

**MINUTES OF KNOWLTON TOWNSHIP
WARREN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES
May 24, 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 7:05 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 Shipp (arrived at 7:15), Committeeman Van Horn and Mayor Starrs

Also present was Township Engineer Ted Rodman, Township Auditor John Mooney, CFO Christine Rolef and DPW Supervisor Brian Peck

PRESENTATION

Pete Summers Warren County Health Dept. "Marijuana and State Law"

Peter Summers from the Warren County Health Dept. and Mary Jo Harris from the Family Guidance Center were present to discuss the legalization of marijuana. Every municipality in NJ gets to decide whether they want the sale, growing, or distribution of marijuana in their municipality. There are 3 bills that are being discussed. If one of the bills passes, Knowlton Township will have to make the decision. Warren County Health Department wanted to make sure that they had the best information available and to answer the questions that municipalities will have if a bill passes.

Senate Bill S830 legalizes the possession marijuana for everyone over the age of 21. Personal use of marijuana will be legal to use in a home. There are regulations for packaging, which ensures marijuana products will not look like candy, which has been a problem in Colorado. Enforcement of regulation will go to a Department of Law and Health Safety, which will need to be created. There are several options that municipalities will have. There are several assemblymen and senators who are opposed to this bill's passage.

Mary Jo Harris passed out a brochure to the Committee and said that townships should know the facts before a decision is made and to use the resources that they have.

The Committee discussed legalizing and sale of marijuana. The members gave different reasons why it didn't sound like a good idea for Knowlton.

Public Hearing/Adoption

2018 Municipal Budget

Public Hearing

Motion was made by Mayor Starrs, seconded by Deputy Mayor Cuntala, and approved by an all-in-favor to go into Public Hearing.

Resident Jeff Milesky asked where the budget could be viewed. Mayor Starrs said that it is on the Township website.

Motion was made by Mayor Starrs, seconded Deputy Mayor Cuntala, and approved by an all-in-favor to come out of public comment.

Motion was made by Mayor Starrs, seconded Deputy Mayor Cuntala, and approved by a roll call vote: Cuntala—yes, McNinch—no, Shipps—yes, Van Horn—yes, Starrs—yes to the 2018 Municipal Budget.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Resident Rene Mathez asked if the committee should let the 24th Legislative district should know the township's position on the bill to legalize marijuana. Mayor Starrs would like to go to the seminar on the topic and get some feedback from residents first.

Resident Sharon Peck address the situation of marijuana usage that is going on now especially near the walking bridge.

Resident Jeff Milesky commented on a measurement tool that can tell if a person is under the influence of marijuana.

Resident Donna Diorio said the road sign at the end of Ward and Decatur was hit by a truck and needs to be replaced. Ms. Diorio also mentioned that she has not seen police presence on Washington St. Ms. Peck said that she has seen them during the day.

Mayor Starrs read a letter from NJDOT saying they will be initiating a design for speed humps on Washington St. but no time was given when that will happen.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Township Engineer Ted Rodman

NJDOT is investigating the problem statement that was sent regarding Simpson Rd.

Travel Center is going to be opening with in the next week. They are going to try to do a soft opening first. Everything is all set with the sewer agreement. Natural Systems needs to be informed when the travel center will go online.

DPW Supervisor Brian Peck

On the 14th we had the first Right to Know inspection. All the paperwork was correct, but the containers need to be labeled. Mr. Peck has spoke with Acting Clerk Shipps and she will have the company that does not right to know survey label the containers.

During the last storm 44 trees came down on Township roads, which resulted in partial-lane or full-lane closure. Mayor Starrs said that on the day of the storm she called Brian at 4:30 after working till 3:30 asking for all DPW workers to come back to work. Mr. Peck was sitting in Trenton Airport when the storm hit and cancelled his trip in order to come to work.

Clearing the rights-of-way should be done by the end of the month. The storm has put the DPW extremely behind schedule. Fire Extinguisher inspections will be done on Wednesday. Mr. Peck has quotes for the apron on the salt shed. Committeeman McNinch is going to look through the quotes

before the committee agrees on a price. Deputy Mayor Cuntala talked to Mr. Peck about looking for a truck on the GSA site and they did not find anything.

Mayor Starrs said that DPW needs a wood chipper and a snow plow truck. Committee agreed to continue to look on the government and auction sites for a snow plow truck while simultaneously getting specs for a used truck. Committee agreed buying a new wood chipper. Mr. Peck will look into co-ops for a wood chipper.

Deputy Mayor Cuntala asked for Recreation Director regarding the fence at tunnel field and if he could go forward in having that fixed before reimbursement comes in from the insurance.

Motion was made by Deputy Mayor Cuntala, second Committeewoman Shipps and approved by roll call vote Cuntala—yes, McNinch—no, Shipps—yes, Van Horn—yes and Starrs—yes to proceed to have Fast Fence fix the Knowlton Tunnel Field fence.

ORDINANCE

Introduction

2018-04 An Ordinance to Establish Standards for the Registration and Maintenance of Vacant and Abandoned Residential Properties

WHEREAS, mortgage foreclosures often result in the abandonment and neglect of residential properties; and

WHEREAS, P.L. 2014, c. 35, authorizes municipalities to adopt ordinances for the purpose of regulating the care, maintenance, security and upkeep of the exterior of vacant and abandoned residential properties for which a creditor has filed an action to foreclose; and

WHEREAS, it is in the public interest for the Township of Knowlton to establish a mechanism to identify and track vacant and abandoned residential properties in the Township which are in foreclosure, to establish standards for the maintenance of those properties and to enforce those standards of maintenance;

WHEREAS, the Township Committee has received evidence there are abandoned and vacant buildings and structures in the Township which are hurting property values, the existence of which are interfering with the marketing and sale of neighboring or nearby real estate and the existence of such buildings and structures can become a gathering place for vandals, the growth of noxious weeds and the development of vermin and other pests; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee wishes to identify, regulate and encourage owners of such vacant or abandon buildings, structures and properties to address the community problems that results from their derelict condition and to take steps to correct, update, make safe and to eliminate those conditions which harm the community in order that the public good may be advanced.

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

Section 1

A new section § _____. is to be added to the Code of the Township of Knowlton entitled "Registration and Maintenance of Vacant and Abandoned Properties" as follows:

A. Definitions. As used in this section, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

ABANDONED PROPERTY — As defined in accordance with the Abandoned Properties Rehabilitation Act, N.J.S.A. 55:19-78 et seq., shall mean the following:

- (1) Except as provided in Section 6 of P.L. 2003, c. 210 (N.J.S.A. 55:19-83), any property that has not been legally occupied for a period of at least six months and which meets any one of the following additional criteria may be deemed to be abandoned property upon a determination by the public officer that:
 - (a) The property is in need of rehabilitation in the reasonable judgment of the zoning officer, and no rehabilitation has taken place during that six-month period;
 - (b) Construction was initiated on the property and was discontinued prior to completion, leaving the building unsuitable for occupancy, and no construction has taken place for at least six months as of the date of a determination by the public officer pursuant to this section;
 - (c) At least one installment of property tax remains unpaid and delinquent on that property in accordance with Chapter 4 of Title 54 of the Revised Statutes as of the date of a determination by the zoning officer pursuant to this section; or
 - (d) The property has been determined to be a nuisance by the zoning officer in accordance with Section 5 of P.L. 2003, c. 210 (N.J.S.A. 55:19-82).
- (2) A property which contains both residential and non-residential space may be considered abandoned pursuant to P.L. 2003, c. 210 (N.J.S.A. 55:19-78 et seq.) so long as two-thirds or more of the total net square footage of the building was previously legally occupied as residential space and none of the residential space has been legally occupied for at least six months at the time of the determination of abandonment by the public officer and the property meets the criteria of either Subsection (1)(a) or Subsection (1)(d) of this Subsection A.

EVIDENCE OF VACANCY —

- (1) Any condition that on its own or combined with other conditions present would lead a reasonable person to believe that the property is or has been vacant for three or more months. Such evidence would include, but is not limited to,

evidence of the existence of two or more of the following conditions at a property: overgrown or dead vegetation; accumulation of newspapers, circulars, flyers or mail; past-due utility notices or disconnected utilities; accumulation of trash, junk or debris; the absence of furnishings or personal items consistent with residential habitation; infestation by insects, vermin, rats or other pests; windows or entrances that are boarded up or closed off; multiple window panes that are damaged, broken or unrepaired; doors that are smashed, broken, unhinged or continuously unlocked; or any uncorrected violations of a municipal building, housing or similar code existing for three months or more without reasonable efforts being made by the owner to remedy.

- (2) Property determined to be "abandoned property" in accordance with the meaning of such term in the Abandoned Properties Rehabilitation Act, N.J.S.A. 55:19-78 et seq., shall also be deemed to be vacant property for the purposes of this section.

OWNER — Shall include the title holder, any agent of the title holder having authority to act with respect to a vacant property, any foreclosing entity subject to the provisions of C.46:10B-51 (P.L. 2008, c. 127, § 17), or any other entity determined by the Township of Knowlton to have authority to act with respect to the property.

VACANT PROPERTY -Any structure, or building used or to be used as a residence for which there is Evidence of Vacancy and which is not legally occupied or at which substantially all lawful construction operations or residential occupancy has ceased for a period of at least three months, and any commercial property that has not been legally occupied or at which substantially all lawful construction operations have ceased for a period of at least three months,

and which exhibits evidence of vacancy such that a reasonable person would believe that the property is vacant. Any property that contains all building systems in working order, is being maintained on a regular basis, has not been cited by the Township for any violation of municipal ordinance within such time and is being actively marketed by its owner for sale or rental shall not be deemed vacant.

B. General requirements.

- (1) The owner of any vacant or abandoned property as defined herein shall, within 30 days after the building becomes vacant property or within 30 days after assuming ownership of the vacant property, whichever is later; or within ten (10) calendar days of receipt of notice from the Township, and annually thereafter, file a registration statement for each such vacant property with the Township Clerk on forms provided by the Office the Clerk for such purposes. The registration shall remain valid until the end of the calendar year. The owner shall be required to renew the registration annually, no later

than January 31, as long as the building remains vacant property and shall pay a registration or renewal fee in the amount prescribed in Subsection D of this section for each vacant property registered. Any failure to receive notice from the Township shall not constitute grounds for failing to register the aforesaid properties.

- (2) Any owner of any building that meets the definition of “abandoned” or "vacant property" shall file a registration statement for that property on or before September 1 of the current year. The registration statement shall include the information required under Subsection C of this section, as well as any additional information that the Clerk may reasonably require.
- (3) The owner shall notify the Clerk within 30 days of any change in the registration information by filing an amended registration statement on a form provided by the Clerk for such purpose.
- (4) The registration statement shall be deemed prima facie proof of the statement therein contained in any administrative enforcement proceeding or court proceeding instituted by the Township of Knowlton against the owner or owners of the building.

C. Registration statement requirements; property inspection.

- (1) After filing a registration statement or a renewal of a registration statement, the owner of any vacant or abandoned property shall provide access to the Township of Knowlton Code Enforcement Official if requested, following reasonable notice, during the period covered by the initial registration or any subsequent renewal. If an inspection is required of the interior of the property due to complaints or other cause, the fee for such inspection shall be the same as that for a certificate of occupancy inspection as provided in the applicable provisions of the Code of the Township of Knowlton.
- (2) The registration statement shall include the name, street address, email address and telephone number of a natural person 21 years of age or older, designated by the owner or owners as the authorized agent for receiving notices of code violations and for receiving process in any court proceeding or administrative enforcement proceeding, on behalf of such owner or owners in connection with the enforcement of any applicable code. The designated agent must have a contact number that will be available 24 hours per day on an emergency basis. The statement shall also include the name of the person responsible for maintaining and securing the property, if different from the designated agent.
- (3) An owner who is a natural person and who meets the requirements of this section as to availability of a contact number on a twenty-four-hour emergency basis may designate himself or herself as agent.

(4) By designating an authorized agent under the provisions of this section, the owner consents to receive any and all notices of code violations concerning the registered property and all process in any court proceeding or administrative enforcement proceeding brought to enforce code provisions concerning the registered building by service of the notice or process on the authorized agent. Any owner who has designated an authorized agent under the provisions of this section shall be deemed to consent to the continuation of the agent's designation for the purpose of this section until the owner notifies the Township of Knowlton of a change of the authorized agent or until the owner files a new annual registration statement. The designation of an authorized agent in no way releases the owner from any requirement of this section.

D. Fee schedule. The initial registration fee for each building shall be \$500. The fee for the first renewal is \$1,500. The fee for any subsequent renewal is \$3,000. After five years, the registration fee shall be \$5,000.

Vacant and Abandoned Property Registration Fee Schedule

Registration	Fee
Initial registration	\$500
First renewal	\$1,500
Any subsequent renewal up to five years	\$3,000
After five years	\$5,000

E. Requirements for owners of vacant and abandoned property. The owner of any building that has become vacant and abandoned property, and any person maintaining, operating or collecting rent for any such building that has become vacant, shall, immediately:

(1) Post a sign affixed to the inside of the building indicating the name, address and telephone number of the owner, the owner's authorized agent for the purpose of service of process (if designated pursuant to Subsection C of this section), and the person responsible for the day-to-day supervision and management of the building,

if such person is different from the owner holding title or authorized agent. The sign shall be of a size and placed in such a location so as to be legible from the nearest public street or sidewalk, whichever is nearer, but shall be no smaller than 15 inches by 17 inches; and

- (2) Enclose and secure the building against unauthorized entry as provided in the applicable provisions of the Code of the Township of Knowlton and maintain the sign required in Subsection E (l) above until the building is again legally occupied or demolished or until repair or rehabilitation of the building is complete; and
- (3) Make provision for the maintenance of the lawn and yard, including regular grass cutting as required by the applicable provisions of the Code of the Township of Knowlton; and
- (4) Make provision for the cessation of the delivery of mail, newspapers and circulars to the property, including having the property listed on the exclusion list maintained by the Township of Knowlton Clerk for the delivery of circulars and advertisements to the property; and
- (5) Make provision for the winterizing of the property by the cessation of water service to the property and the draining of water lines; and
- (6) Make provision for the cessation of electric or gas utility services to the property; and
- (7) Make provision for the regular maintenance of the exterior of the property.

F. Administration

1. Enforcement: The Zoning Officer shall enforce this ordinance
2. Notice to Owner: If the Zoning Officer believes a property is in violation of this ordinance, he/she shall give 30 days written notice to the Owner that the property is considered vacant or abandoned and in said notice shall provide the reasons for this determination. The owner, within said 30-day period, may object to such a determination and may provide such written information establishing the property is not abandoned or vacant. The zoning officer shall make a final determination within 10 business days of the date of the receipt of the written objection from the property owner and serve that determination upon the Owner by regular mail and email, if available.

- G. Appeal: The Owner appeal the determination of the Zoning Officer to the Township Committee within 10 business days of the date of the Zoning Officer's final determination

and a hearing shall be scheduled before the Township Committee at which the Owner may present arguments and evidence as to why the property is not either abandoned or vacant. Interested parties may also present evidence. The Township Committee shall issue a written decision within 10 days from the date of the hearing.

H. Additional Rules: The Township Committee may issue rules and regulations for the administration of the provisions of this section.

I. Violations and penalties.

(1) Any owner who is not in full compliance with this section or who otherwise violates any provision of this section or of the rules and regulations issued hereunder shall be subject to a fine of \$1,500.00 for each offense. Every day that a violation continues shall constitute a separate and distinct offense. Fines assessed under this section shall be recoverable from the owner and shall be a lien on the property.

(2) For purposes of this section, failure to file a registration statement in time, failure to provide correct information on the registration statement, failure to comply with the provisions of Subsection E of this section, or such other matters as may be established by the rules and regulations of the Committee of the Township of Knowlton shall be deemed to be violation of this section.

J. Compliance with other provisions. Nothing in this section is intended to nor shall be read to conflict or prevent the Township of Knowlton from taking action against buildings found to be unfit for human habitation or unsafe structures as provided in applicable provisions of the Code of the Township of Knowlton and/or the Uniform Construction Code. Further, any action taken under any such code provision other than the demolition of a structure shall not relieve an owner from its obligations under this section.

■

REPEAL

All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent with this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

■ ■

SEVERABILITY

If any section, subsection, clause or phrase of this ordinance is held to be unconstitutional or invalid for any reason, such decision shall not affect the remaining portions of this ordinance.

■ ■ ■

EFFECTIVE DATE

This Ordinance shall take effect 20 days after final passage and publication according to law.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the foregoing Ordinance was introduced to pass on first reading at a regular meeting of the Township of the Township of Knowlton held on May 24, 2018 and ordered published in accordance with the law. Said Ordinance will be considered for final reading and adoption at a meeting of the Township Committee to be held on _____, at 7:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the Township Committee may hear this Ordinance at the Knowlton Township Municipal Building; at which time all persons interested may appear for or against the passage of said Ordinance.

Motion was made by Deputy Mayor Cuntala, seconded by Committeewoman Shipps, and approved by Roll Call vote: Cuntala—yes, McNinch—no, Shipps—yes, Van Horn—no, Starrs—yes to the Introduction of Ordinance 2018-04 with the amendment of section B 2 to read “on or before September 1 of the current year” and references to blinds and shutters need to be withdrawn.

RESOLUTIONS

2018-75 Resolution Approving Non-Compensated Appointments

WHEREAS, it is necessary to appoint various persons to fill various positions on boards, committees and commissions and officers of the Township of Knowlton, as required by the various ordinances adopted in connection therewith:

WHEREAS, the Knowlton Township Committee approved a motion at the May 14, 2018, public meeting to accept the resignation of Board of Adjustment member Scott Wunschuh, appointing Kate McGuinness to his spot and adding Karen Lund as Alternate 2; and

WHEREAS, this resolution memorializes that discussion.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Knowlton, Warren County, New Jersey, on the fourteenth day of May, 2018 that the following persons are appointed for terms as set forth:

Knowlton Township Board of Adjustment

Kate McGuinness to the unexpired term of Scott Wunschuh expiring 12/31/2021

Nancy O’Neill as Alt. #1 with the unexpired term of Kate McGuinness expiring 12/31/2018

Karen Lund as Alt. #2 with the unexpired term of Nancy O’Neill expiring 12/31/2019

Motion was made by Deputy Mayor Cuntala, seconded by Committeewoman Shipps, and approved by an all-in-favor to Resolution 2018-75

2018-76 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 Mayor Starrs, seconded by Deputy Mayor Cuntala, and approved by roll call vote: Cuntala—yes, McNinch—yes, Shipps—yes, Van Horn—yes, Starrs—yes except for the Gramco bill so Deputy Mayor Cuntala can speak with the court administrator about it.

Discussion regarding the generators, which were lent by the Warren County OEM during the recent power outages, and whether residents should be responsible for the gas of the generators.

Committee agreed to have a flyer prepared to hand out to residents who use the generator stating that they are responsible for returning the generator filled with gas. Mayor Starrs also address a bill that OEM Frank Makowski bought pizza for the Fire and Rescue guys working that night. Committee agreed to have that paid.

Committeeman McNinch asked about the phone bills, Committeewoman Shipps said that they are willing to give us \$10.00 off a line, but that if we get rid of some of the other lines, we will lose our Internet.

OLD BUSINESS

Open Space Update covered during Farmland Preservation Update

Clean Communities Supervisor Advertisement

Deputy Mayor Cuntala spoke with Recreation Supervisor Dennis Lembeck and prepared a summary of what the Clean Communities Supervisor needs to do. She passed out the summary to committee members. **Motion was made by Mayor Starrs, seconded Deputy Mayor Cuntala, and approved by an all-in-favor to advertise the position on the Township website and to add the salary of \$3,000.00 and a minimal age requirement of 18 years old.**

Farmland Preservation Update

There are 3 projects the Township is involved in. The County has clarified the outstanding issue on the Conti project, for the second project the state has offered an offer value and for the third project the application process as been initiated. There is sufficient money in the open trust fund to finance all 3 projects.

Federal Surplus Property Donation

Committeeman McNinch stated that on the 2017 Annual Financial Statement the township owns \$664,000 of property acquired for taxes. Which is incorrect. Committeeman McNinch bought this to the attention of Tax Collector Evan Howell and CFO Christine Rolef and asked if they could work together to fix the discrepancy. There are 5 properties that the township could possibly sell. Committeeman McNinch will report the recommendations of properties to sell at a later date.

NEW BUSINESS

BPU Letter Re: May 2018 Power Outages

Mayor Starrs asked the Committee if they would like to file an official letter to the Board of Public Utilities regarding storm response. She offered to write it. The Committee agreed and discussed what points to include in the letter.

Ramsayburg Storm Damage

Committeeman McNinch addressed some damage at Ramsayburg. Most of the damage is being taken care of by insurance but there is a big tree blocking the walking trail and asked if DPW could open up the path by cutting up the tree. Mr. Peck would have to see the tree before committing to an answer if it can be done.

Foreclosed Property Update

Committeewoman Shipps met with Tax Assessor Rich Motyka and he feels that some of the numbers are inaccurate. Mr. Motyka is going to reach out with Tax Collector Evan Howell.

Committeeman Van Horn spoke with Henry Fiedler from Fiedler Realty and would like him to come speak to the committee on options for the Township to handle foreclosed properties.

Committeeman Van Horn said there is no cost to the Town and Mr. Fiedler is not being promised any work.

CORRESPONDENCE

Washington St.-discussed during department reports

Mayor Starrs said that the CenturyLink boxes are being installed which will increase Internet speeds for some Knowlton residents.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

May 14, 2018 Executive Session Minutes

Motion was made by Deputy Mayor Cuntala, seconded by Committeewoman Shipps, and approved by an all-in-favor for the May 14, 2018 Executive Session Minutes.

May 14, 2018 Public Meeting Minutes

Motion was made by Deputy Mayor Cuntala, seconded by Committeewoman Shipps, and approved by an all-in-favor for the May 14, 2018 Public Meeting Minutes.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Resident Jeff Milesky mentioned about using a video recorder for both the court and town meetings, which is not that expensive. He also addressed that it's not easy to get rid of garbage and you can not tell someone to cut their lawns. Mr. Milesky also mentioned that there were ladies who slept in their cars because roads were blocked in the last storm and they could not get home. Both Committeewoman Shipps and Mayor Starrs said he can call them at anytime if he should come across that again.

Resident Rene Mathez asked if the committee remembered when JCP&L representative Stan Prater was present, he said that JCP&L does not replace equipment until it breaks. Mr. Mathez thought that was bizarre and not a good way to upgrade an area. Mayor Starrs will add it to the letter that is being sent to BPU.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Mayor Starrs, seconded by Deputy Mayor Cuntala, and approved by an all-in-favor to go into Executive Session at 9:55pm.

Resolution 2018- 77 Authorizing an Executive Session for the Purpose of:

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. Personnel
- B. Contract Negotiations

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, seconded by Deputy Mayor, and approved by an all-in-favor to return to Public Session.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Mayor Starrs, seconded by Deputy Mayor Cuntala, and carried to adjourn tonight's Township meeting at 10:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kristin Shipps
Acting Municipal Clerk