

TOWNSHIP OF LONG HILL, MORRIS COUNTY, NJ TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES MAY 13, 2020

Clerk Phillips read the following statement:

STATEMENT OF PRESIDING OFFICER "In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act of New Jersey, adequate notice of this meeting specifically, the time, date and public call in information were included in the meeting that was electronically sent to the Echoes Sentinel and posted on the Township Website. The agenda and public handouts for this meeting can be viewed online at www.longhillnj.gov. A public comment period will be held in the order it is listed on the meeting agenda.

Mayor Rae **opened the public session** of the meeting at 7:33pm.

All present recited the **Pledge of Allegiance**.

ROLL CALL: Committeeman Dorsi, Committeeman Schuler, Committeeman Verlezza, Deputy Mayor Piserchia, and Mayor Rae were present via teleconference. Also present via teleconference were Attorney Pidgeon, Administrator Malool, and Clerk Phillips.

PRESENTATION

- Mayor Rae addressed the school board budget and how we extended the invitation.
- The Township Committee gave Jillian Gaydos permission to proceed with her Girl Scout Silver Award Project - Bringing Back Camping to Long Hill's Hicks Tract.

PROCLAMATION:

Mayor Rae read the National Public Works Week Proclamation

ORDINANCE #458-20 (FIRST READING / INTRODUCTION) AN ORDINANCE CONCERNING SEWER USER RATES AND AMENDING CHAPTER XXII OF THE TOWNSHIP CODE ENTITLED SEWERS"

The foregoing ordinance having been introduced and passed on first reading by the Township Committee of the Township of Long Hill, in the County of Morris on Wednesday, May 13, 2020, will be considered for final passage and adoption at a public hearing held at a meeting beginning at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, May 27, 2020 by a virtual meeting when and where or at such time and place to which said meeting may be adjourned, all persons interested will be given an opportunity to be heard concerning said ordinance. To obtain details of virtual meeting please refer to May 27, 2020 public agenda or email municipalclerk@longhillnj.gov.

MOVED by: Deputy Mayor Piserchia, that Ordinance #458-20 be introduced and passed on first reading. **SECONDED** by: Committeeman Verlezza. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Committeeman Dorsi; yes, Committeeman Schuler; no, Committeeman Verlezza; yes, Deputy Mayor Piserchia; yes, Mayor Rae; yes

ORDINANCE #459-20 (FIRST READING / INTRODUCTION)
CALENDAR YEAR 2020 ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION
LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)

The foregoing ordinance having been introduced and passed on first reading by the Township Committee of the Township of Long Hill, in the County of Morris on Wednesday, May 13, 2020, will be considered for final passage and adoption at a public hearing held at a meeting beginning at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 10, 2020 by a virtual meeting when and where or at such time and place to which said meeting may be adjourned, all persons interested will be given an opportunity to be heard concerning said ordinance. To obtain details of virtual meeting please refer to June 10, 2020 public agenda or email municipalclerk@longhillnj.gov.

MOVED by: Deputy Mayor Piserchia, that Ordinance #459-20 be introduced and passed on first reading. **SECONDED** by: Committeeman Dorsi, **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Committeeman Dorsi; yes, Committeeman Schuler; yes, Committeeman Verlezza; yes, Deputy Mayor Piserchia; yes, Mayor Rae; yes

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution No. 20-146 – 20-153 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.

20-146	APPROVAL AND RELEASE OF MINUTES
20-147	APPROVING PAYMENT OF BILLS
20-148	AUTHORIZING REDEMPTION OF OUTSIDE LIEN- #19-0007
20-149	AUTHORIZING REDEMPTION OF OUTSIDE LIEN- #19-0010
20-150	AUTHORIZING REFUND FOR CHALLENGE GRANT
20-151	IN GRADE ADVANCEMENT- NOVOTNY
20-152	IN GRADE ADVANCEMENT – GERESI
20-153	2020 TEMPORARY BUDGET

MOVED by: Committeeman Schuler of the Township Committee of Long Hill Township, that Resolution 20-146 through 20-153 are hereby approved. **SECONDED** by: Deputy Mayor Piserchia. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Committeeman Dorsi; yes, Committeeman Schuler; yes, Committeeman Verlezza; yes, Deputy Mayor Piserchia; yes, Mayor Rae; yes

20-154 INTRODUCTION OF 2020 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

MOVED by: **Deputy Mayor Piserchia** of the Township Committee of Long Hill Township, that Resolution 20-154 is hereby approved. **SECONDED** by: Committeeman Dorsi. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Committeeman Dorsi; yes, Committeeman Schuler; no, Committeeman Verlezza; yes, Deputy Mayor Piserchia; yes, Mayor Rae; yes

LIAISON REPORTS:

- **Committeeman Dorsi** reported that DPW is no longer doing deliveries for mulch, All Saints Church is in need of donations for the food pantry and encouraged residents to do the Census.
- Deputy Mayor Piserchia spoke about how the First Aid Squad was doing a great job.
- Mayor Rae reported there are 44 patients that have tested positive for COVID 19 in Long Hill and all first responders have been tested for the antibodies. The COVID 19 Task Force is turning its attention to reopening the town and its businesses. Mayor Rae spoke about the 1962 Proclamation that designated May 15th as Police Officers Memorial Day. Mayor Rae reported the police statistics and spoke about the Governors Executive Order resuming community

engagement. Also spoke about a scam targeting senior citizens informing that their grandchild is in need of bail money. There have been 90 incidents reported statewide.

• Committeeman Schuler warned about online scams and urged residents to be vigilant when clicking on emails.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

- Administrator Malool spoke about a preconstruction meeting with the County for Division Ave
 for milling and paving with a target date of June 1st. The County anticipates the job will take two
 weeks and the road will be open with no detour.
- Committeeman Schuler and Committeeman Dorsi spoke about Mountain and Valley interaction.

DISCUSSION:

 Stirling Lake – Director Scanlon spoke about the opening Stirling Lake. There will be a reevaluation in June with a target opening date of July 4th with guidance from the State.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS:

• Deputy Mayor Piserchia spoke about a section on Meyersville Road that needs to be milled and paved. Director Gallo will follow up with County as it is a safety hazard.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Recreation Director Lisa Scanlon asked if you are interested in sending in a picture for the Memorial Day video please send to digitally by weekend.
- Deputy Mayor Piserchia spoke about doing a parade for Memorial Day with social distancing.
 Chief Naga would like to get clarification on the Executive Order.

<u>MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC</u>: Remarks and Statements Pertaining to Any Matter -Comments and remarks will be limited to 3 Minutes

- Dennis Sandow spoke about an article from the 1934 issue of Mountain Echoes.
- Gary Giankas spoke about the potential Memorial Day parade.
- Tom Grosskopf spoke about the Board of Education budget hike. Mayor Rae clarified they were invited to speak at the Township Committee meeting and urged Mr. Grosskopf to attend the Board of Education meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Deputy Mayor Piserchia and seconded by Committeeman Verlezza, and carried unanimously to adjourn at 8:46pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Megan Phillips

Megan Phillips

Approved: May 27, 2020

ORDINANCE 458-20 AN ORDINANCE CONCERNING SEWER USER RATES AND AMENDING CHAPTER XXII OF THE TOWNSHIP CODE ENTITLED SEWERS"

BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of Long Hill in the County of Morris, New Jersey that Chapter XXII of the Township Code entitled "Sewers" is hereby amended as follows:

Section 1. Section 22-23 entitled "User Rates" is hereby amended to read as follows:

22-23 USER RATES

22-23 USER RATES.

The following sewer service and usage fees are hereby established effective January 1, 2020, and shall remain in full force and effect until revised by ordinance duly adopted by the Township Committee:

- A. All residential sewer users shall be charged a service fee of \$0.00 per year per unit.
- B. All commercial and industrial sewer users shall be charged a service fee of \$0.00 per year per unit
- C. Residential sewer users that are metered shall be charged a sewer usage fee at the rate of \$18.27 per thousand gallons.
 - 1. The gallons used shall be the total water metered (Actual Usage) for the six (6) winter months preceding the billing year. By example, in the billing year of 2020, the gallons are determined from the six (6) months January through March and October through December 2019. The months excluded are: April through September 2019.
 - 2. Water consumption figures for each user will be obtained from the water company servicing the premises or by the Township Sewer department if the meter is not serviced by the water company.
 - 3. If the meter is not read or incorrectly read for one or more months of the usage period as determined by the Sewer Utility Collector, the amount charged for those months shall be equal to the approximate average monthly usage among other billable months during the same period.
- D. Commercial and industrial sewer users that are metered shall be charged a sewer usage fee at the rate of \$18.27 per thousand gallons.
 - 1. The gallons used shall be the total water metered (Actual Usage) for the six (6) winter months preceding the billing year. By example, in the billing year of 2020, the gallons are determined from the six (6) months January through March and October through December 2019. The months excluded are: April through September 2019.
 - Water consumption figures for each user will be obtained from the water company servicing the premises or by the Township Sewer department if the meter is not serviced by the water company.
 - If the meter is not read or incorrectly read for one or more months of the usage period as
 determined by the Sewer Utility Collector, the amount charged for those months shall be
 equal to the approximate average monthly usage among other billable months during the
 same period.
- E. Sewer Users that are not metered shall be charged a usage fees follows: Residential units: \$575 per unit

Commercial or Industrial units: \$1200 per unit

- F. If a user has multiple water sources, the usage fee shall be the combined total of each source as specified in subsection 22-23c or d. if metered and subsection 22-23e. if unmetered. Only one service fee shall be applied.
- G. The Township Committee may require a water meter to be installed by any sewer user utilizing a well or other private water system at the property owner's expense.
- H. Each user who is a resident of this Township and who was sixty-five (65) years of age or older during the prior calendar year shall be entitled annually, upon submission of a claim on proper forms, to a deduction of forty (\$40.00) dollars from his or her sewer use charge as established hereinabove.
 - **Section 2.** Any and all other ordinances or parts thereof in conflict or consistent with any of the terms thereof are hereby repealed to such extent as they are so in conflict or inconsistent.
 - **Section 3.** In case any article, section or provision of this ordinance shall be held invalid in any court of competent jurisdiction, the same shall not affect any other article, section or provision of this ordinance except insofar as the article, section or provision so declared invalid shall be inseparable from the remainder or any portion thereof.
 - Section 4. This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon final passage and publication

ORDINANCE 459-20 CALENDAR YEAR 2020 ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)

WHEREAS, the Local Government Cap Law, N.J.S. 40A: 4-45.1 et seq., provides that in the preparation of its annual budget, a municipality shall limit any increase in said budget up to 2.5% unless authorized by ordinance to increase it to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, subject to certain exceptions; and,

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.15a provides that a municipality may, when authorized by ordinance, appropriate the difference between the amount of its actual final appropriation and the 3.5% percentage rate as an exception to its final appropriations in either of the next two succeeding years; and,

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Long Hill in the County of Morris finds it advisable and necessary to increase its CY 2020 budget by up to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, in the interest of promoting the health, safety and welfare of the citizens; and,

WHEREAS, the Township Committee hereby determines that a 3.5% increase in the budget for said year, amounting to \$380,437.96 in excess of the increase in final appropriations otherwise permitted by the Local Government Cap Law, is advisable and necessary; and,

WHEREAS, the Township Committee hereby determines that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Long Hill, in the County of Morris, a majority of the full authorized membership of this governing body affirmatively concurring, that, in the CY 2019 budget year, the final appropriations of the Township of Long Hill shall, in accordance with this ordinance and N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14, be increased by 3.5%, amounting to

\$380,437.96, and that the CY 2020 municipal budget for the Township of Long Hill be approved and adopted in accordance with this ordinance; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance as introduced be filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services within 5 days of introduction; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance upon adoption, with the recorded vote included thereon, be filed with said Director within 5 days after such adoption.

RESOLUTION 20-146 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 April 22, 2020 Township Committee Meeting;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Long Hill does hereby approve and release the Township Committee Special Meeting Minutes from the April 17, 2020 and May 6, 2020 Township Committee Meetings;

RESOLUTION 20-147 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 20-148 AUTHORIZING REDEMPTION OF OUTSIDE LIEN- #19-0007

WHEREAS, funds have been remitted by JOHN MELLUSO to redeem tax sale certificate #19-0007 held by SHIREA CARROLL, on Block 11204 Lot 17, MADISON ST., assessed in the name MELLUSO, JOHN, and The Township Committee must approve the distribution of these funds.

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector has shown proof that the redemption calculation is correct, and all redemption monies have been received for redemption.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Committee of the Township of Long Hill, County of Morris, State of New Jersey that the Treasurer is authorized to remit payment of \$1,780.16 \$0 premium for a total of \$1,780.16 to the lienholder:

Make Redemption check payable to:

SHIREA CARROLL 41 PEPPERMINT LANE WILLINGBORO, NJ 08046

RESOLUTION 20-149
AUTHORIZING REDEMPTION OF OUTSIDE LIEN- #19-0010

WHEREAS, funds have been remitted by EAST WEST BANK to redeem tax sale certificate #19-0010 held by CC1 HOLDINGS LLC., on Block 11514 Lot 32, 1282 VALLEY RD., assessed in the name BRADY, THOMAS J, and The Township Committee must approve the distribution of these funds.

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector has shown proof that the redemption calculation is correct, and all redemption monies have been received for redemption.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Committee of the Township of Long Hill, County of Morris, State of New Jersey that the Treasurer is authorized to remit payment of \$1,963.37 plus a premium of \$1,900 for a total of \$3,863.37 to the lienholder:

Make Redemption check payable to:

CC1 HOLDINGS, LLC – DEPT 3800 PO BOX 123800 DALLAS, TX 75312

RESOLUTION 20-150 AUTHORIZING REFUND FOR CHALLENGE GRANT

WHEREAS, The Shade Tree Commission has come to the determination that the below mentioned address will only allow one tree from the Challenge Grant;

WHEREAS, the applicant has purchased two trees and therefore requires a refund for the price of one tree;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Long Hill upon the advice and recommendation of the President of the Shade Tree Commission, does hereby authorize the following refund:

NAMEADDRESSAMOUNTMichael Schmidt1424 Valley Road Stirling, NJ 07980\$175.00

RESOLUTION 20-151 IN GRADE ADVANCEMENT- NOVOTNY

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Long Hill, County of Morris, State of New Jersey upon the advice and recommendation of Police Chief Ahmed Naga, does hereby approve the grade advancement of Officer Richard Novotny to Officer Grade IX, effective May 1, 2020 at an annual salary of \$62,730.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this advancement is consistent with the current PBA 322 Collective Bargaining Agreement.

RESOLUTION 20- 152 IN GRADE ADVANCEMENT - GERESI

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Long Hill, County of Morris, State of New Jersey upon the advice and recommendation of Police Chief Ahmed Naga, does hereby approve the grade advancement of Officer Christopher Geresi to Officer Grade X, effective June 1, 2020 at an annual salary of \$57,195.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this advancement is consistent with the current PBA 322 Collective Bargaining Agreement.

RESOLUTION 20-153 2020 TEMPORARY BUDGET **WHEREAS**, 40A:4-19 Local Budget Act provides that where any contracts, commitments, or payments are to be made prior to the final adoption of the 2020 budget, temporary appropriations be made for the purposes and amounts required in the manner and time therein provided; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Long Hill, in the County of Morris, State of New Jersey, that the following increase to the 2020 temporary appropriations be made and that a certified copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Chief Financial Officer for his/her records:

2020 Increase in the Temporary Budget

GENERAL ADMIN SALARY & WAGES OTHER EXPENSES	10,000.00 5,000.00
MUNICIPAL CLERK SALARY & WAGES OTHER EXPENSES	10,000.00 5,000.00
FINANCE SALARY & WAGES OTHER EXPENSES	- 10,000.00 15,000.00
TAX COLLECTION OTHER EXPENSES	4,000.00
TAX ASSESSOR SALARIES & WAGES	10,000.00
PROSECUTOR OTHER EXPENSES	6,000.00
ZONING SALARY & WAGES	- 15,000.00
LEGAL - OTHER EXPENSES	10,000.00
ENGINEERING OTHER EXPENSES	10,000.00
INSURANCE & BENEFITS OTHER EXPENSES	300,000.00
POLICE SALARY & WAGES	- 300,000.00
OTHER EXPENSES	10,000.00
MUNICIPAL COURT SALARY & WAGES FIRE PREVENT. INSPECTOR	20,000.00
SALARY & WAGES OTHER EXPENSES	4,000.00 30,000.00
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	-

STREETS & ROADS	SA	ALARY & WAGES	5,000.00
PARKS & PLAYGROUNDS SALARY & WAGES CONSTRUCTION SALARY & WAGES ELECTRICITY OTHER EXPENSES NATURAL GAS OTHER EXPENSES TELEPHONE OTHER EXPENSES TELEPHONE OTHER EXPENSES TOTHER EXPENSES	SA	ALARY & WAGES	
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BUDGET INTRODUCTION:

RESOLUTION 20-154 INTRODUCTION OF 2020 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

BE IT RESOLVED that the attached statements of revenues and appropriations shall constitute the Municipal Budget for the year 2020; and

BE IT RESOLVED that said Budget be published in the Echoes Sentinel in the issue for May 21, 2020; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Governing Body of the Township of Long Hill does hereby approve the Budget for the year 2020.

2020 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

Summary of Revenues		Anticipated	
		2020	2019
1.	Surplus	1,440,000.00	1,980,000.00
2.	Total Miscellaneous Revenues	2,696,349.16	2,388,505.43
3.	Receipts from Delinquent Taxes	475,000.00	400,000.00
4.	a) Local Tax for Municipal Purposes	9,927,987.59	9,725,336.25
	b) Addition to Local School District Tax	0.00	0.00
	c) Minimum Library Tax	579,858.00	581,911.73
	Tot Amt to be Rsd by Taxes for Sup of Muni Bnd	10,507,845.59	10,307,247.98
	Total General Revenues	15,119,194.75	15,075,753.41

	Summary of Appropriations	2020 Budget	Final 2019 Budget	
1.	Operating Expenses: Salaries & Wages	4,921,655.00	4,612,013.00	
	Other Expenses	5,814,355.75	5,693,737.41	
2.	Deferred Charges & Other Appropriations Capital	1,383,999.00	1,436,876.00	
3.	Improvements	680,000.00	1,032,000.00	
4.	Debt Service (Include for School Purposes)	1,328,885.00	1,325,327.00	
5.	Reserve for Uncollected Taxes	990,300.00	975,800.00	
	Total General Appropriations	15,119,194.75	15,075,753.41	
Total N	Number of Employees	67	63	

	2020 Dedicated		Utility Budget	
	Summary of Reven	ues	Anti	cipated
			2020	2019
1.	Surplus		0.00	70,000.00
2.	Miscellaneous Revenues		90,000.00	90,000.00
3.	Deficit (General Budget)			
	Total Revenues		90,000.00	160,000.00

	Summary of Appropriations	2020 Budget	Final 2019 Budget
1.	Operating Expenses: Salaries & Wages	10,000.00	10,000.00
1.	Other Expenses	30,000.00	30,000.00
2.	Capital Improvements	50,000.00	120,000.00
3.	Debt Service		
4.	Deferred Charges & Other Appropriations		
5.	Surplus (General Budget)		
	Total Appropriations	90,000.00	160,000.00
Total N	Number of Employees	0	0

	2020 Dedicated Sewer	Utility Budget	
	Summary of Revenues	Antic	ipated
		2020	2019
1.	Surplus	175,000.00	0.00
2.	Miscellaneous Revenues Deficit	1,421,777.00	2,204,838.00
3.	(General Budget)		
	Total Revenues	1,596,777.00	2,204,838.00
	Summary of Appropriations	2020 Budget	Final 2019 Budget
1.	Operating Expenses: Salaries & Wages	92,215.00	118,000.00
	Other Expenses	1,215,530.00	1,144,393.00
2.	Capital Improvements	0.00	650,000.00
3.	Debt Service	274,932.00	275,341.00
4.	Deferred Charges & Other Appropriations	14,100.00	17,104.00
5.	Surplus (General Budget)		
	Total Appropriations	1,596,777.00	2,204,838.00
Total N	Number of Employees	5	5

Balance of Outstanding Debt				
General Parking Sewer				
Interest	826,392.00		191,975.00	
Principal	6,741,000.00		2,925,803.00	
Outstanding Balance	7,567,392.00	0.00	3,117,778.00	

Notice is hereby given that the budget and tax resolution was approved by the Governing Body of the Township of Long Hill, County of Morris, on May 13, 2020.

A hearing on the budget and tax resolution will be held by virtual meeting, on June 10, 2020 at 7:30 PM at which time and place objections to the Budget and Tax Resolution may be presented by taxpayers or other interested persons. Please refer to June 10, 2020 agenda for meeting details or email municipalclerk@longhillnj.gov. If you would like to obtain a detailed copy of the budget please email Megan Phillips, municipalclerk@longhillnj.gov.