

January 6, 2015

The regular bi-monthly meeting of the Lafayette Township Committee was held on Tuesday, January 6, 2015 at 7:30 P.M. in the Municipal Building, 33 Morris Farm Road, Lafayette, NJ

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

Members Absent None

Also Present: Clerk Fedish, Road Foreman Macko

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

Minutes - Motion by Henderson, seconded by Corcoran, to accept and place on file the minutes of December 16, 2014. Motion carried by roll call vote: Corcoran-yes, Henderson-yes, Hughes-yes, D'Angeli-yes, Bruning-yes.

Reports

Tax Collector - For December 2014

Tax Map Fee	\$50.00
Current Year Taxes	\$90,095.69
Prepaid Taxes – 2015	\$29,483.56
Interest	\$2,568.22
Total	\$122,197.47

Motion by Hughes, seconded by D'Angeli, to accept the Tax Collector's report as submitted. Motion carried by roll call vote: Corcoran-yes, Henderson-yes, Hughes-yes, D'Angeli-yes, Bruning-yes.

Committee Reports

Emergency Management - Hughes reported the County dispatch is fully operational; and the Emergency Operating Plan is being worked on.

EMS - Corcoran reported the EMS responded to 19 calls in December.

Correspondence

- From Richard Osborn, Green Acres re: Moose/Castimore acquisition
- Anonymous letter re: 213 Pelletown Road
- Andover Township Resolution re: Master Plan Reexamination Adoption
- Montague Township Resolution re: 2% Tuition Cap
- Byram Township Resolution re: Restoring funding for State parks & historic sites

New Business

2015 Temporary Budget Resolution - Motion by Corcoran, seconded by Henderson, 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 2015 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 2014 budget, exclusive of any appropriations made for interest and debt redemption charges, capital improvement and public assistance, is the sum of \$1,757,877; and

WHEREAS, 26.25% of the total appropriations in the 2014 budget, exclusive of any appropriations made for interest and debt redemption charges, capital improvements and public assistance in said budget is the sum of \$461,443.00.

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, D'Angeli-yes, Bruning-yes.

2015 Budget Meeting - The 2015 budget meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 28, 2015 at 3:00pm.

Motion by D'Angeli, seconded by Hughes, to adopt the following Resolutions:

Defend Tax Appeals 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.

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.

Appointing Township's Risk Management Consultant

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 2015 in the form attached hereto.

2015 Fund Year Agreement - To authorize the Mayor to sign the 2015 Fund Year Statewide Insurance Fund Risk Management Consultant's Agreement.

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, D’Angeli-yes, Bruning-yes.

Tax Assessor Appointment - Motion by Henderson, seconded by Corcoran, to appoint Jason Laliker as Lafayette Township Tax Assessor to a partial term commencing January 1, 2015 and ending June 30, 2015 and then to a four (4) year term July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2019. Motion carried by roll call vote: Corcoran-yes, Henderson-yes, Hughes-yes, D’Angeli-yes, Bruning-yes.

Transfers - Motion by D’Angeli, seconded by Corcoran, to adopt the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, there is a need for adjustments to the 2014 municipal budget appropriations; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40:4-59 permits that all unexpended balances carried forward after the close of the fiscal year are available, until lapsed at the close of the succeeding year, to meet specific claims, commitments or contracts incurred during the preceding fiscal year, and allow transfers to be made from unexpended balances to those which are expected to be insufficient during the first three (3) months of the succeeding year.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Lafayette that the following transfers be made in the amounts so noted:

<u>From</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>To</u>
Land Use o/e	\$2,500.00	Streets & Roads o/e
Construction Official s/w	540.00	Streets & Roads o/e
Construction Official o/e	360.00	Streets & Roads o/e
Zoning Official o/e	400.00	Streets & Roads o/e
Electrical Official s/w	900.00	Streets & Roads o/e
Recreation s/w	1,300.00	Streets & Roads o/e
Computer Services	900.00	Gasoline & Diesel
Total Transfers	\$6,900.00	

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

Carlwood Development-144 Route 94 - It has come to the attention of the Township Committee that debris is being dumped on the property. The Clerk was asked to send a letter to the Zoning Officer and Building Department to investigate and review if there are any open permits for the property.

Property Maintenance Ordinance - Mayor Bruning suggested a property maintenance ordinance for non-residential properties. He will pursue this issue with the Township Attorney.

Guiderail Work - Motion by Hughes seconded by Henderson to repair the guiderail at the intersection of Van Sickle and Meadows Roads. Motion carried by roll call vote: Corcoran-yes, Henderson-yes, Hughes-yes, D'Angeli-yes, Bruning-yes.

Adjournment

With there being no further business, motion by D'Angeli, seconded by Henderson, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully,

ANNA ROSE FEDISH, RMC
Municipal Clerk