



City of Lambertville
WORK SESSION
FRIDAY, JANUARY 15, 8:00 AM
HELD VIRTUALLY USING THE MEETING PLATFORM ZOOM
MINUTES

COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT

Mayor Fahl called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m. and she 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 into the record: This meeting is being held in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act with the meeting notice provided on Monday, January 11, 2021 to the Hunterdon County Democrat, the Trenton Times, various individuals on the list serve, department heads and the City Engineer and City Attorney.

This meeting will be recorded using Zoom.

The meeting agenda offers the planned action items of the Governing Body to the extent known at the time of publication.

ROLL CALL

The City Clerk read the roll as follows:

Present: Councilwoman Lambert, Councilman Sanders, Councilman Stegman, Councilwoman/President Taylor, Mayor Fahl.

Also present: William Opel, City Attorney, Cynthia Ege, City Clerk, Kristina Majeski, Deputy Clerk, and Robert Brown, Officer in Charge of the Lambertville Police Department.

CLOSED SESSION: *"Authorizing a Closed Session at the January 15, 2021 Lambertville City Council Meeting to Discuss Personnel and Attorney/Client Privileged Issues Related to Contract Negotiations, Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:4-12(b)(7&8)"*

RESOLUTION

"Authorizing a Closed Session at the January 15, 2021 Lambertville City Council Meeting to Discuss Personnel and Attorney/Client Privileged Issues Related to Contract Negotiations, Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:4-12(b)(7&8)"

WHEREAS, the Council of the City of Lambertville is subject to certain requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6, et seq.; and

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12, provides that a closed session, not open to the public, may be held for certain specified purposes when authorized by N.J.S.A 10:4-12(b).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Lambertville that a closed session shall be held on January 15, 2021, using the virtual meeting platform Zoom, to discuss the following matters: *personnel and attorney/client privileged issues related to contract negotiations, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:4-12(b)(7&8).*

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the deliberations conducted in closed session may be disclosed to the public upon the determination of the Lambertville Mayor and City Council.

ADOPTED:

Mayor Fahl and City Council convened in closed session at 8:05 a.m. with a motion made by Councilman Sanders and seconded by Councilman Stegman. An affirmative voice/roll call vote was taken in favor of the motion by all members present. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Mayor Fahl and City Council re-convened in regular session at 8:56 a.m. with a motion made by Mayor Fahl and seconded by Council President Taylor. An affirmative voice/roll call vote was taken in favor of the motion by all members present. **MOTION CARRIED.**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/MOMENT OF SILENCE

Mayor Fahl led the public in the Pledge of Allegiance. She asked the members of the public to continue standing for a moment of silence in honor of those serving in the United States Armed Forces in Country and abroad and on the front lines of COVID19.

GOAL SETTING/RETREAT

PURPOSE: To establish and review priorities for the final year of Mayor Fahl's first term, with respect to the overarching goals presented to the City in 2018 (campaign) compared with the current realities of the City (non-campaign). To review those goals and priorities with the Council and ensure that Council priorities are addressed within the public agenda. Finally, to create a draft legislative and executive calendar to achieve those shared priorities.

GOAL of RETREAT: Create a Legislative and Executive Agenda for the remainder of 2021.

Definitions:

Legislative: Projects that require Council leadership as well as public working sessions and hearings.

Executive: Initiatives that relate to City management and/or contracting; spearheaded by the Mayor's office.

Organizing: Work that does not require Legislative approval but will require Council Leadership.

Council President Taylor commented that there are significant projects, and she looks forward to working with the Mayor and Governing Body on them. She asked if there was a way to be kept apprised of Planning and Zoning Board applications so that when they are approached from members of the public about a project, they have the information required to respond.

Councilman Stegman asked for the monthly reports from the department heads. The Governing Body asked for increased communications.

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2018 PLATFORM:

- a) Opening up more lines of communication between the City and its residents
- b) Better Budget Management
- c) Reinvigorating Boards and Commissions
- d) New Leadership Tone

2019 PLATFORM

- a) Renters Protection and Landlord Regulation
- b) Rt. 29 and Road Safety Infrastructure
- c) Budget Process Creation
- d) Addressing Affordable Housing Plan
- e) Creating Citywide Bulletin

2020 PLATFORM:

- a) Redevelopment Planning and Community Outreach
- b) Affordable Housing Planning
- c) Economic Development and business retention in the time of COVID
- d) Making Lambertville a better place to work
- e) Creating Opportunities for direct community input

a) **2021 PLATFORM:**

- Closson Preservation Project
- b) Finalizing Affordable Housing Project
- c) Making Lambertville an easier place to start and own a business
- d) Getting back to basics, focusing on customer service and service provision

2021 DRAFT PRIORITY LIST

Executive Work

1. Closson Property
 - a. Environmental Review
 - b. Farm Market Bid
 - c. Holcombe House Bid
 - d. Architectural Review
 - e. Green Acres
 - f. CAT Ideation: the members of the Governing Body discussed the Community Advisory Team and the expansion of the reach to a more diverse population. Councilwoman Lambert and Councilman Stegman will make a recommendation of someone from the senior population to appoint to the CAT.
2. Finalizing the agreement for Police Site
3. Trash/third Can: Council President Taylor commented that she is happy to work on the restructuring of the Public Works Department and the Third Can Program.
4. BA Position

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5. Facilities Review RFP: Councilman Stegman volunteered for this initiative
6. Bridge Street Jurisdictional Control
7. Police Contract Negotiations

Legislative Work

1. Finalizing the agreement for Police Site/Affordable Housing: A draft Request for Proposals has been completed by the City Attorney.
2. Budget and Capital Budget: discussion ensued regarding the structural deficit.
3. HR
 - a. Handbook: Councilman Sanders volunteered to work on this project.
 - b. Negotiated agreement with City Clerk and Officer in Charge of Police Department
 - c. Delineating Department heads in the Administrative Code
4. Pay to Play Ordinance: Councilman Sanders commented that he had a sample for review and consideration.
5. Inclusionary Zoning Ordinance Review: Councilman Taylor will assist.
6. Recreational Marijuana: Councilman Sanders volunteered to work on this project.

Organizing Work

1. Volunteer Recruitment
2. Spanish Language Outreach: Councilwoman Taylor will work with the Human Rights Council on this initiative. The goal is to reach the senior population, provide documents in Spanish and narrate videos in native languages for each.
3. Downtown Zoning adjustments: Councilman Stegman volunteered to work on this initiative.
4. Economic Development and City Chamber Relationship
 - a. Love our Lambertville
 - b. Ongoing COVID fee and waiver discussion

Draft Calendar Work and Voting Sessions

January Voting

- HRC presentation of recommendations

February Working

- Third can program Changes - suggestions from Trash Task Force and EC
- Closson Property Bid Plans for Farm Market/ Specialty Food Store
- Budget Priorities

February Voting

- Executive Session for RFQ/RFP for Affordable Housing Site Review
- Pay to Play Ordinance Introduction
- Introduction of Bond Ordinance for Acquisition of Closson Property

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March Working

- Capital Budget and Operating Budget Discussion Department Head Presentations
- Initial Discussion on Legalized Marijuana for later zoning recommendations

March Voting

- Review and Approve Bid for Farm Market
- RFQ/RFP Award for Affordable Housing Site
- Pay to Play Ordinance Public Hearing
- Trash and Third Can Changes

April Working

- Budget Priority Finalization Review

April Voting

- Budget Introduction
- Capital Spending Introduction

May Working

- CBD Zoning Changes Overview

May Voting

- Budget Second Reading
- Capital Spending Second Reading

June Working

- Staff Handbook/ HR Review
- Inclusionary Zone

June Voting

- RFP Award for Facilities Review
- Police Contract Renewal (Subject to negotiations)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS is scheduled for Thursday, January 14, 2021 at 6 p.m. This will be prerecorded, and the link will be uploaded to the City's website at www.lambertvillenj.org.

DOG AND CAT LICENSES are due no later than Friday, February 26 to avoid the late fee. Please include a copy of your pet's valid rabies vaccination.

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PARKING STICKERS expired 12/31/2020! You must reside in front of a metered parking space; the vehicle must be owned by you and your license and registration must be tied to the address UNLESS you own property elsewhere. Questions? Call Tina at 609-397-0110, ext. 12.

JUSTICE CENTER PARKING SPACES are available! Please call the Deputy Clerk at 609-397-0110, ext. 12.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m. with a motion made by Councilman Sanders and seconded by Councilwoman Lambert. An affirmative voice vote was taken in favor of the motion to adjourn. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia L. Ege

Cynthia L. Ege, CMR, RMC, City Clerk

Approved at the February 18, 2021 Voting Session of the Governing Body.