

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

**Monday, January 14, 2019**

Acting Council President Maria Cordonnier 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: Council President Anthony Sgobba and Township Engineer Woodney Christophe.

Township Employees present: Police Chief Steve Post and 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.

At this time Mayor Damiano discussed Resolutions A and B for public knowledge in case there were any questions or concerns regarding them that could be brought up during Public Comment. Resolution A concerned renewal of liquor licenses. The Mayor elaborated that if individuals do not submit their license application on time they can be renewed later on throughout the year. Resolution B was related to the building constructed by KV Realty located at 44 Main Street and a dispute as to the amount of sewer fees that were owed to the municipality. In order to provide KV realty with their CO right away the Township agreed that to hold the money in escrow if the maximum amount of sewer fees that would have been payable to the Township were provided. Once a settlement was made on the escrow amount, the remaining balance of \$88,000 was to be returned to them. Therefore, this is a refund of KV Realty's own funds that had been sitting in escrow for several months and is now being returned.

The Mayor reported that there has been much dismay that the recycling centers will not accept plastic bags anymore. In conjunction with Little Falls Biz, Councilmember Kahwaty, and the Environmental Commission are going to work together to create the bags that are reusable and can be distributed to residents.

The Mayor also reported that during the Planning Board Meeting in January 3, 2019, there was a lot of concern regarding flooding at the bottom of Francisco Avenue as a result of the inability for the current infrastructure to sustain the amount of water that culminates at the bottom of Francisco Avenue prior to heading to the Peckman. The Mayor was pleased to amount there will be a meeting with the County on January 16, 2019 to discuss infrastructure upgrades that will likely alleviate those issues.

Lastly, the Mayor announced he will swear in Fire Chief Jack Sweezy who was elected to another three-year term at the January 28, 2019 Regular Meeting. The Mayor will also provide his State of the Township with all the things that have happened in 2018 and what the Township will have to look forward to in 2019.

**PUBLIC COMMENT – GENERAL MATTERS**

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.

Bonnie Nolan, 31 Prospect Street, recognized new Little Falls Library Director Kristin Blumberg, provided her background, and welcomed residents to introduce themselves to Ms. Blumberg at a Meet and Greet on Saturday, January 19, 2019 at the Library starting at p.m.

Kristin Blumberg, Little Falls Library Director, discussed upcoming activities and fundraisers at the Library including a fundraiser on Saturday, February 9, 2019 called for the Love of the Birds and the Bees, and a Family Fun night on March 15, 2019. Additionally, the Library will attend more outreach events in the spring and summer to advertise what the Library has to offer. Ms. Blumberg highlighted services such as the ability to register patrons and check out books on the spot. She encouraged to residents to check to the Library on social media as well the Library website.

Renea Shapiro, 163 East Main Street, was pleased to hear about options for plastic bags. Ms. Shapiro expressed her appreciation to a resident who wished to remain anonymous, who had donated \$1000 worth of Shoprite discount cards to residents affected by the flood. Ms. Shapiro requested the Civic Center be renamed the Community Center, and offer additional hours of operation as well as ranges of programs for all ages.

Mayor Damiano stated the Township has updating the fee ordinance to allow a far greater scope of activities at the Civic Center so it can be opened to more groups and activities.

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Councilmember CORDONNIER requested Ms. Shapiro thank the donor of the gift cards on behalf of the Mayor and Council. She welcomed Ms. Blumberg to the Library and thanked Ms. Nolan for her many years of service to the Library.

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

Poll: Ayes: Cordonnier, Kahwaty, Seber, and Vancheri  
Nays: None

The Council President declared the motion passed.

**ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED:**

**MAYOR/ADMINISTRATOR:**

1. PROPOSED SHED ORDINANCE – Mayor Damiano noted there have been issues brought to his attention with the current shed ordinance. He will be working on developing a more appropriate Shed Ordinance and will be open to feedback.
2. CHANGE ORDER - LIBRARY DOOR REPLACEMENT PROJECT- Mayor Damiano indicated the Library required doors with pneumatic openers that were ADA accessible. During the course of the project, some flooring in the immediate area that required replacement. The project was funded through the Library budget but there was small additional charge for the floor change, which will be on the next Regular Meeting Agenda.
3. DEDICATION BY RIDER RESOLUTIONS – Mayor Damiano explained these resolution is a result of the Police Department seizing assets as a result of different sorts of arrests. The dedication by rider will allow funding the Township received from the federal government as a result of these seizures to be applied to the budget. The Mayor declared this is more procedural, but each year the Township must do a dedication by rider to be able to accept these funds, and to then utilize in the budget.
4. TAX APPEAL SETTLEMENT RESOLUTIONS – Mayor Damiano explained these are the standard and regular refunds that occur as a result of the various appeals that occur over the course of the year.

**DPW SUPERINTENDENT:**

1. PUBLIC AUCTION – Mr. Simone indicated there remains a list of items to be auctioned. A list of surplus equipment was provided to the Mayor and Council for informational purposes. Mr. Simone advised that a 2007 Ford ambulance will be added to the list. Follow through will occur with the Clerk’s office on proper notification and advertisement.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

**RESOLUTIONS**

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

Renewal of Plenary Retail Consumption Licenses

**TOWNSHIP OF LITTLE FALLS  
PASSAIC COUNTY NEW JERSEY  
RESOLUTION [A] 19-01-14 - #1**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Little Falls Township Council as follows:

**WHEREAS**, applications for renewal of **PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION** licenses have been filed as follows:

<u>License No.</u>	<u>License and/or t/a name</u>	<u>Fee</u>
1605-33-006-004	Yellow Leaf, LLC t/a Bromley’s 70 East Main Street, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor	\$2,200.00
1605-33-001-010	Orange Leaf, LLC “ 70 East Main Street, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor	

and **WHEREAS**, it appears that all of the said applications are in satisfactory form; that the applicants have complied with all necessary requirements; that all applications are for renewals by the same persons for the same stands; and that no objections, in writing or otherwise, have been made or filed to any of said applications; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Council is familiar with all of the aforementioned applicants and the places for which they apply and sees no objection to any;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the above-listed applications be and the same are hereby granted; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that licenses be issued accordingly, to become effective on July 1, 2018 and expire on June 30, 2019.

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Return of Escrow Money

**RESOLUTION [B] 19-01-14 - #2**

**WHEREAS**, KV Realty posted escrow for sewer connection fees in connection with the project at 44 Main Street, Little Falls, NJ;

and **WHEREAS**, KV Realty has satisfied the requirements of the project in relation to sewer connection; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township is required to return any outstanding escrow monies to the developer;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Treasurer is hereby authorized to release escrow monies in the amount of \$88,000.00 to KV Realty for the above referenced project.

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Poll: Ayes: Cordonnier, Kahwaty, Seber, and Vancheri  
Nays: None

The Council President declared the motion passed.

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**COUNCIL TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION**

Councilmember VANCHERI reported discussions had occurred with Mr. Cuccia regrading ascertaining a grant for a traffic light on Francisco Avenue, Wilmore Road, and Cedar Grove Road. He also met with Mr. Christophe regarding research on speed humps.

Councilmember SEBER announced the Municipal Alliance has set its schedule for 2019.

Councilmember KAHWATY discussed the effort to make Little Falls more green will begin with alleviating the issue with plastic bags. There will be a Sustainable Little Falls Fair where bags will be given out to residents, supported by Little Falls Biz. Councilmember KAHWATY announced an initiative was discussed with Chief Post to collaborate with the Police Department to identify methods to let victims of Domestic Violence know what is available to them.

Councilmember CORDONNIER announced she will begin to report on the Senior Advisory Committee which is planning more activities, outreach, educational events, as well as collaborating with the County.

**PUBLIC COMMENT – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY**

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

Poll:           Ayes:           Cordonnier, Kahwaty, Seber, and Vancheri  
                  Nays:           None

The Council President declared the motion passed.

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

Poll:           Ayes:           Cordonnier, Kahwaty, Seber, and Vancheri  
                  Nays:           None

The Council President declared the motion passed.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, it was moved by Councilmember Vancheri, seconded by Councilmember Kahwaty, that the meeting be and it was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

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Cynthia Kraus  
Municipal Clerk