

**MINUTES OF KNOWLTON TOWNSHIP  
WARREN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY  
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES  
April 9, 2018**

The monthly meeting of the Knowlton Township Committee was held on this date at the Municipal Building, 628 Route 94, Columbia, New Jersey. This meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Starrs.

Mayor Starrs led the public in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Starrs read the following statement: "This meeting of the Knowlton Township Committee is being held in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act: P: 1975, Chapter 231, noting that notice of all regularly scheduled meetings has been published in the Star Gazette and/or the Express Times as well as providing said schedule in the Municipal Clerk's office."

**Roll Call**

Present: Deputy Mayor Cuntala, Committeeman McNinch, Committeewoman Shipps, Committeeman Van Horn and Mayor Starrs

Also present was Township Engineer Ted Rodman, Chief Financial Office Christine Rolef, Township Auditor John Mooney, DPW Supervisor Brain Peck and Attorney Leslie Parikh.

**PRESENTATION**

**Auditor John Mooney and 2018 Municipal Budget**

Township Auditor John Mooney and CFO Christine Rolef presented the committee with a summary of a possible township budget, based on the direction given by the Committee previously. The draft showed a decrease of local tax rate of .02 cents per \$100 of valuation. Mr. Mooney had a concern with the township using \$385,000.00 of surplus last year to balance the budget, and at the end of the year, it was not all replaced. He stated at that rate the surplus will only last another 5 years. Mr. Mooney suggested using less surplus going into this year. Mayor Starrs asked about debt service. Mr. Mooney explained the debt service for this year is a little higher than last year. There is some debt that needs to be addressed this year, and some next year with the rest being paid off later. Mr. Mooney stated that the issue is not that the town is spending too much. He said expenditures decreased in Knowlton for the last two years. The issue is that we do not have enough revenue coming into the township. Mr. Mooney suggested foreclosing on properties that have tax liens. Committeewoman Shipps will speak with Tax Collector regarding homes with tax liens to get a list of the top 10 homes that can be foreclosed on and also to send out delinquent notices to residents who are not current to bring the percentage rate on collections to 98%. Committeeman McNinch asked if the cap expenditures were decreased by 3% in the draft, which CFO Ms. Rolef said it was. After a lengthy discussion, 3 out of 5 committee members agreed to go instead with a budget that will raise taxes ½ a point. Budget will be introduced at the April 26th meeting.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Resident Pam Rusweiler commented on an abandoned vehicle at the exit 4B along Route 80 for the past five days. Acting Clerk Shipps will call the NJ State Police.

Resident Rene Mathez explained that there needs to be a little more survey work on the Conti Farm because the Warren County Engineer felt it would be a good idea to check County driveway requirements.

**Motion was made by Committeeman McNinch, second by Deputy Mayor Cuntala and approved by roll call vote: Cuntala--yes, McNinch--yes, Shipps--yes, Van Horn--yes, Starrs--yes to approve and additional \$1,000.00 to Finelli for the Conti Farm survey to satisfy a concern that the Warren County Engineer addressed and to protect the property.**

Vincent Gaeta asked what the lost revenue on tax delinquent properties. Mayor Starrs explained that it would have to be looked up.

Sharon Valentine asked if the expansion of the gas station along route 46 would produce more revenue. Mayor Starrs said that it depends on how the structure will be built.

Resident Rene Mathez mentioned that a few years ago that the committee looked at the assessments of properties of tax liens which were extremely high and recommended that the committee revisit it again. Committeewoman Shipps will follow up with Tax Assessor Rich Moytko regarding this matter.

Resident Jeff Milesky inquired about the no engine breaking signs in other townships and that they have Ordinances for them. Attorney Parikh explained that the Township cannot put those signs on County or State Roads, the county or state would have to do it.

### **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

**DPW Supervisor Brian Peck** explained that truck #16 single axle dump truck, which is a 1991, the frame of the truck is rusted and has reached the point where it must be replaced. He provided photographs to show the Committee the extent of the rusting. Estimated cost for replacement is approximately \$160,000.00.

Mayor Starrs asked the committee if they would be ok if Engineer Ted Rodman and DPW Supervisor Brian Peck to put together a comprehensive list of township roads and when they will be paved. Committeeman McNinch asked Mr. Peck how much salt was used on the roads and parking lots for the 2017-2018 winter storms? Mr. Peck did not have a total but can get it to him.

**Township Engineer Ted Rodman**- County has sent out a list of roads that they will be resurfacing. Pre-Construction meeting for the dam removal has been postponed. They cannot start construction on the dam before June 15th. Mr. Rodman is concerned about the access that will be used during the construction on Bruglar Rd. Mr. Rodman will talk to see if there is a certain permit that they need to get.

Still have not heard from NJDOT regarding the problem statement for the Route 80.  
Still trying to get estimates for Hemlock Rd.

Committeeman McNinch had mentioned the letter that was sent out to NJDEP regarding the residents' request. Acting Clerk Shipps will follow up on the letter.

### **ORDINANCE**

## Public Hearing/Adoption

### 2018-01 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 134 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF KNOWLTON ENTITLED "PARKS AND RECREATION" IN ORDER TO ESTABLISH AN AMENDED FEE SCHEDULE

**WHEREAS**, Chapter 134 Section 28 of Code of the Township of Knowlton (the "Township") establishes certain fees for the reservation of park facilities within the Township; and

**WHEREAS**, It has been recommended that the Mayor and Committee amend said fee schedule for the purpose of making same commensurate with local municipal standards.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Knowlton, the County of Warren, that Chapter 134 entitled "Parks and Recreation" of the Code of the Township of Knowlton (the "Code") is hereby amended as follows:

**SECTION 1.** Section 134-28 of the Code of the Township of Knowlton entitled "Permit Required" is hereby amended and supplemented as follows (Additions indicated in boldface and italics *thus*; deletions indicated with strike-through ~~thus~~):

§ 134-28 Permit Required.

- A. No park grounds or facility shall be reserved for use or rented by any group, organization or individual for any activity, function or meeting unless a permit for its use or rental has first been obtained from the Knowlton Township Recreation Director. The granting of a permit shall entitle the holder thereof to precedence in the use of the facility.
- B. Permits for the use of facilities shall be required for any and all activities or functions of any size or type and shall be governed by the rules and regulations of the Township Committee and shall be subject to such schedule of fees as may be imposed or fixed by the Township Committee.
- C. The fees for reservation of park facilities are as follows:
  - (1) Daily pavilion rental: fee of ***\$100***
  - (2) Field usage: \$20 per hour per field.
- D. Events and activities sponsored by the Knowlton Athletic Association, the Knowlton Township Recreation Committee or the Knowlton Recreation Foundation are exempt from the permit requirement provided that these events and activities are scheduled and approved by the Knowlton Township Recreation Director.
- E. Fees and deposits may be waived for other community organizations with the approval of the Knowlton Township Committee.
- F. A refund of fees will be made for cancellations received 48 hours prior to the start of the event or activity. Refunds for cancellations made within 48 hours of the start of the event or activity may be granted with the approval of the Knowlton Township Committee.

**SECTION 2.** All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances inconsistent herewith are repealed as to such inconsistencies.

**SECTION 3.** If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or portion of this Ordinance is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct and independent provision, and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions thereof.

**SECTION 4.** This Ordinance shall take effect upon final passage and publication according to law.

**Motion was made by Deputy Mayor Cuntala, second by Committeewoman Shipps and carried with an all-in-favor to go into public hearing.**

Committeeman McNinch asked about the fees being waived for organizations, if they were still applicable. Deputy Mayor Cuntala said yes, they are.

**Motion was made by Mayor Starrs, second by Committeewoman Shipps, and carried with an all-in-favor to come out of public hearing.**

**Motion was made by Mayor Starrs, second by Deputy Mayor Cuntala, and approved by roll call vote: Cuntala—yes, McNinch—yes, Shipps—yes, Van Horn—yes, Starrs—yes to adopt Ordinance 2018-01.**

#### **Introduction**

**2018-02** An Ordinance Amending Chapter 174 of the Code of the Township Entitled “Vehicles and Traffic” in Order to Establish Authority for Emergency Towing by the Township WHEREAS, Chapter 174 Section 12 of the Code of the Township of Knowlton (the “Code”) establishes that the Township of Knowlton (the “Township”) may temporarily prohibit parking due to snow plowing, snow removal, and other emergencies; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 174 Section 3 of the Code governs parking prohibitions during a state of emergency; and

WHEREAS, It has been recommended that the Mayor and Committee Amend said sections of the Code to provide the Township with maximum flexibility in the removal of abandoned or illegally parked vehicles during an emergency

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Knowlton, the County of Warren, that Chapter 174 entitled “Vehicles and Traffic” of the Code is hereby amended as follows:

Section 1: Section 174-12 of the Code entitled “Temporary prohibition of parking for snowplowing, snow removal, and other emergencies” is hereby amended and supplemented as follows (Additions indicated in boldface and italics *thus*; deletions indicated with strike-through ~~thus~~):

§ 174-12 Temporary prohibition of parking for snowplowing, snow removal and other emergencies.

A. Temporary parking prohibition. Whenever snow has fallen and the accumulation is such that it covers the street or highway, an emergency shall exist, and no vehicle shall be parked on any of the streets or parts of streets described in § 174-30, Schedule XVII: Prohibition of Parking Temporarily for Snowplowing, Snow Removal and Other Emergencies, attached to and made a part of this chapter.

B. Time of prohibition. The above parking prohibitions shall remain in effect after the snow has ceased until the streets have been plowed sufficiently and to the extent that parking will not interfere with the normal flow of traffic.

C. Removal of vehicle; cost. Any unoccupied vehicle parked or standing in violation of this section shall be deemed a nuisance and a menace to the safe and proper regulation of traffic; any police officer, ***the Township Emergency Management Coordinator, or in his or her absence, the Township Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator***, may provide for the removal of such vehicle. The owner shall pay the reasonable costs of the removal and storage which may result from such removal before regaining possession of the vehicle.

Section 2. Section 174- 3 of the Code entitled "Parking" is hereby amended and supplemented as follows (Additions indicated in boldface and italics *thus*; deletions indicated with strike-through ~~thus~~):

§ 174-3 Parking.

A. Regulations not exclusive. The provisions of this chapter imposing a time limit on parking shall not relieve any person of the duty to observe other more restrictive provisions prohibiting or limiting the stopping, standing or parking of vehicles as set forth in N.J.S.A. 39:4-138, any other New Jersey statute or as hereinafter provided.

B. Parking prohibited during state of emergency.

(1) Upon the declaration of an emergency, there shall be no parking upon streets or sections of streets where temporary EMERGENCY NO PARKING signs are displayed. ***Any State Police Officer, the Township Emergency Management Coordinator, or in his or her absence, the Township Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator*** are authorized to declare an emergency and to direct the posting of EMERGENCY NO PARKING signs when weather conditions, accidents, fire or public celebrations dictate or require the avoidance of hazards or other conditions which interfere with the free flow of traffic. Notification that EMERGENCY NO PARKING signs are being or will be posted shall be given to the operator or owner of any vehicle which has been parked prior to the posting of the signs.

(2) Any unoccupied vehicle parked or standing in violation of this section shall be deemed a nuisance and menace to the safe and proper regulations of traffic, and any *State* police officer, ***the Township Emergency Management Coordinator, or in his or her absence, the Township Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator*** may provide for the removal of such vehicle. The owner shall pay the reasonable costs of removal and storage which may result

from such removal before regaining possession of the vehicle.

- (3) The effectiveness of this subsection is contingent upon the signs being erected as required by law.

C. Parking prohibited at all times on certain streets.

- (1) No person shall park a vehicle at any time upon any of the streets or parts thereof described in § 174-14, Schedule I: No Parking, attached to and made a part of this chapter.
- (2) Removal of vehicles. Any vehicle found parked or standing in violation of Schedule I may be removed by towing or otherwise by any duly authorized agent of the Township of Knowlton and may be taken to any lawful place and kept until claimed by the owner or person having possession, custody or control of the vehicle. Any garage keeper or other person engaged in the business of towing and storing vehicles may be employed or engaged for the purpose of removing and storing any such vehicle. Any person who shall cause, allow or permit any vehicle to park or stand in violation of Schedule I shall by so doing be deemed to designate, constitute and appoint the Township of Knowlton, its agent and attorney of such person for the purpose of removing and storing such vehicle as hereinafter provided and, further, shall be deemed to release the Township from and to waive any and all claims for damage of any nature whatsoever arising out of the removal and storing of such vehicle and shall be liable for the payment of all fees and other charges and expenses incurred by reason of the removal by towing or otherwise and for storing of such vehicle.

D. Parking prohibited during certain hours on certain streets and parking areas. Unless on official business or during regular business hours or on officially sanctioned activities, no person shall park a vehicle between the hours specified in § 174-15, Schedule II: Parking Prohibited Certain Hours, of any day upon any of the streets or parts of streets or parking areas or parts of parking areas described in Schedule II, attached to and made a part of this chapter.

E. Stopping or standing prohibited during certain hours on certain streets. No person shall stop or stand a vehicle between the hours specified in § 174-16, Schedule III: No Stopping or Standing, of any day (except Sundays and public holidays) upon any of the streets or parts of streets described in Schedule III, attached to and made a part of this chapter.

F. Parking time limited on certain streets. No person shall park a vehicle for longer than the time limit shown in § 174-17, Schedule IV: Time Limit Parking, at any time between the hours listed in Schedule IV, of any day upon any of the streets or parts of streets described in Schedule IV, attached to and made a part of this chapter.

G. Permit parking only on certain streets.

- (1) No person shall park a vehicle at any time upon any of the streets or parts thereof described in § 174-14.1, Schedule 1A, Permit Parking, attached to and made a part of this chapter, unless the vehicle shall bear a valid permit.

- (2) A parking permit of a design specified by the Township will be issued to the owner of a specific vehicle upon submission of the appropriate application and supporting documents. A permit will only be issued to the applicant for the purposes of hiking, biking, fishing or hunting in areas proximately located to the parked vehicle. The permit shall display the permit number, the make, model, and color of the vehicle, and the date the permit expires. No permit shall be issued to a vehicle having more than four wheels. The vehicle must be owned by the applicant.
- (3) A valid driver's license and proof of registration and insurance for the permitted vehicle must be presented and approved by the Township Clerk before a permit is issued. If the applicant seeks to obtain the permit for the purposes of hunting and/or fishing, the appropriate and valid license must be presented and approved by the Township Clerk. No person other than the Township Clerk or his/her designee shall be authorized to issue said permit.
- (4) The permit is to be displayed on the front driver's side dashboard or rear view mirror when the vehicle is parked. The permit shall be removed when the vehicle is in motion.
- (5) A new permit must also be obtained in the event of change of address or any vehicle or license plate on a previously registered automobile.
- (6) All permits will automatically be revoked if the assigned vehicle ceases to qualify for the permit, if permit is affixed to a car other than the one so designated at the time of application, or if the vehicle registration number on the parking permit is different than the one on the vehicle or if a permit holder fails to report a change of address to the Clerk. If revoked, the permit shall be promptly returned to the Township Clerk.
- (7) Any vehicle bearing a revoked parking permit and parked on a street posted "permit only" will be subject to the same penalty as a vehicle parked in that location without a valid permit.
- (8) Permits will be valid for during the calendar year issued (January 1 through December 31). Any permit issued after June 30 of the permit year shall cost 1/2 of the regular permit fee.
- (9) Any vehicle parked in violation of the parking permit regulations will be subject to a fine of \$50 or removal pursuant to this section. Persons in possession of parking permits who misuse them, including obtaining them for purposes other than hunting, fishing, biking, and hiking, are subject to revocation of the permits for one year and a fine of \$100. Any person(s) found to possess an invalid, expired, or counterfeit permit shall be subject to a fine of \$100.
- (10) Any vehicle found parked or standing in violation of this section and Schedule I A may be removed by towing or otherwise by any duly authorized agent of the Township and may be taken to any lawful place and kept until claimed by the owner or person having possession, custody, or control of the vehicle. Any garage keeper or other person engaged in the business of towing or storing vehicles may be employed or engaged for the purpose of removing and storing any such vehicle. Any person who shall cause, allow or permit any vehicle to park or stand in violation of Schedule IA shall by so doing be deemed to designate, constitute, and

appoint the Township, its agent and attorney of such person for the purpose of removing and storing such vehicle as hereinafter provided and, further, shall be deemed to release the Township from and to waive any and all claims for damage of any nature whatsoever arising out of the removal and storing of such vehicle and shall be liable for the payment of all fees and other charges and expenses incurred by reason of the removal by towing or otherwise and for storing of such vehicle.

**SECTION 3.** All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances inconsistent herewith are repealed as to such inconsistencies.

**SECTION 4.** If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or portion of this Ordinance is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct and independent provision, and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions thereof.

**SECTION 5.** This Ordinance shall take effect upon final passage and publication according to law.

**Motion was made by Mayor Starrs, second by Deputy Mayor Cuntala, and approved with an all-in-favor for the introduction of Ordinance 2018-02.**

## **RESOLUTIONS**

### **2018-64 Tonnage Grant Application (2017)**

WHEREAS, The Mandatory Source Separation and Recycling Act, P.L. 1987, c.102, has

established a recycling fund from which tonnage grant may be made to municipalities in order to encourage local source separation and recycling programs; and

WHEREAS, It is the intent and the spirit of the Mandatory Source Separation and

Recycling Act to use the tonnage grants to develop new municipal recycling programs and to continue and to expand existing programs; and

WHEREAS, The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection has promulgated

recycling regulations to implement the Mandatory Source Separation and Recycling Act; and

WHEREAS, The recycling regulations impose on municipalities certain requirements

as a condition for applying for tonnage grants, including but not limited to, making and keeping accurate, verifiable records of materials collected

and claimed by the municipality; and

WHEREAS, A resolution authorizing this municipality to apply for the 2017 Recycling Tonnage Grant will memorialize the commitment of this municipality to recycle and to indicate the assent of the Township of Knowlton to the efforts undertaken by the municipality and the requirements contained in the Recycling Act and recycling regulations; and

WHEREAS, Such a resolution should designate the individual authorized to ensure the application is properly completed and timely filed.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township of Knowlton Committee

of the Township of Knowlton that the Township of Knowlton hereby endorses the submission of the recycling tonnage grant application to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and designates JoAnn Fascenelli, Certified Recycling Professional to ensure that the application is properly filed; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the monies received from the recycling tonnage grant be deposited in a dedicated recycling trust fund to be used solely for the purposes of recycling.

**Motion was made by Deputy Mayor Cuntala, second by Committeewoman Shipps, and approved by roll call vote: Cuntala—yes, McNinch—yes, Shipps—yes, Van Horn—yes, Starrs—yes to Resolution 2018-64.**

#### **2018-65 Resolution Approving Payment of Vouchers**

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Knowlton, Warren County, New Jersey, that all claims attached are hereby approved as reasonable and proper claims against the Township of Knowlton.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that approval for payment is hereby given to the Chief Financial Officer to pay said claims, subject to the availability of funds.

**Motion was made by Deputy Mayor Cuntala, second by Committeewoman Shipps and approved by roll call vote: Cuntala—yes, McNinch—yes, Shipps—yes, Van Horn—yes, Starrs—yes to Resolution 2018-65.**

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

**Route 80 Fence--meeting with State Senator Oroho and Congressman Wirths**

Mayor Starrs and Mayor Duffy have meet with 5 PA townships as well as the State Senator of PA and have received board support against the Route 80 fence. Mayor Starrs asked the committee to think about what they want their asks to be at the NJDOT meeting that is coming up. Committee agreed that reasonable plan would be for DOT to: 1) remove current design from consideration 2) provide records showing need for rock mitigation 3) if they can show need, then have all parties sit down together and come up with mutually agreeable way to do rock mitigation

## **27 Washington**

Resident in Knowlton Township is interested in purchasing this property which the township owns. Attorney Leslie Parikh explained the process that the township would need to take in order to sell this property. Which includes a property appraisal, publish a notice, and pass an ordinance. Township could put restrictions on the property. Ms. Parikh will put together a time line.

## **CERT Update**

Committeeman McNinch was asked by Michael Cestari, deputy coordinator for Blirstown's CERT, to let the committee know that CERT has received numerous inquiries. Also Mr. Cestari asked the township to double check that his email address is correct online.

## **TAP Grant Update**

Committeeman McNinch gave an update on the Historic Grant and asked for the committee's approval for Committeeman McNinch to meet with NJDOT James Birchenough on the grant.

**Motion was made by Mayor Starrs, second by Deputy Mayor Cuntala, and approved by an all-in-favor to have Mr. McNinch meet with NJDOT regarding the Federal Grant.**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Part -Time Benefits Policy**

Committeewoman Shipps asked the committee how they felt about giving part-timers sick days. They would be allowed 1 hour per every 30 hours worked. The employee would have to be with the township for 5 years and be in good standing. Committeeman Shipps said that by the end of the year it would come up to about 5 days per year and not to be carried over year to year. Committeewoman Shipps will define good standing for the next meeting.

### **2018 Personnel Manual Revisions**

Mayor Starrs presented and read a draft memo and form regarding Outside Employment for the committee to review

### **Volunteer Fireman Application**

Motion was made by Mayor Starrs, second by Deputy Mayor Cuntala, and approved by an all-in-favor for the Volunteer Fireman Application of Brandon Norwicke

### **Service Project for North Warren Junior**

Acting Clerk Shipps explained a project that is being run by two North Warren Regional High School Juniors to collect used sports equipment and recycle them to communities that cannot afford sporting equipment for their children. A box will be placed at the Knowlton Municipal Building for donations.

### **Memorial Day Community Picnic at Ramsayburg**

Committeeman McNinch let the Committee and residents know about the Memorial Day Community Picnic at Ramsayburg that will be held on May 28 beginning at 12pm. Committeeman McNinch also asked the committee if they could put the flyer on the website and they agreed.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

#### **Rate Increase for All JCP&L Customers on May 1, 2018**

JCP&L is increasing rates on the transmission part of electricity bills. The increase affects all JCP&L customers, regardless of whether they are in the Sussex-Warren Area Energy Cooperative. There will be a postcard sent out to all residents involved in the Energy Aggregation Program informing them of the rate increase.

#### **BPU Hearings on Power Outages during Storm**

Hearings have been set and the dates have been posted on the website

#### **April 20, 2018 meeting with 24th District Legislators**

Meeting to hear from local municipalities

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

#### **March 22, 2018 Public Meeting Minutes**

Motion was made by Deputy Mayor Cuntala, second by Committeeman McNinch, and approved with an all-in-favor for the March 22, 2018 Public Meeting Minutes. Committeewoman Shipps and Committeeman Van Horn abstained from the vote.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Resident Jeff Milesky noticed that 29 Washington St was a rental. Mayor Starrs said that the party interested in purchasing 27 Washington said they were interested in the land next door for the space to expand septic. Mr. Milesky also asked about the restaurants being inspected by the Warren County Health Dept. He did not see any postings in any windows.

Resident Sharon Valentine asked if the 27 Washington was a commercial or residential zone.

Resident William Clifford had asked about maintaining the township roads--that when the county paves their roads it has an impact on the township roads.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Motion was made by Mayor Starrs, second by Deputy Mayor Cuntala and approved by an all-in-favor to go into Executive Session at 9:20 pm**

**Resolution 2018- 63 Authorizing an Executive Session for the Purpose of:**

- A. Contract Negotiation**
- B. Litigation**

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act; N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq., declares it to be the public policy of the State to insure the right of citizens to have adequate advance notice of and the right to attend meetings of public bodies at which business affecting the public is discussed or acted upon; and

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act also recognized exceptions to the right of the public to attend portions of such meetings; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Township Committee find it necessary to conduct an executive session closed to the public as permitted by the N.J.S.A. 40:4-12; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Township Committee will reconvene in public session at the conclusion of the executive session;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Township Committee of the Knowlton Township, County of Warren, State of New Jersey that they will conduct an executive session to discuss the following topic (s) as permitted by N.J.S.A. 40:4-12:

- A. Contract Negotiations
- B. Litigation

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Township Committee hereby declare that their discussion of the subject (s) identified above may be made public at a time when the Township Attorney advises them that the disclosure of the discussion will not detrimentally affect any right, interest or duty of the Township or any other entity with respect to said discussion.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Township Committee, for the reasons set forth above, hereby declare that the public is excluded from the portion of the meeting during which the above discussion shall take place.

DATE: April 9, 2018

Motion was made by Mayor Starrs, second by Deputy Mayor Cuntala and approved by an all-in-favor to come out of Executive Session at 9:44 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion was made by Mayor Starrs, seconded by Deputy Mayor Cuntala, and carried to adjourn tonight's Township meeting at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristin Shipps  
Acting Municipal Clerk