

**MINUTES OF KNOWLTON TOWNSHIP
WARREN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
Public Session Meeting Minutes
May 28, 2020**

The meeting of the Knowlton Township Committee was held on this date at the Knowlton Municipal Building, 628 Route 94, Columbia, New Jersey. This meeting was held by electronic means via ZOOM as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and various executive orders in connection with same and 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 statements "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* as well as providing said schedule in the Municipal Clerk's office."

ELECTRONIC MEETING STATEMENT:

In addition, as a result of the State of Emergency issued by Governor Murphy and the various executive orders limiting social gatherings, the Township has provided a link and dial-in number for residents to participate in, or listen to, this meeting electronically. The public will be able to participate and provide comment during the public comment section of the meeting. In addition, residents have been encouraged to submit any additional comments via email. Those emails will be read into the record during the public portion of the meeting.

Roll Call

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

Also present was DPW Supervisor Brian Peck, CFO Christine Rolef and Township Auditor John Mooney from Nisivoccia

PUBLIC COMMENT

Resident John Snyder who has volunteered his time to maintain Delaware Beach asked the committee to fix a hole that is in the beach area near the ramp.

Motion made by Mayor Starrs, second by Committeewoman Cuntala and approved by roll call vote Cuntala—yes, McNinch—yes, Shipps—yes, Van Horn—yes, Starrs—yes to approve \$2,000 worth of rip rap stone to fix Delaware Beach unless there is enough stone left over from the rip rap stone that is purchased for Hemlock.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

DPW Supervisor Brian Peck provided the committee with an update on DPW projects. They have been preparing for Hemlock Road overlay. Winter equipment has been removed from the trucks. Starlite Road now has a turnaround at the end, which will make it easier for winter plowing. Street sweeping has been finished. Roadside mowing has been started and all the core holes that were dug up on Stark

Rd, Kill Rd. and Station Rd., were all sealed. Mr. Peck recommended for next year's grant that 1.3 miles of Mt. Pleasant be paved. Mr. Peck briefed the committee on the roads that will be paved this year which are Linaberry, Hemlock and Starlite Hill.

Mr. Peck explained to the committee while working on Hemlock Rd., they discovered a lot more riprap to support the bank was going to be needed along the streamline, which had more erosion than anticipated. Mr. Peck received 3 quotes, with the lowest quote coming from Clifford Contracting. The material was left over material from a project that was done in Knowlton Township. Mr. Peck received a certified letter that the rip rap stone is clean.

Resolution

2020-73- Resolution to Approve Purchase of Rip Rap Stone

WHEREAS, Knowlton Township (the "Township") employs a Qualified Purchasing Agent, therefore, its bid threshold is \$40,000 under the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.); and

WHEREAS, in compliance with the Local Public Contracts Law, the Township solicited three quotes for the purchase and delivery of 1,300 cubic yards of rip rap stone to complete the improvements on Hemlock Road; and

WHEREAS, the Township obtained three quotes for the purchase of the above-referenced materials, with the lowest being from Clifford Contracting in the amount of \$19,980.00.

WHEREAS, the Township now desires to approve the above-referenced quote from Clifford Contracting under certain terms desired by the Township and authorize the execution of an agreement with Clifford Contracting for the purchase and delivery of said materials in a standard sale of goods Agreement to be drafted by the Municipal Attorney; and

WHEREAS, prior to delivery, the DPW Supervisor will inspect said goods at the location of Clifford Contracting to ensure the goods are of the quality and type needed by the Township; and

WHEREAS, if acceptable, Clifford Contracting shall deliver the goods to a location on Hemlock Road within the Township to be determined by the Department of Public Works Supervisor no more than thirty (30) days after of the execution of the Agreement between the parties; and

WHEREAS, the parties agree that a 10% reduction in the overall sale price will be imposed for every day beyond the thirty-day (30) period that the goods are not delivered in full; and

WHEREAS, the acceptance of the goods and full and final payment shall be subject to inspection by the DPW Supervisor after delivery to ensure that such goods are in the condition required and free from litter, debris, or hazardous substances.

WHEREAS, the parties agree that 50% of the total payment shall be made upon the delivery of the first full load of material and the balance upon completion.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Township Committee of the Township of

Knowlton, County of Warren, New Jersey, that the Mayor and CFO are authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to purchase the rip rap stone from Clifford Contracting at a total cost of \$19,980.00, inclusive of delivery.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Mayor and Clerk are authorized to execute an agreement with Clifford Contracting in a standard form in compliance with this resolution for the purchase of said rip rap stone and the Clerk and CFO are authorized to execute the checks necessary to fulfill the agreement.

Motion made by Mayor Starrs, second by Committeewoman Cuntala and approved by roll call vote Cuntala—yes, McNinch—yes, Shipps—yes, Van Horn—abstain, Starrs—yes with the following changes. Delete the reference to the catch basins. A whereas clause shall be added that fifty percent will be paid at the start of the job (delivery of stone) and fifty percent will be paid at the completion of the job and the CFO and Clerk are authorized to issue a check in between the meetings.

Mr. Peck explained to the committee that there might be overtime working on Hemlock Rd. due to outside contractors. Mr. Peck said that the overtime would be 4 hours per day for 4 days totally 16 hours per day of overtime. Committee agreed to give the DPW comp time, not overtime.

ORDINANCE

Public Hearing/ Adoption

2020-03 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)

WHEREAS, the Local Government Cap Law, N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.1 et seq., provides that in the preparation of its annual budget, a municipality shall limit any increase in said budget to 2.5% unless authorized by ordinance to increase it to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, subject to certain exceptions; and,

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.15a provides that a municipality may, when authorized by ordinance, appropriate the difference between the amount of its actual final appropriation and the 3.5% percentage rate as an exception to its final appropriations in either of the next two succeeding years; and,

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Knowlton in the County of Warren finds it advisable and necessary to increase its CY 2020 budget by up to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, in the interest of promoting the health, safety and welfare of the citizens; and,

WHEREAS, the Township Committee hereby determines that a 3.5% increase in the budget for said year, amounting to \$55,107.22 in excess of the increase in final appropriations otherwise permitted by the Local Government Cap Law, is advisable and necessary; and,

WHEREAS the Township Committee hereby determines that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Knowlton, in the

County of Warren, a majority of the full authorized membership of this governing body affirmatively concurring, that, in the CY 2020 budget year, the final appropriations of the Township of Knowlton shall, in accordance with this ordinance and N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14, be increased by 3.5%, amounting to \$55,107.22 and that the CY 2020 municipal budget for the Township of Knowlton be approved and adopted in accordance with this ordinance; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that any that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance as introduced be filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services within 5 days of introduction; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance upon adoption, with the recorded vote included thereon, be filed with said Director within 5 days after such adoption.

Motion made by Mayor Starrs, second by Committeewoman Cuntala and carried to approve to open public comment.

Public Comment—there were no public comments.

Motion made by Mayor Starrs, second by Committeewoman Cuntala and carried to approve to close public comment.

Motion made by Mayor Starrs, second by Committeeman McNinch and approved by roll call vote: Cuntala—yes, McNinch—yes, Shipp—yes, Van Horn—yes, Starrs—yes to the adoption of Ordinance 2020-03.

Introduction

2020-04- An Ordinance to Provide for the Improvement to Various Roads within the Township of Knowlton and to Provide for the Funding thereof

BE IT ORDAINED the Township Committee of the Township of Knowlton, County of Warren and State of New Jersey, that the following be properly authorized:

Improvement to Various Roads -	\$202,500.00
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BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that the financing for the above is as follows:

RESERVE FOR ROAD IMPROVEMENTS	\$ 90,000.00
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DOT GRANT RECEIVABLE – Linaberry Road	\$ 112,500.00
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BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that the period of usefulness of the improvements is in excess of the five (5) year statutory requirement, and that no debt shall be incurred by the Township for this improvement authorization.

The capital budget conforms with the provisions of this ordinance to the extent of any inconsistency therewith and the resolution promulgated by the Local Finance Board showing full details of the Capital Budget and Capital Program as approved by the Director, Division of Local Government Services as on file with the Municipal Clerk is available for public inspection.

This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon passage and publication in accordance with the law.

Motion made by Committeewoman Cuntala, second by Deputy Mayor Shipps and approved by roll call vote: Cuntala—yes, McNinch—yes, Shipps—yes, Van Horn—yes, Starrs—yes, to the introduction of 2020-04.

Introduction:

2020-05- Bond Ordinance Providing an Appropriation of \$100,000 for Acquisition of Air Packs for and by the Township of Knowlton in the County of Warren, New Jersey and Authorizing the issuance of \$95,000 Bonds or Notes of the Township for Financing Part of the Appropriation

BE IT ORDAINED, BY THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF KNOWLTON, IN THE COUNTY OF WARREN, NEW JERSEY (not less than two-thirds of all members thereof affirmatively concurring) AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1:

The improvements described in Section 3 of this bond ordinance (the “Improvements”) are hereby authorized to be undertaken by the Township of Knowlton, New Jersey (the “Township”) as general improvements. For the said Improvement there is hereby appropriated the amount of \$100,000. Such sum includes the sum of \$5,000 as the down payment (the “Down Payment”) required by the Local Bond Law of the State of New Jersey, constituting Chapter 2 of Title 40A of the New Jersey Statutes, as amended and supplemented (the “Local Bond Law”). The Down Payment is now available by virtue of provisions in one or more previously adopted budgets for down payments for capital improvement purposes.

SECTION 2:

In order to finance the cost of the Improvements not covered by application of the Down Payment, negotiable bonds of the Township are hereby authorized to be issued in the principal amount of \$95,000 pursuant to the provisions of the Local Bond Law (the “Bonds”). In anticipation of the issuance of the Bonds and to temporarily finance said improvements or purposes, negotiable bond anticipation notes of the Township are hereby authorized to be issued in the principal amount not exceeding \$95,000 pursuant to the provisions of the Local Bond Law (the “Bond Anticipation Notes” or “Notes”).

SECTION 3:

(a) The Improvements authorized and the purpose for the financing of which said obligations are to be issued is for the acquisition of air packs, including, as applicable, all work, materials, equipment and appurtenances necessary therefor and incidental thereto.

(b) The estimated maximum amount of Bonds or Notes to be issued for the purpose of financing a portion of the cost of the Improvements is \$95,000.

(c) The estimated cost of the Improvements is \$100,000 which amount represents the initial appropriation made by the Township.

SECTION 4:

All Bond Anticipation Notes issued hereunder shall mature at such times as may be determined by the chief financial officer of the Township (the “Chief Financial Officer”); provided that no Note shall mature later than one year from its date. The Notes shall bear interest at such rate or rates and be in such form as may be

determined by the Chief Financial Officer. The Chief Financial Officer shall determine all matters in connection with Notes issued pursuant to this ordinance, and the signature of the Chief Financial Officer upon the Notes shall be conclusive evidence as to all such determinations. All Notes issued hereunder may be renewed from time to time subject to the provisions of Section 8(a) of the Local Bond Law. The Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to sell part or all of the Notes from time to time at public or private sale and to deliver them to the purchasers thereof upon receipt of payment of the purchase price plus accrued interest from their dates to the date of delivery thereof. The Chief Financial Officer is directed to report in writing to the Township Committee of the Township at the meeting next succeeding the date when any sale or delivery of the Notes pursuant to this ordinance is made. Such report must include the amount, the description, the interest rate and the maturity schedule of the Notes sold, the price obtained and the name of the purchaser.

SECTION 5:

The capital budget of the Township is hereby amended to conform with the provisions of this ordinance to the extent of any inconsistency herewith. The resolution in the form promulgated by the Local Finance Board showing full detail of the amended capital budget and capital program as approved by the Director, Division of Local Government Services, Department of Community Affairs, State of New Jersey is on file with the Township Clerk and is available for public inspection.

SECTION 6:

The following additional matters are hereby determined, declared, recited and stated:

(a) The Improvements described in Section 3 of this bond ordinance are not current expenses and are capital improvements or properties that the Township may lawfully make or acquire as general improvements, and no part of the cost thereof has been or shall be specially assessed on property specially benefited thereby.

(b) The period of usefulness of the Improvements, within the limitations of the Local Bond Law, and according to the reasonable life thereof computed from the date of the Bonds authorized by this bond ordinance, is 5 years.

(c) The Supplemental Debt Statement required by the Local Bond Law has been duly prepared and filed in the office of the Township Clerk and a complete executed duplicate thereof has been filed in the office of the Director, Division of Local Government Services, Department of Community Affairs, State of New Jersey. Such statement shows that the gross debt of the Township, as defined in the Local Bond Law, is increased by the authorization of the Bonds and Notes provided in this bond ordinance by \$95,000 and the obligations authorized herein will be within all debt limitations prescribed by the Local Bond Law.

(d) An aggregate amount not exceeding \$2,000 for items of expense listed in and permitted under Section 20 of the Local Bond Law is included in the estimated cost of the Improvements, as indicated herein.

SECTION 7:

Any funds received from time to time by the Township as contributions in aid of financing the purposes described in Section 3 of this Ordinance shall be used for financing said Improvements by application thereof either to direct payment of the cost of said Improvements or to the payment or reduction of the authorization of the obligations of the Township authorized therefor by this Bond Ordinance. Any such funds received may, and all such funds so received which are not required for direct payment of the cost of said Improvements shall, be held and applied by the Township as funds applicable only to the payment of obligations of the Township authorized by this Bond Ordinance.

SECTION 8:

The full faith and credit of the Township are hereby pledged to the punctual payment of the principal of and interest on the obligations authorized by this bond ordinance. The obligations shall be direct, unlimited obligations of the Township, and the Township shall be obligated to levy ad valorem taxes upon all the taxable property within the Township for the payment of the obligations and the interest thereon without limitation of rate or amount.

SECTION 9:

The Chief Financial Officer of the Township is hereby authorized to prepare and to update from time to time as necessary a financial disclosure document to be distributed in connection with the sale of obligations of the Township and to execute such disclosure document on behalf of the Township. The Chief Financial Officer is further authorized to enter into the appropriate undertaking to provide secondary market disclosure on behalf of the Township pursuant to Rule 15c2-12 of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Rule") for the benefit of holders and beneficial owners of obligations of the Township and to amend such undertaking from time to time in connection with any change in law, or interpretation thereof, provided such undertaking is and continues to be, in the opinion of a nationally recognized bond counsel, consistent with the requirements of the Rule. In the event that the Township fails to comply with its undertaking, the Township shall not be liable for any monetary damages, and the remedy shall be limited to specific performance of the undertaking.

SECTION 10:

This Bond Ordinance constitutes a declaration of official intent under Treasury Regulation Section 1.150-2. The Township reasonably expects to pay expenditures with respect to the Improvements prior to the date that Township incurs debt obligations under this Bond Ordinance. The Township reasonably expects to reimburse such expenditures with the proceeds of debt to be incurred by the Township under this Bond Ordinance. The maximum principal amount of debt expected to be issued for payment of the costs of the Improvements is \$95,000.

SECTION 11:

This bond ordinance shall take effect 20 days after the first publication thereof after final adoption, as provided by the Local Bond Law.

Motion made by Mayor Starrs, second by Committeeman McNinch and approved by roll call vote: Cuntala—yes, McNinch—yes, Shipps—yes, Van Horn—yes, Starrs—yes, to the introduction of 2020-05.

Public Hearing/ Adoption 2020 Budget

Motion made by Mayor Starrs, second by Committeewoman Cuntala and carried to approve to open public hearing.

Public Comment—there were no public comments.

Motion made by Mayor Starrs, second by Committeewoman Cuntala and carried to approve to close public hearing.

CFO Christine Rolef recommended to have a tax levy on the website so residents can see how much they are paying toward Township, State, County and School. Committee agreed that it would be a good idea.

Motion made by Mayor Starrs, second by Committeewoman Cuntala and approved by roll call vote: Cuntala—yes, McNinch—yes, Shipps—yes, Van Horn—yes, Starrs—yes, the 2020 Budget.

RESOLUTIONS

2020-67- Resolution Requesting Governor Murphy Release Discretionary Funds for the Relief of COVID-19 Expenses in Warren County and their Municipalities

WHEREAS, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act was passed by Congress with overwhelming, bipartisan support and was signed into law by the President on March 27th, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the CARES Act provided payments to State, Local, and Tribal governments navigating the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak in the following amounts to counties in NJ:

Bergen	\$162,000,000
Camden	\$88,000,000
Essex	\$139,000,000
Hudson	\$117,000,000
Middlesex	\$143,000,000
Monmouth	\$107,000,000
Ocean	\$105,000,000
Passaic	\$87,000,000
Union	\$97,000,000

WHEREAS, On April 24, 2020, the President signed into law a second federal package of funding intended to provide relief from COVID expenses, known as the “COVID-19 3.5” relief package, which provided the following funds to NJ counties:

Atlantic	\$704,535
Bergen	\$8,310,445
Burlington	\$876,000
Camden	\$2,186,348
Essex	\$4,792,503
Gloucester	\$804,857
Hudson	\$1,874,303
Mercer	\$TBD
Middlesex	\$1,739,905
Monmouth	\$2,348,328
Morris	\$2,182,700
Ocean	\$820,000
Passaic	\$537,434
Somerset	\$646,398
Union	\$4,139,331

WHEREAS, Warren County and their respective municipalities have not yet received any federal funding despite being located in the so-called “hot” region of the COVID-19 outbreak and despite having case counts of Covid higher than many counties that were awarded funds through antiquated and pre-determined formulas; and

WHEREAS, as part of the CARES Act, the State of NJ received certain non-entitlement funding through the CDGB (\$4 million) and ESG (more than \$11 million) that could be used for discretionary needs throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, on April 4, 2020, Congressman Josh Gottheimer and Senator Steven Oroho wrote to Governor Murphy requesting that these discretionary funds be allocated to Warren and Sussex Counties and their respective municipalities; and

WHEREAS, to date plans for those discretionary funds have not been announced; and

WHEREAS, to date Warren County has spent \$919, 849 on operations of a COVID-19 testing facility for New Jersey residents; and

WHEREAS, as part of the plan to re-open the state, the Governor has asked for increased COVID-19 testing, but Warren County's testing site must cease operations at the end of May due to the total lack of federal or state funding.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Township Committee of Knowlton hereby requests that Governor Murphy allocate discretionary funds to the County of Warren for the reimbursement of expenses related to its significant number of Covid-19 cases and to aid with the Governor's goal of continuing and increasing testing required for the re-opening of the state.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be sent to Warren County's federal delegation with a request for their support and advocacy for New Jersey residents who reside here.

Motion made by Mayor Starrs, second by Committeeman McNinch and carried to approve resolution 2020-67.

2020-68 Resolution Concerning the Re-Opening of Small Businesses During COVID-19

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2020 the U.S. Department of Health declared the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) to be a public health emergency in the United States, under section 319 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 247d); and

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2020, due to the danger to public health caused by COVID-19 and its rapid spread through the Northeast, NJ Governor Phil Murphy declared COVID-19 to be a public health emergency under N.J.S.A. 26:12-1, et. Seq. and N.J.S.A. App 9-30, et seq, respectively.

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a pandemic, which means it is an epidemic that has spread over several countries or continents and affects a large percentage of the population; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, as the rates of infection continued to rise in many locations around the United States, President Donald J. Trump declared that COVID-19 outbreak constituted a national emergency in accordance with the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C., et seq; and

WHEREAS, on March 21, 2020, Governor Murphy issued Executive Order 107 further enacting "social distancing" regulations, including but not limited to, directing all NJ residents to remain in their home or place of residence with specific limited exceptions, prohibited gatherings, closed all non-essential retail business and identified essential businesses permitted to operate subject to specific limitations; and

WHEREAS, Administrative Orders 2020-05, -06, and -10 expanded and/or amended the list of essential retail businesses permitted to continue operating during the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, small businesses are an essential part of our community and there have been a number in our town and surrounding town that have not yet been able to reopen; and

WHEREAS, on May 13, 2020, Governor Murphy issued Executive Order 142 allowing small businesses to open for phone, internet, and curbside pickup which allows them to conduct business, but there are a number of businesses that will not be able to operate in this fashion; and

WHEREAS, at least two businesses owned by Knowlton Township residents have expressed the reality that they

will be forced to close permanently if the current situation does not quickly change; and WHEREAS, the Township of Knowlton believes that small businesses should be able to reopen to allow customers while maintaining social distancing guidelines and following additional precautions as dictated by the local Department of Health, which will ensure that businesses are able to remain within the municipality and not be forced to close completely due to economic issues that are an unintended consequence of recent orders. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Township Committee of Knowlton, Warren County, State of NJ, to request the Governor consider allowing small businesses to reopen following the same guidelines that have been set for stores deemed essential and by following additional precautions as may be dictated by the local Department of Health.

Motion made by Mayor Starrs, second by Committeeman McNinch and carried to approve resolution 2020-68. 2020-69 Fixing the Salaries and Wages of Officials, Appointees and Employees of the Township of Knowlton in the County of Warren, State of NJ for 2020

Motion made by Mayor Starrs, second by Committeewoman Cuntala and carried to approve to table Resolution 2020-69.

2020-70- 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 made by Committeewoman Cuntala, second by Committeeman McNinch and approved by roll call vote: Cuntala—yes, McNinch—yes, Shipps—yes, Van Horn—yes, Starrs—yes to Resolution 2020-70 except for the Gramco bill.

Motion made by Mayor Starrs, Second by Committeewoman Cuntala and approved by roll call vote: Cuntala—yes, McNinch—yes, Shipps—yes, Van Horn—yes, Starrs—yes to not pay the Gramco bill.

2020-72- Resolution in Support of Fireworks Display by the Laracuate Family on July 11, 2020

WHEREAS, the Governor of NJ issued Executive Order 148 on May 22, 2020, prohibiting “special events at public and private beaches, boardwalks, lakes, and lakeshores such as festivals, concerts (and) fireworks;” and

WHEREAS, the Laracuate Family wished to hold a fireworks display in Knowlton Township at 18 Ivan Rd by the Laracuate Family on July 11, 2020; and

WHEREAS, due to COVID-19, the Laracuate Family is requesting an open “rain date” that would be on a Saturday when social distancing is no longer required, two weeks’ notice will be provided on intended date; and

WHEREAS, Knowlton’s Fire Official has verified the NJ state requirements are satisfied; and

WHEREAS, discussions between the Governing Body and the Township attorney in 2017 confirm that the firework display requirements of N.J.S.A. 21: 3-9 regarding “public” displays and “groups of individuals” are being met for fireworks in this location; and

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey requires a resolution of support from the Township Governing Body for the issuance of a fireworks permit.

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 on at 18 Ivan Rd by the Laracuenta Family on July 11, 2020 from 9:30 pm - 9:50 pm only under the condition that the Governor of NJ has lifted or amended the executive order prohibiting fireworks.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of Knowlton authorizes a rain date that occurs no later than August 31, 2020.

Motion made by Committeewoman Cuntala, second by Committeeman McNinch and carried to approve resolution 2020-72 with amended the rain date to be by August 31, 2020.

2020-73- Resolution to Approve Purchase of Rip Rap Stone—Discussed during department reports.

OLD BUSINESS

Recreation/ Tunnel Field

Discussion took place bringing one of the recreation employees back in order to eliminate the overtime that DPW has been having. Committee agreed to keep recreation on furlough and will discuss it again in another month.

Discussion also took place regarding having a movie for the high school seniors which was discussed at a prior meeting. Committee agreed to not do a movie night since the governor eased the restrictions and will now allow the school to conduct some kind of graduation.

Committee agreed that all employees should be punching in with the time clock.

NEW BUSINESS

Executive Orders Changing 2020 Voting in Knowlton—Clerk Shipps explained that due to the vote by mail they are changing the polling location back to Municipal Building for the primary

Fireman’s Application for Robert Evans—Motion made by Mayor Starrs, second by Committeewoman Cuntala and carried to approve the Robert Evan’s fireman application.

Guiderail Replacement North Region, NJDOT Project—Mayor Starrs explained that NJDOT will be replacing guiderails thru the S curves east and westbound. There will be no lane closures.

CORRESPONDENCE—No correspondence

MEETING MINUTES

May 11, 2020 Public Session Meeting Minutes.

Motion made by Committeewoman Cuntala, second Committeeman McNinch and carried to approve May 11, 2020 Public Session Meeting Minutes.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Resident Pam Rusweiller commented that during her Republican County meeting she was told that anyone that can show up to vote but it will be done Provisional Vote.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion made by Mayor Starrs, second by Committeewoman Cuntala and carried to approve to go into Executive Session at 8:15 pm.

2020-71- 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 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. Litigation
- C. 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 made by Mayor Starrs, second by Committeewoman Cuntala and carried to approve to come out of Executive Session at 9:10.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Mayor Starrs, second by Committeewoman Cuntala and carried to adjourn tonight’s Township meeting at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kristin Shipps

Municipal Clerk