

Shamong, NJ 08088

October 6, 2015

The Shamong Township Committee held a Committee Meeting on the above date at the Municipal Building.

Mayor Long called the meeting to order at approximately 7:30 p.m.

The Clerk stated please be advised that proper notice of this meeting has been given in compliance with the Open Public Meeting Act in the following manner. Written notice has been sent to the Burlington County Times and sent to the Central Record and posted as required by the Open Public Meeting Act.

The Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call and)	Mr. Michael DiCroce	P
Absentees)	Mr. Timothy Gimbel	P
Noted)	Mr. Sean Gray	A
	Mr. Kenneth Long	P
	Mr. Martin Mozitis	P

Mayor Long opened the meeting to the public for comments, there being none, he closed the meeting to the public.

**ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE OFFICIAL ACTION:**

**On motion of Committeeman DiCroce, seconded by Committeeman Gimbel, it was moved to approve the minutes of September 1, 2015 regular and executive session. A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes.**

The Administrator explained due to a request from a resident at the last meeting she checked the township files for material on lowering the speed limit on Forked Neck Road. In 2008 the township requested the State to do a survey to lower the speed limit on Forked Neck Road but due to State budgetary constraints the State declined that request. However, the State supplied information to the township for their use. After discussing this with the Committee and the engineer at the time it was decided not to move forward because of the expense to the township and being denied previously. After further discussion with our present engineer this Committee also feels it would not be approved and does not want the added expense for the township.

The Administrator explained due to a request from a resident at the last meeting the Public Works employees have checked the Adopt-A-Road signs and some will be replaced and others will get new lettering. Hopefully, this can be done by early November depending on how quickly we receive the material and signs. This will be paid for from the Clean Communities Grant money.

The Administrator reported there has been two recent accidents at Willow Grove and Stokes Roads intersection and the fire department and public works suggested asking the County to do a study for a 4-way stop. This would need Township Committee approval. After some discussion on motion by Committeeman Gimbel, seconded by Committeeman Mozitis the motion failed as Committeemen Long and DiCroce voted against it.

The Administrator explained she received a request from Nicholas Greco to have permission to cut down trees on township property. In doing so he will sign a Hold Harmless Agreement and supply an insurance certificate naming Shamong Township as additional insured. He will be permitted to remove dead and or fallen trees from Township land located at block 23.01 lot 26 and block 8.01 lot 12.62 at his own risk. The Township takes no responsibility as to the location of property lines but has provided copies of the tax map for these areas. **On motion of Committeeman DiCroce, seconded by Committeeman Gimbel, it was moved to approve Nick Greco to remove dead and or downed trees on Township property as described in the attached "Hold Harmless Agreement." A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes.**

**On motion of Committeeman DiCroce, seconded by Committeeman Gimbel, it was moved to approve the replacement of the well at Dingtletown Sports Complex. A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes.**

**On motion of Committeeman Gimbel, seconded by Committeeman Mozitis, it was moved to approve the 5K run at Valenzano Winery on November 8, 2015. A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes.**

In reference to the Copperthwaite property the solicitor, Mr. Heinold, explained as part of acquiring the property there needs to be a subdivision since the total property is 30 acres and the township is purchasing 23 acres. Mr. Guzzi, the engineer, explained because Green Acres money is being used there needs to be a Green Acres survey which is more involved and an environmental study and soil testing. Mr. Heinold explained the costs would come out of the Open Space Trust Account with the State reimbursing 50%. Total costs for the subdivision property is \$38,759 and the smaller property across the street for testing is \$7,500. **On motion of Committeeman Gimbel, seconded by Committeeman DiCroce, it was moved to approve the sub-division of block 27.01 lot 3 and testing and the testing of the smaller property across the street. A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes, except Committeeman Mozitis who voted no.**

Mr. Guzzi reported he received a substitution list for several of the plantings from Oak Shade Nursery that he was unable to get on the replacements for the Pakenah Trail entrance project. He is ready to plant pending the weather and understands he must give Mr. Guzzi a couple days notice and plant during the week not on a weekend.

#### **RESOLUTIONS:**

**On motion of Committeeman DiCroce, seconded by Committeeman Gimbel, it was moved to approve Resolution 2015R-74 confirming review of Division of Local**

**Government Services CY 2014/SFY 2015 Best Practice Inventory Program Best Practice Public Meeting Certification Form. A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes.**

**ORDINANCES:**

After much discussion the Committee decided to table Ordinance 2015-8 amending Township Code to create Chapter 136 governing "property maintenance". They will revisit it at their October 27<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**On motion of Committeeman DiCroce, seconded by Committeeman Mozitis, it was moved to approve Ordinance 2015-9 A bond ordinance of the Township of Shamong in the county of Burlington, New Jersey authorizing the acquisition of real property; appropriating the sum of \$235,000 therefore; authorizing the issuance of \$223,250 bonds or notes of the Township to finance said acquisition; and making certain determinations and covenants and authorizing certain related actions in connection with the foregoing after first reading. A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes.**

**BILL LIST:**

**On motion of Committeeman Mozitis, seconded by Committeeman Gimbel, it was moved to approve the attached Bill List. A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes.**

**REPORTS:**

Mr. Guzzi, our engineer, reported he met with the Roads Sub-Committee and updated the cost estimates for the roads which were identified for reconstruction. There are 6 roads listed as the priority roads for 2016 with alternate roads included. Mr. Guzzi has a 10% contingency in the price because prices fluctuate with the oil and asphalt. Mr. Guzzi also explained to repave Grassy Lake Road, as it is with some drainage improvements which would help the problem not solve it, would be very costly. The Administrator reported she received a letter from a concerned resident on that road and in discussing this at the road sub-committee meeting Dan said there is really nowhere to go with that volume of water. The pipes were put in place over 20 years ago and it helped but when we get over 2 inches of rain it cannot percolate fast enough. The options are limited with the amount of right-of-way available in the area.

Mr. Heinold, our solicitor, explained on his report he attached a letter that he sent to Mrs. Bowers who is the seller on the Copperthwaite property, to update where things are on that property. He also attached a draft or sample of what he has come up with on vacant or abandoned properties. This ordinance is the best of options because it deals with homes where the property owner has been foreclosed and it is now owned by the bank or they received notice and just left. It allows us to require the lienholders, banks and mortgage holders to register and be responsive with fines of \$1500. He feels the other ordinances are

designed more for large cities. He asked the Committee to look it over and let him know if they want to move forward with it. He also suggested the Administrator reach out to Medford since they have this ordinance in place and see if they feel it's working.

Mayor Long opened the meeting to the public and Sam Williams who lives at 54 Laurel Court, Muskingum Woods development stated there is a house at the entrance to his development that is a disaster and needs to be addressed. He is in favor of the property maintenance ordinance and asked the Committee to approve it. Mr. Williams reported that the curb in front of his house has completely disintegrated and he is asking the township to take care of it. The Administrator explained the township is in the process of making a list of all cement repair work that needs attention throughout the township and it will be fixed in 2016. There being no further comments from the public, Mayor Long closed the meeting to the public.

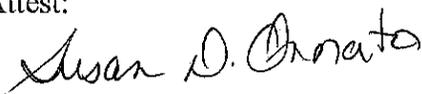
There were no comments on the Administrator's report.

**On motion of Committeeman Gimbel, seconded by Committeeman DiCroce, it was moved to approve Resolution 2015R-75 to go into executive session for attorney/client privilege, contract negotiation and potential land purchase/sale. All were in favor.** The Administrator stated if any action is to take place it will take official action in the regular meeting.

Mr. Heinold stated they had executive session where they talked under attorney/client privilege and also talked potential contract negotiations with Earl Stahl. No action will be taken at this time as Mr. Stahl will be getting back to the Committee. They also talked about potential property issues and no action will be taken at this time.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned **on motion of Committeeman Gimbel, seconded by Committeeman DiCroce all were in favor.**

Attest:

  
Susan D. Onorato  
Municipal Clerk