

TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG
REGULAR MEETING

6:30 pm

August 7, 2019

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

A Prayer was offered followed by the Oath of Allegiance.

Mayor Mengucci 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.”

Present – Councilman Belcaro, Councilman Palitto, Councilman Wright, Council President Pryor, Mayor Mengucci. Also present were Attorney Campbell and Engineer Sterbenz.

Motion to come out of Executive Session by Councilman Palitto, seconded by Council President Pryor. All in favor. Attorney Campbell reported the Executive Session was held for one hour and the topics of discussion were just as listed on the agenda.

Public Comment:

John Betz – Questioned No. 7 regarding fall cleanup.

Robert McFarlane – Board of Education President introduced the Superintendent of the Lopatcong School District – Dr. Debra Mercora. Dr. Mercora noted she looks forward to working for Lopatcong Township School District.

Old Business:

Minutes – Executive and Regular Sessions for August 7, 2019. Motion by Councilman Wright, seconded by Council President Pryor. Roll call vote:

AYES: Councilman Belcaro, Councilman Palitto, Councilman Wright, Council President Pryor, Mayor Mengucci.

NAYS: None

New Business:

Ordinance 2019-13 – First reading of an Ordinance Fixing the Salaries, Retainers and Wage Rate of Certain Employees.

2019-13

AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE SALARIES, RETAINERS AND WAGE RATES OF
CERTAIN EMPLOYEES IN THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN
AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY

BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey that the salaries, retainers, and wage rates of officers and employees are as follows:

Police Chief	\$144,000.00-\$158,000.00
Police Lieutenant	\$107,000.00-\$115,000.00
Police Sergeant	\$95,000.00-108,000.00
Police Officer Hiring Rate	\$48,269.00-\$58,000.00
Police Officer Certification Rate	\$52,301.25-\$62,000.00
Patrolman Completion – 1 Year	\$60,664.69-\$70,000.00

Patrolman Completion – 2 Years	\$66,836.84-\$76,000.00
Patrolman Completion – 3 Years	\$73,009.14-\$83,000.00
Patrolman Completion – 4 Years	\$81,521.68-\$91,000.00
Patrolman Completion – 5 Years	\$87,876.44-\$98,000.00
Detective Bureau Assignment	\$2500.00
On-Call Only Detective	\$750.00
Night Differential	\$1.00/Hr.
OIC	\$4.00-\$4.16
Police Matron	\$25.00-\$35.00
School Crossing Guards	\$15.00-\$18.00
Tax Collector	\$62,000.00-\$72,000.00
Municipal Court Judge	\$32,000.00-\$38,000.00
Municipal Court Administrator	\$65,000.00-\$75,000.00

NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that the foregoing Ordinance was introduced to pass on first reading at a regular meeting of the Council of the Township of Lopatcong held on Wednesday, August 7, 2019 and ordered published in accordance with the law. Said Ordinance will be considered for final reading and adoption at a regular meeting of the Township Council to be held on September 4, 2019 at 7:30 pm or as soon thereafter as the Township Council may hear this Ordinance at the Municipal Building, 232 S. Third Street, Phillipsburg, NJ at which time all persons interested may appear for or against the passage of said Ordinance.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

Motion to adopt this Ordinance on first reading by Council President Pryor, seconded by Councilman Wright. Roll call vote:

AYES: Councilman Belcaro, Councilman Palitto, Councilman Wright, Council President Pryor, Mayor Mengucci.

NAYS: None

Competitive Swim Development Program – Approve as an addition to the Swim Less Program at the Lopatcong Pool. Motion by Council President Pryor, seconded by Councilman Palitto.

Roll call vote:

AYES: Councilman Belcaro, Councilman Palitto, Councilman Wright, Council President Pryor, Mayor Mengucci.

NAYS: None

Resolution No. 19-247 – Authorize the Township to enter into a Cooperative Pricing Agreement with the Educational Services Commission of New Jersey. Motion by Councilman Wright, seconded by Councilman Pryor. Roll call vote:

AYES: Councilman Belcaro, Councilman Palitto, Councilman Wright, Council President Pryor, Mayor Mengucci.

NAYS: None

Educational Services Commission of NJ – Approve Township enter into the Cooperative Pricing System Agreement 65MCESCCPS to scan and digitize Township records for long-term storage. Motion by Councilman Wright seconded by Councilman Palitto. Roll call vote:

AYES: Councilman Belcaro, Councilman Palitto, Councilman Wright, Council President Pryor, Mayor Mengucci.

NAYS: None

ACCU Scan – Proposal for the preparation, scanning and digitally storing 30 Board of Adjustment records at an estimated cost of \$10,605.00. Required funds are available per the CFO. **ACCU Scan Document Management System Database** – Approve proposal for \$5,300.00 for two licenses to access database. Required funds are available per the CFO. Motion by Council President Pryor, seconded by Councilman Wright. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilman Belcaro, Councilman Palitto, Councilman Wright, Council President Pryor, Mayor Mengucci.
NAYS: None

2019 Fall Cleanup – Clerk Dilts asked to move forward with the decision after receiving additional quote to award to the company with the lowest responsible quote. Motion by Councilman Wright, seconded by Council President Pryor. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilman Belcaro, Councilman Palitto, Councilman Wright, Council President Pryor, Mayor Mengucci.
NAYS: None

Consent Agenda:

Motion to approve Consent Agenda by Councilman Belcaro, seconded by Councilman Palitto. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilman Belcaro, Councilman Palitto, Councilman Wright, Council President Pryor, Mayor Mengucci.
NAYS: None

Phillipsburg High School Cross Country – Approve use of Township Park parking lot for events planned for October 10th and October 17th from 9:30 am to 2:00 pm.

Resolution No. 19-228 – Refund tax overpayment on Block 99, Lot 2 in the amount of \$33,241.87.

R 19-228

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND
STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO ISSUE A REFUND FOR A TAX OVERPAYMENT FOR
BLOCK 99, LOT 2

WHEREAS, Block 99, Lot 2 made a duplicate payment of \$33,241.87 for the 3rd quarter of 2016 (July 12, 2016 and July 25, 2016; and

WHEREAS, only one of those payments was properly applied to the tax account; and

WHEREAS, the Township has confirmed that both checks were cashed by the Township of Lopatcong; and

WHEREAS, the Township wishes to issue a refund in the amount of \$33,241.87 to the taxpayer for the duplicate payment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Council of the Township of Lopatcong hereby authorizes a refund in the amount of \$33,241.87 to:

Stag GI New Jersey, LLC
1 Federal Street, 23rd Floor
Boston, MA 02110

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, August 7, 2019.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

Resolution No. 19-229 – Refund tax overpayment on Block 134, Lot 5 in the amount of \$4,877.67.

R 19-229

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND
STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO ISSUE A REFUND FOR A TAX OVERPAYMENT FOR
BLOCK 134, Lot 5

WHEREAS, Block 134, Lot 5 more commonly known as 51 Byron Drive is owed by Scott and Carissa Lazier; and

WHEREAS, in October 2017, the Lazier's refinanced their home and as part of the refinance, the lender paid the Lazier's 4th quarter taxes; and

WHEREAS, a copy of the Lazier's settlement statement from the refinance was provided to the Township to show that two payments were made to the Township in October of 2017 (\$2,282.46 and \$1,303.32); and

WHEREAS, these amounts do not equal the full amount of the taxes due for the 4th quarter of 2017, it is believed that the Township Tax Collector provided incorrect figures to the lender; and

WHEREAS, only one of the two payments made by the taxpayers' lender was credited to their account, the payment of \$1,303.32 was not posted to the Lazier's account; and

WHEREAS, Scott Lazier has signed an affidavit that they made a cash payment of \$2,500 for his 2nd quarter 2018 taxes but he does not have a receipt. This payment was not posted to his amount; and

WHEREAS, the Lazier's admit that they have not made any payment towards their 2019 taxes to date; and

WHEREAS, the Lazier's mortgage company has made two payments totaling \$9,458.04 in order to bring the Lazier's tax account current; and

WHEREAS, the Township wishes to correct the Lazier's tax account for the inaccurate information that was provided to their lender and for the failure to post two tax payments; and

WHEREAS, the Township wishes to issue a refund in the amount of \$4,877.67 to the mortgage company to partially reimburse the lender for the payment that it made on the taxpayers' behalf.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Council of the Township of Lopatcong hereby authorizes a refund in the amount of \$4,877.67 to:

Nationstar Mortgage D/B/A Mr. Copper
4000 Horizon Way
Irving, TX 75063

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, August 7, 2019.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

Resolution No. 19-230 – Redeem Tax Sale Certificate No. 2017-025 on Block 58, Lot 24.05 CC007 in the amount of \$24,817.22.

R 19-230

**RESOLUTION #19-230
RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG,
COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY
TO REFUND THE LIENHOLDER FOR BLOCK 58, LOT 24.05, CC007 FOR
SUBSEQUENT PAYMENTS MADE IN ERROR.**

WHEREAS, due to an error in the Lopatcong Tax Office the Township accepted subsequent tax payment from the lienholder of TSC 2017-025 in the amount of \$6,836.86 on December 21, 2018; and

WHEREAS, the Township should not have accepted that subsequent payment because the taxpayer had already made those payments; and

WHEREAS, the holder of TSC 2017-025 is entitled to a refund of their subsequent payment in the amount of \$6,836.86 plus interest through July 3, 2019 in the amount of 656.34.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Council of the Township of Lopatcong hereby authorizes refund payment of \$7,493.20 made payable to:

BV002 TRUST, SERIES 5
c/o BlueVirgo Capital Management
164 Mason Street, 2nd Floor South
Greenwich, CT 06830

CERTIFICATION

I, Margaret B. Dilts, Clerk of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of the resolution adopted by the Township of Lopatcong Council on July 3, 2019.

Margaret B. Dilts, Clerk

Resolution No. 19-231 – Redeem Tax Sale Certificate No. 2016-028 on Block 99, Lot 387 C0525 in the amount of \$1,665.59, Premium \$700.00.

R 19-231

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND
STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING REDEMPTION OF TAX SALE CERTIFICATE
NO. 2016-028 ON BLOCK 99, LOT 387 C0525**

WHEREAS, at the Lopatcong Township Municipal Tax Sale held on October 12, 2016, a lien was sold on Block 99, Lot 387 C0525 also known as 525 Goldfinch Terrace for 2015 delinquent sewer; and

WHEREAS, this lien known as Tax Sale Certificate No. 2016-028 was sold to US Bank Cust For Pro Cap 4 & Crdtrs; and

WHEREAS, on July 19, 2019, mortgage company for the property owner, has satisfied the redemption amount on Certificate No. 2016-028 in the amount of \$1,665.59, Premium \$700.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED on this 7th day of August 2019 that the Chief Financial Officer is authorized to issue a check in the amount of \$24,817.22 for the redemption of Tax Sale Certificate No. 2017-025 to:

US Bank Cust BV002 Trst & Crdtrs
50 S. 16th Street Suite 2050
Philadelphia, PA 19102-2513

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, August 7, 2019.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

Resolution No. 19-232 – Redeem Tax Sale Certificate No. 2016-034 on Block 115.02, Lot 1 C0181 in the amount of \$4,158.71, Premium \$1,800.00.

R 19-232

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING REDEMPTION OF TAX SALE CERTIFICATE NO. 2016-034 ON BLOCK 115.02, LOT 1 C0181

WHEREAS, at the Lopatcong Township Municipal Tax Sale held on October 12, 2016, a lien was sold on Block 115.02, Lot 1 C0181 also known as 181 Horseshoe Court for 2015 delinquent sewer; and

WHEREAS, this lien known as Tax Sale Certificate No. 2016-034 was sold to EB1EMINJ, LLC; and

WHEREAS, on July 12, 2019, mortgage company for the property owner, has satisfied the redemption amount on Certificate No. 2016-034 in the amount of \$4,158.71, Premium \$1,800.00 for the redemption of Tax Sale Certificate No. 2016-034 to:

EB1EMINJ, LLC
P.O. Box 54876
New Orleans, LA 70154

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, August 7, 2019.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

Resolution No. 19-233 – Redeem Tax Sale Certificate No. 2017-085 on Block 117, Lot 9 in the amount of \$2,806.02.

R 19-233

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND
STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING REDEMPTION OF TAX SALE CERTIFICATE
NO. 2017-085 ON BLOCK 117, LOT 9

WHEREAS, at the Lopatcong Township Municipal Tax Sale held on December 6, 2017, a lien was sold on Block 117, Lot 9 also known as 255 Stonehenge Drive for 2016 delinquent sewer; and

WHEREAS, this lien known as Tax Sale Certificate No. 2017-085 was sold to US Bank Cust BV002 Trst & Crdtrs; and

WHEREAS, on July 3, 2019, mortgage company for the property owner, has satisfied the redemption amount on Certificate No. 2017-085 in the amount of \$2,806.02.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOVLED on this 7th day of August 2019, that the Chief Financial Officer is authorized to issue a check in the amount of \$2,806.02 for the redemption of Tax Sale Certificate No. 2017-085 to:

US Bank Cust BV002 Trst & Crdtrs
50 S. 16th Street, Suite 2050
Philadelphia, PA 19102-2513

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, August 7, 2019.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

Resolution No. 19-234 – Redeem Tax Sale Certificate No. 2016-021 on Block 86.03, Lot 6 in the amount of \$45,501.00, Premium \$1,700.00.

R 19-234

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND
STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING REDEMPTION OF TAX SALE CERTIFICATE
NO. 2016-021 ON BLOCK 86.03, LOT 6

WHEREAS, at the Lopatcong Township Municipal Tax Sale held on October 12, 2016, a lien was sold on Block 86.03, Lot 6 also known as 45 Meadowview Drive for 2015 delinquent sewer; and

WHEREAS, this lien known as Tax Sale Certificate No. 2016-021 was sold to US Bank Cust BV002 Trst & Crdtrs; and

WHEREAS, on July 12, 2019, mortgage company for the property owner, has satisfied the redemption amount on Certificate No. 2016-021 in the amount of \$5,501.00, Premium \$1,700.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, on this 7th day of August 2019, that the Chief Financial Officer is authorized to issue a check in the amount of \$5,501.00, Premium \$1,700.00 for the redemption of Tax Sale Certificate No. 2016-021 to:

US Bank Cust BV002 Trst & Crdtrs
50 S. 16th St., Suite 2050

Philadelphia, PA 19102-2513

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, August 7, 2019.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

Resolution No. 19-235 – Redeem Tax Sale Certificate No. 2017-106 on Block 140, Lot 10 in the amount of \$1,394.14.

R 19-235

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND
STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING REDEMPTION OF TAX SALE CERTIFICATE
NO. 2017-106 ON BLOCK 140, LOT 10

WHEREAS, at the Lopatcong Township Municipal Tax Sale held on December 6, 2017, a lien was sold on Block 140, Lot 10 also known as 48 Haze Way for 2016 delinquent sewer; and

WHEREAS, this lien known as Tax Sale Certificate No. 2017-106 was sold to US Bank Cust BV002 Trst & Crdtrs; and

WHEREAS, on June 26, 2019, mortgage company for the property owner, has satisfied the redemption amount on Certificate No. 2017-106 in the amount of \$1,394.14.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, on this 7th day of August, 2019, that the Chief Financial Officer is authorized to issue a check in the amount of \$1,394.14 for the redemption of Tax Sale Certificate No. 2017-106 to:

US Bank Cust BV002 Trst & Crdtrs
50 S. 16th Street, Suite 2050
Philadelphia, PA 19102-2513

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, August 7, 2019.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

Resolution No. 19-236 – Correct Sewer Account for Block 69, Lot 5.

R 19-236

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND
STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO CORRECT THE SEWER ACCOUNT FOR BLOCK 69, LOT 5

WHEREAS, the Township of Lopatcong has been provided with receipts of sewer payments for Block 69, Lot 5 which were not applied to the taxpayer's account; and

WHEREAS, the Township wishes to apply these payments to the account and cancel any interest associated with the failure to timely post these payments.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Township of Lopatcong hereby authorizes the Township Tax Office to apply the following payments to Block 69, Lot 5:

7/27/2017

\$339.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Lopatcong Township Tax Office shall cancel any and all interest resulting from the failure to timely post these payments.

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, August 7, 2019.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

Resolution No. 19-237 – Correct Tax Account for Block 82, Lot 10.

R 19-237

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO CORRECT THE TAX ACCOUNT FOR BLOCK 82, LOT 10

WHEREAS, the Township of Lopatcong has been provided with receipts for tax payments for Block 82, Lot 10 which were not applied to the taxpayer's account; and

WHEREAS, the Township wishes to apply these payments to the account and cancel any interest associated with the failure to timely post these payments.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of Lopatcong hereby authorizes the Township Tax Office to apply the following payments to Block 82, Lot 10:

1/14/2015

\$1803.95

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Lopatcong Township Tax Office shall cancel any and all interest resulting from the failure to timely post these payments.

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, August 7, 2019.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

Resolution No. 19-238 – Correct Sewer Account for Block 125, Lot 2.

R 19-238

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND
STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO CORRECT THE SEWER ACCOUNT FOR BLOCK 125, LOT

2

WHEREAS, the Township of Lopatcong has been provided with receipts for sewer payments for Block 125, Lot 2 which were not applied to the taxpayer's account; and

WHEREAS, the Township wishes to apply these payments to the account and cancel any interest associated with the failure to timely post these payments.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of Lopatcong hereby authorizes the Township Tax Office to apply the following payments to Block 125, Lot 2:

5/31/2017 \$170.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township of Lopatcong Tax Office shall cancel any and all interest resulting from the failure to timely post these payments.

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, August 7, 2019.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

Resolution No. 19-239 – Correct Tax Account for Block 58, Lot 24.01.

R 19-239

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND
STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO CORRECT THE TAX ACCOUNT FOR BLOCK 58, LOT
24.01

WHEREAS, the Township of Lopatcong has been provided with receipts for tax payments for Block 58, Lot 24.01 which were not applied to the taxpayer's account; and

WHEREAS, the Township wishes to apply these payments to the account and cancel any interest associated with the failure to timely post these payments; and

WHEREAS, the taxpayer had a payment posted to this account that was not made by the taxpayer and should be removed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of Lopatcong hereby authorizes the Township Tax Office to apply the following payments to Block 58, Lot 24.01:

December 20, 2014 \$205.62

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Lopatcong Township Tax Office shall cancel any and all interest resulting from the failure to timely post this payment.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Lopatcong Township Tax Office shall remove the following payment from the tax account for Block 58, Lot 24.01 as it was not made by taxpayer.

December 31, 2016 \$76.92

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 to be a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by Council at a meeting held on Wednesday, August 7, 2019.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

Resolution No. 19-240 – Refund payment by lienholder for Block 139, Lot 63.

R 19-240

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND
STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO REFUND PAYMENT BY LIENHOLDER FOR BLOCK 139,
LOT 63

WHEREAS, Light Properties, LLC is the holder of TSC 2017-104 on Block 139, Lot 63; and

WHEREAS, on January 30, 2018, the lienholder made a subsequent payment for taxes and sewer; however, the subsequent payment for sewer in the amount of \$618.71 was never posted to the account; and

WHEREAS, the Township has confirmed that the payment was in fact made and the Tax Collector signed an affidavit confirming that she received a check from the lienholder for the sewer payment; and

WHEREAS, the Township wishes to reimburse the lienholder for the payment plus the interest that has accrued on this payment in the amount totaling \$787.93.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of Lopatcong hereby authorizes the refund of \$787.93 made payable to:

Light Properties
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 a meeting held on Wednesday, August 7, 2019.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

Resolution No. 19-241 – Extend payment of Third Quarter Taxes to August 26, 2019.

R 19-241

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND
STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING EXTENDING PAYMENT OF THIRD
QUARTER TAXES

WHEREAS, the annual tax bills were not mailed by the statutory mailing date pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:4-66; and

WHEREAS, the mailing of the annual tax bills occurred August 1, 2019; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Statute, no interest may be charged for 25 days after mailing.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey, that the third installment of the 2019 tax bill shall be due and payable without penalty by August 26, 2019. Any payments received after that date will accrue interest back to August 1, 2019.

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, August 7, 2019.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

Resolution No. 19-242 – Correct Tax Account for Block 104, Lot 10.

R 19-242

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO CORRECT THE TAX ACCOUNT FOR BLOCK 104, LOT 10

WHEREAS, the Township of Lopatcong has been provided with receipts for tax payments for Block 104, Lot 10, which were not applied to the taxpayer's account; and

WHEREAS, the Township wishes to apply these payments to the account and cancel any interest associated with the failure to timely post these payments; and

WHEREAS, the taxpayer had a payment posted to its account that was not made by the taxpayer and should be removed.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Council of the Township of Lopatcong hereby authorizes the Township Tax Office to apply the following payments to Block 104, Lot 10:

3Q2013	\$1,045.32	2Q2016	\$998.98
3Q2014	\$1,638.76	3Q2016	\$1,682.13
4Q2014	\$1,638.76	4Q2016	\$1,781.59
2Q2015	\$993.62	1Q2017	\$1,667.10
3Q2015	\$1,608.69	2Q2017	\$1,064.74
4Q2015	\$1,508.69	3Q2017	\$1,746.90
1Q2016	\$1,602.33	4Q2017	\$1,746.89

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Lopatcong Township Tax Office shall cancel any and all interest resulting from the failure to timely post this payment.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Lopatcong Township Tax Office shall remove the following payment from the tax account for Block 104, Lot 10 as it was not made by the taxpayer:

12/31/13	\$1,045.32
12/31/14	\$3,274.01
11/7/17	\$12,604.36

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, August 7, 2019.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

Tilcon Invoice – Approve invoice submitted by Tilcon, New York for the 2019 Resurfacing Program work completed in Morris Park.

Key Tech Laboratory – Approve invoice submitted by Key Tech for service provided on the Baltimore Street Road Construction Project.

Top-Line Construction – Approve invoice submitted by Top Line Construction in the amount of \$313,645.61 and Change Order No. 1 for the Baltimore Street Improvement Project.

Resolution No. 19-243 – PBA Local No. 56 Agreement with Police Department.

R 19-243

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A COLLECTIVE NEGOTIATIONS AGREEMENT BIND BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG AND THE NEW JERSEY POLICE BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION LOCAL NUMBER 56

WHEREAS, the Township of Lopatcong and the New Jersey Police Benevolent Association Local Number 56, for parties to have a collective negotiation agreement; and

WHEREAS, the collective negotiations agreement expired on December 31, 2017; and

WHEREAS, the parties have engaged in collective negotiations and have agreed upon a successor agreement, which the agreement is attached hereto; and

WHEREAS, governing body of the Township of Lopatcong desires to authorize the execution of the new agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council, Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey that the collective negotiations agreement bind between the Township of Lopatcong and the New Jersey Police Benevolent Association Local Number 56 with a term of January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2020 in the form is attached hereto is hereby approved.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Mayor and the Clerk are authorizing directly to execute and attest to the collective negotiation 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, August 7, 2019.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

Resolution 19-244 – Appoint Kristin Glinko Certified Municipal Court Administrator.

R 19-244

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND
STATE OF NEW JERSEY APPOINTING KRISTIN GLINKO AS A CERTIFIED
MUNICIPAL COURT ADMINISTRATOR

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey do hereby appoint Kristin Glinko as a Certified Municipal Court Administrator; and

WHEREAS, Kristin Glinko has been examined by the State of New Jersey Municipal Court Administrator Certification Board and has been declared certified as of June 18, 2019.

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 appoint Kristin Glinko as a Certified Court Administrator as of June 18, 2019.

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, August 7, 2019.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

Denville Line Painting – Approve invoice for Baltimore Street line painting in the amount of \$4,293.84.

Resolution No. 19-245 – Correct Tax Account for Block 58, Lot 24.05, CC006

R 19-245

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG,
COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY
TO CORRECT THE TAX ACCOUNT FOR BLOCK 58, LOT 24.05, CC006.**

WHEREAS, it has come to the Township's attention that an added assessment for Block 58, Lot 24.05 was improperly posted to the tax account for Block 58, Lot 24.05, CC006 in 2016; and

WHEREAS, the added assessment has been properly applied to the correct account, but it needs to be removed from this taxpayer's account; and

WHEREAS, correcting this account and removing any interest and penalties associated with it will still leave a delinquency to the account; however, if the taxpayer is able to pay this delinquency on or before November 10, 2019 the Township is willing to waive all interest and penalties associated with that delinquency.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Council of the Township of Lopatcong hereby authorizes the Township Tax Office to remove the added assessment of \$40,538.35 placed on this account in April of 2016 and cancelling any interest associated with that added assessment.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, if the taxpayer pays the delinquency of \$5,862.71 plus its 3rd and 4th quarter of 2019 taxes on or before November 10, 2019 the tax account for Block

58, Lot 24.05, CC006 shall have a zero balance. If the delinquency is not paid by November 10, 2019, it shall continue to accrue all interest and penalties from when it became delinquent in 2016.

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, August 7, 2019.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

South Warren Municipal Alliance Grant – Execute contract with Warren County Dept. of Human Services for the grant term of 7/1/2019-6/30/2020.

Council Reports:

Councilman Palitto – The town wide yard sale to benefit the Fire Department is scheduled for September 14th. The cost of the permit is \$10.

Councilman Belcaro – Reported on the Spotted Lantern Fly. It is here in Warren and Hunterdon County. The bug is from China but is very destructive; they damage and destroy timber and ornamental industry and plants in your back yard. You have to kill the bug and scrape the eggs they plant on the trees.

Councilman Wright – No report.

Council President Pryor - Congratulated the Chief on a successful National Night Out. He read aloud a note from the Superintendent of the Phillipsburg School District, Greg Troxell, a thank you for the Resource Officers at the high school noting the professionalism that Chief Garcia and his team provides is second to none. Lastly, it was pointed out to him that a notice that was included in the recent mailing of the tax bills included a flyer entitled “Solutions to Storm Water Pollution”, which included language about how to maintain your lawn may conflict with how the Township handles properties that do not keep their grass cut. Attorney Campbell noted that the Zoning Officer makes his determinations with regard to high grass by following the code regarding health and safety standards.

Mayor Mengucci – Asked for a motion to allow the Chief of Police to begin the hiring process for a new officer. Motion by Councilman Wright, seconded by Councilman Palitto. Roll call vote:

AYES: Councilman Palitto, Councilman Belcaro, Councilman Wright, Council President Pryor, Mayor Mengucci.

NAYS: None

Mayor Mengucci noted that the Mayor’s letter has been included in the recent mailing of the tax bills providing an update on the business of the town.

Engineer Sterbenz – Updated the public on the projects that have been completed – Morris Park Roads and Baltimore Street repaving. Flashing school speed limit project on Belvidere Road will be completed in the month of August as well as new flashing school speed limit signs on Strykers Road. The TAP Project Plans were completed in July and submitted to the Dept. of Transportation. Sally Port Project is 60% complete at this point. A preconstruction meeting was held with the DOT on the Bridge Development work and permits have been issued and work is being done on Rt. 22. Red School Lane application to the DOT would be to finish the road and redo the signal. South Fifth Street will be resurfaced this year after plans are finished which will include curb work.

Chief Garcia – Reported a view obstruction on Baltimore and Strykers Roads to the north and Larken will address this matter tomorrow. Also, Strykers and Powderhorn had a similar type problem and the property owner addressed that issue. Plaza and James are missing a stop sign.

Department Reports – Motion to approve by Councilman Palitto, seconded by Councilman Belcaro. All in favor.

Payment of Bills – Council President Pryor recused himself from the JMT bills. Also, Council President Pryor questioned a payment to Stag GI. Attorney Campbell stated this was due to an overpayment for on their tax account. Motion to approve payment of bills by Councilman Belcaro, seconded by Council President Pryor. Roll call vote:

AYES: Councilman Belcaro, Councilman Palitto, Councilman Wright, Council President Pryor, Mayor Mengucci.

NAYS: None

Audience Participation:

Jack Siminof – Plaza Road – Concerns regarding snow plowing of Plaza Road and James Avenue. Site concerns on Strykers Road. Ordinance 19-14 - stop sign at intersection of Plaza Road and James Avenue with stop sign on the right side on Plaza Road. Motion by Mayor Mengucci, seconded by Councilman Wright. Roll call vote:

AYES: Councilman Belcaro, Councilman Palitto, Councilman Wright, Council President Pryor, Mayor Mengucci.

NAYS: None

Resident – 36 Buckley Hill Drive - Last week received a notice from Zoning Officer regarding two chickens on their property. They have had them for 3 years. He said nowhere in any of the ordinances does it say you are not allowed to have poultry. The ordinance does not fit their situation. It was noted that there are rats. They have pest control every 90 days. There are no rats. Attorney Campbell will look into the matter and respond back.

John Betz – Made a statement regarding affordable housing. Asked about Resolution No. 25.

Lori Ciesla – Discussed Music in the Park and rescheduling bands. Discussed the lineup for Community Day; this will be posted on the website. She stated that she has \$6500.00 pledged for fireworks. Motion to authorize \$6500.00 for fireworks supplied by Garden State Fire Works by Councilman Belcaro, seconded by Councilman Wright. Roll call vote:

AYES: Councilman Belcaro, Councilman Palitto, Councilman Wright, Council President Pryor, Mayor Mengucci.

NAYS: None

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Councilman Belcaro, seconded by Councilman Wright. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC
Clerk/Administrator

James E. Mengucci
Mayor

