

TOWNSHIP OF KNOWLTON
COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING
September 12, 2022

The meeting of the Knowlton Township Committee was held on this date at the Knowlton Municipal Building, 628 Route 94, Columbia, New Jersey 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 Express Times as well as providing said schedule in the Municipal Clerk's office."

Roll Call: Cuntala—yes, Mazza—yes, Shipps—yes, Van Horn—yes, Starrs—yes.

PRESENTATION

Dr. Emma Rainforth, a Geologist from Ramapo College discussed conducting the air pollution study using NJDEP air monitors that will measure PM 1, extremely fine particles that are a byproduct of truck exhaust with a diameter of fewer than 1 microns. Dr. Rainforth suggested locations in the Township to keep the monitors for the most accurate data including her residency on Lime Kiln Road, Knowlton Municipal building, Knowlton Elementary School and a property near the truck stop.

Motion made by Starrs, second by Cuntala and carried to approve Dr. Rainforth to conduct Knowlton Townships air pollution study.

PUBLIC COMMENT

3 Hemlock Road addressed the committee regarding dead ash trees that were marked by the DPW to be removed. Mayor Starrs stated that originally JCP&L agreed to remove trees that were near power lines. The DPW marked the trees out of courtesy for JCP&L, but now they will no longer be removing any trees proactively.

Ms. Mezzanotte gave an update on the retroactive permit NJDOT is requesting for the Rockwall project. Ms. Mezzanotte asked how the committee would like to move forward in regard to submitting their comments about the requested permit. Mayor Starrs suggests Warren County Commissioners draft a letter and the committee can sign off in support.

Motion made by Cuntala, second by Shipps and carried to approve Mayor Starrs to sign the drafted letter of support made by Warren County Commissioners.

DEPARTMENT REPORT

Mayor Starrs addresses the Municipal upgrade from Tier B to Tier A which is required by the State. This upgrade includes sweeping of streets with inlets three times a year, regular

inspections of stormwater facilities and prepare a stormwater pollution prevention plan. Township engineer Denis Keenan will provide more information at a later meeting.

Township OEM Mike Bates requests the Township to consider hiring a Deputy OEM. The committee agreed to the recommendation of former fire chief Mike Mulligan as Deputy OEM. A formal resolution will be added to agenda for the next Township Committee meeting.

Fire Chief Alex Weber gives an update on the restoration of the fire truck which has been delayed. The expected finish date will be mid-October.

ORDINANCES

Public Hearing/Adoption

2022-09 Ordinance of the Township of Knowlton Establishing a Business Insurance Registration Requirement

WHEREAS, Governor Murphy signed P.L. 2022, c.92. on August 5, 2022, which requires business owners and rental unit owners to maintain certain liability insurance policies and to register the compliant certificate of insurance with the municipality annually in which the business or rental units are located; and

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

SECTION 1. Section 110 of the Code of the Township of Knowlton, entitled “Business Insurance Registration”, is added as follows:

SECTION 110 BUSINESS INSURANCE REGISTRATION

Section 110-1. Business insurance registration required. It is unlawful for any owner of a business, owner of a rental unit or units, or the owner of a multi-family home of four or fewer units, one of which is owner occupied, to operate within the Township without first registering its certificate of insurance demonstrating compliance with Section 1 of P.L. 2022, c. 92 and paying the registration fee required herein.

Section 110-2. Entities covered by this Chapter. The following entities are required to register their certificate of insurance under this Chapter:

- a. Businesses, which shall mean, any person intending to sell or dispose of or to offer to sell or dispose of any goods, wares, merchandise or render any services for fees within the Township. This shall include businesses operating on a temporary basis within the Township such as peddlers, solicitors, and transient vendors and temporary retail food establishments pursuant Section 109-2.
- b. Owners of single rental dwelling units.
- c. Owners of multiple dwelling rental units.
- d. Owners of multi-family homes that include rental units, even where one unit is owner-occupied.

Section 110-3. Registration official. The clerk shall accept, approve, and file registration applications, and collect registration fees hereunder.

Section 110-4. Registration Fees; Expiration; Renewal. The registration fees of this chapter shall be \$30.00 annually. Registrations shall expire on December 31 of each year. Renewals must be submitted by December 1 of each year. After the effective date of this Section, entities covered under this Section shall be required to register by December 1, 2022 and such registration shall be valid for the 2023 calendar year.

Section 110-5. Application and insurance requirements.

An application for a business insurance registration shall be accompanied by the required fee and shall be made to the Township Clerk upon forms provided by the Clerk. It shall contain the following information:

a. Name and address of the applicant. If the applicant is a corporation, the name and address of its registered agent.

b. The address of the rental dwelling units or business as applicable. If the registration applies to a transient or temporary business, a general description of the time frame for operation and area where the business will be operated

c. A description of the nature of the business and the goods, property or services to be sold or supplied.

d. A certificate of insurance reflecting the following amounts of insurance in compliance with P.L. 2022, c. 92.

i. Except as provided in subsection ii. of this section, the owner of a business or the owner of a rental unit or units shall maintain liability insurance for negligent acts and omissions in an amount of no less than \$500,000 for combined property damage and bodily injury to or death of one or more persons in any one accident or occurrence.

ii. The owner of a multifamily home which is four or fewer units, one of which is owner-occupied, shall maintain liability insurance for negligent acts and omissions in an amount of no less than \$300,000 for combined property damage and bodily injury to or death of one or more persons in any one accident or occurrence.

Section 100-6. Violations and penalties.

Any person who violates the terms of this Chapter shall pay the license fee plus a fine of not less than \$500.00 but no more than \$5,000.00 plus court costs.

SECTION 2. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict or inconsistent with any part of this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent that they are in conflict or inconsistent.

SECTION 3. If any section, provision, or part of provision of this Ordinance shall be held to be unenforceable or invalid by any court, such holding shall not affect the validity of this Ordinance, or any part thereof, other than the part so held unenforceable or invalid.

SECTION 4. This Ordinance shall take effect after passage and publication in the manner provided by law

Motion made by Starrs, second by Cuntala and approved by roll call vote: Cuntala—yes, Mazza—yes, Shipps—yes, Van Horn—no, Starrs—yes Resolution 2022-74

RESOLUTIONS

2022-74 Resolution Authorizing the Sale of 17 Route 46 No Longer Needed for Public Use by the Township of Knowlton

WHEREAS, the Township of Knowlton is the owner of a certain parcel within the Township located 17 US Highway Route 46, (Block 28, lot 13) (hereinafter the “Property”); and

WHEREAS, the Township acquired the Property in or in or about August 16, 2019 through an action in foreclosure under Docket No: F-004822-19; and

WHEREAS, since acquiring the Property, the Township Committee of Knowlton has come to determine that the Property is no longer needed for public use; and

WHEREAS, the Committee desires to make available for public sale said lands in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13(a).

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

SECTION 1. The Township Committee hereby declares that the lands and premises located at located 17 US Highway Route 46, (Block 28, lot 13) is no longer needed for public use and should be sold in accordance with the appropriate statutes of the State of New Jersey and ordinances of the Township of Knowlton.

SECTION 2. The Township Committee hereby authorizes a sale to the highest bidder, the Property described in Schedule A attached hereto and made a part hereof.

SECTION 3. The bids will be accepted by mail or hand delivery at the Township Municipal Building, located at 628 Route 94, NJ 08848 New Jersey on October 24, 2022 or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard and publicly announced, provided the sale is not canceled.

SECTION 4. The minimum bid shall be \$10,000.00.

SECTION 5. All bidders at the time of sale must present a certified check or money order in the amount of \$1,000.00 payable to themselves (to be endorsed to the Township of Knowlton if successful). In addition, the successful bidder shall submit a personal check or money order for the balance of the deposit of 10% of the minimum bid plus Buyer’s Premium and shall execute an

Agreement of Sale. Said Agreement of Sale shall be binding upon the high bidder until such time that the municipal council either 1) does not accept the bid in which case bidders deposit will be returned, or, 2) accepts the bid whereupon the municipality shall execute the Agreement of Sale and both parties shall be held bound by the terms and conditions contained therein. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid at closing which shall occur not later than 60 days following the acceptance of the bid by the Township. The purchaser shall be entitled to possession immediately following closing of title.

SECTION 6. In the event the Township of Knowlton is unable to convey clear and marketable title, insurable at regular rates by a title insurance company licensed to do business in the State of New Jersey, the Township will forthwith return to the purchaser any and all deposit moneys previously submitted by the purchaser, and neither party shall have any further rights against the other. The acceptance of a deed by the purchaser from the Township shall extinguish any claims that said purchaser may have against the Township in connection with the quality of title conveyed.

SECTION 7. The property herein sold is subject to existing encumbrances, liens, easements, zoning ordinances, other restrictions of record, such facts as an accurate survey would reveal and any present or future assessments for the construction of improvements benefiting said property. The Township of Knowlton makes no representations as to the presence or absence of wetlands or any other environmental conditions on the property and the purchaser assumes the risk of any such condition, all property being sold "as is."

SECTION 8. All conveyances by the Township shall be made by Bargain and Sale Deed with Covenants Against Grantor's Acts.

SECTION 9. The Buyer shall assume the Township's attorney fees and closing costs up to \$2,000.00.

SECTION 10. The Township reserves the right to waive any and all defects and informalities in any bid and to accept or reject any and all bids at the public sale and to not award to the highest bidder. No bid shall be considered finally accepted until passage of a resolution by the Township Committee as set forth herein.

SECTION 11. Acceptable bids shall be confirmed by resolution of the Township Committee no later than the first regular meeting of the Township Committee following the date of such sale.

SECTION 12. A public notice of sale shall be published in the Township's official newspaper at least once a week for two consecutive weeks, the last publication being no earlier than seven (7) days prior to the date set forth for the public sale, which notice shall contain the condition of this sale in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13(a).

SECTION 13. In the event the successful bidder fails to close on the property, he shall forfeit the ten percent (10%) deposit.

SECTION 14. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Motion made by Starrs, second by Cuntala and approved by roll call vote: Cuntala—yes, Mazza—yes, Shipps—yes, Van Horn—yes, Starrs—yes Resolution 2022-74

2022-75 Resolution Authorizing the Sale of 2 Mt. Pleasant Road (Block 5 Lot 25) No Longer Needed for Public Use by the Township of Knowlton

WHEREAS, the Township of Knowlton is the owner of a certain parcel within the Township located at 2 Mount Pleasant Road, (Block 5, lot 25) (hereinafter the “Property”); and

WHEREAS, the Township acquired the Property in or in or about September 16, 2021 through an action in foreclosure under docket No F-002907-21 ; and

WHEREAS, since acquiring the Property, the Township Committee of Knowlton has come to determine that the Property is no longer needed for public use; and

WHEREAS, the Committee desires to make available for public sale said lands in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13(a).

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

SECTION 1. The Township Committee hereby declares that the lands and premises located at 2 Mount Pleasant Road, (Block 5, lot 25) is no longer needed for public use and should be sold in accordance with the appropriate statutes of the State of New Jersey and ordinances of the Township of Knowlton.

SECTION 2. The Township Committee hereby authorizes a sale to the highest bidder, the Property described in Schedule A attached hereto and made a part hereof.

SECTION 3. The bids will be accepted by mail or hand delivery at the Township Municipal Building, located at 628 Route 94, NJ 08848 New Jersey on October 24, 2022 or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard and publicly announced, provided the sale is not canceled.

SECTION 4. The minimum bid shall be \$30,000.00

SECTION 5. All bidders at the time of sale must present a certified check or money order in the amount of \$3,000.00 payable to themselves (to be endorsed to the Township of Knowlton if successful). In addition, the successful bidder shall submit a personal check or money order for the balance of the deposit of 10% of the minimum bid plus Buyer’s Premium and shall execute an Agreement of Sale. Said Agreement of Sale shall be binding upon the high bidder until such time that the municipal council either 1) does not accept the bid in which case bidders deposit will be returned, or, 2) accepts the bid whereupon the municipality shall execute the Agreement of Sale and both parties shall be held bound by the terms and conditions contained therein. The balance of the purchase price

shall be paid at closing which shall occur not later than 60 days following the acceptance of the bid by the Township. The purchaser shall be entitled to possession immediately following closing of title.

SECTION 6. In the event the Township of Knowlton is unable to convey clear and marketable title, insurable at regular rates by a title insurance company licensed to do business in the State of New Jersey, the Township will forthwith return to the purchaser any and all deposit moneys previously submitted by the purchaser, and neither party shall have any further rights against the other. The acceptance of a deed by the purchaser from the Township shall extinguish any claims that said purchaser may have against the Township in connection with the quality of title conveyed.

SECTION 7. The property herein sold is subject to existing encumbrances, liens, easements, zoning ordinances, other restrictions of record, such facts as an accurate survey would reveal and any present or future assessments for the construction of improvements benefiting said property. The Township of Knowlton makes no representations as to the presence or absence of wetlands or any other environmental conditions on the property and the purchaser assumes the risk of any such condition, all property being sold "as is."

SECTION 8. All conveyances by the Township shall be made by Bargain and Sale Deed with Covenants Against Grantor's Acts.

SECTION 9. The Township reserves the right to waive any and all defects and informalities in any bid and to accept or reject any and all bids at the public sale and to not award to the highest bidder. No bid shall be considered finally accepted until passage of a resolution by the Township Committee as set forth herein.

SECTION 10. The Buyer shall pay the attorney fees and closing costs associated with the transaction up to \$ 2,000.00

SECTION 11. Acceptable bids shall be confirmed by resolution of the Township Committee no later than the first regular meeting of the Township Committee following the date of such sale.

SECTION 12. A public notice of sale shall be published in the Township's official newspaper at least once a week for two consecutive weeks, the last publication being no earlier than seven (7) days prior to the date set forth for the public sale, which notice shall contain the condition of this sale in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13(a).

SECTION 13. In the event the successful bidder fails to close on the property, he shall forfeit the ten percent (10%) deposit.

SECTION 14. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Motion made by Starrs, second by Cuntala and approved by roll call vote: Cuntala—yes, Mazza—yes, Shipp—yes, Van Horn—yes, Starrs—yes Resolution 2022-75

2022-81 Resolution of the Township of Knowlton Authorizing Payment of Invoice 891145 in the Amount of \$6,739.60 to Natural Systems Utilities

WHEREAS, the Township of Knowlton has contracted Natural Systems Utilities to maintain the Township’s Wastewater Treatment Plant; and

WHEREAS, Natural Systems Utilities deemed necessary to incur costs to replace Process Blower #2; and

WHEREAS, Knowlton Township interprets the Local Public Contracts Law as exempting the purchase of the Process Blower from bidding and that even if such is not exempted, the Township acknowledges its responsibility to pay such bill under a theory of quasi-contract.

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 Chief Financial Officer to Pay Invoice 891145 in the amount of \$6,739.60 to Natural Systems Utilities

Motion made by Starrs, second by Cuntala and approved by roll call vote: Cuntala—yes, Mazza—yes, Shippo—yes, Van Horn—yes, Starrs—yes. Resolution 2022-81

2022-82 Resolution Authorizing the Sale of 10 Clinton Street No Longer Needed for Public Use by the Township of Knowlton

WHEREAS, the Township of Knowlton is the owner of a certain parcel within the Township located 10 Clinton Street, (Block 55, lot 12) (hereinafter the “Property”); and

WHEREAS, the Township acquired the Property in or in or about August 16, 2019 through an action in foreclosure; and

WHEREAS, since acquiring the Property, the Township Committee of Knowlton has come to determine that the Property is no longer needed for public use; and

WHEREAS, the Committee desires to make available for public sale said lands in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13(a).

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

SECTION 1. The Township Committee hereby declares that the lands and premises located at 10 Clinton Street, (Block 55, lot 12) is no longer needed for public use and should be sold in accordance with the appropriate statutes of the State of New Jersey and ordinances of the Township of Knowlton.

SECTION 2. The Township Committee hereby authorizes a sale to the highest bidder, the Property described in Schedule A attached hereto and made a part hereof.

SECTION 3. The bids will be accepted by mail or hand delivery at the Township Municipal Building, located at 628 Route 94, NJ 08848 New Jersey on October 24, 2022 or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard and publicly announced, provided the sale is not canceled.

SECTION 4. The minimum bid shall be \$2,000.00

SECTION 5. At the time of sale the bidder must present a certified check or money order in the amount of \$200.00 payable to themselves (to be endorsed to the Township of Knowlton if successful). In addition, the successful bidder shall submit a personal check or money order for the balance of the deposit of 10% of the minimum bid plus Buyer's Premium and shall execute an Agreement of Sale. Said Agreement of Sale shall be binding upon the high bidder until such time that the municipal council either 1) does not accept the bid in which case bidders deposit will be returned, or, 2) accepts the bid whereupon the municipality shall execute the Agreement of Sale and both parties shall be held bound by the terms and conditions contained therein. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid at closing which shall occur not later than 60 days following the acceptance of the bid by the Township. The purchaser shall be entitled to possession immediately following closing of title.

SECTION 6. In the event the Township of Knowlton is unable to convey clear and marketable title, insurable at regular rates by a title insurance company licensed to do business in the State of New Jersey, the Township will forthwith return to the purchaser any and all deposit moneys previously submitted by the purchaser, and neither party shall have any further rights against the other. The acceptance of a deed by the purchaser from the Township shall extinguish any claims that said purchaser may have against the Township in connection with the quality of title conveyed.

SECTION 7. The property herein sold is subject to existing encumbrances, liens, easements, zoning ordinances, other restrictions of record, such facts as an accurate survey would reveal and any present or future assessments for the construction of improvements benefiting said property. The Township of Knowlton makes no representations as to the presence or absence of wetlands or any other environmental conditions on the property and the purchaser assumes the risk of any such condition, all property being sold "as is."

SECTION 8. All conveyances by the Township shall be made by Bargain and Sale Deed with Covenants Against Grantor's Acts.

SECTION 9. The Buyer shall assume the Township's attorney fees and closing costs up to \$2,000,00.

SECTION 10. The Township reserves the right to waive any and all defects and informalities in any bid and to accept or reject any and all bids at the public sale and to not award to the highest bidder. No bid shall be considered finally accepted until passage of a resolution by the Township Committee as set forth herein.

SECTION 11. Acceptable bids shall be confirmed by resolution of the Township Committee no later than the first regular meeting of the Township Committee following the date of such sale.

SECTION 12. A public notice of sale shall be published in the Township's official newspaper at least once a week for two consecutive weeks, the last publication being no earlier than seven (7) days prior to the date set forth for the public sale, which notice shall contain the condition of this sale in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13(a).

SECTION 13. In the event the successful bidder fails to close on the property, he shall forfeit the ten percent (10%) deposit.

SECTION 14. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Motion made by Starrs, second by Cuntala and approved by roll call vote: Cuntala—yes, Mazza—yes, Shipps—yes, Van Horn—yes, Starrs—yes. Resolution 2022-82

2022-83 Resolution Approving the Issuance of Raffles License RA#22-09 To Knowlton Township Fire and Rescue to Conduct a Raffle on September 30, 2022

WHEREAS, the Knowlton Township Fire and Rescue has applied for raffles licenses to conduct raffles on September 30, 2022 at Delaware Family Campground located on Route 46, Delaware, NJ consisting of New Jersey Legalized Games of Chance Control Commission applications RA#22-09; and,

WHEREAS, the proper fees have been filed with the applications, and the Findings and Determinations by the Municipal Clerk have determined that this organization is qualified to conduct raffles;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Knowlton, Warren County, New Jersey, that approval is hereby given for the issuance of raffle license RA#22-09 to The Knowlton Township Fire and Rescue.

Motion made by Starrs, second by Cuntala and approved by roll call vote: Cuntala—yes, Mazza—yes, Shipps—yes, Van Horn—yes, Starrs—yes. Resolution 2022-82

2022-84 Resolution Approving the Issuance of Raffle License RA#22-08 To Children's Specialized Hospital Foundation to Conduct a Raffle on September 23, 2022

WHEREAS, the Children's Specialized Hospital Foundation has applied for raffles licenses to conduct raffles on September 23, 2022 at Knowlton Lions Club Pavilion located on Route 46, Columbia, NJ consisting of New Jersey Legalized Games of Chance Control Commission applications RA#22-08; and,

WHEREAS, the proper fees have been filed with the applications, and the Findings and Determinations by the Municipal Clerk have determined that this organization is qualified to conduct raffles;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Knowlton, Warren County, New Jersey, that approval is hereby given for the issuance of raffle license RA#22-08 to the Children's Specialized Hospital Foundation.

Motion made by Starrs, second by Cuntala and carried to approve Resolution 2022-84

2022-85 Resolution Approving the Corrective Action Plan for the Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2021

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40-A:5-4 requires the governing body of every local unit to cause an annual audit of its books, accounts and financial transactions to be made and completed within six months after the close of its fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, the audit for fiscal year ending December 31, 2021 was present to the governing body on August 8, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the Corrective Actions Plan shall cover all findings and recommendations, including state, federal, and general or financial statement findings in the audit report; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer shall prepare said Corrective Action Plan with the assistance from other officials affected by the audit recommendations; and

WHEREAS, the Corrective Actions plan must be approved by the governing body of the local unit and is to be submitted to the Division of Local Government Services no later than sixty days from the receipt of the audit report; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Knowlton, County of Warren, and State of New Jersey that the Corrective Action Plan for fiscal year ended December 31, 2021 is hereby approved

Motion made by Starrs, second by Cuntala and carried to approve Resolution 2022-85

2022-86 Resolution Credit Paid to Taxes

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector of the Township of Knowlton reports and advises on various properties located within the Township on an array of issues, including, but not limited to overpayments of real estate taxes, or reimbursements or credits due as a result of erroneous or duplicate payments, and

WHEREAS, an application have been made to the Tax Collector for a credit on interest which accrued on a late payment after a timely payment was sent to the improper address; and

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector and governing body agree that the requesters should be credited for the interest penalty in the amount of \$809.66 relating to the taxes for the property known as Block 34, Lot 15, more commonly known as 445 Route 94 in the Township of Knowlton.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Knowlton that the aforementioned recitals are incorporated herein as though fully set forth at length.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Knowlton that the appropriate official of the Township is hereby authorized credit the owners of Block 34, Lot 15 in the amount of \$809.66.

Motion made by Starrs, second by Cuntala and approved by roll call vote: Cuntala—yes, Mazza—yes, Shipp—yes, Van Horn—yes, Starrs—yes. Resolution 2022-86

2022-87 Resolution Credit Paid to Taxes

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector of the Township of Knowlton reports and advises on various properties located within the Township on an array of issues, including, but not limited to overpayments of real estate taxes, or reimbursements or credits due as a result of erroneous or duplicate payments, and

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector has recommended a property tax credit in the amount of \$319.09 to the owners of Block 61, Lot 12Q, otherwise known as Lime Kiln Road, given the uncertainty as to the validity of a noted delinquency which dates back to 2010 and further, which has now resulted in a delay of the closing on the sale of said property; and

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector has recommended that the governing body approve application of the interest paid by the owners over the years to the taxes due along with the \$319.00 payment from 2010.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Knowlton that the aforementioned recitals are incorporated herein as though fully set forth at length.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Knowlton that the appropriate official may apply the interest paid by the owners of Block 61, Lot 12Q over the years to the taxes due along with the \$319.00 payment from 2010.

Motion made by Starrs, second by Cuntala and approved by roll call vote: Cuntala—yes, Mazza—yes, Shipp—yes, Van Horn—yes, Starrs—yes. Resolution 2022-87

2022-88 Resolution Rejecting All Bids for the Installation of Reverse Osmosis Filtration System

WHEREAS, the Township of Knowlton (the “Township”) accepted bids for the provision and installation of Reverse-Osmosis filters at the residences of affected Knowlton residents; and

WHEREAS, at the bid opening on August 30, 2022 the Township received two responses from A1 Water Conditioning and Solutions (“A-1”) and Portasoft of Morris County (“Portasoft”); and

WHEREAS, upon review of the bids by Township Professionals, it was determined that Portasoft failed to comply with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-23.2 insofar as it did not submit a guarantee to accompany the bid; and

WHEREAS, by letter dated July 25, 2022, the Borough attorney addressed the foregoing issues with the bidders and gave the bidders until Thursday, August 4, 2022 to present evidence or legal authority contradicting the above opinions in order for the Township to take such into consideration; and

WHEREAS, to date, the Township has not received written correspondence from either bidder contradicting the aforementioned opinion; and

WHEREAS, the bid received from A1 Water Conditioning and Solutions (“A-1”) was complete however, the total base bid exceeded the Township’s total appropriation for this project.

WHEREAS, in light of the foregoing, the Mayor and Committee have concluded accept the advice of the Township professionals and reject the bids as submitted.

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

1. That the bids proposals as opened August 30, 2022 as to the “Reverse Osmosis project all be rejected.
2. That the project be rebid in conformance with Resolution 2022-76, a copy of which is attached hereto.

Motion made by Starrs, second by Cuntala and carried to approve Resolution 2022-88

2022-89 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 Starrs, second by Cuntala and approved by roll call vote: Cuntala—yes, Mazza—yes, Shippis—yes, Van Horn—yes, Starrs—yes. Resolution 2022-89

NEW BUSINESS

DOT Application for Flood Hazard Permit -

Mayor Starrs explains an application for a flood hazard permit for Route 46 will be submitted by the NJDOT to the NJDEP. This permit also includes new guardrails and installation of security cameras. Comments can be submitted up to 15 days from the time the application was received

and there is no official start date for the project. The application packet can be reviewed in the Municipal Clerks office.

Heirloom Seed Society -

A letter was sent from the NJDEP regarding the Heirloom Seed Society. The lease and sublease agreement with the NJDEP state no tenants may reside on the premises overnight at any time.

Attorney Leslie Parikh will reach out to the NJDEP to discuss the renewal of the lease and discuss the option of changing the overnight tenant agreement.

BOA Resignation -

Ms. Sharon Peck has sent her letter of resignation from the Board of Adjustment.

Motion made by Starrs, second by Cuntala and carried to approve the resignation of Ms.Sharon Peck.

Motion made by Starrs, second by Cuntala and carried to approve Matt Baley as an alternate on the Board of Adjustment.

DPW Resignation -

DPW Supervisor Brian Peck notified Mayor Starrs of the resignation from DPW worker Brett Smith on Friday, August 26, 2022. Mayor Starrs requests a formal letter be drafted by Acting Clerk Molion and signed by Mr. Smith.

Tunnel Field AED Replacement Parts

Tunnel Fields AED needs to be updated. EMS Captain Dave Neal will assist Acting Clerk Molion in ordering the necessary parts.

Junior Firefighter Application -

A junior firefighter application for Mr. Owen Philhower was submitted for the committee's review.

Motion made by Starrs, second by Cuntala and carried to approve junior firefighter application for Owen Philhower.

Township Facebook Page -

Deputy Mayor suggests starting an official Knowlton Township Facebook page to be able to advertise notices and events going on within the Township. Township Attorney Leslie Parikh suggests using the page for informational purposes. The Township attorney advised the committee to disable the comment and tagging feature for the page, otherwise the township runs into free speech issues.

Motion made by Shipp, second by Cuntala and carried to approve reinstating the Knowlton Township Facebook page. Mayor Starrs- abstained.

Township Website -

Acting Clerk Molion received a quote of \$6500 from a local business to redo the Township website. The committee agreed to look at other quotes to compare for the best pricing. Acting Clerk Molion will gather more quotes for the committee's review.

Tree Complaints -

Discussed in public comment.

Historic Commission New Ordinance-
Ordinance 97-04 establishing a historic preservation commission for the designation of landmarks within the Township needs to be updated. The historic commission is requesting the opportunity to weigh in during any property being brought in front of the Board of Adjustment. The committee discussed the issue. Members of the Committee voiced their opinion that the ordinance be too restricting for homeowners. Mayor Starrs suggests the historic commission adjust those restrictions and revisit any changes at the next meeting.

MEETING MINUTES

June 13th Public Session Minutes

Motion made by Starrs, second by Cuntala and carried to approve June 13th Public Session Minutes

June 13th Executive Session Minutes

Motion made by Starrs, second by Cuntala and carried to approve June 13th Executive Session Minutes

August 8th Public Session Minutes

Motion made by Starrs, second by Cuntala and carried to approve August 8th Public Session Minutes

August 8th Executive Session Minutes

Motion made by Starrs, second by Cuntala and carried to approve August 8th Executive Session Minutes

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Starrs, second by Cuntala and carried to go into Executive Session at 8:37 p.m. 2022-90 Resolution authorizing 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. 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 made by Starrs, second by Cuntala and carried to come out of Executive Session at 9:10 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Starrs, second by Cuntala and carried to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 pm.