

DOWNE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE  
SPECIAL MEETING  
DECEMBER 17, 2014  
7:00 P.M.

The Downe Township Committee met in the Meeting Room of the Municipal Complex on Wednesday, December 17, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. for a Special Meeting. Mayor Robert Campbell presided. Committee members present were Larry Jordan, Deputy Mayor Dennis Cook and Edward Bart. Committeewoman Christine Wilford was absent. John Carr, Municipal Solicitor and Jennafer Hernandez, Chief Financial Officer were also present.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE / STATEMENT BY PRESIDING OFFICER REGARDING COMPLIANCE WITH OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT

Mayor Campbell called the meeting to order; led the Pledge of Allegiance and read the Open Public Meetings Act Statement – Special Meeting.

ROLL CALL

Present - Jordan, Cook, Bart, Campbell  
Absent - Wilford

PUBLIC HEARING

Second reading of Ordinance No. 8-2014 entitled "*Bond Ordinance Providing For Capital Improvements By The Township Of Downe, In The County Of Cumberland, New Jersey, Necessitated By Hurricane Sandy, And Appropriating One Million One Hundred Seventy-Seven thousand Dollars (\$1,177,000) Therefore And Authorizing The Issuance Of Eight Hundred Sixteen Thousand Five Hundred Ten Dollars (\$816,510) Bonds Or Notes Of The Township For Financing The Cost Thereof*". Jennafer Hernandez, Chief Financial Officer provided a brief explanation of Ordinance No. 8-2014 as requested by Mayor Campbell.

A motion was made by Cook and seconded by Jordan to open the Public Hearing for comment.

Vote: All in favor

Bernie Sayers, Newport, asked when the Gandy's Beach project went out to bid. Mayor Campbell responded October 23, 2014; the bid was awarded to Loftus Construction.

Joseph Cerone, Dividing Creek, asked how many bids were received. Mayor Campbell responded six (6) including Loftus Construction. Mr. Cerone then asked how many bonds the Township currently has. The Chief Financial Officer responded three

(3). Mr. Cerone informed members of the Township Committee that they are responsible for the Bonds.

Bernie Sayers, Newport, asked about the \$816,510. The Chief Financial Officer explained that the total is \$1,177,000 minus a grant in the amount of \$360,490 leaving a balance of \$810,510. Interest is less than 1%.

Joseph Cerone, Dividing Creek, confirmed that only \$816,510 is needed. He asked that if all fails how 1,500 taxpayers are going to pay back \$3 million dollars. Deputy Mayor Cook responded they are not going to have to; we have FEMA obligated grants.

There being no further comments, the Public Hearing was closed on a motion by Bart and seconded by Cook.

Vote: All in favor

#### ORDINANCE

A motion was made by Cook and seconded by Bart to adopt the aforementioned Ordinance No. 8-2014.

Roll Call: Aye – Jordan, Cook, Bart, Campbell

Nay – 0

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

A motion was made by Bart and seconded by Cook to open the meeting to the public for comment on the following resolutions.

Vote: All in favor

R-132-2014 *Authorizing The Payment Of Bills*

R-133-2014 *Authorizing Executive Session In Accordance With Provisions Of The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act – N.J.S.A. 10:4-12, Re: Matter Relating To Anticipated Litigation – N.J.S.A. 10:4-12b(7)*

Joseph Cerone, Dividing Creek, asked why the bills listed weren't paid at the December 1, 2014 Regular Meeting. He was informed that the bills were received after that. Mr. Cerone asked about the bill in the amount of \$475,000 for a Bond Anticipation Note. The Chief Financial Officer responded that she took out a Bond Anticipation Note for six (6) months and that it has matured and is being paid off. It pertains to the 2012 Bond Ordinance.

Bernie Sayers, Newport, asked about the purpose of the Executive Session and if any action was going to be taken. Solicitor Carr responded that there is a movement whereby waterfront residents are being contacted regarding Blue Acres buyouts and the Township Committee desires to discuss its options of a legal nature.

Joseph Cerone, Dividing Creek, further questions the payment of the Bond Anticipation Note in the amount of \$475,000. A discussion ensues with the Chief Financial Officer about the matter.

There being no other comments, a motion was made by Bart and seconded by Jordan to close the public comment segment.

Vote: All in favor

## RESOLUTIONS

A motion was made by Cook and seconded by Bart to adopt Resolution No. 132-2014 *Authorizing The Payment Of Bills* in the amount of \$493,707.91.

Vote: All in favor

A motion was made by Jordan and seconded by Cook to adopt Resolution No. R-133-2014 *Authorizing Executive Session In Accordance With The Provisions Of The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act – N.J.S.A. 10:4-12, Re: Matter Relating To Anticipated Litigation.*

Vote: All in favor

## NEXT MEETING

The Annual Reorganization Meeting of the Downe Township Committee will be held on Monday, January 5, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the Meeting Room of the Municipal Complex.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Cook and seconded by Jordan to go into Executive Session pursuant to Resolution No. R-133-2014.

Vote: All in favor

## OPEN SESSION

A motion was made by Jordan and seconded by Cook to reopen the meeting to the public.

Vote: All in favor

Solicitor Carr announced that the Township Committee discussed its options of a legal nature about an issue concerning Blue Acres funding.

It was the consensus of the Township Committee to change the date of the 2015 Reorganization Meeting from Monday, January 5, 2015 to Wednesday, January 7, 2015, 7:00 p.m. Municipal Complex, 288 Main Street, Newport, NJ 08345.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, a motion was made by Cook and seconded by Bart to adjourn the meeting.

Vote: All in favor

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Constance S. Garton", written over a horizontal line.

Constance S. Garton  
Municipal Clerk