

Thursday July 9, 2015
Workshop Meeting

Meeting called to order as advertised and held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.
Members present: Bowman, Miletta, Sheppard.

Committee met with Scott Boyer, Barbara Sanza and Donald Blew, representatives of The First National Bank of Elmer, to discuss the possibility of their bank taking residence in the former Cape Bank property now owned by the Township. Discussed was the possibility of a 3 to 5 year lease, at a cost that would cover liability and fire insurance premiums. The Bank of Elmer is a full service bank with competitive rates, and would be open Monday- Saturday. They would be responsible for all utilities and maintenance, interior and exterior. The bank property is fully furnished except for a ATM machine and computers. Mr. Boyer thanked the committee for the opportunity to serve Lawrence Township and surrounding communities. He will research requirements with bank regulators . The matter will be brought to the Board of Directors at their next meeting scheduled for July 21st.

Regular meeting closed for executive session at 8:05 pm to discuss matters of personnel, with no action to be taken, motioned Miletta, seconded bowman, unanimous vote.

Executive Session

Executive session closed and the regular meeting reopened at 8:15 pm.

George Ripper, Supervisor of Public Works appeared before the Committee and provided an update of projects and activities. Mr. Ripper advised that LT-500, 1998 Ford Dump Truck is in need of major repairs at an estimated cost of \$6,000-\$10,000. All agreed that the truck needs to be replaced. Also discussed was issues with LT-700, 1996 Boom Mower. Due to budget restrictions, committee discussed purchasing used equipment. Clerk instructed to reach to contact auditor to determine impact of a \$50,000 bond. Mr. Ripper will get quotes on both new and used equipment.

Jason & Christy Ripper, new members of the Recreation Committee presented an outline of improvements they are planning for next year's baseball season. They hope to increase the number of participants by distributing registration information at school events. They also hope to increase activities at the opening day event to keep families present. Mrs. Ripper is certified to teach CPR and hopes to get all coaches certified to perform CPR. The Rippers requested Public Works employees assistance in installing new playground equipment to be provided by the Recreation Committee. Request granted by the Township Committee.

Bids received for Supplying, Hauling and delivery of Rap DGA opened as advertised.
Arawak Paving Co. 17.75 per ton Sorantino Express Inc. 16.00 per ton
Solicitor Seeley will review bid packages which will be further considered by the Township Committee at the regular meeting of July 13th.

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Payment of approved vouchers excepting Miletta Bros. approved motioned Bowman, seconded Miletta unanimous vote. Payment of Miletta Bros. voucher approved, motioned Bowman, seconded Sheppard, yes: Bowman, Sheppard. Abstained: Miletta.

Discussion held regarding Ordinance for Peddlers/Solicitation. Committee agreed that they would prefer to prohibit door to door solicitations. Solicitor Seeley will prepare draft of same to be further considered at the regular meeting.

With no further business to discuss, meeting adjourned at 9:35 pm, motioned Miletta, seconded Bowman.

Ruth Dawson, Clerk

Monday July 13, 2015
Regular Monthly Meeting

Meeting called to order at 730 pm as advertised and held in accordance with the Open Public meetings Act. Members Present: Sheppard, Bowman. Delayed: Miletta

Following the flag salute, minutes of the June 4th and 8th meetings approved, motioned Bowman, seconded Miletta, unanimous vote of members present. Reports for the month of June accepted, motioned Bowman, seconded Sheppard, unanimous vote of members present.

Payment of additional approved vouchers granted, motioned Bowman, seconded Sheppard, unanimous vote of members present.

Solicitor Seeley arrived at 7:05 pm

Solicitor Seeley advised that he reviewed bid packages received for Supplying, Hauling and Delivery of Rap DGA and determined that low bid received from Sorantino Express Inc. 16.00 per ton was satisfactory. Clerk announced funds available for same in the amount of 59,500.00, provided by Bond Ordinance No. 2015-385. Motioned Bowman, seconded Sheppard, Yes votes: Bowman, Sheppard, that award be made to Sorantino Express Inc.

Discussion held regarding proposed ordinance prohibiting door to door solicitations. Mr. Seeley stated that what he thought would be a simple ordinance to draft, upon research found that you can establish rules, procedures, and fees regarding solicitations, but can not prohibit, as that would violate the First Amendment- Freedom of Speech. A draft ordinance establishing fees and regulations for solicitations will be prepared for further consideration of the Township committee.

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Mr. Miletta arrived at 7:45 pm

Committee Comments

Mayor Sheppard announced that the Township now owns the former Colonial/Cape Bank property and is currently negotiating with Elmer Bank. The Township is hopeful that Elmer Bank will take up residence and provide (full service) banking services not only to Township residents and businesses, but the surrounding community as well. Mr. Sheppard stated that Elmer Bank has been around for a long time. Committeeman Bowman reiterated that they have a good name and are well established.

Public Comments

Resident Rudolph Badger questioned what incentive the Township had to offer the bank. Mayor Sheppard responded low rent. The lease will be only enough to cover cost of Townships liability and fire insurance on the property, so that there will be no cost involved to the Township. Delbert Peterson inquired about maintenance. Mr. Sheppard responded that the bank will be responsible for all utilities and interior/exterior maintenance. The Township is hoping for a five year lease, and if successful, hopes that residents will use the local bank to keep it here.

Mr. Badger also commented that the Public Works Department did a decent job of patching pot holes on New Road, but questioned when the road would be repaved. Mayor Sheppard advised that there are no funds to repave, but that Public Works employees would continue to maintain.

With no further comments being received, meeting closed for executive session to discuss matters of personnel at 7:55, with no action to follow, motioned Miletta, seconded Bowman.

Executive Session

Executive session closed and the regular meeting reopened at 8:45. With no further business, meeting adjourned motioned Miletta, seconded Bowman.

Ruth Dawson, Clerk

