

**TOWNSHIP OF HARDWICK  
WARREN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

**March 4, 2020**

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 6:38PM 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:** CPWM Thomas Campbell, Township Attorney Richard Wenner, Engineer Ted Rodman, OEM Joseph Dunn and CMFO Christine Rolef

**Absent:** None

**Executive Session: RESOLUTION**

A motion was made by Mr. Perry, seconded by Mr. Carrazzone and carried to adopt the Resolution to go into Closed Session at 6:39PM.

**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. OEM & Emergency Response Planning
  - B. Potential Litigation – Paving Project
  - C. Personnel Matter – Dept of Public Works
  - D. Contractual Matter

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:** 6:39PM

Present: Mr. Duffy, Mr. Carrazzone, Mr. Perry

Also Present: Attorney Richard Wenner, OEM Joseph Dunn, CPWM Thomas Campbell, Engineer Ted Rodman and Township Clerk Judith Fisher

**Time Out:** 7:12PM

A motion was made by Mr. Perry, seconded by Mr. Duffy to come out of closed session at 7:12PM. Motion carried and unanimous.

Attorney Mr. Wenner noted that he met in closed session with the Committee and discussed four Closed Session 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. Perry and carried to authorize the payment of the bills in the amount of \$163,487.70.

**Roll Call**

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

**Nays:** None

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

**REPORTS**

**Engineer:** Mr. Rodman reported that Warren County will conduct a traffic survey at the corners of Spring Valley and Stillwater Roads. The issue with the Smith Driveway on Spring Valley Road has been resolved with the County. State id for 2020, Hardwick has requested \$211,694 and will be receiving \$107,643. This Municipal Aid is for Millbrook Stillwater Road Project, Section 1.

**DPW:** Mr. Campbell requested the Committee to raise the rate for summer help to \$19.00/hour. This help would be from April to October. He has been using Ken Lally for the extra help this

winter. The summer help wages will be out of Open Space. Work would be Monday – Thursday, 30 hours per week.

Motion was made by Mr. Perry, second by Mr. Carrazzone to increase the rate for summer help to \$19.00 per hour. Motion carried followed by a roll call vote:

**Roll Call**

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

**Nays:** None

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

**CFO:** Mrs. Rolef reviewed her monthly report with the Committee

**Attorney:** No Report tonight

**Clerk:** No Report Tonight

**Grant:** No Report Tonight

**OEM:** Mr. Dunn talked about the mitigation plan that the County has rewritten; they also hired a consultant to help with this project. He suggested that the Committee become pro-active with tree removal because of the damage the Ash Bore bugs are doing the trees.

Mr. Perry talked about the Vegetation Bill that Senator Oroho is sponsoring. It is being re-introduced with an opt-out clause in it.

**Retired Fire Warden:** Mr. Wolff reported that both Blairstown and Stillwater Fire Companies were busy this month. There were several small wild fires with the major one being over the weekend in the Water Gap Rock Face. It burned over 103 Acres. The reasons for so many wild fires was due to the lack of snow this winter. The Fire Tower was manned 11 days with 144 visitors. May 2 is Emergency Services Day. State Farm has a grant that Hardwick has applied for.

**RESOLUTIONS**

A motion was made by Mr. Perry, seconded by Mr. Carrazzone and carried to approve the following **Resolution 2020-16**. Motion carried. A voice vote was unanimous.

**2020-16 Appointment of a Deputy Registrar**

BE IT RESOLVED, that Judith Fisher, CMR, Registrar for the Township of Hardwick made the following appointment for Deputy Registrar;

BE IT RESOLVED that effective March 4, 2020, Donna Zilberfarb, CMR was appointed as the Deputy Registrar for Hardwick Township. Ms. Zilberbarb will be filling the unexpired term of Robin Keggan. Term to expire December 31, 2020.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Donna Zilberfarb, CMR is the Clerk/Registrar for Frelinghuysen Township; her email address is [clerk@frelinghuysen-nj.us](mailto:clerk@frelinghuysen-nj.us); and she can be reached at 908-852-4121.

**CERTIFICATION**

I, Judith M. Fisher, Clerk of the Township of Hardwick, do hereby certify the foregoing Resolution to be a true and accurate copy adopted by the Township Committee on March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

**Resolution 2020-17 Awarding Guide Rails for Sunset Lake Road to Road Safety, LLC**

A motion was made by Mr. Carrazzone, seconded by Mr. Perry and carried to approve the following Resolution 2020-17. Motion carried

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Hardwick is a member of the Morris County Cooperative Pricing System and wishes to utilize the contract Guide Rails Installation and Removal of Sunset Lake Road, Section 1 and

**WHEREAS**, Road Safety Systems, LLC Contract #26 through the Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council of which the Township of Hardwick is an active participant, and

**WHEREAS**, the Chief Financial Officer has certified that funds are available.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Mayor and Township Committee of the Township of Hardwick, County of Warren and State of New Jersey that the Guide Rails for Sunset Lake Road, Section 1 be awarded to: Road Safety Systems, LLC, Shamong, New Jersey.

**Awarded to Road Safety Systems, LLC. Contract # 26**

Removed Guiderail		\$ 7/LF	812.50feet	\$ 5,687.50
Guiderail Installed		\$35/LF	550 feet	\$19,250.00
Tangent Guiderail Terminal-installed	\$ 3,000/each (TL-3)		9	\$27,000.00
Tangent Guiderail Terminal-installed	\$3500.00/each (TL-2)		1	\$ 3,500.00
Synthetic Offset Blocks, Installed	\$15/each		5	\$ 75.00
Guiderail Reflector, Plastic Butterfly, Y/W	\$10/each		14	\$ 140.00
6FT Beam Guiderails Post, Installed	\$100/each		5	\$ 500.00
			<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$56,152.50</b>

**CERTIFICATION**

I, Judith Fisher, Clerk of the Township of Hardwick do hereby certify that this is a true and accurate copy of a Resolution Adopted by the Township Committee of the Township of Hardwick, Warren County, New Jersey at a Regular Meeting held on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020.

**Roll Call**

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

**Nays:** None

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

**ORDINANCE:**     None

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Vass Farmstead Property** – Update     Mr. John Lovell, President of the Hardwick Historical Society give the Committee an update on the discussion about their lease with the State. Mr. Lovel is also the Grant Coordinator and he has been working on several grants.

**White Lake Area** – Update     Ridge & Valley no longer managing this property. A group from Phillipsburg will be managing this property and we have been told that all the programs that Ridge & Valley had in place will still be in place with this group.

**Rock wall:** Mr. Duffy updated the Committee about this project that he and Mayor Starrs have been working on. They would like to have a mitigation meeting with the various parties involved so that they can discuss other options

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**WC Pollution Control Financing Authority** – Interlocal Agreement – Disposal of Bulky Waste  
This Interlocal Agreement allows the Township to dispose of bulky waste at the Landfill in Oxford. Motion was made by Mr. Perry, seconded by Mr. Carrazzone to enter into this agreement. Motion carried and a voice vote was unanimous.

**DISCUSSION**

**Computer Upgrade's:** Edmunds – Animal Licensing (Cloud)

Mr. Perry noted that he has called Edmunds several time but no call back. He will try again with and update at the April meeting.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:**     February 5, 2020, Business Meeting

The Committee agreed to hold approval of this meeting to the April meeting.

**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. Teresa Riker, Millbrook Stillwater Road presented the Committee with a Resolution for the Second Amendment rights. She is asking the Committee for their support by sending a message to Trenton that law-abiding firearms owners in New Jersey are under constitutional attack. Her letter also noted that the firearms legislation passed in Trenton only burdens the second amendment rights of the citizens of New Jersey.

Mayor Duffy deferred this to the Township Attorney who requested that he would like time to review this and then give an opinion at the next Township meeting.

Several people from the audience spoke, Dennis Butterfield from Blairstown Twp., John Lovell and Jim Harris from Hardwick.

She highlighted several projects that they have did last year.

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

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Mr. Carrazzone talked about the intersection of Spring Valley and Stillwater Road intersection. The Senior would like to see the County make this a four way stop. Noted is that the Township Engineer is working on this with the County Engineer's office.

Mr. Perry talked about the aid to schools and that they are moving forward with discussion on consolidation. The study for this will be paid for by the State. For the Rockwall project, he noted that Governor Murphy's office is interested in helping at the Federal level. He then briefly touched on the Second Amendment, COAH, Senator Oroho's vegetation bill and Yard's Creek a joint project with PSEG and JCPL.

Mayor Duffy talked about the soft opening for Slabtown Creek Park. The Open Space committee has scheduled the date of May 11 for this; details to follow soon. Ridge & Valley would like to use the Park for Yoga. Susan Tilley is asking for the 4 Sundays in July. More detail to follow soon.

Motion made by Mr. Perry, seconded by Mr. Carrazzone and carried to moved the Work Meeting from March 18, 2020 to March 25, 2020. A voice vote was unanimous.

### **Executive Session: RESOLUTION**

A motion was made by Mr. Perry, seconded by Mr. Carrazzone and carried to adopt the Resolution to go into Closed Session at 8:47PM.

### **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:

3. The public shall be excluded from that portion of this meeting

4. The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows:

A. Personnel Matter – Dept of Public Works

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:** 8:47PM

Present: Mr. Duffy, Mr. Carrazzone, Mr. Perry

Also Present: Attorney Richard Wenner, CMFO Christine Rolef, CPWM Thomas Campbell and Township Clerk Judith Fisher

**Time Out:** 9:06PM

A motion was made by Mr. Carrazzone, seconded by Mr. Perry to come out of closed session at 9:06PM. Motion carried and unanimous.

Attorney Mr. Wenner noted that he met in closed session with the Committee and discussed one Closed Session matters – Personnel - DPW. 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.

### **Adjournment:**

A motion was made by Mr. Carrazzone, seconded by Mr. Perry and carried to adjourn tonight's meeting of the Hardwick Township Committee at 9:06PM

Respectfully submitted,

Judith M. Fisher, RMC