

PUBLIC COMMENTS – for agenda items only.

Motion by Mr. Cryan, seconded by Mr. Milkowski and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Township Committee opened the public comment portion of the meeting.

There were no comments from the public.

Motion by Mr. Cryan, seconded by Mr. Laul and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Township Committee closed the public comment portion of the meeting.

2015 BUDGET INTRODUCTION

Resolution No. 26-2015 - Delay in Budget Introduction

Motion by Mr. Cryan, seconded by Mr. Laul and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Township Committee approved Resolution No. 26-2015 as written below.

**TOWNSHIP OF LEBANON
COUNTY OF HUNTERDON
STATE OF NEW JERSEY
RESOLUTION NO. 26-2015**

WHEREAS, under provisions of N.J.S.A.40A:4-5, a municipality shall introduce the Local Municipal Budget no later than March 14 of the fiscal year; and,

WHEREAS, the Township of Lebanon has delayed the introduction of the 2015 Municipal Budget past the statutory deadline; and,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Lebanon, Hunterdon County, New Jersey, that the Township of Lebanon hereby petitions the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to allow a delayed introduction of the 2015 Lebanon Township Municipal Budget; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this Resolution shall be forwarded to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services, 101 South Broad Street, P.O. Box 803, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0803.

Resolution No. 27-2015- Special Item of Revenue~

Motion by Mr. Laul, seconded by Mr. Cryan and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Township Committee approved Resolution No. 27-2015 as written below.

**TOWNSHIP OF LEBANON
COUNTY OF HUNTERDON
STATE OF NEW JERSEY
RESOLUTION NO. 27-2015**

WHEREAS, the 2015 Local Municipal Budget was introduced on the 1st day of April, 2015; and,

WHEREAS, during the fiscal year 2015 the Township of Lebanon has been

allocated a state grant for various programs in the amount of \$73,233.00.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that petition be made herewith to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services that the 2015 Local Municipal Budget include a special item of revenue under the heading of "**Special Items of General Revenue Anticipated with Prior Written Consent of Director of Local Government Services-Public and Private Revenues Offset with Appropriations:**"

| | |
|---|------------------------|
| Clean Communities Program-2015 | \$22,033 |
| Drunk Driving Enforcement Grant – Prior Year Unapprop. | 1,982 |
| Recycling Tonnage Grant - Prior Year Unapprop | 5,406 |
| Law and Public Safety - Prior Year Unapprop. | 42,553 |
| Body Armor Grant - Prior Year Unapprop. | <u>1,259</u> |
| | <u>\$73,233</u> |

Resolution No. 28-2015 - Deferral of School Taxes

Motion by Mr. Laul, seconded by Mr. Cryan and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Township Committee approved Resolution No. 28-2015 as written below.

**TOWNSHIP OF LEBANON
 COUNTY OF HUNTERDON
 STATE OF NEW JERSEY
 RESOLUTION NO. 28-2015**

WHEREAS, the provisions of C.63, P.L.1991 (The Supplemental Municipal Property Tax Relief Act) under Section 13 required municipalities whose school tax year is on a fiscal basis to defer twenty-five (25) per cent of the maximum allowable amount and anticipate it into their budget over a four (4) year period beginning in budget year 1991, and ending in budget year 1994 as additional Municipal surplus to offset the local property tax levy for local purposes; and,

WHEREAS, the provisions of C.63, P.L.1991 were amended in calendar year 1993 that changed the mandatory provision of the use of this deferred school tax to a permissive provision; and,

WHEREAS, the revised provisions for electing to utilize the deferred school tax require the governing body to make such election by introduction of the municipal budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Lebanon that election be made to defer school taxes as of December 31, 2014, and be reflected in the Annual Financial Statement for the year 2014 as follows:

| | <u>FY 14-15 SCHOOL LEVY</u> | <u>MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF DEFER TAX</u> |
|---|---------------------------------|--|
| Local School Tax | \$9,400,000 | \$4,700,000 |
| TOTAL MAXIMUM DEFER TAX 12/31/14 | | 4,700,000 |
| LESS – DEFER TAX 12/31/13 | | 3,866,263 |
| INCREASE IN MAXIMUM DEFER TAX ALLOWABLE FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2014 | | \$833,737 |
| ACTUAL AMOUNT INCREASE OF DEFERRED AT 12/31/14 | | \$525,000 |

Resolution No. 29-2015 - 2015 Municipal Budget Introduction

Motion by Mr. Milkowski, seconded by Mr. Laul and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Township Committee approved Resolution No. 29-2015 as written below.

**TOWNSHIP OF LEBANON
COUNTY OF HUNTERDON
STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

RESOLUTION NO. 29-2015

WHEREAS, the Township of Lebanon is holding a meeting on April 1, 2015, for the purpose of introducing the 2015 Municipal Budget and conducting other matters; and,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Lebanon, Hunterdon County, New Jersey, that the Township of Lebanon hereby petitions the Director of the Division of Local Government Services that the 2015 Local Municipal Budget be introduced and approved on April 1, 2015.

2015 LEBANON TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUDGET

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Surplus anticipated general revenues | \$ 985,729.00 |
| Total Miscellaneous revenue | 2,829,655.00 |
| Receipts from Delinquent Taxes | 280,000.00 |
| Local Property Taxes | <u>1,730,999.00</u> |
| Total General Revenues | <u>\$5,826,383.00</u> |
| Salaries and Wages | \$2,143,580.00 |
| Other Expenses | 1,739,338.00 |
| Capital Improvements | 400,000.00 |
| Debt Service | 631,182.00 |
| Statutory Expenses | 506,287.00 |
| Reserve for Delinquent Taxes | <u>405,996.00</u> |
| Total 2015 Municipal Budget | <u>\$5,826,383.00</u> |
| Municipal Tax Rate | \$0.2337 (Est.) |

OLD BUSINESS

Township Engineer Correspondence - Winding Brook Lane

Mayor McKee stated that residents from Winding Brook Lane came before the Committee to ask if the Township would consider taking ownership of the road. The Committee agreed to send the Township Engineer out to conduct an inspection of the road. The cost for the initial inspection would be paid for by the Township; however, any additional costs would be the responsibility of Winding Brook Lane residents. Engineer Steve Risse visited the site and provided the Committee with a proposal as to the cost associated with moving forward in determining if the roadway meets Lebanon Township's Class II Local Road Standard. Engineer Risse estimated that the cost of performing the level of analysis required will be approximately \$2,500 to complete.

Mr. Milkowski stated that the Committee agreed that the Township would cover the Engineer's first visit, which it has. The residents were informed that they would have to put money in escrow to cover any additional expenses.

The Clerk is to send an email to the Winding Brook Road Association informing them that the Township has completed their one time obligation. If they would like to proceed with the analysis, they must establish an escrow account with the Township to cover the additional costs.

Motion by Mr. Wunder, seconded by Mr. Laul and carried by favorable roll call vote, the Township Committee directed the Clerk to send an email to the Winding Brook Road Association informing them of the Committee's position. AYES: Wunder, McKee, Milkowski, Laul ABSTAIN: Cryan

Township Volunteer Appreciation Event

Mayor McKee stated that last year the Township's Volunteer Appreciation Event took place in the park. Mayor McKee asked the Committee if they would like to have the same type of event this year. Mr. Milkowski stated that he spoke to residents who had attended the Township dinners as well as the event in the park. There was no one who favored the dinner over holding the event in the park. The Township Committee decided that the Volunteer Event will be held as a picnic in the park again this year. The date will be determined at the next meeting.

Grants

Mr. Wunder stated that he is looking for direction from the Committee regarding grants. He asked if the Committee would like to look into a grant writer. The Committee is not sure what the cost would be. Discussion was held on having an individual search for grants as opposed to strictly writing grants. Mr. Milkowski stated that he spoke with an individual who wrote grants for the park and she is willing to assist the Township in seeking other grants.

Food Pantry

Mr. Cryan stated that after many conversations with Senator Dougherty's office he was provided with the name of a person in Trenton that oversees the buildings at the Hagedorn facility. Mr. Cryan stated that he informed the gentleman of the Committee's need to assist the Food Pantry and it looks to be very promising. Mr. Cryan is expecting a call back soon and will provide the Committee with an update. Mr. Cryan thanked Mr. Gary Milkowski for his suggestion of the Hagedorn facility being a possible location for the Food Pantry to operate out of.

Green Team

Mr. Laul stated that the Green Team would like April to be an "Adopt a Road Program" month. The Green Team asks that anyone who adopts an area of roadway to please reach out to the Green Team to inform them of the quantity of refuse you collected. Mr. Adam Duckworth is heading the program. He has received garbage bags and gloves from Waste Management for the program. If anyone is interested in adopting an area of roadway they can look to the Green Team Facebook page or the newsletter for Adam Duckworth's contact information.

NEW BUSINESS

Fire Department Ordinances

Mayor McKee stated that the Committee has received, for their review, three ordinances that pertain to the Fire Department. The ordinances will be placed on the next meeting agenda.

Mr. Cushing stated that with respect to fining a person for calling the Squad when it is not an emergency, may not be a viable approach. It may however be acceptable to adopt an ordinance that would establish a fee for a non-emergency transports.

PRESENTATION OF VOUCHERS

Committee Members provided a description of vouchers exceeding \$1000.00.

Motion by Mr. Laul, seconded by Mr. Cryan and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Township Committee approved the April 1, 2015 bill list in amount of \$ 122,936.97. The check for Public Service Systems, in the amount of \$2622.76, is to be held until the Police Chief verifies that the amount is correct. The Chief is to notify Mr. Milkowski, who will then inform the Clerk, that payment can be made.

CORRESPONDENCE

- a. Board of Adjustment Resolution – Report on Application and Appeals for Variances
Discussion was held on the Board’s recommendation that a sub-committee be formed to review issues surrounding private roads.
- b. William Swartz – Melick’s Orchard Pesticide Spraying
Mayor McKee stated that he received a call from Assemblyman Peterson’s office regarding Mr. Swartz’s concerns. Mayor McKee will be returning the call tomorrow.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Motion by Mr. Milkowski, seconded by Mr. Laul and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Township Committee opened the public comment portion of the meeting at 7:35p.m.

There were no comments from the public.

Motion by Mr. Cryan, seconded by Mr. Milkowski and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Township Committee closed the public comment portion of the meeting at 7:36 p.m.

Resolution No. 30-2015 –Executive Session

Motion by Mr. Milkowski, seconded by Mr. Laul and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Township Committee approved Resolution No. 30-2015 and convened in executive session at 7:37 p.m.

TOWNSHIP OF LEBANON
COUNTY OF HUNTERDON
STATE OF NEW JERSEY
RESOLUTION NO. 30-2015
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTIVE SESSION

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act; *N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq.*, declares it to be the public policy of the State to insure the right of citizens to have adequate advance notice of and the right to attend meetings of public bodies at which business affecting the public is discussed or acted upon; and

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act also recognizes exceptions to the right of the public to attend portions of such meetings; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Committee find it necessary to conduct an executive session closed to the public as permitted by the *N.J.S.A. 40:4-12*; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Committee will reconvene in public session at the conclusion of the executive session;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Lebanon, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey that they will conduct an executive session to discuss the following topic(s) as permitted by *N.J.S.A. 40:4-12*:

A matter which Federal Law, State Statute or Rule of Court requires be kept confidential or excluded from discussion in public (Provision relied upon:

_____);

A matter where the release of information would impair a right to receive funds from the federal government;

A matter whose disclosure would constitute an unwarranted invasion of individual privacy;

A collective bargaining agreement, or the terms and conditions thereof (Specify contract: _____);

A matter involving the purpose, lease or acquisition of real property with public funds, the setting of bank rates or investment of public funds where it could adversely affect the public interest if discussion of such matters were disclosed; Real Estate Acquisitions

Tactics and techniques utilized in protecting the safety and property of the public provided that their disclosure could impair such protection;

Investigations of violations or possible violations of the law;

Pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiation in which the public body is or may become a party; (The general nature of the litigation or contract negotiations is:

Professional Service Contracts _____. The public disclosure of such information at this time would have a potentially negative impact on the municipality's position in the litigation or negotiation; therefore this information will be withheld until such time as the matter is concluded or the potential for negative impact no longer exists.

Matters falling within the attorney-client privilege, to the extent that confidentiality is required in order for the attorney to exercise his or her ethical duties as a lawyer; (The general nature of the matter is: _____

_____ OR _____ the public disclosure of such information at this time would have a potentially negative impact on the municipality's position with respect to the matter being discussed; therefore this information will be withheld until such time as the matter is concluded or the potential for negative impact no longer exists.);

Matters involving the employment, appointment, termination of employment, terms and conditions of employment, evaluation of the performance, promotion or disciplining of any specific prospective or current public officer or employee of the public body, where all individual employees or

appointees whose rights could be adversely affected have not requested in writing that the matter(s) be discussed at a public meeting; (The employee(s) and/or general nature of discussion is: _____ Union Contract_____ the public disclosure of such information at this time would violate the employee(s) privacy rights; therefore this information will be withheld until such time as the matter is concluded or the threat to privacy rights no longer exists.;

_____Deliberation occurring after a public hearing that may result in the imposition of a specific civil penalty or loss of a license or permit;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Committee hereby declare that their discussion of the subject(s) identified above may be made public at a time when the Township Attorney advises them that the disclosure of the discussion will not detrimentally affect any right, interest or duty of the Township or any other entity with respect to said discussion.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Committee, for the reasons set forth above, hereby declare that the public is excluded from the portion of the meeting during which the above discussion shall take place.

Attorney Cushing stated that in Executive Session the Township Committee discussed Collective Bargaining in connection with the PBA and the CWA contracts. Also discussed were the negotiations with Comcast and Comcast's response to certain demands that the Township has made. The Attorney has been instructed to contact Comcast with the Township's latest proposal.

ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business to come before the Committee a motion was made by Mr. Milkowski, seconded by Mr. Cryan and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote to adjourn the meeting at 8:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen J. Sandorse, RMC/CMC
Municipal Clerk

Approved: April 15, 2015

Thomas McKee, Mayor