

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

**Monday, November 10, 2014**

Council President Louis Fontana called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. with the following members present: John Vantuno, William Organisciak, Joseph Maceri and Pamela Porter. Also present were Mayor Darlene Post, Township Attorney Leslie London, Township Administrator Charles Cuccia, and Municipal Clerk Cynthia Kraus. Councilmember elect William Liess and James Damiano were also present.

Absent: None.

Township Employees present: DPW Superintendent Phillip Simone.

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 bulletin board at the Municipal Building, located at 225 Main Street, Little Falls, N.J. on January 28, 2014; 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.

**PUBLIC PORTION**

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

Poll:           Ayes:           Vantuno, Porter, Organisciak, Maceri and President Fontana  
                  Nays:           None

The Council President declared the motion passed.

John Herman, 122 Ridge Avenue, requested a Councilmember oversee progress and status of the Route 3/46 project.

Louis Fernandez, Harrison Street., expressed concern regarding the abundance of cars parked on Harrison Street in relation to the parking ordinance outlined on the agenda. He queried whether a parking ordinance could be applied to this situation.

Council President FONTANA said that the parking ordinance referenced to on the agenda referred to municipal parking restrictions only.

Ron Mullen, 94 Jacobus Avenue, informed the Council a speed enforcement trailer may be rented for \$65 a day, \$175 a week, and \$360 per month. He reported two speeding tickets were issued on Jacobus this year and 10 in the last four years. He requested police presence to issue citations during high peak hours twice a week. He will send his information to the Council.

Renea Shapiro, Little Falls ABC, presented some questions regarding snow plowing, specifically the effect on current town employees if services were outsourced, the policy on updating and replacing equipment, and the status of the Capital Management Budget. She queried how the Town would handle this financially in light of dwindling revenue from Ward Trucking and the expenses associated with demolition of houses.

Vic Nowak, 6 Stephan Place, requested more information pertaining to an article in the Passaic paper regarding a law suit filed by the Tax Collector against the Township due to insufficient staff.

Roland Buchholz, 17 Ridge Road, explained a minor subdivision next door to him has led to ongoing problems. He objected to the variance when the subdivision was approved but the variance was issued. He referenced a court case and explained in reference to this subdivision, they are asking for a 40% relief on the lot width, of which 4 to 5 feet are on his property. His recommendation is to pass an ordinance, so the Mayor and Council can review the actions of the Planning Board and can see that things are being done properly.

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

Poll:           Ayes:           Vantuno, Porter, Organisciak, Maceri and President Fontana  
                  Nays:           None

The Council President declared the motion passed.

Council President FONTANA said they will discuss the Route 3/46 project.

Council President FONTANA reiterated that the parking ordinance is for municipal owned property.

Mr. Cuccia said, in reference to the issue raised by Mr. Mullen, a full trailer speed monitor costs \$14,000, making the monitoring devices that attach to poles a more viable option. He reported the information will be referred to the Chief for 2015 budget approval. Council President FONTANA stated said the rental may be a worthwhile solution. Mr.Cuccia informed he would confer with the Chief.

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Council President FONTANA explained snow plow proposals are not a new issue. Mr. Simone detailed the process and noted it has been ongoing. Council President FONTANA stated a DPW truck will be obtained for next season as the low snowfall relative to other years required less use of equipment this year, leaving the status stable. Council President FONTANA announced a policy is being developed to address all vehicles, and commended Mr. Simone on maintaining the functionality of the trucks and equipment past their life span.

Council President FONTANA stated the lawsuit with Tax Collector cannot be discussed.

Mr. Lindsay explained the subdivision application before the Board for which Mr. Buchholz is referring, is a dispute with two property owners, and therefore needs to be resolved between them. Council President FONTANA explained the proposed ordinance will be discussed with legal.

### **ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED:**

#### **ADMINISTRATOR**

##### **Drunk Driving Enforcement Fund**

Mr. Cuccia reported they received \$16,661.52 for the Drunk Driving Enforcement Program for the 2015 budget. These funds as well as those from the grants from Safe Corridors would go towards the purchase of police vehicles.

##### **NJDOT Resolution Establishing No Passing Zones**

In regard to the NJDOT Resolution Establishing No Passing Zones, Mr. Cuccia confirmed it is a DOT request on our section, which requires the Council's formal approval to be in compliance with DOT requirements. All affected departments are currently complying with DOT requirements.

##### **Resolution supporting NJDOT for Transportation Infrastructure Funding**

Mr. Cuccia discussed the Resolution supporting NJDOT for Transportation Infrastructure, and explained the funds come from the federal level and are dispersed to each state based upon the roads. He emphasized the importance of supporting this at the state level. Council President FONTANA requested further information on the origin of funds prior to moving for a resolution. Mr. Cuccia responded the Federal Highway Authority provides a portion of the federal funds into the local aid program.

##### **Recreational Field Rental**

Mr. Cuccia stated the current ordinance for Recreational Field Rental requires permission for field use must be obtained through the governing body. Mr. Pace expressed his concern regarding the costs of overuse and damage versus the benefits of revenue from field rentals. He supported the involvement of the Council in permits and rentals as the Recreation and DPW Departments have imperative information on the fields' status. The Council will be provided with application information in order to decide whether field rental is a option at the next meeting.

##### **Budget Transfer Resolution**

Mr. Cuccia announced a budget transfer was presented to the Council. Transfers to the accounts are allowed in the last two months of the year. A brief discussion ensued with regard to a question posed by Council Member ORGANISCIAK regarding a line item.

##### **Food Concession Stand Bid**

Mr. Cuccia reported three bids for the Food Concession Stand were received on November 7, 2014, with one being below the minimum requirement. The Council will review the bids for award at the next meeting.

##### **Transit Village Zoning Ordinance**

Mr. Cuccia stated a map of the Transit Village was presented at the Workshop. He presented a draft ordinance to the Council for review and comment from the Council, Planning Board, and Planner, noting the amount of work to be done before introducing a final draft in 2015. An ordinance change is required for zoning.

##### **Parking Ordinance**

Mr. Cuccia explained he met with Mr. Simone, Police Chief Dmuchowski, Mayor Post, and the Attorney, regarding parking on municipal property. Changes were recommended by the Attorney's office and will be incorporated into a true ordinance for the next meeting.

##### **Schedule of Sewer Connection Fees**

Mr. Cuccia informed the Council the original ordinance regarding the Schedule of Sewer Connection Fees did not accurately depict how sewer connection fees are handled. The ordinance will be amended to reflect that half the fee will go to an Infiltration and Inflow fund before adoption at the next meeting.

#### **PUBLIC WORKS MANAGER:**

##### **Snow Plow Proposals**

At this time, Mr. Simone distributed handouts to the Council providing detail on the snow plow proposals. A request for proposals was advertised on the Town website and letters were sent to companies who submitted proposals in the past. Two proposals were received, compared to four last year, most likely due to the high cost of insurance and no guarantee of work. The proposals are to be reviewed by the Attorney and the Council will be requested to approve a list of contractors to be used under the DPW Superintendent's discretion at the next meeting.

##### **Demolition of 35 Zeff Avenue**

Mr. Simone informed the Council the Township bid for demolition of another buyout home on 35 Zeff Avenue. Upon review by the Attorney's office, the disbarment affidavit was not certified, as they were not on the disbarred list. A resolution will be presented at the next meeting authorizing a contract to be signed by the Mayor and

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contractor. Mr. Cuccia added both the Federal and CDBG requirements must be met, and there is no cost to the Town as the house is funded at 100%.

**Basketball Hoops**

Mr. Simone requested the Town prohibit any basketball equipment in the Township right of way or in the way of vehicular traffic due to safety concerns when plowing. Mr. Simone proposed an ordinance would enable enforcement.

**TONWSHIP ENGINEER:**

**Route 3/Route 46 Project**

Mr. Cuccia said, there was a meeting held with Township officials and DOT regarding the commencement of this project. Mr. Lindsay distributed maps and the entire development plan to the Council, discussing the plan in detail. The plans have been formalized. Work is slated for spring of 2015. He explained the project will be done in two phases, each phase taking 2 or 3 years, concluding in 2021. This project is a major road improvement costing 200 million. Discussion ensued with regard to change in traffic patterns, impact on residents, and plans for Great Notch Road. Mr. Lindsay responded that much work will be done at night and impact on residents should be minimal. A priority is to ensure emergency response time is not affected, therefore, the DOT is willing to work with the Police Department to provide additional access as needed.

**TOWNSHIP ATTORNEY:**

**Amendment of Ordinance No. 1201**

Ms. London stated the County Planning Board is asking the Council to amend the ordinance as to certain turning restrictions on Browertown Road.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

**RESOLUTION [EX]**

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 allows for a Public Body to go into executive session during a Public Meeting; and **WHEREAS**, the Governing Body of the Township of Little Falls has deemed it necessary to go into executive session to discuss certain matters which are exempted for the Public; and

**WHEREAS**, the regular meeting of this Governing Body with reconvene;

**NOW, THEREOFRE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Township Council of the Township of Little Falls will go into executive session for the following reason(s) – no action will be taken.

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

The Council President declared the motion passed.

The Council entered Executive Session at 8:31 p.m.

At 9:00 p.m. the Council returned and it was moved by Councilmember Organisciak, seconded by Councilmember Vantuno, that the meeting return to Open Session.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, it was moved by Councilmember Organisciak, seconded by Councilmember Porter, that the meeting be and it was adjourned at 9:04 p.m.

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Cynthia Kraus  
Municipal Clerk