

January 9, 2020  
Annual Reorganization Meeting

The annual Reorganization meeting of the Lawrence Township Committee was called to order by Clerk Dawson at 7:30 PM as advertised, and held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act. Present: Bowman, Miletta and Committeeman re- elect Sheppard.

First order of business, Solicitor Seeley administered oath of office to Mr. Sheppard.

Floor opened for nominations for the position of Mayor, Mr. Sheppard was chosen as motioned Bowman, seconded Miletta , unanimous vote. Mr. Miletta will serve as Deputy Mayor motioned Sheppard seconded Bowman unanimous vote.

Resolutions 2020-1 through 2020-7 being routine in nature were presented on a consent agenda and approved in one action motioned Bowman, seconded Miletta, unanimous vote:

Resolution 2020-1 Establish Meeting Dates and Times

Resolution 2020-2 Establish Interest Rate on Delinquent Taxes

Resolution 2020-3 Designate official Newspapers

Resolution 2020-4 Designate Official Depositories

Resolution 2020-5 Establish Purchasing Procedures

Resolution 2020-6 Authorization for the Tax Collector to Conduct a Tax Lien Sale

Resolution 2020-7 Authorization for the Tax Collector to Cancel any Delinquency or Overpayment Under \$10.00

Resolution 2020-8, Adopt Temporary Budget, 26.25 % of 2019 Appropriations in the Amount of \$376,903.20 approved, motioned Miletta, seconded Bowman, unanimous vote.

Resolution 2020-9 Authorizing the Award of Professional Services Contract for Auditing Services without Public Bidding to Bowman and Company , amount not to exceed \$30,500.00 approved, motioned Bowman, seconded Miletta, unanimous vote.

Resolution 2020-10, authorizing Award of Professional Services Contract for Legal Services to Thomas Seeley, Seeley Law Office without public bidding approved motioned Miletta, seconded Bowman, unanimous vote

Resolution 2020-11, Authorizing Award of Professional Services Contract for Insurance Carrier Services to Colson & Gosweiler without public bidding, cost of premium and \$6,200.00 service fee approved, motioned Bowman, seconded Miletta, unanimous vote. Resolution 2020-12, Award of Extraordinary Unspecifiable Services/Professional Service Contracts approved for above referenced motioned Miletta, seconded Bowman, unanimous vote.

Statutory appointments made, Resolution 2020-13, approved motioned Bowman, seconded Miletta, unanimous vote.

Annual contract for with the Cumberland Development Corporation for Economic Development and Business Retention Consulting Services for a period of one year at a sum of \$6,283.00 authorized, motioned Miletta seconded Bowman, unanimous vote.

Mr. Miletta congratulated Mayor Bowman on his reelection. Mr. Sheppard thanked both committeemen for their confidence in choosing him to serve as mayor, and also thanked Mr. Bowman for his last two years servings as mayor. Mayor Sheppard stated that the committee had accomplished a lot in the past year and hope to follow through the new year with completion of the Public Works addition and moving forward with Historical Society addition on Senior Center.

With no other business to discuss, meeting was adjourned at 7:55 PM, as motioned Bowman, seconded Miletta.

---

Ruth Dawson, Clerk

The Regular monthly meeting of the Lawrence Township Committee was 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 the flag salute, minutes of the December 30<sup>th</sup> meeting approved, motioned Miletta, seconded Bowman, unanimous vote. Reports for the month of December accepted, motioned Bowman, seconded Miletta, unanimous vote.

Resolution 2020-14, Authorizing necessary 2019 budget transfers approved, motioned Miletta, seconded Bowman, unanimous.

Resolution 2020-15, Authorizing Submission of a Strategic Plan for the Lawrence/Downe Township Municipal Alliance Grant approved, motioned Bowman, seconded Miletta, unanimous vote.

Resolution 2020-16, Authorize Refund of \$224.00 to Laury Heating for permit fee received in error approved, motioned Miletta, seconded Bowman, unanimous vote.

Tax Collector Authorized to apply 2019 tax overpayments to 2020, Resolution 2020-17 approved motioned Bowman, seconded Miletta.

The Township will again participate in the Cumberland County Cooperative Contract Pricing System bid award for the purchase and delivery of gasoline and Diesel as follows:

Gasoline- Riggins Inc., Vineland

Diesel fuel- Major Petroleum Industries, Rosenhayn

Award made as motioned by Miletta, seconded Bowman, unanimous vote.

Quote received from Sieri Mechanical for installation of heater in public works building, 2,300.00 reviewed. Work authorized, motioned Bowman, seconded Miletta, unanimous vote. Clerk instructed to contact SJ Gas Co. to have service run to Commodities Building. A quote will be obtained to install a heater at that location following installation of service.

Mayor Sheppard provided Solicitor Seeley with a copy of current Tax Abatement Ordinance. We were recently told by Lisa Perella, Tax Assessor that Tax Abatement Ordinances expire in ten years. Our ordinance was adopted in 2002 and needs to be readopted. Mr. Bowman stated that he would like abatements to apply to rehab and not just new construction, an incentive for new businesses to fill vacant properties. Mr. Miletta advised that he received an inquiry from a local glasshouse that was looking for warehouse space which could be another possible use for the vacant warehouse on Maple Ave. Solicitor Seeley will review the current ordinance and update for further consideration of the Township Committee.

Floor opened for public comment. Resident Robin Bundy appeared before the committee with questions regarding award of contract to Ronald Sutton, who was \$250.00 per month higher than Shore Animal Control's proposal, and Shore had excellent references. Mayor Sheppard replied that he had concerns that Shore would not be able to provide services as they are currently under contract with 14 towns and have only two transport vehicles. She questioned what Ron did when his vehicle brakes down, Mr. Sheppard stated that he handles it. Mr. Miletta stated that although Ron was 250.00 a month higher he does not charge for after hour calls. Mrs. Bundy had no further questions or comments. With no additional public comments floor closed.

Meeting closed at 7:45 pm for executive session to discuss matters of personnel motioned Miletta, seconded Bowman with further action to follow.

Executive Session

Executive session closed and the regular meeting reopened at 8:00 pm motioned Miletta, seconded Bowman.

Public works employee Christopher Davis has completed his probationary period and based on his supervisor's recommendation status changed to permanent motioned Miletta, seconded Bowman, unanimous vote.

Public Works Supervisor George Ripper updated committee on his department's activities and projects.

With no further business to discuss, meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm, motioned Bowman, seconded Miletta.

---

Ruth Dawson, Clerk

January 23, 2020  
Special Meeting

A special budget workshop meeting of the Lawrence Township Committee was called to order at 5:00 pm as advertised, and held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act. Members present: Sheppard, Miletta, Bowman. Purpose of the meeting was also to conduct interviews. Meeting closed for executive session to conduct interviews motioned Bowman seconded Miletta, with possible action to be taken following executive session.

#### Executive Session

Executive session closed and the regular meeting reopened at 6:25 pm, motioned Miletta, seconded Bowman.

Committee met with various department heads to review 2020 budget requests. Further consideration will be given at a second budget meeting scheduled for February 13<sup>th</sup> with Auditor and CFO.

Municipal Agreement for OceanFirst Bank, designating authorized signers (remove Elmer Bowman, add G. Erwin Sheppard) for various checking accounts approved, motioned Bowman, seconded Miletta, unanimous vote.

Brief discussion held regarding interviews, candidates and salary requests. Wayne Shelton appointed to fill the unexpired term of Construction Code Official/Housing Officer/Flood Plains Administrator at an annual salary of 9,000.00 and John Palumbo will serve as Building Sub Code/Building Inspector, annual salary 11,000.00 motioned Miletta, seconded Bowman, unanimous vote. Clerk will reach out to candidates to confirm their acceptance.

With no further business to discuss, meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm.

---

Ruth Dawson, Clerk

