

TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG

COUNCIL MEETING

November 19, 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, Councilwoman Schneider, Councilman Belcaro and Councilwoman McCabe. CFO Dobes and Attorney Campbell.

Resolution No. 14-134 – was adopted to hold an Executive Session which was approximately 30 minutes. Topics discussed were personnel – CFO, attorney/client privilege and contractual.

Public Comment: No public comments.

Old Business:

Minutes – Approve the minutes of September 3 and October 1, 2014. 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

Ordinance No. 14-08 – Second reading and public hearing to Amend, Revise and Supplement Chapter 227 entitled “Vehicles and Traffic”, including Section 25 “Multi-Way-Stop Intersections” relative to the Intersection of Baltimore Street and South First Street. Mayor Steinhardt asked for a motion to hold a public hearing. Motion by Council President Ciesla, seconded by Councilwoman McCabe. No public comment. Motion to close public hearing by Council President Ciesla, seconded by Councilwoman McCabe.

ORDINANCE NO. 2014-08

SECOND NOTICE OF AN ORDINANCE

NOTICE is hereby given that a regular meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey, held on Wednesday, November 19, 2014 at the Municipal Building, 232 South Third Street, Phillipsburg, New Jersey, the following Ordinance was presented and passed on the final reading. The Ordinance was then ordered to be published according to law by title only.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO AMEND, REVISE AND SUPPLEMENT CHAPTER 227 “VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC”, INCLUDING SECTION 25 “MULTI-WAY STOP INTERSECTIONS” RELATIVE TO THE INTERSECTION OF BALTIMORE STREET AND SOUTH FIRST STREET

Said Ordinance may be read and inspected at any time at the Office of the Municipal Clerk, Lopatcong Township Municipal Building, 232 S. Third Street, Phillipsburg, New Jersey.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

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

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

NAYS: None

Ordinance No. 2014-11 – Second reading and public hearing of Bond Ordinance for the purchase of Pumper Fire Apparatus. Motion to hold a public hearing by Council President Ciesla, seconded by Councilwoman McCabe. No comments were made. Motion to close the public hearing by Council President Ciesla, seconded by Councilwoman McCabe.

ORDINANCE NO. 2014-11

BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$425,000 FOR ACQUISITION OF A FIRE TRUCK IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, IN THE COUNTY OF WARREN, NEW JERSEY AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$403,750 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP FOR FINANCING PART OF THE APPROPRIATION.

BE IT ORDAINED, BY THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, IN THE COUNTY OF WARREN, NEW JERSEY (not less than two-thirds of all members thereof affirmatively concurring) AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1:

The improvement described in Section 3 of this Bond Ordinance (the "Improvement") is hereby authorized to be undertaken by the Township of Lopatcong, in the County of Warren, New Jersey (the "Township") as a general improvement. For the said Improvement there is hereby appropriated the amount of \$425,000, such sum includes the sum of \$21,250 as the down payment (the "Down Payment") required by the Local Bond Law of the State of New Jersey, constituting Chapter 2 of Title 40A of the New Jersey Statutes, as amended and supplemented (the "Local Bond Law"). The Down Payment is now available by virtue of provision in one or more previously adopted budgets for down payments or capital improvement purposes.

SECTION 2:

In order to finance the additional cost of the Improvement not covered by application of the Down Payment, negotiable bonds of the Township are hereby authorized to be issued in the principal amount of \$403,750 pursuant to the provisions of the Local Bond Law (the "Bonds"). In anticipation of the issuance of the Bonds and to temporarily finance said Improvement or purposes, negotiable bond anticipation notes of the Township are hereby authorized to be issued in the principal amount not exceeding \$403,750 pursuant to the provisions of the Local Bond Law (the "Bond Anticipation Notes" or "Notes").

SECTION 3:

(a) The Improvements hereby authorized and the purposes for the financing of which said obligations are to be issued is for the acquisition of a fire truck in the Township, including all work and materials necessary therefor and incidental thereto.

(b) The estimated maximum amount of Bonds or Notes to be issued for the purpose of financing a portion of the cost of the Improvement is \$403,750.

(c) The estimated cost of the Improvement is \$425,000 which amount represents the initial appropriation made by the Township.

SECTION 4:

All Bond Anticipation Notes issued hereunder shall mature at such times as may be determined by the municipal finance officer of the Township (the "Chief Financial Officer"); provided that no Note shall mature later than one year from its date. The Notes shall bear interest at such rate or rates and be in such form as may be determined by the Chief Financial Officer. The Chief Financial Officer shall determine all matters in connection with Notes issued pursuant to this ordinance, and the signature of the Chief Financial Officer upon the Notes shall be conclusive evidence as to all such determinations. All Notes issued hereunder may be renewed from time to time subject to the provisions of Section 8(a) of the Local Bond Law. The Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to sell part or all of the Notes from time to time at public or private sale and to deliver them to the purchasers thereof upon receipt of payment of the purchase price plus accrued interest from their dates to the date of delivery thereof. The Chief Financial Officer is directed to report in writing to the Township Council of the Township at the meeting next succeeding the date when any sale or delivery of the Notes pursuant to this ordinance is made. Such report must include the amount, the description, the interest rate and the maturity schedule of the Notes sold, the price obtained and the name of the purchaser.

SECTION 5:

The capital budget of the Township is hereby amended to conform with the provisions of this Ordinance to the extent of any inconsistency herewith. The resolution in the form promulgated by the Local Finance Board showing full detail of the amended capital budget and capital program as approved by the Director, Division of Local Government Services, Department of Community Affairs, State of New Jersey is on file with the Township Clerk and is available for public inspection.

SECTION 6:

The following additional matters are hereby determined, declared, recited and stated:

(a) The Improvement described in Section 3 of this Bond Ordinance is not a current expense, and is a capital improvement or property that the Township may lawfully make or acquire as general improvements, and no part of the cost thereof has been or shall be specially assessed on property specially benefited thereby.

(b) The period of usefulness of the Improvement, within the limitations of the Local Bond Law, taking into consideration the respective amounts of all obligations authorized for such purpose, according to the reasonable life thereof computed from the date of the Bonds authorized by this Bond Ordinance, is 10 years.

(c) The Supplemental Debt Statement required by the Local Bond Law has been duly prepared and filed in the office of the Township Clerk and a complete executed duplicate thereof has been filed in the office of the Director, Division of Local Government Services, Department of Community Affairs, State of New Jersey. Such statement shows that the gross debt of the Township, as defined in the Local Bond Law, is increased by the authorization of the Bonds and Notes provided in this Bond Ordinance by \$403,750 and the obligations authorized herein will be within all debt limitations prescribed by the Local Bond Law.

(d) An aggregate amount not exceeding \$10,000 for items of expense listed in and permitted under Section 20 of the Local Bond Law is included in the estimated cost of the Improvements, as indicated herein.

SECTION 7:

Any funds or grant monies received for the purpose described in Section 3 of this Ordinance (including \$625,480 expected to be received from the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities) shall be used for financing said Improvement by application thereof either to direct payment of the cost of said Improvement or to the payment or reduction of the authorization of the obligations of the Township authorized therefor by this Bond Ordinance. Any such funds received may, and all such funds so received which are not required for direct payment of the cost of said Improvement shall, be held and applied by the Township as funds applicable only to the payment of obligations of the Township authorized by this Bond Ordinance.

SECTION 8:

The full faith and credit of the Township are hereby pledged to the punctual payment of the principal of and interest on the obligations authorized by this Bond Ordinance. The obligations shall be direct, unlimited obligations of the Township, and the Township shall be obligated to levy ad valorem taxes upon all the taxable property within the Township for the payment of the obligations and the interest thereon without limitation of rate or amount.

SECTION 9:

This Bond Ordinance constitutes a declaration of official intent under Treasury Regulation Section 1.150-2. The Township reasonably expects to pay expenditures with respect to the Improvement prior to the date that Township incurs debt obligations under this Bond Ordinance. The Township reasonably expects to reimburse such expenditures with the proceeds of debt to be incurred by the Township under this Bond Ordinance. The maximum principal amount of debt expected to be issued for payment of the cost of the Improvement is \$403,750.

SECTION 10:

This Bond Ordinance shall take effect 20 days after the first publication thereof after final adoption, as provided by the Local Bond Law.

BOND ORDINANCE STATEMENTS AND SUMMARIES

The bond ordinance, the summary terms of which are included herein, has been finally adopted by the Township of Lopatcong, in the County of Warren, State of New Jersey on November 19, 2014 and the 20 day period of limitation within which a suit, action or proceeding questioning the validity of such ordinance can be commenced, as provided in the Local Bond Law, has begun to run from the date of the first publication of this statement. Copies of the full ordinance are available at no cost and during regular business hours, at the Clerk's Office for members of the general public who request the same. The summary of the terms of such bond ordinance follows:

Title: Bond Ordinance Providing An Appropriation Of \$425,000 For Acquisition Of A Fire Truck In And By The Township Of Lopatcong, In The County Of Warren, New Jersey And Authorizing The Issuance Of \$403,750 Bonds Or Notes Of The Township For Financing Part Of The Appropriation.

Purpose(s): For the acquisition of a fire truck in the Township.

Appropriation: \$425,000

Bonds/Notes Authorized: \$403,750

Grants (if any) Appropriated: None.

Section 20 Costs: \$10,000

Useful Life: 10 Years

M. Beth Dilts, CMC

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

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

NAYS: Councilwoman Schneider

Resolution No. 14-142 – Authorizing the purchase of the Emergency-One Cyclone II eMAX Pumper Fire Apparatus from H-GAC (Houston Galveston Area Council) contingent on Bond Ordinance Estoppel period.

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND
STATE OF NEW JERSEY NOTICE OF INTENT TO AWARD CONTRACT UNDER A
NATIONAL COOPERATIVE "H-GAC" FS12-13JE03 FOR THE PURCHASE OF A E-ONE
CYCLONE II eMAX PUMPER

WHEREAS, the Township of Lopatcong wishes to purchase a fire truck for the Delaware Park Fire Company to replace a 1997 Central States Pumper that has proven unreliable to the Township; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 52:34-6.2 (b) P.L. 2011, c. 139 was enacted into law permitting agencies to use national purchase cooperatives; and

WHEREAS, Absolute Fire Protection Co., Inc., South Plainfield, NJ has been awarded H-GAC'S Contract FS12-13JE03 for the period between December 1, 2013 through November 18, 2015; and

WHEREAS, purchasing through H-GAC will save substantial time that would be needed to research, develop and review technical specifications on the part of the Fire Company, Purchasing Agent and Township Attorney; and

WHEREAS, purchasing through H-GAC substantially expedites the procurement process, offers volume purchasing discounts and will provide assistance in the administration of the contract for this purchase; and

WHEREAS, as required the Notice of Intent to Award Contract under a National Cooperative Purchasing Agreement shall be published on Friday, November 28, 2014; and

WHEREAS, H-GAC has reviewed the quote provided by Absolute Fire Protection through H-GAC's Contract FS12-13 and finds the pricing to be in compliance with the terms of the contract.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of Lopatcong does hereby award the contract for an E-ONE Cyclone II eMax Pumper, 4-door Custom Cab, 750 Gallon Water Tank, Aluminum Body, Single Axle, 1500 GPM Pump, plus options, to Absolute Fire Protection Co., Inc. South Plainfield, NJ in the amount of \$416,244.00 pursuant to their proposal submitted in response to the H-GAC "Request For Bids" dated August 13, 2013.

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 the Reorganization Meeting held on Wednesday, November 19, 2014.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

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

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

NAYS: Schneider

Ordinance No. 2014-12 – Second reading and public hearing to provide funding for South Third Street Improvements and Appropriating \$305,000 for such purpose. Motion to hold a public hearing by Council President Ciesla, seconded by Councilwoman McCabe. No comments from the public. Motion to close public hearing by Council President Ciesla, seconded by Councilwoman McCabe.

ORDINANCE NO. 2014-12

SECOND NOTICE OF AN ORDINANCE

NOTICE is hereby given that a regular meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey, held on Wednesday, November 19, 2014, at the Municipal Building, 232 South Third Street, Phillipsburg, New Jersey, the following Ordinance was presented and passed on the final reading. The Ordinance was then ordered to be published according to law by title only.

AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR SOUTH THIRD STREET
IMPROVEMENTS FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG AND APPROPRIATING
\$305,000 FOR SUCH PURPOSE

Said Ordinance may be read and inspected at any time at the Office of the Municipal Clerk, Lopatcong Township Municipal Building, 232 S. Third Street, Phillipsburg, New Jersey.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

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

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

NAYS: None

New Business:

Dulaine Contracting – Rt. 57 Pump Station Project – Authorize payment to Dulaine Contracting for work completed on the Rt. 57 Pump Station Project pending in the amount of \$191,654.02 pending USDA approval. 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

Consent Agenda: The following items were moved on motion by Council President Ciesla, seconded by Councilwoman Belcaro. Roll call vote:

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

NAYS: None

Resolution No. 14-135 – Authorizing redemption of Tax Sale Certificate No. 2014-053 on Block 115.05, Lot 10C0272 in the amount of \$318.05.

R 14-135

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND
STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING REDEMPTION OF TAX SALE CERTIFICATE
NO. 2014-053 ON BLOCK 115.05, LOT 10 C0272

WHEREAS, at the Lopatcong Township Municipal Tax Sale held on June 25, 2014, a lien was sold on Block 115.05, Lot 10C0272 also known as 272 Windmill Court for 2013 delinquent sewer taxes; and

WHEREAS, this lien known as Tax Sale Certificate No. 2014-053 was sold to Arthur Frustaci for 18% interest; and

WHEREAS, Robert J. Ellwood, Jr., attorney for property owners has satisfied the redemption amount on Certificate No. 2014-053 in the amount of \$318.05.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED on this 19th day of November, 2014 that the Chief Financial Officer is authorized to issue a check in the amount of \$318.05 for the redemption of Tax Sale Certificate No. 2014-053 to:

Arthur Frustaci
1178 Fifth Ave.
Alpha, NJ 08865

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 the Reorganization Meeting held on Wednesday, November 19, 2014.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

Resolution No. 14-143 – Authorizing redemption of Tax Sale Certificate No. 2014-029 and Premium on Block 99, Lot 26 C0212 in the amount of \$1,302.35.

R 14-143

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING REFUND OF REDEMPTION MONIES TO OUTSIDE LIENHOLDER ON BLOCK 99, LOT C0212

WHEREAS, at the Lopatcong Township Municipal Tax Sale held on June 25, 2014, a lien was sold on Block 99, Lot C0212, also known as 212 Bald Eagle Drive for 2013 delinquent sewer; and

WHEREAS, this lien, known as Tax Sale Certificate No. 2014-029 was sold to US Bank Cust for PC4 First Trust Bank for a Premium of \$600.00; and

WHEREAS, Corelogic, escrow company for property owners, has satisfied the redemption amount on Certificate No. 2014-029 in the amount of \$802.35.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED on this 5th day of November 2014 that the Chief Financial Officer be authorized to issue a check in the amount of \$1,402.35 for the redemption of Tax Sale Certificate No. 2014-019 and Premium to:

US BANK CUST FOR PC4 FIRST TRUST BANK
50 S. 16th St., Suite 2050
Philadelphia, PA 19102

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 the Reorganization Meeting held on Wednesday, November 19, 2014.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

Resolution No. 14-144 – Authorizing refund of overpayment on sewer taxes on Block 138, Lot 22 in the amount of \$191.38.

R 14-144

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING TO REFUND OVERPAYMENT ON SEWER TAXES FOR TAX YEAR 2014

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey that warrants be drawn to the property owners listed below in the designated amounts representing an overpayment on sewer tax payments as follows for the tax year 2014.

<u>Block & Lot</u>	<u>Name of Payee</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Block 138, Lot 22 Acct. 23921	Martinez, Noe E.	\$191.83

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey have approved the refunds made rather than applying these payments to the future 2014 sewer taxes due.

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 is a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by Council at a meeting held on Wednesday, November 19, 2014.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

Title 39 Phillipsburg Athletic Complex – Authorize Title 39 “Motor Vehicle and Traffic Regulations” at the Phillipsburg Athletic Complex as requested by George Chando, Superintendent of the Phillipsburg School District.

Resolution No. 14-136 – Requesting approval of insertion of items of revenue and appropriations into the 2014 Budget for the New Jersey Regional Master Plan Compliance Aid (Highlands) in the amount of \$8,342.25.

R 14-136

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY REQUESTING APPROVAL OF INSERTION OF ITEMS OF REVENUE AND APPROPRIATIONS INTO THE 2014 BUDGET AS PER N.J.S.A.40A:4-87

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 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 Mayor and Council of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey hereby requests the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to approve the insertion of the following item of revenue into the 2014 Municipal Budget from –

NJ Regional Master Plan Compliance Aid (Highlands) in the amount of \$8,342.25;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the like sum is hereby appropriated into the 2014 Municipal Budget under –

NJ Regional Master Plan Compliance Aid (Highlands) in the amount of \$8,342.25

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 is a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by Council at a meeting held on Wednesday, November 19, 2014.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

Resolution No. 14-137 – Requesting approval of insertion of revenue and appropriations into the 2014 Budget for NJ Division of Criminal Justice Safe and Secure Communities Grant P5180-13 in the amount of \$30,000.00.

R 14-137

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY REQUESTING APPROVAL OF INSERTION OF ITEMS OF REVENUE AND APPROPRIATIONS INTO THE 2014 BUDGET AS PER N.J.S.A.40A:4-87

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 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 Mayor and Council of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey hereby requests the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to approve the insertion of the following item of revenue into the 2014 Municipal Budget from –

NJ Division of Criminal Justice Safe and Secure Communities Grant P-5480-13 in the amount of \$30,000.00;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the like sum is hereby appropriated into the 2014 Municipal Budget under –

NJ Division of Criminal Justice Safe and Secure Communities Grant P5480-13 in the amount of \$30,000.00.

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 is a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by Council at a meeting held on Wednesday, November 19, 2014.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

Resolution No. 14-138 - Requesting approval of insertion of revenue and appropriations into the 2014 Budget for NJ Division of Criminal Justice Safe and Secure Communities Grant P5180-12 in the amount of \$30,000.00.

R 14-138

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY REQUESTING APPROVAL OF INSERTION OF REVENUE AND APPROPRIATIONS INTO THE 2014 BUDGET FOR NJ DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SAFE AND SECURE COMMUNITES GRANT P5180-12 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$30,000.00

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 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 Mayor and Council of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey hereby requests the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to approve the insertion of the following item of revenue into the 2014 Municipal Budget from –

NJ Division of Criminal Justice Safe and Secure Communities Grant P-5480-12 in the amount of \$30,000.00;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the like sum is hereby appropriated into the 2014 Municipal Budget under –

NJ Division of Criminal Justice Safe and Secure Communities Grant P5480-13 in the amount of \$30,000.00.

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 is a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by Council at a meeting held on Wednesday, November 19, 2014.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

Resolution No. 14-139 – Requesting approval of insertion of items of revenue and appropriations into the 2014 Budget as per N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87.

R 14-139

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY REQUESTING APPROVAL OF INSERTION OF ITEMS OF REVENUE AND APPROPRIATIONS INTO THE 2014 BUDGET AS PER N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 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 Mayor and Council of the Township of Lopatcong, New Jersey, hereby requests the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to approve the insertion of the following item of revenue into the 2014 Municipal Budget from –

NJ Solid Waste Administration FY 2014 Clean Communities Grant in the amount of \$16,547.57;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the like sum is hereby appropriated into the 2014 Municipal Budget under –

NJ Solid Waste Administration FY 2014 Clean Communities Grant in the amount of \$16,547.57.

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 is a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by Council at a meeting held on Wednesday, November 19, 2014.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

Resolution No. 14-140 – Requesting approval of insertion of items of revenue and appropriations into the 2014 Budget for NJ Division of Criminal Justice 2014 Body Armor fund 15650 in the amount of \$1,680.92.

R 14-140

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY REQUESTING APPROVAL OF INSERTION OF ITEMS OF REVENUE AND APPROPRIATIONS INTO THE 2014 BUDGET AS PER N.J.S.A.40A:4-87

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 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 Mayor and Council of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey hereby requests the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to approve the insertion of the following item of revenue into the 2014 Municipal Budget from –

NJ Division of Criminal Justice 2014 Body Armor Fund 15650 in the amount of \$1,680.92.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the like sum is hereby appropriated into the 2014 Municipal Budget under –

NJ Division of Criminal Justice 2014 Body Armor Fund 15650 in the amount of \$1,680.92.

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 is a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by Council at a meeting held on Wednesday, November 19, 2014.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

Resolution No. 14-141 – Authorizing approval of insertion of items of revenue and appropriations into the 2014 Budget a check from Laura G. and Carl A. Azzalina in honor of the 25th Anniversary of Jeff and Trina Varone in the amount of \$100.00 to be used in the Police Department.

R 14-141

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY REQUESTING APPROVAL OF INSERTION OF ITEMS OF REVENUE AND APPROPRIATIONS INTO THE 2014 BUDGET AS PER N.J.S.A.40A:4-87

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 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 Mayor and Council of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey hereby requests the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to approve the insertion of the following item of revenue into the 2014 Municipal Budget from –

Laura G. and Carl A. Azzalina in honor of the 25th Wedding Anniversary of Jeff and Trina Varone in the amount of \$100.00 to be used as needed for the Lopatcong Township Police Department.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the like sum is hereby appropriated into the 2014 Municipal Budget under –

Private donation for the Lopatcong Township Police Department in the amount of \$100.00.

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 is a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by Council at a meeting held on Wednesday, November 19, 2014.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

Resolution No. 14-146 – Authorizing transfer of appropriations of the 2014 Municipal Budget during the last two months of the year as per N.J.S.A. 40A:4-58 in the amount of \$105,375.00.

R 14-146

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF APPROPRIATIONS OF THE 2014 LOPATCONG TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUDGET DURING THE LAST TWO MONTHS OF THE YEAR AS PER N.J.S.A. 40A:4-58

WHEREAS, it has become necessary to expend an amount in excess of the respective items appropriated in the 2014 Lopatcong Township Budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as per N.J.S.A. 40A:4-58 that the Mayor and Council of the Township of Lopatcong authorizes the Chief Financial Officer to make the following appropriation transfers.

FROM:			TO:		
10515320	Tax Assessor OE	\$6,400.00	10510520	Human Resources Education	\$850.00
10518220	Planner	\$15,000.00	10512020	Municipal Admin. OE	\$7,000.00
10522020	Employee Group Ins.	\$45,000.00	10513520	Audit Services OE	\$825.00
10522520	Unemployment Insurance	\$5,000.00	10515520	Legal Services OE	\$35,000.00
10524010	Police Dept. S&W	\$250.00	10519610	Bldg. Subcode Insp. S&W	\$18,500.00
10524020	Police Dept. OE	\$4,425.00	10519620	Bldg. Subcode Insp. OE	\$3,000.00
10529120	Senior Citizen OE	\$5,000.00	10525210	Emergency Mgmt. S&W	\$900.00
10537110	Parks & Playground S&W	\$12,500.00	10529020	Road Maintenance OE	\$10,000.00
10543520	Street Lighting	\$4,750.00	10531010	Bldgs. & Grounds S&W	\$2,500.00
10544020	Telephone	\$6,000.00	10531020	Bldgs. & Grounds OE	\$7,000.00
10546020	Gasoline	\$1,050.00	10537120	Parks & Playgrounds	\$10,000.00

				OE	
			105375095	Garbage & Trash Removal	\$1,800.00
			10543020	Electricity	\$6,000.00
			10544620	Gas (Natural & Propane)	\$2,000.00
FROM:	TOTAL	\$105,375.00	TO:	TOTAL	\$105,375.00

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 is a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by Council at a meeting held on Wednesday, November 19, 2014.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

Announcements: December 3rd meeting will begin with an Executive Session at 6:30 pm followed by the regular meeting at 7:00 pm.

Council Reports:

Councilwoman Schneider – No report.

Councilman Belcaro – Update on the sewer project – they are continuing to lay pipe and expect the project to be completed by the end of the year.

Councilwoman McCabe – Lou Belcaro and I were on the CFO search committee and we’ve interviewed a few people. Um, we received some resumes and some were disqualified for various reasons. However, we’d like to make a motion tonight to hire Lorraine Rossetti as the CFO for Lopatcong and the reason for this choice is we can have Lorraine hired as a Shared Service Agreement which would be beneficial to us. We were planning on doing a two-year agreement. For those of you who don’t know, when you hire a CFO, their position is for four years. So good, bad or ugly, they are in for four years. So the benefit to hiring and coming to an agreement with Lorraine, Lorraine works in towns in the area; she works in Pohat, Alpha and Greenwich. We have spoken to the mayor of Pohat and he is willing to enter into a Shared Service Agreement with Lopatcong for the purposes of the CFO position. The benefits to the shared service obviously other than the two year time frame is that we would then be able to share the cost of the benefits as well as the cost of the pensions. You know, maybe not 50/50 but at least if you are not carrying the whole cost, it is a savings of some sort. Lorraine has a lot of experience; she has experience working with DPW, with utilities. Uh, she is familiar again with the towns in the area and there is no learning curve involved in hiring Lorraine. We don’t have time for a learning curve.

Mayor Steinhardt – When does Betty leave?

Councilwoman McCabe – Betty is leaving us mid-December – she is going on vacation. Leaving officially end of December. So we do need someone to come in, hit the ground running. You know, it is very important, we get our books closed properly by year end and we don’t have time for training someone new or getting, you know, things like that to, to, we don’t have time for that and again, um, so our recommendation is that we hire Lorraine as the CFO. So this is where I guess I make a motion. I’d like to make a motion to hire Lorraine Rossetti as the CFO; pending an acceptable Shared Service Agreement would be for 30/32 hours a week at the salary we were going to initiate at \$75,000 which is already a savings from our current salary.

Mayor Steinhardt - What would the Shared Service Agreement encompass? The notion, the fact that you have to hire a CFO by statute for a four year term and so the only way to circumvent is under the Shared Service Act by sharing services you can limit that term and in this case share Pohat's CFO. Also, you are talking about shared benefits, shared pension and I assume shared working conditions and hours was also under the Shared Services Act that shared services of an individual can take questions while they might be physically sitting in another municipality, they can take questions there pertaining to the other municipalities within their sharing services, so, I assume all those things will be addressed in the Shared Service Agreement.

Councilwoman McCabe – In the Shared Service Agreement, correct. And again, the benefit is the two-year agreement. You know, if you hire someone and it doesn't work out for either side, you know, time is going faster and faster these days, then we can start over in two years. If it doesn't work out and you are stuck with four years, uh, that's what you are stuck with. So I see that as a big benefit and it's an opportunity that we should take advantage of, um, for the residents of Lopatcong.

Mayor Steinhardt – Motion, is there a second. Motion seconded by Council President Ciesla. Discussion?

Councilwoman Schneider – Is that for Council for discussion.

Mayor Steinhardt – Absolutely, yes.

Councilwoman Schneider – Um, I guess, should I wait for a vote and make my comments?

Mayor Steinhardt – Yes, let's have the discussion. (Inaudible) who knows, somebody could be swayed by somebody not to do it, so.

Councilwoman Schneider – Yeah right. Um, I, I do have some comments. We do have two candidates that we interviewed. Both candidates were very strong candidates. However, I have not had an opportunity to look at the audit reports from the Township's that Ms. Rossetti works in. Um, there is an audit report coming out tomorrow. I'd like to see that report. There have been some comments on other audits that I, um, cause me to pause and uh, really not think that this could be a good choice. I also don't have the numbers, um, for this shared service. I don't know for definite any of the benefit pension numbers. I'd like to have those numbers before you enter into an agreement with someone. Um, and I also, um, I just, I think the other candidate was a very strong candidate. I think, um, where she had two things that she did not work, had not done as in, as a CFO but they are very quick learned things that would not have caused any, um, disruption in our services here and uh, I also, just would like to see those audit reports. As I said, I'd really like to see because I don't like what I've seen, so far, and even though it is a two year over a four year term, a lot of damage could be done in two years so I would like to see those reports before extending an offer to someone and that would all be, that's all I'm asking for, a few days to let me look at those, actually one day because it will be out tomorrow.

Mayor Steinhardt – I have one question. You say audit reports before, but I think if I remember you, when you said, when we talked about it earlier, you mentioned it was just Greenwich that was, the one audit report that wasn't out yet.

Councilwoman Schneider – Yeah, the other, the other two, like I said caused me to pause.

Mayor Steinhardt – They are on line already.

Councilwoman Schneider – Yeah, they are on line. I looked at them, there's some comments in there, like I said that, um, just didn't add up.

Mayor Steinhardt – But just so we're clear, the other two audit reports are available and you've seen those. The one you haven't seen, so it's not audit reports that aren't available; it's just one report the Greenwich, one.

Councilwoman Schneider – Yeah, I'm sorry. The one report, yes, I saw the other two which gave me a reason to look at the third and the third one is not out yet. It won't be out until tomorrow.

Mayor Steinhardt – No problem.

Councilwoman Schneider – So, I'd like to have that opportunity. It's a big decision. Yes, I know we're crunched for time but to make a decision based on a two-year contract versus a four without really knowing all the numbers yet, I think is a hasty decision at this point.

Councilwoman McCabe – Well, I think that we have, you know, we've interviewed Lorraine Rossetti twice already. The prior audits are on line. You've already researched them. We need to move on this immediately, as I said we need someone that will come in right away, hit the ground running and help us with closing our books by year end. We can't delay a vote primarily because, quite frankly, we don't have time to have another meeting this year. You have to have a two week time frame to post it, to announce it and now we are running into holidays and people aren't going to be around, gone or absent and I think that delaying would be detrimental to the Township. I think we need to move forward. We've been given plenty of information to review and we've all had time to look up what we needed to look up since we've had resumes in our hand for over a month at this point.

Councilwoman Schneider – Right well considering I had only one opportunity to interview her, um, and she wouldn't be, it is still a two week time frame for her to resign from her other positions, um, and as I said, that's not; it's just a hasty move not knowing all of our research.

Councilwoman McCabe – No, I don't think it is a hasty move and as far as the numbers, she agreed to a \$75,000 starting salary. The benefits are what they're gonna be, they're not going to change. Pension is what it is going to be, you know, what numbers we need to review any further at this point.

Councilwoman Schneider – You still haven't, we, as you said, um, she agreed to 21 hours at \$75,000. I have not heard that she

Councilwoman McCabe – I've spoken with her and we discussed it in executive that

Mayor Steinhardt – My understanding is that Ms. McCabe had a discussion and the motion she's making, at least as I understand the motion, is 31 to 32 hours at \$75,000. If she rejects that, then obviously she would not be able to meet the Township's terms but as I understand what is being proposed is 32 hours

Councilwoman Schneider – Right, so she doesn't actually know we are proposing 32 hours.

Mayor Steinhardt – Ms. McCabe has represented to us both in Executive and again just now that they had a verbal discussion and she does know it is 32 hours.

Councilwoman Schneider – Right but she doesn't know it is at \$75,000.

Councilwoman McCabe – Yes, she does, that is the amount she proposed.

Mayor Steinhardt – If she rejects it then, you all kind of get what you want by default anyway. If she doesn't do, you are back to the other person so.

Councilwoman Schneider – Well, yeah, I understand that but why extend the offer unless we know for sure.

Councilwoman McCabe – No, we know for sure that is what I'm telling you.

Mayor Steinhardt – Well, I'm taking Ms. McCabe's word for it that she's had that discussion with her and that she knows for sure. Um, so at least me personally.

Council President – Would that be the same with anybody, we have to make an offer to them and

Councilwoman McCabe – We have to make the offer and they would have to accept the offer.

Councilwoman Schneider – But I think knowing all the numbers and her knowing what we're, you know, what it is before we even propose it to her before we even give her the offer she should know exactly and we should have it in writing not just by making a phone call.

Mayor Steinhardt – Ms. McCabe, you'll representing to Council that she knows the relevant terms.

Councilwoman McCabe – Yes. She knows the relevant terms and my motion is pending the acceptable Shared Service Agreement from both towns.

Mayor Steinhardt – So, we've have a motion, we've had discussion um, roll call. Oh I'm sorry, Mr. Belcaro.

Councilman Belcaro – I'd just like to add one thing that Lorraine has been with Pohat, Alpha and Greenwich now for nine years, I believe, so, it isn't something she came in the past year or two years. So, she's been around. So, if there was anything wrong with any of her audits or anything of that nature, I think that it would have been addressed. I think it would have been public information. I think being so close, we would have heard of such things that would disqualify her during the interview.

Councilwoman Schneider – Well I have heard such things but I'd like to see it in writing from an auditor first and, um, what I hear does not sound very promising. It is a big decision as I said. It is a big decision and, you know, the two year term could be very well a detriment to us as opposed to a four-year term. There is a lot of damage that could be done.

Mayor Steinhardt – Well, again, I'm just trying to, I wasn't able to participate in the interview, I wasn't here. I think you were there Mr. Belcaro, Ms. McCabe. My understanding is that you are talking about one audit report for last year because every prior years audit report as Mr. Belcaro points out, she has been servicing these towns for the past nine years is available and is available on line. So that's 27 audit reports to talk about and we are debating one that doesn't exist and it seems to me that Greenwich's lack of transparency or its failure to put its audit report up on line at the same time that Pohatcong, and what's the other, town, Alpha did should not hinder you guys in making a decision if the majority of Council chooses to make a decision is in any event.

Council President Ciesla – Can I make a comment? I mean based on, they were both very strong candidates, um, Lorraine, I felt has the experience for everything that we do in our town, um, which Paige didn't. She also has the college education background and she has been a CMFO

for eleven years, ten years longer and she has I believe, I mean, she's been doing this since 1999 as a CFO. So like I said, they both interviewed well. I,

Councilwoman McCabe – And Lorraine definitely does have the stronger experience which, again, is what we need someone to come in and hit the ground running.

Council President Ciesla – Plus the shared service.

Mayor Steinhardt – All right. So we got a motion and a second and every Council member has had their two cents so, uh, roll call vote:

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

NAYS: Councilwoman Schneider

Mayor Steinhardt – Anything else Ms. McCabe.

Councilwoman McCabe – Also EDAC Committee. Um, we are still working on our discount card. We have several businesses signed up. Uh, we are going to get a few more and then we hope to get this to print and out in December. It will be good for a year December to December. So that is in progress and the local businesses are responding nicely and the goal is to hope to pick up, you know foot traffic in business in town which will benefit all of us. You know if it's known that, you know, Lopatcong is a good place for business, it hopefully, the plan is to attract more businesses. Um, last week Warren County had an economic development meeting, which many towns were invited and from the County. Lopatcong showed up and we were the ones with the most representatives so we got two points for that. Their goal is to, as an EDAC Committee for the County; their goal is to help towns in processing any business requests that come in to the town. So if Lopatcong gets an offer of a business that maybe we can't handle or we don't have the square footage for or the acreage for, that we contact Warren County and this way the benefit will be to hopefully try to keep that business in Warren County versus having them go to Lehigh Valley or go to another county and the opposite is true as well. Warren County will be keeping tabs on each town and what they have available so when new businesses come in they may be able to say oh, why don't you go to Lopat, they have this, or this or this that maybe beneficial to your business, type of business. Also Warren County is offering, you know, they do have information; more information available if we needed it to let us know to do research on if there is any state grants available, any tax incentives for a new business to assist with the business relocation into our town. So, it was a good meeting, um, I think they are going to try and have a couple a year or at least two a year and just to keep everyone sort of talking and know what is going on out there. Um, additionally, following up with that, I did speak to Mr. VanVliet from the Planning Board and we were wondering if we were able to have anything like, say, a sports dome in the area. I believe there is one in Flemington, there is one up in the Poconos and um, I wanted to make sure it wouldn't be in conflict with our ROM Zone and um, would we need to change an ordinance or such like that but, um, I was advised that no it might be best to just, if such a business were to come in and look at us and hopefully, that would be the case um, that they could come for a variance and then we could then go from there and, of course, the hope is that things like that work out. So, we are trying to keep all our options open and try to think outside the box and get some new ideas and new businesses into town. That's the goal.

Um, next on the shared services, we are looking at our, all of our positions but we have a tax assessor here that is part-time, um, you know, we are going to be working on a shared service position for that position. We're working on the details and it may be possible that we could finalize that hopefully by the end of the year. We'll see.

Lastly, I've been receiving a few emails, questions about leaves and snow and things like that and, of course, we've been very transparent, lots of information on our website. If you are interested in the leaf schedule it is posted. However, of course, it is all subject to change, it depends on the weather, it depends what streets in town they're up to. I think Brian, Brian is out and we can always contact DPW or contact here if you have concerns about the leaves. Someone asked me about snow, I guess they were looking at the Buffalo news, I'm not sure but we'll post some information on our website as soon as we get that straight. I don't know if we have yet on Facebook. I don't know if we have, maybe we'll post about snow emergencies, snow emergency streets and how the plow schedule works out. So, and again, if you have questions like that, please feel free to contact the Clerk's Office. They're here during the business hours, they're here to help. Get on Facebook, get on the website, there is contact information there and we're here to help and here to give you as much information as you need.

Council President Ciesla – That's all you have, I guess I'll go. For the LAA – Athletic Association. Let's start with; we are working on getting batting cages. We've, uh, were getting some quotes. They're going over the park with Brian at the DPW, trying to find a good place for it. This is something they've been fundraising for, for years probably since my son was out there playing baseball and thanks to the effort of a full, fully staffed board that is eager to work together, they were able to finally put this to rest. So, I'll have more information as that comes along.

We also did our leaf cleanup. I have to give a thank you to all the families that helped out and the families that asked to have their yards done. Some were a lot more leaves than others but we had a great time. The people were very, very appreciative and it was great for the kids and the families involved to do that. We will be doing that every year. From that, we realize, and I tried to start this last year and but it was mid-winter, so now before it starts snowing, which could happen any minute now, we want to also set up a group for snow help because I mean, snow is even a worse condition than leaves because it is, depending on the heaviness of the snow, I mean a lot of heart attacks can occur. So, one of the things in talking to the LAA and talking to Councilman Belcaro about this is that we want to form some kind of group, not necessarily a youth group, it doesn't have to be young people, it can be any person that wants to help out so we want to coordinate some type of group. We have names of people who'd be willing to go out and help people and then we can also collect names of people who would be needing help and they could contact a contact person and then we could then get somebody out there to help them. Everything is pointing to us having a snowy winter again and it is and at my house we end up helping our two, the older couples who live on each side of us and I know my husband and I by last winter at 2 o'clock in the morning we had about had it and I can't imagine being 65, 75, 85 out there trying to shovel snow, so, we wanted to get that started and I don't know if I should make a motion but if we could, Councilman Belcaro and I can work on that.

Mayor Steinhardt – Absolutely.

Council President Ciesla – Now here's some good news, um, we had very successful fall sports. Our cheering team, they also compete. They did very well; each competition they ended up doing better and better and they were all scoring extremely well. The cheering director is getting me all the final results and when I have them, I'll post them on Facebook and on the LAA page.

Soccer results – Um, all the teams did very well. Our intermediate team was undefeated and they also won the championship. So that was, that was a great feat for them.

Football – football had a very good season. Our peewees were undefeated. Unfortunately, they did not win the tourney but they did very, very well. Our Biddies which happen to be coached by Mayor Steinhardt, um, I think they lost one game.

Mayor Steinhardt – They lost the championship.

Council President Ciesla – They lost the championship game.

Mayor Steinhardt – The same team that beat us...

Council President Ciesla – So they had one loss and then they lost the championship game against the same team. It was a very close game; I think it was what 18-13

Mayor Steinhardt – 18 to 13.

Council President Ciesla – Very sad when they lose, they get very upset. Our midgets who I believe they lost one game, they unfortunately lost the playoffs.

Mayor Steinhardt – They lost the championship.

Council President Ciesla – And the championship, so. They had great seasons but unfortunately they weren't able to get those championship games but we'll try again next year.

For Rec., again the Rec. was involved with the leaf cleanup and we are going to do that every year. What we did is, I myself, went over the one of the care centers to talk to them about our Rec. Programs because some of the things we wanted to do is actually bring some programs into Brakeley and Lopatcong Care Centers and certain things they would like to do and they gave some ideas of what they want us to do and what they like; you know, they want the firemen to come back. Apparently they really love when the firemen light mattresses on fire but I don't know if you do that anymore. That was repeated multiple times but, um, we kept saying no, no, no I don't think we want to do that. We also went up to Delaware Crossings. My Rec. Committee, um, five of us went up there and that was great. We had about 30 people that came out. We had some refreshments and we talked a little bit about our committee and what we are trying to do. If you've been up to Delaware Crossings they have a great community center. They have a pool; it's just a very nice neighborhood. But they are looking to get more involved in the town. Some of them moved here from out of the area. Some of them just move over there and others they came here because of their grandchildren. So we met with them and Robin was with me, she's here in the audience. They had some really good ideas. They are looking to do a lot of things at the school like they want us to have events there. So those are some of the things that we are going to wrap up at our December meeting and go to Board of Ed and talk to about doing some activity nights. They want to do yoga, square dancing, art, stuff like that. They are interested in music in the park and let's see if I can say this correctly; watching movies that are not cartoons; like seeing something like a PG-13 movie outside which is really nice, like we do our movies at the pool and they would be interested in coming out to one of those.

Our meeting before the November meeting we talked with our engineer about a dog park. So we are looking for areas that we can put that in. We are looking to get some grant money. I know PETCO has given money to P'burg and we are talking to P'burg about that. That was one of the things that Delaware Crossings was big on too. They have a lot of dogs. I mean there are a lot of dogs in town but they really wanted that and we also talked about a safer pathway. We are investigating the status of Smith Road and I think I need to ask Council to look into the status of Smith Road for us because we are not sure the Township owns it or if it is private. If we do own it, then we can go in there and make some minor improvements and we can make it a walking and bike path and you know, again, get some grant money for that. This way instead of everybody going Red School and then turning on Belvidere there where your sight line is very difficult and the cars are going fast, we can make a little walkway from the sidewalk on Red School, go over Smith Road and that will take you right to Rowes Lane where it is a little easier

to cross and then we can, we're going to talk to the County about making crosswalks over there too.

We have some fundraisers that are going forward; we are going to have an on-going bench fundraiser. We'll make sure we put that on the website so at any point in time you want to dedicate a bench to a family member or group, you can do that. We want to start a donate a tree program; we do need some shade up there. One of the things we are working with is LAA, is a brick pathway or a brick area where you can donate a brick and have your family's name engraved on there and that would pay for the pathway and you know, get us some money to do some improvements up there.

Technology, I have my own personal pick for on-line payments. Rachel, our tax collector, is actually down in Atlantic City right now and she's going to visit the other two vendors. We did some demos and I'll have the cost comparisons for that in December so we can pick one. This way we can get it in place for February.

Finance Committee – Donna and I met with Betty for the first meeting. We saw her projections which of course, are not set in stone. They are just her recommendations. We reviewed the debt; we may be able to refinance some at a lower rate. We reviewed our surplus and its importance in the stability of our town and it improves our credit rating and we are trying to meet once a month.

Some of the future plans we have going, one of the things I was working on and want to pick up again is shared service with our courts. You know, times are tough for all these towns and the court is a big expense. So we are looking, at a lot of courts are merging. My ultimate goal was to be for us to have a joint court system like North Warren does. They've all joined together and have South Warren join together, so I'm working on that.

For EDAC, I've been encouraging them to have a networking event in our town with the Chamber of Commerce; we are going to look at that. Also, we have a lot of opportunities to collaborate between the committees; LAA and the Recreation have been working a lot together and will continue to do so. The EDAC is prime for working with both of us because both LAA and the Recreation Committee need sponsors and donations and the EDAC can help us get them and that can help promote our businesses.

The LAA has huge plans; there will be more on that to come, but we are committed to making our park the park that groups want to play and rent and use our fields.

Going with the newsletter, I've been just looking at; I looked at another local print company trying to get an idea of what it will cost to create the newsletter similar to the Greenwich Gazette and, um, how much in ads we would need. I want to meet with the EDAC to get that ball rolling as well because; again, we would need advertising to get that done. I have a couple other vendors just to get some prices. Also, it is year end, I think it is possible for us to get out like a quick newsletter if everybody here on Council wants to give a little blurb just to round out the year, we can do it in-house, put it on line and just, you know, that's all I need to do.

One other thing I do have for recreation, is we have our photo contest winners and we're making a calendar. Gary was gracious enough to go through the trouble of actually making an actual calendar which I thank you for because it is very tedious and I have all the pictures. I'm in the process of getting quotes now. It looks like to get 250, the max, I would need is \$1250.00. So I'd like to make a motion to appropriate so I could get the calendars made and the we would sell them for more than they cost to make; the profit and that could go back into the recreation committee for Community Day 2015. Second by Councilwoman McCabe.

Mayor Steinhardt – Discussion. Roll call.

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

NAYS: None

Council President Ciesla – As I was campaigning, I was able to speak to many of our senior residents which is always a pleasure. Getting the word out to our senior residents though is very difficult. We haven't yet been able to find a communication vehicle that actually works. They are not in the school district so they're not getting the notifications, LAA, Girl Scout, Boy Scouts, is where you get most of your information from. I had mentioned some months ago to the Mayor, off topic, that I thought Maureen had an excellent rapport with our seniors. She seems to know a good many of them and, um, I had wanted to make her our senior liaison but never pushed that forward. Since we are trying to move forward with more activities oriented towards our 55 and over crowd, I would like to read (inaudible) and recommend Maureen for the position.

Mayor Steinhardt – Okay.

Councilwoman McCabe – Okay, I accept. Yeah, no, I'd be happy to do that. Thank you.

Mayor Steinhardt – That's fine.

Council President Ciesla – I'll wrap up here. Um, I just wanted to say thank you to every single person out there who voted for me. I jumped into this very late. I campaigned in less than two months with only a handful of helpers that all had a lot of heart. It was a pleasure to speak to every single person out there whether they supported me or not. I knew it was a huge uphill battle to run outside of my party which for the record is the Republican Party and I have been one since I registered when I was eighteen. There was a computer glitch that put me over to unaffiliated for a few years but that has been rectified. However, in my opinion, there is no mountain too high that I'd be willing to climb for this town so I went and I did it and I just, it is always a great experience to go out there and talk to people. I congratulate my opponent on his win and wish him the best of luck and that's it.

Attorney Campbell – I would just ask for a motion to authorize me to work on the title for Smith Road.

Council President Ciesla – I'll make a motion for Katrina to.

Mayor Steinhardt – Is there a second?

Councilwoman McCabe – Second.

Mayor Steinhardt – Discussion? Roll call:

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

NAYS: None

Councilwoman Schneider – Well, two things, the letter, I did, you know, that's kind of a question to ask Council to get a newsletter out.

Council President Ciesla – I said if anybody wants to, yeah, if you want to we could definitely put something together even if to just put out on the website and we print it out here.

Councilwoman Schneider – Yeah and that would great as long as everybody has an agreement before it goes out.

Council President Ciesla – Sure, mmmhmm.

Councilwoman Schneider – Okay and the batting cages, LAA is paying for that out of there

Council President Ciesla – Yes they are out of their donated funds.

Councilwoman Schneider – Okay, how much were the batting cages?

Council President Ciesla – They run about \$3,000.

Councilwoman Schneider – And they get two?

Council President Ciesla – It's one set.

Councilwoman Schneider – One set okay, so it's, okay.

Council President Ciesla – They put a mat netting down between the two.

Councilwoman Schneider – Okay.

Mayor Steinhardt – Um, I don't have anything. I do, number 3, okay. We need to update the security provisions in the All Purpose Room so there's the need to add security cameras there that cost us \$2,000.00 okay. Motion by Council President Ciesla, seconded by Councilwoman McCabe. Discussion. Roll call:

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

NAYES: Councilwoman Schneider (No. I think, I'd like to look at the rest of building and see if there is any cameras that are not in full use and maybe able to swing some in another direction but just to see if we have anything that we are not using that we can use there instead of pay \$2,000 for more cameras).

CFO Dobes – I have given each Councilperson a report from the State Local Finance Notice, a copy of a user friendly budget they are proposing. If you want to make any comments to the state.

Attorney Campbell – Just to add to that, yesterday in Atlantic City, John Mooney, your auditor, gave a lecture to 250 people, cause I was there with him, and his topic was user friendly budgets so you may want to ask him to come in and give you a little, he's got a slide presentation and everything so.

Mayor Steinhardt – Thanks.

Department Reports: Motion by Council President Ciesla, seconded by Councilwoman Schneider. Roll call:

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

NAYS: None

Payment of Bills – Motion by Council President Ciesla, seconded by Councilwoman McCabe. Roll call:

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

NAYS: None

Audience Participation:

Diane Hall – Happy Thanksgiving to everyone.

Marla Endick – 10 Byron Drive – Questions on the Chief Financial Officer candidate.

Costas Zambas – Questions on the CFO candidate.

Carlos Correa – Puddingstone Way. Questions regarding the CFO Betty Dobes.

Ed Schuster – Edward Street – Fence installation at the ball field near the Delaware Crossings development. Questions regarding person not cleaning up after their dog and what the process would be to deal with the issue. Political signs.

Kathy Suszko – 31 Wordsworth Lane – Girl Scouts renting the pavilion.

Mayor Steinhardt asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion by Council President Ciesla, seconded by Councilman Belcaro. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret B. Dilts
Clerk/Administrator

Douglas J. Steinhardt
Mayor