

BOROUGH OF LAUREL SPRINGS
REGULAR MEETING OF MAYOR AND COUNCIL
MONDAY, MAY 8, 2017
MAYOR THOMAS A. BARBERA PRESIDING

SALUTE TO THE FLAG AND MOMENT OF SILENCE was led by Mayor Barbera

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS LAW – Mayor Barbera stated that adequate notice of this meeting was given by emailing the Retrospect and the Courier-Post on January 10, 2017 and posting on the Borough Website and bulletin board in the Borough Hall.

ROLL CALL recorded as present: Letts, McCunney, DiGregorio, Cruz and Redstreak; with Mochel absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - Work Session Meeting of March April 24, 2017 – the motion to approve with insertion of erroneously omitted resolution by Councilman Letts, was seconded by Councilman McCunney with Letts, McCunney and DiGregorio in favor, Cruz and Redstreak abstaining and none opposed.

RESOLUTIONS

• #052-2017- CONFIRMING APPOINTMENT OF TAX ASSESSOR

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A.:9-146, the Governing Body or chief executive, as shall be appropriate to the form of government of the municipality, shall provide for the appointment of a tax assessor; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:9-148, every municipal tax assessor shall hold their office for a term of four years from the first day of July next following their appointment and vacancies other than due to expiration of term shall be filled by appointment for the unexpired term; and

WHEREAS, the appointment of Denise Campbell, Tax Assessor for the Borough of Laurel Springs expired on June 30, 2016, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the governing body of the Borough of Laurel Springs, County of Camden, State of New Jersey, that it hereby confirms the reappointment of Denise Campbell as Tax Assessor of the Borough of Laurel Springs for a consecutive term of four years, thereby granting her tenure as per N.J.S.A. 54:1-35.31

• The motion to approve by Councilman Redstreak was seconded by Councilman McCunney, with Letts, McCunney, DiGregorio, Cruz and Redstreak in favor, none opposed and no abstentions

• #053-2017- REGARDING THE ANNUAL AUDIT

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:5-4 requires the governing body of every local unit to have made an annual audit of its books, accounts and financial transactions; and

WHEREAS, the Annual Report of Audit for the year 2016 has been filed by a Registered Municipal Accountant with the Municipal Clerk pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:5-6 and a copy has been received by each member of the governing body; and

WHEREAS, R.S. 52:27BB-34 authorizes the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey to prescribe reports pertaining to the local fiscal affairs; and

WHEREAS, the Local Finance Board has promulgated N.J.A.C. 5:30-6.5, a regulation requiring that the governing body of each municipality shall by resolution, certify to the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey that all members of the governing body have reviewed, as a minimum, the sections of the annual audit entitled “Findings and Questioned costs: or Findings and Recommendations; and

WHEREAS, the members of the governing body have personally reviewed as a minimum the Annual Report of Audit, and specifically the sections of the Annual Audit entitled “Findings and Questioned Costs” or “Findings and Recommendations; as evidenced by the group affidavit form of the governing body attached hereto; and

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WHEREAS, such resolution of certification shall be adopted by the governing body no later than forty-five days after the receipt of the annual audit, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-6.5; and

WHEREAS, all members of the governing body have received and have familiarized themselves with, at least, the minimum requirements of the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey, as stated aforesaid and have subscribed to the affidavit, as provided by the Local Finance Board; and

WHEREAS, failure to comply with the regulations of the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey may subject the members of the governing body to the penalty provisions of R.S. 52:27BB-52 – to wit:

R.S. 52:27BB-52 – A local officer or member of local governing body who, after a date fixed for compliance, fails or refuses to obey an order of the director (Director of Local Government Services), under the provisions of this Article, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, may be fined not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) or imprisoned for not more than one year, or both, in addition shall forfeit his/her office.”

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Laurel Springs in the County of Camden and State of New Jersey has complied with N.J.A.C. 5:30-6.5 and does hereby submit a certified copy of this resolution and the required affidavit to said Board to show evidence of said compliance.

- The motion to approve by Councilman Redstreak was seconded by Councilman McCunney, with Letts, McCunney, DiGregorio, Cruz and Redstreak in favor, none opposed and no abstentions

- #054-2017- **TO AWARD CONTRACT FOR ROOFTOP MOUNTED SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC ELECTRIC GENERATING SYSTEM UNDER A POWER PURCHASE AGREEMENT (PPA)**

WHEREAS, competitive proposals were requested to design, fabricate, deliver, install, operate, and maintain a rooftop or ground mounted solar photovoltaic electric generating system under a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA); and

WHEREAS, sealed proposals were received, opened and read in public at Laurel Springs Borough Hall, 135 Broadway, Laurel Springs, NJ 08021 on Thursday, April 27, 2017 at 2 pm; and

WHEREAS, one proposal was received from Sunvest EzNergy LLC, 1561 Route 9, Toms River, New Jersey, which was reviewed by the Borough of Laurel Springs Solicitor so it is a complying submittal, and

WHEREAS, the amount of bid presented was Option 1 – 7.8 cents per KW, and Option 2 – 8.1 center per KW with 0 escalator; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the contract for the Rooftop Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Electric Generating System Under a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) be awarded to Sunvest EzNergy LLC, 1561 Route 9, Toms River, New Jersey.

 - Borough Administrator Cheeseman reviewed the bid process and the bid results with Council. Solicitor has reviewed. He has a small matter he wants to review before signing the contract, but suggests that Council approve the resolution. This will incur no cost to municipality

- The motion to approve by Councilman Redstreak was seconded by Councilman Cruz, with Letts, McCunney, DiGregorio, Cruz and Redstreak in favor, none opposed and no abstentions

- RESOLVED TO PAY \$743,068.46 FROM CURRENT ACCOUNT AND \$23,675.22 FROM TRUST AND CAPITAL ACCOUNTS

- The motion to approve by Councilman Redstreak was seconded by Councilman McCunney, with Letts, McCunney, DiGregorio, Cruz and Redstreak in favor, none opposed and no abstentions.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

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- DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS, BOARDS, SERVICES/PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL – Council President Redstreak read a letter of thanks to members of the Green Team and others who came out for the Lake Clean Up on April 29. He reminded of the upcoming WaltFEST event which will be the second annual on Saturday, June 3rd. He commented that all is going very well with Public Works Department and the Sewer Utility report for the month of April, 2017, a copy of which is on file and available for review. Councilman Redstreak said that sewer mark outs will need to be accomplished in house, in light of the change effected by the Lindenwold Sewer Utility.
- DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS & GROUNDS –
- DIRECTOR OF MUNICIPAL COURT – there was no report available yet for the month of April.
- DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE – Councilman Letts had no report.
- DIRECTOR OF RECREATION – Councilman Cruz read the Recreation Report for the month of April, 2017, a copy of which is on file and available for review.
- DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY – POLICE AND FIRE – Councilman McCunney read the Fire and Police Reports for the month of March, 2017, copies of which are on file and available for review.
- MAYOR’S REPORT – Mayor Barbera read the Recreation and Mayor’s Report for the month of April, 2017, copies of which are on file and available for review.

OLD BUSINESS –Financial Disclosure Statements – Mayor Barbera explained the change that was made for home addresses, and reminded each of the requirement to file. The April 30th deadline is not going to be strictly enforced because of the changes, however, it should be done by May 31st.

NEW BUSINESS- None

CORRESPONDENCE- None

ITEMS RECEIVED AFTER THE AGENDA WAS PRINTED – None.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC-

- Crissie Morrison-221 Fairmount- asked advice on removal of dead tree on adjacent property. Neighbor is aware of dead condition, and they have spoken and they are reporting difficulty removing it from their side and are requesting access to her yard, which she is reluctant to grant. There is now a tilt situation which is new and precarious. She declined permission to allow tree removal from her property because of lawn and sewer main. She is asking for advice and what can be done? Council is sympathetic to her plight, but it is officially a civil matter for which the Borough cannot be involved
- Anne Haas- 1017 Stone Road- inquired about the opportunities for new rateables in town and where they may be located. She is concerned about taxes in general and School taxes in particular. The potential new businesses include possibly Aikido, a new BBQ restaurant and new mini mart. Mayor Barbera explained inequities in school tax formula. There was discussion about that issue, and some new discussion in the legislature. Mrs. Haas attends the Board of Education meeting and there was further discussion of school funding formula and how and which towns are affected by it.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Whitman Stafford Farmhouse Committee, Tuesday, May 9, 2017 @7pm @Farmhouse
- Laurel Springs Day, Saturday, May 13, 2017 @11 am-4pm @Downtown
- School Board Meeting, Wednesday, May 17, 2017 @7pm @Laurel Springs School
- Combined Land Use Board, Thursday, May 18, 2017 @7pm @Borough Hall
- No Work Session Meetings in the months of May, June, July and August

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- Memorial Day, Monday, May 29, 2017-Borough Offices are Closed-Ceremony @10am @War Memorial
- Miss Laurel Springs Pageant, Friday Evening, June 2, 2017 @7pm @Sterling High School.
- WaltFEST, Saturday, June 3, 2017 @11 am @Farmhouse, Crystal Springs, Train Station, etc.
- Primary Election, Tuesday, June 6, 2017 @6am-8pm @Recreation Center
- Recreation Commission, Wednesday, June 7, 2017 @7pm @ Recreation Center
- JIF Safety Meeting, Thursday, June 8, 2017 @12:30 pm @ Borough Hall
- Regular Meeting, Monday, June 12, 2017 @7pm @Borough Hall

ADJOURNMENT –There being no further business a motion was made by Councilman Redstreak, which was seconded by Councilman McCunney to adjourn at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn T. Amadio, RMC,
Municipal Clerk