

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

George Ripper, Supervisor of Public Works was present and provided the committee with update of current projects. Demolition of (foreclosed properties) dwelling at 72 Maple Avenue completed along with debris being removed from fallen structure at 150 New Road. Employees are currently painting the Public Works Building, interior and exterior. Mr. Ripper advised that the new dump truck scheduled to be delivered on or before July 7th is being built and on schedule.

Land sale list reviewed, with further action to be taken at the regular meeting of May 9, 2016.

Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance provided. Committee will review same in detail with further consideration for introduction to be given at the regular meeting.

Correspondence received from NJDEP regarding Hydrologic and Hydraulic Analysis of Cedar Lake Dam reviewed. The report prepared by Adams, Regmann & Heggan Associates found the Dam to be in poor condition with maintenance, studies and repairs necessary. Clerk will make arrangements for Committeeman Sheppard to meet with County Engineer John Knoop at the Dam site to review and discuss issues.

Brief discussion held regarding engineering for Lexington Avenue project. Proposal received from Fralinger Engineering in the amount of \$27,150.00 will be funded through the capital improvement fund. Clerk will contact CFO to begin the process.

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

Clerk advised that the Thompson's, block 197 lot 51 have requested a payment plan for taxes in arrears and subject to tax sale. The Thompson's were informed by the Clerk/Collector that if it were to be approved by the Committee, current year taxes beginning with the second installment would have to be paid. Following discussion it was decided that installment plan for 2015 would be approved if 2016 taxes were paid in full. Clerk will contact the Thompson's. If they can meet that requirement, action on the plan will take place at the regular meeting.

Meeting closed for executive session at 8:40 pm for executive session, to discuss matters of personnel motioned Bowman seconded Sheppard, unanimous vote, with possible action to follow.

Executive Session

Executive session closed and the regular meeting reopened at 9:05 pm, motioned Sheppard, seconded Bowman, unanimous vote

Thomas Corrigan, Esq. was appointed to represent the Township Committee in the Local Finance Boards investigation against allegations that the solicitor was appointed to position of Property Manager to secure his enrollment in the Public Employees retirement System, motioned Sheppard, seconded Bowman, unanimous vote, Resolution 2016-33.

There being no further business to discuss, meeting adjourned motioned Bowman, seconded Sheppard.

Ruth Dawson, Clerk

The regular monthly meeting of the Township Committee called to order at 7:30 pm as advertised, and held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act. Members present: Miletta, Bowman, Sheppard.

Following the flag salute, minutes of the March 10th, 14th, 30th and April 7th, 11th minutes were approved, motioned Bowman, seconded Miletta, unanimous vote. Reports for the month of April accepted, motioned Sheppard, seconded Bowman, unanimous vote.

Public hearing, Comcast of South Jersey LLC, renewal of Municipal consent to own, operate, extend and maintain a cable television and cable communications system in the Township opened as advertised. Fred DeAndrea, Director of Government & Regulatory Affairs appeared before the committee and public present and explained that the contract renewal is non-exclusive and does not prohibit competitive cable/communications suppliers. He stated that the competition is intense, Dish Network, Direct TV and Netflix. The current contract is for 15 years. He advised that it could be renewed for a longer or lessor period of time, at the discretion of the Township Committee, and that the application for renewal is on file at the office of the Township Clerk and is available for public inspection. Mr. DeAndrea noted that the purpose of the hearing is to provide an opportunity for both Comcast and the local governing body to hear public comments and concerns to be taken into consideration as they move forward with negotiations. He provided an update on all products and services provided and stressed strides made in improving customer service. He advised that a Xfinity Store will be opening in the county within the next year where all products and services can be tested and purchased on site. Mr. DeAndrea requested public comments or questions. Mr. Sheppard stated that the formula for number of homes per mile (35) needs to be negotiated due to current zoning regulations Lawrence would never get a full build out. Mr. DeAndrea replied that the formula is set by the BPU, but could be negotiated. Mayor Miletta stated his opinion that Comcast is not investing in the rural towns, and that the people in small towns are just as important as those in the cities, they need access to services. He questioned the speed of some internet service. Mr. DeAndrea replied that everyone should be receiving optimum speed if they are paying for it. There could be many reasons why they are not, issues with wiring in house, their device, modem, device, line could need repair, etc. Customer should call for repair. Mr. Bowman asked if Comcast used Verizon poles to hang their wires. Mr. DeAndrea replied that yes, they rent them from Verizon. Mr. Bowman stated that there are rumors that Verizon may discontinue to provide land line service, how might that affect Comcast? Dr. DeAndrea advised that if Verizon discontinued that service it would have no effect on Comcast's services. Mayor Miletta questioned what Comcast has done for the Township in the past 4 years. Mr. DeAndrea replied that it would be discussed in negotiations. Receiving no additional questions or concerns, the hearing was closed.

Resolution 2016-34, Authorizing the sale of surplus property, to be offered at public auction on June 13, 2016 approved, motioned Bowman, seconded Miletta, unanimous vote.

Resolution 2016-35, insertion of additional revenue in the 2016 municipal budget in the amount of \$181,000.00 for the reconstruction of Lexington Ave., for a NJDOT grant received approved, motioned Sheppard, seconded Bowman, unanimous vote.

Resolution 2016-36, Insertion of \$13,598.00 in the 2016 municipal budget for Municipal Alliance grant funded by the County of Cumberland approved, motioned Bowman, seconded Sheppard, unanimous vote.

Discussion held regarding Ordinance No. 2016-392, Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance, on agenda for introduction. Mr. Bowman stated that adoption of the ordinance would make farm land un-farmable. Mr. Sheppard said that the ordinance would require any property owner who were to spend 40% of its value on the structure would have to raise the structure and have the cellar filled in, in addition to other regulations. He stated his opinion that it's ridiculous. The ordinance would prohibit maintenance and /or repairs on any structure in a 100 year flood zone. We have residential dwellings in those areas. Mr. Sheppard stated that it would prohibit him from repairing and maintaining his sluice gates and dikes which have provided flood protection for many years. Committee agreed the ordinance

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Continued

needs changes prior to introduction. Solicitor Seeley advised that the State will balk at the changes. The ordinance was tabled motioned Bowman, seconded Sheppard, unanimous vote.

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

Committee comments:

Mr. Bowman stated that the NJ Devilman annual triathlon had been held the previous weekend and considering the rainy weather it was well attended. Resident Lester Woody questioned if the Township received any compensation for the event. Mayor Miletta advised that they are very generous, make donations to the Fire Co. and EMS for their participation and that they make certain the areas are cleaned up following the event. Mr. Miletta addressed Public Works employees, George Ripper and Bob Morgan who were present about the condition of New Road. The Mayor directed them to remove the asphalt stating that a dirt road would be better than what's there now. Mr. Sheppard commended the Public Works Dept. on a job well done with demolition and clean-up of foreclosed properties on Maple Avenue and New Road.

Floor opened for public comment. Lester Woody who owns farm land on New Road complained about flooding on his property due to issues with a sluice gate on property belonging to Mr. Sheppard. Mr. Sheppard advised that he will be installing a bigger pipe and hopes to have it resolved in the within the next week.

Resident Andy Kraynock questioned the committee about a rumor he heard that the Township was building an elaborate Public Works Building. Committee assured him that the proposed building is a pole barn. Mayor Miletta advised the plan is to tie into the Fire House electric power, well and septic to keep costs down. Mr. Kraynock commended the committee for their decision of a pole barn. Mr. Kraynock also urged the committee to look into grants for the building and a new fire truck which he hears may soon be necessary. Mr. Bowman advised that grants are sought and that the EMS recently acquired a new ambulance through a grant. Mr. Kraynock suggested that the Township rent the banquet room at Fire House for private parties as is done in Seabrook to generate revenue. Mr. Sheppard replied that it had been considered but it was decided that the liability was too great. The room is used for Fire Co. meetings and events and available to members only. Mr. Kraynock stated that he is concerned with property taxes and anything that could save the taxpayers should be considered. He also questioned the use of fire trucks, equipment and volunteer firemen in other towns. Mayor Miletta explained that our Fire Company assists other towns when necessary and likewise, other Fire Companies assist us when needed, as dispatched through the County 911 Center through the mutual aid program. Mayor Miletta listed the various departments that recently responded to three recent dwelling fires that occurred in Lawrence Township. Receiving no additional comments or concerns, floor closed and the meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm, motioned Bowman, seconded Sheppard.

Ruth Dawson, Clerk

May 24, 2016
Special Meeting

Meeting called to order at 5:00 pm as advertised and held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act. Members present: Miletta, Bowman, Sheppard.

Resolution 2016-38, Amend 2016 Capital Budget to reflect the addition of Ordinance No. 2016-393, Reconstruction of Lexington Avenue approved motioned Bowman, seconded Sheppard unanimous yes roll call vote.

Ordinance No. 2016-393, Appropriating \$209,000.00 from the Capital Improvement Fund and a Grant from the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the Reconstruction of Lexington

Avenue approved on first reading, motioned Sheppard, seconded Bowman, unanimous yes roll call vote. Further consideration for final adoption will be given following a public hearing to be held at the regular meeting on June 13, 2016.

Quotes received for the relocation of air conditioning units from roof of EMS Building to be reinstalled and service restored, on a concrete slab reviewed:

Integrity Refrigeration & Mechanical LLC \$8,525.00 Simpson Refrigeration \$3,387.52

Haaf Refrigeration No Quote Submitted

Job awarded to Simpson Refrigeration motioned Bowman, seconded Sheppard, unanimous vote.

Brief discussion held regarding harassment training. Two sessions have been held, one morning and one evening. As approximately 12 employees and/or volunteers were not able to attend, a third session will be scheduled.

Floor opened for public comment. Receiving none, meeting adjourned at 5:50 pm, motioned Sheppard, seconded Bowman.

Ruth Dawson, Clerk