

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

**Monday, July 9, 2018**

Council President Anthony Sgobba called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the following members present: Maria Cordonnier, William Liess, 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: Police Chief Steven Post, Township Engineer Paul Przybylinski, and DPW Superintendent Phillip Simone.

Township Employees present: None.

**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, 2018. 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.

**PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING STATE GYMNASTICS CHAMPION HARPER SCHEUERMAN** – Mayor Damiano read the Proclamation honoring Ms. Scheuerman for her accomplishment in the state gymnastics meet at Morris County College where she placed first in bars and was declared USAG NJ Excelled Bars State Champion.

**PROCLAMATION HONORING THE LFAC PURPLE COBRAS** – Mayor Damiano read the Proclamation recognizing the Purple Cobras for their 2017 North Jersey Recreation Soccer League seventh and eighth grade championship.

**PROCLAMATIONS RECOGNIZING THE LFAC BASKETBALL CHAMPIONS** – Mayor Damiano read the Proclamations honoring the third and fourth grade girls team, the fifth and sixth grade girls team, and the fifth and sixth grade boys team for their championship wins.

**PUBLIC COMMENT – GENERAL MATTERS**

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

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

The Council President declared the motion passed.

Jaclyn Sherman, Woods Road, requested the Council consider installing speed bumps on Woods Road to deter speeding. Councilmember VANCHERI commented the Police Department and Transportation Committee has been reviewing social media and other resident complaints. He will reach out to Lieutenant Briggs and Corporal Moncato to see if there can be a police presence on Woods Road. Mayor Damiano added the Township has received numerous complaints about speeding on various streets throughout the Township. He discussed the ability to do a speed study, indicated that Woods Road would be added to the list, and that a determination will be made as to when police presence can be appropriately and efficiently applied.

Luis Fernandez, 54 Harrison Street, voiced his concern regarding name calling due to differences of opinion on national issues and suggested a proclamation to address the issue. Councilmember CORDONNIER agreed with Mr. Fernandez's concern, noted the issue does not pertain to any one particular group, and commented the manner to address this begins at the local level. Council President SGOBBA explained the Council does its best to set a good example and demonstrate respect for everyone's opinion. Mayor Damiano agreed with Mr. Fernandez's sentiments, but pointed out the Constitution allows for free speech and caution must be used by the Governing body on what limits are set. He expressed his willingness to discuss the issue with Mr. Fernandez further and work on a plan with a charge.

Bob Dombrowski, Garden Street, questioned whether the redevelopment plan will include economic resources to help Little Falls with the sewer situation. Council President SGOBBA indicated this as an ongoing issue requiring further studies to be performed.

Victoria Calkins, 32 Notch Park Road, discussed the planning of road resurfacing list as it relates to her street, noting PSE&G had ripped up the road after it was resurfaced. Mayor Damiano explained PSE&G does not provide the Township with a five year projected list of line installations. He elaborated upon the Township's policy that PSE&G follows to replace a roadway when PSE&G does work.

Arnold Korotkin, 181 Long Hill Road, requested a status report on the improvements to Donato Drive. Council President SGOBBA stated the Township is moving forward and the Mayor plans to present a timeline at a future Meeting.

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

**Meeting of July 9, 2018**

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

The Council President declared the motion passed.

***ACTION ITEMS:***

**CORRESPONDENCE**

It was moved by Councilmember Vancheri, seconded by Councilmember Seber to approve the following:

REQUEST FROM LITTLE FALLS BIZ FOR PERMISSION TO USE THE MORRIS CANAL AREA TO HOLD ITS ANNUAL FALL FESTIVAL ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2018 FROM 12:00 P.M. UNTIL 5:00 P.M.

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

The Council President declared the motion passed.

**RESOLUTIONS**

It was moved by Councilmember Cordonnier, seconded by Councilmember Liess, to approve the following:

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Bill List

**RESOLUTION [A] 18-07-09 #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.

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

The Council President declared the motion passed.

**ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED:**

***ADMINISTRATOR:***

1. PROPOSED DOG ORDINANCE REVISION– Mayor Damiano explained that minor modifications have been made to the ordinance as the current ordinance improperly penalizes residents. The proposed ordinance would make the barking of animals a violation during the hours of 10pm-7am, which is similar to the noise ordinance. The one exception would stipulate that dogs cannot be barking while unattended during the day. Councilmember CORDONNIER expressed concern that some of the wording may be subjective and too broad. Mayor Damiano agreed. Mr. Wenzel highlighted that there must be some degree of flexibility in these issues and then reviewed the opportunities afforded by the appeal process. Councilmember CORDONNIER discussed the noise ordinance and that a summons is not given on the first complaint. Mayor Damiano stated the police have the right to issue a ticket if it was warranted, though their first approach is generally to disarm the situation.
2. TAX REFUND RESOLUTION – Mayor Damiano reviewed the resolution which essentially states that if there is a business that owes the municipality tax dollars and is simultaneously owed a tax refund, the Township applies the refund towards the taxes that are already owed. The Resolution retains the funds that the municipality already has that are technically due back to the taxpayer because they have a delinquency that exceeds the amount due to them.

***MUNICIPAL CLERK***

1. LIQUOR LICENSE TRANSFER- THE GRAYSTONE INN – Mrs. Kraus explained that a person-to-person liquor license transfer application has been filed for the Graystone Inn. All paperwork and fees have been submitted and forwarded to the State for review. This will be considered for approval at the next Council meeting.

***DPW SUPERINTENDENT***

1. REVIEW OF ROAD RESURFACING STREETS – Mayor Damiano explained the rationale by which streets are included on the list for resurfacing. He then itemized the streets included on the list for road resurfacing this year. Mayor Damiano further explained PSE&G’s policy in the municipality. When a road has been resurfaced within the last five years, PSE&G will resurface the road side to side for the entire length of the repair. If the road has been resurfaced more than five years ago, PSE&G will only repave one half of the road that has been dug up. Council President SGOBBA requested Ms. Krause make copies of the list of streets available in the Clerk’s office for residents.

**COUNCIL TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION**

Councilmember SEBER reported the Municipal Alliance handed out literature and signs at their booth at the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Street Fair.

Councilmember CORDONNIER had nothing to report.

**Meeting of July 9, 2018**

Councilmember LIESS reported he was impressed with his recent visit to the Recreation Center as everyone was preparing for the summer programs there.

Councilmember VANCHERI reported the Transportation Committee reviewed the agenda items with the Mayor, Council President, DPW Superintendent, Police Department, and Business Administrator to come up with a plan to address concerns with speeding. He explained that any concerns are addressed as they come through and are coordinated with the Police Department as well. A response from the County continues to be awaited. Corporal Moncato will prepare a report to identify areas of missing signage throughout the Township. The next Transportation Meeting will be on July 30, 2018.

Council President SGOBBA commended the work of the DPW and Police in making the Fourth of July Street Fair a success.

**PUBLIC COMMENT – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY**

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

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

The Council President declared the motion passed.

Bob Dombrowski, Garden Street, requested information on the number of summonses issued pertaining to the dog ordinance. Council President SGOBBA instructed that issuance of summonses are at the discretion of the officer. A response to Mr. Dombrowski’s query regarding number of summonses will be provided.

Arnold Korotkin, 181 Long Hill Road, questioned whether the Township is making decisions without the residents input in reference to the road resurfacing list, citing the island on Inwood Drive and the example of Donato Drive project. Council President SGOBBA commented on Donato Drive. He added that the DPW Superintendent recommends what roads are to be resurfaced. Mayor Damiano clarified the Donato Drive project was a road reconstruction project and is very different from a road resurfacing project, which the Mayor then described in detail. The process of selecting that project was not the same as the road resurfacing project. Regarding Inwood Drive, the Mayor spoke to three of the seven home owners who were in favor of removing the island. Councilmember CORDONNIER commented that at past meetings the Mayor had made a statement about the process of informing residents of upcoming projects to promote transparency.

Janet Sherman, Woods Road, discussed parking issues related to Inwood and School No. 2. Mayor Damiano clarified that his comment was not related to the school but rather to residents should they have visitors on the weekends. Councilmember VANCHERI commented that often drivers would go on the grass because it is very difficult to get around the cul de sac.

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

Poll:                   Ayes:                   Cordonnier, Liess, 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 Vancheri, seconded by Councilmember Liess, that the meeting be and it was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

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Cynthia Kraus  
Municipal Clerk