

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Wunder called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and stated that in compliance with the “Open Public Meeting Act” this is a Regular Meeting of the Township Committee as published in the Hunterdon Review, the agenda has been posted at the Municipal Building and distributed to the Hunterdon Review, Courier News, the Express Times, the Hunterdon County Democrat and the Star Ledger.

FLAG SALUTE

Mayor Wunder asked everyone to stand for the Flag Salute and for a Moment of Silence.

ROLL CALL

Present - Brian Wunder Patricia Schriver Francis Morrison
 Ron Milkowski Tom McKee

Absent-

Also Present - Attorney Dick Cushing, Clerk Karen Sandorse and 13 members of the public.

PRESENTATION OF MINUTES

Minutes of the Regular and Executive Meeting of March 21, 2012 – Tabled

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Mr. Milkowski, seconded by Mr. Morrison and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Township Committee approved Resolution No. 35-2012 and convened in executive session at 7:07 p.m.

**TOWNSHIP OF LEBANON
RESOLUTION NO. 35-2012**

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Township Committee of the Township of Lebanon, that in compliance with N.J.S.A. 10:4-12, this meeting will be closed to the Public to discuss the following matters:

Litigation - Boyer

The Township Committee reconvened the Regular Committee meeting at 7:40 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – for agenda items only.

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

OLD BUSINESS

LTEOS – Fischer Tract

Tabled to a later meeting.

Quest Environmental/Darin Vogel – Phase I Insurance

Attorney Cushing stated that when Groendyke Associates took a look at the insurance certification submitted by Quest Environmental and determined that they did not have as high a limit as the contract required for. The contract required \$2,000,000.00 and a \$3,000,000.00 aggregate. The Quest certificate states \$1,000,000.00 with a \$2,000,000.00 aggregate. Mr. Groendyke suggested that the Township request an increase to meet the contract requirements. Attorney Cushing stated that at times it is difficult for professionals to obtain the level of coverage that we ask for. Quest is unable to meet the requirements. Attorney Cushing discussed the insurance coverage with the Committee.

Motion by Ms. Schriver, seconded by Mr. Morrison and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Township Committee accepted Quest Environmental's insurance certification and waived the insurance requirement as stated in the contract.

Motion by Ms. Schriver, seconded by Mr. McKee and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Township Committee authorized the Mayor and Clerk to execute that agreement with the amended insurance amount.

Mutual Aid Agreement – County Prosecutor

Attorney Cushing stated that they wrote to the Prosecutor and received a letter back thanking the Township for their input. There has been nothing further from the Prosecutor.

Cell Tower

Attorney Cushing stated that they have received some good input from Mr. Anthony Casale. Attorney Cushing stated that they are waiting to get word on the issue of maintenance of the generator and what liability could be imposed on the Township. Language has been sent to Cellco for their consideration relative to such. The language which was drafted for the Co-locator

Agreement was peculiar so Attorney Cushing has asked for the standard form for a Co-locator Agreement, which is ok with Verizon.

Maple Lane Drainage

Mayor Wunder stated that he has recused himself from the drainage issue as one of the participating members is a client of his. Mr. McKee will be meeting with the Township Engineer and the DPW Manager to look into the issue.

NEW BUSINESS

DPW Manager – Request to Seek Applications for Summer Help

Mr. Gabriel is requesting to seek applications for two employees for summer help which is done annually. The cost of the employees is covered through the Clean Communities Grant. The employment will run from, as soon as possible through Labor Day. Mr. Gabriel will receive applications with the DPW Liaison and report back to the Committee with recommendations.

Motion by Ms. Schriver, seconded by Mr. McKee and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Township Committee authorized Mr. Gabriel to seek applications for summer help.

LTEOS – Sustainable Jersey

Mr. Warren Newman, Chairman of the LTEOS and Mr. Drew DePalma, LTEOS Member were present to discuss the Sustainable Jersey Certification Program with the Committee. Mr. DePalma is spearheading this effort on behalf of the LTEOS.

Mr. Newman stated the Certification Program is designed to assist municipalities in their efforts to become more sustainable, to be greener and to use their resources more wisely. The Program is a strategic partnership which was developed with the New Jersey League of Municipalities and many other partners. Mr. Newman stated that it is a program which can be useful to the Township at no cost.

Mr. DePalma stated that the Program has 16 different categories which identify predetermined actions which will help a municipality become more sustainable. The potential benefits are that we will have access to State and private grants. We will be provided with guidance, tools and even workshops. There is a supportive network which helps municipalities with their goals. Mr. DePalma stated that approximately 60% of the towns in the State are registered and 72 municipalities are certified. Many of the surrounding towns are part of the program. There is no cost to the Township.

Mr. Newman stated that the Township has many of the recommendations in place and to continue those efforts, grant money will become available for those who are certified. Mr. DePalma stated that there are grants incentives available to only those municipalities that are registered.

Mr. Newman stated that the LTEOS would like the Township's support through a resolution.

Ms. Schriver stated her support for the Resolution as there is a “big push” for going Green. Ms. Schriver stated that in business the DEP asks annually what they have done to add on to their Green list. Ms. Schriver assumes that this will probably be asked of municipalities too.

Mr. McKee asked if the Township’s past efforts can be categorized now. Mr. Newman stated that they can and will be.

Ms. Schriver commended the LTEOS for taking the lead in this project. The Committee thanked the LTEOS for their efforts.

Motion by Mayor Wunder, seconded by Ms. Schriver and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Township Committee approved Resolution No. 35A-2012 as written below.

**RESOLUTION NO. 35A-2012
TOWNSHIP OF LEBANON
COUNTY OF HUNTERDON
STATE OF NEW JERSEY
RESOLUTION SUPPORTING PARTICIPATION IN THE
SUSTAINABLE JERSEY MUNICIPAL CERTIFICATION PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, a sustainable community seeks to optimize quality of life for its residents by ensuring that its environmental, economic and social objectives are balanced and mutually supportive; and WHEREAS, Lebanon Township strives to save tax dollar, assure clean land, air and water, improve working and living environments as steps to building a sustainable community that will thrive well into the new century; and

WHEREAS, Lebanon Township hereby acknowledges that the residents of Lebanon Township desire a stable, sustainable future for themselves and future generations; and

WHEREAS, Lebanon Township wishes to support a model of government which benefits our residents now and far into the future by exploring and adopting sustainable, economically-sound, local government practices; and

WHEREAS, by endorsing a sustainable path Lebanon Township is pledging to educate itself and community members further about sustainable activities and to develop initiatives supporting sustainable local government practices; and

WHEREAS, as elected representatives of Lebanon Township, we have a significant responsibility to provide leadership which will seek community-based sustainable solutions to strengthen our community:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that to focus attention and effort within Lebanon Township on matters of sustainability, the Lebanon Township Committee wishes to pursue local initiatives and actions that will lead to Sustainable Jersey Municipal Certification.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Lebanon Township Committee of Lebanon Township that we do hereby authorize the Environmental & Open Space Commission Chairman to serve as Lebanon Township’s agent for the Sustainable Jersey Municipal Certification process and authorize the agent to complete the Municipal Registration on behalf of Lebanon Township

Police Chief's Memo – Rules and Regulations

The Police Chief sent a memo to the Township Committee informing them of the need to update the Police Department's Rules and Regulations. Chief Mattson will prepare a draft of proposed Rules and Regulations for the Committee's review and approval.

Police Chief's Memo – Abandoned Vehicle

Police Chief Mattson sent a letter to the Committee informing them that the Township has received a title for an abandoned vehicle which the Police Department impounded at J&D Auto Body. All requirements have been met for transfer of the title to J&D Auto Body. Chief Mattson requests that the Committee authorize the signing over of the title to J&D.

Attorney Cushing stated that he suggested that the Committee adopt a resolution at the next meeting to establish a record as to why the Township gave the vehicle to J&D Auto Body.

Motion by Ms. Schriver, seconded by Mr. McKee and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Township Committee authorized the Township Attorney to draft a resolution for the transfer of title to J&D Auto Body.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

COMMITTEEWOMAN SCHRIVER–

Ms. Schriver reminded the Township Committee that there will be a budget meeting on April 10, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. Ms. Schriver and the Clerk will be meeting with the Assistant Superintendent of the Veterans Haven on Monday, April 16, 2012.

There was vandalism in the Park last week. The School and Police are aware of it.

DEPUTY MAYOR MILKOWSKI-

Mr. Milkowski read the DPW monthly report. The drainage work has been completed on Voorhees Road. The DPW also finished trimming the limbs from the October 2011 storm. They have been working on stump removal from the Mt. Airy Road project. The truck chassis' are in and due to go over to the truck manufacture to have the bodies installed.

There was a Planning Board meeting at the Woodglen School regarding the GenPsych application. There was a Planning Board Public Hearing regarding the Highlands adoption of the Master Plan.

Mr. Milkowski stated that he has a proposal for consultation work for having solar installed on the new DPW garage. The proposal is free of charge and they consultant will look into grants possibilities for the Township.

MAYOR WUNDER-

Mayor Wunder stated that there will be no pancakes at the Firehouse on Easter Sunday. The Recycling Depot is on April 21, 2012.

Mayor Wunder stated that there is a Municipal Court of North Hunterdon meeting scheduled for April 16, 2012. The Court is looking for a new location and has visited the Township buildings as an option. Consideration is being made.

Attorney Cushing stated that he believes that the well pump issue at the DPW site has been resolved.

Mayor Wunder stated that the Lebanon Township Board of Education's budget will be reduced by almost 3% for the 2012-2013 year. The cost savings will be approximately \$102.00 per \$300,000.00 assessed value. Transportation is approximately 3% of the school's budget. Mayor Wunder suggested to the Board that they put their bus routes out for bid which may bring down costs.

Mayor Wunder was unable to attend the most recent Shared Services meeting with the Freeholders. The Mayor asked the Clerk to request a review of what transpired at the meeting.

Tomorrow, April 5, 2012 is the Food Pantry's Easter distribution. April 12, 2012 will be the regular distribution. Mayor Wunder had a conversation with the Food Pantry members and requested that the Township Committee consider covering the cost of the electric to help out the Food Pantry. The cost has been quite a burden for the pantry.

Mr. Milkowski stated that once the Township takes ownership of the building the Committee can reconsider the request. Mr. McKee said that he feels that the time is close for when the building will come back to the residents and he would wait also. Mayor Wunder stated that this will be on the next meeting agenda for discussion.

Engineer Steve Risse spoke to Nancy Parker from FEMA and was informed that the Morris County's applications were approved on February 1, 2012 which took approximately 60 days. It is anticipated that the Township's applications, which were submitted in March, will be approved in 60 days also.

Mayor Wunder asked for the Committee's approval to request a meeting with Nancy Parker of FEMA, Bob Little, the County FEMA representative and Engineer Steve Risse to enable the residents of Raritan River Road the opportunity to have their questions answered. The Committee support the Mayor's request.

COMMITTEEMAN MCKEE –

Mr. McKee stated that he was pleased to have LTOES present to discuss Sustainable Jersey. He feels that it is a great idea.

Mr. McKee stated that the COAH Liaison has sent out approximately 35 letters to residents who would qualify for the COAH Rehabilitation Program in attempt to expend the last bit of funds in the COAH account.

COMMITTEEMAN MORRISON –

Police, Fire and Rescue- Mr. Morrison read the Police report for the month of March 2012

PRESENTATION OF VOUCHERS

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

Motion by Ms. Schriver, seconded by Mr. McKee and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Township Committee approved the April 4, 2012 bill list in the amount \$349,940.47.

CORRESPONDENCE

Historians Meeting Minutes – March 1, 2012

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Motion by Mr. Milkowski, seconded by Mr. McKee and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Township Committee opened the Public Comment portion of the meeting.

Ms. Laramie Silber of Musconetcong River Road stated that she and her mother, Jeanne Boyer, filed a Class Action Law Suit on March 14, 2012 against the parties who pleaded guilty to the Federal Bid Rigging charges for municipal tax sales. Stemming from this, they were able to obtain a Temporary Restraining Order and are still in their home. Ms. Silber stated that she wished that she could say that it was with the assistance of Attorney Allen's office however, they continue to be adversarial. Ms. Silber invited and urged the Township to join the Class Action Lawsuits as victims of the Bid Rigging also.

Mr. Warren Newman of Voorhees Road stated that the DPW did a very fine job of quickly and neatly installing storm drainage which has been needed for a long time. Mr. Newman commended Warren Gabriel and his Crew.

EJ Skidmore of Buffalo Hollow Road asked Attorney Cushing to clarify which location the well pump was removed from.

Mr. Anthony Casale complimented Attorney Cushing's office for the draft revision of the Cell Tower Agreement regarding the generator. Mr. Casale spoke to Attorney Lorraine Staples today and went over all of the concerns that he has. Mr. Casale stated that the draft is now much better than it originally was.

Ms. Nancy Darois of Butler Park Road asked the Committee when the construction of the garage will begin. Mr. Milkowski stated that there was a preconstruction meeting on March 21, 2012, building permits were applied for, the architect had to review a list of values for different stages of the construction which has been completed so it should be any day now.

Ms. Darois asked the status on the Polt Property acquisition. Attorney Cushing stated that the Phase I will be conducted.

Mr. Casale stated that there were Boy Scouts in the audience this evening. Mr. Newman stated that Scout Kyle Stansky, for his Eagle Scout Award, was instrumental in contributing to the Township's trail connectivity project on the Goracy Tract. Kyle has finished a 700 ft woodchipped and boardwalk trail in accordance with the Township's plan. This work will be part of the grant program where his work is a value to the Township in being able to receive funds back for other projects.

Motion by Ms. Schriver, seconded by Mr. McKee and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Township Committee closed the Public Comment portion of the meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Ms. Schriver, seconded by Mr. Morrison and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Township Committee approved Resolution No. 36-2012 and convened in executive session at 8:30p.m.

TOWNSHIP OF LEBANON RESOLUTION NO. 36-2012

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Township Committee of the Township of Lebanon, that in compliance with N.J.S.A. 10:4-12, this meeting will be closed to the Public to discuss the following matters:

Potential Litigation
Litigation – Hyland
Collective Bargaining
Contract

It is not anticipated that action will be taken when the public meeting convenes.

The Township Committee convened the Regular Committee meeting at 10:20 p.m.

Attorney Cushing stated that during the Executive Session the Township Committee discussed the Squad matter, the status of the DPW Project, the status of Litigation, the PBA and CWA Collective Bargaining Negotiations, other contract issues and Shared Services.

Having no further business to come before the Committee a motion was made by Mr. Milkowski, seconded by Mr. McKee and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote to adjourn the meeting at 10:24 p.m.

LTCM
04/04/2012
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Respectfully submitted,

Karen J. Sandorse, RMC/CMC
Municipal Clerk

Approved: April 18, 2012

Brian Wunder, Mayor