

DOWNE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE  
REGULAR MEETING  
JULY 10, 2023 at 7:00 P.M.

The Downe Township Committee met in the Meeting Room of the Municipal Office on Monday, July 10, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. Mayor Michael L. Rothman, presided. Deputy Mayor Larry Jordan, Committeemen Robert Campbell, and Edward Bart were in attendance. Committeeman Byrne was absent. Municipal Solicitor Rebecca Bertram was 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 – Jordan, Bart, Campbell, and Rothman  
Absent - Byrne

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

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

- Chief Finance Officer                      June 2023
- Tax Collector                                      June 2023

MUNICIPAL SOLICITOR’S REPORT

Solicitor Bertram presented her report which consisted of information and updates on matters that should be discussed in the Executive Session.

RESOLUTIONS

- R-73-2023        *Authorizing the Payment of Bills*
- R-74-2023        *Governing Body Certification of Annual Audit*
- R-75-2023        *Resolution Authorizing the Sale of Tax Sale Certificate No. 19-00013*
- R-76-2023        *Municipal Alliance Strategic Plan with Lawrence Township*
- R-77-2023        *Resolution Appointing Members to the Combined Planning Board*
- R-78-2023        *Corrective Action Plan*
- R-79-2023        *Resolution Providing for the Insertion of Items of Revenue in the Budget Pursuant to NJSA 40A:4-87 (Chapter 159, P.L. 1048) Cumberland County Board of Health Communication Grant - \$9,853.99*
- R-80-2023        *Resolution Authorizing Payment Plan for Block 23 Lot 47*
- R-81-2023        *Authorizing Executive Session*

A motion was made by Campbell and seconded by Jordan to adopt Resolution No. R-73-2023 *Authorizing the Payment of Bills* in the total amount of \$210,704.80.

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

Vote: All in favor

A motion was made by Jordan and seconded by Bart to adopt Resolution No. R-74-2023.

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

Vote: All in favor

A motion was made by Campbell and seconded by Jordan to adopt Resolution No. R-75-2023.

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

Vote: All in favor

A motion was made by Bart and seconded by Jordan to adopt Resolution No. R-76-2023.

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

Vote: All in favor

A motion was made by Campbell and seconded by Bart to adopt Resolution No. R-77-2023.

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

Vote: All in favor

A motion was made by Campbell and seconded by Bart to adopt Resolution No. R-78-2023.

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

Vote: All in favor

A motion was made by Campbell and seconded by Bart to adopt Resolution No. R-79-2023.

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

Vote: All in favor

A motion was made by Bart and seconded by Jordan to adopt Resolution No. R-80-2023.

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

Vote: All in favor

A motion was made by Campbell and seconded by Jordan to adopt Resolution No. R-81-2023.

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

Vote: All in favor

Mayor Rothman gave the following update: Mr. Loteck is in attendance tonight to answer any of your questions. If you see anything going on in Mondy Island, please contact Fish and Game. You will notice that the abandoned sailboat in Fortescue and the upside down shed that has been sitting in Fortescue since Hurricane Sandy have both been moved by the Public Works Department. We have been in contact with the campground owner to fix his bulkhead and the entire site as people are on the site. He has promised to close the gates and will be finishing the bulkhead once he receives his permits. You should see the presence of the State Police in the Fortescue and Dividing Creek area looking for speeders. As a note, they have issued 30 summonses to date. The Cumberland County Commissioners will be holding their June 27<sup>th</sup> meeting here at Downe Township. Please come out with all of your questions. Just received our Annual Audit and there were no recommendations or comments.

## PUBLIC COMMENT

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

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

Vote: All in favor

Mr. Dave Raudenbush commented there are a lot of trailers and RV's all over Fortescue. There are also about 14 Airbnb's in this area in Fortescue and Gandy Beach.

Liz Cowley of Fortescue stated the Heart & Soul Project will be completed at the end of August. The Green Team will be holding pizza parties every Saturday in July at 4pm at the OEM building to get feedback on the information that has been collected for the project. Bounty on the Bay is scheduled for August 12<sup>th</sup>. The tickets are \$20.

Misty Dean of Fortescue asked the committee if there is anything that can be done about her outrageous electric bills.

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

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

Vote: All in favor

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Jordan had nothing to report.

Mr. Bart had nothing to report.

Mr. Campbell stated we will be going out to bid before the end of the year on the South Cove Road and Gandy Beach FEMA projects.

## NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Downe Township Committee will be held on Monday, August 14, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. in the Meeting Room of the Municipal Complex.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by Jordan and seconded by Bart, the meeting was closed to the public and the Executive Session was opened with no action to be taken after Executive Session. A contract/personnel issue will be discussed.

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

Vote: All in favor

On a motion by Jordan and seconded by Bart, the Executive Session portion was closed.

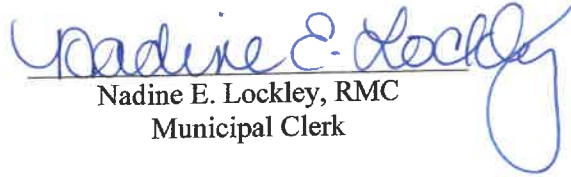
Roll Call: Aye – Bart, Campbell, Jordan, and Rothman  
Absent - Byrne  
Nay – 0

Vote: All in favor

ADJOURNMENT

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

Vote: All in favor

  
Nadine E. Lockley, RMC  
Municipal Clerk