

DOWNE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 8, 2020
AT 7:00 P.M.

The Downe Township Committee met in the Meeting Room of the Municipal Office and via teleconference on Monday, March 8, 2020 at 7:00p.m. Mayor Michael L. Rothman, presided. Deputy Mayor Edward Bart, Committeeman Robert G. Campbell and Steve Byrne were in attendance. Committeeman Burt was absent. Municipal Solicitor Rebecca Bertram was also present.

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

Mayor Rothman called the meeting to order; led the Pledge of Allegiance and read the Open Public Meetings Act Statement.

ROLL CALL

Present – Bart, Byrne, Campbell and Rothman

Absent - Burt

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

January 11, 2021 Regular Meeting

February 8, 2021 Regular Meeting

A motion was made by Bart and seconded by Byrne to approve January 11, 2021 meeting minutes.

Roll Call: Aye – Bart, Byrne, and Rothman

 Nay – 0

 Abstain - Campbell

 Absent - Burt

Vote: All in favor

A motion was made by Bart and seconded by Byrne to approve February 8, 2021 meeting minutes.

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

 Nay – 0

 Absent - Burt

Vote: All in favor

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

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

- Zoning Officer February 2021
- Chief Finance Officer February 2021
- Tax Collector February 2021

MUNICIPAL SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Solicitor Bertram presented her report which consisted of information and updates on the following matters: Ongoing Solar Project; the Redevelopment Plan needs to go back to the Planning Board for review and approval and then to the Township Committee for final adoption. Both mining issues have been resolved. We need to do our bulkhead ordinance. We need to decide if we are doing a mandatory or voluntary ordinance. She will work with our Township Engineer to draft a mandatory bulkhead ordinance. We need to get more information on the costs associated with changing the LED light. A letter was sent to the resident on Fortescue Road. It was sent certified, and the green card has not been returned. We need to decide how to handle short term rentals. Hopewell has a short term rental ordinance for they types of rentals situations. We can't afford to do CO inspection on a weekly or monthly basis.

RESOLUTIONS

- R-48-2021 *Authorizing the Payment of Bills*
R-49-2021 *New Jersey Historic Trust Historic Preservation Application for Union Hall*
R-50-2021 *Resolution Releasing Performance Surety Bond for Us Silica Company*
R-51-2021 *Authorizing the Sale of Tax Sale Certificate 21-00010*
R-52-2021 *Authorizing the Sale of Tax Sale Certificate 21-00036 - **TABLED***
R-53-2021 *Resolution Approving TWA-1 Form from the State of New Jersey, DEP, Division of Water Quality Relative to 232 Cove Road, Gandy Beach, Block 1 Lot 17*
R-54-2021 *Resolution Endorsing the Submission of a Recycling Tonnage Grant Application and Designating Individual to Ensure Proper Completion and Filing*
R-55-2021 *Authorizing Executive Session*

A motion was made by Campbell and seconded by Byrne to adopt Resolution No. R-48-2021 *Authorizing the Payment of Bills* in the total amount of \$304,903.10.

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

Vote: All in favor

A motion was made by Campbell and seconded by Bart to adopt Resolution No. R-49-2021.

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

Vote: All in favor

A motion was made by Bart and seconded by Byrne to adopt Resolution No. R-50-2021.

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

Vote: All in favor

A motion was made by Bart and seconded by Byrne to adopt Resolution No. R-51-2021.

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

Vote: All in favor

Resolution R-52-2021 has been tabled and removed.

A motion was made by Campbell and seconded by Bart to adopt Resolution No. R-53-2021.

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

Vote: All in favor

A motion was made by Bart and seconded by Campbell to adopt Resolution No. R-54-2021.

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

Vote: All in favor

A motion was made by Campbell and seconded by Bart to adopt Resolution No. R-55-2021.

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

Vote: All in favor

PUBLIC COMMENT

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

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

Vote: All in favor

Steve Archibald from Fortescue asked for an update on the sewer project. Mayor Rothman stated that report will be done under Old Business of this agenda.

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

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

Vote: All in favor

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mayor Rothman stated he hopes everyone is experiencing a better-quality service with the teleconference call system change. Mayor Rothman thanked Nadine for finding a better system. The Ackley Road substation is proposing some upgrades. A meeting was held with Atlantic Electric and the township committee to discuss the changes. The township also invited a representative from the solar project to coordinate the two projects. There has been some movement in talks with South Jersey Gas for expansion of their services in Fortescue along with the sewer project. The extra construction traffic you are seeing recently is because a property owner in Fortescue is currently repairing his bulkhead.

Mr. Bart stated we have been made aware of numerous potholes in the township. Public Works is getting ready to correct this situation. Currently gathering the needed materials and waiting of the best weather.

Mr. Burt is absent.

Mr. Byrne reported the Green Team is putting together a horseshoe crab festival for this May 15th and he is in charge of the music for the day.

Mr. Campbell reported the Newport Streetscape project is still in progress. We hold a monthly conference call with the engineers. The project is moving forward slowly. There are easement documents out for signatures and must be notarized and returned. We are hoping to be out for bids by the end of the year.

Today there was a situation on Route 553 involving a vehicle running around trespassing on properties. They were approached in Dividing Creek today and said they were looking for directions to Bridgeton. They were observed cutting a window screen on a house by the owners.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Downe Township Committee will be held on Monday, April 12, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. in the Meeting Room of the Municipal Complex.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by Campbell and seconded by Byrne, the meeting was closed to the public and the Executive Session was opened with no action to be taken after Executive Session.

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

Vote: All in favor

On a motion by Campbell and seconded by Byrne, the Executive Session portion was closed.

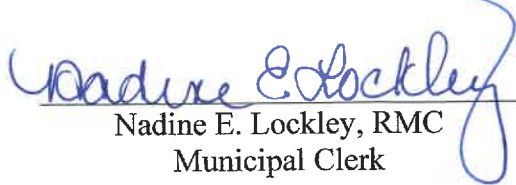
Roll Call: Aye – Bart, Byrne, Rothman, and Campbell
Nay – 0
Absent - Burt

Vote: All in favor

ADJOURNMENT

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

Vote: All in favor.


Nadine E. Lockley, RMC
Municipal Clerk