

**TOWNSHIP OF LONG HILL
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 28, 2015**

Mayor Rae read the following statement:

STATEMENT OF ADEQUATE NOTICE

"In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Law of New Jersey, adequate notice of this meeting was electronically sent to the Echoes Sentinel and posted in the January 15, 2015 edition, and electronically sent to the Courier News and posted in the January 9, 2015 edition. The notice was posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building on January 6, 2015 and has remained continuously posted as the required notices under the Statute. In addition, a copy of this notice is and has been available to the public and is on file in the office of the Municipal Clerk."

EXECUTIVE SESSION

**RESOLUTION #15-062
EXECUTIVE SESSION**

BE IT RESOLVED, pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, that the Township Committee of Long Hill Township meets in closed session to discuss the following matters:

Potential Litigation

- Copper Springs

Property Acquisition:

- Kurz Property update
- Eberle property

Contract Negotiations

- Use of fields
- Promotional Policy

Personnel

- Newly created position

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the minutes of this executive session meeting will be released to the public in a timely fashion pursuant to the Open Public Records Act and other applicable laws and regulations.

MOVED by: Deputy Mayor Meringolo of the Township Committee of the Township of Long Hill that Resolution #15-062 is hereby approved for Executive Session. **SECONDED** by: Committeeman Schuler. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor

Mayor Rae opened the PUBLIC MEETING at 7:36 PM:

All present recited the PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL: Mayor Rae, Deputy Mayor Meringolo, Committeeman Dorsi, Committeeman Piserchia and Committeeman Schuler were present

OATH OF OFFICE – Mayor Rae issued the oath of office to Police Officer Ronald Sutton

GUEST: Rob Walton, JCP&L Area Manager, introduced himself to the Committee as the new Area Manager for the Township and fielded questions from the Committee and the public.

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS:

The following items are considered to be routine by the Township Committee and will be acted upon in one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Committee member so requests. In this event, the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered in the normal sequence of the Agenda.

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MOVED by: Deputy Mayor Meringolo of the Township Committee of Long Hill Township, that Resolution #15-056 through #15-061 are hereby approved. **SECONDED** by: Committeeman Piserchia. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor

**RESOLUTION #15-056
Block 10104, Lot 6**

BE IT RESOLVED: That the Township Committee of the Township of Long Hill upon the advice and the recommendation of the Tax Collector for monies collected at the Tax Sale on December 3, 2014, does hereby authorize a refund in the amount of \$941.87 for Sewer and a refund from the Premium paid at Tax Sale for \$1400.00 for Block 10104 Lot 6 which has been paid by the Homeowner prior to close of Sale to: FWDSL & Associates, 5 Cold Hill Road, Ste. 11, Mendham, NJ 07945-3207.

**RESOLUTION #15-057
Relief of Tax Collection B. 11202, L. 23**

WHEREAS: Block 11202 Lot 23 was deed to the Township of Long Hill by the Estate of Wilhelm on May 21, 2013 at which time taxes became exempt ;

WHEREAS: The parcel was sold at auction on May 21, 2014 to David Chiarolanzo at which time taxes were levied for the balance of 2014;

WHEREAS: The parcel was sold on October 20, 2014 to Christian & Kristin Linden the Tax Assessor levied an Added Assessment for Seven months of 2014 in the amount of \$3752.55 and Added Assessment tax for 2015 in the amount of \$3216.46;

WHEREAS: The Added Assessment should be levied in the amount of \$536.45 for 2014:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the Tax Collector be relieved from the collection of \$3216.10 for the 2014 Added Assessment and for the Added Assessment on the 1st and 2nd quarter of 2015 in the amount of \$3216.46.

**RESOLUTION # 15-058
Police - Sutton**

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Long Hill upon the advise and recommendation of Police Chief Michael Mazzeo, that Ronald Sutton is hereby appointed as a Probationary Police Officer at an annual salary of \$45,000.00, to be prorated for the remainder of 2015, effective January 28, 2015.

**RESOLUTION 15-059
APPROVING PAYMENT OF BILLS**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Long Hill does hereby approve the payment of the bills as presented by the Chief Financial Officer.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the bills list be appended to the official minutes.

**RESOLUTION 15-060
ACCEPTING RESIGNATION - MARSZALEK**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee herby accepts the resignation of Melissa A. Marszalek, part time Technical Assistant to the Construction Official effective February 6, 2015.

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**RESOLUTION 15-061
APPROVAL AND RELEASE OF MINUTES**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Long Hill does hereby approve and release the Township Committee Minutes of the January 14, 2015, Township Committee Meeting.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Committee hereby approves the January 14, 2015 Executive Session Meeting Minutes as redacted by the Township Attorney.

RESOLUTIONS:

**RESOLUTION 15-063
AWARDING PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES
Lewis S. Goodfriend & Associates**

WHEREAS, the Township of Long Hill requires professional acoustical engineering consulting services for the Millington Schoolhouse project; and

WHEREAS, the Township Administrator solicited and received a proposal from Lewis S. Goodfriend & Associates of 760 Rt. 10 West, Whippany, New Jersey dated January 15, 2015; and

WHEREAS, the Township Administrator recommends to the Township Committee to award the contract in the estimated amount (\$3,500.00) Three Thousand Five Hundred Dollars; and

WHEREAS, a contract for professional services may be awarded without public bidding pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1)(a)(i); and

WHEREAS, the Township Chief Financial Officer in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:34-5.1 has certified in writing to the Township Committee the availability of adequate funds to pay the maximum amount of the contract;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Long Hill, in the County of Morris, State of New Jersey as follows:

1. A professional services contract with Lewis S. Goodfriend & Associates, 760 Route 10 West, Whippany, New Jersey is hereby authorized to perform professional services listed in the proposal dated January 15, 2015.
2. The Mayor and Clerk are authorized to sign a professional service contract with Lewis S. Goodfriend & Associates., in accordance with the following terms and conditions:
 - A. Term: A period of not to exceed the length of the time to complete the services within the proposal
 - B. Rate: Not to exceed \$3,500.00
 - C. Services: The firm shall provide professional acoustical engineering services as per the proposal dated January 15, 2015.
3. The Township Clerk shall make copies of this resolution available for public inspection at the Municipal Building, 915 Valley Road, Gillette, New Jersey during regular business hours.

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4. This contract shall be charged to 05-9999-0602-0000-6-00000. The certification of available funds by the Township Chief Financial Officer shall be attached to the original resolution and shall be maintained in the files of the Township Clerk.

A brief discussion ensued between the Committee and Administrator Henry.

MOVED by: Deputy Mayor Meringolo of the Township Committee of Long Hill Township, that Resolution #15-063 IS hereby approved. **SECONDED** by: Committeeman Schuler. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor

COMMITTEE LIAISON REPORTS:

Committeeman Piserchia

- The FLAP grant for Whitebridge Road has been submitted.

Deputy Mayor Meringolo

- Richard Girards Jr. was appointed to fill the vacancy on the Board of Education.
- The Historic Preservation Advisory Committee will perform the walk thru at the Millington Schoolhouse and prepare the final punch list

DISCUSSION / ACTION ITEMS:

- Township Committee Goals for 2015 – the Committee discussed the goals submitted by Committee members and combined several for a final total of 3 goals. The clerk was instructed to revise the documentation for resubmittal to the members.

All agreed that one of their 2015 goals is the sale of the Wastewater plant in 2015. The Township Committee announced to the public that New Jersey American Water has approached the Committee with interest to purchase the plant. The goal would be to have an RFP ready by April, with a decision finalized by August for a referendum question on the November ballot.

- Budget – Mr. Henry gave the Township Committee an overview of the budget backup. A discussion ensued with Mr. Henry and CFO HO. The Committee requested that Mr. Ho and Mr. Henry try to cut an additional \$140,000 from this draft of the 2015 budget

ORDINANCES: Morris County Energy Cooperative

A brief discussion ensued and the Committee proceeded to introduce the following Ordinance.

ORDINANCE INTRODUCTION:

ORDINANCE #346-15

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LONG HILL JOINING THE MORRIS AREA ENERGY COOPERATIVE PROGRAM PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 48:3-93.1 ET SEQ.

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey has been engaged in a process to establish a competitive market place through deregulation and restructuring the electric utility market and natural gas market; and

WHEREAS, the establishment of a government aggregator and an energy aggregation program to purchase electric generation service and natural gas pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:3-93.1 et seq. and N.J.A.C. 14:4-6.1 et seq. will increase competition for the provision of electric power and natural gas to residential and non-residential users, thereby

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increasing the likelihood of lower electric rates and natural gas rates for these users without causing any interruption in service; and

WHEREAS, under the aggregation process the residential and non-residential ratepayers may likely receive a direct reduction in their electric bills and gas bills; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Wharton passed a resolution on June 9, 2014 establishing an Energy Aggregation Program and thus becoming the Lead Agency and aggregator of electricity and natural gas pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:3-91.3 to 98 for all member municipalities to achieve maximum energy cost savings; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Wharton shall only award a contract for service to consumers where the rate is the same or lower than the price of basic generation service pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:3-57 at the time of award;

WHEREAS, the realization of energy cost savings is in the best interest of all residents of the Township of Long Hill; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Long Hill's governing body has determined that aggregation could benefit their residents and businesses; and

WHEREAS, the aggregation consultant administers the bid process at no risk or cost to the Lead Agency, municipality or consumer; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Long Hill wishes to join the Morris Area Energy Cooperative Program¹ in order to realize maximum energy cost savings

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Long Hill, in the County of Morris and the State of New Jersey, duly assembled in public session, as follows:

1. That the Township of Long Hill shall participate in the Morris Area Energy Cooperative pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:3-93.1 et. seq.;
2. That the Mayor of the Township of Long Hill be and is hereby authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to participate in the Morris Area Energy Cooperative and the Township of Long Hill Municipal Clerk is hereby authorized to attest to the execution of said documents; and
3. All ordinances and parts of ordinances inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.
4. If any portion of this ordinance shall be deemed invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder shall survive in full force and effect.
5. This ordinance shall be effective immediately upon adoption and publication in accordance with law.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that this Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon final passage and publication as required by law.

MOVED by Committeeman Piserchia of the Township Committee of the Township of Long Hill, that Ordinance #346-15 is hereby approved on first reading. The Open Public meeting for final approval is scheduled for February 25, 2015. **SECOND** by Committeeman Dorsi.

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ROLL CALL VOTE: Mayor Rae, yes; Deputy Mayor Meringolo, no; Committeeman Dorsi, yes; Committeeman Piserchia, yes; and Committeeman Schuler, no.

Motion passed and the public hearing for Ord. 346-15 is scheduled for February 25, 2015

OLD BUSINESS: No old business

NEW BUSINESS: No new business

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: - Remarks and Statements Pertaining to Any Matter

Cecelia Cilli – Meyersville

Requested that the Township Committee address her numerous complaints for clean-up of Block 14701, Lot 27. Mayor Rae noted that they had no knowledge of the complaints and the Committee would speak with the Zoning Officer regarding the matter.

Olga Argunova – Meyersville, Request the following questions be answered by the Committee

1. Provide an explanation of the term “studio” as used in the township code.
2. Could sports facilities of any kind be banned in Meyersville.
3. Would the Committee consider capping the size of structures allowed in Meyersville
4. As an Apartment Complex is an approved use in Meyersville, and as there is a sewer ban in place, how can this use be approved and how would our sewer system accommodate it?

Mayor Rae agreed to research the data and provide answers at a later date.

Dennis Sandow – Millington –

Mr. Sandow requested that a date of completion be scheduled for the skyline pump. The surrounding neighbors have been very patient with regards to the noise from the temporary pump.

Mr. Sandow suggested that the Visionary Committee for the Kurz property take into consideration the Master Plan Recreation element before submitting their recommendations to the Township Committee for the property.

Mr. Sandow asked that the skateboarding ordinance be revisited. The Committee responded negatively to this request.

Mr. Sandow was upset that the text of the Ordinance 346-15 was not expanded in tonight’s agenda, Mr. Sandow was assured by the Clerk that the Ordinance would be added to the agenda currently on-line and the Ordinance would be listed under the pending Ordinances on the township website as well and that publication in the Echoes-Sentinel of the full text of the Ordinance would take place at least 10 days before the public hearing scheduled for February 25th.

At 9:48 PM, Committeeman Piserchia made a motion seconded by Deputy Mayor Meringolo to adjourn the Public meeting and return to executive session. Formal action may be taken after executive session. Voice Vote: All in favor.

The Township Committee returned to Open Session at 11:00 PM.

Committeeman Piserchia made a motion to instruct Paul Ferriero, Township Engineer to design the conversion of Matthew G. Kantor Park Field 1 to a Turf Field, with design costs not to exceed \$47,000.00. The cost of the design work will be charged to the Open Space, Recreation Farmland Preservation Fund. Seconded by: Committeeman Schuler.

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Roll Call Vote: Mayor Rae, yes; Deputy Mayor Meringolo, yes; Committeeman Dorsi, no; Committeeman Piserchia, yes; and Committeeman Schuler, yes.

Mr. Henry was instructed to contact Mr. Ferriero to begin immediately.

ADJOURNMENT

As there was no further business, Deputy Mayor Meringolo made a motion, seconded by Committeeman Dorsi to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 11:06 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Reese, RMC, CMR
Township Clerk

Approved February 11, 2015