

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

Mayor Di Croce called the meeting to order at approximately 7:30 PM

The Clerk, Susan Onorato, stated the Sunshine Statement advising that proper notice of this meeting has been given in compliance with the Open Public Meeting Act.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call (absentees noted)	Mr. Michael Cooney	P
	Mr. Michael Di Croce	P
	Mr. Timothy Gimbel	A
	Mr. Sean Gray	P
	Mr. Martin Mozitis	P

Also, in attendance: D. Heinold, Solicitor and D. Guzzi, Engineer

PROCLAMATION: Recognizing William “Bill” Westrol – Mayor Di Croce read a proclamation into the minutes posthumously honoring William Westrol and presented the proclamation to his wife Patricia Westrol. Mrs. Westrol stated how much Bill loved Shamong and thanked the Committee for this honor.

COMMUNITY MOMENT: IMMS Student Artwork Donations – Mr. Luke Bowe/Art Teacher

Mayor Di Croce welcomed Mr. Bowe and the art students who then took a few moments to explain the different painting project concepts, techniques used and details on each of their artistic styles. The Mayor expressed his congratulations and appreciation the Mr. Bowe and the students.

The Mayor requested the Clerk give an update on the Burlington County Municipal Part Grant item on tonight’s agenda while the students were present. The Clerk reported this was an annual competitive grant – \$250,000 was applied for and \$100,000 was awarded. As included in the application, \$50,000 of the grant would be used to assist the Indian Mills School towards a Community Playground. The School Board and parent’s group will be fund raising towards the installation cost of the Community Playground project. The other \$50,000 would be used for Township parks and recreation areas.

The Mayor introduced Christine Vespe, Tim Carol and Laurel Archer from the Indian Mills school district and Ali Ferrell, Anne Marie Puleo and Amy Abrams, from Indian Mills High School Association, who were involved in the funding project. Christine Vespe expressed her thanks to the Mayor and Mrs. Onorato for all their help in getting this grant in motion. Ms. Vespe spoke about the benefits this proposed *all-inclusive* playground that would offer play for all. Ms. Vespe advised they would reach out to the community to assist in putting this playground together.

Ms. Archer expressed her excitement that all the things to come together to help put this playground in place. Mr. Carroll commented on the teamwork and all the people that came together to make this work, adding that any child can come and enjoy this playground, including children with disabilities. The parents involved also expressed their appreciation.

On motion of Committeeman Mozitis, seconded by Committeeman Gray, it was moved to approve the 2019 Burlington County Municipal Park Grant - \$100K and allocate \$50,000 to the Indian Mills School Playground. A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Agenda Items Only

Mayor Di Croce opened the meeting to the public for comments, at which time there were none, so he closed the meeting to the public.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE OFFICIAL ACTION:

On motion of Committeeman Cooney, seconded by Committeeman Mozitis, approval of the January 7, 2020 Reorganization, Regular and Executive Session minutes were approved as submitted. A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes except Committeeman Gray who abstained.

Resident Melissa Durham reported on the proposed Spring Fling event at Atsion Lake Park scheduled for Saturday, April 4th with a rain date of Sunday, April 5th. There would be vendors renting 10x10 spaces with those funds used to offset other costs. There will be food trucks and plenty of activities for kids. Melissa confirmed approval from the Atsion Lake Park Committee and requested the Township to sponsor the event and provide the insurance requirement per the Shamong Special Events Permit application. The Clerk advised the Certificate of Insurance could be provided through the Joint Insurance Fund (JIF) at no cost. The Mayor thanked Melissa again for the great job done with the Holiday event. **On motion of Committeeman Gray, seconded by Committeeman Cooney, it was moved to approve sponsoring the Spring Fling event at no cost to the Township and providing insurance on same. A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes.**

The Clerk reported 2019 UCC annual report reporting \$98,417 total revenue and \$93,134.87 total expenses - covered all program cost and building overhead – profit \$5,282.13. **On motion of Committeeman Mozitis, seconded by Committeeman Gray, it was moved to approve review and approval of the 2019 UCC office annual report. A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes.**

The Clerk gave an update on ProChamps, a service hired by the Township the end of 2019 to manage and maintain the Township vacant and foreclosure properties. Fifteen properties have already been registered and fees collected - \$2,800 forwarded to Shamong Township. It's on on-going process and already working well. There will be a link added to our website soon so residents with concerns can go on-line and directly add information.

The Clerk reported on the status of the Park License renewals (expire 12/31/2020):

- a. Garden Homes Management Corporation (Oakview Village)
- b. Fawn Lake Village

The Clerk advised both parks have submitted the required documents and fees and both have been inspected by our Code Official. The Clerk reported the Rent Control Board is also in support of renewal. The Mayor spoke about the Holiday Lighting event he attended at Fawn Lake Village and thanked Committeeman Mozitis and Gimbel for their attendance as well. **On motion of Committeeman Cooney, seconded by Committeeman Mozitis, it was moved to approve the one-year license renewal to operate for both Oakview Village and Fawn Lake Village – expiring 12/31/2020. A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes.**

The Clerk reported the County does testing on standing water each year and treatment is completed by aerial application. **On motion of Committeeman Gray, seconded by Committeeman Mozitis, it was moved to approve the 2020 Aerial Mosquito Control and to authorize Township Administrator to execute all required forms. A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes.**

The Clerk reported receiving quotes for landscaping services at the cemetery for the 2020 season. MVP Lawn Service in Medford came in lowest at \$220 per cut and \$670 per fertilizer application. Sod Services in Shamong was next at \$225 per cut and \$1,266.44 per fertilizer application and there was no response on the third quote request. **On motion of Committeeman Cooney, seconded by Committeeman Mozitis, it was moved to approve MVP Lawn Service for landscaping services for Pinelands Memorial Park Cemetery. A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes.**

The Clerk requested to attend an election seminar presented by the Burlington County Municipal Clerks Association. **On motion of Committeeman Gray, seconded by Committeeman Mozitis, it was moved to approve the Clerk's request to attend a seminar at a total cost of \$30.00. A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes.**

The Clerk summarized details on quotes received for proposed LED lighting project to replace 40-year-old light fixtures in the Municipal Building and repair/replace several outside lights around the Public Works buildings – 71 fixtures total. LED lighting would reduce costs of operation. Lowest quote was Charles Richardson Electrical Contractor in Moorestown at \$10,863.90; second was Ronaldson Electric Construction in Shamong at \$13,500 and third was Raynor Electric Mt. Holly at \$18,560.50. The Clerk advised there was \$21,640 in the Capital Fund for this project. **On motion of Committeeman Cooney, seconded by Committeeman Mozitis, it was moved to approve Charles Richardson Electric to do the lighting project. A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes.**

The Clerk reported on 2020 budget items summarizing details on the following:

- a. Insurance premiums
- b. Health benefits
- c. Dental benefits
- d. Employee raises
- e. Tax Assessor

- f. Surplus/tax rate
- g. Timeline
- h. LOSAP
- i. Capital Budget
 - i. Parking lot repaved
 - ii. Replace lights in Municipal Building and repair around PW
 - iii. Barriers to unauthorized areas

RESOLUTIONS:

The Clerk reported the taxes were paid on-time, but the on-line payment system had a glitch and did not process the payment properly – total fees to credit \$65.27. The on-line system is now being monitored by the CFO several times weekly to avoid this occurring in the future. **On motion of Committeeman Gray, seconded by Committeeman Cooney, it was moved to approve Resolution 2020R-32 cancellation of fees and interest (Block 3.01/Lot 4.10) 118 Tuckerton Road – M. Baranoski. A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes.**

The Clerk advised this plan is highly recommended and supported by John Lyons, the Office of Emergency Management Coordinator. **On motion of Committeeman Gray, seconded by Committeeman Mozitis, it was moved to approve Resolution 2020R-33 adopting the Burlington County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan. A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes.**

ORDINANCES:

The Clerk reported the 1% this year allows the Township to raise the budget by 1% - \$22,420.66 - to set money aside for an emergency if needed. The Mayor opened the meeting to public comment, as there were none, the Mayor then closed this portion of the meeting to public comment. **On motion of Committeeman Cooney, seconded by Committeeman Mozitis, it was moved to approve Ordinance 2020-1 (Second reading – public comment) Calendar Year 2020 Ordinance to Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and to Establish a Cap Bank (N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14) (BCIT 1/10/2020). A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes.**

The Clerk reported this Ordinance sets the salary range not the salaries paid. The Mayor opened the meeting to public comment, as there were none, the Mayor then closed this portion of the meeting to public comment. **On motion of Committeeman Gray, seconded by Committeeman Mozitis, it was moved to approve Ordinance 2020-2 (Second reading – public comment). An Ordinance of the Township of Shamong Fixing Annual Salary Ranges of the Members of the Township Committee and Certain Designated Officers of Said Township (BCIT 1/12/2020). A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes.**

The Solicitor reported the existing provision of this code has a section on permitted accessory uses applying to commercial properties – upon review, residential zones should have been included. The Solicitor advised this proposed amendment would make the code more consistent with the original intent. The Engineer commented in other residential zones you can have an accessory structure, but the current Rural Development it is not permitted. The Solicitor agreed that it would

just be a technical cleanup of the Ordinance and benefit the residents. **On motion of Committeeman Cooney, seconded by Committeeman Gray, it was moved to approve Ordinance 2020-3 (Introduction) Amending Chapter 110-122 of the Township Code Governing "RURAL DEVELOPMENT AREA". A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes.**

BILL LIST:

The Clerk advised the total bill list is \$2,049,797.53 – of that, approximately \$99,000 is Township appropriations and the remaining amount goes to the County, the Lenape Regional District and the Shamong Township Board of Education. The Clerk advised the County gets \$710,000 per quarter. The Mayor requested any questions or comments; as there were none, **on motion of Committeeman Mozitis, seconded by Committeeman Gray, it was moved to approve the attached Bill List. A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes.**

REPORTS:

The Engineer Reported:

- Grassy Lake Road project grant is out to bid – hope to begin the project in the Spring.

The Solicitor Reported:

- Commented on his positive experience when Mr. Westrol was a baseball coach and his contribution to Shamong.

The Administrator Reported:

- Burl Co JIF Safety Kick Off Meeting scheduled for Thursday, March 5th
- Curly Fern Enduro Event scheduled for March 14-15, 2020 (Start/End Location: IM Deer Club)
- NJ Transportation Bank Financing Program – March 13th - \$22M in funds to be appropriated
- Shamong Free Rabies Clinic scheduled for Saturday, March 28th from 9 AM – 11 AM
- Spring Fling Social Event requested by Melissa Durham scheduled for Saturday, April 4, 2020 at Atsion Lake Park – open to the public

The OEM Coordinator Reported: no report

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mayor Di Croce opened the meeting to the public for comments, at which time the following responded:

Ruth Berger – 432 E. Stokes Road – has been a resident for 55 years and expressed her disappointment about the low attendance at this meeting as opposed to the meeting that discussed the proposed soccer field. She expressed that Mr. Gardner, who pulled the application, has integrity for backing off and should run for the Committee. The Clerk advised it was Mr. Gardner's decision

and he was welcome to run, but he needs to file a petition to be on the Primary ballot so the voters can decide.

Melissa Durham – 85 Route 206 – inquired on behalf of Girl Scout Troop 24713 if any further consideration had been made with regards to their Take Action proposal of establishing some form of Community Center. The Mayor commented that due to budgetary restrictions, no further consideration had been made at this time, but if more businesses come to Shamong providing additional revenue it could be reconsidered. The Clerk advised that perhaps a future County grant could be considered to assist, but the current budget is not equipped for this project. There was brief discussion regarding past consideration of the same type of project and other possible available space options.

As there were no more comments, the Mayor then closed this portion of the meeting to the public.

On motion of Committeeman Mozitis, seconded by Committeeman Gray and a roll call vote showing all members present voting yes, by Resolution 2020R-35, the Committee went into Executive Session for matters of Attorney Client privilege regarding a contract issue and a personnel policy item.

The Committee reconvened their regular meeting and the Clerk reported the Solicitor and Clerk received some direction from the Committee, but there was no action to be taken at this time.

There being no further business, **on motion of Committeeman Cooney, seconded by Committeeman Gray and a roll call vote showing all members present voting yes, the meeting was adjourned.**

Attest:


Susan D. Onorato
Municipal Clerk