing Municipal pool rates of Livingston with those of other towns. She noted that in order to address the deficiency between income and what we need to run the pools, a 5% increase was needed. Councilmember Fernandez noted that a lot of towns have been doing away with "Early Bird Discounts". Councilmember Shapiro suggested that such early bird rates eliminated, instead of the suggested 5% increase in fees. A Resolution increasing the Pool Fees will be listed on the Regular Agenda for February 13.

Addressing the **Usage Report**, Mayor Santola noted the dramatic increase in usage since the Senior Community Center first opened.

Township Attorney Weiner addressed the recommendation of Alan Karpas regarding enforcement of **Skatepark** rules. Manager Meade stated that she would address the matter.

Manager Meade noted that Resolutions to Authorize Agreements for **Animal Control Shared Services** with Berkeley Heights, Springfield, and Madison would be on the following week's Regular Meeting Agenda.

Mayor Santola discussed the **Orchard Park** Scholarship donation. Manager Meade suggested it be used for the façade improvements administered by the BID in a competitive bidding process. Mayor Santola will respond to the group, presenting the Council's thoughts, and see whether they can "hatch a new proposal".

Mayor Santola discussed **Parking issue on Northfield** between Livingston Tire and Sam's. Manager Meade will refer the matter to the Police Department.

Councilmember Shapiro discussed **Arbor Day** and trees for purchase of trees by the LEC. It was suggested that the group be invited to our celebration, and Mr. Levine will relay the request.

RESOLUTION -Authorizing Closed Session-Contract Negotiations, Personnel, Litigation (Government Records Council; EOWR, Tax Appeals); Purchase of Real Property

At 8:10 p.m., the following resolution was considered:

**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 6th day of February, 2012, that the Township Council of the Township of Livingston will go into closed session for the purpose of discussing Contract Negotiations, Personnel, Litigation, Purchase of Real Property, and such other 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 of Councilmember Schneiderman, seconded by Councilmember Reiber, and on voice vote, all members present voted YES.

At 8:35 p.m., the Closed Session ended.

Township CFO Bill Nadolny joined the meeting. Manager Meade presented her recommended **2012 Township Budget**, as described in CM 22. Manager Meade highlighted the expansion of local revenues, the reduction in staff through attrition, reduced discretionary expenditures, the benefits of the Township's Long Term financial Plan. Further discussion on the Budget will be set for February 27.

Mayor Santola discussed the need to utilize such means as Twitter and Facebook, in addition to the email blast, and distribution of Town Topics electronically. He urged that a proposed new hire focus on such methods, not simply put the Town Topics on line; Manager Meade explained that she would.

**Public Comment**

Bernard Searle addressed the increase in Pool Fees.

At 9:35 p.m., the Conference meeting concluded.

Respectfully submitted,

Glenn R. Turtletaub  
Township Clerk

GRT