

Meeting of May 21, 2012

REGULAR MEETING OF THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LITTLE FALLS WAS HELD THIS EVENING IN THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING

Monday, May 21, 2012

Council President Louis Fontana called the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m. with the following members present: Mercedes Gonzalez, Pamela Porter and John Vantuno. Also present were Mayor Darlene Post, Township Attorney Lawrence Tosi, Municipal Clerk William Wilk and Township Administrator Joanne Bergin.

Absent: Councilmember Joseph Sisco and Township Engineer Dennis Lindsay

Township Employees present: DPW Superintendent Phillip Simone, CMFO/Treasurer William Schaffner, Recreation Director John Pace and Deputy Municipal Clerk Cynthia Meyer

Following the Salute to the Flag, the Statement of Public Notice was read.

STATEMENT OF PUBLIC NOTICE: Take notice that adequate notice of this meeting was provided in accordance with N.J.S.A. 10:4-8 and N.J.S.A. 10:4-10 as follows: A notice of the meeting was prominently posted on the bulleting board at the Municipal Building, located at 225 Main Street, Little Falls, N.J. on January 5, 2012; a copy of the notice was faxed to the North Jersey Herald and News and The Record on the same date; additionally, a copy of the notice was filed in the office of the Township Clerk on said date.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Councilmember Gonzalez, seconded by Councilmember Vantuno, that the Minutes of the meetings of January 30, 2012 and February 6, 2012 be and they were approved.

Poll: Ayes: Gonzalez, Porter, Vantuno and Council President Fontana
 Nays: None

The Council President declared the motion passed.

REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR

Council President FONTANA reminded that the Council meetings would not be held in this room for the month of June, but said they would be held at the Court on Stevens Avenue. After the construction is complete, the meetins will return to this room. Councilmember VANTUNO noted that the meetings will not be videotaped for that time.

Council President FONTANA reminded that the Council recently passed the Open Space Grant. He informed that he recently met with some people in town with regard to sprucing up Amity Park. He also informed that they are looking to work on Wilmore Park and the Paterson Avenue fields. He informed that this Saturday is the annual Memorial Day Parade at 10:00 a.m. ; he encouraged everyone to come out for this.

COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

Councilmember SISCO had nothing to report.

Councilmember GONZALEZ informed that Dorothy O'Haire recently had a knee replacement and is doing well. Mrs. O'Haire asked her to report on the following: she presented before and after pictures of the work done by the NJDOT at the Route 46 Bridge over the Peckman River. She informed that debris was cleared from the Passaic River from Hurricane Irene. This cost was done at no cost to the Township due to the persistence of the Regional Flood Board.

Councilmember GONZALEZ informed that she had a meeting with the Domestic Violence Committee recently. Dr. Petrick agreed to come over and demonstrate that he is more than happy to work with the town to educate students about domestic violence. Also, the committee will be marching in the Memorial Day Parade and they would like to make everyone aware that they exist. They would also like something added to the website for their committee. She explained that she received an email from Mr. Klepar yesterday, which contained a list of questions that have been asked continuously. Referring to Ordinance No. 1156, she pointed out that the public hearing is tonight and reminded how important this issue is to the residents. Also up for public hearing this evening is Ordinance No. 1157, which is also an extremely important topic. At last week's Workshop meeting, she informed that the Attorney had proposed two other ordinances; she didn't understand why these ordinances had become the priority of the Township Attorney. She pointed out that the Council is the legislative body and hadn't authorized these ordinances. She understands that all matters have importance, but said there are much more serious issues to be addressed at the present time. She pointed out that there are many tax appeals and said the Tax Assessor does most of the work for these. Referring to salary increases, she said that Mayor Post had previously stated that future raises would be two percent or less. She asked who would be handling the upcoming union contract negotiations. She voiced her opinion that the Township Attorney should not be involved with this, since he has personal relationships with some of the people involved. She further noted that all issues of extreme importance should be brought to the Council's attention for input before a vote.

Councilmember PORTER said she attended a Little Falls ABC meeting last week and they are excited for the upcoming Farmers' Market and the concerts in the park. Last Wednesday the Municipal Alliance held a nice event for kids, which was all about safety and the dangers of drug abuse. It seems to have made an impact on the kids, which is a positive thing. She informed that the tennis courts are now open and look very nice. She informed that the fake dogs at the Recreation Center are helping to keep geese away. She also wished to point out that Little Falls was ranked the 30th top town in NJ to retire in, according to Jersey Magazine.

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Councilmember VANTUNO had nothing to report.

MAYOR'S REPORT

RE-APPOINTMENT OF PATRICIA TOOMEY TO THE LIBRARY BOARD FOR A 5-YEAR TERM EXPIRING 5/31/12 – Mayor Post approved this appointment.

Mayor Post informed that she will be away on 5/31/12 and from 6/1/12 to 6/3/12; during this time, Mrs. Bergin will be named the Acting Mayor.

Mayor Post explained that she has not yet made a decision as to who will handle the contract negotiations.

Councilmember GONZALEZ requested that the Attorney not be a part of this process.

Mayor Post said she recently met for a breakfast meeting with 20 business owners at the Civic Center to provide business owners with free information for their businesses. The information was well received and she is happy to report that the formation of a new businessman's association is being formed under the Little Falls ABC. She also informed that she recently attended the MSU graduation commencement at IZOD the Center, which she described to be a nice event. She informed that RFP's will soon be going out for the billboards.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Mr. Tosi said that Councilmember Gonzalez insulted him on many levels as a professional. He explained that the Attorney has much involvement in tax appeals. Councilmember GONZALEZ said she has a right to express her opinions as a councilmember. Mr. Tosi explained that he was requested by the Mayor to provide a memo concerning the Faulkner Act and the separation of the powers between the Mayor and the Council; there seems to be a blurring of this. He also said that he cannot discuss The Mill or the cell tower investigations; however, there is an agreement currently before The Mill. He further noted that a lot has been accomplished in the six weeks that he has been Township Attorney, noting that he has provided an accounting of his time to the Business Administrator for the last three weeks, which was rather extensive. He also noted that this has been a heavy job to take on. Councilmember GONZALEZ said she used to receive packages with information that concerned litigation from the previous attorney; she would like to see updates and progress so she is aware of what is going on. Mr. Tosi informed that an Executive Session will be called at the next meeting concerning litigation matters.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

At this time, Mrs. Bergin provided a detailed response to a question that was asked by a resident at the 5/7/12 Council meeting.

Regarding Emergency Dispatch Service, she explained that this would combine Fire and Police for a civilian dispatch service all under one roof. Meetings have commenced and the firefighters are on board with this as well. In recent weeks, she has attended several meetings regarding flooding. She informed that there is a resolution on this evening's agenda authorizing the Township Engineer to go out to bid; they are anxious to start this process.

She informed that there is a second reading for an ordinance on tonight's agenda to increase height limitations for homes in the flood zone. This evening's agenda also includes a grant for the Recreation Department to provide programs for children with special needs.

She also reminded that the Council Chambers will be closed for construction during the 6/4/12 meeting, and further noted that she will not be in attendance for that meeting.

Mr. Simone informed that the recycling containers are being picked up; nearly 900 have been claimed. He also informed that the Louis Street Pump Station is very close to completion; they are anticipating completion in two weeks. He also informed that a portion of Wilmore Road Park has been completed and opened. They are still working on the other section as of now and hope to have it ready next week. He had informed the Mayor and Mrs. Bergin that someone ripped the top of the water fountain off in the park. The fountain is now out of commission and will need to be replaced. The town has submitted an application for some ADA equipment; they hope to get this and be able to install a new fountain.

Councilmember GONZALEZ asked Mr. Simone for a solution to get the water for the Garden Club; Mr. Simone assured that he is currently working on this.

In response to Council President FONTANA, Mr. Simone informed that more than 3,000 households will have recycling containers. They are still trying to get word out about this. Mrs. Bergin informed that this information will be included in the next newsletter, as well as with the estimated tax bills.

PUBLIC PORTION

It was moved by Councilmember Gonzalez, seconded by Councilmember Porter, that the meeting be and it was opened to the public.

Poll: Ayes: Gonzalez, Porter, and Council President Fontana
 Nays: None

The Council President declared the motion passed.

Donald Radcliffe, 239 Long Hill Road, explained that he was very surprised about the three percent increase in salaries for the employees. He didn't think this was appropriate at this time due to the economic situation. He heard that this was done out of parody. He suggested that this be kept in mind when renegotiation union contracts.

Arnold Korotkin, Long Hill Road, thanked Councilmember Porter for mentioning the article about Little Falls being in the top 30 towns in NJ to retire in. He also referred to the 300th Anniversary poster and provided some history of Little Falls with regard to Little Falls laundry going on strike to ask for better working conditions and shorter hours.

Al Attianese, 27 Dewey Avenue, referred to the issue of pedestrian safety and explained that his neighbor was recently hit by a car while walking in a crosswalk, and suffered serious injuries. Mr. Attianese had submitted an OPRA request for information on this, and he described the response to be disappointing, noting that only one citation was given in 2011 for someone who failed to yield to pedestrians in a crosswalk. They need to have the Police pay more attention to this.

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Regarding the total number of people involved in house elevations and acquisitions, he asked if they could get an exact count, noting that they should be aware of this.

Councilmember VANTUNO asked for the state average of the citations and Mr. Attianese said he didn't know about state regulations; he submitted an OPRA request for the current information.

Brian Reynolds, 7 Notch Road, asked for an update on the email notification system. Regarding the shared services with Parsippany-Troy Hills for grant administration, he asked if Little Falls is being compensated for this. He thought it was a good thing to combine the Police and Fire dispatchers, but he questioned if this would be a cost savings. He also asked for an update on the Pinnacle matter. He was disappointed at the pedestrian safety issues in town, and said crosswalks should be watched more carefully. He also pointed out that a recent article he read stated that 16% of Little Falls consists of residents over the age of 65. He voiced concern that these people won't be able to afford the increasing taxes in town. He also asked that the Administrator distribute copies of her report to the public for review in the future.

Rosemarie Bello-Truland, High Court, thanked Councilmember Gonzalez for bringing up the EMS issue. She said she still believes that the volunteer EMS squad can be revitalized. However, it won't happen unless they see a firm commitment on the part of the town to really see if it can be revitalized and to admit the importance of maintaining the volunteer service. She has offered her time, but she feels her input is no longer wanted since she announced that she is running for Council. She agreed with Councilmember Gonzalez that there is no room for politics. They cannot afford a paid service. She again requested the Mayor and Council to reinstate the EMS squad, noting that so far, no attempts have been made to do so.

Renea Shapiro, Little Falls ABC, said ABC has always been interested in pedestrian safety; she noted that the Police Department helped out by going out on Main Street and issuing warnings and tickets. She explained that pedestrian safety is a concern and said something must be done about this. She also referred to the cost of building and construction permits, noting that the rates are very high. With regard to taxes, she said the ABC did research and found out that school taxes are divided equally among the three towns. She pointed out that this is a big tax exempt property and a huge burden on the taxpayers, noting that Little Falls should get a percentage off since it is their land; she would like to hear the Council's opinions on this.

Al Attianese, 27 Dewey Avenue, addressed Mr. Tosi and informed that he had OPRA request in regarding the Pinnacle investigation for Mr. Brindisi's report. He asked if it is out of the hands of the Prosecutor yet and Mr. Tosi said the Prosecutor still has it.

Rosemarie Bello-Truland, High Court, said she attended the flood symposium at William Paterson University recently; they felt that the only solution was mitigation, which involves elevation or acquisition. There should be some kind of relief for the towns to make up for these homes and the taxes if this is the only solution.

Brian Reynolds, 7 Notch Road, saw the presentation by Dr. Jaganow regarding Passaic Valley High School and voiced his opinion that more people would want to live in Little Falls if the school was doing a better job.

No one further having come forward to be heard, it was moved by Councilmember Vantuno, seconded by Councilmember Gonzalez, that the meeting be and it was closed to the public.

Poll: Ayes: Gonzalez, Porter, Vantuno and Council President Fontana
 Nays: None

The Council President declared the motion passed.

Council President FONTANA agreed with Mr. Radcliffe regarding the upcoming negotiations in town.

Council President FONTANA was not aware that 16% of Little Falls' residents were Senior Citizens. He thinks there is a nice balance of people in town.

Mrs. Bergin referred to the Community Development Block Grant and explained that this has been a challenge every year when they sit down to determine what projects they will be applying for. They are very limited in this. She informed that they have submitted applications for the Library roof, which was a success. However, they were not successful in applying for improvements to the Recreation Department. Their approach is to try to improve municipal facilities. Council President FONTANA thanked Mr. Korotkin for his comments regarding the history in town.

Mrs. Bergin said she immediately met with the Police Chief regarding the pedestrian that was hurt in town. The Chief has put together a summary of pedestrian injuries in town; a very small percentage was of pedestrians in crosswalks. She agreed that this is important, but pointed out that there is a program in place in town for pedestrian safety. However, they will do what they can to improve this. She also said that they are still looking into signage near the crosswalks.

Mrs. Bergin informed that there are 78 properties in town that are eligible for elevation or acquisition. Most of these properties are waiting to hear back so they can decide what they will do.

She also commented regarding flooding; there has been lots of discussion as to why these grants cannot be used certain things. She explained that these programs are funded through the National Flood Insurance Program, which is a business program through FEMA. The town is currently pursuing what is available. Councilmember VANTUNO asked how many houses have been bought out, and Mrs. Bergin explained that none have been bought out yet; they are being offered elevation or acquisition at this time, but have not yet been finalized.

Councilmember VANTUNO said they are working on a link for the email notification system at this time; everything else is working.

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Mrs. Bergin said they don't expect cost savings for the combined Police and Fire dispatch proposal. However, she hopes to come up with a proposal that will not cost any money either.

Mrs. Bergin said there will be an update regarding the radio system at a future time.

Mayor Post said she met with Mrs. Bergin and representatives from MSU this past Friday. She was informed that the Mayor of Montclair wishes to reinstate the Tri-town Board on MSU. She said she doesn't have a liaison as of yet, but will consider this.

Mayor Post pointed out that she saw a Police Officer parking on Notch Road this past week, but assured that she would speak with the Police Chief about this to make sure they keep a closer watch.

Council President FONTANA disagreed that they are ignoring Mrs. Truland's remarks since she is running for Council. Mrs. Bergin assured that she is more than willing to speak with anyone who wants to talk about his or her experience. She agreed that it is very important to have a volunteer program in place. However, she does not feel prepared to give a recommendation at this point in time.

President FONTANA said the cost of permits is periodically updated; they were recently increased as deemed necessary.

Councilmember VANTUNO referred to the amount of money the Township contributes to the High School and said he had provided the formula for this at a previous meeting. Mrs. Bergin pointed out that this is a Department of Education formula. Mayor Post explained that the portions of the regional schools will be adjusted if the State approves a total town reassessment; Mr. Tosi clarified further.

Council President FONTANA said they might be able to get in touch with the Legislature about a program for loss of revenue due to elevations and acquisitions. Mrs. Bergin explained that she and Mr. Wilk previously prepared a spreadsheet on this; she will bring it to a future meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

All items on the Consent Agenda were considered to be routine and were enacted with a single motion. Any items under REQUISITIONS carried a Treasurer's certification as to sufficiency of funds.

REPORTS

OPINION LETTER FROM BOND COUNSEL, MCMANIMON & SCOTLAND, CERTIFYING THE VALIDITY OF THE RECENT ISSUANCE OF THE \$675,000 REFUNDING BOND ANTICIPATION NOTE

APPLICATIONS

Raffles - - Passaic Valley High School, Off-Premise 50/50, 6/10/12, 6:00 p.m.

Little Falls Fire Department Auxiliary – Richard Kienzlen, Crestmont Road, Great Notch Company #4

NJ Firemen's Association – Jonathan Cespedes, Montclair Avenue, Little Falls Fire Department

RESOLUTIONS

Welfare

RESOLUTION [A] 12-05-21 - #1

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Little Falls, the Treasurer having timely certified to the availability of funds therefor, that the action of the Mayor, Clerk and Treasurer in issuing checks in the amount of:

\$210.00

payable to:

Welfare Clients #55

representing payment of Self-Care for the month of May 2012 be and the same is hereby authorized and ratified.

Overpayment of 2012 Property Taxes

RESOLUTION [B] 12-05-21 - #2

WHEREAS, the property known as Block 115 Lot 3 assessed to John & Lisa Sullivan of 57 Lincoln Avenue, Little Falls, NJ has an overpayment of taxes on their 2012 2nd quarter in the amount of \$2,158.94; and

WHEREAS, the above taxpayer's bank notified our bank with a debit charge due to "insufficient funds" as of March 19, 2012; and

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector debited the Sullivan's 2nd quarter taxes paid on March 8, 2012 in the amount of \$2,158.94 as per the bank notification and advised the taxpayer accordingly on March 19, 2012; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Sullivan re-paid the taxes on March 21, 2012 with cash in the total amount of \$2,178.94 including the \$20.00 insufficient check fee; and

WHEREAS, our bank (Lakeland bank) had processed a credit to the Township's current account through our Finance office re this parcel in the amount of \$2,158.94 on April 27, 2012, and notified the Tax Collector of same; and

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector credited this account in the total amount of \$2,178.94 which includes a \$20.00 insufficient check charge; and

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector shall authorize our CMFO/Treasurer to issue a refund check made payable John & Lisa Sullivan, and mail to: 58 Second Avenue, Little Falls, NJ 07424 in the amount of \$2,178.94;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Little Falls on this 21st day of May 2012 that the amount of \$2,178.94 be refunded to John & Lisa Sullivan due to an overpayment of taxes from a banking error with an insufficient check wherein a duplicate payment was made.

Authorization to go out to Bid for Elevation of Flood Homes

RESOLUTION [C] 12-05-21 - #3

WHEREAS, the Township has been active in Flood Mitigation Programs; and

WHEREAS, the Arcitech has completed plans for the elevation of three homes;

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Council hereby authorizes the Township Engineer to go out for Bids for a Contractor to Perform the Elevation of three homes under the Severe Repetitive Flood Claim Program.

Refund to Lien holder of Redeemed Tax Sale Certificate

RESOLUTION [D] 12-05-21- #4

WHEREAS, at the Municipal Tax Sale held on April 19, 2012, a lien was sold on Block 99 Lot 30, known as Gerald A & Irene J Schneider of 94 Center Avenue, Little Falls, NJ, for 2011 delinquent taxes; and

WHEREAS, this lien, known as Tax Sale Certificate #12-2012, was sold to C&E Tax Lien Fund I, for a premium amount of \$8,700.00; and

WHEREAS, Wells Fargo Bank, an interested party has effected redemption of Certificate #12-2012 in the amount of \$6,656.84;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Treasurer be authorized to issue a check in the amount of \$15,356.84 payable to C&E Tax Lien Fund I, P.O. Box 23-1308, New York, NY 10023 for the redemption of Tax Sale Certificate #12-2012. **This check shall be forwarded to the Tax Collector on May 22, 2012** as she must surrender the tax sale certificate before C&E Tax Lien Fund I receives payment.

Refund of 2010 Property Taxes

RESOLUTION [E] 12-05-21#5

WHEREAS, there is a State Tax Court Judgment on Block 112 Lot 1, known as Central Building LLC of 64-72 Main Street for the Year 2010 reducing the assessed value by \$50,300.00;

YEAR 2010

Original Assessment	\$1,625,300.00
STCJ	<u>1,575,000.00</u>
Difference	50,300.00
2010 Tax Rate	x <u>2.062%</u>
	\$1,037.19

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector authorizes the CMFO/Treasurer to refund the total amount of \$1,037.19 for the Year 2010 payable to Brach Eichler LLC and Central Building LLC, and forwarded to Daniel J. Pollak, Esq., Brach Eichler LLC, 101 Eisenhower Parkway, Roseland, NJ 07068; and

WHEREAS, the above monies shall be refunded on or before June 20, 2012 as per the Stipulation of Settlement dated January 10, 2012 whereas statutory interest shall be waived if paid 60 days of the date of entry of the Tax Court Judgment (date of entry was April 20, 2012);

NOW,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of Little Falls on this 21st day of May 2012 that the above attorney and taxpayer be refunded the total amount of \$1,037.19 for the overpayment of taxes due to a State Tax Court Judgment on Block 112 Lot 1.

Refund of 2011 Property Taxes

RESOLUTION [F] 12-05-21#6

WHEREAS, there is a State Tax Court Judgment on Block 112 Lot 1, known as Central Building LLC of 64-72 Main Street for the Year 2011 reducing the assessed value by \$225,300.00;

YEAR 2011

Original Assessment	\$1,625,300.00
STCJ	<u>1,400,000.00</u>
Difference	225,300.00
2011 Tax Rate	x <u>2.145%</u>
	\$4,832.69

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector authorizes the CMFO/Treasurer to refund the total amount of \$4,832.69 for the Year 2011 payable to Brach Eichler LLC and Central Building LLC, and forwarded to Daniel J. Pollak, Esq., Brach Eichler LLC, 101 Eisenhower Parkway, Roseland, NJ 07068; and

WHEREAS, the above monies shall be refunded on or before June 20, 2012 as per the Stipulation of Settlement dated January 10, 2012 whereas statutory interest shall be waived if paid 60 days of the date of entry of the Tax Court Judgment (date of entry was April 20, 2012);

NOW,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of Little Falls on this 21st day of May 2012 that the above attorney and taxpayer be refunded the total amount of \$4,832.69 for the overpayment of taxes due to a State Tax Court Judgment on Block 112 Lot 1.

It was moved by Councilmember Gonzalez, seconded by Councilmember Vantuno, that the Consent Agenda be approved as printed.

Poll: Ayes: Gonzalez, Porter, Vantuno and Council President Fontana
Nays: None

The Council President declared the motion passed.

REGULAR AGENDA

The following items were individually considered.

INTERDEPARTMENTAL

Finance - - It was moved by Councilmember Gonzalez, - seconded by Councilmember Vantuno, that the Council approve the following:

RESOLUTION [G] 12-05-21 - #7 SPECIAL ITEMS OF REVENUE AND APPROPRIATION

WHEREAS, NJS 40A:4-87 provides that the Director of the Division of Local Government Services may approve the insertion of any special item of revenue in the budget of any county or municipality when such item shall have been made available by law and the amount was not determined at the time of the adoption of the budget; and

WHEREAS, the Director may also approve the insertion of an item of appropriation for equal amount;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Council of the Township of Little Falls in the County of Passaic, New Jersey, hereby requests the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to approve the insertion of an item of revenue in the budget of the year 2012 in the sum of \$16,360.00, which is now available from Miscellaneous Revenues – Section F – Special Items of General Revenue

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Anticipated with prior written consent of Director of Local Government Services - Public & Private Revenues Offset with Appropriations – 2012 Clean Communities Program in the amount of \$16,360.00;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the like sum of \$16,360.00 is hereby appropriated under the caption:

General Appropriations	
(A) Operations – Excluded from “CAPS”	
Public & Private Programs Offset by Revenues	
Clean Communities Program	\$16,360.00

Mr. Simone provided an explanation of this resolution.

Poll: Ayes: Gonzalez, Porter, Vantuno and Council President Fontana
Nays: None

The Council President declared the motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinance No. 1156 – It was moved by Councilmember Porter, seconded by Councilmember Vantuno, that the public hearing on Ordinance No. 1156, “**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 280 (ZONING) OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LITTLE FALLS**”, be and it was opened.

Poll: Ayes: Gonzalez, Porter, Vantuno and Council President Fontana
Nays: None

The Council President declared the motion passed.

No one having come forward to be heard, it was moved by Councilmember Gonzalez, seconded by Councilmember Porter, that the public hearing on Ordinance No. 1156, be and it was closed.

Poll: Ayes: Gonzalez, Porter, Vantuno and Council President Fontana
Nays: None

The Council President declared the motion passed.

It was moved by Councilmember Gonzalez, seconded by Councilmember Vantuno, that the Ordinance No. 1156, be and it was adopted.

Poll: Ayes: Gonzalez, Porter, Vantuno and Council President Fontana
Nays: None

The Council President declared the motion passed.

Ordinance No. 1157 – It was moved by Councilmember Porter, seconded by Councilmember Vantuno, that the public hearing on Ordinance No. 1157, “**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 4 (BACKGROUND CHECKS FOR YOUTH PROGRAMS) OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LITTLE FALLS**”, be and it was opened.

Poll: Ayes: Gonzalez, Porter, Vantuno and Council President Fontana
Nays: None

The Council President declared the motion passed.

Mr. Pace said the purpose of this ordinance is to save the town money. He also explained that the Recreation Department is for everyone in this town; they have all types of programs for all ages. He commended Mr. Simone for all of his service as well.

No one further having come forward to be heard, it was moved by Councilmember Gonzalez, seconded by Councilmember Porter, that the public hearing on Ordinance No. 1157, be and it was closed.

Poll: Ayes: Gonzalez, Porter, Vantuno and Council President Fontana
Nays: None

The Council President declared the motion passed.

It was moved by Councilmember Gonzalez, seconded by Councilmember Porter, that the Ordinance No. 1157, be and it was adopted.

Poll: Ayes: Gonzalez, Porter, Vantuno and Council President Fontana
Nays: None

The Council President declared the motion passed.

Apply for Grant for Recreational Opportunities for Children with Special Needs – It was moved by Councilmember Porter, seconded by Councilmember Gonzalez, that the Council approve the following:

RESOLUTION [H] 12-05-21 - #8

WHEREAS, the Township of Little Falls desires to apply for and obtain a grant from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs for approximately \$20,000 to carry out a project to provide recreational opportunities for children with special needs;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Township of Little Falls does hereby authorize this application for such a grant; and **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Township recognizes and accepts that the Department may offer a lesser or greater amount and; therefore, upon receipt of the grant agreement from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, does further authorize the execution of any such grant agreement; and also, upon receipt of the fully executed agreement from the Department, does further authorize the expenditure of funds pursuant to the terms of the agreement between the Township of Little Falls and the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the persons whose names, titles, and signatures appear below are authorized to sign the application, and that they or their successors in said titles are authorized to sign the agreement and any other documents necessary in connection therewith.

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Poll: Ayes: Gonzalez, Porter, Vantuno and Council President Fontana
Nays: Sisco

The Council President declared the motion passed.

Interlocal Services Agreement with Parsippany-Troy Hills Township – It was moved by Councilmember Gonzalez, seconded by Councilmember Porter, that the Council approve the following:

RESOLUTION [I] 12-05-21 - #9

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LITTLE FALLS AUTHORIZING AN INTERLOCAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH THE TOWNSHIP OF PARSIPPANY-TROY HILLS FOR FEMA ADMINISTRATION SERVICES

WHEREAS, the Township of Parsippany-Troy Hills has received a Federal Emergency Management Agency Hazard Mitigation Grant for properties, which were deemed substantially damaged as by flooding during Hurricane/Tropical Storm Irene; and

WHEREAS, there is a need for an experienced grants administrator to assist the Township in administering the grant and implementing the grant program; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Little Falls has experience with the Federal Emergency Management Agency Hazard Mitigation Grant Program and has offered to provide grant administration services through an interlocal services agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Municipalities are authorized to enter into this agreement pursuant to the Uniform Shared Services and Consolidation Act, P.L.2007, c.63 (C.40A:65-1, et seq.).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Little Falls, Passaic County, New Jersey hereby authorizes execution of an Interlocal Services Agreement with the Township of Parsippany-Troy Hills in the form approved by the Township Attorney and to be placed on file in the Office of the Township Clerk, upon the terms and conditions provided therein.

Mayor Post said she had promised to find shared services in town, and informed that Parsippany-Troy Hills Township has approached Mrs. Bergin requesting her to provide them with FEMA grant administration. She has attended several meetings on this and she said the Township will benefit financially from this. The agreement has been approved by the Attorney and is for a period of three years. Mayor Post said this is not a conflict with Mrs. Bergin's day-to-day services for Little Falls.

Poll: Ayes: Gonzalez, Porter, Vantuno and Council President Fontana
Nays: None

The Council President declared the motion passed.

PUBLIC PORTION

It was moved by Councilmember Gonzalez, seconded by Councilmember Porter, that the meeting be and it was opened to the public.

Poll: Ayes: Gonzalez, Porter, Vantuno and Council President Fontana
Nays: None

The Council President declared the motion passed.

Arnold Korotkin, Long Hill Road, explained that there are issues with regard to higher education and loss of taxes. He was curious as to whether the Mayor would consider convening a workshop with the mayors of other towns in similar situations to try to come up with a solution.

Renea Shapiro, expressed her concern of getting ratables in town because of the loss of property. Woodland Park has agreed to work with Little Falls on the concerts in the park and they are sharing some expenses. She also referred to the outdoor dining ordinance and said restaurant owners are very upset about the timing for outdoor dining. She asked that the Council look into this to see if they can amend the time restrictions. She also said there have been some issues with signage due to the recent change to the sign ordinance. She asked them to see what they can do about this.

Donald Radcliffe, 239 Long Hill Road, said there may not be much luck in changing the contributions of the three towns to Passaic Valley High School. He explained that this was something that was previously agreed to. Regarding the taxes, he voiced his understanding that this is based on equalized values in the town.

No one further having come forward to be heard, it was moved by Councilmember Gonzalez, seconded by Councilmember Vantuno, that the meeting be and it was closed to the public.

Poll: Ayes: Gonzalez, Porter, Vantuno and Council President Fontana
Nays: None

The Council President declared the motion passed.

President FONTANA said the timing of the outdoor dining should be changed. Mrs. Bergin said she would speak with Mr. Macones about this before the Attorney looks into it; President FONTANA agreed. Regarding changes to the sign ordinance, Council President FONTANA said he didn't recall anything recent; they will look into this.

President FONTANA appreciated Mr. Radcliffe's information.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

It was moved by Councilmember Vantuno, seconded by Councilmember Gonzalez, that the Council approve the following:

RESOLUTION [BL]

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Little Falls the Council having received the Treasurer's certification of the availability of funds for payment of all bills presented, that payment of all bills approved by the Finance Committee be and is hereby authorized, subject to the availability of funds and subject to the appropriate and available appropriation in the line item.

Meeting of May 21, 2012

Poll: Ayes: Gonzalez, Porter, Vantuno and Council President Fontana
 Nays: None

The Council President declared the motion passed.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, it was moved by Councilmember Vantuno, seconded by Councilmember Porter, that the meeting be and it was adjourned at 9:26 p.m.

William E. Wilk
Municipal Clerk

Cynthia Meyer
Deputy Municipal Clerk