

October 8, 2015
Regular Monthly Meeting

Meeting called to order at 7:30 pm as advertised, and held in accordance with the Open Public meetings Act. Members present: Bowman, Miletta, Sheppard

Following Flag salute, minutes of the September 10th, 14th and 21st meetings approved, motioned Bowman, seconded Miletta, unanimous yes vote. Reports for the month of September accepted, motioned Miletta, seconded Bowman, unanimous vote.

Land sale opened as advertised. Solicitor Seeley read the terms of sale, and suggested that any successful bidders have a title search completed on property purchased and obtain title insurance. Solicitor Seeley read through the list. A offer of 4,000.00 minimum bid was received for block 54 lot 8 and block 149 lots 35,36. Two bidders expressed an interest in offering less than the minimum bid. Solicitor Seeley advised that at the end of the list, he would again offer those parcels and upon receiving bids, the Township Committee would close the meeting for executive session to discuss same. A bid of \$500.00 was received for block 153 lot 6, \$1000.00 block 153 lot 7, and \$2500.00 block 199 lot 10. Meeting closed for executive session motioned Bowman, seconded Miletta at 7:55 pm to discuss contractual issues, with action to be taken when the regular meeting reopens.

Executive session closed and the meeting reopened at 8:05 pm motioned Sheppard, seconded Bowman. Solicitor Seeley advised that the Township Committee after having given a lot of consideration to the minimum bids established, declined to consider the lower bids received. He also advised that the properties may be offered again. No bid received for block 153 lots 6,7. Minimum bid of \$4000,00 received block 199 lot 10. Land sale results:

\$4,000.00 Bid received block 54 lot 8 Virginia Johnson
\$4,000.00 Bid received block 149 lots 35,36 Ernest & Theresa Diament
\$4,000.00 Bid received block 199 lot 10 Leroy & Linda Shaw

Bids accepted motioned Bowman, seconded Miletta, unanimous vote.

Public hearing opened as advertised, Ordinance No. 2015-389, Bond ordinance providing for various capital improvements, appropriating \$100,000.00 and authorizing the issuance of \$95,000.00 for the purchase of a dump truck (\$75,000.00) and acquisition of equipment (\$25,000.00). Receiving no comments the hearing closed and the ordinance was finally adopted motioned Bowman, seconded Miletta, unanimous vote.

Service Maintenance Agreement with Genserve Inc. for generator located at Senior Center in the amount of \$665.00 renewed, motioned Bowman, seconded Miletta unanimous vote.

Resolution 2015-57, Supporting Winchester and Western Railroad Company's NJDOT Rail Freight Assistance Program application approved, motioned Miletta, seconded Bowman, unanimous vote. The Resolution was requested by Winchester and Western due to proposed improvements to rail lines Located in the Township.

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Lawrence Township Employee Policy and Procedure amended to include: Personal Use of Township Vehicles/ Equipment Etc. is prohibited, motioned Bowman, seconded Miletta, unanimous vote. Although this policy was understood by employees, the amendment was approved as suggested in the 2015 Best Practices Worksheet.

Written request received from Denise Robinson, 3040 Lexington Avenue, for Public Works Dept. to lay DGA material on Crown and Lexington Ave., leading to Egan Ave. reviewed. Mayor Sheppard advised that a NJDOT grant application has been made for this section of Lexington. The Committee agreed to inspect the roadway.

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

Clerk provided a draft Pay to Play Ordinance for committee review. Committee will review detail for possible consideration at a later date.

Clerk suggested that unsold buildable lots again be offered at the November 9th meeting, along with block 12 lots 16,17,18,19 on George Ave., and block 13 lots 6,7,13,14 on Central Ave. which are now available due to donations. Clerk proposes to have article regarding the sale published in the South Jersey Times, The Daily Journal, Atlantic City Press, the Reminder and the Cumberland/Salem Guide, in addition to the required legal notice. Committee agreed, motioned Miletta, seconded Bowman, unanimous vote, Resolution 2015-58.

Committee Comments:

Committeeman Bowman advised that Trick or Treat will be observed Saturday October 31st 4-7 PM, as with all municipalities that are members of the Cumberland Development Corp. (CDC).

Mayor Sheppard commended Atlantic City Electric for being proactive with planning emergency measures in anticipation of major storm earlier in the month. Conference calls were held between ACE and local officials, personal cell phone numbers provided to report any problems. Committeeman Miletta commented on the lack of customer service provided by Verizon, through his personal experience. Members of the public present agreed. It was announced that the County is accepting and encouraging written complaints from residents about issues with Verizon to be used in their petition to the Board of Public Utilities.

Public works employee Bob Morgan was in the audience and questioned proposed purchase of a dump truck. It has been decided that a Ford F550 is the desired truck. Committee questioned if it could be purchased under State contract. Mr. Morgan will research. If it cannot, bid specifications will be prepared.

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Floor opened to the public. Receiving no comments, meeting closed at 8:45 pm, motioned Miletta, seconded Sheppard.

Ruth Dawson, Clerk