

**TOWNSHIP OF HARDWICK  
COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 18, 2024**

**OPENING ROLL CALL:**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Jacksic at 7:00 pm. Present was Committeeman Lovell. Also present were CFO Rolef DPW Supervisor Campbell, Township Attorney Igor Bykov, and Municipal Clerk Shipps. Deputy Mayor Meuse was absent.

**FLAG SALUTE:**

**SUNSHINE STATEMENT:**

“Adequate notice of this meeting has been provided in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act, P.L. 1975, Ch. 231 setting forth the time, date, place, and purpose of this Public Meeting through a legal notice published in New Jersey Herald and The Express times following the Township’s Annual Reorganization Meeting at which time the 2024 meeting schedule was adopted.”.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

No Public comment.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

DPW Supervisor Campbell reported that the DPW is continuing to cut brush and remove additional ash trees. Mr. Campbell stated there was an incident on Paulinskill Road where a tree fell on a car that was parked on the side of road. There was some damage to the vehicle and the owner was looking for the township to pay. Mr. Campbell advised the owner that it is not the township’s responsibility.

CFO Rolef advised that there is surplus money left over from the American Rescue Plan. The committee agreed to utilize the remaining funds for a lift for the garage and a bay off the salt shed for storage as long as it follows the finance laws. If a meeting is needed prior to October 16, 2024, for approval Clerk Shipps will make the necessary arrangements.

**MINUTES:**

August 21, 2024, Executive Session Meeting Minutes

August 21, 2024, Public Session Meeting Minutes

**Motion made by Lovell, Second by Jacksic and carried to approve above minutes.**

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

1. 2024-66 Approving Payment of Vouchers.

**WHEREAS** all claims as reviewed and listed on the attached bill list are approved as reasonable and proper claims against the Township of Hardwick to be paid from its current fund; and

**WHEREAS**, the CFO has certified that funds are available to pay such claims.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Township Committee of the Township of Hardwick, County of Warren, State of New Jersey that the bills on the attached bill listed are authorized to be paid.

**Motion made by Lovell, second by Jacksic and approve by roll call vote: Lovell—yes, Jacksic-yes to approve the consent agenda. Meuse—absent.**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**Spring Valley Road update-**

Mayor Jacksic reported that no bids were received for the project. A new bid has been published this month.

**Website Update -no update**

**Affordable Housing-**

Reporting has been filed. Discussion took place on the township getting an Affordable Housing liaison. Committeeman Lovell is concerned with Warren County's Housing and the lack of communication regarding applications made by residents that were made for affordable housing.

**Sample Ordinance for Storage Containers-**

Discussion will take place at a later meeting after Zoning Officer Boesze has had a chance to review the ordinance.

**Municipal Roof-**

Township Attorney Bykov followed up with the roofing company and did receive all certifications. The contract will be forward to Township Attorney Bykov, once he has completed his review for approval, either the Mayor or Clerk will sign the contract.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

No new business.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

No correspondence.

**TOWNSHIP ATTORNEY:**

Township Attorney Bykov is still waiting on a follow up email from NJDEP regarding the Vass Farm Lease.

**TOWNSHIP CLERK:**

Clerk Shipps stated that there are approximately eleven organizations participating in the Clean Communities roadside clean-up which will take place on October 5<sup>th</sup>.

**TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Committeeman Lovell stated that there is a resident who would like to decorate the tree on the corner of Stillwater and Spring Valley for Christmas. Committeeman Lovell stated that it is on state property and is willing to write a letter to the state to seek permission.

Mayor Jacksic read the call outs for the Animal Control Office and fire department.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

No public comment.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

**Motion made by Lovell, second by Jacksic and carried to go into Executive Session at 7:44 pm.**

2024-67- Resolution Authorizing Executive Session for the purpose of

**WHEREAS**, Section 8 of the Open Public 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. Litigation

B. Potential Litigation

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.

**Motion made by Lovell, second by Jacksic and carried to closed Executive Session at 8:13 pm.**

Township Attorney Bykov stated that Hardwick Township Committee emerged from their Executive Session at 8:13 pm where two matters were discussed. One regarding the acquisition of property on Paulinskill Road. The second regarding the potential litigation regarding the Riverview Cell Tower site. No official action is being taken and copies of the minutes will be available at such times as the committee determines there is no harm to the public.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**Motion made by Lovell, second by Jacksic and carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 pm.**

Respectfully submitted by:

Kristin Shipps, RMC