

Meeting called to order as advertised, and held in accordance with the open public meetings act.
Members present: Sheppard, Miletta, Bowman.

Land sale offers reviewed. Kurt & Tina Lorton, owner of block 185 lot 11 offered 1,000 each for purchase of lots 10 & 13. As it would create a buildable lot on a road scheduled to be paved, committee set minimum bid at 3,000 per lot. An offer of 2,000 per lot received for block 185 lots 15 and 16, to be combined with lot 17 reviewed. Again, for the same reasons, Committee set minimum bid at 3,000 per lot. An offer of 1,000 for lot 20 in block 185, to be combined with lot 21 reviewed. the sale would not create a buildable lot, minimum bid set at 2,000.00. An offer of 9,000 was received from Mr. John Belland for purchase of block 104 lot 31. Minimum bid set at 18,000. Chase Reilly, block 55 lot 2 submitted an offer of 1500.00 for adjacent lot 1. Upon review of map, minimum bid set at 2000.00. An offer received from Timothy Kane for purchase of block 35 lot 14 given no consideration as Mr. Kane owns no contiguous property. All interested parties will be notified and further consideration may be given for a land sale to be held in August.

Quotes for repairs to bank building, 339 Main Street reviewed. Water lying under crawlspace created a mold problem that was remediated in the fall. Perfect Basement LLC proposes to install a vapor barrier, 2 submersible sump pumps, install concrete footings and I beam and replace supports along wall. Cost of job - \$13,980.00. Quotes requested from Sedeyn Construction and Fred Ludwig Construction Co. also, but neither party had an interest in participating. Mr. Miletta stated that it has taken months to get a quote, time to move forward and get the job done. Award made to Perfect Basement motioned Bowman seconded Miletta, unanimous vote.

Committee received and reviewed proposed purchase of cellular lease agreement from Landmark Dividend and agreed it's in the Townships best interest to ride it out for the long term as opposed to selling it for a one- time lump sum, no action taken.

Various requests received for purchase of assignment of tax sale certificates by lien holders reviewed. Committee expressed no interest in assigning, and will move forward with foreclosure proceedings once the six month waiting period has elapsed.

Discussion held regarding 2021 NJDOT Municipal Aid Program. Priority will be Thompson and new connector road. Committeemen will ride out to the "DeCarlo Tracts" and determine which roads will be submitted as secondary. Mr. Miletta suggested multiple short roads be considered. Mr. Bowman wants roads with improvements, homes built 25- 30 years ago to be considered. Action will be taken at the regular meeting on June 8th.

Payment of approved vouchers authorized, motioned Miletta, seconded Bowman, unanimous vote.

Discussion held regarding possible lot line change and sale of a portion of Township property adjacent to Kyle Carvo 52 Maple Ave. Bamboo plants have spread onto the Township property from 48 Maple Ave. and is now encroaching onto Mr. Carvo's property. Mr. Carvo is interested in purchasing the adjacent property and if so, will assume all responsibility in removing the bamboo. Mayor Sheppard recently instructed Public Works employees to remove the bamboo with weed killer. Mr. Bowman stated that it is almost impossible to kill, must be dug up and removed which would be costly and require many man hours. Committee agreed to get quotes from Engineering and Legal for cost of lot line change for further consideration to maybe proceed with lot line change for possible sale.

With no further business to discuss, meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm, motioned Miletta, seconded Bowman.

June 8, 2020
Regular Meeting

Regular monthly meeting of the Lawrence Township Committee called to order at 7:30 PM as advertised and held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act. Members present: Sheppard, Miletta, Bowman. Following the pledge of allegiance, Mayor Sheppard opened the floor for public comment.

Chelsie Aron 466 Main Street appeared before the committee to express concerns with animal control incident that occurred earlier in the day. The incident actually began the evening before, at approximately 9pm on June 7th Mrs. Aron and her husband came across a white pit bull in the center of Cedarville Road. The dog had a raw open neck wound, possibly from a embedded collar. The Aron's could not get within 10 feet of the dog and could not steer it away from the roadway. Afraid for the dogs safety they contacted the State Police who responded about an hour later. The Police could not get close to the dog either and advised that if they could not catch it they would attempt to steer it into the woods. The Aron's left but Mrs. Aron returned about half an hour later with food and water which she left for the dog – the Police were gone. Mrs. Aron returned to the scene about 8am and did not see the dog. She returned again at 9am and the dog was in the road and Ronald Sutton ACO was present. Mrs. Aron stated that Ron advised her that he called the state police for backup and if they could not catch it, they would most likely have to shoot the dog to prevent a car accident. When the police arrived, the trooper advised that they would try to catch the dog. Mrs. Aron left, went home and made contact with a private trapper and a few people who volunteered to assist. She called Ron to see if he would back off so they could attempt to trap the dog. Ron advised that the dog had lunged at the Trooper who then fired two shots at the dog, and they were uncertain if the dog was hit as it ran into the woods. She stated that Ron was in the woods for an hour. Mrs. Aron was distraught at the chain of events and the way it was handled by both Ron Sutton, ACO and the State Police. Paula Heulings who accompanied Mrs. Aron stated that everyone failed the dog. Mrs. Aron stated that the dog was never aggressive and questioned if the trooper had a body cam. She also stated that if Ron Sutton had given more effort to trap the dog, the shooting could have been avoided. It was uncertain at this time if the dog had been found, if it was alive or dead. Mayor Sheppard stated that incident reports will be obtained from both Ronald Sutton ACO and the State Police. Mrs. Aron thanked the committee for listening and requested that they look into the incident. Committee members thanked Mrs. Aron for her time. With no further public comments or concerns before them, floor closed for public comment motioned Miletta, seconded Bowman.

Minutes of the May 7th and 11th meetings approved, motioned Bowman, seconded Miletta, unanimous vote. Reports for the month of May accepted, motioned Miletta, seconded Bowman, unanimous vote.

Resolution 2020-41, Authorizing 2019 Tax overpayment be applied to 2020 approved, motioned Bowman, seconded Miletta, unanimous vote.

Engineer Stephen Nardelli authorized to prepare and submit NJDOT Municipal Aid application as follows: Priority- Thompson and new connector road, secondary- combination of Polk, Miletta, Harris, Ruby, June and Lee, motioned Bowman, seconded Miletta, unanimous vote.

Correspondence received from DEP regarding management goals for the Buckshutem Wildlife Management Area reviewed. Committee agreed it was a DEP project had had no input, no action taken.

Quotes for Grinding and removal of brush and debris at Convenience Center reviewed:
South Jersey Agricultural Products- \$15,000 Arbrisco Enterprises-\$90,000
Job awarded to South Jersey Agricultural Products motioned Miletta, seconded Bowman, unanimous vote.

Counter offer for proposed land sale, block 185 lots 10 and 13 reviewed. Adjacent property owner, Kurt Lorton previously offered 1,000 each lot. Committee set minimum at 3,000. The Lorton's advised that there is a utility easement that runs through the middle of their lot 11 which they believe would not be buildable even if combined with lots 10 and 13. Following discussion it was determined that

minimum bid would remain 3,000 per lot, and Lorton's would be referred to the Planning Zoning Board to determine if the lot is buildable.

With no further business to discuss, meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM motioned Miletta, seconded Bowman.

Ruth Dawson, Clerk