

DOWNE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE  
REGULAR MEETING HELD ON  
JUNE 8, 2020 AT 7:00 P.M. VIA TELECONFERENCE

The Downe Township Committee met in the Meeting Room and via Teleconference at the Municipal Complex on Monday, June 8, 2020 at 7:00p.m. Mayor Robert G. Campbell presided. Committee members present at Township Complex were Michael Rothman (Deputy Mayor), and Steve Burt. Committeemen participating via teleconference include Stephen Byrne, and Edward Bart. Municipal Solicitor, John Carr, was also present.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE / STATEMENT 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.

ROLL CALL

Present – Bart, Burt, Byrne, Rothman and Campbell

Absent - 0

Mr. Byrne and Mr. Rothman arrived during Roll Call after their name was called.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

A motion was made by Burt and seconded by Bart to approve the May 11, 2020 meeting minutes.

Roll Call:     Aye – Bart, Burt, Byrne, Rothman and Campbell  
                  Nay – 0

Vote: All in favor

A motion was made by Burt and seconded by Bart to approve the April 12, 2020 meeting minutes.

Roll Call:     Aye – Bart, Burt, Byrne, Rothman and Campbell  
                  Nay – 0

Vote: All in favor

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Mayor Campbell read the Zoning Office, Chief Finance Officer and Tax Collector Reports. The Township Committee acknowledged the receipt of the following report:

- |                         |                    |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| • Zoning Officer        | April and May 2020 |
| • Chief Finance Officer | April and May 2020 |
| • Tax Collector         | April and May 2020 |

MUNICIPAL SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Solicitor Carr presented his report which consisted of information and updates on the following matters: Working with Mott MacDonald addressing concerns received from the NJDEP permit review process for the Fortescue Sewer Project. The deed consolidation process has begun for the sewer project site. Worked with the Clerk on

some OPRA demands. Work with our Risk Management Consultants on information in reference to the Gandy Beach bulkhead damage. Prepared documents for ratifying the OEM Coord and Deputy Coord position which is on the agenda tonight.

#### PUBLIC HEARING

Resolution #R-51-2020 – Amendment to 2020 Annual Budget

Motion was made by Rothman and seconded by Burt to open the Public Hearing for Resolution #R-51-2020.

Roll Call: Aye – Bart, Burt, Byrne, Rothman and Campbell

Nay – 0

Vote: All in favor

Kary Wilson of Newport asked for clarification of the amendment. Is this additional pilot funding to what the township is currently receiving? Mayor Campbell answered yes this is an additional \$135,921 of pilot funds that were put back into the State budget for distribution. This is the 1/3 taken by Governor Christie a few years ago. Mayor Campbell explained for many years we have been fighting to get these funds back. Mayor Campbell continued if we are paying attention to the State politics and the State budget the governor is projecting a \$2B-\$3B revenue shortfall and there is no telling how that will effect the state funding we receive. Kary Wilson stated we need to stay in contact with the Governors office. Mayor Campbell stated a few years again the local activist in the township did a letter writing campaign in support of the return of these funds and it looks like it all paid off.

There being no further comments from the public, a motion was made by Burt and seconded by Bart to close the Public Hearing for Resolution #R-51-2020.

Roll Call: Aye – Bart, Burt, Byrne, Rothman and Campbell

Nay – 0

Vote: All in favor

#### FINAL ADOPTION

Resolution #R-51-2020 – Amendment to 2020 Annual Budget

Motion was made by Burt and seconded by Rothman to adopt Amendment to 2020 Annual Budget

Roll Call: Aye – Bart, Burt, Byrne, Rothman and Campbell

Nay – 0

Vote: All in favor

#### FINAL ADOPTION

2020 Annual Budget

Motion was made by Bart and seconded by Rothman to adopt 2020 Annual Budget

Roll Call: Aye – Bart, Burt, Byrne, Rothman and Campbell

Nay – 0

Vote: All in favor

INTRODUCTION - ORDINANCE 2020-10 *Amending Ordinance No. 2015-6 Authorizing Downe Township to Join CS Regional Municipal Court and Authorizing an Amendment to the Agreement or the Operation of a Joint Municipal Court Between the Township of Deerfield, Township of Downe, Township of Greenwich, Township of Hopewell, Township of Lawrence, Township of Pittsgrove Borough of Shiloh, Township of Stow Creek, Township of Upper Deerfield*

Motion was made by Bart and seconded by Burt to Introduce Ordinance 2020-10.  
Roll Call: Aye – Bart, Burt, Byrne, Rothman and Campbell  
Nay – 0  
Vote: All in favor

RESOLUTIONS

- R-63-2020 *Authorizing the Payment of Bills*
- R-64-2020 *Approving the Entry into a Mortgage Modification Agreement as to McFerren F. Sockwell and His Mortgage on 905 Campbell Street, Dividing Creek, New Jersey 08315 Through the Small Cities Housing Rehabilitation Program*
- R-65-2020 *Authorizing the Public Works Program Grant from the United States Economic Development Administration*
- R-66-2020 *Authorizing the Township of Downe to Submit an Eligibility Determination and Funding Application to the United States Department of Agriculture for the Fortescue and Gandy's Beach Sewer Service System*
- R-67-2020 *Authorizing the Execution of a Deed of Consolidation as to Block 87, Lot 1, Downe Township*
- R-68-2020 *Resolution Amending and Re-Statting Resolution R-10-2020 and R-10-2019 Ratifying the Appointment of the Office of Emergency Management Coordinator and Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator for the Township of Downe*
- R-69-2020 *Resolution of Support from Local Governing Body Authorizing the Electric Vehicle Charging Station Grant*
- R-70-2020 *Resolution Recommending Proposal by Mott MacDonald, LLC for Engineering Services Related to the South Gandy Beach Post Hurricane Sandy Engineered Bin Block Seawall Rehabilitation – Phase 2 Final Design*
- R-71-2020 *Authorizing Executive Session*

A motion was made by Bart and seconded by Byrne to adopt Resolution No. R-63-2020 *Authorizing the Payment of Bills* in the total amount of \$262,048.10.

Roll Call: Aye – Bart, Burt, Byrne, Rothman and Campbell  
Nay – 0  
Vote: All in favor

A motion was made by Burt and seconded by Byrne to adopt Resolution No. R-64-2020.

Roll Call: Aye – Bart, Burt, Byrne, Rothman and Campbell  
Nay – 0  
Vote: All in favor

A motion was made by Bart and seconded by Burt to adopt Resolution No. R-65-2020.

Roll Call: Aye – Bart, Burt, Byrne, Rothman and Campbell  
Nay – 0

Vote: All in favor

A motion was made by Rothman and seconded by Burt to adopt Resolution No. R-66-2020.

Roll Call: Aye – Bart, Burt, Byrne, Rothman and Campbell  
Nay – 0

Vote: All in favor

A motion was made by Bart and seconded by Burt to adopt Resolution No. R-67-2020.

Roll Call: Aye – Bart, Burt, Byrne, Rothman and Campbell  
Nay – 0

Vote: All in favor

A motion was made by Byrne and seconded by Bart to adopt Resolution No. R-68-2020.

Roll Call: Aye – Bart, Byrne, Rothman and Campbell  
Nay – 0

Abstain - Burt

Vote: All in favor

A motion was made by Burt and seconded by Byrne to adopt Resolution No. R-69-2020.

Roll Call: Aye – Bart, Burt, Byrne, Rothman and Campbell  
Nay – 0

Vote: All in favor

A motion was made by Rothman and seconded by Bart to adopt Resolution No. R-70-2020.

Roll Call: Aye – Bart, Burt, Byrne, Rothman and Campbell  
Nay – 0

Vote: All in favor

A motion was made by Burt and seconded by Byrne to adopt Resolution No. R-71-2020.

Roll Call: Aye – Bart, Burt, Byrne, Rothman and Campbell  
Nay – 0

Vote: All in favor

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

On a motion by Bart and seconded by Rothman, the meeting was opened to the public for comment.

Roll Call: Aye – Bart, Burt, Byrne, Rothman and Campbell  
Nay – 0

Vote: All in favor

Kary Wilson of Newport asked for clarification on Resolutions R-65 & R-68. Mayor Campbell stated that resolution is for a grant for the funds to repave all of the road in

Fortescue after all of the construction is complete. Mrs. Wilson asked how much money the grant for the USDA (R-68-2020). Mayor Campbell answered an additional \$1M. That will put our total grant funding amount to \$11M for the project. Kary Wilson asked if the Deed Consolidation resolution is for the property on Downe Avenue? What is that property being used for? Mayor Campbell answered we vacated a piece of Bridgeton Avenue and that small parcel is being consolidated with the remaining properties for the sewer project. This will give us one deed and one block and lot number for the combined parcels which will house the sewer plant. Kary Wilson asked if the salary ordinance will be changed because of the amended terms of the OEM Coordinator. Mayor Campbell stated the change corrects the term of the OEM Coordinator which expires December 31, 2021. There is no change in salary. Mrs. Wilson asked if Mr. Burt abstained from voting on that resolution. Mayor Campbell answered yes. Mrs. Wilson asked why Mr. Burt abstained. Mayor Campbell answered because Mr. Burt is the OEM Coordinator. Mrs. Wilson commented that the committee should go back and review a few other items Mr. Burt voted on. He has voted on other positions and ordinances that had to do with that position. Mayor Campbell stated he will check into it. Mrs. Wilson continued that Mr. Burt is a committeeman. A Committeeman is not supposed to hold an appointment within the township, because they already oversee all of the township activity. There is a statute that states this. Mayor Campbell informed Mrs. Wilson this is not being discussed tonight and if she has a copy of the statute she mentioned, please forward a copy to him. Mrs. Wilson asked where the courts will be held. Mayor Campbell stated we have been with his regional court system for a while. The court system is not changing locations, this ordinance is to include Commercial Township into the system and all of the current municipalities must agree with the addition. Mrs. Wilson stated it was mentioned that the solar project on Ackley Road is underway with Mott MacDonald doing the engineering and there is a contractor involved. Mayor Campbell answered Mott MacDonald has nothing to do with the solar project on Ackley Road. There are no contractors involved at this time. We are in the process of creating a redevelopment zone at the site and that is what we have been working on this past year. Mrs. Wilson stated she found a notification in the Daily Journal about the application for the permits for the sewer project. She was told at the last meeting there would be no public notices. Mayor Campbell stated everything is being handled by our professional and at some point, in the near future we will hold another Town Hall meeting. All applications are at the NJDEP for review and approval. Mrs. Wilson asked what's on the Executive Session Agenda? Mayor Campbell answered some contract issues and potential litigation issues and there will be no action taken.

There being no further comments, the public comment portion was closed on a motion by Burt and seconded by Bart.

Roll Call: Aye – Bart, Burt, Byrne, Rothman and Campbell  
Nay – 0

Vote: All in favor

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mayor Campbell reported all sewer permits are into the NJDEP for review and approval. We are continuing to apply for more grant money.



Mr. Bart stated he has nothing to report at this time.

Mr. Burt stated he has nothing to report at this time.

Mr. Byrne stated he is working on some music for Union Hall. The Green Team is doing a great job. They are planning an event for August with music and food.

Deputy Mayor Rothman stated he appreciates what everyone is doing throughout the township with this pandemic. Hopefully soon we will be able to all get together again and meeting in person. Thank you everyone for being understanding.

Mayor Campbell stated you all should have received your mail in ballots. Election Day is July 7<sup>th</sup>. There is only one polling location open which will be the Dividing Creek Fire Hall. Also please don't forget to submit your 2020 Census forms. Currently we have the lowest response for the County. Mayor Campbell thanked the Green Team for the calendars. You have done a fabulous job on the calendars. Mayor Campbell also thanked Kary Wilson whose business printed the final calendars. Mrs. Wilson commented it was a pleasure working with everyone. Mr. Rothman stated it is important to let everyone know the mail in ballots must be postmarked by July 7<sup>th</sup>. It will take a few days to get the final results because all voting is being done by mail and has to be tallied by hand. There is one ballot and one vote. Be counted.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by Burt and seconded by Bart, the meeting was opened to Executive Session.

Roll Call: Aye – Bart, Burt, Byrne, Rothman and Campbell  
Nay – 0

Vote: All in favor

On a motion by Burt and seconded by Bart the Executive Session was closed.

Roll Call: Aye – Bart, Burt, Byrne, Rothman and Campbell  
Nay – 0

Vote: All in favor

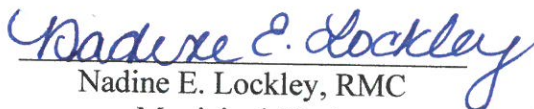
#### NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Downe Township Committee will be held on Monday, July 13, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in the Meeting Room of the Municipal Complex.

#### ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Burt and seconded by Rothman.

Vote: All in favor

  
Nadine E. Lockley, RMC  
Municipal Clerk