

TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG
COUNCIL MEETING
7:00 pm

December 7, 2016

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

Motion to come out of Executive Session by Councilwoman Reitemeyer, seconded by Council President Pryor. All in favor.

Mayor McKay 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.”

Prayer followed by Oath of Allegiance

Present: Councilman Belcaro, Councilwoman Reitemeyer, Councilwoman McCabe, Council President Pryor, Mayor McKay. Also present Attorney Campbell and Engineer Sterbenz.

Resolution No. 16-149 - was passed to hold an Executive Session. Attorney Campbell stated Council was in Executive Session for 45 minutes. Topics of discussion were one through five.

Public Comment: Motion for public comments on agenda items only by Councilman Belcaro, seconded by Council President Pryor. All in favor. No comments from the public. Motion to close public comment by Council President Pryor, seconded by Councilwoman McCabe. All in favor.

Swear In – Sergeants Michael Patricia and Andrew Wayne were sworn in.

Special Presentation – Lopatcong School district Superintendent Mrs. Raine Roncoroni – 2017 Health and Wellness Fair. This is scheduled for May 23, 2017 at the Lopatcong Middle School from 8:30 am to 2:30 pm. Looking for volunteers if Council would like to have a table supporting the Mayor’s Wellness Campaign, the Lopatcong Pool and Recreation Program and any other representations.

Old Business:

Minutes – Motion by Councilwoman Reitemeyer, seconded by Council President Pryor. Roll call vote:

AYES: Councilman Belcaro, Councilwoman Reitemeyer, Councilwoman McCabe, Mayor McKay.

NAYS: None

New Business:

LAA – Municipal Park Football Field – LAA proposed to Council to name the Municipal Park football field “Steinhardt Field”. Mr. Ken Lutz spoke on behalf of the LAA and asked that Council name this field after Douglas Steinhardt; a man who has been involved through donation of his time and money to fund many, many programs not only in Lopatcong but others throughout Warren County.

Mayor McKay – I assume Mr. Steinhardt has not passed away.

Mr. Lutz – He has not.

Mayor McKay – Ordinarily these things are done after

Mr. Lutz – So when you guys named the Field House “Fredericks Field House” up there, he

didn't pass away either. Neither one of them did.

Councilwoman McCabe – I don't think anyone has to pass away before we name a field after them.

Mr. Lutz – I just think that right there that, that shows that when Mr. Fredericks did his work and he did work for a long time on those fields and it wasn't even all those fields, he did a great job and he was honored with that and it is still up there and it shows the work he put in for many generations to come. So, no, he has not passed away.

Council President Pryor – Said he has known, somebody back there have something to say?

Councilwoman McCabe – No.

Council President Pryor – Expressed that he has known Doug Steinhardt a long time, since Tia was a toddler, before young Douglas was born and witnessed his generosity long before his law practice grew to what it is today and long before he got involved in government and politics. Boy Scouts, Warren County Community College and others have recognized his contributions. He said tonight you come before us requesting the field be named in his honor and I think you stated these reasons in a very eloquent letter that was sent to me and distributed among Council and I think one has to read that letter carefully. When one reads this letter, it is obvious that the LAA is not seeking to honor Mayor Douglas Steinhardt, instead they wish to honor plain old citizen Douglas Steinhardt who served as a leader, coach, financial benefactor, advisor and pro-bono legal consultant to the LAA and it is this, my understanding, this is what they wish to recognize. I know many have contributed to the LAA's growth and success over the years; coaches and so on, and it's hoped that these folks could be recognized in some fashion in the future, but few have contributed in so many different ways as Doug. He thought that he has gone above and beyond as a citizen, coaching, services sponsorships, paid for fireworks, he's brought training opportunities, he's brought professional athletes in, motivational speakers, uniforms for cheerleaders, the list just goes on and on and you have to be associated with this group to fully understand his love and support for this group. In its letter, the LAA requested that we enter into an agreement, that's the way that they put it, together to name our field "Steinhardt Field" and here is how I'm proposing we do that. I would like to authorize Katrina Campbell, our Township Attorney, to work closely with the LAA to prepare parallel resolutions to be passed by both the LAA and the Township Council. He requested the recital spell out in detail, the many contributions that Doug has made to the LAA; so the people ten years from now will understand exactly why this honor was bestowed. He requested the LAA Board of Directors adopt their resolution in time for the Township Council to act on its resolution at the 2016 closeout meeting. He concurred with the LAA's request to place a sign at the field to symbolize the change and pay respect to Doug's dedication to the LAA and had three small conditions with that; request the LAA work closely with the Rec. Committee in the design of the sign so it is harmonious with the park, and the design and quality befitting its purpose – no banner. He would like the location, size of the sign and the sign to be approved by Council since they are owners of the park and request the LAA set up a system to accept deductible donations for the sign, such as it is paid for non-Township funds and that was his input to the LAA's request.

Mr. Lutz – Okay, thank you.

Councilwoman McCabe – Agreed that this was a wonderful idea and said a lot of parents have contributed to this town but Doug Steinhardt has gone above and beyond consistently. Not just during his time when his kid was in there but consistently and over the course of many different parts of it; not just coaching, not just one thing, so, yeah, it is important that individuals in this town that do go above and beyond and that do try to make this town the best that it can be and make it a good place to live, to grow up in, to have our kids learn and practice and play sports in. This is something everyone can be proud of so Councilwoman McCabe agreed with this.

Mayor McKay – It's a worthy cause and I agree with that.

Councilwoman Reitemeyer – You addressed the only question I had Joe the cost of the sign

Council President Pryor – It will be taken care of; I know it will.

Councilwoman Reitemeyer – I'm sure it will as well.

Council President Pryor – If there is no other comments I'd like to make that motion to authorize Katrina to take the steps that I outlined.

Councilman Belcaro – Second.

Mayor McKay – The thing I'm thinking is that a lot of people do this and perhaps and I don't know because I wasn't involved but you know how do you recognize everybody.

Councilwoman McCabe – We are recognizing Mr. Steinhardt for the reasons listed in the letter, the many reasons listed in the letter.

Council President Pryor – I think I addressed that and I said going forward and it is the LAA's request, there are many people who contributed to the LAA and there are plans to recognize them in some fashion, in some way but when you look at the number of things done by Doug for the LAA, and really the volume of his support, the amount of his contributions, did other people pay \$10,000 for fireworks? Yeah I remember

Mayor McKay – I don't know.

Council President Pryor – You don't know. I'll never forget your first year on here somebody came up and said what happened to the fireworks at Community Day and you said I don't know. I couldn't believe you didn't know.

Mayor McKay – I didn't know.

Council President Pryor – It just appeared – it came off the fireworks tree, so.

Councilwoman McCabe – They're paid for by Mr. Steinhardt.

Council President Pryor – Yeah and again, I think you are mixing your feelings for the former Mayor versus a request to honor citizen Steinhardt and if you can't do that, I have no answer for you.

Mayor McKay – These are all things that I am personally unaware of. I don't know what he's done in the Athletic Association but I understand it's a thriving organization and a lot of people contribute to it and I hope you won't find resentment from other contributors. They may not feel

Mr. Lutz – aren't being recognized.

Councilman Belcaro – If I could suggest and maybe the LAA can come up with the plan to recognize other individuals in town.

Mr. Lutz – Volunteers? Absolutely.

Councilman Belcaro – Volunteers, maybe erect a signs with names placed on a placard and obviously large enough to add future names and this way when you enter into the park it shows the contributors and volunteers that you guys can work on and again, it will not be funded by taxpayers but donations.

Mr. Lutz – We've actually taken steps to this year to before our football games to recognize our veterans and our first responders and things like that. We are reaching out as much as we can into the Township to show the appreciation for our seniors, for everybody that we can to show that we are not just an organizational sports but a community organization that reaches out into the school and to everybody and that's something that is in the forefront. Moving forward that will be something we look into for sure.

Roll call vote:

AYES: Councilman Belcaro, Councilwoman McCabe, Councilwoman Reitemeyer, Council President Pryor

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: Mayor McKay

Councilwoman McCabe – Do you have to give a reason for your abstaining?

Mayor McKay – Well, no I don't

Councilwoman McCabe – I think you do. You have the Robert's Rules of Order.

Attorney Campbell – He just has to state whether his abstention is due to a conflict.

Council President Pryor – I think he just abstains.

Attorney Campbell – If it is due to a conflict then it doesn't count

Councilwoman McCabe – Is there a conflict.

Mayor McKay – I have no conflicts with anyone.

Councilwoman McCabe – Yet you've abstained.

Pavilion Rental – Request from Pilgrim Presbyterian Church to rent the Rally Point Pavilion for fee of \$50.00. Council President Pryor noted that a policy establishing rates for the rental of the Rally Point hasn't been determined but the fee suggested does fit in line. A Certificate of Insurance has been submitted. Motion by Council President Pryor, seconded by Councilwoman Reitemeyer. Roll call vote:

AYES: Councilman Belcaro, Councilwoman McCabe, Councilwoman Reitemeyer, Council President Pryor, Mayor McKay.

NAYS: None

Resolution No. 16-150 – Senate Bill S-2554 and Assembly Bill A-3821 which affirms the language and legislative intent of the Fair Housing Act.

R 16-150

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL S-2254 AND ASSEMBLY BILL A-3821 WHICH AFFIRMS THE LANGUAGE AND LEGISLATIVE INTENT OF THE FAIR HOUSING ACT

WHEREAS, The Township of Lopatcong supports the provision of affordable housing in a reasonable, rational and achievable way, consistent with economic realities and sound planning; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the March 2015 New Jersey Supreme Court order which transferred oversight of the Fair Housing Act (FHA) to the courts, hundreds of municipalities filed declaratory judgment actions to voluntarily comply with their State imposed affordable housing requirements; and

WHEREAS, in February, the Ocean County Superior Court included a distinct "gap period" analysis retroactively over an additional 16 year period, separate and apart from the normal 10 year present and prospective need; and

WHEREAS, the Appellate Division recently in a unanimous decision overturned the February Ocean County Superior Court decision and held that municipalities are only responsible to address the ten year present and prospective need, not any "gap period" number; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Supreme Court has, for the stated purposes of, "judicial economy and efficiency based on the large number of actions involved. The Court makes no findings as to the reasonable probability of success on the merits, irreparable harm, or the relative hardship to the parties" agreed to hear an appeal of the Appellate Division ruling in late November; and

WHEREAS, the Fair Housing Act (FHA) and existing case law, requires that "present and prospective fair share of the housing need in a given region shall be computed for a 10-year

period.” (N.J.S.A. 52:27D-307(c); and

WHEREAS, the “gap issue” arises out of the inability of the New Jersey Council on Affordable Housing to promulgate third round regulations from 1999 to the present or make any final determination as to the state and regional housing need, as well as constant litigation by certain groups; and

WHEREAS, any retroactive “gap” obligations could have significant and unfunded impacts on municipalities, may double count households under both present and prospective need and will likely result in forcing municipalities and their property taxpayers to subsidize development; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill S-2254 sponsored by Senators Greenstein and Bateman and Assembly Bill A-3821 sponsored by Assemblymen Deangelo and Benson, re-affirm the language and legislative intent of the Fair Housing Act, so as to preclude significant unfair impacts and instead further progress toward a more rational statewide housing policy, including reasonable and achievable obligations for municipalities, facilitate municipal compliance and the actual provision of affordable housing.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED on this 7th day of December 2016 by the Township of Lopatcong that:

1. The Township of Lopatcong strongly urges New Jersey Legislators to immediately reaffirm the language and legislative intent of the Fair Housing Act (FHA) and expressly clarify that the municipal affordable housing share is the sum of present and prospective need for the enumerated ten-year period.
2. The Township of Lopatcong supports Senate Bill S-2254 and Assembly Bill A-3821.
3. Copies of this resolution be distributed to the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, the President of the New Jersey Senate, the Speaker of the New Jersey General Representatives), Senator Jeff Van Drew, Senator Ronald Rice, Assemblyman Jerry Green and Assemblywoman Mila Jasey, the New Jersey League of Municipalities and the New Jersey Conference of Mayors.

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, December 7, 2016.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

Motion by Councilwoman Reitemeyer, seconded by Councilwoman McCabe. All in favor.

Consent Agenda

Motion by Council President Pryor, seconded by Councilwoman McCabe. Roll call vote:
AYES: Councilman Belcaro, Councilwoman Reitemeyer (abstention from No. 15), Councilwoman McCabe, Council President Pryor, Mayor McKay.
NAYS: None

Resolution No. 16-151 – Authorizing redemption of Tax Sale Certificate No. 2014-009 on Block 24, Lot 1.01.

R 16-151

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING REDEMPTION OF TAX SALE CERTIFICATE NO. 2014-009 ON BLOCK 24, LOT 1.01

WHEREAS, at the Lopatcong Township Municipal Tax Sale held on June 25, 2014, a lien was sold on Block 24, Lot 1.01 also known as 130 Aurora Street for 2013 delinquent sewer taxes; and

WHEREAS, this lien known as Tax Sale Certificate No. 2014-009 was sold to US Bank As Cust

For Actlien Holding for 15% interest; and

WHEREAS, Specialized Loan Servicing, LLC, mortgage company for property owners has satisfied the redemption amount on Certificate No. 2014-009 in the amount of \$5,684.31.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, on this 7th day of December 2016 that the Chief Financial Officer is authorized to issue a check in the amount of \$5,684.31 for the redemption of Tax Sale Certificate No. 2014-009 to:

US Bank as Cust for Actlien Holding
50 South 16th St., Suite 1950
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, December 7, 2016.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

Resolution No. 16-152 – Authorizing redemption of Tax Sale Certificate No. 2016-044 and Premium on Block 133, Lot 51 in the amount of \$1,119.22.

R 16-152

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING REFUND OF REDEMPTION MONIES TO OUTSIDE LIENHOLDER ON BLOCK 133, LOT 51

WHEREAS, at the Lopatcong Township Municipal Tax Sale held on October 12, 2016, a lien was sold on Block 133, Lot 51, also known as 63 Buckeley Hill Drive in Lopatcong Township for 2015 delinquent sewer; and

WHEREAS, this lien known as Tax Sale Certificate No. 2016-044 was sold to US Bank Cust for Pro Cap 4 & Crdtrs for a Premium of \$800.00; and

WHEREAS, Ocwen Financial Corporation, lender for property owners, has satisfied the redemption amount on Certificate No. 2016-044 in the amount of \$319.22.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED on this 7th day of December 2016 that the Chief Financial Officer be authorized to issue a check in the amount of \$1,119.22 for the redemption of Tax Sale Certificate No. 2016-044 and Premium to:

US Bank Cust for Pro Cap 4 & Crdtrs
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, December 7, 2016.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

Resolution No. 16-153 – Authorizing redemption of Tax Sale Certificate No. 2016-038 and Premium on Block 116.14, Lot 5 C0035 in the amount of \$1,113.98.

R 16-153

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND

STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING REFUND OF REDEMPTION MONIES TO
OUTSIDE LIENHOLDER ON BLOCK 116.14, LOT 5 C0035

WHEREAS, at the Lopatcong Township Municipal Tax Sale held on October 12, 2016, a lien was sold on Block 116.14, Lot 5 C0035 also known as 35 Limerick Lane for 2015 delinquent sewer; and

WHEREAS, this lien, known as Tax Sale Certificate No. 2016-038 was sold to US Bank Cust for Pro Cap 4 & Crdtrs for a Premium of \$800.00; and

WHEREAS, Ocwen Financial Corporation, lender for the property owners, has satisfied the redemption amount on Certificate No. 2016-038 in the amount of \$313.98.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED on this 7th day of December 2016, that the Chief Financial Officer be authorized to issue a check in the amount of \$1,113.98 for the redemption of Tax Sale Certificate No. 2016-038 and Premium to:

US Bank Cust for Pro Cap 4 & Crdtrs
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, December 7, 2016.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

Resolution No. 16-155 – Authorizing redemption of Tax Sale Certificate No. 2016-005 on Block 14, Lot 8 in the amount of \$282.52.

R 16-155

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND
STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING REDEMPTION OF TAX SALE CERTIFICATE
NO. 2016-005 ON BLOCK 14, LOT 8

WHEREAS, at the Lopatcong Township Municipal Tax Sale held on October 12, 2016, a lien was sold on Block 14, Lot 8 also known as 712 Rugby Road for 2015 delinquent sewer taxes; and

WHEREAS, this lien known as Tax Sale Certificate No. 2016-005 was sold to Arthur Frustaci for 18% interest; and

WHEREAS, Ocwen Loan Servicing, LLC, for property owners has satisfied the redemption amount on Certificate No. 2016-005 in the amount of \$282.52.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED on this 7th day of December 2016, that the Chief Financial Officer is authorized to issue a check in the amount of \$282.52 for the redemption of Tax Sale Certificate No. 2016-005 to:

Arthur Frustaci
712 Rugby Road
Phillipsburg, 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, December 7, 2016.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

Resolution No. 16-156 – Authorizing redemption of Tax Sale Certificate No. 2016-007 on Block 20, Lot 11 in the amount of \$7,525.47.

R 16-156

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND
STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING REDEMPTION OF TAX SALE CERTIFICATE
NO. 2016-007 ON BLOCK 20, LOT 11

WHEREAS, at the Lopatcong Township Municipal Tax Sale held on October 12, 2016, a lien was sold on Block 20, Lot 11 also known as 239 Aurora Street for 2015 delinquent sewer taxes; and

WHEREAS, this lien known as Tax Sale Certificate No. 2016-007 was sold to FWDSL & Associates LP for 18% interest; and

WHEREAS, Bayview Loan Servicing, mortgage company for property owners has satisfied the redemption amount on Certificate No. 2016-007 in the amount of \$7,525.47.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED on this 7th day of December 2016, that the Chief Financial Officer is authorized to issue a check in the amount of \$7,525.47 for the redemption of Tax Sale Certificate No. 2016-007 to:

FWDSL & ASSOCIATES, LP
17 W. Cliff Street
Somerville, NJ 08876

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, December 7, 2016.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

Resolution No. 16-157 – Authorizing redemption of Tax Sale Certificate No. 2014-008 on Block 115.01, Lot 13 C0165 in the amount of \$754.74.

R 16-157

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND
STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING REDEMPTION OF TAX SALE CERTIFICATE
NO. 2014-048 ON BLOCK 115.01, LOT 13 C0165

WHEREAS, at the Lopatcong Township Municipal Tax Sale held on June 25, 2014, a lien was sold on Block 115.01, Lot 13 C0165 also known as 165 Horseshoe Court for 2013 delinquent sewer taxes; and

WHEREAS, this lien known as Tax Sale Certificate No. 2014-048 was sold to Arthur Frustaci for 18% interest; and

WHEREAS, Corelogic, mortgage company for property owners has satisfied the redemption amount on Certificate No. 2014-048 in the amount of \$754.74.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED on this 7th day of December 2016 that the Chief Financial Officer is authorized to issue a check in the amount of \$754.74 for the redemption of Tax Sale Certificate No. 2014-048 to:

Arthur Frustaci
712 Rugby Road

Phillipsburg, 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, December 7, 2016.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

Resolution No. 16-158 – Authorizing redemption of Tax Sale Certificate No. 2016-024 and Premium on Block 99, Lot 26 C0212 in the amount of \$944.07.

R 16-158

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND
STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING REDEMPTION OF TAX SALE CERTIFICATE
NO. 2016-024 ON BLOCK 99, LOT 26 C0212

WHEREAS, at the Lopatcong Township Municipal Tax Sale held on October 12, 2016, a lien was sold on Block 99, Lot C0212 also known as 212 Bald Eagle Drive for 2015 delinquent sewer taxes; and

WHEREAS, this lien known as Tax Sale Certificate No. 2016-024 was sold to US Bank Cust for Pro Cap 4 & Crdtrs for a \$500.00 Premium; and

WHEREAS, Surety Title Company LLC, title company for property owners has satisfied the redemption amount on Certificate No. 2016-024 in the amount of \$444.07.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED on this 7th day of December 2016 that the Chief Financial Officer is authorized to issue a check in the amount of \$944.07 for the redemption of Tax Sale Certificate No. 2016-024 to:

US Bank Cust for Pro Cap 4 & Crdtrs
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, December 7, 2016.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

Resolution No. 16-159 – Authorizing redemption of Tax Sale Certificate No. 2014-064 on Block 116.12, Lot 12 C0074 in the amount of \$45.00.

R 16-159

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND
STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING REDEMPTION REFUND ON SUB OF TAX
SALE CERTIFICATE NO. 2014-064 ON BLOCK 116.12, LOT 12 C0074

WHEREAS, at the Lopatcong Township Municipal Tax Sale a redemption was authorized in August 2016 for Block 116.12, Lot 12 C0074 also known as 74 Limerick Lane for 2013; and

WHEREAS, the lienholder known as Stuart Lasher sent in a sub that was cashed for \$45.00 and was not part of the redemption.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED on this 7th day of December 2016 that the Chief Financial Officer is authorized to issue a check in the amount of \$45.00 for the refund of a sub

payment on Block 116.12, Lot 12 C0074 2014-064 to:

Stuart Lasher
P.O. Box 83
Milltown, NJ 08850

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, December 7, 2016.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

Resolution No. 16-160 – Authorizing redemption of Tax Sale Certificate No. 2014-036 and Premium on Block 99. Lot 210 C0856 in the amount of \$22,680.65.

R 16-160

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND
STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING REDEMPTION OF TAX SALE CERTIFICATE
NO. 2014-036 ON BLOCK 99, LOT 210 C0856

WHEREAS, at the Lopatcong Township Municipal Tax Sale held on June 25, 2014, a lien was sold on Block 99, Lot 210 C0856 also known as 856 Honeybrook Circle for 2013 delinquent taxes; and

WHEREAS, this lien known as Tax Sale Certificate No. 2014-036 was sold to US Bank Cust for PC4 First Trust Bank for a Premium of \$3,100.00; and

WHEREAS, Property owners also known as 856 Honeybrook, LLC, has satisfied the redemption amount of Certificate No. 2014-036 in the amount of \$19,580.65.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED ON THIS 7TH DAY OF December 2016 that the Chief Financial Officer is authorized to issue a check in the amount of \$22,680.65 for the redemption of Tax Sale Certificate No. 2014-036 and Premium to:

US Bank Cust for Pro Cap 4 & Crdtrs
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, December 7, 2016.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

Space Farms Zoo and Museum – Approve contract with Space Farms Zoo and Museum for deer carcass removal at a fee of \$38.00 for 2017.

Resolution No. 16-161 – Authorize appointments of Michael Patricia and Andrew Wayne as Sergeants per Civil Service Certification of Eligibles No. PL161394.

R 16-161

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND
STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING PERMANENT APPOINTMENTS OF ANDREW
WAYNE AND MICHAEL PATRICIA AS SERGEANTS IN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT
PURSUANT TO CERTIFIED LIST FROM CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION PL 161394

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey hereby authorize the appointments of Andrew Wayne and Michael Patricia as Sergeants in the Police Department pursuant to Certified List of Eligibles from the Civil Service Commission; and

WHEREAS, Andrew Wayne and Michael Patricia will be paid a salary according to the Collective Bargaining Agreement; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey that Andrew Wayne and Michael Patricia are hereby appointed Sergeants in the Police Department pursuant to a Certified List of Eligibles from the Civil Service Commission and shall be paid pursuant to the Collective Bargaining Agreement.

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 Wednesday, December 7, 2016.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

Resolution No. 16-162 – Memorialize hire of Kathryn DeStefano as Support Technician I in the Police Department.

R 16-162

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING HIRE KATHRYN DESTEFANO AS RECORDS SUPPORT TECHNICIAN 1 IN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey do hereby approve the hire of Kathryn DiStefano as Records Support Technician 1 in the Police Department; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Kathryn DeStefano shall be a full-time employee being paid a salary of \$38,500.00 plus benefits as outlined in the Lopatcong Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey do hereby approve the hire of Kathryn DeStefano as Records Support Technician 1 in the Police Department.

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, December 7, 2016.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

Resolution No. 16-163 – Appoint Budd Agency as Fund Commissioner for 2017.

R 16-163

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY APPOINTING BUDD AGENCY, INC., AS FUND COMMISSIONER

WHEREAS, Township of Lopatcong is a member of the Statewide Insurance Fund, a joint insurance fund as defined in N.J.S.A. 40A:10-36 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, the Funds Bylaws require participating members to appoint a Fund Commissioner.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the governing body of the Township of Lopatcong that Budd Agency, Inc., is hereby appointed as the Fund Commissioner for the Local Unit for the year 2017.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Budd Agency, Inc., is hereby appointed as the Alternate Fund Commissioner for the local unit for the year 2017.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Local Unit's Fund Commissioner is authorized and directed to execute all such documents as required by the Fund.

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, December 7, 2016.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

Resolution No. 16-164 – Appoint Budd Agency Risk Management Consultant.

R 16-164

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY APPOINTING RISK MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT

WHEREAS, Township of Lopatcong has joined the Statewide Insurance Fund, a joint insurance fund as defined in N.J.S.A. 40A:10-36 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, the Bylaws require participating members to appoint a Risk Management Consultant, as those positions are defined in the Bylaws, if requested to do so by the Fund; and

WHEREAS, the Local Unit has complied with relevant law with regard to the appointment of a Risk Management Consultant; and

WHEREAS, THE Fund has requested its members to appoint individuals or entities to that position.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the governing body of the Township of Lopatcong in the County of Warren and State of New Jersey as follows:

1. Township of Lopatcong hereby appoints Budd Agency, Inc., its local Risk Management Consultant.
2. The Township of Lopatcong (authorized representative of the public entity) and Risk Management Consultant are hereby authorized to execute the Risk Management Consultant's Agreement for the year 2017 in the form attached hereto.

Attest:

Name of Entity: Budd Agency, Inc.

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, December 7, 2016.

2017 Risk Management Consultant's Agreement – Authorize Agreement between Budd Agency, Inc., Statewide Insurance Company and the Township of Lopatcong.

Announcement: Council end of year meeting – 12/28/2016

Council Reports:

Councilwoman McCabe – Reported the DPW is finishing up on collection of leaves. Thanked them for all the work they do in this town. Clean Communities funds are being used to purchase garbage cans to be placed at and around the Rally Point at the Municipal Park. The DPW will take care of ordering these cans. She would like to look at Clean Communities for possibly funding equipment. The contract for the LAA is in the final stages and hopefully would be done by year end. Working with insurance carrier to make sure all data is secured. Engraved bricks for the Rally Point walkway can still be ordered. Councilwoman McCabe thanked everyone who voted and supported her during her term of office. She remarked that Lopatcong is a great town and has great residents and volunteers who support the many boards, commissions and committees. Thanked fellow councilmembers and the professionals especially Katrina Campbell and Paul Sterbenz for the opinions and guidance. She thought it important to continue to work with people with positive attitudes and have constructive criticisms who want what is best for the future of Lopatcong. The two new councilmen are very capable and will do a great job and wished them well. She thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve the Township of Lopatcong.

Council President Pryor – Had a meeting with Paul and County Engineer, Bill Gleba on the reduced sign zone for the school. Paul will address this matter under his report. White Township is a no-go with the court shared services. He heard that they went in another direction for \$35,000.00. He reported that last meeting he talked about a consultant for a salary survey to assist the Township going forward and a response from the company did not come in as yet. The Canning Group will provide a proposal to the Township. Refinancing the bonds went perfectly until the night of the election. The ten year interest rates on treasury bonds went from 1.89 to 2.39. There has been difficulty to determine a closing date. The initial savings are not going to happen. There would be only one opportunity to refund the bonds. The outlook right now is \$11,000 in interest per year over the next ten years. The financial advisors advised that the rate is probably as low as it is going to go. The Township's credit rating is only good for 90 days and runs out in January. They have been in touch weekly and the thought is to grab the savings and move forward.

Mayor McKay - Said it makes sense and this is what we should probably do and concurred that we take the savings.

Council President Pryor- Presented Yvonne Reitemeyer with a proclamation for serving the Township over the last six months and read this allowed to everyone present.

Council President Pryor – Asked about the signs that were pulled from Rt. 22 and why the Mayor involved the Police and the DPW.

Mayor McKay – Explained that a complaint came in from a citizen along with a photo that showed campaign signs on the back of a DPW truck. I sent it over to DPW.

Council President Pryor – Said the truck had State plates on it and the highway department.

Mayor McKay – He could not tell this on his phone and eventually they figured that was what it was.

Council President Pryor – Commented that both the Police and the DPW had to be brought into this.

Mayor McKay – For a few minutes he said.

Council President Pryor – Said DOT received two phone calls on this. Noted the Mayor's signs

were also taken down.

Councilman Belcaro – Informed the public that anytime signs are on state highways, the DOT has a right to pick them up and they usually do for one reason or another and they are placed behind the state trooper barracks in Washington.

Councilwoman McCabe – Asked Mayor if they were her signs that he was so concerned about.

Mayor McKay – All signs actually.

Councilman Belcaro – Read a proclamation to Councilwoman McCabe for her service to the Township.

Councilwoman Reitemeyer – Spoke again about the Health and Wellness Fair going to be sponsored by the Middle School next year and the Mayor's Wellness Campaign would be participating. Reminded everyone of the weight loss challenge that will begin in January and be supported by ShopRite. The dog calendar sponsored by the Rec. Committee will be ready soon for purchase. The pool will hold a 50th celebration and the date will be Saturday, May 27th and the time is still to be determined. There will be a ribbon cutting and reenactment of the festivities of the day 50 years ago. The Rec. Committee would like to have their own trust account within the Lopatcong Budget starting next year. Yvonne thanked everyone on Council as well as the professionals and enjoyed serving on Council.

Attorney Campbell – Asked to approve Fair Share Housing. Motion by Councilwoman Reitemeyer, seconded by Councilman Belcaro. Roll call vote:
AYES: Councilman Belcaro, Councilwoman McCabe, Councilwoman Reitemeyer, Council President Pryor, Mayor McKay.
NAYS: None

Attorney Campbell – Asked for a motion to authorize the hirer of an appraiser to be shared with Pohatcong proportionally for the Phillipsburg Mall. Motion by Council President Pryor, seconded by Mayor McKay. Roll call vote:
AYES: Councilman Belcaro, Councilwoman McCabe, Councilwoman Reitemeyer, Council President Pryor, Mayor McKay.
NAYS: None

Engineer Sterbenz – Reported on the PHS Roadway Improvement Project. There are some electric and cable wires that are touching signal equipment in two locations. There was a meeting held with the utility companies and the county and other people involved with the project to rectify this. They would need assistance from JCP & L. Spoke to the County about a school speed zone and correspondence has been put forth regarding this matter to Engineer Glebe. The County is working on this request. They are also looking at lowering the speed limit on Belvidere Road.

Chief of Police – Reported on the monthly activities in the Police Department.

Clerk Dilts – Reported that in June SRECS were sold in June for over \$14,000.00 and again SRECS were sold in November for \$9,600.00.

Approve Department Reports: Motion by Council President Pryor, seconded by Councilwoman McCabe. All in favor.

Payment of Bills: Council President Pryor abstained from JMT bills and Councilwoman Reitemeyer abstained from Verizon bills. \$1,732,764.12 in total. Motion by Councilwoman Reitemeyer, seconded by Councilwoman McCabe. Roll call vote:
AYES: Councilman Belcaro, Councilwoman McCabe, Councilwoman Reitemeyer, Council President Pryor, Mayor McKay.
NAYS: None

Audience Participation: Motion by Councilman Belcaro, seconded by Councilwoman Reitemeyer. All in favor.

Jim Rosa – 5 Plaza Place – Reported pot holes on Plaza Place and Plaza Road and pointed out the fact that there is no drainage. Asked for consideration of repaving the roadway or have drainage installed. The DPW will take care of the potholes. Engineer Sterbenz also indicated that he would meet Brian and the Mayor at the location to take a look at the issues Mr. Rosa is concerned with.

Douglas Steinhardt – Sorry to disappoint you, I'm still alive. Mr. Steinhardt thanked Yvonne Reitemeyer for her time and service to the community. He commented to Councilwoman McCabe that it takes a strong person to be able to sit at the dais and subject yourself to the type of calcalous that comes with public service. I think it takes an even stronger one to be able to sit there month after month and be subjected to the type of personal attacks that were levied against you by people who interestingly enough had at one time championed your mind and your character only to assail them when they couldn't control or corrupt them. Mr. Steinhardt said Councilwoman McCabe made an indelible impression on him as well as the community.

James Mengucci – Belvidere Road – Thanked Yvonne for her service and quick study as well as stability in the job. Thanked Maureen who first road in with the RLL which turned out to be lousy leadership – not responsible Lopatcong leadership. He stated that Councilwoman McCabe served her community well.

Brian Weeks – S. Seventh St. – Thanked Yvonne for stepping in and stepping up and performing a great job for the Township. Thanked Maureen for the phone calls, the conversations, the thought processes and direction she provided when needed. Asked Engineer Sterbenz about he the established school zone on Third Street now that the school is no longer a school.

Dave Lance – Thanked Yvonne for her time on Council. On behalf of the Lopatcong Democrats and being the Chairman and the County Democrats thanked Maureen for her representation and thought she did an outstanding job.

Lori Ciesla – Thanked Yvonne Reitemeyer for serving out the remainder of the former councilwoman's term after she resigned. Hoped she would continue to help out the Township and consider running for office in the near future. Thanked Maureen McCabe for her service and went through the time since they served together noting the highlights as well as some of the disappointments. She made a point to note that the RLL which brought both of them to run for Council turned out to be the biggest mistake. She noted the RLL supporters became abusive to both of them and that the abuse still continues to this day. In fact one of the RLL members verbally attacked Maureen in the parking lot after the last meeting. She noted that many people would miss having her up on the dais. Asked her to think about continuing to help Lopatcong out in some way.

Matt Herzer – Thank Yvonne Reitemeyer as a resident and volunteer. He noted a pleasure serving with her. He noted that he has been coming to the meeting for the last year and it has been a real pleasure getting to know her and how the Township works. He stated he would miss her.

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Councilman Belcaro, seconded by Council President Pryor. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret B. Dilts
Clerk/Administrator

Thomas M. McKay
Mayor