



City of Lambertville
REGULARLY SCHEDULED SESSION
TUESDAY, APRIL 7, 2020, 7:00 PM
PHILLIP L. PITTORE JUSTICE CENTER
MINUTES

Please use this link to obtain information for meeting participation:

<http://lambertvillenj.org/virtualmeetings>

Agenda Amended 04-06-2020.

STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE WITH OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT

Mayor Fahl called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. and asked the City Clerk to read the statement of compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act into the record.

The City Clerk read the following statement:

The April 7, 2020 Regularly Scheduled Voting session is being held in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, accordance with N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 and 10:4-8(b), Open Public Meetings Act, and P.L. 2020, c.11, this meeting will be streamed live through ZOOM. The annual meeting notice was advertised in the Trenton Times, provided to the Times and the Hunterdon County Democrat, to Department Heads and various individuals on the list serve. The meeting agenda was posted on the city's website on Friday, April 3, 2020.

ROLL CALL

The Clerk called the roll as follows:

Present: Councilman Sanders, Councilwoman Taylor, Councilwoman Urbish, Council President Asaro, Mayor Fahl.

Also Present: William Opel – City Attorney, Alex Torpey – Business Administrator, Cindy Ege – City Clerk and Tina Majeski – Deputy Clerk.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Fahl led the public in the Pledge of Allegiance.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES:

The City Clerk led the public in a moment of silence in honor of those serving in the United States Armed Forces in County and Abroad.

TIMOTHY KORZUN

Mayor Fahl led the public in a moment of silence in remembrance of Timothy Korzun. Sharon and Jeanna, you are in our hearts.

Lambertville is the city we love because of its passionate volunteers. Tim Korzun exemplified what it meant to love Lambertville through his volunteerism and his contributions cannot be overstated. A tried and true Democrat and consummate team player - Tim would do everything from registering voters on the corner of Bridge St. to single handedly managing volunteers for a city-wide canvass.

Professionally, he served as the planning board attorney and as a consultant for our city's affordable Housing saga. Anyone lucky enough to watch him work could

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immediately see the dedication, pride, and love he had for our city. He was a loving husband, a proud father, and we were all fortunate to have had him as a neighbor. Lambertville is a better place to call home because of Tim.

It may feel overwhelmingly difficult to grasp the loss of our friend and neighbor in the midst of so much loss and tragedy happening on a global level. This crisis is no doubt one of the hardest events our city, state, and country has had to endure.

Lambertville has lost a great mind, a phenomenal volunteer, and a beloved friend in Tim.

Council President Asaro commented that Tim, and his wife Sharon, were one of the first people we met in town. Our daughter Kate and Tim's daughter Jeanna are the same age – and went through every step of school together, K-12. We walked to school together, went to school plays and concerts together, back to school nights, and our children graduated together just a few years ago.

Tim was one of those go-to guys in town – if we didn't know where to go for something, Tim knew someone – who either knew or knew someone who did. I became more and more engaged with Tim as I entered the Council 12 years ago – through campaigns, get out the votes, and more. Just recently I sat next to Tim on the Planning Board. He had irreplaceable institutional knowledge about our city. I was shocked to hear about Tim's passing.

Our hearts go out to Sharon and Jeanna – then also too to our entire city, employees and the residents that Tim's work, knowledge and dedication impacted. Tim was a very decent and giving man who gave selflessly to his community. He will be sorely missed. Councilman Sanders commented that Tim Korzun was a great public servant. In some quiet ways, he helped shape this town and left his imprint on it. And we are all better for his efforts. He will be missed. My sympathies to his wife Sharon and daughter Jeanna and the rest of their family.

There will be a remembrance hosted by St. Andrews Church using Zoom tomorrow evening at 6 p.m.

CITY ATTORNEY STATEMENT REGARDING COUNCIL SESSIONS

William Opel, the City Attorney read the following statement into the record:

Based on the recent public health emergency caused by the COVID19 virus, the State of New Jersey and the City of Lambertville have taken various steps necessary to ensure the continued regular operation of government. While the City has already taken a number of steps to ensure the health, safety and welfare of all residents since the emergency declaration, State law requires a formal meeting by the City's Governing Body for many other necessary actions that would normally be considered routine, such as authorizing payment for payroll and salaries of City employees, bond payments, insurance payments, utility payments, and maintaining contractual obligations, just to

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name a few. Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, these formal actions must be taken in public, at a meeting that is adequately noticed to invite public participation and maximum transparency. Such requirements are not set aside during times of emergency, and therefore the City and its Governing Body MUST proceed with conducting the necessary meetings, in accordance with State law, and in a manner that ensures optimum transparency. Even before this emergency, OPMA allowed governing bodies to conduct public meetings in person or by means of communication equipment (N.J.S.A. 10:4-8(b)), including by telephone conference, streaming services and other online meeting platforms. All meetings, including those held using communications equipment, were required to be noticed in accordance with the OPMA, except in very limited circumstances where action was necessary on less than 48 hours-notice. To ensure continuity of government operations while maintaining the necessary social distance to avoid the spread of COVID-19, and in light of Governor Murphy's issuance of Executive Order 107, the State legislature amended the OPMA so as to further encourage governing bodies to conduct public meetings exclusively using communications equipment (e.g., telephonic conference call-in connections, online meeting platforms, etc.) for the foreseeable future. There are two distinct changes that should be pointed out: First, there is no longer a requirement for the meeting notice to provide a physical meeting place. In the past, if a governing body conducted a meeting electronically, it would still need to establish a physical meeting place where one elected or appointed official would be present and allow for in-person participation in the meeting. That is no longer the case. Electronic meetings can be conducted remotely, as they should for the time being, to ensure compliance with CDC and State and Local Health Department guidelines. Second, notice of meetings was required to be posted in a physical space. The amendment to OPMA allows such notice to be provided to all residents electronically. Despite this provision for electronic notice of any meeting, the City will continue to provide the standard statutory notice for its meetings by posting the notice in City Hall and publishing notice with The Trenton Times and Hunterdon County Democrat. In short, the City will continue to provide standard public notice at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to its public meetings, even though during a declared emergency, such as what we are encountering now, electronic notice pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:49.1 (electronic notification via the internet at least 48 hours prior to the meeting giving the time, dates, location, and, to the extent known, agenda) satisfies the notice requirement under the OPMA. You will note that the agenda for this evening's meeting is limited to time-sensitive or necessary matters, as this is the first meeting conducted through the Zoom conference platform. Future meeting agendas, however, will not be so limited. There are various matters that would be considered necessary for the continuing operation of government, and the Mayor and Governing Body are prepared to continue to address these issues, without interruption. Because it remains unclear how long this emergency will last, the administration has made the necessary preparations to ensure your City government remains functional and responsive. We would like to note the following, as the City has formulated a specific plan as to how to proceed with Governing Body meetings for the foreseeable future: The OPMA, as amended, authorizes governing bodies to conduct public meetings through use of streaming services and other online meeting platforms. The City will utilize Zoom video conferencing, which also provides a dial-in feature if residents would prefer to participate by phone rather than video. Zoom can be accessed by personal computer and by cell phone, and a direct link for any noticed meeting will be made available through the virtual meetings page on the City's website. The City is required to, and will, provide public notice at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to all public meetings, by posting in City Hall, publications in the two local newspapers, and electronic dissemination to residents, unless a meeting on shorter notice is compelled by emergent circumstances necessitated by an unforeseen issue that directly relates to the health, safety and welfare of the community. In emergent circumstances, notice will be provided as soon as practicable, and any agenda would be limited to considering the emergent matter only. The City must and will always ensure that the public retains the ability to participate and provide comment at public meetings. Therefore, the City has taken all necessary steps to provide instructions to the public regarding how to access a remote meeting and

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the procedures for commenting through whatever equipment or medium is utilized. The City will continue to rely on the procedures currently in place for public comments directed to City officials during all meetings. There will be no change to the City's public comment policy for virtual meetings. While it may, initially, take some time to become familiar with this technology, the City is relying on guidance provided by the State, and will make the necessary adjustments to ensure any disruption of the normal course of proceedings is limited. As always, residents are also free to submit questions and comments to City officials regarding any specific City matter outside of the public meeting context, either by regular or electronic mail. This practice will not change. When holding remote meetings, the City will avoid, to the extent possible, executive or closed sessions, unless the topic of concern is urgent, directly affects the health, safety, or welfare of residents, or is an allowed exception pursuant to the attorney client privilege. If executive or closed session is imperative, the public will be provided notice as to any action that may be taken at the conclusion of that session. The City, at all times, will act within the requirements of the OPMA for meetings conducted during this public health emergency so that the City government can continue to provide services to the community, and the public can continue to participate and provide comments, without interruption.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Fahl/Council President Asaro asked for a motion to approve the 02/04/2020 Work Session Minutes. Mayor Fahl made the motion. Councilwoman Urbish seconded the motion. An affirmative voice vote was taken in favor of the motion by all members present. MOTION CARRIED.

Mayor Fahl/Council President Asaro asked for a motion to approve the 02/20/2020 Voting Session Minutes. Mayor Fahl made the motion. Councilwoman Urbish seconded the motion. An affirmative voice vote was taken in favor of the motion by all members present. MOTION CARRIED.

Mayor Fahl/Council President Asaro asked for a motion to approve the 03/02/2020 Work Session Minutes. Councilwoman Taylor made the motion. Mayor Fahl seconded the motion. An affirmative voice vote was taken in favor of the motion by all members present. MOTION CARRIED.

Mayor Fahl/Council President Asaro asked for a motion to approve the 03/11/2020 Work Session Minutes. Councilwoman Urbish made the motion. Council President Asaro seconded the motion. An affirmative voice vote was taken in favor of the motion by all members present. MOTION CARRIED.

PROCLAMATIONS

RESOLUTIONS

CONSENT AGENDA: *The following resolutions on a consent agenda are considered routine and shall be enacted by one motion. Should any member of City Council seek separate discussion of any item, that item shall be removed and discussed separately.*

Mayor Fahl/Council President Asaro noted that resolution number 59-2020 and 65-2020 were removed from the consent agenda and would be on the April 23rd Voting Session Agenda.

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RESOLUTION NUMBER 51-2020: A Resolution to Amend the Amount of Refund in Resolution Number 45-2020 to read \$3,188.76.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by Mayor and Council of the City of Lambertville, in the County of Hunterdon, in the State of New Jersey that the refund to Rachel Cyzner for escrow posted for an application before Zoning Board of Adjustment for the property known as block 1042, lots 19 and 20 on the Tax Map of the City of Lambertville, with a mailing address of 39 Bridge Street in the amount of \$3,188.76 is hereby authorized.

ADOPTED: April 7, 2020

RESOLUTION NUMBER 52-2020: A Resolution to Authorize the Dedication by Rider for Accumulated Absences for the City of Lambertville.

WHEREAS, permission is required of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services for approval as a dedication by rider of revenues received by a municipality when the revenue is subject to reasonably accurate estimates in advance; and

WHEREAS, NJAC 5:30-15 provides for receipt of funds by the municipality to provide for the operating costs to administer this act; and,

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-39 provides the dedicated revenues anticipated from the Accumulated Absences Liability Trust Fund are hereby anticipated as revenue and are hereby appropriated for the purpose to which said revenue is dedicated by statute or another legal requirement:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of the City of Lambertville, Hunterdon County, New Jersey as follows:

1. The Governing Body does hereby request permission of the Director of the Division of Local

Government Services to pay expenditures of the Accumulated Absences Liability Trust Fund created in accordance with the provisions of NJAC 5:30-15 as per N.J.S.A. 40A:4-39

2. The Clerk of the City of Lambertville, Hunterdon County is hereby directed to forward two certified copies of this Resolution to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services.

ADOPTED: April 7, 2020

RESOLUTION NUMBER 53-2020: A Resolution to Authorize the Dedication by Rider for Snow Removal for the City of Lambertville.

WHEREAS, permission is required of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services for approval as a dedication by rider of revenues received by a municipality when the revenue is subject to reasonably accurate estimates in advance; and

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WHEREAS, PL2001, c.24 & NJS 40A:4-62.1 provides for receipt of excess snow removal funds by the municipality to provide for the operating costs to administer this act; and,

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-39 provides the dedicated revenues anticipated from the Snow Removal Reserve Trust Fund are hereby anticipated as revenue and are hereby appropriated for the purpose to which said revenue is dedicated by statute or another legal requirement:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of the City of Lambertville, Hunterdon County, New Jersey as follows:

1. The Governing Body does hereby request permission of the Director of the Division of Local

Government Services to pay expenditures of the Snow Removal Reserve Trust / PL2001, c.24 & NJS 40A:4-62.1.

2. The Clerk of the City of Lambertville, Hunterdon County is hereby directed to forward two certified copies of this Resolution to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services.

ADOPTED: April 7, 2020

RESOLUTION NUMBER 54-2020: A Resolution to Authorize the Refund of Escrow for 16 Wilson Street to Barbara Fordyce and Bob Dahl in the Amount of \$859.08.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by Mayor and Council of the City of Lambertville, in the County of Hunterdon, in the State of New Jersey that the refund to Barbara Fordyce and Bob Dahl for escrow posted for an application before Planning Board for the property known as block 1051, lot 16.01 on the Tax Map of the City of Lambertville, with a mailing address of 16 Wilson Street in the amount of \$859.08 is hereby authorized.

ADOPTED: April 7, 2020

RESOLUTION NUMBER 55-2020: A Resolution to Authorize the Refund of Escrow for 184 York Street to James McHenry in the amount of \$915.38.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by Mayor and Council of the City of Lambertville, in the County of Hunterdon, in the State of New Jersey that the refund to James McHenry for escrow posted for an application before Planning Board for the property known as block 1002, lot 78 on the Tax Map of the City of Lambertville, with a mailing address of 184 York Street in the amount of \$915.38 is hereby authorized.

ADOPTED: April 7, 2020

RESOLUTION NUMBER 56-2020: A Resolution to Authorize the Refund of Escrow for 9 Douglas Street to Kevin Romano in the amount of \$1,810.00.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by Mayor and Council of the City of Lambertville, in the County of Hunterdon, in the State of New Jersey that the refund to Kevin Romano for escrow posted for an application before Planning Board for the property known as block

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1068, lot 1 on the Tax Map of the City of Lambertville, with a mailing address of 9 Douglas Street in the amount of \$1,810.00 is hereby authorized.

ADOPTED: April 7, 2020

RESOLUTION NUMBER 57-2020: *A Resolution to Authorize the Refund of Tax Overpayment for Block 1062, Lot 4, 105 Douglas Street to CoreLogic in the Amount of \$1,613.68.*

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by Mayor and Council of the City of Lambertville, in the County of Hunterdon, in the State of New Jersey that the refund to CoreLogic for an overpayment of First Quarter Taxes for the property known as block 1062, lot 4 on the Tax Map of the City of Lambertville, with a mailing address of 105 Douglas Street in the amount of \$1,613.68 is hereby authorized.

ADOPTED: April 7, 2020

RESOLUTION NUMBER 58-2020: *A Resolution to Authorize the Refund of a Tax Overpayment for Block 1016, Lot 18, 25 Perry Street to CoreLogic in the Amount of \$2,192.09.*

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by Mayor and Council of the City of Lambertville, in the County of Hunterdon, in the State of New Jersey that the refund to CoreLogic for an overpayment of First Quarter Taxes for the property known as block 1016, lot 18 on the Tax Map of the City of Lambertville, with a mailing address of 25 Perry Street in the amount of \$2,192.00 is hereby authorized.

ADOPTED: April 7, 2020

RESOLUTION NUMBER 59-2020: *A Resolution to Authorize the Mayor, City Attorney and City Clerk to Sign the License Agreement for 95 Clinton Street, Granting Relief to Cure a 50-Year-Old Problem with the Fence, Pool, and Landscaping in the City's Right of Way.*

Rescheduled to the April 23, 2020 Session.

RESOLUTION NUMBER 60-2020: *A Resolution to Authorize the Sale of the 2009 Ford Crown Victoria Through Public Auction.*

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by Mayor and Council of the City of Lambertville, in the County of Hunterdon, in the State of New Jersey that the sale of the 2009 Crown Victoria through Public Auction, VIN# ending in 4537, housed at the Police Department, 349 North Main Street in the City of Lambertville is hereby authorized.

ADOPTED: April 7, 2020

RESOLUTION NUMBER 61-2020: *A Resolution to Authorize the Refund of a Tax Overpayment for Block 1057, Lot 1.84, 15 Hillside Court, to Roger Thompson in the Amount of \$4,165.80.*

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NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by Mayor and Council of the City of Lambertville, in the County of Hunterdon, in the State of New Jersey that the refund to Roger Thompson for an overpayment of First Quarter Taxes for the property known as block 1057, lot 1.84 on the Tax Map of the City of Lambertville, with a mailing address of 15 Hillside Court in the amount of \$4,165.80 is hereby authorized.

ADOPTED: April 7, 2020

RESOLUTION NUMBER 62-2020: A Resolution Authorizing the redemption of a Tax Lien for Block 1046, Lot 9 In the Amount of \$24,802.99, Plus a Premium in the Amount of \$2,000

WHEREAS, Tax Lien Certificate 18-00004 issued on Block 1046 Lot 9 was assigned to NAR Solutions Inc. 5106 California St. Omaha, NE 68132 on 06/21/2018 but originally sold to FWDSL on 10-20-16.

WHEREAS, payment has been received by the Tax Collector for redemption of the tax lien from the property owner.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by Mayor and Council of the City of Lambertville, in the County of Hunterdon, in the State of New Jersey that the check is hereby authorized to NAR Solutions Inc, 5106 California St, Omaha, NE 68132 for the redemption of tax lien certificate #16-00005 in the amount of: \$24,686.42

In addition, the City is holding a premium in the amount of \$2,000.00

and upon redemption this is due back to the lienholder.

2 checks for the lienholder –

Check 1= \$24,802.99

Check 2= for premium= \$2,000.00

Adopted: April 7, 2020

RESOLUTION NUMBER 63-2020: A Resolution Authorizing the City of Lambertville's Participation in the Hunterdon County Education Services Cooperative.

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11(5) authorizes contracting units to establish a Cooperative Pricing System and to enter into Cooperative Pricing Agreements for its administration; and

WHEREAS, the Educational Services Commission of New Jersey, hereinafter referred to as the "Lead Agency " has offered voluntary participation in a Cooperative Pricing System for the purchase of goods and services;

WHEREAS, on (DATE OF ACTION) the governing body of the (CONTRACTING UNIT), County of (COUNTY OF LOCATION), State of New Jersey duly considered participation in a Cooperative Pricing System for the provision and performance of goods and services;

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NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

TITLE

This RESOLUTION shall be known and may be cited as the Cooperative Pricing Resolution of the (CONTRACTING UNIT)

AUTHORITY

Pursuant to the provisions of *N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11(5)*, the (CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER) is hereby authorized to enter into a Cooperative Pricing Agreement with the Lead Agency.

CONTRACTING UNIT

The Lead Agency shall be responsible for complying with the provisions of the *Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.)* and all other provisions of the revised statutes of the State of New Jersey.

EFFECTIVE DATE: April 7, 2020

This resolution shall take effect immediately upon passage.

RESOLUTION NUMBER 64-2020: A Resolution to Reassert Opposition to the PennEast Pipeline and to urge the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection to Deny Any and All Permits for the PennEast Pipeline Project.

WHEREAS, AGL Resources, NJR Pipeline Company, South Jersey Industries, UGI Energy Services and Public Service Electric and Gas are proposing to construct the PennEast Pipeline, a new 36-inch-diameter natural gas pipeline that would originate in Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, cross the Delaware River north of Milford, then parallel the Delaware River through western Hunterdon County, including through Hopewell, West Amwell and Delaware Township in New Jersey at points only a few yards away from the Lambertville City border;

WHEREAS, the development of this and other unneeded pipelines is inconsistent with the climate goals of the Paris Agreement;

WHEREAS, New Jersey cannot achieve the State’s goals of achieving 100 percent clean energy by 2050 as required by state law, without transitioning away from gas and other fossil fuels;

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Rate Counsel [found](#) no public need for the PennEast pipeline noting that the project was “unfair to ratepayers” and concluded that the project is driven by its investors opportunity to earn a 14 percent rate of return;

WHEREAS, on October 21, 2014, the Governing Body of the City of Lambertville by [Resolution 126-2014](#), was an early leader among New Jersey municipalities and announced its opposition to the PennEast pipeline and announced its support of the September 9, 2014 petition of the Delaware Riverkeeper Network to the Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC) asking that

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the DRBC exercise its jurisdiction of the proposed PennEast Pipeline project to prevent a disastrous impact to and degradation of the water quality in the Delaware Basin;

WHEREAS, by [Resolution 51-2018](#) (where the City formally requested that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission hold a rehearing for the approval of the PennEast pipeline project because the necessary approvals from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), DRBC or the United State Army Core of Engineers have not been received) and by [Resolution 52-2018](#) (where the City formally requested that DEP revert the Freshwater Wetlands Rules back to the former high standards they used to follow in order to maintain and preserve waterways in our state) the Governing Body of the City of Lambertville continued to demonstrate its concern about the PennEast Pipeline;

WHEREAS, by Resolution 97-2017, the City of Lambertville resolved to adopt the elements of the Paris Accord, to reduce greenhouse gases, join together with municipalities, counties and States, to reaffirm the City’s commitment to studying and preparing for the impacts of climate change;

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of the City of Lambertville created a PennEast Pipeline Committee, comprised of environmental activists, members of the Environmental Commission, and a representative from the Governing body to ensure that all of the City’s efforts to fight the PennEast Pipeline are well-coordinated, effective and focused;

WHEREAS, since the Governing Body of the City of Lambertville first acted in 2014 to formally voice its opposition to the PennEast Pipeline over five years have passed and a majority of the members of the Governing Body has changed in composition with two new Councilpersons and a new Mayor; and

WHEREAS, despite the passage of time and the change in membership of the Governing Body of the City of Lambertville, there has been no diminution in the resolve of the Governing Body in its opposition to the PennEast Pipeline.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE Governing Body of the City of Lambertville in the County of Hunterdon, in the State of New Jersey that:

- 1- Lambertville reasserts its opposition to the proposed PennEast Pipeline.
- 2- Lambertville urges the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protect to continue to deny any and all permits for the PennEast Pipeline project.
- 3- This resolution shall be distributed to:
 - a. The Hunterdon County Board of Chose Freeholders
 - b. Senators Menendez and Booker
 - c. Congressman Tom Malinowski
 - d. State Senator Shirley Turner

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- e. Assemblyman Anthony Verrelli and Assemblywoman Verlina Reynolds-Jackson
- f. DEP Commissioner Catherine R. McCabe
- g. Delaware River Basin Commissioners

Adopted: April 7, 2020

RESOLUTION NUMBER 65-2020: A Resolution to Authorize the Mayor, City Attorney and City Clerk to execute the Contract with Lt. Brown January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2021.

Rescheduled to the April 23, 2020 Session.

Council President Asaro asked for a motion to adopt resolution numbers 51-2020 through 65-2020, minutes Resolution Number 59-2020. Mayor Fahl made the motion and Councilwoman Urbish seconded the motion. An affirmative voice vote was taken in favor of the motion by all members present. MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS LIST AND THE AMENDED BILLS LIST

Council President Asaro asked for a motion to approve the bills listed on the Bills List and the Amended Bills List. Mayor Fahl made the motion and Councilwoman Taylor seconded the motion. An affirmative voice vote was taken in favor of the motion by all members present. MOTION CARRIED.

ORDINANCES ON HOLD:

Mayor Fahl/Council President Asaro announced that the Ordinances listed on the meeting agenda would be carried to the April 23rd Voting Session. This session will also be held using Zoom.

FIRST READING

Ordinance Number 02-2020: An Ordinance to Amend the Lambertville City Code, 2014, Chapter VII, Traffic, Section 4.7 Parking Restricted for Use by Handicapped Persons, Adding Two Handicapped Parking Spaces: West Side of 39 Clinton Street and the West Side of 135 North Union Street.

Delayed to the April 23, 2020 Voting Session

SECOND READING/PUBLIC HEARING DELAYED UNTIL APRIL 23.

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Ordinance Number 01-2020: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LAMBERTVILLE, COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AMENDING THE REDEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE LAMBERTVILLE HIGH SCHOOL REDEVELOPMENT AREA, BLOCK 1073, LOTS 1, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 32, 33 AND 33.01, BLOCK 1090, LOTS 4 AND 5, AND BLOCK 1091, LOTS 1 AND 1.01.

Delayed to the April 23, 2020 Voting Session

CORRESPONDENCE

NJ TRANSIT: Updates on Station Improvements

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS: Request to collect donations on weekends of May 2 and May 3 between the hours of 9 am and 5 pm at two intersections (Union Street and Bridge Street) in the City.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY: Resolution Numbers 78 and 79, Urges counties and municipalities to create 2020 Census Complete County Committees.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR informed the members of the public that the 2020 Budget would be discussed at the April 23rd session, introduced at the May 5 session with the public hearing scheduled for June 9. Business is continuing at City Hall while most staff members are in the office one day per week, they are accessible by phone and email. He thanked the staff for continued efforts. The building is being cleaned two times a week. Affordable Housing information can be found on the City's website at www.lambertvillen.org/affordablehousing.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ASARO reviewed CDC Guidelines with the members of the public. She encouraged people to wear facial masks when they are in close proximity of other people.

COUNCILMAN SANDERS asked everyone to complete their Census! It can be completed online, via phone or by mailing in the paper Census.

COUNCILWOMAN URBISH informed everyone that she has been working with the school on a special project for children to thank the first responders, utility workers and all who are stretched thin. This is an art project that can be done at home. This is still in the early development stage and additional information will be out soon.

COUNCILWOMAN TAYLOR informed the members of the public present that due to COVID19, the Parklet would be delayed until social distancing rules are relaxed.

MAYOR FAHL informed the members of the public that the Garbage and Recycling will be scheduled for Friday will be picked up on Thursday this week because of the holiday. All State Parks have been closed by the Governor and this includes the tow path. Information related to COVID19 is sent out to the public every Monday and Thursday. If

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you have not yet done so, please sign up to receive the notices. Information is on the following website for small business loans: nj.org/covid.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION/PUBLIC CONCERN

Mayor Fahl/Council President Asaro opened the meeting up for public participation and asked the Deputy Clerk to read the process into the record.

The Deputy Clerk read the following statement:

I will first be taking questions or comments on COVID-19. Once finished, Mayor Fahl will open the meeting to other questions or comments.

If you want to participate or make a public comment, there are two ways to do so.

If you are currently utilizing a computer to participate, you would click the “Raise Hand” button on the bottom of the screen. This will place you in a queue that I can see for when it’s time to take public comments. People are sorted in the order they raised their hands. When I call on you, a message will pop-up asking if you want to unmute yourself. If you choose to move forward and place a public comment or question, choose to unmute, if you have changed your mind then choose to deny.

If you are dialing in tonight on your phone, to “raise your hand” dial *9 to be placed in the queue. When called on, the system will ask you to confirm being un-muted to proceed.

Upon being called, I will ask you to please state your full name and address the record, then please feel free to make your comment or ask a question.

When public comments are finished, participants will be placed back on mute for the duration of the meeting.

COMMENTS RELATED TO COVID19

Lillie Chen asked for information regarding the YMAC application before the Planning Board. Mayor Fahl reminded the members of the public that this section of public participation is to answer questions about COVID19. The City Attorney responding that this is a pending application before the Planning Board. Since appeals of the Planning Board’s decision are to the Governing Body, he felt it was inappropriate for a response this evening. The City Planner added that this would be an agenda item at the May Planning Board meeting.

Kelly Sullivan informed the members of the Governing Body that she is working on Paint.Team/Heroes to honor those serving the community during COVID19. She said she was happy to create a piece for the school. Councilwoman Urbish thanked her and said she would check out the website.

Suzanne thanked the Governing Body for keeping the Government open during these difficult times. She thanked the first responders, Public Works, and teachers. She asked about the parks being close and why the City left the parks open. Mayor Fahl explained

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that the City was monitoring the parks and have not had any issues with people not following the guidelines. If this changes, the City will revisit. Currently at all parks all play equipment has been roped off, the basketball hoops have been removed.

Steven Stegman informed the members of the public that the State has a helpline open for businesses to call. 1-800-Jersey7. Mayor Fahl commented that the link is up on the City's website. Mr. Stegman asked about the status of testing. Mayor Fahl said she has been working with Congressman Malinowski's office to advocate for local testing. She does not have any information at this time.

Laurie Ahern commented that we are ordered to shelter in place but in Lambertville the houses are so close together. She expressed concern and asked what we do. Mayor Fahl commented that this entire region is densely populated. She asked that everyone strictly adhere to the State's guidelines. It is best to stay inside unless it is necessary to go out and when you do go out, you should wear a mask in public.

Gina Fischetti commented that the Tow Path operates as a pedestrian thoroughfare. It is used as an alternate means of travel. Mayor Fahl commented that she spoke to Governor Murphy's Government Affairs Coordinator, and all State Parks will be closed.

Tom Eagan commented that we have 9 confirmed in Lambertville. He asked if the City had information about contact tracing. Mayor Fahl said the City is actively working with the County Board of Health to garner information. Because of HIPPA laws, the County cannot release information to the City. The City Business Administrator commented that if the Board of Health determines there is a concern, they will reach out directly to you.

There being no other related comments to COVID19, the Mayor moved onto Comments Other.

COMMENTS OTHER

Judy Gleason asked a procedural question. If there is a large interest in subject matter, one person to speak in a way that Council will know, what is possible for citizens. Mayor Fahl said she appreciated the comments. The City will continue to take suggestions from the members of the public. We are trying to keep this as close to the normal public meeting as possible. Councilwoman Taylor commented that they could write a letter, note signatures, and read it into the record.

Deborah Hollander of Sheak and Korzun thanked the Governing Body for their kind comments. She has worked with Tim for the past 25 years and has enjoyed a lot of discussions about Lambertville.

Paul Stevens asked when the information would be available to the members of the public. Councilwoman Urbish commented that it should be posted tomorrow on the city's website. We will keep it updated as we get more information in.

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Harry Young asked if the ACME building was still being considered as the site for the new Municipal Building. Mayor Fahl commented that the City is looking a multiple site for the consolidation. We are at the very beginning of the process and the renderings were provided to convey an idea. He then asked about the Police Station. Mayor Fahl commented that this was identified as a site in the Affordable Housing Agreement with Fair Share. Mr. Young commented that the agreement is valid until 2025 and he asked why we are rushing. Mayor Fahl commented that his comment was a misinterpretation of the agreement. She has worked with Councilwoman Urbish to put together a timeline on the settlement beginning in 2015 through 2020. She pointed him to the City's website for the information and offered to follow up with him later.

Lauren Kovacs followed up to Judy Gleason's comment and asked what the community can do to change the actions of the Governing Body. Councilwoman Urbish responded that they can advocate and help us understand the issues. She said one way is to show up, send council emails. She said she reads every email with an open mind; she is interested in hearing from the public. Council President Asaro commented that she has read every letter and email received as decisions come up. She is not making decisions, but instead is looking at options. Renovate vs new construction. She has not decided and is listening to the public, the Business Administrator, the City Planner and is balancing the debt load. Ms. Kovacs commented that this is frustrating and sends a terrible message. She asked why the agreement for Resolution Number 59-2020 was not attached for the public to view. She referenced Lillie Chen's email. The City Attorney responded that it is a draft document that will be on the meeting agenda for April 23. It can be taken under advisement until then, it is considered a draft document. Councilwoman Taylor asked that the Governing Body work on this issue so that it is clear to the public on what is available and what is not available. Mayor Fahl said she would follow-up with Councilwoman Taylor. Mayor Fahl said she has worked with Council President Asaro and the City Clerk on a new larger agenda and the information has been posted on Fridays for the public.

Gina Fischetti asked why this meeting only essential action items has but the April 23rd agenda does not. Mayor Fahl commented that we planned for two or three weeks because of COVID19 and now we are finding that this will be for many months. The world has changed, and it includes deliberating on budget and a required timeline. The City is diligently trying to figure out a process considering the Governor's order, DLGS advice, as they relate to essential functions of government. The City Attorney responded that the notices are provided electronically prior to 48 hours of the meeting, agendas are posted at City Hall on the website, notice is provided to two newspapers, and Lambertville is going above and beyond to let the public know of the meetings. It is up to the Mayor and Council to decide on what is essential. Mayor Fahl said the crux is public participation. Zoom has other opportunities This is a challenging time to run a government and remain engaged on all issues. Councilwoman Urbish commented that this happened in the middle of important and heated dialogue. We want to continue to

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engage with regard to obligations and look at the Police Department site and into finding alternatives with a lot of outreach opportunities for the public. Councilman Sanders commented that he has heard the concern and wanted to note that we are in a pandemic and said that if the public has suggestions, the Governing Body wants to hear them. Councilwoman Taylor commented that she is happy to be the conduit for questions.

Judy Detrano thanked the Governing Body and the Administrator for their assistance in working with the State of New Jersey to have new plantings of grasses along the Tow Path.

Lillie Chen asked about the other sites being considered for new municipal building. Mayor Fahl commented that some of the sites are not owned by the City and while she has had some conversations with the property owners, she is not able to release that information at this time. Ms. Chen asked about the Fair Share Housing Settlement Agreement and the relocation of the Police Department. Mayor Fahl responded that we have not decided. Councilwoman Urbish commented that the City is working on a lease agreement with the Township of West Amwell. Councilwoman Taylor commented that the Settlement Agreement that the City did not complete the steps required in the Settlement Agreement because of public push back. She said she would like the City to help residents to understand Affordable Housing so we can clarify steps. This project has not officially been voted on yet. Mayor Fahl thanked Councilwoman Urbish, the City Planner and Councilwoman Taylor. She said no one voted on these issues and it will take some time.

Paul Stevens asked the Governing Body to clear up a question. If this is a multistep process as soon as you pass the settlement agreement it sets us down the road. Councilwoman Urbish responded that it was a true statement for the alternative location for the Police Department, but we do not have an interlocal agreement with the Township of West Amwell for temporary housing of the Police Department and we have just started on the Community Development Plan. Mayor Fahl reminded everyone that we are all volunteers. Councilwoman Taylor commented that there is no decision even if the Settlement Agreement is approved on April 23rd. Those are the votes for each step to move there must be a series of decisions the Governing Body has to make. She said she understands his point of view, but the City is not obligated to combine services into one building.

Gina Fischetti asked about the hearing with Fair Share. The City Planner commented that the City provided notice at 2 pm on April 2 for a May 12, 2020 meeting with Fair Share and she is assuming it will be a virtual meeting. The City Planner encouraged the members of the public to attend. Ms. Fischetti asked if the space at West Amwell could accommodate and meet the needs of our Police Department and do they have separate locker rooms? Mayor Fahl responded that we are using the Township of West Amwell to insure we meet regulator requirements (Sally Port, etc.) but the plan is to operate for the

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most part out of Lambertville at the OEM site on the hill. The Business Administrator commented that the site at West Amwell was suggested by Lt. Brown and it can be worked out easily. The City is working to ensure we can address all the needs of the Police Department. Council President Asaro commented that there is time between now and the 23rd and when we move to make sure all the needs are met.

Lillie Chen commented that it seems like the City does not have a plan. But you have a plan to sell the building. What about the lease agreement? Is it budgeted? Why are you moving forward? Mayor Fahl responded that the City is in negotiations with the Township of West Amwell and any contractual agreement must come before the Governing Body. Ms. Chen asked if the City had a developer. Mayor Fahl reminded Ms. Chen of the OPRA request she submitted and said the City did not have any formal process yet. We are not fast tracking the project. Councilwoman Taylor commented that the City needs to do the Redevelopment first.

Kelly Sullivan commented that she does not like the idea of selling the Police Department. She mentioned USDA funding available to Lambertville. You have this beautiful piece of property, if we need housing, what is wrong with getting a USDA loan and have the City just create those units. Mayor Fahl responded that she appreciated the comment and she highly recommended that Ms. Sullivan review the information on the City's website so that she is familiar with how we got to this decision.

Mayor Fahl asked for any additional comments. There being no additional comments, Mayor Fahl addressed the public.

This is a difficult chapter for Lambertville. But the spirit of the city is not dependent on physical closeness, rather a care for one another and pride in our home that cannot be diminished by this hardship.

Our city's future will in some ways look different, as will much of the world, after this is over. It is hard to grasp what our "new normal" will be. But there is no doubt in my mind that whatever this "new normal" might entail, Lambertville will still possess the unity and goodwill that makes our community what it is. In fact, I am willing to bet that that unity and goodwill will not only be waiting for us on the other side but will be precisely what pushes us through this crisis, too.

Thank you immensely to all Lambertvillians who are working tirelessly on the frontlines to keep us safe and healthy. Thank you to Lambertvillians who are working to keep us fed and in good spirits and thank you to Lambertvillians who are doing their neighborly duty of social distancing to keep everyone safe. Thank you we can get through this together.

Gina Fischetti raised her hand. She commented that it was a good idea for the City to engage the public in a different way other than the website. The City Attorney responded

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that the City would continue to post in City Hall, on the glass doors at the Justice Center and on the glass doors by the ADA entrance.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:41 p.m. with a motion made by Councilwoman Taylor and seconded by Councilwoman Urbish. An affirmative voice vote was taken in favor of the motion by all members present. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia L. Ege
CMR, RMC, City Clerk

The April 7, 2020 Session Minutes were approved at the May 21st Voting Session.