

Meeting audio can be found at lebanontownship.net.

**Lebanon Township Committee
September 15, 2021**

Minutes of Regular Meeting

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Mike Schmidt 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 Schmidt asked everyone to please stand for the Flag Salute and for a moment of silence in honor of the First Responders and Servicemen and Women.

ROLL CALL

Present - Mike Schmidt Thomas McKee Abe Abuchowski
 Marc Laul Beverly Koehler

Absent-

Also Present - Administrator James Barberio, Attorney Matt Lyons, Deputy Clerk Kimberly Jacobus and 7 members of the public.

PRESENTATION OF MINUTES

Minutes of the August 18, 2021 - Regular Meeting

Motion by Ms. Koehler, seconded by Mr. McKee and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Township Committee approved the August 18, 2021 Regular Meeting minutes.

Minutes of the September 1, 2021 - Regular & Executive Meetings

Motion by Mr. McKee, seconded by Mr. Abuchowski and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Township Committee approved the September 1, 2021 Regular and Executive Session minutes.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – for agenda items only.

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

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 79-2021 – redemption of Tax Sale Certificate

Motion by Mr. Laul, seconded by Mr. Abuchowski and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Township Committee adopted Resolution No. 79-2021 as written below.

TOWNSHIP OF LEBANON
COUNTY OF HUNTERDON
STATE OF NEW JERSEY
RESOLUTION NO. 79-2021

REDEMPTION OF TAX SALE CERTIFICATE

WHEREAS the Tax Collector did sell a Tax Sale Certificate #201901 on September 13th 2019 to Green Knight Capital,

WHEREAS the amount of \$29,735.02 has been collected from the property owner for Block 11 Lot 10, 147 Buffalo Hollow Road, Glen Gardner, for the redemption of Tax Sale Certificate #201901,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Treasurer be authorized to prepare and the Mayor, Treasurer and Clerk be authorized to sign a check in the amount of \$29,735.02 to Green Knight Capital for the redemption amount and an additional check for \$15,000.00 for the premium monies collected at tax sale.

Green Knight Capital
474 Mary Ellen Way
Mountainside, NJ 07092

OLD BUSINESS

**Township of Lebanon, County of Hunterdon Ordinance No. 2021
An Ordinance Amending Chapter 400-13 entitled “Signs” of Municipal Code of the
Township of Lebanon., County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey**

Mr. Abuchowski stated that the ordinance was divided into 2 areas, private property and municipal property. Private property has only 1 requirement, to have permission from the owner. There are 2 options for the Township properties. Either there are no political signs on Township property or political signs are allowed in certain areas, the signs can go up 30 days before and must be removed by 14 days after the elections. The signs can be no larger than 15 square feet. Discussion was held. The Committee decided that signs can be in designated areas on the township property and signs are to be no more than 4 square feet. Attorney Lyons will update the draft ordinance.

Proposal for Creating New Resolutions or Ordinances

There was an outline of 10 steps on the appropriate way to have a resolution or ordinance placed on the agenda. Discussion was held.

OLD BUSINESS

Housekeeping Cleanup

Mayor Schmidt stated that the Township Volunteer picnic will be held on October 2.

Mayor Schmidt also stated that the League will be November 17 and that the Township may cancel the meeting and this will be on the next agenda.

For the record, Mr. Laul stated that Fall Fest would be on September 25 and for insurance proposes, there will be volunteers helping.

Mr. Laul stated that his mic was not working and asked the Business Administrator if he could look into replacing the system. Mr. Barberio stated that he could. The Township received a grant from Comcast and Mr. Laul feels that it would be money well spent to upgrade the system.

NEW BUSINESS

Fire Department request for GSA Equipment

Fire Chief Sulpy spoke to the Committee regarding the GSA surplus program that is administered through the State Police. It is for non-profit and fire departments to get equipment at a reduced price. The only stipulation is that the vehicle must go into service within one year and they have to keep it for a year or it goes back to the GSP. The Fire Department has the emergency lights and radios to equip the vehicle. Because this vehicle could go out of the Township to be used, the Fire Department will be responsible for the administrative cost, insurance and maintenance. The vehicle will be housed at Fire Station #1. Chief Sulpy is requesting a letter from the Mayor or Business Administrator certifying that the Fire Department is an agency of the Township.

Motion by Mr. Laul, seconded by Mr. McKee and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Township Committee authorized the Mayor to sign the required forms for the Fire Department to get the GSA equipment.

Policy & Procedure Manuel Overview

The Business Administrator gave an overview of the Policy & Procedure Manual. It covers everything, day to day operating procedures. All collective bargaining agreements supersede the manual. If it is not in the contract, the manual is then followed. This is not a contract; it is a manual. Every employee has to sign to receive it.

If anyone who is reviewing the policy manual has a questions or suggestion, it should be to the Business Administrator by September 27 so that any changes can be made. Mr. Barberio also stated that the insurance company stated that it should be updated every 2 years.

Police Collective Bargaining – Negotiating Subcommittee

Motion by Mr. McKee, seconded by Ms. Koehler and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Township Committee appointed Mr. Laul and Mayor Schmidt to the bargaining team for the Police Contract.

VOUCHERS

Committee Members provided a description of vouchers exceeding \$1,000.00.

Motion by Ms. Koehler, seconded by Mr. Abuchowski and carried by unanimous favorable roll vote, the Township Committee approved the September 15, 2021 bill list in the amount of \$168,973.51.

CORRESPONDENCE

- a. Sharon Petzinger - Mile-A-Minute Invasive Vine
- b. Museum - Upcoming Events
- c. Recreation - Upcoming Events
- d. Animal Control Report -August 2021

PUBLIC COMMENTS

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

Guy Wilson, Mount Grove Road, questioned about Federal, Congressional or Presidential signs versus local and county political signs.

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

ADJOURMENT

Having no further business to come before the Committee a motion was made by Mr. Laul seconded by Mr. McKee and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote to adjourn the meeting at 8:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly S. Jacobus
Deputy Clerk

Approved: November 3, 2021

Mike Schmidt, Mayor