

**MINUTES OF KNOWLTON TOWNSHIP
WARREN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES
January 24, 2019**

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 New Jersey Herald and/or the Star Gazette and/or the Star Ledger as well as providing said schedule in the Municipal Clerk's office."

Roll Call

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

Also present were Township Engineer Ted Rodman and Township Attorney Richard Cushing, via phone conference for Executive Session only.

PUBLIC COMMENT—No public comments

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Township Engineer Ted Rodman

There has still been no response from NJDOT regarding Simpson Rd. Waiting on a quote regarding putting guiderails along Polkville Rd. Letter for Laura Brill as been received regarding the Mazza Farm. Mr Rodman looked into the township's ordinance regarding Mr. Hamway's concerns on Washington St. from last township meeting. No trucks are permitted over 4 tons on Decatur St. which means trucks are already in violation if they get to Washington St. Committeeman Van Horn made a suggestion on narrowing the road. Mr. Rodman will reach out to NJDOT to see if their engineers will do a study to prevent trucks going down Decatur St.

Problem statement has been prepared for Bruglar Rd. Committeeman McNinch will review the copy problem statement and return it to Mr. Rodman.

Mr. Rodman provided an update of the DEP meeting he attended about new C1 stream regulations. NJDEP will send a copy of what streams will be affected in Knowlton.

RESOLUTIONS

2019-26 Resolution Authorizing the Mayor and Clerk to Execute the Interlocal Services Agreement Between the Township of Blirstown and the Township of Knowlton for Services of Chief Financial Officer

WHEREAS, it is deemed to be in the best interests of the residents of Knowlton Township and Blirstown Township to enter into a contract pursuant to the Uniform Shared Services and

Consolidation Act, N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1, et. seq to enable Blirstown Township to provide CFO services to Knowlton Township: and,

WHEREAS, Blirstown Township agrees to provide such services to Knowlton Township in Consideration for the Payment of Knowlton Township to Blirstown Township in the amount of \$23,368.00 in 2019.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Knowlton, County of Warren, State of New Jersey, do hereby authorize the Mayor and Acting Municipal Clerk to enter into the Interlocal Services Agreement Between the Township of Blirstown and the Township of Knowlton for services of a Chief Financial officer

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that they are authorized to sign and attest on behalf of the township.

Motion was made by Mayor Starrs, second by Deputy Mayor Shipps and carried to approve by roll call vote: Cuntala—yes, McNinch—yes, Shipps—yes, Van Horn—yes, Starrs—yes Resolution 2019-26. With the amendment of changing the amount from \$21,800.00 to \$23,368.00.

2019-27- Resolution Expanding the Hours of Knowlton Township Officer

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of Knowlton met with Zoning Officer Eric Snyder at the Township meeting on January 14, 2019; and

WHEREAS, currently the zoning officer is available to the public during office hours in Knowlton on Tuesdays; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of Knowlton believes that it is in the best interest of the residents of Knowlton to extend the hours that the zoning officer is available to the public up to a maximum of two hours per week, on an as-needed basis, to accommodate nighttime or weekend site visits and to accommodate residents not available on Tuesdays; and

WHEREAS, these flex hours may be billed at an hourly rate of \$62.50.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the mayor and clerk are hereby authorized to sign and execute the 2019 Employment Agreement with Zoning Officer Eric Snyder.

Motion made by Committeewoman Cuntala, second by Committeeman McNinch and carried to approve by roll call vote: Cuntala—yes, McNinch—yes, Shipps—yes, Van Horn—yes, Starrs—yes to Resolution 2019-17.

OLD BUSINESS

Open House for 622 Route 94—On February 23, 2019 there will be an open house for 622 Route 94. If there are any inquiries they should be directed to Max Spann. Max Spann confirmed the auction date which is March 16, 2019 at 1pm.

NEW BUSINESS

GSA Want List— The GSA program is requiring that a want list and mission statement to be done. DPW Supervisor will take care of the want list and Mayor Starrs has prepared and read a mission statement that the committee ok'd.

Soil Importation Ordinance—Discussion took place regarding Knowlton Township having an ordinance for soil importation. Mayor Starrs discussed the problems in Vernon. Large quantities of soil are being imported by one person and neighboring residents have lead contamination in their water, which they think may be due to the imported soil, which has construction material in it. Large amounts of soil are also now being imported in Hardwick. Township Engineer Ted Rodman recommended that the Committee have a soil importation ordinance in Knowlton. Committee discussed how to avoid penalizing residents importing soil for normal purposes. Mayor Starrs will provided the committee with sample ordinances for the committee to consider.

CORRESPONDENCE—No Correspondence

PUBLIC COMMENT

Resident Rene Mathez believes that Paulinskill River is not a C1 Stream so it should not be affected by the new regulations.

Resident Vincent Gaeta commented that construction debris may not be restricted in the soil importation ordinance and that the committee should consider this.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Mayor Starrs, second by Committeewoman Cuntala and carried to approve to go into Executive session at 7:42.

Resolution 2019-28 Authorizing an Executive Session

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
January 24, 2019

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 Negotiation
- B. Attorney Advice

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.

Motion was made by Mayor Starrs, second by Committeewoman Cuntala and carried to approve to return to public session at 8:30p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Mayor Starrs, second by Deputy Mayor Cuntala and carried to adjourn tonight's Township meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kristin Shipps
Acting Municipal Clerk