

TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG  
COUNCIL MEETING

April 8, 2014

The Meeting of the Lopatcong Township Council was called to order at 7:30 pm by Mayor Steinhardt. The meeting was held in the Municipal Building located at 232 S. Third St., Phillipsburg, New Jersey 08865.

Mayor Steinhardt stated “adequate notice of this meeting has been provided indicating the time and place of the meeting in accordance with Chapter 231 of the Public Laws of 1975 by advertising a Notice in The Star Gazette and The Express-Times and by posting a copy on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building.”

A prayer was offered followed by the Oath of Allegiance.

Present: Mayor Steinhardt, Council President Ciesla, Councilman Belcaro, Councilwoman McCabe and Councilwoman Schneider. Also present were CFO Dobes, Tax Collector Edinger, Attorney Campbell, and Engineer Sterbenz.

Resolution No. 14-51 - was passed to hold an Executive Session to discuss contracts and personnel matters. Motion to go out of Executive Session by Council President Ciesla, seconded by Councilwoman McCabe. All in favor.

**Special Presentation:** Mike Nardella gave a presentation to the Council and public on “Relay for Life”.

**Public Comment Agenda Items –**

Joe Imhoff – 240 Aurora Street. I’ve been away so maybe I’ve missed something, but specifically, Item 7, about a schedule for replacing police vehicles. I’m assuming that the South Warren Regional Police Commission activities are still going on.

Mayor Steinhardt – Yes.

Joe Imhoff- And how does this schedule coincide with that and sort of as an aside, why don’t I see anything on the Lopatcong Website about the police commission newer than October. Is it someplace else?

Mayor Steinhardt – No. Police commission – we’ve been still working with Civil Service in terms of its ultimate reconciliation and coordinating with them their recommendations for combining the respective departments. The last remaining, where we are now, is waiting again a follow up meeting with representatives from Civil Service and representatives from the commission. In so far as

Joe Imhoff- There hasn’t been meetings since October?

Mayor Steinhardt – There hasn’t been a meeting no because any meeting or discussion we’ve had at this point has been with the State related to its reconciliation not, until that’s done there’s nothing further for the commission to do. In so far as the police vehicles are concerned, a resolution, we haven’t replaced, they’ve been asking for several years for us to replace police vehicles. We are to the point now where it’s costing us more to maintain them then there worth to keep and I think the recommendation is, being that they at this point, be leased cause we can lease them for cheaper than we can buy them and replace them on a cycling budget that would enable us to keep new vehicles, purchase out the old ones when were done for a dollar if we choose to keep them for like an investigators vehicle, which we do now and cut down what we’ve been spending in the past in order to keep cars and replace them or repair them rather than uh fall behind in a schedule of making sure that we maintain an operable fleet of vehicles. Anybody else on one through eight?

Carlos Correa – 82 Puddingstone Way – Number 3, I think we covered that on the March 5<sup>th</sup> meeting. If I’m not mistaken or maybe I’m wrong.

CFO Dobes – (Inaudible).

Carlos Correa – So we already allocated 1/12 on March 5<sup>th</sup> and now we are allocating another 1/12?

CFO Dobes – (Inaudible).

Carlos Correa – But you're doing it one more time.

Mayor Steinhardt – Now we're in April.

Carlos Correa – Okay you can do it each month. Okay. Okay. I just

Mayor Steinhardt – Yeah we have to until the budget is adopted. Because we can only do it a month at a time.

Carlos Correa – Okay. Thank you.

Mayor Steinhardt – You're welcome. So I'll forewarn you that if we don't have a budget adopted in May we'll be doing it again then too until we get it done sequentially. Anybody else on one through eight?

**Old Business:**

**Minutes** – Mayor Steinhardt asked for a motion to adopt the minutes of March 5, 2014. Motion by Council President Ciesla, seconded by Councilman Belcaro. All in favor.

**New Business:**

**Resolution No. 14-52** – Assign terms to the members of the Recreation Committee.

R 14-52

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING TERMS OF OFFICE FOR MEMBERS OF THE  
RECREATION COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey have created a Recreation Committee; and

WHEREAS, members of the community have been appointed to serve on this committee; and

WHEREAS, terms of office shall be established as follows:

1. Robert Liston – Term of three (3) years.
2. Tammy Pita – Term of three (3) years.
3. Stacey Coe – Term of two (2) years.
4. Kelly LaFord – Term of two (2) years.
5. Alyssa Robertson – Term of one (1) year.
6. Eric Johnson – Term of one (1) year.
7. Lori Ciesla – Council Liaison for Term of two (2) years.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey authorizing the Terms of Office established for the members of the Recreation Committee.

CERTIFICATION

I, Margaret B. Dilts, Municipal Clerk of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by Council at a meeting held on Tuesday, April 8, 2014.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

Mayor Steinhardt asked for a motion to adopt this Resolution. Motion by Councilwoman McCabe, seconded by Councilman Belcaro. Roll call vote:

AYES: Councilwoman Schneider, Councilman Belcaro, Councilwoman McCabe, Council President Ciesla, and Mayor Steinhardt.

NAYS: None

**Resolution No. 14-54** – Authorizing redemption of Tax Sale Certificate No. 09-16 and Premium on Block 93, Lot 11 in the amount of \$35,547.59

R 14-54

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING REFUND OF REDEMPTION MONIES TO OUTSIDE LIENHOLDER ON BLOCK 93, LOT 11 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$35,547.59

WHEREAS, at the Lopatcong Township Municipal Tax Sale held on December 10, 2009, a lien was sold on Block 93, Lot 11, also known as 278 Lows Hollow Road in Lopatcong Township for 2008 delinquent taxes; and

WHEREAS, this lien, known as Tax Sale Certificate No. 09-16 was sold to Investments 2234 LLC now known as MACWCP II LLC for a Premium of \$100.00; and

WHEREAS, Dominick C. Santini, attorney for property owners, has satisfied the redemption amount on Certificate No. 09-16 in the amount of \$35,447.59.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED on this 8th day of April, 2014 that the Chief Financial Officer be authorized to issue a check in the amount of \$35,547.59 for the redemption of Tax Sale Certificate No. 09-16 and Premium to:

MACCWP II LLC  
P.O. Box 403357  
College Park, GA 30349

CERTIFICATION

I, Margaret B Dilts, Municipal Clerk of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted at the Council Meeting held on Tuesday, April 8, 2014.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

Mayor Steinhardt sked for a motion to adopt this Resolution. Motion by Council President Ciesla, seconded by Councilwoman McCabe. Roll call vote:

AYES: Councilwoman Schneider, Councilman Belcaro, Councilwoman McCabe, Council President Ciesla, and Mayor Steinhardt.

NAYS: None

**Resolution No. 14-55** – Authorizing Addition of 1/12<sup>th</sup> of the 2013 Municipal Budget and Sewer Operating Budget to the 2014 Temporary Municipal Budget in the amount of \$489,235 and Temporary Sewer Operating Budget in the amount of \$131,181.00.

R 14-55

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING AN ADDITION OF 1/12 OF THE 2013  
MUNICIPAL BUDGET AND SEWER OPERATING BUDGET TO THE 2014 TEMPORARY  
MUNICIPAL BUDGET AND TEMPORARY SEWER OPERATING BUDGET

WHEREAS, as per New Jersey Local Budget Law, the Mayor and Council of the Township of Lopatcong may add 1/12 of the 2013 budget appropriations to the 2014 Temporary Municipal Budget and Sewer Operating Budget; and

WHEREAS, said 1/12 of the 2013 budget appropriations of the 2014 Temporary Municipal Budget is \$489,235 and 1/12 of the 2014 Temporary Sewer Budget is \$131,181 as shown on Schedule A attached.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Township of Lopatcong, that the Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to add to the 2014 Temporary Municipal Budget 1/12 of the 2013 budget appropriations in the amount of \$489,235 and to add to the 2014 Temporary Sewer Operating Budget 1/12 of the 2013 budget appropriations in the amount of \$131,181.

CERTIFICATION

I, Margaret B Dilts, Municipal Clerk of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted at the Council Meeting held on Tuesday, April 8, 2014.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

Schedule A –

Appropriations for Municipal Operating Budget \$489,235.00

10510120	Postage	-\$1,000.00
10510220	Computer Service	-\$5,000.00
10510320	Code Book Update	-\$4,500.00
10510520	Human Resource Education	-\$1,000.00
10511010	Mayor and Council Salary and Wage	-\$1,000.00
10512020	Municipal Admin. Other Expense	-\$2,000.00
10513520	Audit Services	-\$1,000.00
10514510	Revenue Admin. Other Expense	-\$2,000.00
10515520	Legal Services Other Expense	-\$20,000.00
10516520	Engineering Services Other Expense	-\$10,000.00
10518220	Planner	-\$10,000.00
10518320	Planning Board Other Expense	-\$10,000.00
10519620	Building SubCode Insp. Other Expense	-\$1,000.00
10519810	Uniform Fire Safety Act – Fire Inspector	-\$1,500.00
10521020	Liability Insurance	-\$75,000.00
10521520	Workers Compensation Insurance	-\$39,500.0
10522020	Employee Group Insurance	-\$27,982.50
10522520	Unemployment Insurance	-\$7,000.00
10524010	Police Dept. S & W	-\$50,000.00
10524020	Police Dept. OE	-\$30,000.00
10525210	Emergency Management S&W	-\$250.00

10527510	Prosecutor's Office Lopatcong S&W	-	-\$1,500.00
10529020	Road Maintenance OE		-\$50,000.00
10531020	Buildings and Grounds Other Expense		-\$7,500.00
10544620	Gas (Natural or propane)		-\$5,000.00
10544920	Water		-\$1,000.00
10546020	Gasoline		-\$3,000.00
10547220	Social Security		-\$2,000.00
10693520	Bond Interest		-\$120,102.50
Appropriation for Sewer Operating Budget			\$131,181.00
Account No. Appropriation		Amount	
7650120	Sewer Operating Other Expense		-\$131,181.00

Mayor Steinhardt asked for a motion to adopt this Resolution. Motion by Council President Ciesla, seconded by Councilwoman McCabe. Roll call vote:

AYES: Councilwoman Schneider, Councilman Belcaro, Councilwoman McCabe, Council President Ciesla, and Mayor Steinhardt.

NAYS: None

**Recycling Report** – Approve Linda Gabel, Certified Recycling Professional, payment of \$100 for submission of the Township's Tonnage Grant. Motion by Councilman Belcaro, seconded by Councilwoman Schneider. Roll call vote:

AYES: Councilwoman Schneider, Councilman Belcaro, Councilwoman McCabe, Council President Ciesla, and Mayor Steinhardt.

NAYS: None

**QC Laboratories** – Approve contract with QC Laboratories for testing the Township's pool water for the 2014 season at a rate of \$32.00 per sample.

Councilwoman Schneider – Question – do we pay them anything other than just this \$32.00 – that's it.

Clerk Dilts – The \$32.00 is per sample per week.

Councilwoman Schneider – Per sample per week for 14 weeks you said. Okay, it just looks like a bill instead of a contract. Okay, I just wanted to make sure. Okay, thanks.

Mayor Steinhardt – Motion on Item 5.

Councilwoman McCabe – Motion.

Councilman Belcaro – Second.

Mayor Steinhardt – Any further discussion. Roll call.

AYES: Councilwoman Schneider, Councilman Belcaro, Councilwoman McCabe, Council President Ciesla, and Mayor Steinhardt.

NAYS: None

**Resolution No. 14-53** – Requesting second six month extension of time from the NJDOT Div. of Local Aid and Economic Development for the South Third Street Improvement Project.

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY REQUESTING SECOND, SIX MONTH EXTENSION OF TIME  
TO PRESERVE LOPATCONG'S FUNDING FOR THE SOUTH THIRD STREET  
IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Lopatcong ("Township") was awarded a grant from the Municipal Aid portion of the Transportation Trust Fund in the amount of \$145,000.00 from the NJDOT for the South Third Street Improvement Project in the 2012 calendar year; and

**WHEREAS**, the grant agreement for the project required the Township to award a construction contract by November 4, 2013 to avoid losing the grant allocation; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township was unable to meet the November 4, 2013 deadline to award a construction contract and applied for an extension of time in August 2013; and

**WHEREAS**, the NJDOT approved a six (6) month extension relative to the award of a construction contract on August 21, 2013 to May 4, 2014; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township has been working on the construction documents for the project with the intention of meeting the May 4, 2014 deadline in the grant agreement; and

**WHEREAS**, the design plans and bid specifications are approximately 75% complete; and

**WHEREAS**, the economic downturn that began in 2008 in the United States has had a significant impact on the Township, particularly as it relates to State aid and tax revenues; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township through its budget process, determined that it did not have the ability due to anticipated revenues and tax collections to incorporate monies for the completion of design and the construction of the South Third Street Improvement Project in the 2013 calendar year budget; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township will be able to include monies to complete the design process and to fund the construction of the project in the budget for the 2014 calendar year; and

**WHEREAS**, the monies to fund the remainder of the design and the construction of the project will not be in place until early to mid-May, beyond the May 4, 2014 deadline for the award of a construction contract; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township is in need of a second six (6) month extension of time from the NJDOT for the award of a construction contract to avoid losing the funding allocated in 2012;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE** Township of Lopatcong, that a request be filed with the NJDOT's Division of Local Aid and Economic Development for a second six (6) month extension of time on the South Third Street Improvement Project; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that copies of this resolution be forwarded to the NJDOT's Division of Local Aid and Economic Development.

#### CERTIFICATION

I, Margaret B. Dilts, Clerk of the Township of Lopatcong, in the County of Warren, State of New Jersey, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution duly adopted by the Township Council of said Township of Lopatcong at a regular meeting held on Tuesday, April 8, 2014.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

Mayor Steinhardt asked for a motion to adopt this Resolution. Motion by Councilwoman Schneider, seconded by Councilwoman McCabe. Roll call vote:

AYES: Councilwoman Schneider, Councilman Belcaro, Councilwoman McCabe, Council President Ciesla, and Mayor Steinhardt.

NAYS: None

**Resolution No. 14-56** – Approving Replacement Schedule for Police Vehicles for the Police Department.

Councilwoman Schneider – I have a question if you don't mind. In the schedule we don't mention anything about modifying the police cars to make them equipped with all the computer systems and everything. Is that correct?

Mayor Steinhardt – It's

CFO Dobes – (Inaudible).

Councilwoman Schneider – And the price of each car is \$10,000 from what I can remember.

CFO Dobes – (Inaudible).

Councilwoman Schneider – For both cars it's \$10,000. So okay, so every time we replace, we have to replace the computer systems.

Mayor Steinhardt – Or they just take from the old car and put it in the new car.

Councilwoman Schneider – They can take it out and put it back in and not have to okay.

Mayor Steinhardt – The car will come with basically a frame for a computer and as long as it is operational, they can just unscrew it and put it in.

Councilwoman Schneider – Okay.

Mayor Steinhardt – Paint it and stripe for the Township.

Councilwoman Schneider – So that's everything, the \$25,000 is everything except for the (inaudible).

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY APPROVING REPLACEMENT SCHEDULE FOR POLICE VEHICLES FOR THE LOPATCONG TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, there now exists four (4) Marked Police Cruisers, one (1) unmarked Detective Car and three (3) 4WD Police Vehicles; and

WHEREAS, Police Vehicles need to be replaced on a regular basis, to avoid costly repairs and expense to taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, Police Vehicles can be leased through the Ford Municipal Finance Program Schedule 9217100 and Morris County Co-operative Contract No. 15A, Item No. 1, with a no mileage limit and a \$1.00 buyout at the end of the lease.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey authorizes the Chief Financial Officer to lease two (2) 2014 AWD Interceptors for an annual lease amount of \$25,619.83 for a three year period and to follow Schedule A, attached, entitled "2014 Police Vehicles Replacement Schedule";

AND, Mayor and Council of the Township of Lopatcong also authorizes the Chief Financial Officer to follow the "2014 Police Vehicle Replacement Schedule", attached hereto, showing replacement vehicles being replaced with 2014 to 2018 Police Vehicles and no annual payment over the cost of two lease payments in one year.

CERTIFICATION

I, Margaret B. Dilts, Clerk of the Township of Lopatcong, in the County of Warren, State of New Jersey, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution duly adopted by the Township Council of said Township of Lopatcong at a regular meeting held on Tuesday, April 8, 2014.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

**SCHEDULE A**

**2014 Police Vehicle Replacement Schedule**

At present Lopatcong Township Police Department vehicles are:

4 Marked Cars -		Plate No. -
2012 Dodge Charger		MG95124
2012 Dodge Charger		MG95125
2009 Crown Vic		MG81090
2007 Crown Vic		MG75861
1 Unmarked Car -		
2001 Impala	Detective's	LTX 772
3 4WD's		
-		
2009 Durango		MG82004
2006 Durango	Chief's	MG67865

2006 Durango Spare/off road MG67866

To sell in 2014 -

2000 White Crown Vic MG38519  
2007 Marked Crown Vic MG75860

Replacement Schedule -

Lease Schedule -

2014	Replace -	2009 Crown Vic 2007 Crown Vic	MG81090 MG75861	2014 payment - (3 yr lease)	\$25,619.83
2015	Replace -	2006 Durango 2006 Durango	MG67865 MG67866	2015 payment - 2015 Capital Ordinance -	\$25,619.83 \$80,000 (est)
2016	Replace -	2001 Unmarked Impala	LTX 772	2016 payment - (3 yr lease)	\$52,000 (est)
2017	Replace -	2012 Dodge Charger 2012 Dodge Charger	MG96124 MG96125	2017 payment - (3 yr lease)	\$52,000 (est)
2018	Replace -	2009 Durango	MG82004	2018 payment - 2018 Capital Ordinance -	\$52,000 (est) \$40,000 (est)
2019	Replace -	2 - 2014 Interceptors		2019 payment - (3 yr lease)	\$52,000 (est)

prepared by Betty Dobes, CMFO No. 0207, CFO, 3/24/14

Mayor Steinhardt asked for a motion to adopt this Resolution. Motion by Councilman Belcaro, seconded by Councilwoman McCabe. Roll call vote:

Council President Ciesla – Are we taking any cars off the road?

Mayor Steinhardt – I haven’t talked to the Chief. We own them at this point.

Council President Ciesla – Okay.

Mayor Steinhardt – So I assume the ones that we can keep that are operational, I’m sorry

CFO Dobes – The two that are really old, we’re going to sell. 2000 and 2007 White Crown Vic.

Mayor Steinhardt – It’s on Schedule A see at the bottom see where it says to sell in 2014.

CFO Dobes – This should keep you on a schedule where the cars won’t be any older than five years. Only two lease payments per year.

Mayor Steinhardt – That was my chief concern when we looked at it last time was to make sure that you guys weren't burdened in any one particular year for more than we would have spent to buy new cars now. So we are structured in such a way that we spent that same about (inaudible) \$50,000.

CFO Dobes – We spent more, we spent \$70,000.

Mayor Steinhardt – So to keep it down to \$50 and that will be a reoccurring expense every year but we would have a new fleet, hopefully, then avoid repair costs versus (inaudible).

Councilwoman Schneider – Did you say the white Crown Vic is a 09 or a 2000. On here is shows 2000.

Mayor Steinhardt – A 2000 and an 07.

Councilwoman Schneider – Okay.

Mayor Steinhardt – Any further discussion?

Council President Ciesla – Are we, like if something going to happen, introduce, you know, approve this and then something happens and we can't in 2015, we can't, we don't have the money, are we bound to this?

Mayor Steinhardt – We'll be bound to whatever lease you've entered into up until that point in time but you can always make the decision not to re-enter into leases in a sub.

CFO Dobes – (Inaudible).

Mayor Steinhardt – Just be clear, you'll be tied down to the lease.

Council President Ciesla – To the lease, yeah, of course.

Mayor Steinhardt – Until that lease expires. Correct. Make sense? Any further discussion? Motion on Item 7. We did that already. Roll call.

AYES: Councilwoman Schneider, Councilman Belcaro, Councilwoman McCabe, Council President Ciesla, and Mayor Steinhardt.

NAYS: None

**Morpho Trak Police Dept. Software Maintenance and Support Agreement** – Approve Mayor to execute Extension to Maintenance and Support Agreement with Morpho Trak for Police Department LiveScan Hardware and Software support for Fingerprinting and Mug Photos in the amount of \$2,633.69. Motion by Council President Ciesla, seconded by Councilwoman McCabe. Roll call vote:

AYES: Councilwoman Schneider, Councilman Belcaro, Councilwoman McCabe, Council President Ciesla, and Mayor Steinhardt.

NAYS: None

**Announcement** – Easter Egg Hunt is April 12 at 10:00 am. Rain date April 19 at 2:00 pm.

### **Council Reports:**

Councilwoman Schneider – DPW – I attended the Annual Recycling Conference along with some of the DPW employees on April 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mostly, we talked about throwing, how you throw out your recyclables. So there was a whole presentation on that and it could compromise the sales of our recyclables to other countries. So that was the gist of that whole little breakfast meeting. Shade Tree Recovery Program – they've provided the Town with 2,000 seedlings of all different tree varieties ranging from two feet to four feet tall. We've decided to give those out during the Easter Egg Hunt. If you are not coming for the Easter Egg Hunt you can still come to the pavilion and pick up some trees. They are all marked. Um, you are welcome to as many as you want, you know, keeping it reasonable; maybe five or six trees tops each. So we will be there early before the Easter Egg Hunt begins if you would like to get there before the crowd.

They have white Dogwood, pink Dogwood. They have some really nice variety of trees there and, um, they are all there for the taking to plant in your homes, outside of your homes.

Tomorrow night is the final Strategic Planning Meeting for the Board of Education. Everyone is welcome to attend. There was a series of three meetings even if you didn't attend the other two; you are still more than welcome to come to the last one. Um, I'm sure they'll give you maybe a wrap up of all three and if you don't go and you are interested, if you go on the school website, all the information is there about the meetings and what has come about from all of the findings from all the people that participated. That's it.

Councilman Belcaro – An update on the pump station Rt. 57 – the Wet Well which goes in the ground which is a holding tanks, then it gets pumped out, is to be delivered this week and once that is set in place, the plan is to lay pipe and continue laying pipe from that point and go upstream all the way to Roseberry Street. So that's going to be the objective is to lay all the pipe in and then come back in and do all the internal work. So that's where we are right now with that.

Buildings and Grounds – I spoke with Brian and right now they are in the process of draining the pool and the reason is they believe that there is a leak. Now last summer he was telling me that they were losing around four inches of water every couple of days and you see the size of the pool, four inches of water is a lot of water. So they have to drain it out and bring in a certified contractor to look at the expansion joints; they believe it's coming from there. If that is the case, he is equipped with an epoxy to inject into this expansion joint and, hopefully, resolve the issue. That's a lot of water being lost.

In the fields, right now, all the fields are being worked on. They are being seeded and prepared for the upcoming season, spring, and summer. The Veterans Memorial pad has been completed. There is still some work to be done in that area. Right here in front of the building, some of you may have noticed the pads and ramps on both sides; also there is a six by six section that has been deteriorated over time so a couple bids came in to replace that. One bid from B&B a contractor out of Stewartsville at \$3,000 and Pride Construction came in at \$2,000 for the job. It has to be repaired for two reasons; number one for a safety issue and number two, if we wait, the cost of materials will just increase. So I would like to make a motion to award the job to Pride Contractors for \$2,000 for the concrete work out front.

Council President Ciesla – Second.

Mayor Steinhardt – Discussion. Roll call please.

AYES: Councilwoman Schneider, Councilman Belcaro, Councilwoman McCabe, Council President Ciesla, and Mayor Steinhardt.

NAYS: None

Councilwoman McCabe – This month, or last month we did not have a Planning Board Meeting but we did however, have an EDAC Meeting. That's our Economic Development Advisory Committee meeting. Again, we have a good group of people. We are still accepting applications and we are working through some ideas, you know, how to engage our current businesses and attract some new businesses in Town.

Also this month, I worked on some shared services issues with Lori. We are examining our options and it is a work in progress.

My last issue has to do with an incident that occurred in this building last Monday. We had a few residents come in. Let me start by saying, last Monday was the day that petitions were due in for the Republican Committee and for the Mayor. So it seems that, and this is what I've been told, that Tom McKay was here at 4 pm demanding copies of petitions and was very impatient and demanding that these copies come in. They were only due at 4 o'clock and he was here at 4 o'clock demanding copies. What happens when these petitions come in, they need to be certified, they need to be reviewed prior to being sent anywhere or prior to giving out. This explanation did not satisfy Mr. McKay, to then later Mr. Olschewski came along and so did Mr. Carlos Correa. The incident is still being investigated, but my point in bringing this up now is, that this is a place of business and I think I've mentioned this in the past, a year ago, same group of people. Whether you like it or not there are employees here to do their job. They are here to

do work. They are not here to immediately cater to every whim that just comes into mind. So I would appreciate that people would show some respect for our employees and to please stop harassing the employees. There was more to this story; it seems that Mr. McKay and Mr. Olschewski were peeping in the window in the office around the corner of the front of the building. I really think that that is juvenile behavior. Then after peeping in the window both Tom and Peter come around the front of the building then asked what's going on in that office and why are certain people in that office. Again, juvenile behavior, no respect and I need everyone to please there, are employees here working, who are doing their jobs, they're trying to do their jobs and I would like respect to be shown. That's all I have for now.

Mayor Steinhardt – Thank you Ms. McCabe.

Council President Ciesla - As mentioned, the Easter Egg Hunt is April 11 at 10 am for children under the age of 10; our rain date is April 19<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm.

The Veterans Project is well under way. There's pictures on our Facebook Page that you can see the progress. I saw Mr. Nixon today; the donations have literally been pouring in. The response has been overwhelming, tremendously moving to the point that these Veterans were moved to tears. It's just amazing how the community has come together for such a worthy cause. Really, truly, he was speechless over how much he's raised already.

Mayor Steinhardt – Over \$10,000 I believe.

Council President Ciesla – He needed \$10,000, he has \$10,000 from the residents of the Town.

Mayor Steinhardt - Don't let that discourage anybody who didn't know that yet.

Council President Ciesla – Yeah, please, because you never know what costs may come up. Again, the dedication will be May 17<sup>th</sup> at 11 am rain or shine. I think it's going to be an absolutely amazing day and just the stories he has coming in are like he said, just overwhelming.

May 24<sup>th</sup> we have our LAA Baseball Clinic that is a free clinic. It is being run by major league baseball players. I can't, I don't think I can say officially who's coming but I, I even knew who is was so I think it will be pretty impressive. Signups are at 9 am, the camp begins at 10 and I believe it goes to 12 and then they're going to have autographs. If you didn't get your money in for the Veterans, you can send you money in for the baseball clinic. Like I said, it is being run on donations and it is free to everybody in the County.

Also on June 14<sup>th</sup> we are hosting the Softball All Star Games. There are three games. They start at 9 am. You knew about that right?

Mayor Steinhardt – That's cool.

Council President Ciesla – I know, I don't think he did either. The info is on the Facebook Page for that. Again, I have to credit my LAA for, you know, I had wanted them to do more and they did. They are an amazing group of people. The brackets are in and they only came to \$540 so you'll be very happy. So I'll have a bill for you.

For the Salary Committee we're going to need to open the Ordinance this year. So we will be adjusting the low end of the ranges to accommodate for any new hires we need to make. For the budget, we are going to work on a schedule so we can work together; we'll work with Betty, we'll work with her work schedule and try to get all our questions answered. We do need to introduce the budget in May.

The only other thing I can say is a little about what Maureen said. I'm not going to go into a lot here but I do work for a major corporation and we have many, many training modules that we have to do; Code of Conduct, Code of Ethics. One of them is Workplace Violence and what happened here the other day is unacceptable and it cannot happen again.

Mayor Steinhardt – Thank you Ms. Ciesla. We need to take official action on bringing in Plumbing Subcode. A recommendation is from our Construction Official to use Leon Fortner who presently serves in that capacity in Phillipsburg on an as needed per hour basis, correct?

Clerk Dilts – Correct.

Mayor Steinhardt – So I need a motion on Mr. Fritt’s recommendation.

Council President Ciesla- I’ll make a motion.

Mayor Steinhardt – Second.

Councilwoman McCabe – Second.

Mayor Steinhardt – Discussion? Roll call please.

AYES: Councilwoman Schneider, Councilman Belcaro, Councilwoman McCabe, Council President Ciesla, and Mayor Steinhardt.

NAYS: None

Mayor Steinhardt – Tax Collector?

Tax Collector Edinger – I have two redemptions.

**Resolution No. 14-57** – Authorize redemption of Tax Sale Certificate No. 2013-034 in the amount of \$14,198.34 on Block 121, Lot 1.

R 14-57

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING REFUND OF REDEMPTION MONIES TO OUTSIDE LIENHOLDER ON BLOCK 121, LOT 1 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$14,198.34

WHEREAS, at the Lopatcong Township Municipal Tax Sale held on June 19, 2013, a lien was sold on Block 121, Lot 1 also known as 15 Saw Mill Road for 2012 delinquent sewer; and

WHEREAS, this lien, known as Tax Sale Certificate No. 2013-034 was sold to US Bank Cust for BV 001 Trust for a Premium of \$5,000; and

WHEREAS, QBE FIRST/SETERUS MORTGAGE, mortgage company for property owners, has satisfied the redemption amount on Certificate No. 2013-034 in the amount of \$9,198.34.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED on this 8<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2014, that the Chief Financial Officer be authorized to issue a check in the amount of \$14,198.34 for the redemption of Tax Sale Certificate No. 2013-034 and Premium to:

US Bank CUST FOR BV001  
50 S. 16<sup>th</sup> St., Suite 1950  
Philadelphia, PA 19102

CERTIFICATION

I, Margaret B. Dilts, Clerk of the Township of Lopatcong, in the County of Warren, State of New Jersey, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution duly adopted by the Township Council of said Township of Lopatcong at a regular meeting held on Tuesday, April 8, 2014.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

**Resolution No. 14-58** - Authorize redemption of Tax Sale Certificate No. 2012-030 in the amount of \$30,291.82 on Block 104, Lot 28.

R 14-58

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING REFUND OF REDEMPTION MONIES TO  
OUTSIDE LIENHOLDER ON BLOCK 104, LOT 28 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$30,291.82

WHEREAS, at the Lopatcong Township Municipal Tax sale held on June 8, 2012, a lien was sold on Block 104, Lot 28, also known as 52 Stonehenge Drive for 2011 delinquent taxes and sewer; and

WHEREAS, this lien, known as Tax Sale Certificate No. 2012-030 was sold to US Bank Cust Crestar Capital, LLC for a Premium of \$10,500; and

WHEREAS, Thomas & Joan Maxcy, property owners, has satisfied the redemption amount on Certificate No. 2012-030 in the amount of \$ 19,791.82.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED on this 8<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2014, that the Chief Financial Officer be authorized to issue a check in the amount of \$30,291.82 for the redemption of Tax Sale Certificate No. 2012-030 and Premium to:

US Bank CUST FOR BV001  
50 S. 16<sup>th</sup> St., Suite 1950  
Philadelphia, PA 19102

CERTIFICATION

I, Margaret B. Dilts, Clerk of the Township of Lopatcong, in the County of Warren, State of New Jersey, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution duly adopted by the Township Council of said Township of Lopatcong at a regular meeting held on Tuesday, April 8, 2014.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

Mayor Steinhardt asked for a motion to adopt these resolutions based on Ms. Edinger's recommendation. Motion by Council President Ciesla, seconded by Councilwoman McCabe – Second. Mayor Steinhardt – Discussion? Roll call please.

AYES: Councilwoman Schneider, Councilman Belcaro, Councilwoman McCabe, Council President Ciesla, and Mayor Steinhardt.

NAYS: None

Mayor Steinhardt – Ms. Dobes.

CFO Dobes – I just have two items. The Township has received \$8,342.25 for the Highlands Grant and they will be receiving \$30,000 Safe and Secure Communities Grant.

Mayor Steinhardt – Great thanks very much.

Council President Ciesla – How much for the Safe and Secure Communities Grant?

CFO Dobes - \$30,000.

**Department Reports** – Motion to approve to approve Dept. Reports. Motion by Council President Ciesla, seconded by Councilman Belcaro. Roll call vote:

AYES: Councilwoman Schneider, Councilman Belcaro, Councilwoman McCabe, Council President Ciesla, and Mayor Steinhardt.

NAYS: None

**Payment of Bills** – Motion to pay bills by Council President Ciesla, seconded by Councilman Belcaro. Roll call vote:

AYES: Councilwoman Schneider, Councilman Belcaro, Councilwoman McCabe, Council President Ciesla, and Mayor Steinhardt.

NAYS: None

**Audience Participation** –

Carlos Correa – 82 Puddingstone Way. I just want to talk about the incident on Monday because I here and at no time, I'm speaking about myself only because I didn't see what the other two gentlemen were doing, I don't have eyes behind my head to see what they're doing so I'm speaking on my behalf. At no point what-so-ever I was not harassing Beth Dilts. I've never have come to this building to harass anybody. I've been very polite asking for documents and waiting patiently for the response. So I don't like to hear my name on comments that I was harassing an employee of this building because I have never done that and (inaudible) I have done anything wrong perhaps she can testify here.

Mayor Steinhardt – She's not going to answer that.

Carlos Correa – Okay but that is the truth. As far as when the police officers came over, we asked them if we were doing anything illegally and the answer was no. So I can't understand why the incident is still under investigation. We were told by the two police officers that we were not doing anything illegally so I don't understand why an incident is under investigation at this point. It is a matter that should be closed. There was nothing done illegally on my part, like I said I don't know about the two other individuals because you were not there Mr. Mayor, you came, you picked up, you saw us out there and you can see we were just waiting outside. We were not doing anything illegally. I mean you were there, you saw us. So I just don't know why now, you know, it I'm running for Republican Committee. I don't want this to be saying that you had a guy here that is harassing employee's cause that's not the case. It's actually very, very sad that I have to here Maureen which you were not there; I don't know how you're getting your information. You were not there. So you are hearing it from somebody else, so, verify your sources, because I can tell you from the bottom of my heart, that I didn't do anything illegal, that I didn't harass anybody and I will never harass anybody in this, in this office. All right thank you.

Mayor Steinhardt – Anybody else? Any other questions or comments, motion to adjourn.  
Motion by Council President Ciesla, seconded by Councilwoman McCabe. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret B. Dilts  
Clerk/Administrator

Douglas J. Steinhardt  
Mayor