

**MINUTES OF KNOWLTON TOWNSHIP
WARREN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
June 28, 2017**

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 7:01 p.m. by Mayor Starrs.

Mayor Starrs led the public in the pledge of allegiance.

The Mayor read the following statement in compliance with the "Open Public Meetings Act":
"In accordance with Chapter 231 of the Public Laws of 1975, notice of this meeting was given by way of publication with the Star Gazette and/or the Express-Times, filed in the Municipal Clerk's Office and posted in the Knowlton Municipal Building."

Roll Call

Present: Deputy Mayor Cuntala, Committeeman Farber and Mayor Starrs

Also present was DPW Supervisor Brian Peck, Recreation Director Dennis Lembeck

Absent: Committeewoman Shippis and Committeeman Van Horn

EXECUTIVE SESSION Motion to go into Executive Session: Mayor Starrs, Seconded by Committeewoman Cuntala and carried at 7:02.

Resolution

WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Open Public Meeting Act, Chapter 231, P.L.1975 permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting under certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Knowlton, in the County of Warren and State of New Jersey as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from that portion of this meeting
2. The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows:
 - A. Litigation

Motion was made by Mayor Starrs, Seconded by Deputy Mayor Cuntala and carried to come out of Executive Session at 7:15 p.m. and return to Regular Session.

Public Comment-- No public comment at this time.

Department Reports

Recreation Director Dennis Lembeck

Mr. Lembeck presented the Committee with a quote for a playground that would be used for children 2-5 years of age. Mr. Lembeck suggested that the new playground go in place of the gazebo. Mayor Starrs did not like the idea of taking the gazebo down. Deputy Mayor Cuntala is going to meet with Mr. Lembeck to see if there space for both the playground and the gazebo.

Mr. Lembeck does not believe the tarp for the baseball field is going to work because it is heavy. Mayor Starrs suggested a light sheeting to go over the butterfly garden.

Mr. Lembeck brought to the Committee's attention that residents are bringing pets to Tunnel Field even though there is a sign that says no pets. Committee feels that the no pets sign should be

enforced.

Mr. Lembeck also asked about passing an ordinance to make the park a drug-free zone. Mayor Starrs believes the NJ State Police can enforce no drug use without an ordinance designating the park as a drug-free zone. She will call the NJ State police to confirm.

He would also like to have three poles with dusk to dawn light fixtures on it. Committee would like to know what the cost would be for the electricity before agreeing to it.

DPW Supervisor Brian Peck had no updates.

RESOLUTIONS

2017-72 Resolution Approving New Jersey State Alcohol Beverage Control Special Affairs Permit for Lions Club Truck Raffle

WHEREAS, the Knowlton Township Lions Club special affair permit application is complete in all respects, the proper fees have been paid to the Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control and the Township of Knowlton; and,

WHEREAS, the licensees are qualified according to all statutory, regulatory and local governmental New Jersey Alcoholic Beverage Control laws and regulations;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Governing Body of Knowlton Township hereby approves NJABC special affair permit for the Knowlton Township Lions Club Truck Raffle to be held on July 8, 2017 at Gary Grey Field located at 70 Route 46, Delaware, New Jersey.

Motion was made by Deputy Mayor Cuntala, seconded by Committeeman Farber and approved with an all-in-favor vote resolution 2017-72

2017-73 Resolution in Support of Fireworks Display by the Knowlton Lions Club July 8, 2017

WHEREAS, a fireworks display will be held in Knowlton Township by the Knowlton Lions Club on July 8, 2017; and

WHEREAS, they will be arranging for the fireworks; and

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey requires a resolution of support from the Township Governing Body in order to arrange for an inspection and approval of the fireworks display.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Knowlton, County of Warren, State of New Jersey that this resolution serves as a resolution of support for conducting fireworks in Knowlton Township by the Knowlton Lions Club on July 8, 2017.

Motion was made by Deputy Mayor Cuntala, seconded by Committeeman Farber and approved with an all-in-favor vote resolution 2017-72

2017-83 Resolution Approving Consent Agenda

WHEREAS, Resolutions 2017-74, 2017-75, 2017-76, 2017-78, 2017-79 are considered routine, non-controversial and require no individual discussion; and,

WHEREAS, if discussion is required on a consent agenda item, it is removed from the consent agenda and placed on the regular agenda.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Knowlton that approval is granted for adoption of the consent agenda items.

Motion was made by Committeeman Farber, seconded by Deputy Mayor Cuntala and approved by roll call vote

Cuntala--yes, Farber--yes, Shipps--absent, Van Horn--absent, Starrs--yes resolution 2017-83

2017-74 Renewal of Liquor Licenses for 2017-2018 RSBD Inc. t/a Dalton's Columbia Inn

WHEREAS, the following renewal application has been completed, the proper fees have been paid to the Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control and the Township of Knowlton; and

WHEREAS, the licensee is qualified according to all statutory, regulatory and local government NJABC laws and regulation.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee of the Township of Knowlton, County of Warren, State of New Jersey approves the following NJABC liquor license renewal:

RDSB Inc. t/a Dalton's Columbia Inn 2113-33-006-008

2017-75 Renewal of Liquor Licenses for 2017-2018 Old Log Cabin, Inc.

WHEREAS, the following renewal application has been completed, the proper fees have been paid to the Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control and the Township of Knowlton; and

WHEREAS, the licensee is qualified according to all statutory, regulatory and local government NJABC laws and regulation.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee of the Township of Knowlton, County of Warren, State of New Jersey approves the following NJABC liquor license renewal:

Old Log Cabin, Inc. 2113-33-008-004

2017-76 Renewal of Liquor Licenses for 2017-2018 Hunter's Lodge Motel, LLC

WHEREAS, the following renewal application has been completed, the proper fees have been paid to the Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control and the Township of Knowlton; and

WHEREAS, the licensee is qualified according to all statutory, regulatory and local government NJABC laws and regulation.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee of the Township of Knowlton, County of Warren, State of New Jersey approves the following NJABC liquor license renewal:

Hunters Lodge Motel, LLC. . 2113-33-005-007

2017-77 Renewal of Liquor Licenses for 2017-2018 Lahoud Enterprises, LLC t/a Elias

WHEREAS, the following renewal application has been completed, the proper fees have been paid to the Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control and the Township of Knowlton; and

WHEREAS, the licensee is qualified according to all statutory, regulatory and local government NJABC laws and regulation.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee of the Township of Knowlton, County of Warren, State of New Jersey approves the following NJABC liquor license renewal:

Lahoud Enterprise, LLC t/a Elias . 2113-33-002-005

2017-78 Renewal of Liquor Licenses for 2017-2018 L' Auberg De France t/a Buckwood Bistro

WHEREAS, the following renewal application has been completed, the proper fees have been paid to the Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control and the Township of Knowlton; and

WHEREAS, the licensee is qualified according to all statutory, regulatory and local government NJABC laws and regulation.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee of the Township of Knowlton, County of Warren, State of New Jersey approves the following NJABC liquor license renewal:

L' Auberg De France t/a Buckwood Bistro 2113-33-001-002

2017-79 Renewal of Liquor Licenses for 2017-2018 Shree Natght Corp. t/a Smitty's Liquor Store

WHEREAS, the following renewal application has been completed, the proper fees have been paid to the Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control and the Township of Knowlton; and

WHEREAS, the licensee is qualified according to all statutory, regulatory and local government NJABC laws and regulation.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee of the Township of Knowlton, County of Warren, State of New Jersey approves the following NJABC liquor license renewal:

Shree Nathght Corp. t/a Smitty's Liquor Store 2113-44-011-004

2017-80 A Resolution Concerning Discharge of Rehabilitation Program Mortgage

WHEREAS, on April 4, 1990, Harry Robert Gray and Ellen M. Gray, his wife, executed an Owner Occupied Single Family Mortgage for Direct Subsidy with Perpetual Lien to the Township of Knowlton Housing Rehabilitation Program which secured a certain Owner Occupied Single Family Note and Disclosure Statement in the amount of \$26,484.24 which Mortgage was recorded in the Office of the Clerk of Warren County, New Jersey, on April 6, 1990 in Mortgage Book 1156 on page 167; and

WHEREAS, the said Mortgage provided that if the owners sell or transfer title to the property described in the said Note and Mortgage other than in accordance with the provisions set forth in the said Note and Mortgage, the owners would be required to repay the loan at the time of the sale or transfer of title; and

WHEREAS, the property described in the said Note and Mortgage has been transferred other

than in accordance with such provisions, and the Township has received payment in full of the amount due under the said Note and Mortgage;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor has the authority to execute a Discharge of the Mortgage given by Harry Robert Gray and Ellen M. Gray to the Township of Knowlton Housing Rehabilitation Program.

Motion was made by Committeeman Farber, second Deputy Mayor Cuntala and approved by roll call vote:

Cuntala --yes, Farber--yes, Shipps--absent, Van Horn--absent, Starrs--yes resolution 2017-80

2017-81 Resolution to Award Contract- Morris County Co-Op Purchase Utility Vehicle

WHEREAS, the Township of Knowlton wish to purchase a 2017 Ford F350 Super Cab Diesel 4x4 Pickup truck; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Knowlton is an active member of the Morris County Cooperative Pricing System and wishes to utilize the contact for the purchase of a Utility Vehicle; and

WHEREAS, DFFL, LLC., T/A Ditschman/Flemington Ford located in Flemington, New Jersey has been awarded Contract #15-C, Item #24 and Cliffside Body has been award contract #15-D through the Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council for the sale a 2017 Ford F35 Super Cab Diesel 4x4 Pickup Truck; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified that funds are available thru Bond Ordinance 2017-02

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Knowlton, County of Warren and State of New Jersey authorize the purchase of a 2017 Ford F350 Super Cab Diesel 4x4 Pickup truck not to exceed the amount of \$47,963.00 is awarded to DFFLM, LLC. T/A Ditschman/Flemington Ford 215 US Highway 202, Flemington, NJ 08822

Motion was made by Committeeman Farber, seconded Deputy Mayor Cuntala and approved by roll call vote:

Cuntala --yes, Farber--yes, Shipps--absent, Van Horn--absent, Starrs--yes resolution 2017-81

2017-82 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 Mayor Starrs, seconded Deputy Mayor Cuntala and approved by roll call vote Cuntala--yes, Farber--yes, Shipps--absent, Van Horn--absent, Starrs--yes resolution 2017-82 with the exception of Tru-Green voucher.

OLD BUSINESS

Music Ordinance

Nelson Rutherford from Hunter's Lodge asked if there was any way the township would be considered a 10:30 cut off for music. Stating that if the band is done by 10:00pm it still takes time for them to break down and there are still people outside at that time. Mayor Starrs replied that the 10:00 pm cutoff just meant the music must end at 10:00 pm and that nothing has been drawn up for the Music Ordinance yet.

NEW BUSINESS

DOT Rockwall comments

Committee members and residents put together a list of comments for Mayor Starrs to write in a resolution to be heard at the next township meeting.

Laracuente Family and Friends Independence Day Celebration--Fireworks Permit

Mr. Laracuente presented the committee with documents regarding having a resolution passed in order for him to hold fireworks for his family's annual Family and Friends Independence Day Celebration. ~~After discussion regarding~~ The Committee discussed complaints that were filed last year. Without having the township attorney present to answer questions about whether the application met the legal requirement for the fireworks to be public and sponsored by a group, the Committee denied Mr. Laracuente's request for the resolution for this year. The Committee will discuss this with the township attorney for next year.

Farm Animal Ordinance

Animal Control office Alan DeCarolis had asked the committee to review an Ordinance that was passed in Hope Township regarding farm animals that get loose. After discussion with the committee and comments from residents, the Committee unanimously decided this Ordinance would not be suitable for Knowlton Township now.

CORRESPONDENCE

DOT Debbie Hirt retirement letter/Washington Street Update

Debbie Hirt sent a letter of retirement. At this time there is no replacement for Ms. Hirt, but Mayor Starrs did ask Ms. Hirt regarding the speed humps on Washington St. Ms. Hirt responded with an email that traffic engineering is not proceeding with speed humps on Washington St, because the DOT would like to see if no passing signs work to slow speeding instead. There will be no passing signs put on Washington St.

PUBLIC COMMENTS-- No public comment

ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully submitted,

Kristin Shipps
Acting Municipal Clerk