

TOWNSHIP OF HARDWICK
WARREN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

October 16, 2019

The monthly Work 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 7:01PM 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.

Roll Call:

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

Also present: CPWM Thomas Campbell and Township Engineer Ted Rodman

Excused Absent: Township Attorney Richard Wenner

Payment of the Bills:

A motion was made by Mr. Perry, seconded by Mr. Carrazzone and carried to authorize the payment of the bills in the amount of \$4596.98

Roll Call

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

Nays: None

Abstentions: None **Absent:** None

OLD BUSINESS:

Best Practices 2019-2020 – Filing deadline – October 30, 2019

CFO Christine Rolef and Township Clerk Judith Fisher reviewed with the Committee the Best Practices. A few of the responses were discussed and corrected. Mrs. Rolef did note that the Township's score is 44.50 which means that the Township's State Aid will not be withheld. (Municipalities must receive a minimum score of 30 on the Inventory in order to receive its full Final Aid payment.)

The CFO and Clerk will sign off on the Inventory that will be filed on time.

NEW BUSINESS:

Shirley Bishop, COAH Consultant – Mrs. Fisher noted that she recently spoke with Shirley. She is recovering from a health issue and wanted to let the Township know that she will be retiring as of January 1, 2020. She noted that it was a pleasure working with everyone and that she was going to enjoy her retirement with her husband. She suggested that we might contact Fred Heyer, who is the Planner for the Planner Board to see if his firm might be interested in taking over this position. Mayor Duffy will reach out to his firm to speak with them.

Meeting Dates needed for:

November Work Meeting, December Year End Meeting and Reorganization 2020

The Committee tentatively worked on dates for the above. The suggestions are:

November 20th Work Meeting rescheduled to Monday, November 26 at 4:00PM

December Year End Meeting scheduled for December 26 at 2:00PM, and

Reorganization Meeting scheduled for January 2, 2020, 12:00PM

DISCUSSION

Slabtown Creek Park: the dedication has been scheduled for Saturday, November 9 at 11AM. Mayor Duffy will be emailing several guests and dignitaries of the date and time.

The Ordinance 2019-09 for Reimbursement to Fire Department for Costs will be on the November 6 agenda for adoption. Since the introduction, the Township Attorney has made a correction which means that it will need to be reintroduced at the November 6th meeting and have second reading later in the month.

Mayor Duffy noted that the Committee received a letter from the Attorney about the ordinance for Abandoned Residential Properties in Foreclosure and using the fees collected towards the Zoning Officer's salary. His letter states "No less than 20% of any money collected pursuant to subsection a of this section shall be utilized by the municipality for municipal code enforcement purposes". The Committee then talked about using this towards a stipend in 2020 with the CFO Mrs. Rolef; who noted that it can then be noted in the salary ordinance. This can be discussed further at budget time.

Reports:

Mr. Rodman, Township Engineer was present and he informed the Committee that Sunset Lake Road paving has been completed along with the line stripping. Since there was an adjustment made to the asphalt, in the Township's favor, a change order needs to be signed by the Mayor. A motion was then made by Mr. Perry, second by Mr. Carrazzone authorizing Mayor Duffy to sign the change order as presented by the Engineer. Motion carried followed by a roll call vote:

Roll Call

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

Nays: None

Abstentions: None **Absent:** None

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

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

Mrs. Dunn reminded everyone that Hardwick Day is this Saturday, October 20 at the Princeton Education Camp in Millbrook Road from 12Noon to 5PM. She reviewed all the activities and vendors. Noted is the Stillwater Fire Company will be present along with Smokey the Bear, celebrating his birthday, 75 years. Desiree thanked the Committee for her budget. Everyone is invited and this event is rain or shine.

Mr. Edwin Fisher, Sunset lake Road, wanted to ask Mr. Perry a question. Mr. Perry noted that he had someplace important to be to; he then gathered up his papers and walked out of tonight's meeting. He (Mr. Perry) waited by the front door before going out. Mr. Fisher told Mr. Perry as he was leaving that next time, he wants someone to tell him (Mr. Fisher) not to say anything at a meeting to call him personally; don't go through someone else, that was really little low. Mr. Perry responded that he (Mr. Fisher) was inconsiderate and told him to get a life. Mr. Fisher had nothing else to say since Mr. Perry left the meeting at 7:45PM.

Seeing there were no other public comments, Mr. Perry motioned to close this portion of the meeting to the public, second by Mr. Duffy. Motion carried.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Mr. Carrazzone, seconded by Mr. Duffy and carried to adjourn tonight's meeting of the Hardwick Township Committee at 7:46PM

Respectfully submitted

Judith M. Fisher, RMC