

December 18, 2018

The regular bi-monthly meeting of the Lafayette Township Committee was held on Tuesday, December 18, 2018 at 7:30 P.M. in the Municipal Building, 33 Morris Farm Road, Lafayette, NJ

Members Present: Mayor Hughes, Committeemen Henderson, Bruning, O’Leary

Members Absent Corcoran (excused)

Also Present: Clerk Fedish, CFO Grisaffi, Road Foreman Macko

Mayor Hughes 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 O’Leary, to accept and place on file the minutes of the regular meeting of December 4, 2018. Motion carried by roll call vote: Henderson-yes, Bruning-abstain, O’Leary-yes, Hughes-yes.

Treasurer’s Report

Cash Report for November 2018

| | |
|--|----------------|
| Cash Balances as of October 31, 2018 | \$3,929,481.44 |
| Cash Receipts for November 2018 | \$1,559,353.47 |
| Total | \$5,488,834.91 |
| Cash Disbursements for October 2018 | \$1,622,379.82 |
| Cash Balances as of November 30, 2018 | \$3,866,455.09 |
| Account Balances as of November 30, 2018 | |
| Current – Checking | \$1,380,115.19 |
| Capital – Checking | \$1,580,560.38 |
| Escrow – Checking | \$71,784.14 |
| COAH - Developers Fees | \$22,437.19 |
| COAH - Rehab Reserves | \$29,868.46 |
| Open Space Municipal Tax | \$152,414.72 |
| Snow Trust | \$12,737.92 |
| Environmental Contingencies | \$76,190.30 |
| Trust Accounts for Developers Agreement | \$509,343.48 |
| Special Rec. – Checking | \$5,389.02 |
| Special Donations | \$7,546.98 |
| Fire Prevention | \$15,735.08 |
| Green Acres Trust | \$396.29 |
| Dog Trust Account | \$1,935.94 |
| Total Account Balance | \$3,866,455.09 |

Motion by Bruning, seconded by Henderson, to accept the Treasurer’s report as submitted. Motion carried by roll call vote: Henderson-yes, Bruning-yes, O’Leary-yes, Hughes-yes.

Transfers Resolution - Motion by Bruning, seconded by Henderson, to adopt the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, there is a need for adjustments to the 2018 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.

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> |
|----------------------|---------------|--------------------------------|
| Legal Services | \$ 600.00 | General Administration o/e |
| Legal Services | \$ 50.00 | Collection of Taxes o/e |
| Legal Services | \$ 100.00 | Group Insurance |
| Legal Services | \$ 100.00 | Unemployment Insurance |
| Legal Services | \$1,500.00 | Public Buildings & Grounds o/e |
| Engineering Services | \$ 5.00 | Animal Control Officer |
| Engineering Services | \$ 900.00 | Celebration of Public Events |
| Engineering Services | \$2,000.00 | Gasoline & Diesel |
| Total Transfers | \$ 5,255.00 | |

Motion carried by roll call vote: Henderson-yes, Bruning-yes, O’Leary-yes, Hughes-yes.

Committee Reports

Streets and Roads - Bruning reviewed the Road Foreman’s report. Because the tree at 11 Mudcut Road is healthy, it will remain.

Economic Development (EDC) - Bruning reported the EDC recommends the Land Use Board amend the sign Ordinance to include painted signs on some buildings.

Open Space (OSAC) - O’Leary reported the reorganization meeting is scheduled for January 22, 2019.

Land Use Board - O’Leary reviewed the agenda for the December 20, 2018 meeting.

EMS - Motion by O’Leary, seconded by Bruning, to appoint Cody Farischon as a Cadet for the EMS.

Emergency Management - Hughes reported the high band license will be renewed in 2019.

Elizabethtown Gas - Hughes reported a meeting was recently held; and a questionnaire will be sent to determine interest.

Sidewalks - Hughes reported a meeting will be held with a USDA representative in January.

Miscellaneous - Hughes reported volunteers will create a portfolio of the Township for economic opportunities. A small business meeting will be held on January 21, 2019 in the community hall at The Shoppes at Lafayette.

Correspondence

a. Sandyston Township Resolution Supporting A4037 and S2650 for Junior Firefighters

b. Addison Hinrichs re: Resolution Supporting Path to Progress

Motion by Hughes, seconded by Henderson, to adopt the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF PATH TO PROGRESS RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY NEW JERSEY ECONOMIC AND FISCAL POLICY WORKSHOP

WHEREAS, New Jersey faces a daunting fiscal crisis; and

WHEREAS, for two (2) decades, while county and municipal governments made the proper pension payments, New Jersey governors from both parties severely underfunded the pension system for teachers and State government workers; and

WHEREAS, while local government pension systems are funded at the national average, the State’s unfunded liability for pensions and retiree health benefits now tops \$150 billion – four (4) time the size of the State budget; and

WHEREAS, actuaries project the State will have to increase its pension contribution from \$3.2 billion in this year’s budget to \$6.7 billion to reach the Actuarially Required Contribution (ARC) by FY 2023; and

WHEREAS, health care costs continue to rise and New Jersey and its local governments cannot sustain the unparalleled platinum-level benefits that they provide to their employees; and

WHEREAS, municipalities cannot address other major cost drivers, such as career-end sick leave payouts in excess of \$100,000, without relief from State government; and

WHEREAS, the State must bring pension and health care costs under control before they crowd out all other important spending needs, such as reinvestment in NJ Transit, making higher education more affordable and properly funding state aid to school districts to hold down property taxes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Lafayette Township expresses its support for the recommendations of the Path to Progress report issued by the New Jersey Economic and Fiscal Policy Workgroup.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution is forwarded to Senator Steven Oroho, Assemblyman Parker Space, Assemblyman Hal Wirths, Senate President Steve Sweeney, Assembly Speaker Coughlin, Senator Paul Sarlo, Assembly Majority Leader Greenwald, Assemblywoman Eliana Pintor-Marín, Senator Tony Bucco, Senator Troy Singleton, Senator Dawn Addiego, New Jersey State Governor Philip Murphy, the New Jersey Association of Counties and the New Jersey State League of Municipalities.

Motion carried by roll call vote: Henderson-yes, Bruning-yes, O’Leary-yes, Hughes-yes.

Vouchers

| | |
|---------------------------------------|------------|
| American Wear | 217.50 |
| Amerigas – Chester | 472.63 |
| Aquatic Analysts, Inc. | 375.00 |
| CenturyLink | 596.83 |
| Constellation New Energy, Inc. | 78.14 |
| Denville Line Painting, Inc. | 3,600.00 |
| Griffth-Allied Trucking | 1,515.01 |
| Harter Equipment, Inc. | 609.02 |
| Howard Drake | 89.63 |
| J&P Crushing, LLC | 1,056.50 |
| James Ando | 125.00 |
| James Rossi | 600.00 |
| JCP&L | 1,117.18 |
| John Williams | 125.00 |
| Johnny-On-The-Spot, LLC | 339.00 |
| Kuiken Brothers Co., Inc. | 73.76 |
| Lafayette Auto Parts Supply, LLC | 804.25 |
| Lafayette House | 929.25 |
| Kimball-Midwest | 469.24 |
| Montague Tool & Supply Co. | 145.79 |
| NJ State League of Municipalities | 65.00 |
| North East Parts Group, LLC | 317.83 |
| Philip Nadler | 28,155.06 |
| ReadyRefresh by Nestle | 5.29 |
| Road Safety Systems | 21,330.00 |
| Royal Pontiac-Buick-GMC | 80.04 |
| Rudolf Lucciola | 250.00 |
| Service Electric Cable TV of NJ, Inc. | 19.95 |
| Ronetco Supermarket, Inc. | 255.25 |
| Staples Business Advantage | 450.99 |
| Stavola Beaver Run Quarry, LLC | 533.04 |
| Tilcon New York, Inc. | 463,640.41 |
| Tree King | 7,440.00 |
| United States Postal Service | 601.75 |
| Weldon Quarry Co., LLC | 488.25 |
| William Macko | 125.00 |

Motion by Henderson, seconded by Bruning, to pay the bills on the Bills List. Motion carried by roll call vote: Henderson-yes, Bruning-yes, O’Leary-yes, Hughes-yes.

Old Business

Salary Ordinance - Mayor Hughes opened the public hearing for the following Ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE SALARIES OF CERTAIN OFFICIALS IN THE TOWNSHIP OF LAFAYETTE FOR THE YEAR 2019

With there being no comments from the public, Mayor Hughes closed the public hearing. Motion by Henderson, seconded by O’Leary, to adopt the Salary Ordinance. Motion carried by roll call vote: Henderson-yes, Bruning-yes, O’Leary-yes, Hughes-yes.

LOSAP - A LOSAP enabling Resolution will be submitted shortly. Bruning recommends the form for recording participants’ points be submitted to the Township Committee quarterly for review.

Department Budgets - Bruning suggested, and the Township Committee agreed, that a member of each department be present at the January 15, 2019 to present their budget requests.

“Sonnenberg” Parking Lot-Route 15 - Bruning reported the proposed parking area is in the Township’s historic district. The Township Engineer is awaiting approval from the Historic district from the State before completing the boundary survey and topography. The Township Committee agreed to authorize the Township Engineer to proceed with the survey work.

Curbing for new Roads - Bruning suggested the Land Use Board review the Ordinance regarding curbing as they are costly to replace and impede snow plowing. O’Leary will discuss this with the Land Use Board.

Street Lighting - Bruning reported the State requires a \$500 permit fee and approximately \$4,500 for bumper trucks, which amounts to \$5,000 for five (5) new street lights. Due to the cost, the lights will not be installed.

New Business

Nadler Tax Sale Redemption Resolution - Motion by Henderson, seconded by O'Leary, to adopt the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION OF THE LAFAYETTE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE TO ISSUE A TAX REFUND TO PHILIP NADLER IN REGARDS TO THE REDEMPTION OF TAX SALE CERTIFICATE # 2018-002 SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES FOR BLOCK 5.01, LOT 27, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$28,155.06

WHEREAS, on October 15, 2018, tax sale certificate #2018-002 was sold for delinquent 2017 taxes on Block 5.01, Lot 27, owners of record Mario & Carol Bonito to Philip Nadler in the amount of \$14,253.03; and

WHEREAS, the lien holder, Philip Nadler, paid subsequent taxes from the 1st quarter 2018 thru the 4th quarter 2018 in the amount of \$12,182.62; and

WHEREAS, on December 10, 2018, homeowners Mario & Carol Bonito paid the lien and subsequent principal of \$26,435.65, recording and search fees in the amount of \$62.00, redemption penalty in the amount of \$855.18 and interest in the amount of \$802.23 through December 19, 2018, for the redemption of Tax Sale Certificate #2018-002.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Lafayette, Sussex County, New Jersey, that upon certification of Daryn L. Cashin, Tax Collector, a refund be issued to Philip Nadler in the amount of \$28,155.06.

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

Motion carried by roll call vote: Henderson-yes, Bruning-yes, O'Leary-yes, Hughes-yes.

Lucciola Tax Overpayment Refund Resolution - Motion by Henderson, seconded by O'Leary, to adopt the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION OF THE LAFAYETTE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE TO AUTHORIZE THE TAX COLLECTOR TO ISSUE A REFUND TO RUDOLPH LUCCIOLA IN THE AMOUNT OF \$250.00 FOR AN OVERPAYMENT OF 2018 TAXES FOR BLOCK 14, LOT 27.06

WHEREAS, on October 11, 2018, the Tax Collector granted a Veteran Deduction for the year 2018 in the amount of \$250.00 to Rudolph Lucciola, and applied a credit of \$250.00 towards the 4th quarter; and

WHEREAS, on October 30, 2018, a payment was made for the 4th quarter 2018 taxes in the amount of \$1,441.86 by Lereta Corp, agent for Mr. Lucciola's mortgage company, creating an overpayment in the amount of \$250.00 for the year 2018, and Mr. Lucciola has now requested that the overpayment be refunded to him.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Lafayette, Sussex County, New Jersey, that the Tax Collector be authorized to issue a refund to Rudolph Lucciola in the amount of \$250.00.

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

Motion carried by roll call vote: Henderson-yes, Bruning-yes, O'Leary-yes, Hughes-yes.

Emergency Services Audits - Bruning noted the Township contributes to the Fire Department and EMS and feels their audits should be reviewed by the Township Committee.

Fire Department UGST - Bruning reported there is a 1,000 gallon underground storage tank at the Fire Department which no one knows of its installation and asked about its removal. Quotes will be needed for the removal of the UGST and the exterior installation of two (2) 330 gallon tanks.

SCMUA Odor - Bruning reported he, Hughes and representatives from The Shoppes at Lafayette met with Tom Varro (SCMUA) regarding the odor from the landfill. Mr. Varro said they would review the monitoring and mitigation process. Communication will continue.

Hometown Hero - O'Leary reported Cody Farischon was recently awarded one of Josh Gottheimer's 5th District Hometown Heroes.

Developer's Escrows - Applicants who have completed their projects and final inspections approved will have their excess escrow returned.

Adjournment

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

Respectfully,

ANNA ROSE FEDISH, RMC
Municipal Clerk