

January 7, 2014

The regular bi-monthly meeting of the Lafayette Township Committee was held on Tuesday, January 7, 2014 at 7:30 P.M. in the Municipal Building, 33 Morris Farm Road, Lafayette, NJ

Members Present: Mayor D'Angeli, Committeemen Corcoran, Henderson, Hughes, Bruning

Members Absent: None

Also Present: Clerk Fedish, Road Foreman Macko

Mayor D'Angeli opened the meeting stating that it was being held in compliance with Public Law 1975, Chapter 231, Sections 4 & 13.

**Minutes** - Motion by Hughes, seconded by Henderson, to accept and place on file the minutes of December 17, 2013. Motion carried by roll call vote: Corcoran-yes, Henderson-yes, Hughes-yes, Bruning-yes, D'Angeli-yes.

### Reports

**Tax Collector** - For December 2013

Tax Map Fee	\$150.00
Prior Year Taxes	\$2,594.55
Current Year Taxes	\$245,474.83
Prepaid Taxes – 2014	\$13,281.05
Interest	\$8,802.31
Total	\$267,708.19

Motion by Hughes, seconded by Henderson, to accept the Tax Collector's monthly and year end penalties reports as submitted. Motion carried by roll call vote: Corcoran-yes, Henderson-yes, Hughes-yes, Bruning-yes, D'Angeli-yes.

### Committee Reports

#### Affordable Housing

Advance Housing - Hughes reported Advance Housing is continuing with residents occupying the Phase II units. He reported they will be working on another project in the Township.

Rehabilitation Program – Hughes reported three (3) proposals have been submitted for the replacement of a boiler. Motion by Bruning, seconded by Henderson, to award the boiler replacement to Scott Breen Plumbing & Heating for a cost of \$4,710 for the boiler and \$1,425 for the flue liner (if necessary) subject to the receipt of a Certificate of Insurance. Motion carried by roll call vote: Corcoran-yes, Henderson-yes, Hughes-yes, Bruning-yes, D'Angeli-yes.

**Emergency Management** - Hughes reported a meeting is scheduled to discuss the Sussex County Communications Center project. He and Committeeman Henderson will follow up on this issue.

**Fire Department** - Henderson reported the Fire Department responded to ten (10) calls in December.

**EMS** - Corcoran reported the EMS responded to 226 calls in 2013.

**Streets and Roads** - D'Angeli reviewed the Road Foreman's report.

### Correspondence

From Elaine Morgan, Clerk of the Board re: Resolution Supporting Economic Study

From Debra Nicholson, Esq. re: Public Hearing

From Sheriff Michael Strada re: County Communications Center

## **Old Business**

**Storage Area in Township Garage** - Road Foreman Macko reported a sealed drawing is required. Committeeman Bruning will pursue this issue. This matter will be carried to the next meeting on January 21, 2014.

**Construction Department** - Bruning recommends proceeding with giving jurisdiction of the Township's Construction Department to the State DCA. A meeting is scheduled with Jim Miller (DCA) on Monday, January 13, 2014. Bruning indicated the State may be able to start immediately. D'Angeli recommends giving the current employees two (2) weeks' notice and the DCA start January 27, 2014.

It was unanimously decided that Jim Cutler will be the Township's Zoning Officer. D'Angeli will speak to Mr. Cutler about being a Class II member of the Land Use Board.

## **New Business**

**2013 Temporary Budget Resolution** - Motion by Corcoran, seconded by Hughes, to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, N.J.S. 40A:4-19 provides that where any contract, commitment or payments are to be made prior to the final adoption of the 2014 budget, temporary appropriations should be made for the purpose and amounts required in the manner and time therein provided, and

WHEREAS, the date of this resolution is within the first 30 days of the fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, the total appropriation in the 2013 budget, exclusive of any appropriations made for interest and debt redemption charges, capital improvement and public assistance, is the sum of \$1,801,535.23; and

WHEREAS, 26.25% of the total appropriations in the 2013 budget, exclusive of any appropriations made for interest and debt redemption charges, capital improvements and public assistance in said budget is the sum of \$472,903.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Lafayette, in the County of Sussex, State of New Jersey, that the following appropriations be made and a certified copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Chief Financial Officer for his/her records.

Motion carried by roll call vote: Corcoran-yes, Henderson-yes, Hughes-yes, Bruning-yes, D'Angeli-yes.

**2013 Budget Meeting** - The 2014 budget meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 28, 2014 at 3:00pm.

**Defend Tax Appeals Resolution** - Motion by Bruning, seconded by Henderson, to adopt the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Lafayette that the Municipal Assessor and Municipal Attorney be and they are hereby authorized to defend before the Sussex County Board of Taxation and Tax Court of the State of New Jersey all contested appeals and to initiate municipal appeals to correct the Township of Lafayette tax list including, but not limited to, rollback complaints, added and omitted assessment complaints, and such other appeals as are necessary to correct the assessments for the Township of Lafayette; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Municipal Assessor and Municipal Attorney be and hereby designated as agents of the Township of Lafayette for the purpose of signing settlements of the foregoing matters by stipulation.

Motion carried by roll call vote: Corcoran-yes, Henderson-yes, Hughes-yes, Bruning-yes, D'Angeli-yes.

Motion by Henderson, seconded by Corcoran, to adopt the following Resolutions:

### **Risk Management Consultant Resolution**

WHEREAS, Lafayette Township (hereinafter "Local Unit") has joined the Statewide Insurance Fund (hereinafter "Fund"), a joint insurance fund as defined in N.J.S.A. 40A:10-36 *et seq.*; and

WHEREAS, the Bylaws require participating members to appoint a Risk Management Consultant, as those positions are defined in the Bylaws, if requested to do so by the "Fund"; and

WHEREAS, the Local Unit has complied with relevant law with regard to the appointment of a Risk management Consultant; and

WHEREAS, the "Fund" has requested its members to appoint individuals or entities to that position; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the governing body of "Local Unit", in the County of Hunterdon and State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. Lafayette Township hereby appoints George Morville & The Morville Agency its local Risk Management Consultant.
2. The Mayor and Risk Management Consultant are hereby authorized to execute the Risk Management Consultant's Agreement for the year 2013 in the form attached hereto.

**2013 Fund Year Agreement** - To authorize the Mayor to sign the 2014 Fund Year Statewide Insurance Fund Risk Management Consultant's Agreement and Join the Fund.

WHEREAS, a number of local units have joined together to form the Statewide Insurance Fund ("FUND"), a joint insurance fund, as permitted by N.J.S.A. 40A:10-36, *et seq.*; and

WHEREAS, Lafayette Township ("LOCAL UNIT") has complied with relevant law with regard to the acquisition of insurance; and

WHEREAS, the statutes and regulations governing the creation and operation of joint insurance funds contain elaborate restrictions and safeguards concerning the safe and efficient administration of such funds; and

WHEREAS, the LOCAL UNIT has determined that membership in the FUND is in the best interest of the LOCAL UNIT; and

WHEREAS, the LOCAL UNIT agrees to be a member of the FUND for a period of three (3) years, effective from **January 1, 2014** terminating on **January 1, 2017** at 12:01 a.m. standard time; and

WHEREAS, the LOCAL UNIT has never defaulted on claims, if self-insured, and has not been canceled for non-payment of insurance premiums for two (2) years prior to the date of this Resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the LOCAL UNIT does hereby agree to join the Statewide Insurance Fund; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that to the extent required by law, the Local Unit shall provide notice of the Indemnity and Trust Agreement to the Office of the State Comptroller; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the LOCAL UNIT will be afforded the following coverage(s) as marked "Yes":

**YES**                      **NO**

Workers' Compensation & Employer's Liability  
Liability, Property, Crime-Faithful Performance and Fidelity,  
Inland Marine, Boiler and Machinery, Comprehensive General  
Liability, Auto Liability, Auto Physical Damages  
and Professional Liability  
Pollution Liability

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that John D'Angeli is hereby appointed as the LOCAL UNIT's Fund Commissioner and is authorized to execute the application for membership and the accompanying certification on behalf of the LOCAL UNIT; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the LOCAL UNIT's Fund Commissioner is authorized and directed to execute the Indemnity and Trust Agreement and such other documents signifying the membership in the FUND as required by the FUND's Bylaws and to deliver same to the Administrator of the FUND with the express reservation that said documents shall become effective only upon the LOCAL UNIT's admissions to the FUND following approval of the FUND by the New Jersey Department of Banking and Insurance.

#### **Deputy Records Custodians Resolution**

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Lafayette that all Department Heads and Tax Assessor be designated as Deputy Custodians of Public Records to assist the Custodian of Records in the performance of duties related to P.L. 2001, c404, commonly referred to as the Open Public Records Act (OPRA).

#### **Cancel Delinquencies Resolution**

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:5-17.1 permits authorized employees to process cancellation of property tax refunds or delinquencies of less than \$10.00 without action of the governing body; and

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector has requested authorization to cancel those taxes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Lafayette that the Tax Collector be authorized to process cancellation of property tax refunds or delinquencies of less than \$10.00 as may occur.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Tax Collector, Chief Financial Officer and Township Auditor for their records.

**Partial Payments Resolution**

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 54:4-68 authorizes the Governing Body to adopt a resolution authorizing the Tax Collector to accept as partial payment less than one hundred percent (100%) of the amount due and owing; and

WHEREAS, the tax collection computer program is set up under strict guidelines, as per the Division of Local Government Services and must be in accordance with the Mod 4 formula and will allow for accepting such partial payments.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Lafayette, Sussex County, New Jersey to authorize the Tax Collector to accept payment of less than 100%, but no less than the full amount of interest due.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the Tax Collector, Chief Financial Officer and Township Auditor for their records.

Motion carried by roll call vote: Corcoran-yes, Henderson-yes, Hughes-yes, Bruning-yes, D'Angeli-yes.

**Junkyard License** - Motion by Corcoran, seconded by Henderson, to approve the license renewal for Lafayette Salvage, Inc. for 2014. Motion carried by roll call vote: Corcoran-yes, Henderson-yes, Hughes-yes, Bruning-yes, D'Angeli-yes.

**Adjournment**

With there being no further business, motion by Corcoran, seconded by Bruning, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully,

ANNA ROSE FEDISH, RMC  
Municipal Clerk