

January 3, 2012

The first regular meeting of the Lafayette Township Committee was held on Tuesday, January 3, 2012 at 7:30 P.M. in the Municipal Building, 33 Morris Farm Road, Lafayette, NJ

Members Present: Mayor Corcoran, Committeemen Hughes, Henderson, D'Angeli and Bruning

Members Absent None

Also Present: Clerk Fedish, Road Foreman Macko

Mayor Corcoran opened the meeting stating that it was being held in compliance with Public Law 1975, Chapter 231, Sections 4 & 13.

Minutes - Motion by D'Angeli, seconded by Hughes, to accept and place on file the minutes of December 20, 2011. Motion carried by roll call vote: Hughes-yes, Henderson-abstain, D'Angeli-yes, Bruning-yes, Corcoran-yes.

Animal Control Officer

Month of December 2011	<u>This Month</u>	<u>To Date</u>
Total Deposits	0	\$7,038.00
Amount Paid to State of New Jersey	0	\$1,039.00
Licenses Sold	0	548
Kennel Licenses Sold	0	2
Dogs Picked Up	2	7
Cats Picked Up	0	5
Dogs Taken to Pound	2	8
Cats Taken to Pound	0	4
Dogs Redeemed	0	3
Cats Redeemed	0	0
Miscellaneous (Kennel Licenses)	0	\$50.00
Late Fees Collected	0	\$615.00
Lost Tags	0	\$2.00

Motion by Bruning, seconded by D'Angeli, to accept the ACO's report as submitted. Motion carried by roll call vote: Hughes-yes, Henderson-yes, D'Angeli-yes, Bruning-yes, Corcoran-yes.

Committee Reports

Fire House Well - Bruning reported he will be attending a meeting tomorrow with the well driller and County Health Department. He reported they will drill as far away as possible from the existing well.

Streets and Roads - D'Angeli reviewed the Road Foreman's report. He reported Dennis Road should be completed this week.

Affordable Housing - Hughes reported Advance Housing's funding in progressing. They are hoping for a decision from HUD in February and a groundbreaking late February to March.

Emergency Management - Hughes reported the Township is now utilizing Newton for the 9-1-1 dispatching services.

EMS - Corcoran reviewed the calls.

Land Use Board - Corcoran summarized the Land Use Board's meeting of December 22, 2011.

Correspondence

Readington Township Resolution opposing S1954/A4358

Old Business

Fire House Well Drilling Spending Ordinance - Mayor Corcoran opened the public hearing for the following ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LAFAYETTE, COUNTY OF SUSSEX, NEW JERSEY, PROVIDING FOR THE DRILLING OF A WELL FOR THE LAFAYETTE TOWNSHIP FIRE HOUSE AND APPROPRIATING \$12,000.00 AVAILABLE IN THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND

With there being no comments from the public, Mayor Corcoran closed the public hearing.

Motion by D’Angeli, seconded by Bruning, to adopt the fire house well spending ordinance. Motion carried by roll call vote: Hughes-yes, Henderson-yes, D’Angeli-yes, Bruning-yes, Corcoran-yes.

New Business

Lawler Property (Warbasse Jct. Rd.) - Motion by Hughes, seconded by D’Angeli, to contract with JM Sorge, Inc. for the oversight and environmental testing of the Lawler property on Warbasse Junction Road and fee to be paid from Open Space Trust Fund.

Motion carried by roll call vote: Hughes-yes, Henderson-yes, D’Angeli-yes, Bruning-yes, Corcoran-yes.

Motion by Hughes, seconded by D’Angeli, approve a contract with a title company for the Lawler property on Warbasse Junction Road whose selection will be based on the criteria of The Land Conservancy of New Jersey and Green Acres; and the cost is not to exceed \$2,000.00.

Motion carried by roll call vote: Hughes-yes, Henderson-yes, D’Angeli-yes, Bruning-yes, Corcoran-yes.

Pound Agreement - Motion by D’Angeli, seconded by Bruning, to authorize the signing of a pound agreement with Wantage Pound per the proposal. Motion carried by roll call vote: Hughes-yes, Henderson-yes, D’Angeli-yes, Bruning-yes, Corcoran-yes.

Temporary Budget - Motion by D’Angeli, seconded by Hughes, to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, N.J.S. 40A:4-19 provides that where any contract, commitment or payments are to be made prior to the final adoption of the 2012 budget, temporary appropriations should be made for the purpose and amounts required in the manner and time therein provided, and

WHEREAS, the date of this resolution is within the first 30 days of the fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, the total appropriation in the 2011 budget, exclusive of any appropriations made for interest and debt redemption charges, capital improvement and public assistance, is the sum of \$1,757,432.22; and

WHEREAS, 26.25% of the total appropriations in the 2011 budget, exclusive of any appropriations made for interest and debt redemption charges, capital improvements and public assistance in said budget is the sum of \$461,325.96.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Lafayette, in the County of Sussex, State of New Jersey, that the following appropriations be made and a certified copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Chief Financial Officer for his records.

Motion carried by roll call vote: Hughes-yes, Henderson-yes, D’Angeli-yes, Bruning-yes, Corcoran-yes.

Budget Meeting - The 2012 budget meeting will be scheduled for Wednesday, January 18, 2012 at 2:00pm.

Defend Tax Appeals Resolution - Motion by D’Angeli, seconded by Hughes, to adopt the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Lafayette that the Municipal Assessor and Municipal Attorney be and they are hereby authorized to defend before the Sussex County Board of Taxation and Tax Court of the State of New Jersey all contested appeals and to initiate municipal appeals to correct the Township of Lafayette tax list including, but not limited to, rollback complaints, added and omitted

assessment complaints, and such other appeals as are necessary to correct the assessments for the Township of Lafayette; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Municipal Assessor and Municipal Attorney be and hereby designated as agents of the Township of Lafayette for the purpose of signing settlements of the foregoing matters by stipulation.

Motion carried by roll call vote: Hughes-yes, Henderson-yes, D'Angeli-yes, Bruning-yes, Corcoran-yes.

Risk Management Consultant Appointment - Motion by D'Angeli, seconded by Hughes, to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Lafayette Township (hereinafter "Local Unit") has joined the Statewide Insurance Fund (hereinafter "Fund"), a joint insurance fund as defined in N.J.S.A. 40A:10-36 *et seq.*; and

WHEREAS, the Bylaws require participating members to appoint a Risk Management Consultant, as those positions are defined in the Bylaws, if requested to do so by the "Fund"; and

WHEREAS, the Local Unit has complied with relevant law with regard to the appointment of a Risk management Consultant; and

WHEREAS, the "Fund" has requested its members to appoint individuals or entities to that position; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the governing body of "Local Unit", in the County of Hunterdon and State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. Lafayette Township hereby appoints George Morville & The Morville Agency its local Risk Management Consultant.
2. The Mayor and Risk Management Consultant are hereby authorized to execute the Risk Management Consultant's Agreement for the year 2012 in the form attached hereto.

Motion carried by roll call vote: Hughes-yes, Henderson-yes, D'Angeli-yes, Bruning-yes, Corcoran-yes.

Risk Management Consultant Agreement - Motion by D'Angeli, seconded by Hughes, to authorize the Mayor to sign the 2012 Fund Year Statewide Insurance Fund Risk Management Consultant's Agreement. Motion carried by roll call vote: Hughes-yes, Henderson-yes, D'Angeli-yes, Bruning-yes, Corcoran-yes.

Deputy Custodians of Public Records Resolution - Motion by D'Angeli, seconded by Hughes, to adopt the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Lafayette that all Department Heads and Tax Assessor be designated as Deputy Custodians of Public Records to assist the Custodian of Records in the performance of duties related to P.L. 2001, c404, commonly referred to as the Open Public Records Act (OPRA).

Motion carried by roll call vote: Hughes-yes, Henderson-yes, D'Angeli-yes, Bruning-yes, Corcoran-yes.

Cancel Delinquencies Resolution - Motion by D'Angeli, seconded by Hughes, to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:5-17.1 permits authorized employees to process cancellation of property tax refunds or delinquencies of less than \$10.00 without action of the governing body; and

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector has requested authorization to cancel those taxes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Lafayette that the Tax Collector be authorized to process cancellation of property tax refunds or delinquencies of less than \$10.00 as may occur.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Tax Collector, Chief Financial Officer and Township Auditor for their records.

Motion carried by roll call vote: Hughes-yes, Henderson-yes, D'Angeli-yes, Bruning-yes, Corcoran-yes.

Partial Payment Resolution - Motion by D'Angeli, seconded by Hughes, to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 54:4-68 authorizes the Governing Body to adopt a resolution authorizing the Tax Collector to accept as partial payment less than one hundred percent (100%) of the amount due and owing; and

WHEREAS, the tax collection computer program is set up under strict guidelines, as per the Division of Local Government Services and must be in accordance with the Mod 4 formula and will allow for accepting such partial payments.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Lafayette, Sussex County, New Jersey to authorize the Tax Collector to accept payment of less than 100%, but no less than the full amount of interest due.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the Tax Collector, Chief Financial Officer and Township Auditor for their records.

Motion carried by roll call vote: Hughes-yes, Henderson-yes, D'Angeli-yes, Bruning-yes, Corcoran-yes.

Fuel Tank Spending Ordinance - Motion by D'Angeli, seconded by Bruning, to introduce the following ordinance and set the public hearing date for January 17, 2012:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LAFAYETTE, COUNTY OF SUSSEX, NEW JERSEY, PROVIDING FOR THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF A 1,000 GALLON FUEL TANK AT THE LAFAYETTE DPW GARAGE AND APPROPRIATING \$4,800.00 AVAILABLE IN THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND FOR SUCH PURPOSE

BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of Lafayette, County of Sussex, New Jersey, as follows:

Section 1: The funding for the purchase and installation of a 1,000 gallon fuel tank at the Lafayette DPW Garage is hereby authorized and the cost is not to exceed \$4,800.00 which sum is hereby appropriated for such purposes.

Section 2. The total amount of \$4,800.00 is hereby appropriated from the Capital Improvement Fund.

Section 3. This Ordinance shall take effect upon publication of notice of final adoption as provided by law.

Motion carried by roll call vote: Hughes-yes, Henderson-yes, D'Angeli-yes, Bruning-yes, Corcoran-yes.

Dennis Road Spending Ordinance - Motion by D'Angeli, seconded by Bruning, to introduce the following ordinance and set the public hearing date for January 17, 2012:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LAFAYETTE, COUNTY OF SUSSEX, NEW JERSEY, PROVIDING FOR THE IMPROVEMENTS TO DENNIS ROAD AND APPROPRIATING \$6,000.00 AVAILABLE IN THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND FOR SUCH PURPOSE

BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of Lafayette, County of Sussex, New Jersey, as follows:

Section 1: The funding for the improvements to Dennis Road is hereby authorized and the cost is not to exceed \$6,000.00 which sum is hereby appropriated for such purposes.

Section 2. The total amount of \$6,000.00 is hereby appropriated from the Capital Improvement Fund.

Section 3. This Ordinance shall take effect upon publication of notice of final adoption as provided by law.

Motion carried by roll call vote: Hughes-yes, Henderson-yes, D'Angeli-yes, Bruning-yes, Corcoran-yes.

Amend Chapter II "Administration" Ordinance - Motion by D'Angeli, seconded by Bruning, to introduce the following ordinance and set the public hearing date for January 17, 2012:

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND SUPPLEMENT CHAPTER II OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LAFAYETTE, BEING "ADMINISTRATION" OF SAID TOWNSHIP

BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of Lafayette that Chapter II (Administration) of the Township of Lafayette Code, shall be and is hereby amended to provide as follows:

SECTION 1 - 2-7 Fees

a. The township clerk is hereby authorized to dispense copies of the following, upon payment of proper fees:

- 1. Individual copies, per page.....\$0.05

c. To be removed and replaced with:

The township tax collector is hereby authorized to dispense copies of the following upon payment of proper fees:

- 1. Redemption request fee upon 3rd and subsequent request.....\$50.00
- 2. Redemption request fee (lien holder).....\$50.00
- 3. Tax status request fee.....\$10.00

d. The township tax collector is hereby authorized to charge a return check fee of twenty (\$20.00) dollars for a check returned to the Township designated as having insufficient funds.

d. To become e.

e. To become f.

SECTION 2 - Severability - If any section, paragraph, sentence, clause or provision of this ordinance shall be judged invalid, such adjudication shall apply only to that section, paragraph, sentence, clause or provision; and the remainder shall be deemed valid and effective.

SECTION 3 - This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon passage and publication in the manner provided by law.

Motion carried by roll call vote: Hughes-yes, Henderson-yes, D’Angeli-yes, Bruning-yes, Corcoran-yes.

Raffle Licenses - Motion by D’Angeli, seconded by Hughes, to approve three (3) raffle licenses for Fred S. Burroughs, North Jersey Trout Unlimited for March 24, 2012. Motion carried by roll call vote: Hughes-yes, Henderson-yes, D’Angeli-yes, Bruning-yes, Corcoran-yes.

Audience

Mr. Ron Decker, EMS Captain, said a meeting was held with Newton last week for dispatching services; and everything is going well.

Mr. Decker said the neighbor is using EMS parking and the driveway blocking the way to the road department building. The Clerk was asked to send a letter to the owner of 18 Morris Farm Road asking them not to park there as it is for emergency vehicles only.

Mr. Bill Macko asked that another speaker be installed in the meeting room as it is difficult to hear the Committee on the other side of the room. The Clerk will call for a quote.

Adjournment

With there being no further business, motion by Henderson, seconded by D’Angeli, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

ANNAROSE FEDISH, RMC
Municipal Clerk