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

Monday, March 22, 2021

Council President Sgobba called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the following members present: Christine Hablitz, Albert Kahwaty, Tanya Seber, and Christopher Vancheri. Also present were Mayor James Damiano, Township Attorney Joseph Wenzel, Township Administrator Charles Cuccia, Deputy Clerk Melissa DePiro, and Township Clerk Cynthia Kraus.

Absent: None.

Township Employees present: Police Chief Steve Post.

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. 10:4-8 and 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 February 17, 2021. 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. This meeting is being conducted under the circumstances surrounding the COVID-19 health situation. No public will be allowed to attend the meeting in person. A link and a telephone number to join the meeting can be accessed on the Township website at www.lfnj.com. Electronic provisions have been established for the public to participate during the public comment portion of the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Councilmember Kahwaty, seconded by Councilmember Vancheri, the Regular Meeting of February 22, 2021, the Workshop Meeting of March 8, 2021 be and they were approved.

Poll: Ayes: Hablitz, Kahwaty, Seber, Vancheri, and Council President Sgobba

Nays: None

The Council President declared the motion passed.

COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

Councilmember VANCHERI thanked the DPW and Chief Post for addressing the four way stop signs at the corner of Morningside Circle and Jacobus Avenue as well as Van Pelt Place and Weaver Street. Chief Post, Mr. Campbell and Councilmember VANCHERI will review locations throughout the Township where stop signs exist without a stop bar. The Little Falls Night will be held on Friday, July 9th with details forthcoming. Updates on Memorial Day weekend activities were provided. Councilmember VANCHERI then recognized special guests who were in attendance in recognition of World Down Syndrome Awareness Day.

Councilmember HABLITZ reported the Friends of the Library continue to seek new members and executive members. The next meeting is Tuesday, March 30, 2021 at 7pm. The first annual Shred-it event will be held at the Municipal Building on Saturday, April 24, 2021 for residents only.

Councilmember KAHWATY reminded residents to check on anyone they might know who might need assistance with regard to domestic violence. He also provided information on how to support the tricky tray fundraiser for Operation Graduation on April 22, 2021. Councilmember KAHWATY expressed his appreciation to the DPW, Police Department, Councilmember VANCHERI and the Transportation Committee for the installation of the aforementioned stop signs.

Councilmember SEBER provided an update on the Farmer's Market which will start on May 30th until November. She then explained a new sponsorship program which included market bags as well as a table set up to help advertise local businesses. She recognized the work of Mr. Pace and Mr. Passero for all their help with the Farmer's Market.

REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR

Council President SGOBBA reported the Senior Advisory Committee is planning an afternoon concert in the Civic Center parking lot. The Advisory Committee is also looking for ways to involve senior residents in Earth Day.

MAYOR'S REPORT

COLORECTAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH PROCLAMATION – At this time, Mayor Damiano read the Proclamation recognizing March, 2021 as Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month in the Township of Little Falls.

WORLD DOWN SYNDROM AWARENESS DAY PROCLAMATION – Mayor Damiano welcomed Billy and Rea to the Meeting and then read the Proclamation recognizing March 21, 2021 as World Down Syndrome Awareness Day in the Township of Little Falls.

Mayor Damiano explained Resolution A. Mayor Damiano then reviewed a Powerpoint Presentation on the 2021 Municipal Budget and explained the process and for public hearing and adoption. Council President SGOBBA

added that the Council has thirty days to review and modify the budget. Mr. Cuccia then explained cap appropriations and levy appropriations, and provided details on Resolution C.

It was moved by Councilmember Hablitz, seconded by Councilmember Vancheri to approve Resolutions A through

Increase in Deferred School Taxes

RESOLUTION [A] 21-03-22 - #1

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LITTLE FALLS AUTHORIZING INCREASE IN DEFERRED SCHOOL TAXES FOR LOCAL SCHOOL AND REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TAXES

WHEREAS, the Division of Local Government Services requires that the Governing Body of any municipality which has Deferred School Taxes must authorize any increase in the deferral of any additional amounts, and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body has decided that an increase in Deferred School Taxes is in the best interest of the Township of Little Falls at this time

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body that the following Deferred School Taxes be hereby increased for the year ended December 31, 2020 as follows:

> Deferred Regional High School Taxes Amount Deferred 12/31/2019 \$3,721,342.62 \$3,829,294.50 Amount Deferred 12/31/2020

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Governing Body that a certified copy of this resolution be filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services.

Introduction of the 2021 Municipal Budget

RESOLUTION [B] 21-03-22 - #2 TOWNSHIP OF LITTLE FALLS PASSAIC COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

Introduction of 2021 Budget

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following statements of revenues and appropriations attached hereto constitute the local Budget of the

Township of Little Falls, Passaic County, New Jersey for the year 2021.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the said budget be published in the Herald News in the issue of March 26, 2021, and that a hearing on the Budget will be held at the Municipal Building on April 26, 2021 at 7:00 o'clock (P.M.) or as soon thereafter as the matter may be reached.

RESOLUTION [C] 21-03-22 - #3 RESOLUTION CANCELLING COVID-19 SPECIAL EMERGENCY OVER EXPENDITURE

WHEREAS, the Township of Little Falls adopted a Special Emergency Resolution and Ordinance related to COVID-19 revenue losses for \$2,060,455.51; and

WHEREAS, the actual amount required was \$1,335,869.68; and

WHEREAS, the difference of \$724,585.83 must be cancelled.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the over appropriation of \$724,585.83 included in the COVID-19 Special Emergency is hereby cancelled as follows:

	Realized	Realized	
	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	Shortfall
Licenses – Other	\$50,718.00	\$30,501.00	\$(20,217.00)
Fees and Permits – Other	162,401.02	76,888.25	(85,512.77)
Municipal Court	349,753.16	152,475.96	(197,277.20)
Interest and Costs on Taxes	130,947.55	102,505.42	(28,442.13)
Interest on Deposits	37,360.12	42,841.23	5,481.11
Recreation Fees	72,805.41	47,827.75	(24,977.66)
Uniform Construction Code	374,278.50	377,129.50	2,851.00
EMS – Little Falls	403,710.94	409,532.00	5,821.06
Uniform Fire Safety	24,056.83	23,120.84	(935.99)
Sewer Service Fees	96,165.12	103,505.02	7,339.90
Transferred to Tax Appeals Reserve			(1,000,000.00)
			1,335,869.68
	Original Special Emergency		<u>2,060,455.51</u>
	Cancellation		<u>\$724,585.83</u>

Poll: Hablitz, Kahwaty, Seber, Vancheri, and Council President Sgobba Ayes:

> Nays: None

The Council President declared the motion passed.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Mr. Wenzel had nothing to report.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Members of the public who desire to provide comment shall raise their virtual hand in the Zoom application. The Meeting moderator will queue the members of the public that wish to provide comment and the Council President will recognize them in order. Members of the public who have joined the Meeting by calling in must press *6 to mute and unmute themselves and *9 to raise their hand. Members of the public who have joined the Meeting via the Zoom application must click the Reactions icon and then Raise the Hand icon. Please give your name and address for the record. Once the process is complete, we will return to the regular order of business.

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

Poll: Hablitz, Kahwaty, Seber, Vancheri, and Council President Sgobba Ayes:

> Nays: None

The Council President declared the motion passed.

Luis Fernandez, 54 Harrison Street, requested a status report on the Peckman River project, and commented on email reminders to pay taxes, traffic issues in Jackson Park, and the electronic billboard at the Recreation Center. Mayor Damiano reported the latest release on March 16, 2021 indicated Congresswoman Mikie Sherill and Congressman Bill Pascrell urged President Biden to include the Peckman River project in his administration's budget request to Congress for 2022 at the highest possible level of funding. Mayor Damiano also reviewed a flood risk management feasibility report released on April 29, 2020 by the Army Corps of Engineers. Mayor Damiano explained the tax software and tax office have no overlap with the email blasts that go out. Mayor Damiano explained that until the business owner actually purchases and owns the building, presentations cannot be made to the Planning Board with regard to Jackson Park. Council President SGOBBA responded that he will talk to the Council and obtain their opinions on the matter of the billboard. Councilmember KAHWATY made comments regarding the content on the billboard.

Arnold Korotkin, 181 Long Hill Road, proposed the Mayors of the affected towns coordinate an effort by citizens to write to the President to advocate for federal funding for the Peckman project. He also queried whether the Mayor's budget presentation included funding for the Downtown parking plan. Mr. Cuccia provided further information and noted it would not be in the budget but would be a capital improvement. Regarding COVID-19, Mr. Korotkin expressed his concern with face covering compliance on a visit to Wilmore Road park and questioned whether Recreation Department or Police Department could periodically go to the playground and advise people to wear face coverings. Mayor Damiano announced the Township unfortunately has seen daily cases of COVID-19 with the younger population and is a little bit behind on the reports because the Health Department has been putting a lot of efforts into vaccinations. He was advised of five additional deaths that occurred in Little Falls since January 1, 2021 that were not included in the data for the Township. Mr. Korotkin then questioned if the Council would recognize the citizens who passed away from COVID-19.

Robert Pospiel— 2 Cedar Grove Road, recalled a previous request for a traffic light at Cedar Grove Road and Main Street, expressed his concern that the intersection continues to be dangerous, and requested the Council consider some sort of action. Councilmember VANCHERI explained a traffic light was considered at the intersection of Cedar Grove Road, Francisco Avenue and Wilmore Road in response to crash data. He stated the crash data for Cedar Grove Road, Hopson Avenue, and Main street will be reviewed with Chief Post and discussion with the County Engineer could also occur to see if a barrier could be put on the area of concern. Mayor Damiano commented the number of accidents at Cedar Grove Road and Francisco Avenue versus the number at the intersection of Mr. Pospiel's concern and stated he was unsure as to whether barriers would be feasible. Mayor Damiano responded to Mr. Pospiel's query regarding blue lines on Cedar Grove Road and Main Street, and stated he was not aware of any roadwork in that area at this time.

Vanesa Apaza, 9 Woodside Avenue, requested the Township develop an ordinance to restrict marijuana business operations to reduce youth access to marijuana and prevent issues associated with the statewide transition to properly monitor and regulate recreational marijuana. She expressed her concerns in detail about youth access and statewide transition. Ms. Apaza queried many officers are Certified Drug Recognition (DRE) experts in the Police Department. Mayor Damiano stated the Township has one DRE and the Township is looking to send two more officers who have applied to be DREs. Ms. Apaza requested the number of marijuana businesses be restricted to one, the location of marijuana businesses be restricted to 300 feet from resident homes and 1000 feet from schools, and that training be funded such that all polices officers could become certified DREs. Council President SGOBBA acknowledged Ms. Apaza's report and request, and noted the Council is currently having discussions on the matter. He added the Council is looking at allowing warehousing or growers in the Township. Mayor Damiano prefaced his position that he voted no against the legalization of marijuana in the State, noting the rationale for his decision. He stated limiting the number of marijuana businesses to one based upon license type needs to be discussed. The Mayor also discussed zoning in the Township. Mayor explained the process to become a DRE noting funding is not an issue, however, the process to become certified is difficult because the State selects only a few candidates to attend training every year. Councilmember VANCHERI expressed his opinion that he is not supportive of having marijuana being sold in the Township. Councilmember HABLITZ echoed the sentiments of the Mayor and VANCHERI though she would not be opposed wholesale, warehousing or growing. She believes marijuana does not have a place in retail in Little Falls. Councilmember KAHWATY stated his agreement that he does not see Little Falls as being a suitable home to a retail establishment but is open to something that is not a retail establishment and does not disrupt the community. Councilmember SEBER echoed the Mayor and other Councilmembers. She discussed examining zoning, licensing, and keeping residents safe. Ms. Apaza clarified her reference to recreational businesses, included all seven types of business licenses. Mayor Damiano stated the Township has one DRE and the Township is looking to send two more officers who have applied to be DREs.

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

Poll: Ayes: Hablitz, Kahwaty, Seber, Vancheri, and Council President Sgobba

Nays: None

The Council President declared the motion passed.

CONSENT AGENDA

All items on the Consent Agenda were considered to be routine and were enacted with a single motion. Any items under REQUISITIONS carried a Treasurer's certification as to sufficiency of funds.

REPORTS

Municipal Clerk's Report - Month of February 2021

MUNICIPAL CLERKS REPORT Month of February 2021

ABC LICENSES \$220.00

OTHER LICENSES

\$1,825.00 **Business Licenses**

Pre-paid Business Licenses

Raffle Licenses

\$1,825,00

REGISTRAR OF VITAL STATISTICS

Fees & Permits \$720.00 Marriage Licenses-LF \$125.00 \$15.00 Marriage Licenses-NJ

\$860.00

Street Maps Zoning Maps Zoning Ordinances Document Copies Garage Sales

\$70.00 Misc. Fees & Refunds:

TOTAL MRNA \$70.00 TOTAL CURRENT ACCOUNT \$2,975.00 TOTAL TO TREASURER \$2,975.00

Municipal Clerks Dog/Cat License Report - Month of February 2021

MUNICIPAL CLERK'S DOG/CAT LICENSE REPORT Month of February 2021

Dog Licenses issued 02/01/2021 thru 02/29/2021

Nos. 95 to 99 = 5 Licenses

Amount due Little Falls \$34.00 Amount due State \$9.00 Total Cash Received

Cat Licenses issued 02/01/2021 thru 02/29/2021 Nos. 0 to 0

Licenses Issued 0

Total Cash Received 0.0

> Total to Treas. \$43.00

Tax Collector's Report -- Month of February 2021

MONTHLY REPORT*

Municipality of Township of Little Falls

Office of the Tax Collector

 $Township of \underline{Little Falls} \underline{\underline{Current Account, Lakeland Bank}} \ Revenues \\ Revenues Collector for the Month of \underline{February 2021}$

Categories 01-	February 1-26, 2021	2021 Year to Date
2021 Taxes	\$8,878,960.17	\$11,319,804.24
2020, 2016 Taxes	110,654.63	247,421.08
Interest	7,052.84	13,806.69
Duplicate Tax Bills	20.00	80.00
6% Penalty Fee	0.00	702.97
GRANT TOTALS	\$8 996 687 64	\$11 581 814 98

Delinquent 2016 Taxes \$310,655.31(Inc. 6% ye-pe)

Delinquent 2020 Taxes Delinquent 2021 Taxes 215,059.64 (Subject to tax sale this year)

553,921.31 **Total Delinquent Taxes** \$1,079,636.26

2021 Refunds this month = -\$0.00 2021 Year to date refunds = -\$0.00

Breakdown of refunds for years 2016-2021 completed in 2020(see attached).

DEFINDS IN THE VEAD 2021

Months	2016 STCJ	2017 STCJ	2018 STCJ	2019 STCJ	2020 STCJ	2021 CBJ	2020 Regular	2021 Regular	2021 Senior /Disabled	Exempt 2021	Total by Months
January	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,732.97	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,732.97
February	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	(V) \$250	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	250.00
Totals	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,982.97	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,982.97

Note: The above figures represent the months that the Tax Collector did the adjustments in the computer; the Resolution(s) may have been adopted in the next month.

STCJ = State Tax Court Judgments.

CBJ= County Board Judgments

Municipality of Township of Little Falls

Office of the <u>Tax Collector</u> Township of Little Falls <u>Tax Collector Trust 1 (Lien Monies)</u>, <u>Lakeland Bank</u> Revenues for the Month of <u>February 2021</u>

2020 <u>Year-to-Date</u> \$ 115,126.74 <u>Deposit</u> \$ 115,126.74 January 2021 February 2021 0.00 115,126.74

Total Collected as of February 26, 2021 \$115,126.74

Meeting of March 22, 2021

Municipality of Township of Little Falls

February 2021

Office of the <u>Tax Collector</u>
Township of Little Falls <u>Tax Collector Trust 2 (Lien Premium Monies)</u>, <u>Lakeland Bank</u>
Revenues for the Month of <u>February 2021</u>

Liens with Premiums

Bal. /Dep. (+) \$191,100.00 $\underline{\text{Redeemed}}/\text{(-)}$

Balance Brought Forward (January 1, 2021) January 2021

\$-7,800.00 \$183,300.00 0.00 183,300.00

Ending Balance as of February 26, 2021

\$183,300.00

Recreation Report - Month of February 2021

Recreation Center –Feb. 2021				
Program	Facility	# Classes	Hours	Participants
Yoga	Gym	6	6	60
Open Court PickleBall	Gym	8	16	50
Travel Basketball	Gym	*	*	400
Fencing Classes	Gym	4	8	24
Tiger Basketball (Rent)	Gym	6	20	100
Indoor Soccer	Gym	4	15	180
Weekly Totals		28	65	814

<u>Civic Center Report</u> – Month of February 2021

in of 1 cordary 2021					
Month of February					
Meeting Group	# of Meetings	Hours	Participants		
Senior Clubs	4	8	25		
Stamp Club	2	8	15		
Monthly Totals	6	16	40		

Police Department Report - Month of February 2021

PATROL DIVISION MONTHLY REPORT – February 2021

This agency handled 2,619 details between January 1, 2021 and February 28, 2021.

This agency completed **228** Operations reports and **64** Investigations between January 1, 2021 and February 28, 2021. This agency received **XXXX** 911 calls during the month of February, 2021. The Little Falls Police Department handled details and wrote **110** Operation reports and **29** Investigation reports between February 1, 2021 and February 28, 2021.

The patrol division patrolled 12,210 miles during the month of February, 2021

Calls for Service

Call Type	Total
Medical emergency	68
Fire Department incident	6
Narcan deployment	1
Burglar alarms/false	25
Burglar alarms/valid	69
Domestic violence incidents	3
Burglary	1
Criminal mischief	1
Theft	16
Suspicious person/vehicle/incident	12
General investigation	6
Noise complaint	3
All others not listed	907

Traffic Summary

Crashes	Total
Motor vehicle crashes	61
Motor vehicle crash injuries	6
Motor vehicle crash fatalities	0
Enforcement	Total
Motor vehicle stops	224
Speeding summonses	5
DWI summonses	2
Driving while suspended summonses	8
Uninsured vehicle summonses	4
Moving violations	39
Parking violations	23
Total summonses issued	133

Arrest Summary Total Arrests - 9

Type of Arrest Total CDS DWI Warrant 4 Domestic Violence 0 Theft All others

Directed Patrol Summary

Detail Type	Total
School arrival	25
School dismissal	22
School walk through	49
Radar post	41
Park check	1
Vacant house check	0
Extra attention check	0
DWI/Aggressive driving patrol	0
Foot patrol	3

Patrol Division Time & Attendance

Tatroi Division Time & Attenuan			
Type of Hours	Total		
Vacation	33		
Holiday	50		
Compensatory	49		
Sick	134		
Personal time	12		
Credit time	204		
Administrative	12		
PBA day	7		
Schedule transition	6		
Bereavement	0		
Overtime due to Training	8		
Overtime hours to maintain minimum staffing level	28		
Overtime due to incident/weather/other event	4.5		

³ out of a total of 56 shifts during the month of February were below minimum staffing.

Patrol staffing level during month: 3.74

Major incident/Notable achievement

COMMUNITY POLICING

Detail Type	Total
Cell block inspection	21
School arrivals	11
School dismissals	11
School walk thru	36
Vacant house checks	12
Child car seat installations	1
Headquarters safety inspections	0
Project medicine box emptied	1(31 lbs)
Trips to Covanta for prescription drug destruction	0
Community function appearances	0
School function appearances	1

Special projects/details

Assisted patrol during snow storms

Assisted patrol with (8) calls for service

TRAFFIC DIVISION

Detail Type	Total
Traffic details	*
Radar posts	*
Crashes investigated	*
Speedometer calibrations	*
Alcotest maintenance assignments	*
Traffic meetings attended	*
Traffic complaints received	*
Road job safety checks	*
Assisted patrol	*
Enforcement	Total
Motor vehicle stops	*
Moving summonses	*
Parking summonses	*
Total summonses issued	*

Special projects/details

*** Cpl. Moncato moved to patrol division due to personnel shortage.

<u>Investigations Division Report</u> February 2021 Monthly Report

- Criminal Case Management
 13 Cases were assigned for follow-up investigation.
 41 Investigations currently remain open and active.
- 13 Cases closed from current and previous months.

 0 Cases deemed Open/Inactive from current/previous months.

- <u>Criminal Complaints/Warrants Served:</u>
 4 Cases where Criminal Complaints were issued by the Investigative Division.
 0 Attempts were made to service outstanding criminal arrest warrants issued by the Little Falls Municipal Court.

- Juvenile
 Uvenile Petitions were issued and submitted to the Passaic County Superior Court, Family Division.
 Station-House Adjustment was filed by the Department's Juvenile Detective.

Meeting of March 22, 2021

Narcotics

- Active Narcotics investigation(s)
- **0** Arrests were made by the investigative division for a drug related offense.
- 31 Pounds of prescription medication was deposited in the Prescription Drug Box.

After Hours Call-Outs

2 Incidents required a detective response for investigative support after hours.

21-01779 Burglary Inv. @ St. Agnes Church, 21-01944 Grandparent Scam

- 0 IA Complaint was screened and indexed.
- **0** IA Investigation was conducted and closed.
- 2 (1 Incident = 2 Officers) IA Complaint remains open and is being investigated.

There were $\mathbf{0}$ investigations that resulted in disciplinary action requiring a suspension of ten (10) or more days.

Grand Jury/Superior Court Appearances

O Cases required a Detective to appear and testify before a Grand Jury or Superior Court.

<u>Search Warrants/Subpoenas</u>
11 Subpoenas were requested to be served for an investigation.

There were 0 search warrants and 0 communication data warrants executed.

Background Investigations

The Investigative Division conducted 2 (pending) Police Applicant investigations, 0 Dispatcher Applicant Investigation and 0 Crossing Guard Applicant Investigations.

Megan's Law (Sex-Offender) Registrations

- New Registrations
- 3 Address Verification and Re-Registrations

There are currently ${\bf 9}$ registered sex-offenders residing within the Township.

Detective Time Off and Overtime:

Detective Time Off: TOTAL 56 hours

Compensatory – 40 hours

Vacation/Holiday – 0 Hours

Personal – 0 hours Sick- 16 hours Other - 0 Hours

<u>Division Monthly Staffing Level (M-F) - 2.65 Detectives</u>

Detective Overtime

Hours worked for Cash - 0 hours

Hours worked for Compensatory Time – 9.00 hours

Property and Evidence

- Item classified as property was entered into the department's BEAST Evidence System, processed, logged and secured. (This
- includes missing, lost and found property, recovered stolen property and items left for safekeeping.) Firearms/Weapons were entered into the BEAST Evidence System, processed, logged and secured. 0
 - Firearms were transported for ballistics analysis.
- Items classified as evidence were entered into the BEAST Evidence System, processed, logged and secured.

 3 Items classified as Drug Evidence were transported to the NJ State Police Laboratory for analysis 18

 - Items classified as Forensic Evidence were transported to the NJ State Police Laboratory at Hamilton or Holmdel, NJ for analysis. (This includes physical, chemical, and biological evidence.)
- Random drug screen analysis specimens were transported to the NJ State Medical Examiner's Office for analysis. \$0.00 Currency was seized and submitted to the Passaic County Prosecutor's Office pending asset forfeiture proceedings.

20-01946 - Detective Strothers identified and linked the actor to a swatting incident that occurred in 2020. As a result of the investigation, two criminal charges were filed against the actor.

 $14-02796-We\ received\ notification\ from\ NJSP\ regarding\ a\ blood\ sample\ that\ was\ recovered\ from\ the\ scene\ of\ a\ 2014\ residential\ burglary.\ Det.$ Cespedes conducted an interview of the suspect and obtained a confession. Additionally, the suspect admitted to another residential burglary that also occurred in 2014. The actor was subsequentially criminally charged.

20-05789 - Lt. Prall and Det. Cespedes identified the actor responsible for two commercial burglaries that occurred at the LukOil Mini-Mart convenience store on Route 46 East. As a result of the investigation, several criminal charges were filed against the actor.

The Passaic County Courts are accepting investigative and financial subpoenas, however, there is still a significant delay in obtaining the requested information from the various financial/media institutions. Mostly, they are citing a backlog of requests due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This is causing an unusually high number of Open/Active investigations.

SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION - Administrative Monthly Report - February 2021

RECORDS BUREAU

Discovery and OPRA

5 Discovery Cases involving Digital (Audio/Video) files were processed and uploaded to Dropbox for defense attorneys, the public defender and

30 OPRA requests were processed.

637 pages of reports were facilitated and forwarded to the Township Clerk's Office for OPRA requests.

\$224.00 was deposited by the Records Bureau during the month.

Discovery \$0.00/Firearms \$67.00/Accident & Incident Reports \$157.00/Fingerprints \$0/Solicitor \$0

- Firearms
 12 Applications for Firearms Permits
- 13 Firearms Purchaser ID cards were Issued
- 23 Handgun Purchase Permits were Issued

1 Application was Denied

Background Investigations

Firearms – 19 Firearms Investigations Completed Permit to Carry – 0 Permit to Carry Applications.

Solicitor(s)- 0 solicitor permits were processed and issued

TRAINING:

Outside Training

- Identifying Criminal MV/Occupants: Ptl. Timmerman
- Alcotest Recertification: Ptl. Emperio, Det. Strothers, Det. Cespedes, Sgt. Macaluso, Ptl, O'Brien, Sgt. Romaine, Cpl. Moncato Jr., Sgt. Shapllo
- PCPO Race, Law, Police Reform Training: Chief Post
- 2 Day Background Investigations Course: Det/Lt. Prall, Det. Cespedes, Det. Strothers

Departmental Training

Online Training

Power DMS: N/A

In House Training

N/A

Firearms

Next scheduled training in March 2021

DISPATCHER TIME OFF AND COVERAGE

 $\frac{Dispatcher\ Time\ Off}{COMP-6\ Hours} + OL-0\ Hours$ VAC - 0 Hours PER - 16 Hours C/T – **24** Hours SICK - 48 Hours FML - 12 Hours COVID19 - 0 Hours

 $\frac{Dispatcher\ Coverage-Overtime}{\text{Part-time}\ Dispatcher\ Hours\ Worked}-22\ \text{hours}$

Full time Dispatcher OT CASH – 34 Hours Full-time Dispatcher OT Comp –8 hours

Dispatch Vacancy Covered by Patrol OT –0 hours Part-Time Dispatcher Proficiency Hours Worked -6 hours

Dispatch Vacancy Covered by Patrol Shift - 0 hours

FLEET MANAGEMENT

 $PATROL\ DIVISION\ MONTH \underline{LY\ MILEAGE\ REPORT-February\ 2021}$

UNIT	STARTING MILEAGE	ENDING MILEAGE	TOTAL	
800	14679	15398	719	
810	18578	19808	1230	
811	64050	65158	1108	
812	20330	20825	200	
813	30846	33286	2440	
814	78316	78400	84	
815	48160	49819	1659	
816	6360	7547	1187	
817	64386	66271	1885	
818	8621	10319	1698	
		TOTAL MILEAGE	12210	

Construction Report - Month- February 2021

Uniform Construction Code

Permits Issued – 35 Inspections - 117

Total Value of Construction - \$1,506,257.00

Certificate of Occupancy - \$294.00 Permit Fees Collected - \$39,595.00 Permit Fees Waived - \$0.00

Total Fees Collected - \$39,899.00

Zoning
Fence Permits -\$50.00

Sign Permits - \$50.00

Zoning fees – \$1460.00 Total Fees Collected- \$1560.00

Property Maintenance

Certificates of Compliance Fees –\$1,185 Inspections –30

Complaints Inspections - 8

Violations Issued – 10

Snow Fines - \$0

Roll-off permits - \$10.00

Total Fees Collected - \$ 1,195.00

Monthly Revenue \$42,644.00 YTD Revenue \$52,915.00

CORRESPONDENCE

REQUEST FROM ENTERPRISE FIRE CO. NO 2 TO CONDUCT A BOOT DRIVE AT THE INTERSECTION OF MAIN STREET AND UNION AVENUE ON FRIDAY, MAY 7, 2021 FROM 4:00 PM TO 7:00 PM AND ON SATURDAY, MAY 8, 2021 FROM 10:00 A.M. TO 2:00 P.M..

REQUEST FROM LITTLE FALLS PBA #346 FOR PERMISSION TO CONDUCT ITS ANNUAL 4^{TH} OF JULY STREET FAIR ON SUNDAY, JULY 4, 2021 ON MAIN STREET AND STEVENS AVENUE FROM 10:00 A.M. TO 5:00 P.M..

RAFFLE, LITTLE FALLS EDUCATION FOUNDATION, OFF-PREMISE DRAW RAFFLE, 5/21/21, 8:00 P.M., 160 PATERSON AVENUE, LITTLE FALLS

RAFFLE, PASSAIC VALLEY REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION FOUNDATION, 4/14/21, 3:00 P.M. – 4: 00 P.M., 100 EAST MAIN STREET, LITTLE FALLS

RAFFLE, HENRY BUKIEMA AMERICAN LEGION POST 121, ON-PREMISE 50/50, 05/30/21, 3:00 P.M.-6:00 P.M., 55 VAN NESS AVENUE, LITTLE FALLS

RAFFLE, ST. GEORGE ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHUCH, OFF-PREMISE 50/50, 6/19/21, 6:00 P.M. - 11:00 P.M., 237 LONG HILL ROAD, LITTLE FALLS

RESOLUTIONS

Refund of Tax Overpayments in 2021 on Several Properties

RESOLUTION [D] - 21-03-22- #4

WHEREAS, the following properties in the Township of Little Falls, New Jersey have overpaid real estate taxes in 2021; and WHERAS, the Tax Collector is requesting that the Township Council direct the Treasurer to refund said amounts overpaid listed below:

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Little Falls, County of Passaic, State of New Jersey that the following listed tax refunds be made by the Township Treasurer:

Tax Year Block & Otr.	Lot/Q	Taxpayer <u>Location</u>	<u>Payee</u>	Reason	<u>Amount</u>
2021/1	43/13	DeMolli, Bruce & Anna 7 Pine Court	Columbia Bank Escrow Dept. 19-01 Rt 208 N Fair Lawn NJ 07410	O/P	\$3,060.59
2021/1	57/16	Bedkas Realty LLC 500 Main St	Columbia Bank Escrow Dept. 19-01 Rt 208 N Fair Lawn NJ 07410	O/P	22.58
2021/1	61/1	Tomasella, Thomas & A 80 Dewey Av	Thomas & A Tomasella 205 North Glen Rd Denville NJ 07834	O/P	139.67
2021/1	88.01/1 C305	Ziausys, Ramunas & A 220 Main St, #305	Ramunas & A Ziausys 19 Alpine Rd Stockholm NJ 07460	O/P	12.66
2021/1	99/38	Jarosz, Jimmy & P 11 Walnut St	Columbia Bank Escrow Dept 19-01 Rt 208 N Fairlawn NJ 07410	O/P	10.99
2021/1	102/31	Herman, Dean & J 1 Crane St	Madison Title Agency NJ Trust 1125 Ocean Av Lakewood NJ 08701	O/P	2,519.35
2021/1	140/12	Sameth, Leah A 187 Lincoln Av	Leah A Sameth 187 Lincoln Av Little Falls NJ 07424	O/P	716.97
2021/1	148/66	Jaloudi, Shereen & E 30 Viewmont Ter	Columbia Bank Escrow Dept. 19-01 Rt 208 N Fairlawn NJ 07410	O/P	14.62
2021/1	166/4	Vu,Andrew 20 Cedar Grove Rd	Corelogic Centralized Refunds PO Box 9202 Coppell TX 75019-9760	O/P	2,317.23
2021/1	166/21	Alpine Holdings of NJ, LLC 157 E Main St	Alpine Holdings of NJ, LLC Po Box 254 Alpine NJ 07620	O/P	66.78
2021/1	184.02/10	Martinez, H & Acevedo, K 69 Hemlock Rd	Corelogic Re Tax Svc Attn: Refund Dept 3001 Hackberry Rd Irving TX 75063	O/P	2,706.35
2021/1	230.02/39	Piasecki, Adam & M 1 Houston Rd	Adam & M Piasecki 1 Houston Rd Little Falls NJ 07424	O/P	64.54
2021/1	233/36	Freitas, Jeffrey & S 19 Woodlawn Terr	Fidelty National Title Ins Co 10200 SW Greenburg Rd Ste 110 Portland OR 97223	O/P	3,144.81
2021/1	237/44.15	Shea, Michael & C 29 Mountaintop Terr	Corelogic Centralized PO Box 9202 Coppell TX 75019-9760	O/P	6,655.18
			Total Refunds		\$21,452.32

Rescinding Resolution #[D] 21-01-25-#4-Heavy Towing Services

RESOLUTION [E] 21-03-22 - #5

RESOLUTION RESCINDING RESOLUTION [D] $\overline{21}$ -01-25 OF THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LITTLE FALLS, AUTHORIZING THE REJECTION OF SUBMISSIONS IN RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS FOR HEAVY DUTY TOWING AND STORAGE SERVICES

WHEREAS, the Township of Little Falls issued a request for applications for Towing and Storage Services, and received four submissions in response to the solicitation from JML, Inc., J&M Heavy Tow, LLC, Raven Towing & Recovery, Inc. and Camp Auto & Truck Parts, Inc.: and

WHEREAS, upon review of the bids, material defects were found, and all four bids were rejected; and

WHEREAS, after further review, it was determined that the certain items originally considered as defective were provided in other sections and rendered some submissions in compliance with the Township ordinance; and NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LITTLE FALLS,

PASSAIC COUNTY, NEW JERSEY hereby rescinds Resolution [D] 21-01-25, authorizing the rejection of submissions for Heavy Duty Towing and Storage Services

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Township hereby rescinds the advertisement for submission of new applications for heavy duty towing services.

Authorizing Licensure of Heavy Towing Companies

RESOLUTION [F] 21-03-22 - #6

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE LICENSURE OF COMPANIES PROVIDING ROTATIONAL HEAVY TOWING SERVICES IN THE TOWNSHIP OF LITTLE FALLS

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter 249 of the Code of the Township of Little Falls for Heavy Duty Towing and Storage Services, the Township was required to obtain applications for heavy towing services for the 2021-2022 cycle, in accordance with the adopted Code; and

WHEREAS, the Township received four (4) applications and the Township Attorney reviewed the applications for legal sufficiency; and

WHEREAS, based on that review, the Township Attorney determined that two (2) of the applications (Raven Towing & Recovery,

Inc. and Camp Auto & Truck Parts, Inc.) contained material defects that could not be corrected; and

WHEREAS, it was determined that two (2) of the applications (J&M Heavy Tow, LLC and JML, Inc.) were compliant with the Township ordinance and determined to be satisfactory; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the following heavy duty towers shall be issued a license for heavy towing services:

HEAVY TOWING SERVICES J&M Heavy Tow, LLC JML, Inc.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the following heavy duty towing and storage service applications are hereby rejected: Raven Towing & Recovery, Inc. and Camp Auto & Truck Parts, Inc.

Approving Certified List of LOSAP Eligible Members

RESOLUTION [G] 21-03-22 - #7 TOWNSHIP OF LITTLE FALLS PASSAIC COUNTY NEW JERSEY APPROVING CERTIFIED LIST OF LOSAP ELIGIBLE VOLUNTEER

MEMBERS OF THE LITTLE FALLS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Little Falls, that the attached certified list of volunteer members of the Little Falls Volunteer Fire Department eligible to participate in the Little Falls Length of Service Award Program is hereby approved.

Award of Professional Services Contract

RESOLUTION [H] 21-03-22 - #8

RESOLUTION AWARDING PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT FOR SPECIAL COUNSEL TO METHFESSEL & WERBEL, PC

WHEREAS, pursuant to Township Ordinance §3-6.3, there exists a need to appoint an individual or law firm to serve as special counsel to the Township of Little Falls on an as needed basis as determined by the Township Attorney; and

WHEREAS, a contract for professional services pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1)(a)(I) and N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 may be awarded without advertisement for bids or bidding in that the required services must be performed by persons authorized by law to practice a recognized profession, whose practice is regulated by law, and the performance of which requires knowledge of an advanced and specialized type; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Little Falls that the law firm of Methfessel & Werbel, PC is hereby awarded a professional services contract for the provision of legal services as conflict counsel to the Township as needed during calendar year 2021, consistent with the foregoing.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and the Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute an Agreement with the

law firm of Methfessel & Werbel, PC for such professional services, a copy of which shall be maintained by the Clerk and advertised in the Township's official newspaper pursuant to law.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said contract is awarded as a "professional service" under the provision of the Local

Public Contracts Law because of the specialized training, education, experience and specialized knowledge needed for this position

Award of Contract for Downtown Streetscape Improvements

RESOLUTION [I] 21-03-22 - #9

ACCEPTING BID AND AWARDING CONTRACT FOR FY2019 NJDOT MUNICIPAL AID PROGRAM DOWNTOWN LITTLE FALLS STREETSCAPE IMPROVEMENTS – SECTION 6

WHEREAS, pursuant to advertising duly made, bids were received by the Township of Little Falls on March 17, 2021 for FY2019 NJDOT Municipal Aid Program Downtown Little Falls Streetscape Improvements - Section 6, and the bids were received as follows:

> D&L Paving AA Berms Bid: \$197,589.00

Bid: \$293,650.35 Bid: \$232,635.00

Cifelli & Son General Contractor

and, WHEREAS, the Township Attorney has reviewed the bids for legal sufficiency and the Township Engineer has reviewed the bids for technical sufficiency; and
WHEREAS, the award is subject to the Availability of Funds and certification of same in the 2021 budget; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Little Falls as follows:

That the bid of

AA Berms P.O. Box 180 Belleville, NJ 07109

in the amount of

\$197,589.00

be and the same is hereby accepted; and

- 2) That the Mayor and Clerk be and they are hereby authorized to execute a Contract in a form approved by the Township Attorney for the designated services at the bid price hereinabove cited, subject to the successful Contractor's filing the required form of Affirmative Action compliance and Payroll Certification for Public Works Projects; and
- 3) That the Clerk be and he is hereby authorized and directed to return to the unsuccessful bidder(s) any Certified checks and/or Bid Bonds received from them as surety, with the exception of the surety received from the second-lowest bidder, which shall be retained for a period not to exceed sixty (60) days or until a contract in a form satisfactory to the Township Attorney shall have been executed with the low bidder, whichever shall come first.

Bill List

RESOLUTION [J] 21-03-22 - #10

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.

It was moved by Councilmember Seber, seconded by Councilmember Vancheri, that the Consent Agenda be approved as printed.

Poll: Hablitz, Kahwaty, Seber, Vancheri, and Council President Sgobba Ayes:

> Nays: None

The Council President declared the motion passed.

REGULAR AGENDA

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinance No.1402 - It was moved by Councilmember Vancheri, seconded by Councilmember Kahwaty, that there be introduced and the meeting of April 26, 2021 set as the date for the public hearing of the following:

ORDINANCE NO. 1402 TOWNSHIP OF LITTLE FALLS CALENDAR YEAR 2021

ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A-4-45.14)

WHEREAS, the Local Government Cap Law, N.J.S. 40A:4-45.1 et seq., provides that in the preparation of its annual budget, a municipality shall limit any increase in said budget to 1.0% unless authorized by ordinance to increase it to 3.5% over the previous year's final

appropriations, subject to certain exceptions; and,

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.15a provides that a municipality may, when authorized by ordinance, appropriate the difference between the amount of its actual final appropriation and the 3.5% percentage rate as an exception to its final appropriations in either of the next

WHEREAS, the Township Council of the Township of Little Falls in the County of Passaic finds its advisable and necessary to increase its CY 2021 budget by up to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, in the interest of promoting the health, safety and welfare of the citizens; and,

WHEREAS, the Township Council hereby determines that a 2.5% increase in the budget for said year, amounting to \$353,932 in excess of the increase in final appropriations otherwise permitted by the Local Government Cap Law, is advisable and necessary; and,

WHEREAS, the Township Council hereby determines that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, by the Township Council of the Township of Little Falls, in the County of Passaic, a majority of the full authorized membership of this governing body affirmatively concurring, that, in the CY 2021 budget year, the final appropriations of the Township of Little Falls shall, in accordance with this ordinance and N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14, be increased by 3.5%, amounting to \$495,505 and that the CY 2021 municipal budget for the Township of Little Falls be approved and adopted in accordance with this

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance as introduced be filed with the Director of the Division of vernment Services within 5 days of introduction; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance upon adoption, with the recorded vote included thereon, be

filed with said Director within 5 days after such adoption.

Poll: Hablitz, Kahwaty, Seber, Vancheri, and Council President Sgobba Ayes:

Nays: None

The Council President declared the motion passed.

Ordinance No.1403 - It was moved by Councilmember Vancheri, seconded by Councilmember Kahwaty, that there be introduced and the meeting of April 26, 2021 set as the date for the public hearing of the following:

TOWNSHIP OF LITTLE FALLS **ORDINANCE NO. 1403**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LITTLE FALLS, IN THE COUNTY OF PASSAIC, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, FOR DEDICATION OF RIGHT OF WAY (HEMLOCK ROAD)

WHEREAS, Township of Little Falls obtained ownership of the property designated on the Municipal Tax of the Township of Little Falls as Block 178, Lot 2.01 by way of Deed recorded in the Passaic County Clerk's Office in Deed Book 3698 and Page 286 ("Hemlock Road"), a copy of same is attached hereto; and

WHEREAS, the express purpose of such transaction was to obtain the private roadway and appurtenant lands of Hemlock Road and

to undertake improvements thereon for the good of the populace of Little Falls; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to officially declare that the aforementioned land as a public right-of-way in order to further such goals;

WHEREAS, the Municipal Council of the Township of Little Falls hereby declare Hemlock Road to be a public right of way. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Municipal Council of the Township of Little Falls, County of Passaic, State of New Jersey and it is hereby enacted and ordained by the authority of same as follows:

1. The Township of Little Falls hereby accepts the land identifying Hemlock Road and declares same to be a public Right of Way, and as more

- specifically described in the Deed reference above.
- 2. The Township Clerk shall within sixty (60) days after such ordinance becomes effective file a certified copy of the ordinance accepting the dedication of the street with the office of the County Clerk in a special book set aside for dedications and vacations, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:67-
- 3. All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

 4. If any section, subsection, paragraph, sentence or any part of this ordinance is adjudged unconstitutional or invalid, such judgment shall not affect, impair or invalidate the remainder of this ordinance not directly involved in the controversy in which such judgment shall have been rendered.
- 5. This Ordinance shall take effect upon final passage and publication in accordance with law.

Poll:	Ayes:	Hablitz, Kahwaty, Seber, Vancheri, and Council President Sgobba
	Navs:	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 Seber, that the meeting be and it was adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

Cynthia Kraus	
Municipal Clerk	