

TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

May 12, 2014

The Special Meeting of the Lopatcong Township Council was called to order at 6:00 pm by Council President Ciesla. The meeting was held in the Municipal Building located at 232 S. Third St., Phillipsburg NJ 08865

Council President Ciesla 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: Council President Ciesla, Council Belcaro and Councilwoman McCabe. Also was Attorney Campbell.

Absent: Mayor Steinhardt and Councilwoman Schneider

Resolution No. 14-66 – Authorize Executive Session. Motion by Councilman Belcaro, seconded by Councilwoman McCabe. All in favor.

R 14-66

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND THE STATE
OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING AN EXECUTIVE SESSION

WHEREAS, there are presently pending matters to be considered in Executive Session concerning possible matters listed:

Contracts and Personnel Matters

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and the State of New Jersey that the Council authorized to hold an Executive Session.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THE Council of the Township of Lopatcong will make said matters public within approximately 30 days of said meeting or until such a time as confidentiality of the matters is no longer required.

CERTIFICATION

I, Phyllis D. Coleman, Deputy 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 Special Meeting held on Monday, May 12, 2014.

Phyllis D. Coleman, Deputy Municipal Clerk

Motion to go back into Regular Session by Councilwoman McCabe, seconded by Council Belcaro. All in favor.

Discussed contractual matters regarding grants, personnel matters and shared services.

Resolution No. 14-67 – Resolution to Rescind Sidewalk Grant Agreement for Strykers Road and Shift the Monies Under that Grant Agreement to the South Third Street Grant Agreement.

R 14-67

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND
STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO RESCIND SIDEWALK GRANT AGREEMENT FOR

**STRYKERS ROAD AND SHIFT THE MONIES UNDER THAT GRANT AGREEMENT TO
THE SOUTH THIRD STREET GRANT AGREEMENT**

WHEREAS, the Township of Lopatcong (“Township”) was awarded a grant from the Municipal Aid portion of the Transportation Trust Fund in the amount of \$120,000.00 for the construction of sidewalks on the east side of Strykers Road between a point 350 feet north of Route 57 and Powderhorn Drive in the 2013 calendar year; and

WHEREAS, the grant agreement for the project requires the Township to award a construction contract by December 4, 2014 to avoid losing the grant allocation; and

WHEREAS, the Township filed the application for the Strykers Road Sidewalk Improvement Project with the support of the residents of property that abuts the project; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council has received comments at recent Council meetings in 2014 from several residents indicating that they no longer support the project and requesting that the Governing Body terminate the project; and

WHEREAS, the Township has considered the comments of the residents of Strykers Road regarding the termination of the project; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council is amenable to terminating the project and requesting a rescission of the grant agreement with the NJDOT, but is concerned about the loss of State aid that would result from the termination of the project and the rescission of the grant agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Township is completing the design of improvements on South Third Street between Edward Street and the Route 22 right-of-way at this time; and

WHEREAS, the Township will be advertising the project for public bids in June 2014; and

WHEREAS, the South Third Street Improvement Project is being funded partially through grant monies from the municipal aid portion of the Transportation Trust Fund; and

WHEREAS, the grant award for the South Third Street Improvement Project was provided in the 2012 calendar year; and

WHEREAS, the Township had difficulties completing the design of the project and budgeting monies for construction in the 2013 calendar year due to the economic downturn, which affected revenues and tax collections; and

WHEREAS, the Township has requested two (2) six month extensions of time from the Department of Transportation to provide the time to complete the design and allocate monies for construction; and

WHEREAS, a transfer of the grant monies from the Strykers Road Sidewalk Improvement Project to the South Third Street Improvement Project would enhance the Township's ability to complete the work under this grant agreement; and

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:

1. The rescission of the grant agreement between the Township of Lopatcong and the NJDOT for the Strykers Road Sidewalk Improvement Project.
2. The transfer of the grant monies totaling \$120,000.00 under the Strykers Road Sidewalk Improvement Project to the South Third Street Improvement Project for use in constructing the improvements under that grant agreement.

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

I, Phyllis D. Coleman 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 May 12, 2014.

Phyllis D. Coleman, Deputy Municipal Clerk

Council President Ciesla asked for a motion to adopt this Resolution. Motion by Councilman Belcaro, Seconded by Councilwoman McCabe. Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Councilman Belcaro, Councilwoman McCabe and Council President Ciesla

NAYS: None

Audience Participation

No one present

Councilwoman Ciesla asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by: Councilman Belcaro. All in Favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Phyllis D. Coleman
Deputy Municipal Clerk

Lori Ciesla
Council President