

**MINUTES OF KNOWLTON TOWNSHIP
WARREN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES
December 20, 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 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Starrs.

Mayor Starrs led the public in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Starrs read the following statement: "This meeting of the Knowlton Township Committee is being held in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act: P: 1975, Chapter 231, noting that notice of all regularly scheduled meetings has been published in the Star Gazette and/or the Express Times as well as providing said schedule in the Municipal Clerk's office."

Roll Call

Present: Mayor Starrs, Deputy Mayor Cuntala, and Committeeman McNinch

Also present were Township Engineer Ted Rodman (7:05 arrival time)

Absent: Committeewoman Shipps and Committeeman Van Horn.

Sharon Cooper-Risk Manager

Mrs. Cooper went over the 2019 Assessment with Statewide.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments

ORDINANCE

Introduction:

2018-12- An Ordinance Amending Chapter 26 of the Code of The Township of Knowlton Entitled "Fire and Rescue Volunteer Company" in Order to Establish Junior Membership

WHEREAS, the Township of Knowlton (the "Township") recognizes the Knowlton Township Fire and Rescue Company No. 1, a duly incorporated volunteer fire company, as an agent and instrumentality of the Township for the prevention and control of fire; and

WHEREAS, the Fire Chief has requested that Chapter 26-2 entitled "Membership" be amended to establish junior membership in the Fire Department as permitted by N.J.S.A. 40A:14-95 *et seq.*

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Knowlton, the County of Warren, that Chapter 26 entitled "Fire and Rescue Volunteer Company" of the Code of the Township of Knowlton (the "Code") is hereby amended as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 126-2 of the Code of the Township of Knowlton entitled "Membership" is hereby amended and supplemented as follows (Additions indicated in boldface and italics *thus*; deletions indicated with strike-through ~~thus~~):

- A. *Regular Officers and Members.* No person shall hereafter become a member of the Fire Department or rescue squad of Knowlton Township or any unit thereof unless above the age of

18, except for junior members, who shall be above the age of 16, and of good moral character. He or she shall be physically fit to perform the duties of a fireperson and/or that of a rescue worker, evidenced by a certificate to that effect by a practicing physician of the State of New Jersey, after physical examination for said purpose. Each applicant shall be subject to a complete background check to be conducted by the Township Committee and shall not be made a permanent member of the Fire Company or rescue squad until the Township Committee certifies that the applicant's background check has proven to be satisfactory to the Township. Any member wishing to join the New Jersey State Firemen's Relief Association must abide by the (N.J.F.R.A) rules and regulations.

B. Junior members. Junior members shall be no less than 15 years of age nor more than 18 years of age and shall be chosen and admitted as junior members in accordance with the bylaws of the company. Junior members shall be subject to confirmation by the Township Committee prior to taking office. Junior members shall only do those activities allowed by law for persons of their age and shall be supervised at all times by regular members of the company.

SECTION 2. All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances inconsistent herewith are repealed as to such inconsistencies.

SECTION 3. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or portion of this Ordinance is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct and independent provision, and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions thereof.

SECTION 4. This Ordinance shall take effect upon final passage and publication according to law.

Motion was made by Mayor Starrs, second by Committeeman McNinch and approved by an all-in-favor for Ordinance 2018-12

Consent Agenda

2018-157-Resolution Approving Consent Agenda

WHEREAS, Resolutions 2018-158, 2018-159, 2018-160, 2018-161, 2018-162, 2018-163, and 2018-164 are considered routine, non-controversial and require no individual discussion; and,

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

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

Motion was made by Mayor Starrs, Deputy Mayor Cuntala and approved by a roll call: Cuntala—yes, McNinch—yes, Shipps—absent , Van Horn—absent, Starrs—yes

The following Resolutions will be on a Consent Agenda with no discussion

2018-158 Cancellation of Improvement Authorizations with the General Capital Fund

WHEREAS, the following improvement authorization are outstanding in the Township’s General Capital Fund and have been deemed no longer necessary;

<u>Ordinance:</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Funded</u>
2004-05	Acquisition of Dump Truck	\$ 1,886.00
2007-15	Various Improvements	\$22,555.34
2011-13	Tanks for DPW Vehicles	\$ 1,803.86
2011-09	Various Improvements	\$ 2,664.02
2012-07	Various Improvements	\$ 8,254.40
2017-05	Construction of New Salt Shed	\$ 6,678.00
2018-05	Purchase of DPW Chipper	\$ 1,081.00

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 above Ordinance balances be cancelled. \$13,031.88 to General Capital – Fund Balance, \$ 1,081.00 to General Capital – Capital Improvement Fund and \$22,555.34 of Authorized Debt.

2018-159 Requesting Approval of Items of Revenue and Appropriation NJSA 40A:4-87 (clean communities)

WHEREAS, NJSA 40A:4-87 provides that the Director of the Division of Local Government Services may approve the insertion of any special item of revenue in the budget of any county or municipality when such item shall have been made available by law and the amount was not determined at the time of the adoption of the budget; and

WHEREAS, the Director may also approve the insertion of an item of appropriation for equal amount,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee of the Township of Knowlton in the County of Warren, New Jersey, hereby requests the

Director of the Division of Local Government Services to approve the insertion of an item of revenue in the budget of the year 2018 in the sum of \$12,026.85 which is now available from the Solid Waste Administration – Clean Communities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the like sum of \$12,026.85 is hereby Appropriated under the caption Clean Communities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the above is the result of funds from the Solid Waste Administration – Clean Communities in the amount of \$12,026.85.

2018-160 Requesting Approval of Items of Revenue and Appropriation NJSA 40A:4-87 (Warren Count Cultural & Heritage Council Arts Grant)

WHEREAS, NJSA 40A:4-87 provides that the Director of the Division of Local Government

Services may approve the insertion of any special item of revenue in the budget of any county or municipality when such item shall have been made available by law and the amount was not determined at the time of the adoption of the budget; and

WHEREAS, the Director may also approve the insertion of an item of appropriation for equal amount,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee of the Township of Knowlton in the County of Warren, New Jersey, hereby requests the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to approve the insertion of an item of revenue in the budget of the year 2018 in the sum of \$2,500.00 which is now available from the Warren County Cultural & Heritage Council Arts Grant.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the like sum of \$2,500.00 is hereby Appropriated under the caption Warren County Cultural & Heritage Council Arts Grant; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the above is the result of funds from the Warren County Cultural & Heritage Council Arts Grant in the amount of \$2,500.00.

2018-161 Requesting Approval of Items of Revenue and Appropriation NJSA 40A:4-87 (Municipal Alliance)

WHEREAS, NJSA 40A:4-87 provides that the Director of the Division of Local Government Services may approve the insertion of any special item of revenue in the budget of any county or municipality when such item shall have been made available by law and the amount was not determined at the time of the adoption of the budget; and

WHEREAS, the Director may also approve the insertion of an item of appropriation for equal amount,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee of the Township of Knowlton in the County of Warren, New Jersey, hereby requests the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to approve the insertion of an item of revenue in the budget of the year 2018 in the sum of \$4,113.00 which is now available from the Warren County Department of Human Services – Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Grant – Municipal Alliance.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the like sum of \$4,113.00 is hereby Appropriated under the caption Warren County Department of Human Services – Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Grant – Municipal Alliance; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the above is the result of funds from the Warren County Department of Human Services – Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Grant – Municipal Alliance

2018-162-Authorizing the Transfer of Funds

WHEREAS, NJSA 40A:4-58 permits transfers between current year budget appropriations during the

last two months of the municipal fiscal year; and;

WHEREAS, there are certain Budget Year 2018 appropriations that require transfers to meet the charges and obligations that will be incurred by the end of this fiscal year.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the transfer below is hereby authorized by a 2/3 vote of the full Governing Body

TRANSFER FROM:		TRANSFER TO:	
MAYOR AND COUNCIL S/W	3,000.00	MAYOR AND COUNCIL O/E	6,100.00
MUNICIPAL CLERK S/W	18,000.00	TAX COLLECTOR O/E	500.00
RAX COLLECTOR S/W	3,000.00	RECREATION O/E	800.00
MUNICIPAL COURT S/W	5,000.00	CELEBRATION OF PUBLIC EVENTS	2,100.00
ENGINEERING O/E	10,800.00	TAX ASSESSMENT S/W	25.00
BUILDING AND GROUNDS O/E	10,000.00	PLANNING BOARD S/W	75.00
		ZONING OFFICER S/W	2,200.00
		ROAD MAINTENANCE S/W	9,000.00
		FINANCE S/W	25,000.00
		EMPLOYEE GROUP INSURANCE	4,000.00
	<u>49,800.00</u>		<u>\$ 49,800.00</u>

2018-163- Transfer of 2017 Budget Appropriations

WHEREAS, NJSA 40A:4-59 permits appropriation transfers during the first 3 months of the succeeding year; and;

WHEREAS, there are certain appropriations requiring transfers of 2015 appropriation reserves:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, confirmation 2/3 of the full Governing Body; that the following transfers are authorized:

TRANSFER FROM:		TRANSFER TO:	
MUNICIPAL CLERK O/E	10,500.00	LEGAL SERVICES	9,000.00
		MUNICIPAL PROSECUTOR O/E	1,000.00
		CELEBRATION OF PUBLIC EVENTS	350.00
		FUEL OIL	150.00
	<u>10,500.00</u>		<u>\$ 10,500.00</u>

2018-164-Resolution to Cancel Reconciling Items Greater than 180 Days old

WHEREAS, there are outstanding checks and reconciling items greater than 180 days old in various accounts; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that checks and reconciling items over 180 days old should be cancelled to the appropriate funds,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Knowlton, County of Warren, and State of New Jersey that reconciling items over 180 days be cancelled to the appropriate funds.

RESOLUTIONS

2018-151- Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Execute Letter Allowing AT&T to Perform Modification Work on a Cell Tower Pursuant to a Lease Agreement

WHEREAS, the township leases certain property located at 648 State Highway 94, Columbia, New Jersey to Omni point Communications, Inc. (now T-Mobile USA Tower, LLC) for the operation of a cell tower pursuant to a Lease Agreement date May 1, 1998; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Paragraph 8© of the Lease Agreement dated May 1, 1998 between the T-Mobile (through CCTMO, LLC) has requested permission to perform modifications to the New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC'S cell tower equipment as set forth in a letter dated August 29, 2018, which is attached hereto; and

WHEREAS, AT&T has requested that the Township indicate its consent to such modifications being performed by signed the above-referenced letter; and

WHEREAS, the Township Engineer has reviewed the proposal and find that it does not conflict with the Lease Agreement;

WHEREAS, once the Township signs the above-referenced letter, AT&T must still apply for and receive engineering review, all applicable zoning permits, and all applicable building permits; and

WHEREAS, if equipment of a subtenant or co-locator is added to the cell tower, any such sublease agreement shall be subject to review by the Township Attorney.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Knowlton, Warren County New Jersey, that they Mayor is hereby authorized to execute the attached letter consenting to modification by T-Mobile of cell tower equipment at 648 State Highway 94, Columbia, New Jersey.

Motion was made by Deputy Mayor Cuntala, second by Committeeman McNinch and approved by an all-in-favor to Resolution 2018-151.

2018-165-Resolution in Support of Path to Progress Recommendations made by New Jersey Economic and Fiscal Policy Workgroup

WHEREAS, New Jersey faces a daunting fiscal crisis; and

WHEREAS, for two decades, while county and municipal governments made the proper pension payments, New Jersey governors from both parties severely underfunded the pension system for teachers and State government workers; and

WHEREAS, while local government pension systems are funded at the national average, the State's unfunded liability for pensions and retiree health benefits now tops \$150 billion – four times the size of the State budget; and

WHEREAS, actuaries project the State will have to increase its pension contribution from \$3.2 billion in this year's budget to \$6.7 billion to reach the Actuarially Required Contribution (ARC) by FY 2023; and

WHEREAS, health care costs continue to rise, and New Jersey and its local governments cannot sustain the unparalleled platinum-level benefits that they provide to their employees; and

WHEREAS, municipalities cannot address other major cost drivers, such as career-end sick leave payouts in excess of \$100,000, without relief from State government; and

WHEREAS, the State must bring pension and health care costs under control before they crowd out all other important spending needs, such as reinvestment in NJ Transit, making higher education more affordable and properly funding state aid to school districts to hold down property taxes.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Knowlton Township expresses its support for the majority of the recommendations of the Path to Progress report issued by the New Jersey Economic and Fiscal Policy Workgroup; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution is forwarded to (*insert the names of Assembly Representatives*), (*insert name of State Senator*), Senate President Sweeney, Assembly Speaker Coughlin, Senator Paul Sarlo, Senator Steve Oroho, Assembly Majority Leader Greenwald, Assemblywoman Eliana Pintor-Marin, Senator Tony Bucco, Senator Troy Singleton, Senator Dawn Addiego, the Governor of State of New Jersey, the New Jersey Association of Counties, and the New Jersey State League of Municipalities.

Motion made by Mayor Starrs, second by Deputy Mayor Cuntala and approved by an all-in-favor to Resolution 2018-165 with the inclusion of the words “the majority of” in the Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved Clause.

2018-166- North Warren Resolution Concerning Cuts to North Warren Regional High School Aid

WHEREAS our public schools play a critical role in our community; and

WHEREAS without notice or prior discussion with community stakeholders, drastic changes to the school funding formula were made by P.L. 2018 Chapter 67, which reduced 2018/2019 State School Aid for the North Warren Regional Board of Education (“Board”) by \$253,897; and

WHEREAS the New Jersey Department of Education notified the Board that Chapter 67 will further reduce aid by at least \$2,416,811 over the next six fiscal years; and

WHEREAS because of demographic changes within the Board’s regional district (“District”), the Board believes that Chapter 67 will actually further reduce aid by another \$1,143,366 over the next six fiscal years; and

WHEREAS a total aid reduction of approximately \$3,814,074 will have drastic, dramatically negative, and irreversible consequences on the students, homeowners, and employees throughout the District; and

WHEREAS these school funding losses will have a devastating impact not only on our schools but also on the economic viability of our local community felt throughout our region; and

WHEREAS when our schools suffer, our students and communities lose; and

WHEREAS the Board’s efforts to proactively and efficiently conserve already limited resources has been recognized through the Board’s designation as the most efficiently operated regional school district throughout the tri-county region.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Knowlton Township Committee calls on state lawmakers to freeze further reductions to state aid funding allocations until an appropriate joint legislative committee is convened to address this funding crisis allowing local and state lawmakers to work together to find a viable solution that benefits all impacted stakeholders, most importantly, our students.

Motion was made by Mayor Starrs, second by Deputy Mayor Cuntala and approved by an all-in-favor to Resolution 2018-166.

2018-167- Resolution Approving Knowlton Township Final 2018 and Preliminary 2019 Annual Sewer Rates

WHEREAS, the Knowlton Township Committee has approved final annual sewer rates for 2018 and preliminary annual sewer rates for 2019; and,

WHEREAS, the 2018 final sewer rates are effective January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018 and the 2019 preliminary sewer rates effective January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019; and,

WHEREAS, the 2018 approved final sewer rates are as follows:

A. Period January 1, 2018 to May 31, 2018

<u>Sewer Allocation</u>	<u>% age of Flow</u>	<u>Final Monthly Payment Billed</u>
		<u>Quarterly</u>

December 20, 2018

Travel Center Of America	20,000gpd	86.2%	\$20,162
McDonalds	3,200gpd	13.8%	\$3,228

B. Period June 1, 2018 to December 31, 2018

	<u>Sewer Allocation</u>	<u>% age of Flow</u>	<u>Final Monthly Payment Billed Quarterly</u>
Travel Centers Of America	20,000gpd	72.2%	\$16,888
McDonalds	3,200gpd	11.55%	\$2,702
Simpson Rd. Project	4,500gpd	16.25%	\$3,801

WHEREAS, the 2019 approved preliminary sewer rates are as follows:

	<u>Sewer Allocation</u>	<u>% age of Flow</u>	<u>Final Monthly Payment Billed Quarterly</u>
Travel Centers Of America	20,000gpd	72.2%	\$17,429
McDonalds	3,200gpd	11.55%	\$2,788
Simpson Rd. Project	4,500gpd	16.25%	\$3,923

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Governing Body of Knowlton Township hereby approves 2018 final sewer rates and 2019 preliminary annual sewer rates.

Motion was made by Committeeman McNinch, second by Deputy Mayor Cuntala and approved by a roll call vote: Cuntala—yes, McNinch—yes, Shipps—absent, Van Horn—absent, Starrs—yes to Resolution 2018-167.

2018-168- 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, second by Committeeman McNinch and approved by roll call vote: Cuntala—yes, McNinch—yes, Shipps—absent, Van Horn—absent, Starrs—yes to Resolution 2018-168 with the exception of the Certified Laboratory bill.

2018-170- A Resolution Authorizing Execution of Interstate Fire Mutual Aid Agreements Between Knowlton Township and (1) Upper Mount Bethel Township and (2) Borough of Portland

WHEREAS, the said Municipalities are responsible for the health, safety and welfare of their residents; and

WHEREAS, mutual aid and assistance agreements between municipalities, counties, law enforcement agencies, police, fire departments, EMS organizations and Fire Districts are permitted pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A: 14-26 and 40A: 14-156.1; and

WHEREAS, the Knowlton Township is empowered by the legislature, specifically N.J.S.A. 40A:14-156.1 (c), to enter into interstate contracts to provide adequate levels of protection from emergencies for their municipalities; and

WHEREAS, it is deemed to be in the best interests of the residents of this municipality to facilitate entrance into mutual aid and assistance agreement with other municipalities and their fire departments to provide additional protection against loss, damage or destruction by fire, catastrophe, civil unrest, major emergency or other extraordinary devastation damage or destruction to person and property, in those situations when outside aid and assistance is needed; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Fire Service Resource Emergency Deployment Act (N.J.S.A. 52:14E-14) and the regulations promulgated thereunder, including but not limited to N.J.A.C. 5:75A-2.2(g), “In any Instance where a local fire mutual aid plan provides for the provision of assistance and fire service resources by or to a political subdivision of another state, the municipality or fire district also shall file a copy of that plan with the State fire coordinator;” and

WHEREAS, the Chief of Knowlton Township Fire and Rescue Co. #1 has advised that a mutual aid plan encompassing the Township’s relationship with the above-referenced municipalities is on file with the County of Warren and the State of New Jersey Division of Fire Safety.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of Knowlton:

1. That the Mayor, Clerk, and appropriate personnel of the Knowlton Township Fire and Rescue Co. #1 are hereby authorized to execute agreements with Upper Mount Bethel Township and Portland Borough to provide mutual fire aid in substantially the same forms as attached hereto; and

2. That a certified copy of this Resolution and the executed Agreements shall be provided to each of the following:
 - a. Clerk, Portland Borough
 - b. Clerk, Upper Mount Bethel Township
 - c. County of Warren
 - d. New Jersey Division of Fire Safety

Motion was made by Mayor Starrs, second by Committeeman McNinch and approved by an all-in-favor to Resolution 2018-170.

2018-171- Resolution authorizing the Mayor to Sign Professional Service Contract with Joseph Mikulka & Anthony Ardito for Consulting Services

WHEREAS, there exists a need for contracting for professional service for the calendar year 2019; and,

WHEREAS, the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.) requires that the Resolution authorizing the awarding of contracts and appointments for Professional Services without competitive bidding must be publicly advertised with copies of the contracts available for public inspection in the office of the Municipal Clerk; and,

WHEREAS, Knowlton Township has established a Municipal Sewer Utility for the regulation and operation of a municipal wastewater treatment plant and;

WHEREAS, at the time the municipal wastewater treatment plant was built, professional engineering and accounting services were provided to the Township by CP Engineering (Joseph Mikulka) and Anthony Ardito and;

WHEREAS, the township desires to enter into a professional service agreement for historical nature, and;

WHEREAS, Joseph Mikulka has provided a time and expense proposal dated December 19, 2018 with a not to exceed value of \$5,000, and;

WHEREAS, Anthony Ardito has provided a time and proposal December 20, 2018 with a rate and a not exceed value of \$3,000, and;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Knowlton, Warren County, New Jersey, authorized the Mayor to sign Contracts for these professional services:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be published in the official Township newspapers as required by law.

Motion was made by Committeeman McNinch, second by Mayor Starrs, and approved by a roll call vote: Cuntala—yes, McNinch—yes, Shippo—absent, Van Horn—absent, Starrs—yes to Resolution 2018-171.

OLD BUSINESS

RFP for 622 Route 94— Mayor Starrs discussed the advantages on putting 622 Route 94 up for auction. Committee agrees that auction might be the best option. Mayor Starrs will have a resolution prepared for a later meeting.

Nixle—Nixle has discontinued the free service Knowlton was using. Mayor Starrs approached Hardwick regarding doing a shared service agreement for the notification system to help with the cost. Hardwick agreed provided the cost be split proportionately to population. **Motion was made by Mayor Starrs, second by Deputy Mayor Cuntala and approved by an all-in-favor for a Shared Service Agreement with Hardwick for Nixle.**

NEW BUSINESS

Reorganization Meeting Date—Motion was made by Mayor Starrs, second by Committeeman McNinch and approved by an all-in-favor to have the Reorganization Meeting on January 3, 2019 with a fall back date of January 7, 2019 depending on Committeewoman Shippo's and Committeeman Van Horn's availability.

2019 Township Meeting Calendar—Discussion regarding two meeting dates falling on a holiday for 2019

Fire & Rescue Tanker Repairs—Knowlton Fire & Rescue are still waiting on one more quote.

Red Light Permit—Motion was made by Mayor Starrs, second by Deputy Mayor Cuntala and approved by an all-in-favor for EMS Captain David Neal's Red Light Permit application.

JCP&L Staging Areas in Knowlton—

Mayor Starrs went around with JCP&L to look at spots in Knowlton that could be used as a staging area during any major power outages. In the last storm, JCP&L used a staging area in Sussex County. A local staging spot could save time and encourage Knowlton's power to get fixed sooner. JCP&L liked the Knowlton Lions club lot on Route 46. Mayor Starrs will speak with Committeeman Van Horn to be the point person on this.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mayor Starrs had a discussion regarding a complaint that was received by mail. Mayor Starrs asked if the committee would like to respond. Committee agreed to have Zoning officer to respond the complaint.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

December 10, 2018 Executive Session Meeting Minutes

Motion was made by Deputy Mayor Cuntala, second by Committeeman McNinch and approved by an all-in-favor for the December 10, 2019 Executive Session Meeting Minutes.

December 10, 2018 Public Session Meeting Minutes

Motion was made by Deputy Mayor Cuntala, second by Committeeman McNinch and approved by an all-in-favor for the December 10, 2019 Public Session Meeting Minutes.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Township Engineer Ted Rodman

Polkville Rd. received a grant for \$200,000 from NJDOT but only spent \$161,000. Mayor Starrs asked if the extra money can be used toward anything else. Mr. Rodman said it has to be used on that road. Mr. Rodman will speak with DPW Supervisor Brian Peck to see if there is any other work on that road that can be done and included as part of the grant.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Mayor Starrs, second by Deputy Mayor Cuntala and approved by an all-in-favor to go into Executive Session at 8:05 p.m

Resolution 2018-169 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. Litigation Update

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Township Committee hereby declare that their discussion of the subject (s) identified above may be made public at a time when the Township Attorney advises them that the disclosure of the discussion will not detrimentally affect any right, interest or duty of the Township or any other entity with respect to said discussion.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Township Committee, for the reasons set forth above, hereby declare that the public is excluded from the portion of the meeting during which the

above discussion shall take place.

Motion was made by Mayor Starrs, second by Deputy Mayor Cuntala and approved by an all-in-favor to return to Public Session at 8:07pm.

Public Comment

Resident Sara Forte asked about the area in front of her house, which she would like the Township to plow. Mayor Starrs had the Township attorney research the deeds back to 1902 regarding this area. She read a summary from the attorney. Ms. Forte asked when the next meeting is that the attorney will be present to discuss further.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Mayor Starrs, second by Deputy Mayor Cuntala and carried to adjourn tonight's Township meeting at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kristin Shipps
Acting Municipal Clerk