

**Lebanon Township Committee  
March 18, 2009**

**Minutes of Regular Meeting**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Deputy Mayor Ed Post 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**

Deputy Mayor Post asked everyone to stand for the flag salute.

**ROLL CALL**

Present - Jay Weeks George Piazza  
Ed Post Francis Morrison

Absent Patricia Schriver

Also Present - Attorney Eric Bernstein and Clerk Karen Sandorse and 9 members of the public.

**PRESENTATION OF MINUTES**

*Motion by Mr. Piazza, seconded by Mr. Weeks and carried by favorable roll call vote, the Township Committee approved minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 4, 2009.*  
AYES: Piazza, Post, Weeks Abstain: Morrison

*Motion by Mr. Piazza, seconded by Mr. Weeks and carried by favorable roll call vote, the Township Committee approved minutes of the Executive Session of March 4, 2009.*  
AYES: Piazza, Post, Weeks Abstain: Morrison

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Keith Chambers – Township Garage Architect**

Keith Chambers, Paul Jones and Warren Gabriel were present to discuss the plans for the Township Garage with the Township Committee. Keith stated that he is submitting the site plan, the building floor plans for the various buildings on the site and the estimate to go along with them. The plans show a new DPW Garage, a new salt structure and a new fueling facility. The present structures will be demolished. Keith provided an overview of the plans. He said that he worked closely with Paul and the DPW crew as far as all of the equipment they need to have under cover and to provide them with a facility that is up to date and up to codes. Mr. Piazza

asked Keith what he has heard about receiving State funding. Keith stated that he heard that projects that are “shovel ready” are the ones receiving the money. Keith stated that based the numbers for the project on the design of the buildings, the numbers he received from DPW suppliers and contractors who worked with him to come up with prevailing wages. Mr. Post asked if the prices were based off of a square footage cost price for site work. Keith stated that

yes the prices were based off of Steve Risse, the Township Engineer. On this project, it was assumed that there will be minimal site work since the paving is there and there is drainage. Keith stated that in talking with Paul Jones, the cost may be less as the DPW may be able to do some of the work themselves. Steve Risse assisted in the pricing for the septic, well and the underground water tank. The estimated cost for the entire project as submitted is \$3,840,995.00.

Mr. Weeks stated that he thinks you would need to add 10% to the price for the additional items that will be needed. Discussion was held on possible funding and the annual cost to the taxpayers. Mr. Piazza stated that first he would like to see if the Township was able to obtain aid for the project as that would change the whole picture. Mr. Bernstein stated that in relation to the stimulus money, priority is being given to “shovel ready” projects, which means that they are approved and ready to go. Mr. Bernstein suggested that someone speak to Congressman Lance. A cover ready letter should be sent by the Mayor and a call should be made. The cost for the preparation, to put the project out for public bid, would be approximately \$100,000.00. The Clerk of the Works will need to be determined. Mr. Piazza asked if there is anywhere to cut back on the project to cut back on costs. Paul Jones stated that as far as he was concerned they have cut back as much as they possibly can. Attorney Bernstein reminded the Committee that this is an estimate only and that they will not know the real cost until they seek bids for the project.

Paul Jones stated to the Committee that he does not know how much longer they want the DPW employees to work under the conditions that they have been. The roof blew off last week, onto Paul’s personal truck, it is raining harder inside than it is outside and something needs to be done. One day someone is going to come in and say that the building is not suitable and condemn it.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Approve Application to Conduct “Coin Toss” - Lebanon Township First Aid Squad**

*Motion by Mr. Piazza, seconded by Mr. Weeks and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Township Committee approved an application to Conduct a “Coin Toss” for May 23<sup>rd</sup> and May 24<sup>th</sup> 2009, July 4<sup>th</sup> and July 5<sup>th</sup> 2009 and September 5<sup>th</sup> and September 6<sup>th</sup> 2009. Approvals are conditioned on approval from the Hunterdon County Freeholders and the State of New Jersey Commissioner of Transportation.*

### **Schedule Budget Worksession**

*Motion by Mr. Piazza, seconded by Mr. Morrison and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Township Committee scheduled a budget worksession to be held on Monday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> 2009 at 5:00 p.m. The Clerk is to arrange the proper notifications.*

### **DPW Supervisor's Request to Seek Applications for Two Summer Employees**

*Motion by Mr. Piazza, seconded by Mr. Morrison and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Township Committee approved the hiring of two summer employees pending receipt of notification relative to Clean Communities funding.*

### **PRESENTATION OF VOUCHERS**

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

*Motion by Mr. Piazza, seconded by Mr. Weeks and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Township Committee approved the March 18, 2009 bill list in the amount of \$44,099.60.*

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

Tax Collector's Report for the Month of February 2009.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

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

Mr. Ron Milkowski stated that a few years ago, the Township Committee set up sub-committee for the DPW Garage Project, consisting of the Committee, Township employees and Township residents and nothing ever came of that. He asked why the building design is so scattered out. Mr. Milkowski made a few suggestions on the design of the building to make it user friendly. Mr. Milkowski stated that Washington Borough is constructing a 14 bay municipal garage for under a million dollars.

Ms. Andrea Hutchins, from the Lebanon Township First Aid Squad, inquired on the process to follow in conducting a coin toss in certain locations in the Township.

Mr. John Locker, of 217 County Road 513, addressed the Committee with the concerns he has with the noise on CR 513. He said that the motorcycles are riding without mufflers and trucks are Jake braking. The Township has a limited noise ordinance, therefore, Attorney Bernstein recommended that the Township Committee defer the matter to the Police Chief to look into. The Chief may find it to be a County or State issue.

Anthony Casale inquired on the status of the Cell Tower rebidding. Mayor Post and Attorney Bernstein will be meeting within the next few days regarding the matter.

*Motion by Mr. Piazza, seconded by Mr. Weeks and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Township Committee closed the Public Comment portion of the meeting.*

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

*Motion by Mr. Piazza, seconded by Mr. Morrison and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Township Committee approved Resolution No. 33-2009 and convened in executive session at 8:11 p.m.*

### **TOWNSHIP OF LEBANON RESOLUTION NO. 33-2009**

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:

Hyland v. Lebanon Township Litigation  
Attorney Client Privileges – Municipal Court of North Hunterdon

*Motion by Mr. Piazza, seconded by Mr. Morrison and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Township Committee reconvened the Regular Committee meeting at 8:34 p.m.*

Attorney Bernstein stated that all members of the Governing Body present at the commencement of the executive session were present at the recommencement of the open session as well as the Township Clerk and the Township Attorney. There was a discussed raised relative to possible litigation and attorney client privilege amounts related to the Municipal Court of North Hunterdon as relayed by the Court Liaison. No formal action is to be taken at this time. There was an update by the Township Attorney relative to the ongoing litigation of Hyland v. Township of Lebanon. Direction has been given, no further action is to be taken.

## **ADJOURN**

Having no further business to come before the Committee a motion was made by Mr. Piazza, seconded by Mr. Morrison and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Karen J. Sandorse, RMC/CMC  
Municipal Clerk

Approved: April 1, 2009

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Deputy Mayor, Edward Post III