

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Township of Liberty was held in the Municipal Building, 349 Mountain Lake Road, Great Meadows on 1 October 2015. The meeting was opened by Mayor John Inscho with Adequate Notice of Meeting and the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor John Inscho; Carl Cummins; Ronald Petersen, and Peter Karcher

Absent: Deputy Mayor Dan Grover

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

REPORTS

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Chuck Harvey, Assistant Road Supervisor, presented the following verbal report:

- ✓ The crack fill process is progressing on Marble Hill Road. A third pallet of product will be acquired
- ✓ Pavilion retention wall block are ordered

WARREN COUNTY FREEHOLDERS

Jason Sarnoski, Warren County Freeholder Deputy Director, reported that the Warren County Annex Building Complex with Prosecutor's Office was now complete. The court case with court room II visibility has been settled and that room is constitutionally compliant. He informed those present of upcoming Warren County events, the distribution of an Economic Development Counsel newsletter and OEM preparedness for the forecasted storm this weekend.

MUNICIPAL ZONING

A pre-printed report was received from the Municipal Zoning Official for September 2015 and placed on file

MUNICIPAL CLERK/ADMINISTRATOR

A pre-printed report was received from the Municipal Clerk/Administrator for September 2015 and placed on file

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion by Carl Cummins to adopt the public and executive session minutes of 10 September 2015 carried. Pete Karcher and Ron Petersen abstained.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

CHAPTER 28, ALARMS

Review of false alarm data supplied by Mountain Lake Fire Chief to be carried to next Township Committee meeting.

RIGHT-TO-KNOW SURVEY

Chuck Harvey reported that he had acquired two quotes and was unable to secure a third. Discussion on quotes carried to next Township Committee meeting.

BLOCK 51, LOT 1.01 – ZSILAVETA

Attorney Skoog reported that a lien of \$15,637.00 exists on Block 51, Lot 1.01. He shall pursue the redemption process requiring notice to the original land owner.

VETERANS EXEMPTION

A Veterans Exemption Ordinance from Galloway Township, New Jersey was presented to the Township Committee as a sample for their consideration of applicability to Liberty Township.

NEW BUSINESS

WARREN COUNTY MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE PROGRAM

A motion by Ron Petersen authorizing Mayor Inscho to execute the FY 2016 Municipal Alliance County Contract with the Township of Liberty carried.

WARREN COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE FARMLAND PRESERVATION PLAN

A letter of 14 September 2015 was received from Warren County Department of Land Preservation regarding the Update to Comprehensive Farmland Preservation Plan. Further inquiry will be made of Corey Tierney, Warren County CADB Representative, and how this impacts Liberty Township.

BLUE AND RED LIGHT PERMITS

A motion by Ron Petersen authorizing Mayor Inscho to execute a Red Light/Siren Permit for Mountain Lake Fire Chief Frank Jalosky and Blue Light Permits for Patrick Digney, Sean Newkirk, Nick Vazquez, Edwin Mata and Khilian Bernard carried. Mayor Inscho abstained.

HEPATITIS INOCULATION FUND

A letter of 2 September 2015 was received from New Jersey Department of Health, Division of Epidemiology, Environmental and Occupational Health announcing the Hepatitis Inoculation Fund. A motion by Carl Cummins authorizing the Grant application for reimbursement of Mountain Lake Fire Company Members hepatitis B inoculations and titers in the amount of \$3,200.00 carried.

NJDOT FY 2016 STATE AID PROGRAM

A letter of was received announcing the New Jersey Department of Transportation FY 2016 State Aid Program for funding local transportation projects. A motion by Ron Petersen to adopt the following Resolution carried.

Resolution #2015.073

Approval to submit a Grant Application and execute a Grant Contract with the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the Pequest Road Improvements Project

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Liberty Township Committee formally approves the grant application for the above stated project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Municipal Clerk are hereby authorized to submit an electronic grant application identified as #00204 application ID from NJDOT SAGE to the New Jersey Department of transportation on behalf of the Township of Liberty.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Municipal Clerk are hereby authorized to sign the grant agreement on behalf of the Township of Liberty and that their signature constitutes acceptance of the terms and conditions of the grant agreement and approves the execution of the grant agreement.

Vote: aye - Karcher
aye - Petersen
aye - Cummins

John Inscho,
Mayor

absent - Grover
aye - Inscho

RESOLUTIONS

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

Resolution #2015.074
Super Bowl Raffle 2016

WHEREAS, Mountain Lake Fire Company, 99 Tamarack Road, Belvidere, New Jersey 07823, is the licensee on the application to conduct an Off-Premises Merchandise Draw Raffle on 7 February 2016 to be held at Mountain Lake Fire Company, 99 Tamarack Road, Belvidere, New Jersey 07823 to be held between 4:00 pm - 11:00 pm.; and

WHEREAS, the appropriate application forms and fees have been submitted to the Municipal Clerk; and

WHEREAS, there appears to be no reason to deny the aforesaid applications.

BE IT RESOLVED By the Township Committee of the Township of Liberty, County of Warren, State of New Jersey

1. The off-premises raffle application is approved contingent to the Legalized Games of Chance Control Commission adoption of aforesaid application.

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

John Inscho,
Mayor

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

Resolution #2015.075
Stephen Romanowitch

WHEREAS, Stephen Romanowitch served as Certified Public Works Manager within the Township of Liberty, Warren County, New Jersey from August 1994 to September 2015; and

WHEREAS, Stephen Romanowitch has become a time tested institution at Liberty Township;
and

WHEREAS, Stephen Romanowitch is an exemplary employee of Liberty Township; and

WHEREAS, Stephen Romanowitch is a well-respected citizen and supervisor; and

WHEREAS, Stephen Romanowitch has made outstanding and unique contributions that positively impacted upon the daily operations of the municipality; and

WHEREAS, Stephen Romanowitch has an easy-going/conscientious demeanor which fostered a

positive work environment bringing out the best in the DPW staff and in turn a positive working relationship with the residents of Liberty Township; and

WHEREAS, Stephen Romanowitch demonstrated his dedication during the mudslide of September 2011. Once again, he proved that his concern was foremost the safety and needs of the Liberty Township residents; and

WHEREAS, Stephen Romanowitch never missed a meeting of the Township Committee; and

WHEREAS, Stephen Romanowitch conducted road inspections, storm aftermath and patriotic displays on behalf of Liberty Township above and beyond his regularly scheduled work hours; and

WHEREAS, Stephen Romanowitch’s fiscal responsibility cannot be underestimated; and

WHEREAS, on Saturday 3 October 2015, a reception shall be held in his honor at the Cat Hollow Gun Club facility in Great Meadows, New Jersey; and

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Liberty that best wishes are hereby extended to Steph Romanowitch upon the occasion of his retirement from a distinguished career during which he has fostered respect and devotion among his colleagues, and promoted excellence in achievement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Township Committee that best wishes are hereby extended to Stephen Romanowitch for an exemplary career that has spanned over two decades of dedicated community service and which has provided a standard of excellence for all to know and emulate.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Township Committee that upon the occasion of his retirement from the people of Liberty Township, Stephen Romanowitch is recognized and Honored for providing a model of commitment to all future municipal employees and Best Wishes are extended to him in his retirement and future endeavors.

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

John Inscho,
Mayor

PAYMENT OF BILLS

A motion by Pete Karcher to adopt the following Resolution carried.

Resolution #2015.076
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 \$437,122.55.

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

John Inscho,
Mayor

PUBLIC COMMENT was opened at 7:19 pm.

Alice Bechok – Ms. Bechok requested that the speed monitoring device be placed upon Lakeside Drive West.

Dan Gaeta – Mr. Gaeta announced that the Recreation Commission was reviewing the beach and lifeguards policies. Mayor Inscho requested that their comments be submitted to the Municipal Attorney for consideration in the documentation he has been preparing.

Mathew Cassini – Mathew Cassini presented his proposal for the construction of a recreation storage shed at Free Union Field as his Eagle Scout Project. With the donation of a storage shed at Free Union Field for recreation storage, it was suggested that Mathew Cassini consider the construction of backstop storage facilities on each ball field for his Eagle Scout project.

Lynn Gilmore – Ms Gilmore inquired into the posting of road signage on Lakeside Drive West where the road narrows to one lane. She questioned the origin of a dock enclosure concept around the bathing portion of Mountain Lake; the financial benefit; and, the potential biological restrictions of water flow with a dock.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 7:36 pm a motion by John Inscho to adopt the following Resolution carried.

RESOLUTION #2015.077

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 Township Committee 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.

- ✓ Collective Bargaining Agreement – Municipal Court
- ✓ Litigation – Block 61, Lot 64.02
- ✓ Litigation – Roes Island
- ✓ Personnel Policy – Beach Personnel Policies

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

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

John Inscho,
Mayor

At 8:15 pm, a motion by Mayor Inscho to reconvene the public meeting carried. Mayor Inscho stated that during executive session matters of litigation, personnel policy, and contractual agreement were discussed. Action to follow.

BELVIDERE SHARED MUNICIPAL COURT

Following discussion in executive session, a motion by Mayor Inscho to propose the following carried; Liberty Township is accepting the terms of the previously provided Agreement with the Town of Belvidere for Shared Municipal Court, if Belvidere agrees to provide Liberty Township with a statement of all costs and expenses incurred by the Town of Belvidere for the operation of the shared Municipal Court.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Diane M Pflugfelder RMC/MMC
Municipal Clerk/Administrator
Minutes Approved 5 November 2015