

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOWER ALLOWAYS CREEK HELD SEPTEMBER 21, 2021**

A Regular Meeting of the Lower Alloways Creek Township Committee was held on September 21, 2021 with Mayor Ellen B. Pompper calling the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

STATEMENT OF NOTICE GIVEN

The Township Clerk read the following statement.

This is a Regular Meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Lower Alloways Creek being held in compliance with the "Open Public Meetings Act" N.J.S.A. 10:4-6. To insure the right of citizens to have adequate advance notice of and the right to attend meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting them is discussed or acted upon. Advance written notice of this meeting was given by way of the Annual Notice which was filed with the Lower Alloways Creek Township Clerk, forwarded to the South Jersey Times and posted on the Bulletin Board in the lobby of the Lower Alloways Creek Township Municipal Building in compliance with said Act.

FLAG SALUTE

Mayor Pompper led in the Flag Salute.

ROLL CALL OF COMMITTEE

Present: Mr. Bradway, Mr. Collier, Mr. Palombo and Mayor Pompper

Absent: Mr. Venable

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Also in attendance were twenty-eight -(28) members of the public including, Superintendent of Public Works, Lewis Fogg; Police Chief Richard Venable; Fire Chief, Steve Fisher; Solicitor, Linwood Donelson III and Township Clerk, Ronald L Campbell Sr.

PAYMENT OF AUDITED VOUCHERS

Motion (Bradway, Collier) that all properly audited vouchers be paid.

The motion to pay properly audited vouchers passed a vote of the Township Committee as follows: 4-0

Ayes: Bradway, Collier, Palombo and Pompper

Nays: none Abstain: none Absent: Venable

REPORTS TO THE COMMITTEE

The Mayor requested that the minutes reflect that the August 2021 Monthly reports to the Township Committee have been received from the following Departments and are on file with the Clerk: Construction Office, Engineer, Finance, Municipal Court, Police Department, Public Works, Sewer and Tax Collector.

MINUTES

Motion (Venable, Bradway) to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of the Township Committee Meeting held on August 17, 2021.

The motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of the Township Committee Meeting held on August 17, 2021 passed a vote of the Township Committee as follows: 4-0

Ayes: Bradway, Collier, Palombo and Pompper

Nays: none Abstain: none Absent: Venable

WIND PORT

Mayor Pompper called on Brian Sabina, Senior Vice President of Economic Transformation for the New Jersey Economic Development Authority (NJEDA) to give the Committee and the public an overview of the Wind Port and recent activities.

Mr. Sabina began by stating that the Wind Port would be a purpose built place to assembly the 600 foot wind turbine poles and load them onto the installation vessels, where they would then be taken out to the areas 30 miles or so off shore where wind power leases have been determined and place them in the sea bed. The electric generating turbines would be staged at the port and then taken to be placed on the 600 foot poles off the shore. The manufacture of the turbines and blades would be done at this port and the one at Paulsboro.

Mr. Sabina stated that the first phases of construction which would be the dredging and site preparation would begin in the coming months. Mr. Sabina emphasized that the Governor is committed to having a diverse group employed on the project including women, minorities and small businesses for the projected 1500 people who potentially could be employed there. Mr. Sabina stated that as of now approximately 257 million dollars has been committed to this project because it is felt that its location (with no bridge height obstructions, proximity to navigable waters) and the available land area make it a unique and desirable place have wind turbine facilities. Mr. Sabina stated that closer to the second half of 2024 is when the Wind Port really begins to start it intended purpose.

Mayor Pompper opened the floor up for anyone to ask questions of Mr. Sabina about the Wind Port.

Questions included:

How would this effect the roads with the increase in traffic and heavy vehicles of another 1500 people using them ? Mr. Sabina stated that infrastructure was looked at and that the 1500 would not be until 2030 or so and would be in shifts, so not all be on the roads at one time. As far as the roads, yes they would be travelled and need maintenance and that would be taken care of by the means they are now (NJDOT planning & grants).

How will the dredging effect the fish, fisherman or the environment ? Mr. Sabina stated that an environmental study has been done and it was determined that the area to be used was not a significant habitat for any fish or shellfish and in fact the sand dredged will be used to enhance habitats for marine life in other areas.

Will the vessels used be a hazard or impede local boats from area marinas ? Mr. Sabina stated that bay and river traffic was also studied and it was determined that the vessels utilizing the Wind Port did not add significantly to the amount of traffic on the waterway now.

Have the bridges been inspected recently, underneath Hancocks Bridge seems to be cracking apart ?

Mayor Pompper stated that all our bridges are County Bridges and they are responsible for them. The County is required by law to have all bridges inspected.

Residents expressed concern that there are only so many ways out of town and that New Bridge and the bridge on Buckhorn road have been closed and there does not seem to be any hope of having them replaced or repaired.

Mayor Pompper stated that she agrees, but it is a County issue and they do not seem to want to fix them.

Mayor Pompper asked if there were any more questions, if not there will be a 10 minute recess after which the Committee would continue with their regular business meeting.

Mr. Venable joined the meeting via a telephone placed on the Committee dais.

RESOLUTIONS

Motion (Bradway, Palombo) for Resolution 2021- 64, a Resolution to authorize the sale of surplus public property at govdeals.com online auction.

RESOLUTION 2021- 64

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE SALE OF SURPLUS PUBLIC PROPERTY ITEMS AT GOVDEALS.COM ONLINE AUCTION.

WHEREAS, The Township of Lower Alloways Creek has surplus public property items, which it no longer has need of for public service; and,

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A 11-36 authorizes municipalities to offer for sale, public property which is no longer needed for public service; and,

WHEREAS, the Township Committee does authorize the following item

1- 1982 GMC Utility Truck VIN #1GCJP32M2C3306749

be offered for auction online through Govdeals.com whose headquarters are located in Montgomery Alabama, pursuant to New Jersey Public Property Laws and Local Finance Notice 2008-09.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Township Committee of the Township of Lower Alloways Creek does authorize the sale of this surplus public property by online auction at Govdeals.com and does authorize the Purchasing Agent to negotiate with Govdeals.com as to the terms and conditions of their commission and any other particulars pertaining to the auction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the terms and conditions of the online auction be available at the Municipal Clerk's Office and available through the auction website pursuant to Local Finance Notice 2008-09.

The motion for Resolution 2021- 64 to authorize the sale of surplus public property at govdeals.com online auction passed a vote of the Township Committee as follows: 5-0

Ayes: Bradway, Palombo, Collier, Venable and Pompper

Nays: none Abstain: none Absent: none

Motion (Bradway, Collier) for Resolution 2021-69, a Resolution Certifying the 2020 Audit.

RESOLUTION 2021-69

A RESOLUTION CERTIFYING THE 2020 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 ending December 31, 2020 has been filed by a Registered Municipal Accountant with the Township 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

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 52:27BB- 52 -to wit:

R.S. 52:27BB-52 -A local officer or member of a 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 Township Committee of the Township of Lower Alloways Creek, hereby states that it 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 for Resolution 2021-69, Certifying the 2020 Audit passed a vote of the Township Committee as follows: 5-0

Ayes: Bradway, Collier, Palombo, Venable and Pompper

Nays: none Abstain: none Absent: none

Motion (Bradway, Collier) for Resolution 2021- 70, a Resolution to accept the Corrective Action Plan for the Findings and Recommendations of the 2020 Audit.

RESOLUTION 2021-70

A RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT THE CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN FOR THE "FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS" OF THE 2020 AUDIT.

WHEREAS, the annual report of Audit for the year 2020 has been filed by a Registered Municipal Accountant with the Township of Lower Alloways Creek; and,

WHEREAS, the Audit report by statute contains "Findings and Recommendations" made by the Registered Municipal Accountant to which a Corrective Action Plan must be formulated; and,

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has made a Corrective Action Plan to the "Findings and Recommendations" of the 2020 Audit; and,

WHEREAS, the Township Committee has reviewed the Corrective Action Plan as made by the

Chief Financial Officer.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Township Committee of the Township of Lower Alloways Creek does accept the Corrective Action Plan made by the Chief Financial Officer.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be distributed to the Chief Financial Officer and other agencies as required by law.

The motion for Resolution 2021-70, to accept the Corrective Action Plan for the Findings and Recommendations of the 2020 Audit passed a vote of the Township Committee as follows: 5-0

Ayes: Bradway, Collier, Palombo, Venable and Pompper

Nays: none Abstain: none Absent: none

Motion (Bradway, Palombo) for Resolution 2021-71, a Resolution authorizing a Municipal Tax Lien against Block 39 Lot 25, in the amount of \$ 605.78 for abatement of excessive weeds and growth performed by the Public Works Department.

RESOLUTION 2021-71

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A MUNICIPAL TAX LIEN AGAINST BLOCK 39 LOT 25, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ 605.78 FOR ABATEMENT OF EXCESSIVE WEEDS AND GROWTH PERFORMED BY THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

WHEREAS the Municipal Clerk of the Township of Lower Alloways Creek does inform the Township Committee that, the abatement of excessive weeds and growth was performed by the Public Works Department on **Block 39, Lot 25 known as 904 MAIN STREET- CANTON** on March 17, 2020 and that, letters were sent to the owner of record by regular and certified mail detailing the amount due to the Township for the abatement of obnoxious weeds and growth; and,

WHEREAS, under provisions of Chapter 155, Section 5 of the Code of the Township of Lower Alloways Creek, "If the full amount due the Township is not paid within twenty-one (21) days as provided in the preceding section, then the Township municipal clerk shall cause to be recorded in the tax collector's office a sworn statement showing the cost and expense incurred for the work and the date, place or property on which said work was done, and the recordation of such sworn statement shall constitute a lien and privilege on the property and shall remain in full force and effect for the amount due in principal and interest, plus costs of court, if any for collection. The lien shall remain in force until final payment has been made, and payments may be collected in the manner fixed by law for the collection of taxes; and,

WHEREAS, no contact or correspondence has been received from the owner of record in reply to the request for payment and the 21 (twenty-one) day window for payment to be made has expired.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Lower Alloways Creek, in the County of Salem and the State of New Jersey that, the Clerk be authorized to record a sworn statement with the Tax Collector showing the cost and expense incurred for the abatement of obnoxious weeds and growth from Block 39, Lot 25 known as 904 MAIN STREET on March 17, 2020 in the amount of five Hundred fifty-five dollars and seventy-eight cents, \$ 555.78, plus a Fifty dollar administration fee, totaling six hundred five dollars and seventy-eight cents (\$605.78) and that the Tax Collector shall, then record that statement as a lien on the property and that it shall remain in effect until the final payment may be collected in the manner fixed by law for the collection of taxes.

The motion for Resolution 2021-71 passed a vote of the Township Committee as follows: 5-0

Ayes: Bradway, Palombo, Collier, Venable and Pompper

Nays: none Abstain: none Absent: none

Motion (Venable, Bradway) for Resolution 2021-72, a Resolution authorizing a Municipal Tax Lien against Block 15 Lot 5, in the amount of \$ 219.10 for abatement of excessive weeds and growth performed by the Public Works Department.

RESOLUTION 2021-72

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A MUNICIPAL TAX LIEN AGAINST BLOCK 15 LOT 5, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ 219.10 FOR ABATEMENT OF EXCESSIVE WEEDS AND GROWTH PERFORMED BY THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

WHEREAS the Municipal Clerk of the Township of Lower Alloways Creek does inform the Township Committee that, the abatement of excessive weeds and growth was performed by the Public Works Department on Block 15, Lot 5 known as 34 SECOND STREET on June 10, 2021 and that, letters were sent to the owner of record by regular and certified mail detailing the amount due to the Township for the abatement of obnoxious weeds and growth; and,

WHEREAS, under provisions of Chapter 155, Section 5 of the Code of the Township of Lower Alloways Creek, "If the full amount due the Township is not paid within twenty-one (21) days as provided in the preceding section, then the Township municipal clerk shall cause to be recorded in the tax collector's office a sworn statement showing the cost and expense incurred for the work and the date, place or property on which said work was done, and the recordation of such sworn statement shall constitute a lien and privilege on the property and shall remain in full force and effect for the amount due in principal and interest, plus costs of court, if any for collection. The lien shall remain in force until final payment has been made, and payments may be collected in the manner fixed by law for the collection of taxes; and,

WHEREAS, no contact or correspondence has been received from the owner of record in reply to the request for payment and the 21 (twenty-one) day window for payment to be made has expired.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Lower Alloways Creek, in the County of Salem and the State of New Jersey that, the Clerk be authorized to record a sworn statement with the Tax Collector showing the cost and expense incurred for the abatement of obnoxious weeds and growth from Block 15, Lot 5 known as 34 SECOND STREET on June 10, 2021 in the amount of one Hundred sixty-nine dollars and ten cents, \$ 169.10, plus a Fifty dollar administration fee, totaling two hundred nineteen dollars and ten cents and that the Tax Collector shall, then record that statement as a lien on the property and that it shall remain in effect until the final payment may be collected in the manner fixed by law for the collection of taxes.

The motion for Resolution 2021-72, authorizing a Municipal Tax Lien against Block 15 Lot 5, in the amount of \$ 219.10 for abatement of excessive weeds and growth performed by the Public Works Department passed a vote of the Township Committee as follows: 5-0

Ayes: Bradway, Palombo, Collier, Venable and Pompper

Nays: none Abstain: none Absent: none

Motion (Bradway, Palombo) for Resolution 2021-73, a Resolution to authorize the conduct of an On Premise Merchandise Raffle by Gallant Hearts.

RESOLUTION 2021 -73
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MUNICIPAL CONSENT
FOR THE CONDUCT OF A RAFFLE

WHEREAS, the Gallant Heart has submitted a properly executed Application for a License to operate an Off-Premise Merchandise Raffles at 137 Maskells Mill Road, Lower Alloways Creek, New Jersey in Lower Alloways Creek Township, and

WHEREAS, the Committee has reviewed said Application and has determined that the applicant is qualified and that the members designated to conduct these games are qualified, and

WHEREAS, the Committee has determined that the games will be conducted according to the regulations of the Legalized Games of Chance Act.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee of the Township of Lower Alloways Creek, hereby grants municipal consent to the Gallant Heart to conduct an:

RA2021-02 Off-Premise Merchandise Raffle January 01, 2022 at 12 :00 pm

RA2021-03 Off-Premise Merchandise Raffle July 04, 2022 at 12 :00 pm

At 173 Maskells Mill Road, Lower Alloways Creek, New Jersey in Lower Alloways Creek Township and does also hereby waive any municipal fee.

The motion for Resolution 2021-73, to authorize the conduct of an On Premise Merchandise Raffle by Gallant Hearts passed a vote of the Township Committee as follows: 5-0

Ayes: Bradway, Palombo, Collier, Venable and Pompper

Nays: none Abstain: none Absent: none

OLD BUSINESS Mayor Pompper asked the Clerk to give an update on the Alloways Creek neck Road and intersection resurfacing project. The Clerk informed the Committee that the Engineer had called just today and set October 12th for the bid opening and we should be approving the lowest qualified bidder at the next Township Committee Meeting on October 19th.

NEW BUSINESS

Motion (Venable, Bradway) to approve a Lease Agreement with Marilyn W. Green to occupy Unit A-7 at the Leisure Arms Complex.

The motion to approve a Lease Agreement with Marilyn W. Green to occupy Unit A-7 at the Leisure Arms Complex was passed by a vote of the Township Committee as follows: 5-0

Ayes: Venable, Bradway, Collier, Palombo and Pompper

Nays: none Abstain: none Absent: None

CORRESPONDENCE: All correspondence received has been distributed to the proper parties

REPORTS TO THE COMMITTEE & COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Police Department: Chief Venable stated that all the equipment and server has been received for the body worn camera updates, just the final installation needs to be scheduled. Chief Venable stated the September 30 is Law Enforcement Appreciation Day and the Department has been invited to participate.

Public Works: Superintendent Fogg stated that in addition to the items on his monthly report, the swings along the fence have been removed per the JIF's playground inspection report. They will be replaced and moved to a new location. Mayor Pompper stated that No Smoking signs need to be placed at the Log Cabin, as she notice this past weekend that people were smoking on the property during the open house.

Fire Department: Chief Fisher stated that a County Health Department Flu Clinic will be held at the Hancocks Bridge Fire house on October 14 and the department will be having a Shrimp and Clams take-out fund raiser.

Mayor and Committee Members

Mayor Pompper stated that the Log Cabin open house this past Sunday was well attended and that the Township received \$28,500.00 for the recent sale of a Boston Whaler boat.

PUBLIC COMMENT: A resident has concerns about New Bridge's condition as she takes walks to the closed bridge and has seen several people on the bridge and noticed broken decking and is concerned for people's safety. She stated that there are no warning signs or any barrier to keep people off the bridge. In addition there seems to be some shady characters hanging around the bridge and road area.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion (Bradway, Collier) to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

The motion to adjourn the meeting passed unanimously.

Minutes of the September 21, 2021 Meeting were approved at a Township Committee Meeting held October 19, 2021

ATTEST:

LOWER ALLOWAYS CREEK TOWNSHIP

Ronald L Campbell Sr. Clerk

Mayor, Ellen B. Pompper