

March 16, 2021

The regular bi-monthly meeting of the Lafayette Township Committee was held on Tuesday, March 16, 2021 at 7:30 P.M. in the Municipal Building, 33 Morris Farm Road, Lafayette, NJ

Members Present: Mayor Gregory Corcoran, Committeemen Kevin O’Leary, Richard Hughes, Alan Henderson, Richard Bruning

Members Absent None

Also Present: Clerk AnnaRose Fedish, CFO Toni Grisaffi, Road Foreman Bill Macko

Mayor Corcoran opened the meeting stating that it was being held in compliance with Public Law 1975, Chapter 231.

Minutes - Motion by Henderson, seconded by Hughes, to accept and place on file the minutes of March 2, 2021. Motion carried by roll call vote: O’Leary-yes, Hughes-yes, Henderson-yes, Bruning-yes, Corcoran-yes.

Committee Reports

Open Space (OSAC) - O’Leary reported a meeting will be held on March 20, 2021 at the “Lawler” property to discuss installing a path.

Land Use Board - O’Leary reviewed the meeting of February 25, 2021.

Elizabethtown Gas - Hughes reported the project is continuing.

US Postal Service - Hughes reported the project is continuing.

Advance Housing - Hughes reviewed a recently held meeting. A PILOT (payment in lieu of taxes) is being drafted.

Harmony Foundation - Hughes reported renovation permits have been obtained.

Joint Municipal Court - Henderson reported the court is handling all situations well.

Zoning Officer - Henderson reported an interested person has turned down the Township’s offer for Zoning Officer. The Clerk will post this position on the State Clerks’ website.

Streets and Roads - Bruning reviewed the Road Foreman’s report.

Motion by Bruning, seconded by Hughes, to introduce the following Ordinance and set the public hearing date of April 6, 2021:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LAFAYETTE, SUSSEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, PROVIDING FOR THE REPAIR/REPLACEMENT OF FENCING AT LAFAYETTE PARK AND ALL RELATED APPURTENANCES AND APPROPRIATING \$10,000.00 FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND

BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of Lafayette, County of Sussex, New Jersey, as follows:

Section 1. The funding for the repair/replacement of fencing at Lafayette Park and all related appurtenances is hereby authorized; and the cost is not to exceed \$10,000.00 which sum is hereby appropriated for such purposes.

Section 2. The total amount of \$10,000.00 is hereby appropriated from the Capital Improvement Fund.

Section 3. This Ordinance shall take effect upon publication of notice of final adoption as provided by law.

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

Correspondence

a. Roy Kurnos re: Timing of Sale of Foreclosed Property

- b. Statewide Insurance Fund re: New Jersey Legislation affecting Workers' Compensation
 - c. Sparta Township Stormwater Control Ordinance
 - d. Andover Township Cannabis Ordinance
 - e. Ginnie's House re: Proclaiming April Child Abuse Prevention Month
- Motion by O'Leary, seconded by Hughes, to adopt the following proclamation:

PROCLAMATION

Child Abuse Prevention Month

WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect are complex and ongoing problems in our society, affecting many children in Sussex County; and

WHEREAS, every child is entitled to be loved, cared for, nurtured, feel secure and be free from verbal, sexual, emotional and physical abuse, and neglect; and

WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect not only directly harm children, but also increase the likelihood of criminal behavior, substance abuse, health problems, and risky behavior; and

WHEREAS the effects of child abuse are felt by communities as a whole, and need to be addressed by the entire community; and

WHEREAS, effective child abuse prevention programs succeed because of partnerships among families, social service agencies, schools, religious and civic organizations, law enforcement agencies and the business community.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Township Committee of the Township of Lafayette, Sussex County, NJ does hereby proclaim April as Child Abuse Prevention Month and calls upon all citizens, community agencies, faith groups and businesses to increase their participation in our efforts to support families, thereby preventing child abuse and strengthening the communities in which we live.

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

Vouchers

AG Pizza	154.95
American Wear	47.36
CenturyLink	668.16
Elizabethtown Gas	418.95
JCP&L	2,638.88
Laddey, Clark & Ryan, LLP	153.00
Lincoln National Life Insurance Co.	20,240.00
Millside Café	64.93
NJ Dept. of Health & Senior Services	98.40
NJ State League of Municipalities	394.00
Roy E. Kurnos	420.00
Staples Business Advantage	180.25
Statewide Insurance Fund	26,068.25
Times Herald Record	280.80
United States Postal Service	663.35

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

Unfinished Business

Pole Building Electric Spending Ordinance - Mayor Corcoran opened the public hearing for the following Ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LAFAYETTE, SUSSEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, PROVIDING FOR THE REPAIR/REPLACEMENT OF ELECTRICAL COMPONENTS IN THE MUNICIPAL GARAGE POLE BUILDING AND ALL RELATED APPURTENANCES AND APPROPRIATING \$5,000.00 FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND

With there being no comments from the public, Mayor Corcoran closed this public hearing.

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

Municipal Parking Lot Ordinance - Mayor Corcoran opened the public hearing for the following Ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING OVERNIGHT PARKING IN MUNICIPAL PARKING LOTS WITHOUT A PERMIT

Celia and Craig Ostertag, 102 & 104 Route 15 - Mrs. Ostertag stated her tenants park in the front of her buildings on Route 15 but use the municipal lot on the corner at the light at times. She was

told, in the past, this lot is the only one to be used for overnight parking. She does not feel the proposed Ordinance will solve the parking problem. Bruning noted parking is not available for the businesses with renters parking in the municipal lots.

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

The Clerk was asked to contact the Township Attorney for a parking permit ordinance. The Township Committee agreed the parking permit will be issued to the landlord; and the fee is to be \$50 per vehicle per year; and the replacement fee for a permit would be \$50. Each landlord will be allowed two (2) parking permits per apartment.

Meal Allowance Policy - The suggested range for meals is \$12-\$15 after scheduled working hours. This issue will be carried to the next meeting on April 6, 2021.

Cannabis - Hughes will contact the Harmony Foundation to attend a Township Committee meeting to discuss their operations.

Fire House Generator - Motion by Hughes, seconded by Bruning, to introduce the following Ordinance set the public hearing date of April 6, 2021:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LAFAYETTE, SUSSEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, PROVIDING FOR THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF A GENERATOR AT THE LAFAYETTE TOWNSHIP FIRE HOUSE AND ALL RELATED APPURTENANCES AND APPROPRIATING \$27,000.00 FROM THE RESERVE FOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT IN THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND

BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of Lafayette, County of Sussex, New Jersey, as follows:

Section 1. The funding for the purchase and installation of a generator at the Lafayette Township Fire House and all related appurtenances is hereby authorized; and the cost is not to exceed \$27,000.00 which sum is hereby appropriated for such purposes.

Section 2. The total amount of \$27,000.00 is hereby appropriated from the Reserve for Emergency Management in the Capital Improvement Fund.

Section 3. This Ordinance shall take effect upon publication of notice of final adoption as provided by law.

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

Dog License Late Fee - The late fee for dog licenses begins, according to the Ordinance, after February 28 of each year. However, the dog license renewal application states it begins on February 1 of each year.

The late fee will be reimbursed to those who paid it before February 28, 2021. The Ordinance will be reviewed by the Board of Health.

New Business

Garbage/Recycling Collection - The policy for garbage/recycling collection will be changed to a limit of 45-gallon containers/trash bags and not to exceed 50 pounds in weight. This issue will be carried to the next meeting on April 6, 2021.

Multi-Family Zoning Ordinance - O’Leary reported the proposal before the Land Use Board is for The Shoppes at Lafayette consisting of five (5) buildings with a total of 180 apartments, 30 of which will be designated COAH units. Bruning does not feel this concept fits Lafayette due to the proposed size, look of the buildings and impervious coverage.

The draft ordinance will be returned to the Land Use Board for further review.

Audience

Mrs. Celia Ostertag said the owners of The Shoppes presented a concept to the Economic Development Committee of three (3), four (4) story buildings.

Road Foreman Bill Macko said fines are not permitted to be issued for snow being placed in a Township road as they are not included in the ordinance. This issue will be carried to the next meeting on April 6, 2021.

Executive Session - Motion by O’Leary, seconded by Hughes, to adopt the following resolution:

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP
OF LAFAYETTE, COUNTY OF SUSSEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
AUTHORIZING CONFERENCE OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
WITH THE PUBLIC EXCLUDED

WHEREAS, it is deemed appropriate that the Township Committee discuss the matter(s) hereinafter mentioned without the presence of the public in accordance with the provisions of R.S. 10:4-12b, being Section b of the Open Public Meetings Act.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Lafayette, in the County of Sussex, State of New Jersey as follows:

A matter relating to personnel shall be discussed by the Township Committee without the presence of the public. It is anticipated that this matter can be disclosed to the public upon resolution of the matter.

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

Exec. Session - Personnel

Motion by Bruning, seconded by O’Leary, to return to the regular meeting. Motion carried by roll call vote: O’Leary-yes, Hughes-yes, Henderson-yes, Bruning-yes, Corcoran-yes.

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