

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Township of Liberty was held in the Municipal Building, 349 Mountain Lake Road, Great Meadows on 5 March 2014. The meeting was opened by Mayor John Inscho with Adequate Notice of Meeting and the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:02 p.m.

Present: Mayor John Inscho; Deputy Mayor Dan Grover; Ronald Petersen, and Peter Karcher

Absent: Carl Cummins

Also, Present: Roger Skoog, Municipal Attorney; and, Diane M Pflugfelder, Municipal Clerk/Administrator

REPORTS

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Steve Romanowitch, CPWM, presented the following verbal report:

- ✓ It was reported that the salt barn is almost full
- ✓ A complaint was received regarding water in the road. The issue was discovered to be a private matter and has been addressed.
- ✓ Prep work has begun in anticipation of paving on the Hillcrest Road drains
- ✓ The previous fire extinguisher service has gone out of business and Adams of Rockaway, NJ has agreed to take Liberty Township on as a new customer.

MUNICIPAL ZONING

A pre-printed report was received from the Municipal Zoning Official for January-February 2014 and presented to members of the Township Committee for review

MUNICIPAL CLERK/ADMINISTRATOR

A pre-printed report was received from the Municipal Clerk/Administrator for January 2014 and presented to members of the Township Committee for review.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion by Ron Petersen to adopt the public and executive session minutes of 6 February 2014 carried. Mr. Grover abstained.

A motion by Ron Petersen to adopt the public and executive session minutes of 27 February 2014 carried.

OLD BUSINESS

ORDINANCE #2014.002, Chapter 5, Amendments. A motion by John Inscho to open Public Hearing on Ordinance #2014.002 carried. A motion to close Public Hearing on Ordinance #2014.002 carried. The Liberty Township LandUse Board asked for additional time to review the Ordinance as proposed. No further action taken.

NEW BUSINESS

INTRODUCTION OF BUDGET 2014

Following brief discussion, a motion by John Inscho to introduce the 2014 Municipal Budget carried. The budget will be published 28 March 2014 and scheduled for public hearing and considered of adoption on 3 April 2014.

Vote: aye - Karcher
 aye - Petersen
 absent - Cummins
 aye - Grover
 aye - Inscho

PAY-TO-PLAY ORDINANCE

Following discussion, the Attorney and Municipal Clerk shall prepare a draft Pay-to-Play Ordinance for the Township Committee to review.

FIREWORKS PROGRAM 2014

A motion by Ron Petersen authorizing Mayor Inscho to execute the contract between Interstate Fireworks Inc., PO Box 260, Rowland, PA 18457, and the Township of Liberty to conduct a fireworks display on Community Day, 14 June 2014, with a rain date 15 June 2014 carried.

A motion by Ron Petersen to adopt the following Resolutions carried.

Resolution #2014.021
 June 2014 Community Day Fireworks Event

WHEREAS, Liberty Township Recreation Commission has scheduled a Community Day Fireworks Event for 14 June 2014, rain date 15 June 2014, to be held on the municipal property located at Block 52, Lot 42, 137 Lakeside Drive West; and

WHEREAS, it is desired that the Township sponsor a fireworks display for the entertainment of the residents during the Community Day event; and

WHEREAS, the Mountain Lake Fire Company will be in attendance.

BE IT RESOLVED, By the Township Committee of the Township of Liberty, Warren County, New Jersey that the Township of Liberty Township Committee hereby grants permission for and agrees to sponsor a display for fireworks to be performed by Interstate Fireworks Inc., PO Box 260, Rowland, PA 18457, telephone number 570.685.4217, on 14 June 2014, rain date 15 June 2014, provided that Interstate Fireworks Inc provide the Township of Liberty with a Certificate of Insurance naming the municipality as additionally insured in a form acceptable to the Municipal Attorney.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, By the Township Committee of the Township of Liberty, Warren County, New Jersey that the Township of Liberty Township Committee waives all liability for any municipal structure located upon the beach area of Block 52, Lot 42 which is situated within the fallout zone of the 2014 fireworks display area

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a true copy of this Resolution shall be forwarded to the New Jersey Division of Fire Safety.

Vote: aye - Karcher
aye - Petersen
absent - Cummins
aye - Grover
aye - Inscho

John Inscho,
Mayor

RESOLUTION

A motion by Ron Petersen to adopt the following Resolution carried.

Resolution #2014.022
Deferred Local
District School Tax

WHEREAS, the local district school tax for the fiscal year July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014 was raised in the 2013 tax levy in the amount of \$4,886,829.00.

WHEREAS, the statutes permit the deferral of the cash liability of such school tax up to 50% of the school tax levy or \$2,443,414.50.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Township of Liberty, that the deferred school tax for the local school district remain unchanged at \$1,520,074.75.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that two certified copies of this resolution be filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services.

Vote: aye - Karcher
aye - Petersen
absent - Cummins
aye - Grover
aye - Inscho

John Inscho,
Mayor

A motion by John Inscho to adopt the following Resolution carried.

Resolution #2014.023
Appointment of a Fund Commissioner to the
Public Alliance Insurance Coverage Fund

BE IT RESOLVED, By the Township of Liberty, County of Warren, State of New Jersey, that it hereby appoints Diane M Pflugfelder as the Fund Commissioner and Dan Grover as the Alternate Fund Commissioner to the Public Alliance Insurance Coverage Fund; and

BE IT RESOLVED That copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the following:

1. Diane M Pflugfelder, Fund Commissioner
2. Dan Grover, Alternate Fund Commissioner
3. Public Alliance Insurance Coverage Fund

Vote: aye - Karcher
 aye - Petersen
 absent - Cummins
 aye - Grover
 aye - Inscho

John Inscho,
 Mayor

A motion by Ron Petersen to adopt the following Resolution carried.

Resolution #2014.024
 Self-Examination of Budget

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-78b has authorized the Local Finance Board to adopt rules that permit municipalities in sound fiscal condition to assume the responsibility, normally granted to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services, of conducting the annual budget examination; and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 5:30-7 was adopted by the Local Finance Board on 11 February 1997; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-7.2 through 7.5, the Township of Liberty has been declared eligible to participate in the program by the Division of Local Government Services, and the Chief Financial Officer has determined that the Township meets the necessary conditions to participate in the program for the 2011 budget year.

BE IT RESOLVED By the Township Committee of the Township of Liberty that in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:30-7.6a & 7.6b and based upon the Chief Financial Officer's certification, the Township Committee has found the budget has met the following requirements:

1. That with reference to the following items, the amounts have been calculated pursuant to law and appropriated as such in the budget:
 - a. Payment of interest and debt redemption charges
 - b. Deferred charges and statutory expenditures
 - c. Cash deficit of preceding year
 - d. Reserve for uncollected taxes
 - e. Other reserves and non-disbursement items
 - f. Any inclusions of amounts required for school purposes.
2. That the provisions relating to limitation on increases of appropriations pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.2 and appropriations for exceptions to limits on appropriations found at N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.3 et seq., are fully met (complies with CAP law).
3. That the budget is in such form, arrangement, and content as required by the Local Budget Law and N.J.A.C. 5:30-4 and 5:30-5.
4. That pursuant to the Local Budget Law:
 - a. All estimates of revenue are reasonable, accurate and correctly stated,
 - b. Items of appropriation are properly set forth
 - c. In itemization, form, arrangement and content, the budget will permit the exercise of the comptroller function within the municipality.
5. The budget and associated amendments have been introduced and publicly advertised in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Local Budget Law, except that failure to meet the deadlines of N.J.S.A. 40A:4-5 shall not prevent such certification.
6. That all other applicable statutory requirements have been fulfilled.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That a copy of this resolution will be forwarded to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services upon adoption.

Vote: aye - Karcher
aye - Petersen
absent - Cummins
aye - Grover
aye - Inscho

John Inscho,
Mayor

PAYMENT OF BILLS

A motion by Dan Grover to adopt the following Resolution carried.

Resolution #2014.025
Payment of Bills

RESOLVED, That the township committee of the Township of Liberty, does hereby authorize the Finance Department to pay all vouchers when properly endorsed and approved by at least 3/5 majority of the township committee in the amount of \$452,471.00.

Vote: aye - Karcher
aye - Petersen
absent - Cummins
aye - Grover
aye - Inscho

John Inscho,
Mayor

PUBLIC COMMENT was opened at 7:11 pm.

Phil Woolridge – Mr. Woolridge presented the proposed Liberty Township 2014 Environmental Program schedule.

At 7:14 pm a motion by John Inscho to adopt the following Resolution carried.

Resolution #2014.026

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act P.L. 1975, Chapter 231 permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exists; and

WHEREAS, the governing body may wish to discuss any of the following conditions; confidential provisions of Federal Law or State Statute; information that may impair receipt of federal funding; invasion of individual privacy; collective bargaining agreement; real property negotiations; litigation; and, personnel and personnel policy. Minutes will be kept and once the matter involving the confidentiality of the above no longer requires that confidentiality, then the minutes can be made public.

- ✓ Contractual – Security Program

BE IT RESOLVED, That the public be excluded from this meeting.

Vote: aye - Karcher
aye - Petersen
absent - Cummins
aye - Grover
aye - Inscho

John Inscho,
Mayor

At 7:36 pm, a motion by Mayor Inscho to reconvene the public meeting carried. Mayor Inscho stated that during executive session contractual matters were discussed.

ADJOURNMENT - There being no further business, a motion by Mayor Inscho to adjourn the meeting carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

Diane M Pflugfelder RMC/MMC
Municipal Clerk/Administrator
Minutes Approved 3 April 2014