

TOWNSHIP OF HARDWICK
WARREN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

FEBRUARY 17, 2021

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 7:00PM by the Township Clerk Judith Fisher who noted that this meeting was being held in compliance with the "Open Public Meetings Act":

Mayor Duffy noted that since the Municipal Building is closed to the Public, this is a virtual meeting being done through Zoom because of the Coronavirus Pandemic.

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 on the Township Web page and in the Hardwick Municipal Building.

Mayor Kevin Duffy then led the public in the pledge of allegiance.

Roll Call:

Present: Mayor Kevin Duffy, Deputy Mayor John Lovell, Committeewoman Jodi Butler

Also present: Tom Campbell, CPWM and Attorney Michael Lavery

Mayor Duffy thanks those that joined us tonight using Zoom. The other Board meeting will also be using Zoom for their meetings. We apologize for any glitches.

RESOLUTION: None at this time

ORDINANCE: 2nd Reading & Public Hearing - March 3, 2021 Mtg

2021-01 To Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and to Establish a Cap Bank
AMENDED

2021-02 An Ordinance of the Township of Hardwick, County of Warren, State of New Jersey Amending and Supplementing Chapter 13-110 Titled: "Stormwater Control" to incorporate Revisions Mandated by the State of New Jersey

OLD BUSINESS:

Altice: Update Certificate of Approval – Franchise Agreement

Mayor Duffy updated Altice from our last meeting discussion on the fee for the permits, \$2500.00, that the Township agrees to pay for the permits so that we can get internet to the Municipal Building.

Mr. Lovell motioned to pay Altice the permit fee of \$2500.00, seconded by Ms. Butler. Motion carried and a roll call vote followed:

Roll Call:

Aye: Mr. Lovell, Ms. Butler, Mayor Duffy

Nay: None

Century Link: No update at this time

NEW BUSINESS: None currently at this time

DISCUSSION

Vass Property: Update

A response back from DEP noted that the lease they reviewed was unacceptable and right now, they are prohibited from doing anything at the Farmstead. It was suggested that we respond back to them noting that there was no flexibility in what they sent back.

DISCUSSION

Committeeman John Lovell:

Spring Valley Road: Talked about the temporary fix, Ramp. This devalues the Hardwick House and Township. He feels that it's time to have an open dialog with the Freeholders on their schedule to fix this problem.

Paulinskill Road: this was a productive meeting that was held at the Mr. Lavery's Office. Present were Ted Rodman, Bob Berry and John Lovell. The purpose of this meeting was to talk about the right of way and cul-de-sac. The outcome of this meeting is that more information was needed from the County regarding a subdivision that was done many years ago.

Hardwick House: Mr. Lovell gave a history of the business and the fact that there was a fire that destroyed the building about 10 or more years ago. In a discussion with the owner

several months ago, he is still interested in reopening. He was directed to talk with DCA on what is needed to reopen and then maybe also begin talking with the Zoning Department.

Open Space Contract: Bob Canace After speaking with Mr. Canace about his contract proposal, Mr. Lovell asked that he submit his contract and fee for 2021 for the Committee to review and approve at their next meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

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

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ms. Butler: No report at this time

Mr. Lovell: talked about retirements and health benefits. Like to look at other options. An Ad-Hoc Committee consisting of Mr. Lovell and Mr. Jacksic will be talking about options for health benefits. They will report back to the Committee on then findings.

Mr. Duffy: talked about the Website and cost to redesign and set up. He will talk with our IT person Mr. Reece about his company that does this. He was asked to send names of other townships that he has done designs for.

No Be Bosco: They contacted the Mayor about a piece of property on Sand Pond Road, .93A, that the Township foreclosed on several years ago. The Camp feels that it is theirs and they are interested in getting it back. The Attorney noted that there is a statute where the Township could do this. After a brief discussion, the Committee decided that at this time, they would rather hold on to this property.

Knowlton Township: Mayor Duffy was approached by Mayor Starrs with a request for the Knowlton Fire Company. They need to refurbish one of their fire engines again. They are looking to renew the contract agreement for 5 year in lieu of receiving the total amount of the donation. Committee will discuss this at the Budget Meeting February 20.

Arbor Society - they are asking the township is we are interested in receiving 1000 seedlings to distribute to residents. This service is fee, no charge to anyone. Ms. Butler felt that this was a good opportunity and public service to the community. The only question was distribution and how it would be done. Mayor Duffy will follow up on this.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Ms. Butler, seconded by Mr. Lovell and carried to adjourn tonight's meeting of the Hardwick Township Committee at 7:45PM

Respectfully submitted,
Judith M. Fisher, RMC