

TOWNSHIP OF HARDWICK  
WARREN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

**September 5, 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 6:36PM 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

**Absent:** Committeeman James Perry

**Also present:** Township Attorney Michael Lavery, CPWM Thomas Campbell, CMFO Christine Rolof and Township Engineer Ted Rodman

**Absent:** None

**Executive Session: RESOLUTION**

A motion was made by Mr. Duffy, seconded by Mr. Carrazzone and carried to adopt the Resolution to go into Closed Session at 6:37PM.

**RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Open Pubic Meeting Act, Chapter 231, P. L 1975 permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting under certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Hardwick, in the County of Warren and State of New Jersey as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from that portion of this meeting
2. The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows:
  - A. Two Personnel Matters

As nearly as can be ascertained, the matter or matters to be discussed at this time will be disclosed to the public when such matters are resolved.

**Time In:** 6:37PM

Present: Mr. Carrazzone, Mayor Duffy

Also Present: Tom Campbell, CPWM, Attorney Michael Lavery and Township Clerk Judith Fisher

**Time Out:** 7:13PM

A motion was made by Mr. Duffy, seconded by Mr. Carrazzone to come out of closed session at 7:13PM and return to Regular Session. Motion carried and unanimous.

Attorney Mr. Lavery noted that he met in closed session with the Committee and discussed two matters:

1. (2) Personnel Matters

No official action was taken by the Committee at this time. Copies of the minutes will be made available at such time as the Committee determines that there is no harm to the public interest.

**Payment of the Bills:**

**A motion** was made by Mr. Carrazzone, seconded by Mr. Duffy and carried to authorize the payment of the bills in the amount of \$251,603.74

**Roll Call**

**Ayes:** Mr. Carrazzone, and Mayor Duffy

**Nays:** None

**Abstentions:** None     **Absent:** Mr. Perry

**Slabtown Creek Park - Update**

Mr. Jim McKim, Chairman Open Space Committee updated everyone on the plans for Slabtown Creek Park. He summarized for the Committee what they have done so far. Their plans are for a Walking Path Trail first probably along the upper portion of the property, but the exact location of the trail is still being worked out. At this time, the Committee opened this portion of the meeting to the Public. Mrs. Randazzo asked about the hours of usage, dawn to dusk, a pavilion, port-a-johns and garbage. Mrs. Dunn asked about access to the creek. Mr. Hughes also asked about the trail and where it could enter. The Committee thanked all for their suggestions and comments, but reminded them that the Open Space Committee is taking a slow approach to developing the area.

**Hardwick Day** – Update October 21, 2018 Camp Ralph Mason

Mrs. Dunn updated the Committee on what she has planned for this event. She also stressed that volunteers were needed.

**REPORTS**

**Engineer:** Mr. Rodman reported Birch Ridge Road will be paved through the Co-Op. He reviewed the costs with the Committee and CFO. Funding for this project has been done with the DOT Grant and the appropriate passage of Ordinance 2018-09. The DPW will be doing work to ready Birch Ridge for paving.

**DPW:** Mr. Thomas Campbell reported that they did Oil and stone work on Primrose, Old Orchard, Tannery and Meadow Lake Roads. Last week there was an accident on River View where someone backed out of their driveway and hit the Township Truck. There was no damage to the truck or anyone, but the driver left the scene of the accident. State Police were notified. The driver of the vehicle that hit the truck was located and sent to the Police Barracks.

**CFO:** Mrs. Rolef handed out her monthly report that was reviewed.

**Attorney:** Mr. Lavery updated the Committee on a letter from SBA regarding the Cell Tower behind the Municipal Building. They requested doing a Phase 1 Inspection for a new Co-Locater (Sprint) on the Tower. After a brief discussion, Mr. Carrazzone authorized that SBA could perform a Phase 1 on the Township’s property but that if not be conducted by a LSRP (Licenses Site Remediation Professional), seconded by Mr. Duffy. Motion carried and was unanimous. Mr. Lavery will send SBA a letter with the results of this meeting.

Verizon/Allentown SMA is requesting the release of the developer’s escrow. The Attorney is still waiting for the requested information, so at this time, the Committee pulled the escrow refund for Asset Management Consultants until the Township Attorney receives the requested information.

**Clerk:** Correspondence review.

**Retired Fire Warden:** Bob Wolff reported that the Fire Tower was up and active again

**Grant:** No Report Tonight **OEM:** No Report tonight **Hardwick Seniors:** No Report tonight

**RESOLUTIONS**

A motion was made by Mr. Carrazzone, seconded by Mr. Duffy and carried to approve the following Resolution 2018-40. Motion carried.

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector advises of a double payment of taxes for the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter 2018. The property owner and his mortgage company both paid the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter and the property owner has requested a refund of his payment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED on this 5<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2018 by the Mayor and Township Committee that the Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to make the refund of taxes as follows:

Block 4601, Lot 12	Roger III & Carla Downey	\$2,729.00
	14 Butler Road	
	Hardwick, NJ 07825	

**Roll Call**

**Ayes:** Mr. Carrazzone, and Mayor Duffy

**Nays:** None

**Abstentions:** None **Absent:** Mr. Perry

**ORDINANCE 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading and Public Hearing**

On a motion made by Mr. Carrazzone, seconded by Mr. Duffy and carried to approve Ordinance **2018-09** for 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading and Public Hearing.

**2018-09** 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 \$50,000.00 Therefor from the Capital Improvement Funds 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 appropriated the sum of \$50,000.00 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 August 1, 2018 and will be considered for final reading and adoption at the Regular Meeting of the Township Committee held on September 5, 2018 at 7:00PM at the Municipal Building, 40 Spring Valley Road, Hardwick Township, New Jersey.

Judith M. Fisher, RMC  
Township Clerk

A motion was made by Mr. Carrazzone, seconded by Mr. Duffy and carried to open this portion of the meeting to the public for any comment of Ordinance 2018-09.

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

Mr. Carrazzone then motioned to adopt Ordinance 2018-09 on second reading, seconded by Mr. Duffy. Motion carried.

#### **Roll Call**

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

**Nays:** None

**Abstentions:** None     **Absent:** Perry

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

##### **Status – Century Link Communications**

**Warren County Freeholders – WC Housing Agreement (WC Revised)** The agreement was signed and copies were distributed to Shirley Bishop, COAH Consultant and WC Freeholders.

**WC Planning Dept.** – Looking for support letter for NJTPA Study Program II

The last study plan was done in 1982 and is out dated. They are applying for funds from the NJ Transportation Planning Authority to prepare the Plan. As part of this process, they are asking for support from the municipalities.

Motion was made by Mr. Carrazzone, seconded by Mr. Duffy and carried to support the NJTPA Study Program II. A voice vote was unanimous.

**Shirly Bishop:** Letter from COAH, Report This was just a follow up letter that all was in order

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Daniel Chamberlin:** Request to use parking lot for Wedding, October 6, 2018

The wedding is taking place at the old church by the Spring Valley Schoolhouse. The request is for the those attending the event to park at the Municipal Building. This request was granted providing that we get a certificate of insurance from Mr. Chamberlin. Mr. Chamberlin also request also requested that the Building be opened. This was also approved but the Committee is asking for a donation from them that would go towards Recreation. The Clerk has volunteered to have the building open for them.

**Sussex-Warren Energy Co-Op:** The following are the results of the bidding that occurred on August 28, 2018:

Supplier	10 month bids	21 month bid	22 month bids
IDT Energy Inc/Genia, NJ	\$0.0891	\$0.0886	\$0.0886
Constellation Energy NJ	\$0.09023	\$0.09089	

The Co-Op awarded the contract to IDT and the necessary agreements from the 11 Municipalities were signed.

**Discussion:**

**Sandyston Twp.:** Mayor Harper asked for support on Assembly Bill 2534. The Committee reviewed Mayor Harper's request. They sent a copy of their Resolution: Supporting Entities Acquiring Lands for Open Space Located in a Deed-Authorized Common Interest from Paying Community Fees, If, at the Time of Acquisition, a Community has never been formed or has not dissolved or discontinued. After talking with the Township Attorney, this would not apply to Hardwick but it was requested that we hold this item over to the October meeting pending further review.

**Plaque:** In Memory of George H. Fee will be held at the Municipal Building on Friday, September 28 at 5:00PM

**Facebook Page:** No change in status. The Committee is presently working on this and also looking at other Township's that are using Facebook. The primary use would be for updating information for the residents.

**Slabtown Creek Park:** Concept Plan There was discussion at the last Open Space meeting where they talked about an open trail, hiking, walking. Noted was that the stream along the edge of the park is protected and any disturbance would involve the DEP. Mr. McKim was present tonight earlier in the meeting.

**Foreclosed Lots:** No change in status

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

**Verizon Wireless (Nodes):** Requesting permission to locate Nodes in the Township ROW. Mayor Duffy noted that he had requested Verizon Wireless for the location and number of the Nodes. It was suggested was that they might be able to use the Cell Tower for the Nodes. So far there has been no response from them.

**Century Link Update:** Update Mayor Duffy noted that there are some switches that have been activated. Switch locations were discussed at the last meeting. Mayor Duffy was appointed to replace Mr. Perry as the Township Representative for discussions on CenturyLink and Service Electric. Mayor Duffy referenced several comments that were made on Facebook by Mr. Perry. These comments were so noted. A comment from the audience is that this is hurting the Township and that we are all great full for what the Committee does. We all need to work together

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** August 1, 2018 Business Meeting & Executive Session  
A motion was made by Mr. Carrazzone, seconded by Mr. Duffy and carried to approve the minutes as corrected. Motion carried and a voice vote was unanimous.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

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

Mrs. Dunn, Mr. Hughes and Mr. Wolff all spoke about CenturyLink and Service Electric and the problems that they are having with both.

Mrs. Dunn talked about several bad bugs that are invading the Township.

A motion was then made by Mr. Carrazzone, seconded by Mr. Duffy and carried to close this portion of the meeting to the Public.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Mr. Perry:** Absent

**Mr. Carrazzone:** No report tonight