

October 6, 2020

The regular bi-monthly meeting of the Lafayette Township Committee was held on Tuesday, October 6, 2020 at 7:30 P.M. in the Municipal Building, 33 Morris Farm Road, Lafayette, NJ

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

Members Absent None

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

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

Minutes - Motion by Corcoran, seconded by Hughes, to accept and place on file the minutes of September 15, 2020. Motion carried by roll call vote: Hughes-yes, Corcoran-yes, Bruning-yes, O’Leary-yes, Henderson-yes.

Tax Collector - For September 2020

Tax Searches	\$20.00
Tax Map Fee	\$250.00
Cost of Sale	\$571.38
Prior Year Taxes	\$24,866.96
Current Year Taxes	\$61,798.84
Prepaid Taxes 2021	\$55.70
Interest	\$6,992.76
Total	\$94,555.64

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

Committee Reports

Open Space (OSAC) - O’Leary reviewed the meeting of September 22, 2020. The Clerk will advertise a vacancy on OSAC.

Land Use Board - O’Leary reviewed the meeting of September 24, 2020. He noted that Mr. Mark Anderson has resigned from the Land Use Board.

US Postal Service - Hughes reported the selection process is continuing.

Elizabethtown Gas - Hughes reported an engineer from Elizabethtown Gas is working with The Mill regarding gas connections.

County ID’s - Hughes reported the process for the County ID’s is continuing.

Mitigation Plan - Hughes reported the plan is being updated.

Generators - Hughes reported the process is continuing.

EMS - Corcoran reported Vehicle #1 is out for repairs. The EMS responded to 31 calls in the month of September. Corcoran relayed the EMS would like to hold their annual Christmas party in the meeting room of the municipal building on December 14, 2020.

Foreclosures - Bruning reported the foreclosures are continuing.

Streets and Roads

Graffiti on Township Roads - Bruning reported four (4) individuals have been identified as the persons drawing graffiti on Township roads. The individuals will need to perform Community service and make restitution to the Township.

Stavola Quarry Truck Traffic - Bruning reported some trucks have been identified illegally travelling Township roads to reach the quarry. Summonses will be issued. Tickets were, also, written by the County Sheriff's Department for those on County Route 661/Beaver Run Road.

Hughes suggested, and the Committee agreed, the Operations Manager, Tom Branch, be requested to attend a Township meeting.

At this time, the Mayor opened the meeting to the public.

Ms. Jacqueline Cuoma, 235 Beaver Run Road, said she has taken videos of trucks speeding and engine braking past her house. She noted she has researched the Township's noise Ordinance and feels they exceed the limit.

Ms. Cuoma asked that the speed limit be reduced from 45 mph to 30 mph. Residents have been close to being hit when getting their mail. Bruning noted that because this is a county road, the County would need to request the NJDOT reduce the speed.

Mr. Hal Conover, 23 Ice Plant Road, stated there are many trucks going fast on Ice Plant Road and idling near his home. Mr. Conover asked the trucks be prohibited on Ice Plant Road.

Mr. Harry Gomez, 251 Beaver Run, said the drivers are stacking the trucks along the road. He has lived in Lafayette many years and thinking of moving. Mr. Gomez said the amount of trucks, noise and dust are a big nuisance. He feels a reduction in speed will help the situation.

Ms. Cuoma feels the fines for speeding should be doubled.

Mayor Henderson noted that Ice Plant Road is allowed truck traffic for safety onto Route 15. He explained all that the Township is doing; and the State Police and Sheriff's Officers are helping.

Eric and Cyndi Koeller, 12 Beaver Run Road, said the trucks come off Route 15 very fast past their house. They, too, are thinking of moving as the road is very dangerous; and many residents have a problem getting out of their driveways.

With no further comments from the public, Mayor Henderson closed the meeting to the public.

Fire Department - Henderson reported the Fire Department will be filing grants.

Motion by Henderson, seconded by Corcoran, to approve David Conklin as a Junior member of the Lafayette Township Volunteer Fire Department. Motion carried by roll call vote: Hughes-yes, Corcoran-yes, Bruning-yes, O'Leary-yes, Henderson-yes.

Correspondence

a. From NJ Food Council re: Diversion of Clean Communities Program and Recycling Enhancement Act (carried from September 15, 2020)

b. From Harold Conover re: Truck traffic on Ice Plant Road

c. From Tricia Nikiel, NJ Courts re: New Morris/Sussex Municipal Division Manager

Vouchers

56 Sunset Inn Road, Inc.	257.00
Agra Environmental Services, Inc.	85.00
American Wear	55.95
Aurora Electrical Supply	276.77
Banisch Associates, Inc.	1,200.45
Bassani Power Equipment, LLC	58.53
Braen Royalty, LLC	229.62
Campbell Supply Company of Sussex County	10.77
CenturyLink	1,323.97
Chelbus Cleaning Co., Inc.	275.00
Custom Docks, Inc.	220.00
E.A. Morse & Co., Inc.	432.08
Ficor Co., LLC	6,500.00
Griffith-Allied Trucking	130.59
High Point Regional High School	207,457.83

JCP&L	958.14
Jean Perlee	981.00
Laddey, Clark & Ryan,LLP	2,397.00
Lafayette Auto Parts Supply, LLC	140.30
Lafayette Twp. Board of Education	318,750.00
Montague Tool & Supply Co.	546.64
Morris Asphalt Supply, LLC	281.61
Mr. John	106.50
ND Engineering, LLC	7,795.00
NJ State Treasurer	50.00
North East Parts Group, LLC	199.44
Pitney Bowes, Inc.	71.25
Royal Pontiac-Buick-GMC	163.47
RP Machine	600.00
Rutgers, The State University of NJ	266.00
SK Office Supply, Inc.	22.98
Stavola Beaver Run Quarry, LLC	29.44
Stuart B. Klepesch, Attorney at Law	2,330.00
Sussex County Board of Elections	158.97
Sussex County Clerk	1,834.97
The Land Conservancy of NJ	1,500.00
Tilcon New York, Inc.	149,670.76
Tire King	1,556.00
Treasurer, S/NJ	125.00
Van Cleef Engineering Associates, LLC	11,527.50
Verizon Wireless	270.72
Witmer Public Safety Group	16,170.00

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

Old Business

Amend Chapter VII-Traffic of the General Code - The previously introduced Ordinance of September 15, 2020 was withdrawn due to needed amendments. Motion by O’Leary, seconded by Bruning, to introduce the following Ordinance and set the public hearing date of October 20, 2020:

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTERS VII AND VII-A OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LAFAYETTE, ENTITLED “TRAFFIC”

BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of Lafayette that Chapters VII and VII-A of the Revised General Ordinances of the Township of Lafayette, being Traffic, shall be and is hereby amended as follows:

Section 1. 7-12 – Penalty

Unless another penalty is expressly provided...shall be liable to a penalty of not less than \$150 or more than \$500...

Section 2. 7-13.5(a) - Violations and Penalties

Any person, firm or corporation...fined not less than \$150 or more than \$500...

Section 3. 7A-1 - Schedule I: No Parking - adding:

Name of Street	Side	Location
Day Road	Both	From Hardyston Township line to Beaver Run Road
Lewisburg Road	Both	From Wantage Township line to Pond School Road
Pond School Road	Both	From Beaver Run Road to Wantage Township line

Section 4. 7A-3 - Schedule III: No Stopping or Standing – adding:

Name of Street	Side	Location
Day Road	Both	From Hardyston Township line to Beaver Run Road
Lewisburg Road	Both	From Wantage Township line to Pond School Road
Pond School Road	Both	From Beaver Run Road to Wantage Township line

Section 5. Should any section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance be declared unconstitutional or invalid for any reason by any Court of competent jurisdiction,

such provision(s) shall be deemed severable and the remaining portions of this Ordinance shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 6. All ordinances or parts of ordinances or resolutions that are inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

Section 7. This Ordinance shall take effect after publication and passage according to law.

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

John Deere Loader Spending Ordinance - Motion by Bruning, seconded by Corcoran, to introduce the following Ordinance and set the public hearing date of October 20, 2020:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LAFAYETTE, COUNTY OF SUSSEX, NEW JERSEY, PROVIDING FOR THE ACQUISITION OF A JOHN DEERE LOADER AND RELATED APPURTENANCES AND APPROPRIATING \$130,000.00 AVAILABLE IN THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND - ROAD EQUIPMENT

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 Acquisition of a John Deere Loader and related Appurtenances is hereby authorized and the cost is not to exceed \$130,000.00 which sum is hereby appropriated for such purposes.

Section 2. The total amount of \$130,000.00 is hereby appropriated from the Capital Improvement Fund – Road Equipment.

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

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

New Business

Amend Chapter IV-General Licensing Ordinance - Motion by O’Leary, seconded by Corcoran, to introduce the following Ordinance and set the public hearing date of October 20, 2020:

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER IV OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LAFAYETTE, ENTITLED “GENERAL LICENSING”, SPECIFICALLY 4-1.5

BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of Lafayette that Chapters IV of the Revised General Ordinances of the Township of Lafayette, being “General Licensing”, specifically 4-1.5, shall be and is hereby amended as follows:

Section 1. 4-1.5(i) – License Requirements; Factors – adding:

7. Exceptions:

(a) Seasonal events related to Christmas tree farms or pumpkin picking venues of at least five (5) acres, regardless of zone, may host one food truck for up to eight (8) days annually connected to those activities provided provisions 3 through 6 of Ordinance 4-1.5 (i) are met and where the acreage can accommodate parking for at least 25 vehicles regardless of whether the parking spaces are delineated.

(b) Vineyards or Craft brewery establishments located within the Township licensed by the State of New Jersey regardless of zone may host up to six (6) food truck events annually limited to two (2) food trucks per day provided provisions 3 through 6 of Ordinance 4-1.5 (i) are met and where the acreage can accommodate parking for at least 25 vehicles regardless of whether the parking spaces are delineated.

(c) Annual or one-time celebrations such as private weddings, private parties or other similar private gatherings regardless of zone may host up to two properly licensed food trucks provided the location can meet provisions 3, 5 and 6 of Ordinance 4-1.5 (i) and the food trucks can be located a minimum of fifty (50) feet away from any street.

(d) Any event seeking an exception to host food truck or trucks must comply with Ordinances 4-1.4 and 4-1.5 in order to allow for Lafayette Code Officer review.

Section 2. Should any section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance be declared unconstitutional or invalid for any reason by any Court of competent jurisdiction, such provision(s) shall be deemed severable and the remaining portions of this Ordinance shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 3. All ordinances or parts of ordinances or resolutions that are inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

Section 4. This Ordinance shall take effect after publication and passage according to law.
Motion carried by roll call vote: Hughes-yes, Corcoran-yes, Bruning-yes, O’Leary-yes, Henderson-yes.

Audience

Mr. Bill Macko, Road Foreman, reported a resident on Monroe Road discarded fencing, posts and barbed wire for the annual cleanup and asked about it being collected. It was the consensus of the Committee that the debris be collected.

Executive Session - Motion by Bruning, seconded by Corcoran, 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 pending litigation 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: Hughes-yes, Corcoran-yes, Bruning-yes, O’Leary-yes, Henderson-yes.

Exec. Session - Pending Litigation

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

Mayor Henderson stated pending litigation was discussed in Executive Session.

Adjournment

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

Respectfully,

ANNA ROSE FEDISH, RMC
Municipal Clerk