DOWNE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING FEBRUARY 12, 2024 at 7:00 P.M.

The Downe Township Committee met in the Meeting Room of the Municipal Office on Monday, February 12, 2024 at 7:00p.m. Mayor Michael L. Rothman, presided. Committeeman Robert Campbell, Steve Byrne, Edward Bart and Larry Jordan, Sr. were in attendance. Municipal Solicitor Nathan VanEmbden was also present.

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

REGARDING

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, Jordan, and Rothman

Absent - 0

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FO PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- September 11, 2023 Regular Meeting
- October 9, 2023 Regular Meeting
- November 13, 2023 Regular Meeting
- December 11, 2023 Regular Meeting
- January 2, 2024 Reorganization Meeting

Mayor Rothman stated he would like to group all of the meetings as submitted for approval. On a motion by Campbell and seconded by Byrne the minutes of the previously mentioned meetings were approved as presented.

Roll Call:

Aye - Bart, Byrne, Campbell, Jordan, and Rothman

Nay - 0

Vote: All in favor

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Mayor Rothman read the Tax Collector Report. The Township Committee acknowledged the receipt of the following report:

Tax Collector

January 2024

MUNICIPAL SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Solicitor VanEmbden reported he has been working on various matters to see if they are still valid. Things like the solar project and the capping of the landfill. It seem to pretty much be a dead deal. He spoke with the individual who had approached the township previously and he is with a new firm. The firm is more attuned to brownfields and landfill capping projects. He stated the BPU criteria has changed and the BPU has not yet set its rules and regulations for new projects. He thinks in three to six months they will be in a position to talk more. Their might be issues with the prices we receive compared to the market now. We will wait and see. The sewer project is moving. In regard to the Shared Service agreement with Landis Sewerage Authority we should be sitting down again soon to move to finalizing the agreement. Both the contract and the fee schedule will be discussed to determine what services are needed and what services will be transferred. He understands the issue with the Carney matter. There is an attorney involved, a suit initiated but no complaint filed, and an answer was filed, and an appraisal

done. We will contact the attorney for an update and check to see if a complaint has been filed. A fine has been issued and an order to clean up for Solomskas. Enforcement can bring another complaint if cleanup is not done. Not sure about the 911 numbering ordinance status. A short-term rental ordinance is also on the horizon. The previous solicitor mention she did some work on the cannabis ordinance and had used an ordinance from Commercial Township as a model. Let's be careful about using Commercial as a model because they also adopted the retail sales of cannabis option and Downe Township did not. The Downe Township Historical Commission is reorganizing, and the Clerk forwarded some documents to review and comment. Our biggest project he has been working on is bringing our sewer project to reality.

Mayor Rothman asked the committee if there were any questions for the Solicitor Report, there being none, Mayor Rothman thanked Mr. Van Embden for his report.

RESOLUTIONS

KESOLO 110115	
R-37-2024	Authorizing the Payment of Bills
R-38-2024	Appointing Authorizing the Redemption of Municipal Tax Sale Certificate 20-00010
	In Installments
R-39-2024	Resolution Pledging to Support Sustainable Land Use
R-40-2024	Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of the Green Team and Environmental
	Commission Members
R-41-2024	Resolution Authorizing the Refund of Property Taxes
R-42-2024	Resolution Authorizing Shared Service Agreement Between the Township of Downe and
	County of Cumberland
R-43-2024	Resolution Awarding Contract to South State, Inc. for Repair/Replacement of Gandy
	Beach Bulkhead
R-44-2024	Resolution Appointing Combined Planning and Zoning Board Solicitor
R-45-2024	Authorizing Executive Session
R-46-2024	Resolution Authorizing CFO to Open New Bank Account for Tax Collection
R-47-2024	Resolution Authorizing Closing Several Bank Accounts Not Necessary
R-48-2024	Resolution Authorizing Submittal of Grant Application to DCA
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A motion was made by Bart and seconded by Campbell to adopt Resolution No. R-37-2024 Authorizing the Payment of Bills in the total amount of \$786,749.28.

Roll Call:

Aye - Bart, Byrne, Campbell, Jordan, and Rothman

Nay - 0

Vote: All in favor

A motion was made by Bart and seconded by Byrne to adopt Resolution No. R-38-2024.

Roll Call:

Aye - Bart, Byrne, Campbell, Jordan, and Rothman

Nay - 0

Vote: All in favor

A motion was made by Byrne and seconded by Campbell to adopt Resolution No. R-39-2024.

Roll Call:

Aye - Bart, Byrne, Campbell, Jordan, and Rothman

Nay - 0

Vote: All in favor

A motion was made by Campbell and seconded by Byrne to adopt Resolution No. R-40-2024.

Roll Call:

Aye - Bart, Byrne, Campbell, Jordan, and Rothman

Nay - 0

Vote: All in favor

A motion was made by Campbell and seconded by Byrne to adopt Resolution No. R-41-2024.

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

Nay - 0

Vote: All in favor

A motion was made by Campbell and seconded by Bart to adopt Resolution No. R-42-2024.

Roll Call: Aye - Bart, Byrne, Campbell, Jordan, and Rothman

Nay - 0

Vote: All in favor

A motion was made by Jordan and seconded by Byrne to adopt Resolution No. R-43-2024.

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

Nay - 0

Vote: All in favor

A motion was made by Bart and seconded by Campbell to adopt Resolution No. R-44-2024.

Roll Call: Aye - Bart, Byrne, Campbell, Jordan, and Rothman

Nay - 0

Vote: All in favor

A motion was made by Campbell and seconded by Bart to adopt Resolution No. R-45-2024.

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

Nay - 0

Vote: All in favor

A motion was made by Campbell and seconded by Byrne to adopt Resolution No. R-46-2024.

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

Nay - 0

Vote: All in favor

A motion was made by Campbell and seconded by Bart to adopt Resolution No. R-47-2024.

Roll Call: Aye - Bart, Byrne, Campbell, Jordan, and Rothman

Nay - 0

Vote: All in favor

A motion was made by Campbell and seconded by Bart to adopt Resolution No. R-48-2024.

Roll Call: Aye - Bart, Byrne, Campbell, Jordan, and Rothman

Nay - 0

Vote: All in favor

Mayor Rothman reported on the following topics: Mayor Rothman thanked the County for all of their involvement in everything that was done throughout our township to repair everything from the January 9th Storm. Also publicly thanking our Public Works Department for everything they did. They weren't just here every day during the storm they were here every tide cycle throughout the entire week. As well as our OEM Department every night going into Gandy Beach to ensure that no one was coming down there and taking advantage of the situation. Along with the State Police Barricks in Port Norris ensuring your safety throughout the storm. The Historic Society is reorganizing and working with the Dividing Creek Historic Society. The Dividing Creek Historic Society will be holding an event in May. The Downe Township Historic Commission and the Historic Society are two organizations gathering historic information for the township which needs to be officially preserved. They will be holding a few different events this year. It is important to gather our history and preserve it throughout our township.

There is a committee trying to keep everyone advised of what's going on in Gandy Beach. There has been a lot of talk. There has been a lot of things that have taken place this past month. We received a phone call today that said to me, the only people we have not heard from is the Governors Office. This is incorrect. The Governor's office did contact us at the end of last week through the help of Senator Testa and we had about a 45-minute conversation which was primarily about Gandy Beach and what can be done as far as resiliency as well as the repairs that need to be done in Gandy Beach. Right after the storm and in between the storms our Road Department, through the first initiative of trying to fix the problem, Paul Schischkin, our PW Supervisor came up with a plan with the County to get the work done that was done there. If the County was not involved in the project, the road would still be destroyed. no ifs, ands, or buts about it. So, if there is anybody that thinks nothing was done, go look in the mirror, grab a shovel and start digging some dirt. Everyone sitting up here is proud of what our personnel did. I will not tolerate anybody telling us what we are not doing. These guys broke their ass during that whole week while certain people stayed in Pennsylvania and looked at their camera and called us and complained. I am not going to put up with it. If that is what you want to do, write a letter to our solicitor and when he gets it we will answer it in writing. This will avoid a whole big problem. One thing we found out on the Governors call is the Corp of Engineers has not abandoned everything they had planned here. There is a dredging project and beach replenishment project. This is in the hands of the federal government. When they decide to shut down and their budgets don't pass, yes it affects our projects right here. They have something called Corp Funding and right now the projects fall in 2025 and this is from Congressman Van Drews Office. That is only if the federal government can get their act together and appropriate the necessary funding. This is not just a program for Gandy Beach. This is an incredibly large project that extends from the ports of Philadelphia to the Ocean. There are a lot of parts to this project. Lastly, we have been talking about a bulkhead ordinance and how to put it all together. We have been met with a few unthought of problems and we are typing to figure out how to get it done in the right way. Not just for landowners and property owners but also the township because there are a lot of lands that belong to the township the ordinance will affect. It has not been put on the back burner; we are pushing our way through it.

Mayor Rothman stated we are opening the meeting up to the public, we are limiting you to one question so pick your one question. We will answer what we can and if we don't have an answer, we will get back to you. If your intent is to come here and bash anyone of us for things that were not done or were done during this past storm, save your breath. Nothing is going on like it has been.

Mayor Rothmans asked Sergeant Hydell from the Port Norris Barricks if he would like to say something. Sargent said he has not been overly busy in Downe Township. There were a few domestic investigations reports and a couple of DUI arrests. There were three new troopers who finished training last week. We are expanding a department that focuses on animals. If there are any problems with animals, you can call dispatch. There is a new protocol with animal calls. He asked if there were any questions or concerns. He also reported that he took his first ride down to Turkey Point and he has lived his whole life in Cumberland County and has never been there. There was not a soul down there when he went down. However, he has talked to all four squads, and they all know they are to take a ride down Turkey Point Road every now and then. When it gets to summertime we will visit more because we understand in the area people like to come down and convene. We are doing more checks at the school also. We don't have as many schools as some other stations, but we all know we must be visible around the schools and that is just the way of the world we live in.

Mayor Rothman stated Mr. Campbell reminded me of something that took place because of the storms. When a storm takes place in this State, it has to go through a process. It is not the municipality or the city that decides what can and can't be submitted. We have the problems that are in front of us and then it goes through the Office of Emergency Management (OEM). Our local OEM Coordinator, Charles Lupton, gathers the information that is compiled through this committee. It is then forwarded to the

County OEM. The OEM forwards the claims to the State Police. Colonel Callaghan is in charge of OEM for the State and has the final word. If it meets a certain criteria, it is then forwarded to the state and federal agency to meet their criteria. For the County of Cumberland, we had to meet \$700,000. Downe Township submitted \$867,463 in damages. The State has to meet a threshold of \$17M for a storm to be declared for FEMA reimbursement. The last word was only \$14M total for the State was reported. We are not sure where it currently lies. The Governor's office has arranged for a 30-day extension to reevaluate the damage. That gives other counties an opportunity to submit damages.

PUBLIC COMMENT

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

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

Nay - 0

Vote: All in favor

Lisa Michaels of 275 Cove Road was wondering what your thoughts were when you spoke with the Governor. How do you think he received you? Has he heard about our plight? Was he kind and compassionate? Mayor Rothman answered the Governor was not on the call; it was his chief of staff we spoke with. They heard everything that you have been saying during this storm. Senator Testa was here in person. He conveyed his observations to the Governor and talked about what has been done. He met with a few people in Gandy Beach and we met with the County workers. He got a pretty good picture of what this is regardless of party affiliation. The Governors Office was receptive to everything. The people we spoke with were very receptive to the situation regardless of the politics.

Kary Wilson of Newport stated are you saying just ask one question. Mayor Rothman answered that is what we are doing tonight. Mrs. Wilson said it does not say that on the Agenda. Mayor Rothman stated this is what is going on tonight. We are not going through a thousand questions tonight; you need to pick one. Mrs. Wilson stated she has some questions about some resolutions and that sort of thing and now she can't ask them. Mayor Rothman answered put it in writing and we will get back to you. Mrs. Wilson stated as far as the public is concerned it states here on the agenda a note to the public to please stand, approach the microphone, state your name and in 5 minutes or less please state your comments. If you wanted to change it you should have put it on the agenda. I have some important questions and I am sure others do too. Mayor Rothman asked Mrs. Wilson if that was her question. Mrs. Wilson answered no. Mayor Rothman asked Mrs. Wilson for her one question. Mrs. Wilson stated that she was in Fortescue last week and drove over a terrible pothole. She spoke to a resident in Fortescue, and she mentioned there is a contractor that has been hired to repave New Jersey Avenue. Mayor Rothman answered yes. Mrs. Wilson asked who is the contractor. Mayor Rothman stated the contract has not been awarded yet. Mrs. Wilson asked will it be by resolution. Mayor Rothman answered because of the sewer project we have over two million dollars in DOT funding to redo all of the road in Fortescue. Mrs. Wilson stated so that project is not going to start any time soon. Mayor Rothman asked if Mrs. Wilson had been to Fortescue recently, because the pot holes should have been addressed. Our crews have been down their very recently working on the potholes in other areas including New Jersey Avenue.

Mayor Rothman stated Liz Cowley of Fortescue may be making a couple of statements because she is reporting on the Green Team, they are not her one question. Her one question is there was a situation in Fortescue on Friday evening that involved a injured raccoon. She called someone who is known as a animal rehabilitator and they were not available. We called the township building and got the number for our animal control officer. He told the neighbor, if you can go ahead and shoot it; it you can't shoot it, then call the State Police. It was very injured and needed to be euthanized. My personal opinion is you do not tell a resident to go out and shoot anything. The State Police came out within 20 minutes. If we are paying someone to be our animal control officer, if they are not available, they might say, not

available call the State Police. But to tell a resident to just go shoot it, that is not acceptable. We need to be sure to watch out for the bill for Friday evening February 9th to see if Fortescue is on that bill. Mr. Campbell asked what happened to the raccoon. Ms. Cowley said it was euthanized by the State Police. Mayor Rothman stated Mr. Campbell has a pet raccoon and he is a family member. Sargeant Hydell stated he was advised of that the morning after it happened. He was told the animal control office stated he was not coming out to get the raccoon he was not told the animal control officer told the resident to shoot it. There is a big situation happening with the State Police and municipal animal control calls. Ms. Cowley thanked the State Police for their service.

Ms. Cowley stated we have started handing out our calendars and have been hearing great reviews. There was a lot of effort put into it by Maureen Barrett. There is one thing we would like to address. On the inside of the calendars there is a handout about Terracycle. Terracycle is a company that we work with that will recycle items that Cumberland County cannot recycle. Right now, we have 4 programs on recycling and they include beauty product containers, plastic packaging from breads, and there are certain food brands that you can recycle through us and we will ship the items back to Terracycle. They will either give us credit on different projects they fund or they will send us a check. There is a kiosk at the Convenience Center and it will tell you exactly what bin to put what items in. We are encouraging all residents to start collecting these items and help us out. Mr. Van Embden asked if that includes batteries. Ms. Cowley answered no, you can take batteries to Lowes and Home Depot. Mayor Rothman asked if there is a program for tires because we are starting to see more of them around.

Adam Burns the Attorney for Alexsander a resident at 1073 Dragston Road. We talked to Mr. Campbell and we are here tonight to see if there are any updates on your cannabis ordinance. We are up against a deadline for an extension with the State. We are waiting for your final cannabis ordinance to pass. Recently the State contacted us and informed us they are not issuing any more extensions. We need to get that ordinance passed so we can apply for a permit to operate. We will need to reapply to the State for reapproval because our last extension expires June 14, 2024. Mayor Rothman stated one of the things we have talked about in Planning and Zoning is to zero in on this cannabis ordinance. Mr. Van Embden has some experience with this. We are also looking at a solicitor for the planning board that has some experience, and he should be on board soon. Hopefully we can have something in order soon. There are so many moving parts to this and complications. We want to try to get this right, so it benefits your client and the township. Mr. Burns offered his help to the township with writing the ordinance free of charge.

Ken Festa of Gandy's Beach commented there is land lost for homeowners in Gandy Beach and there is nothing the township is going to do and we understand that. It is to a point with every storm the average home is losing about a thousand dollars in backfill. What can be set up to reimburse these folks. We have veterans down here and people that live there every day and every storm causes a loss of their property. He thanked the township for the DGA across the fronts of their properties. If he did the project himself, it would cost \$1500. There are folks who can't because they don't have the knowledge. This is to get back to where we were before the storm. Mr. Campbell asked if he was speaking about the shoulder of the road. Mr. Festa stated no he is talking about the lost of everyone's land on the backside. Everyone is losing their property by about a foot or two including their driveways. Mr. Bart asked how is that a township problem when the water comes over the bulkhead and washes your property out. Mr. Festa commented it is because of a lack of maintenance. There is no bulkhead there. Mr. Festa said the township should have put that bulkhead back to the condition it was four years ago and there would not be these problems. Mr. Campbell stated that contract was just awarded to put that bulkhead back. Mr. Festa stated he understands the township is not going to give us our land but it is that lack of maintenance that is washing away our land. Mr. Bart stated all of the sand that washes under each house and out in the street is the township problem too. All the sand that is on the street comes from under all those house, is that our problem, no, but we clean it up. Mr. Campbell stated he would like to add what was read earlier by the Mayor regarding the FEMA storm and the \$800 thousand the township came up with for the repairs and the State has to meet the threshold of \$17M and they are only at \$14M. Between us and the County it cost about \$60 thousand just for what was done. If we don't get the numbers up with the State there is almost a million dollars' worth of damage from that storm. If the storm doesn't get declared, Downe Township does not have a million dollars to fix the damage. This is the reality. We have been fortunate in the past 10 years because every storm has been declared. We are trying very hard to get the numbers where they need to be so me can make all of these repairs. Discussion continued on the damage assessment that was done to come up with the \$800,000 worth of damages mainly sand. Our numbers Also included in the figures is North and South included 2ft beach replenishment about 80 feet out. Cove Road re-construction which encompasses the removal of the material that was washed up, replace it, road excavation and backfilling, bin blocks, shoulder restoration, and asphalt for a total of \$452,000 that is part of what we just submitted. Mr. Campbell stated the sand piles down there can't be put back on the beach because it is not certified clean special DEP sand. The DEP won't let that sand back unless we clean it. We are proposing that DEP will let us move that sand into driveways. The sand we put on the beach has to be certified by DEP. The DEP says if the sand touches the roads it is contaminated and can not be put back on the beach. Mayor Rothman stated we have awarded the contract to repair the bulkhead tonight. The contractor will be notified to order the materials and as soon as we get a date that we know they are coming down for the bulkhead it will be announced so everyone knows. The other thing that was not mentioned today is we have been in communication with Atlantic Electric regarding your electric service tripping, we are trying to figure out a fix with the transformers.

John Gilligan of Gandy Beach stated if we cant get any help can we call Blue Acres to buy us out. Mayor Rothman stated that is your prerogative. He doesn't think that is what you want because the whole island disappears. It will not be just one. Mr. Gilligan stated as an alternate plan if the township don't get money from the State to fix Gandy Beach. Mr. Campbell stated once the sewer goes in the DEP and the State are hugh partners in the sewer project. Once that sewer goes in, they are going to have to cave in and let us do something on the beachfront in Gandy Beach because there is no way they would put up money for the sewer project and not be concerned about protecting the sewer. So once the construction gets going the Mayor and Committee will try to use that as leverage to get DEP to do something. On the beachfront right now the DEP will not let you put in a bulkhead unless there are already one there. There are big grants available to do that type of work. Mayor Rothman stated these are the things that we don't discuss everyday but they are in the works. Mr. Gilligan stated thanks for the update from Atlantic City Electric because with every storm down there, the electricity goes out. Mayor Rothman stated until the expansion project on Ackley is completed there will be issues with electric service.

Sean Pignatelli of Fortescue stated he showed a video to Mr. Byrne of a transformer sparking on the pole. He called AC Electric and reported it as an emergency and they were here within 20 minutes if not for the phone call the transformer would still be sparking. Is there some sort of safety protocol with AC Electric. Mayor Rothman stated he doesn't work for AC Electric but he knows the phone numbers we have recorded for AC Electric all go to the same system, if you call the number AC Electric records where each call comes from in their system. Then they see multiple calls from this area and they reply. Mr. Pignatelli asked would the municipality be a liability. Mayor Rothman answered no, because we are not AC Electric.

Mr. Pignatelli stated on a positive note the Township newsletters were sent out and we received a lot of great feedback. Our committee is always working hard and hearing about rumors. This will hopefully help shut down the rumors with everyone receiving the right information in our newsletter. If you did not receive one please let the Recreation Committee know because there were some technical difficulties with the post offices. February 24th we will be holding family game night. Bring your family to the Dividing Creek Union Hall for some fun and refreshment from 5pm -7pm. Mr. Pignatelli stated during the storm he did some driving around because he has family all over to check on them. He saw the OEM vehicle out running around everywhere and saw the fire departments out. Thanks for making sure everyone was

paying attention to safety. He is happy to know there are people out here that care about our safety. Mayor Rothman stated he will make sure to let the fire companies know,

Robert Biggins of Fortescue stated he is at the corner of Downe Avenue and Bridgeton. You mentioned there are plans to pave all of the streets. Is Bridgeton Avenue included. Mayor Rothman answered no. Mr. Biggins continued that it is a swamp. Mr. Campbell stated that is an unimproved road in Fortescue. Mr. Biggins asked if it is going to stay like that forever? Mr. Campbell stated that road turns into wetlands and back into the meadow and there are no plans to do anything to it. Mr. Biggins says it is a swamp and he can't get into his barn or drive his truck to it. Mayor Rothman asked what is his address. Mr. Biggins replied Downe Avenue. Mayor Rothman stated that is how you get to your property via Downe Avenue. Mr. Biggins stated his driveway is in front of his barn and that's on Bridgeton Avenue and Bridgeton is a public street. Is there a driveway in front of your property. Mr. Biggins stated he can't get out because he gets stuck with his vehicle. He says the road is 50ft wide. 25ft goes towards the other neighbor and it is higher and you can drive on it. But the 25ft toward his property is lower and all the water drains there because it is lower. Mayor Rothman stated he will see Mr. Biggin after the meeting to get his phone number and he and someone from PW will be in contact.

Tony Orillia of Fortescue stated he is the house that has the 25ft of higher land. What Mr. Biggins is saying is correct. Mr. Orillia asked if they could get some gravel in that area. It is difficult to get into driveways. Some gravel would make things better. About three or four years ago PW put in some gravel in the front which helped but none has been put down there lately. When he goes down the street he can't get through because it is a swamp. There are people that park in the street in the area. We need a few no parking signs. The gentleman that just spoke unfortunately when he has his guests they park right in the middle of the street so that no one can get by. Can we get some gravel and a few no parking signs. We do not talk to each other.

Mrs. Wilson asked what is the best way to get her questions answered. Mayor Rothman stated the questions can be directed to Mr. Van Embden. Mrs. Wilson and Mayor Rothman went back and forth about how her questions are usually answered during the public meeting and now we are going to pay extra to have the questions sent to our solicitor. Mayor Rothman answered that is the way it is going to be done because the questions are getting out of control. Between all the questions and all the OPRA requests and it is at the point where we need to put a cap on this. Next month also, the statement you brought to my attention will be changed. Enough is enough. We all sit here and listen to this as well and everyday we are sitting here we put ourselves in this position. Not to be abused and beat up. We are here to answer your questions and that is what we are doing. But we are not going to sit here and be abused. If you were to hear the phone calls I have had to deal with over this past month about what we are being accused of doing and not doing you would probably be ten times worst than me right now. I am not going to sit here, like I said earlier, and let anybody from this township get beat up and abused for that reason. If you have a question, put it in writing and we will be glad to answer it, end of story.

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

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

Nay - 0

Vote: All in favor

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mayor Rothman stated we took the opportunity while we were in the Governors Office to discuss the sewer project and discuss having the Governors Office support behind it. Honestly I don't know where that went but I know they listened. We will stay on top of it. We are a lot further than what we have ever

been. The County is going to hear the other side of this. It is moving along and I know you have heard this before.

Mr. Bart had nothing to report at this time.

Mr. Jordan had nothing to report at this time.

Mr. Campbell had nothing to report at this time.

Mr. Byrne reported that music at Union Hall will start in March.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Downe Township Committee will be held on Monday, March 11, 2024 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, Jordan, Rothman, and Campbell

Nay - 0

Vote: All in favor

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

Roll Call:

Aye - Bart, Byrne, Jordan, Rothman, and Campbell

Nay - 0

Vote: All in favor

ADJOURNMENT

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

Vote: All in favor

Nadine E. Lockley, RMC

Municipal Clerk