

**WORKSHOP MEETING
OF THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LITTLE FALLS WAS
HELD THIS EVENING IN THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

Monday, August 12, 2019

Council President Anthony Sgobba called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the following members present: Maria Cordonnier, Albert Kahwaty, Tanya Seber, and Chris Vancheri. Also present were Mayor James Damiano, Township Attorney Joe Wenzel, Township Administrator Charles Cuccia, and Municipal Clerk Cynthia Kraus.

Absent: Township Engineer and Police Chief Steve Post.

Township Employees present: DPW Superintendent Phillip Simone.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

STATEMENT OF PUBLIC NOTICE: Take notice that adequate notice of this meeting has been provided in accordance with N.J.S.A. 10:4-10 as follows: A notice of the meeting was prominently posted on the bulletin board at the Municipal Building, located at 225 Main Street, Little Falls, N.J. on January 2, 2019. A copy of the notice was faxed to the North Jersey Herald and News and The Record on the same date. Additionally, a copy of the notice was filed in the office of the Township Clerk on said date.

PUBLIC COMMENT – GENERAL MATTERS

It was moved by Councilmember Vancheri, seconded by Councilmember Kahwaty, that the meeting be and it was opened to the public.

Poll: Ayes: Cordonnier, Kahwaty, Seber, Vancheri, and Council President Sgobba
 Nays: None

The Council President declared the motion passed.

Luis Fernandez, 54 Harrison Street, requested a status update on 53 Harrison Street. Mr. Wenzel explained the matter is under litigation. Council President SGOBBA commented the law is for everyone and the matter is now in the hands of the courts. Mr. Fernandez commented the canvassing ordinance contains vague language with regard to the end of the timeframe. Mr. Wenzel elaborated upon why the wording meets constitutional muster. Councilmember CORDONNIER commented on the timeframe. Councilmember KAHWATY discussed the rationale for the timeframe and the restrictive nature of the ordinance. Councilmember VANCHERI added his agreement with Councilmember KAHWATY's comments. Mayor Damiano discussed the distinct difference between sunset and dusk, indicating the time in which the thirty minutes begins to run is clearly defined. The Mayor also raised the subject of a Do Not Knock list. Mr. Wenzel stated a Do Not Knock list is policy decision for the Council. Mr. Wenzel further explained how individuals voluntarily enter their name, and that when an individual or group applies to canvas or solicit, they are then provided with that list and penalties for noncompliance would apply.

Bob Dombrowski, 3 Garden Street, questioned whether the soliciting ordinance applies to religious groups. Mr. Wenzel stated religious groups are exempt. Mr. Dombrowski commented the maintenance on the lots in the flood zone are impeccable. Mr. Dombrowski questioned when the sidewalk on Route 23 and Main Street will be restored. Mr. Simone provided an update on the current project and stated he will reach out to the project engineer to convey Mr. Dombrowski's concern.

No one further having come forward to be heard, it was moved by Councilmember Vancheri, seconded by Councilmember Seber, that the meeting be and it was closed to the public.

Poll: Ayes: Cordonnier, Kahwaty, Seber, Vancheri, and Council President Sgobba
 Nays: None

The Council President declared the motion passed.

ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED:

MAYOR/ADMINISTRATOR:

Mayor Damiano stated it is the one year anniversary since the August 11, 2018 flood. In light of the recent rain storm that produced about the same amount of rain during a comparable time period, he was pleased to notice that it seemed the maintenance and cleaning out of the river bed has greatly alleviated the potential for flooding. He noted the Township is dedicated to continuing the maintenance to remove trees and debris.

1. PROPOSED WOODS ROAD PARKING ORDINANCE AMENDMENT- Mayor Damiano highlighted the ordinance would prohibit parking on a portion of Woods Road to make the street safer for vehicles passing in both directions.
2. TAX REFUND RESOLUTION – Mayor Damiano explained the standard nature of the resolution.
3. DEDICATION BY RIDER RESOLUTION - RECREATION TRUST FUND – Mayor Damiano discussed Agenda Items #3 and #4 are necessary administrative actions that must occur in order collect and use the payments for the 5K run. A dedication by rider will be established to collect all the admissions for the 5K run.
4. PROPOSED FEE ORDINANCE AMENDMENT – RECREATION FEES – This amendment creates the fee and the payment that is going to be made to the Recreation Trust Fund to help offset the cost of the run. Any additional monies will be used for Township parks and recreation.

Meeting of August 12, 2019

RESOLUTIONS

It was moved by Councilmember Vancheri, seconded by Councilmember Seber, that the following be approved:

Bill List

RESOLUTION [A] 19-08-12 - #1

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Little Falls the Council having received the Treasurer’s certification of the availability of funds for payment of all bills presented, that payment of all bills approved by the Finance Committee be and is hereby authorized, subject to the availability of funds and subject to the appropriate and available appropriation in the line item.

Poll: Ayes: Cordonnier, Kahwaty, Seber, Vancheri, and Council President Sgobba
Nays: None

The Council President declared the motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

COUNCIL TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

Councilmember SEBER announced registration is open on Run Signup for the 5K Run Little Falls. The 5K is hosted by the Township and proceeds will go to the Recreation Center for improvements. The course is USATF certified and will be at Passaic Valley High School. Sponsorships and volunteers are being sought and those interested can reach out to the Assistant Director of the Recreation Center or Councilmember Seber. She agreed with Mr. Dombrowski’s comments regarding the sidewalk on the corner of Main Street. Councilmember SEBER discussed the National Night Out, noting the Municipal Alliance provided a trackless train, clown entertainment, and backpacks with handouts. The Municipal Alliance also showcased the Drug Awareness Board. Lastly, the Municipal Alliance will participate in the upcoming Movie Night.

Councilmember CORDONNIER announced this weekend is the first Annual Senior BBQ at the American Legion post in Singac. The Little Falls Business Association will hold a Fall Festival in September and will have a donut eating contest as well as a dog costume fashion show.

Councilmember VANCHERI thanked the Police Department for the National Out event, where the Transportation Committee members had a booth to hand out information. Councilmember VANCHERI noted the safety workshop was rescheduled to Wednesday, August 28, 2019 at the Municipal Building from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm. Councilmember VANCHERI highlighted that radar machines are present on Main Street and Francisco Avenue. They will be moved to Jacobus Avenue and Lower Notch Road, and then to Lincoln Avenue and Van Ness Avenue or Van Pelt Place to collect data on speeding. The Transportation Committee is also investigating whether county roads with 35 mph speed limits could be considered for a reduction in speed.

Councilmember KAHWATY announced there will be Movie Night funded by the Municipal Alliance on August 28, 2019. A Town Clean Up will occur from 10 am-1 pm on September 14, 2019 commencing at the Civic Center. The Domestic Violence Vigil will take place at the Municipal Building on October 10, 2019.

Mayor Damiano provided details on an event called “What the Heck Should I Eat” which will be held at the Civic Center on August 14, 2019 at 7 pm.

Council President SGOBBA questioned whether a safety fence should be placed around the homes that were bought out and are being torn down. Mr. Simone stated a safety fence should be installed. Mr. Simone was in contact with the contractor today and fences are to be installed tomorrow.

PUBLIC COMMENT – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

It was moved by Councilmember Seber, seconded by Councilmember Kahwaty, that the meeting be and it was opened to the public.

Poll: Ayes: Cordonnier, Kahwaty, Seber, Vancheri, and Council President Sgobba
Nays: None

The Council President declared the motion passed.

No one having come forward to be heard, it was moved by Councilmember Vancheri, seconded by Councilmember Kahwaty, that the meeting be and it was closed to the public.

Poll: Ayes: Cordonnier, Kahwaty, Seber, Vancheri, and Council President Sgobba
Nays: None

The Council President declared the motion passed.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, it was moved by Councilmember Kahwaty, seconded by Councilmember Vancheri, that the meeting be and it was adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

Cynthia Kraus
Municipal Clerk