

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

April 10, 2023

7:00 PM

Call to Order - Meeting called to order as advertised and held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

Pledge of Allegiance - led by Mayor Miletta.

Roll Call: Mayor Miletta, Committeemen Bowman, and Tisa. Others present: Mr. Seeley, Township Solicitor and Karrie Hulitt, Acting Clerk

Approval of Minutes – March 9,2023 and March 13, 2023 -March 30, 2023 On motion of Committeeman Bowman and seconded by Committeeman Tisa to approve the minutes, unanimously carried.

Ordinances

At this time Mayor Miletta called for the introduction of the following proposed ordinances.

Proposed Ordinance No. 436-2023 – Model Ordinance to Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and to Establish a CAP Bank (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14)

On motion of Committeeman Tisa, seconded by Committeeman Bowman to approve the introduction of the foregoing proposed ordinance, unanimously carried upon roll call vote. Ayes: Bowman, Tisa, Miletta Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: None

Proposed Ordinance No. 437-2023 – An Ordinance Authorizing Sale of Block 55 Lots 10, 14 & 15

On motion of Committeeman Bowman, seconded by Committeeman Tisa to approve the introduction of the foregoing proposed ordinance, unanimously carried upon roll call vote. Ayes: Bowman, Tisa, Miletta Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: None

Introduction 2023 Municipal Budget - On motion of Committeeman Tisa, seconded by Committeeman Bowman to approve the introduction of the 2023 Municipal Budget for the Township of Lawrence, unanimously carried upon roll call vote. Ayes: Bowman, Tisa, Miletta Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: None

Consent Agenda - All matters listed under Consent Agenda, are routine by the Township Committee and will be enacted by one motion in the form listed below. (Resolutions 2023-23 – 2023-24 -2023-25 2023-26 – 2023-27) Committeeman Bowman motioned to approve the following resolutions, seconded by Committeeman Tisa, unanimously carried.

- Resolution No. 2023-23 – Refund of Overpayments
- Resolution No. 2023-24 – Authorize the Cancellation and Refund of 2023 Property Taxes for Tax-Exempt Veteran
- Resolution No. 2023-25 – Approving the Filing of an Application to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection for a Municipal Stormwater Assistance Grant

- Resolution No.2023-26- Resolution Confirming Governing Body Certification of Compliance with the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commissions Equal Opportunity Commission’s “Enforcement Guidance on the Consideration of Arrest and Conviction Records in Employment Decisions Under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964”
Resolution No. 2023-27 – Authorizing Professional Services Agreement (Grant Services)

Payment of Bills – On motion of Committeeman Tisa and seconded by Committeeman Bowman to approve the bills for payment, unanimously carried.

Zoning Officer Reports for March 2023. On motion of Committeeman Tisa, seconded by Committeeman Bowman to approve the report as presented, unanimously carried.

Tax Collector Report: for March 2023. On motion of Committeeman Tisa, seconded by Committeeman Bowman to approve the report as presented, unanimously carried.

Building Inspector Report: Mr. Shelton presented his report. He indicated complaints for 114 Factory Road have been addressed. There is no longer anyone in the trailer and the noise has not been an issue since the State Police were called. At 184 Factory Rd the owner had indicated that it is his brother living at the property so therefore there are no unregistered renters. These two (2) cases are now considered closed. Mr. Shelton further reported on other ongoing issues - 366 Main Street – a letter will be issued for failure to proceed with the unsafe condition. 382 Main Street – needs to be boarded up due to the recent fire. The property located at 488 Main Street was also in a fire about a year ago. The owner was advised to obtain a permit to place the trailer on the site while he is rebuilding. There was also a recent fire on 14 Back Road. The owner is currently staying in a trailer on the property without a proper permit. Mr. Shelton advised that he will be issuing a letter. There was also another property that had been damaged by fire many years ago at 113 Mulford. The owner has not responded to any communications. The Committee requested of Mr. Shelton what the next step would be and to proceed with the next step. According to Mr. Shelton 71 Maple Street has been a problem for seven (7) years. He will be issuing a letter requiring the owner to board up and secure the property. Mr. Shelton indicated that he had previously had the owner of 38 Newport Road in court. The Judge ordered the owner had to due the required improvements to be completed. To date the property owner has failed to comply. Mr. Shelton and Mr. Seely are going to review the case for further action.

Mr. Shelton also reported on the upcoming lead abatement requirement and advised that the Committee will need to have a plan of action by July 2023. He also advised the Township should have a Fire Escrow Ordinance along with a Demolition and Board Up Ordinance.

Committee Comments- The Committee had no comments at this time.

Public Comment - On motion of Mayor Miletta, second by Committeemen Bowman to open the public comment to open the public comment, unanimously carried. Jack Hines request more milling for East Avenue. Mayor Miletta will speak with public works. Also requested was for East Avenue to be listed for a DOT grant. Mr. Woody requested a light over the freezer in the Commodities Building. Mayor Miletta will have public works review.

Adjournment - There being no further business to come before the Township Committee, on motion of Mayor Miletta, seconded by Committeeman Tisa to adjourn, unanimously carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Karrie Hulitt, Acting Clerk