

TOWNSHIP OF HARDWICK
WARREN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

February 14, 2018

The monthly Business meeting of the Hardwick Township Committee was held on this date at the Municipal Building, 40 Spring Valley Road, Hardwick, New Jersey. This meeting was called to order at 6:37PM by the Township Clerk Judith Fisher who noted that this meeting was being held in compliance with the "Open Public Meetings Act":

In accordance with Chapter 231 of the Public Laws of 1975, notice of this meeting was given by way of notice with the New Jersey Herald and/or the Express-Times, filed in the Municipal Clerk's Office and posted in the Hardwick Municipal Building. Mrs. Fisher then led the public in the pledge of allegiance.

Roll Call:

Present: Mayor Kevin Duffy, Deputy Mayor Alfred Carrazzone and Committeeman James Perry

Also present: Township Attorney Michael Lavery, Township Engineer Ted Rodman, CMFO Christine Rolef

Absent: CPWM Thomas Campbell

Mayor Duffy noted that the 6:30pm Executive Session was not needed tonight. The Business Meeting of the Committee will start as scheduled at 7:00PM.

At 7:00PM, Mayor Duffy called this Business Meeting to order. It was noted that due to a Nor'easter on February 7th, this meeting was rescheduled for tonight, February 14, 2018.

Payment of the Bills:

A motion was made by Committeeman Carrazzone, seconded by Committeeman Perry and carried to authorize the payment of the bills in the amount of \$536,565.15.

Roll Call

Ayes: Mr. Carrazzone, Mr. Perry, Mayor Duffy

Nays: None

Abstentions: None **Absent:** None

REPORTS

Engineer: No Report Tonight

DPW: No Report Tonight

CFO: No Report Tonight

Attorney: No Report tonight

Clerk: No Report Tonight

Grant: No Report Tonight

OEM: Deputy OEM Desire Dunn was present tonight. She noted that the EOP was sent out today. There are still parts that need to be updated.

Retired Fire Warden Bob Wolff was present and gave his fire report.

RESOLUTIONS

A motion was made by Mr. Perry, seconded by Mr. Carrazzone and carried to approve the following Resolution. Motion carried.

2018-16 Refund overpayment Block 401, Lot 32Q

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector advises of an overpayment of taxes for calendar year 2017 due to the property being sold and going to tax exempt status. (The 1st and 2nd quarters were paid as billed).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED on this 14th day of February, 2018 by the Mayor and Township Committee that the Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to make the refund of taxes as follows:

Block 401, Lot 32	Christine Hepburn/Kenneth Martin	\$ 232.05
Q0104	1 Lightning Bug Hollow Rd	
	Hardwick, NJ 07825	

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector advises of an overpayment of taxes for calendar year 2017 due to the property being sold and going to tax exempt status. (The 1st and 2nd quarters were paid as billed).

Roll Call

Ayes: Mr. Carrazzone, Mr. Perry, Mayor Duffy

Nays: None

A motion was made by Mr. Perry, seconded by Mr. Carrazzone and carried to approve the following Resolution. Motion carried

2018-17 Gypsy Moth

WHEREAS, the gypsy moth *Lymantria dispar*, has been found heavily defoliating tree and plant growth in the Township of Hardwick; and

WHEREAS, continued destruction of foliage may result in loss of valuable forest lands and trees; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Hardwick has determined that a gypsy moth control program should be instituted with the State of New Jersey Department of Agriculture and that application for any Federal or State funds available be authorized.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Hardwick that the gypsy moth is declared to be a public nuisance and the protection of vegetation or plant life therefrom is deemed to be a subject matter of public welfare, and that all measures deemed necessary, in compliance with the State of New Jersey Department of Agriculture recommendations, is hereby authorized to suppress this forest and shade tree pest.

I, Judith Fisher, Clerk of the Township of Hardwick County of Warren, State of New Jersey, do hereby certify that this Resolution was adopted by the Municipal Governmental Body at an open public meeting which was duly advertised to the citizens of the municipality in accordance with the law, pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 4:7-39.

I further certify the above to be a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the Hardwick Township Committee at a Regular Meeting of that Body held on the 14th day of February, 2018.

A motion was made by Mr. Perry, seconded by Mr. Carrazzone and carried to approve the following Resolution. Motion carried

2018-18 Authorizing the Execution of a Shared Service Agreement by and Between the Blirstown Fire Company and the Township of Hardwick for the Provision of Fire Prevention Services

WHEREAS, the Blirstown Fire Company provides fire prevention services located within Warren County, more specifically within Blirstown Township and Hardwick Township; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Hardwick has a need for the provision of such services; and

WHEREAS, the parties have agreed to the terms regarding an Agreement to the provision of fire services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township of Hardwick, County of Warren, State of New Jersey, that the Shared Service Agreement for the provision of Fire prevention services by and between the Blirstown Fire Company and the Township of Hardwick is hereby approved; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor is hereby directed and the Clerk authorized to attest to the execution of said Agreement.

Adopted: February 14th, 2018

Roll Call

Ayes: Mr. Carrazzone, Mr. Perry, Mayor Duffy

Nays: None

ORDINANCE: 2nd Reading and Public Hearing

Motion made by Mr. Duffy, seconded by Mr. Carrazzone and carried to approve the following **Ordinance 2018-01** for second reading and Public hearing reading

2018-01 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 Hardwick in the County of Warren finds it advisable and necessary to increase its CY 2018 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 Hardwick Township Committee hereby determines that a 1.0% increase in the budget for said year, amounting to \$ 7,297.99 in excess of the increase in final appropriations otherwise permitted by the Local Government Cap Law, is advisable and necessary; and,

WHEREAS the Hardwick 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 Hardwick, in the County of Warren, a majority of the full authorized membership of this governing body affirmatively concurring, that, in the CY 2018 budget year, the final appropriations of the Township of Hardwick shall, in accordance with this ordinance and N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14, be increased by 3.5%, amounting to \$ 25,542.97, and that the CY 2018 municipal budget for the Township of Hardwick be approved and adopted in accordance with this ordinance; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that any 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.

NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that the foregoing Ordinance was introduced on first reading at a regular meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Hardwick held on January 6th, 2018 and ordered published in accordance with the law. Said Ordinance will be considered for final reading and adoption at a regular meeting of the Township Committee to be held on February 7th, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the Township Committee may hear this Ordinance at the Municipal Building, 40 Spring Valley Road, Hardwick, New Jersey, at which time all persons interested may appear for or against the adoption of said Ordinance.

A motion was made by Mr. Perry, seconded by Mr. Carrazzone and carried to open this portion of the meeting to the public for any comment of Ordinance 2018-01.

Seeing there was no comment from the public, this portion of the meeting was then closed on a motion made by Mr. Perry, seconded by Mr. Carrazzone and carried.

Mr. Perry then motioned to adopt Ordinance 2018-01 on second reading, seconded by Mr. Carrazzone. Motion carried.

Roll Call

Ayes: Mr. Carrazzone, Mr. Perry, Mayor Duffy

Nays: None

Motion made by Mr. Duffy, seconded by Mr. Carrazzone and carried to approve the following **Ordinance 2018-02** for second reading and Public hearing reading

2018-02 Retro Active 2017 Capital Ordinance Providing for Reimbursement for Paving and Improvements to various Roads in the Township by the Township of Hardwick, in the County of Warren, New Jersey, Appropriating \$100,000 Therefor from the Capital Improvement Fund of the Township to pay for the Cost Thereof.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HARDWICK, IN THE COUNTY OF WARREN, NEW JERSEY (not less than two-thirds of all members thereof affirmatively concurring) AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The improvement described in Section 2 of this capital ordinance is hereby authorized to be undertaken by the Township of Hardwick, New Jersey as a general improvement. For the improvement or purpose described in Section 2, there is hereby retractably to 2017 appropriated the sum of \$100,000.00 from the capital improvement fund of the township.

Section 2. (a) The capital improvement hereby authorized and the purpose for the use of the capital improvement fund is improvements to various roads in the Township necessary therefor or incidental thereto.

Section 3. The capital budget of the Township of Hardwick is hereby amended to conform with the provisions of this ordinance to the extent of any inconsistency herewith. The resolution in the form promulgated by the Local Finance Board showing full detail of the amended capital budget and capital program as approved by the Director of the

Division of Local Government Services is on file with the Clerk and is available there for public inspection.

Section 4. This ordinance shall take effect immediately after final adoption in accordance with applicable law.

NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the above entitled ordinance was introduced and passed on first reading at a regular meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Hardwick on January 17, 2018 and will be considered for final reading and adoption at the Regular Meeting of the Township Committee held on February 7, 2018 at 7:00PM at the Municipal Building, 40 Spring Valley Road, Hardwick Township, New Jersey.

A motion was made by Mr. Perry, seconded by Mr. Carrazzone and carried to open this portion of the meeting to the public for any comment of Ordinance 2018-02.

Seeing there was no comment from the public, this portion of the meeting was then closed on a motion made by Mr. Perry, seconded by Mr. Carrazzone and carried.

Mr. Perry then motioned to adopt Ordinance 2018-02 on second reading, seconded by Mr. Carrazzone. Motion carried.

Roll Call

Ayes: Mr. Carrazzone, Mr. Perry, Mayor Duffy

Nays: None

OLD BUSINESS: Appointments from Reorganization Meeting

Directors/Liaison for 2018

Mayor Duffy: Open Space, Advisory, Agriculture Advisory, Municipal Attorney, Municipal Clerk, Land Use Board, Zoning-Code Enforcement, Director of Public Work, Building/Grounds

Deputy Mayor Alfred Carrazzone: Hardwick Seniors, Insurance. Tax Collector, Tax Assessor, Environmental Committee, Finance Dept.

Committeeman Perry: Engineer. Animal Control, Court, Emergency Management

Appointments:

Land Use Board

Class I	Kevin Duffy
Class II	John Lovell
Class III	Alfred Carrazzone
Alternate #2	William Hughes
Alternate #3	Cynthia Caffrey
Alternate #4	Open

Environmental Committee HOLD

Resolution 2018-08 Open Space Tax **HOLD**

OLD BUSINESS

SHARED SERVICE/RESOLUTION: Agreement between the Township of Hardwick and the Township of Stillwater Area Volunteer Fire Department for the Provision of Fire Protection Services Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1, *et. seq*

This agreement for Stillwater Volunteer Fire Company has been sent back to Stillwater Township Committee for their review. To date, we have not heard back from them.

The Committee understands that Blirstown township has a new attorney, Fred Semrau who will be reviewing their Agreement.

Hardwick is now waiting to hear from Blirstown and Stillwater before we can proceed.

Radon Kits: Mrs. Fisher noted that she went out for quotes and was able to get two:

1. Spruce Environmental Technologies, Medway, MA - \$13.33 per CLS -100i Short term test kits meets the NJDEP requirements
2. Pro-Lab. Radon kits \$16.00
3. Professional Radon Systems No quote

Mrs. Fisher reported that the shelf life of the radon kits is 3 years.

The Committee agreed to go with Spruce Environmental at \$13.33per kit

A motion was made of Mr. Perry, seconded by Mr. Carrazzone and carried to purchase the Radon Kits from Spruce Environmental.

Roll Call

Ayes: Mr. Carrazzone, Mr. Perry, Mayor Duffy

Nays: None

Acquisition: Defibrillator for Municipal Building

Mayor Duffy reported that the training day is scheduled for Friday, February 23, 2018 at 10AM.

The following will be attending, Desiree Dunn, Judy Fisher, Ed Fisher, John Lovell, Bob Wolff, Laura Randazzo, Walter Ribitzki, Kevin Duffy.

NEW BUSINESS:

WC Land Preservation: Representative needed from Region 6 – 2 year appointment

Mayor Duffy contacted Rich Ohl, who has been a member of this Board several years ago and has agreed to accept the nomination again for the next 2 years.

Mrs. Fisher will send Mr. Ohl the application that needs to be filled out and submitted back to the Land Preservation.

WC Mosquito Extermination Commission: Authorization to Aerial Mosquito Control

This is a yearly request.

A motion was made by Mr. Perry, seconded by Mr. Carrazzone and carried to authorize Mayor Duffy to execute the agreement.

Alina Lodge: Raffle Application, June 9th drawing RL2018-001

Mrs. Fisher noted that their paperwork is in order and has been filed with Games of Chance

A motion was made by Mr. Carrazzone, seconded by Mr. Duffy and carried to approve this Raffle Application for Alina Lodge.

Roll Call

Ayes: Mr. Carrazzone, Mayor Duffy

Nays: None **Abstained:** Mr. Perry

April Business Meeting: Mayor Duffy will not be available for the April 4th meeting.

The Budget will be introduced at the March 7th meeting and 2nd reading will not be until May 2nd. At this time, the Committee will hold rescheduling the April 4th meeting.

Discussion:

Gypsy Moth: Mrs. Fisher reported that all the necessary paperwork has been submitted

Right now, the estimated cost for spraying is about \$52.00 per acre. The maps were provided and the Clerk will ask the Assessor if he can provide us with the names of those residents that are in the affected area. Mrs. Dunn then talked about other bugs that have affected trees in the area. Mr. Wolff noted that there is a possibility that under Firewise, there is a grant that we can apply for that might help us cover some of the cost for spraying for the gypsy moth. The grant is for \$5000.

Green Acres Property: Results of Inspection No update

Mayor Duffy will discuss this at the next Open Space Meeting

Slabtown Creek Park: Concept Plan No update at this time

Emergency Operations Plan (EOP): No update except that the preliminary plan has been submitted

Foreclosed Lots: No Update at this time

Ted Rodman, Engineer: Stormwater Management - No update at this time

2018 Professional Service Contract – was discussed

Verizon Wireless(Nodes): Requesting permission to locate in the Township ROW

This issue was discussed. The Attorney talked about a Resolution that the Committee could approve subject to Zoning approval. Update at the next meeting.

Budget Meeting: Mr. Perry proposed a Municipal increase. According to the Auditor, the Township's surplus was strong and that we could use an additional \$25,000 from there in order to have the Municipal Tax Rate at "0". Right now, according to the present draft, the Municipal Tax Rate is up 1.3cent. Mr. Carrazzone and Mayor Duffy voiced their concerns doing this and were not in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

A motion was made by Mr. Perry, seconded by Mr. Carrazzone and carried to open this portion of the meeting for comments from the Public.

Mrs. Dunn talked about the Park and possible tot lot or pavilion. These have been discussed but are not in the plans right now according to Mr. Lovell, Grants Coordinator.

Also, not in the plans is the Flag Pole and Light that an Eagle Scout had presented several months ago.

Hardwick Day, Free Swim and an Easter Egg Hunt were discussed. No decisions were made at this time.

Seeing there was no public comments, a motion was then made by Committeeman Perry, seconded by Committeeman Carrazzone and carried to close this portion of the meeting to the Public.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Perry reminder the Committee about the Warren County Government meeting on February 26. Speakers will be Stan Prader from JCP&L and someone from Sustainable Jersey. NJLOM has several items on their agenda from the 2% arbitration, PERS, Shared Services, Compra Money and Civil Services.

Mr. Carrazzone did not have anything at this time.

Mayor Duffy noted that he will be attending the Conference of Mayors meeting in April.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Committeeman Carrazzone, seconded by Committeeman Perry and carried to adjourn tonight's meeting of the Hardwick Township Committee at 8:17PM

Respectfully submitted,

Judith M. Fisher, RMC