

**TOWNSHIP OF KNOWLTON
COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING
May 26, 2022**

Call to Order 7:00 PM

Salute to Flag

Open Public Meetings Act:

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 *Express Times Thursday, Warren County, NJ Zoned edition* as well as providing said schedule in the Municipal Clerk's office.

Please be advised that this meeting is being recorded.

Roll Call: Cuntala—yes, Mazza—yes, Shippis—yes, Van Horn—yes, Starrs—yes

PUBLIC COMMENT

Paul Avery from Blairstown Rotary requested a donation towards the yearly 4th of July fireworks show. Mr. Avery also mentions the new regional area newspaper Ridge View Echo and invites everyone to read it online at Ridgeviewecho.com.

Motion made by Starrs, second by Cuntala and approved by roll call vote:

Cuntala—yes, Mazza—yes, Shippis—yes, Van Horn—yes, Starrs—yes

DEPARTMENT REPORT

ORDINANCES

Public Hearing/ Adoption

2022-02 Calendar Year 2022- Ordinance to Exceed the Municipal Budget Apportion 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 2022 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 \$54,891.10 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 2022 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 \$54,891.10 and that the CY 2022 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.

Introduction: April 28, 2022

Motion made by Starrs, second by Cuntala and approved by roll call vote:

Cuntala—yes, Mazza—yes, Shipps—yes, Van Horn—yes, Starrs—yes Ordinance 2022-02.

2022-03 An Ordinance of the Township of Knowlton Amending Chapter 11, Article 39 of the Code of the Township of Knowlton to Prohibit Automobile Service Stations Within the C-1 Neighborhood Commercial Zone

WHEREAS, the Knowlton Township Planning Board adopted a Master Plan Reexamination Report on September 22, 2020, as required by N.J.S.A. 40:55D-89; and

WHEREAS, the 2020 Reexamination Report made the following findings regarding automotive service stations:

- Among a number of other permitted and conditional uses in the C-1 District, automobile service stations are a permitted conditional use.

- Automotive service station is defined by the Knowlton Township Land Development Ordinance as “Lands and buildings where motor fuel, lubricants and miscellaneous accessories for motor vehicles other than tractor trailers are sold and dispensed and where services are rendered for engine and mechanical repairs, but where no vehicular painting and/or body work is conducted and where no junked or unregistered motor vehicles are kept or stored”.
- There has been a marked increase in automotive service station applications before the Knowlton Planning Board and Zoning Board to expand existing or construct new service stations.
- The Master Plan Reexamination Report establishes a Master Plan Objective against the proliferation of automobile service stations and truck stops in the Township.
- While service stations may provide a valuable service to passing motorists, the uses are not desirable for the Township. They are generally inconsistent with the rural character of the Township and have a high risk of pollution and contamination of the Township’s rich environmental resources.
- The Reexamination Report finds that there is already a proliferation of service stations throughout the Township that well exceed the needs of the local residents of Knowlton Township; and

WHEREAS, the 2020 Reexamination Report recommends that the Land Development Ordinance be amended to remove automotive service stations from the list of permitted uses in the C-1 Neighborhood Commercial Zone; and

WHEREAS, the 2020 Reexamination Report expresses concern regarding the impacts of current truck traffic within Knowlton Township and the anticipated future increase in truck traffic in Knowlton that may generated as a result of proposed industrial and warehouse development in neighboring communities; and

WHEREAS, the 2020 Reexamination Report noted that the Warren County Planning Department received a grant from the Highlands Council to conduct a traffic study to determine the impacts on traffic conditions that would result from the full buildout of the industrial zoning districts throughout Warren County and recommended that this issue of truck traffic be revisited by the Knowlton Planning Board once the County completes its study; and

WHEREAS, the Warren County Planning Department published the Warren County Light Industrial Site Assessment (WCLISA) Final Report on September 9, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the WCLISA Report made certain findings that relate to the Township of Knowlton which are summarized as follows:

- The WCLISA states that Warren County’s location in the Region and proximity to Interstates 78 and 80 position the County as a desirable center for warehouse development and freight/goods movement. The County is currently experiencing increased interest in warehousing and distribution development. The study was

undertaken to understand the potential long-term impact of such development in the County.

- Fifteen sites within Warren County (outside of the Highlands Preservation Area) were identified as having potential for industrial development, two of which include the Industrial and LDI Low Density Industrial Districts in the neighboring community of White Township.
- The fifteen industrial sites reviewed contain over 4,000 acres and have a potential to produce over 45 million square feet of gross floor area for industrial and warehousing development.
- The WCLISA found that at full buildout these sites would generate a substantial amount of traffic, both from trucks and automobiles, as increased employment and goods movement would be generated to and from these industrial sites; and

WHEREAS, the WCLISA Report failed to study the impacts of increased truck and passenger vehicles traffic along Route 46 in Knowlton Township, which is currently heavily traveled by trucks and vehicles desiring to travel westbound towards Interstate 80 or eastbound from Interstate 80; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Knowlton remains opposed to increased truck traffic along Route 46 and intends to take legislative action in accordance with the Municipal Land Use Law to limit the increase of such truck traffic and lessen the potential impacts to the character of Knowlton Township.

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Knowlton in the County of Warren, and State of New Jersey as follows (deletions are shown as ~~thus~~ and additions are shown as *thus*):

SECTION 1. Chapter 11, Article 39 entitled, “Neighborhood Commercial Zone (C-1) Regulations” is hereby amended as follows:

§ 11-311 Conditional uses.

Conditional uses in the C-1 Zone shall be as follows:

- A. Essential services.
- B. Churches and other places of worship, including parish houses, Sunday school buildings and other similar uses.
- C. Nursery schools.
- D. ~~Automobile service stations.~~ Reserved.
- E. Cellular antennas and cellular towers (see Article 41.1).
- F. Animal hospitals and kennels.

§ 11-315 Regulations governing conditional uses.

~~E. Automotive service stations. In addition to meeting the requirements of this zone, the following additional standards shall be applicable:~~

- ~~(1) Location. No service station, gas station, vehicle repair shop or any vehicular access thereto shall be located within 200 feet of schools, playgrounds, churches, hospitals, public libraries and institutions for dependents or for children and senior citizen housing.~~
- ~~(2) Vehicular access. Vehicular access shall not be closer to the intersection of any two street lot lines than 50 feet, nor shall any such use be located within 25 feet of any boundary line or any residential zone.~~
- ~~(3) These operations shall be conducted on a lot of no less than one acre.~~
- ~~(4) The maximum impervious cover shall be 60%.~~
- ~~(5) All automotive service stations that sell gasoline at retail to consumers from gasoline pumps shall be required to have an alternate energy source, such as a standby power generator, that is capable of providing electrical service during an interruption of the normal electrical supply sufficient to power the gasoline pumps so that gasoline can be sold to consumers. The alternate energy source shall be sufficient to operate all pumps during normal business hours of the service stations.~~
- ~~(6) The alternate energy source required herein shall be required any time an existing automotive service station expands and requires site plan and/or variance approval from the Planning Board; or undertakes a substantial renovation (e.g., tank replacement). The determination of whether a renovation is substantial shall be within the sole discretion of the Zoning Officer.~~

E. Reserved.

§ 11-315.1 Prohibited uses.

- A. Automotive service stations are expressly prohibited in the C-1 District. New construction or expansion of any automotive service station shall be prohibited.

SECTION 2.NUMBERING.

This ordinance may be renumbered for codification purposes.

SECTION 3.REPEALER

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

SECTION 4.SEVERABILITY

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.

**Motion made by Starrs, second by Cuntala and approved by roll call vote:
Cuntala—yes, Mazza—yes, Shipps—yes, Van Horn—yes, Starrs—yes Ordinance 2022-03**

Introduction

2022-04 An ordinance to provide for the improvement to Honey Run Road section within the township of Knowlton and to provide for the funding thereof

AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE IMPROVEMENT TO HONEY RUN ROAD SECTION 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:

Improvements to Honey Run Road	-	\$ 238,400.00
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BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that the financing for the above is as follows:

RESERVE FOR ROAD IMPROVEMENTS		\$ 135,000.00
NJ DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION GRANT		\$ 103,400.00

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.

**Motion made by Starrs, second by Cuntala and approved by roll call vote:
Cuntala—yes, Mazza—yes, Shipps—yes, Van Horn—yes, Starrs—yes Ordinance 2022-04**

2022-05 An ordinance to provide for the improvement to Mount Pleasant Road section 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:

Improvements to Mount Pleasant Road Section I -		\$ 85,000.00
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BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that the financing for the above is as follows:

RESERVE FOR ROAD IMPROVEMENTS

\$ 85,000.00

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 Starrs, second by Cuntala and carried to approve Ordinance 2022-05

2022-06 Bond Ordinance providing an appropriation of \$1,300,000 for Township’s contribution in connection with the Knowlton in the county of Warren, New Jersey and authorizing the issuance of \$1,235,000 bonds or notes of the township for financing part of the appropriation.

Committeewoman Shipps abstained from the discussion of pending bond ordinance 2022-06.

The bond ordinance, the summary terms of which are included herein, was introduced and passed upon first reading at a meeting of the governing body of the Township of Knowlton, in the County of Warren, State of New Jersey, on June 13, 2022. It will be further considered for final passage, after public hearing thereon, at a meeting of the governing body to be held at the Municipal Building, 628 Route 94, Columbia, New Jersey, on July 11, 2022 at 7:00 o’clock PM. During the week prior to and up to and including the date of such meeting copies of the full ordinance will be available at no cost and during regular business hours, at the Clerk’s office for the members of the general public who shall request the same. The summary of the terms of such bond ordinance follows:

Title: Bond Ordinance Providing An Appropriation Of \$1,335,000 For Township’s Contribution In Connection With The Knowlton Sewer Plant For And By The Township Of Knowlton In The County Of Warren, New Jersey And Authorizing The Issuance Of \$1,335,000 Bonds Or Notes Of The Township For Financing Part Of The Appropriation

Purpose(s): For the Township’s contribution in connection with the Knowlton Sewer Plant. which contribution will be paid to Applied Water Management, Inc. in full payment of the Township’s outstanding obligation to said entity.

Appropriation: \$1,335,000

Bonds/Notes Authorized: \$1,335,000

Grants (if any) Appropriated: N/A

Section 20 Costs: \$200,000

Useful Life: 20 Years

Mayor Starrs advises the public that ordinance 2022-06 will be tabled until the next Township meeting but felt it was vital to bring this to their attention now and answer any questions they may have.

Mark Bahnick Knowlton Townships waste water engineer joins the meeting via conference call. Mark states when the waste water system was built 20 years ago, there was financing put in place which involved a debt of \$1,250,000 and the Township has been paying off the interest only at a 6% rate. The Township would like to secure a bond issue for a term of 20 years with payment of interest and principal. Mr. Bahnick feels a more accurate ordinance should be able to be formally presented to the committee at the next Township meeting.

Public Comment

Mike Bates addressed the committee regarding Bond ordinance 2022-06. Mr. Bates asked what the lifespan of the equipment in service now is and who bears that cost for any upgrades/replacement parts. Mayor Starrs states the Township has a fund in place take care of those expenses and the cost for those repairs and upgrades is passed on to the system's commercial users.

BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING/ADOPTION

Township Auditor John Mooney and Chief Financial Officer Christine Rolef join the meeting to discuss the Township budget. Mr. Mooney states there is a 1 cent increase to the local tax rate. There was room in the budget for repayment of debt which will bring the Township back on track to paying down any debt the Township has. Committeeman Van Horn asked what the difference in surplus from year 2021 to current. Mr. Mooney explains 2021 surplus was \$1,100,000 and current year is up to \$1,400,000. Committeeman Van Horn asked when the Federal Covid funds would be in the budget. CFO Rolef states the town has received half those funds in June 2021 and the second half should be expected in June 2022.

**Motion made by Starrs, second by Cuntala and approved by roll call vote:
Cuntala—yes, Mazza—yes, Shippis—yes, Van Horn—yes, Starrs—yes**

RESOLUTIONS

2022-49 Resolution authorizing Knowlton's use of state of New Jersey fire officials in 2023

WHEREAS, fire officials are certified by the Commissioner of the NJ Department of Community Affairs and appointed or designated to direct the enforcement of the code by the appointing authority of a local enforcing [agency](#), pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:71-3.2, and

WHEREAS, fire officials provide essential services to municipalities including providing fire code assistance, fire investigations, technical inspections and enforcement of municipal fire/life safety ordinances to include the New Jersey State Fire Prevention Code; and

WHEREAS, Knowlton's longtime fire official has announced his intention to retire at the end of 2022; and

WHEREAS, municipalities are permitted to hire their own fire officials or use the State of New Jersey's fire officials; and

WHEREAS, the majority of towns in Warren County use the State of New Jersey fire officials including Hardwick, Hope, Blairstown, Belvidere, Oxford, Franklin and others, and

WHEREAS, Knowlton Township currently has a small volume of fire work that includes 25 "life hazard uses" per year and state officials will assume those responsibilities as well as fireworks permits and smoke detector checks, and

WHEREAS, the Township of Knowlton would see monetary savings in that it would no longer pay the salary for a fire official; and

WHEREAS, the State maintains field offices in Warren County in order to service all area towns, therefore officials will be located locally to service Knowlton; and

WHEREAS, the Knowlton Township Committee discussed this issue extensively in public session on April 28, 2022 and passed a motion to switch to the State's fire service at the conclusion of 2022; and

WHEREAS, should the State's fire service prove unsatisfactory to Knowlton residents, Knowlton Township is permitted to return to employing their own fire official.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the governing body affirms that this resolution memorializes the vote that occurred at the April 28, 2022, Knowlton Township meeting to proceed with the use of the State's fire officials in Knowlton Township commencing in 2023.

**Motion made by Starrs, second by Cuntala and approved by roll call vote:
Cuntala—yes, Mazza—yes, Shipps—yes, Van Horn—yes, Starrs—yes**

Roll Call

2022-50 Resolution Requesting the NJDEP add ultrafine particle pollution monitoring to the Columbia air monitor

WHEREAS, the Knowlton Township Planning Board adopted a Master Plan Reexamination Report on September 22, 2020 as required by N.J.S.A. 40:55D-89; and

WHEREAS, the 2020 Annual Report of the Knowlton Zoning Board of Adjustment identified an issue of concern regarding the idling of trucks on commercial sites; and

WHEREAS, the 2020 Reexamination Report expresses concern regarding the impacts of current truck traffic within Knowlton Township and the anticipated future increase in truck traffic in Knowlton that may generated as a result of proposed industrial and warehouse development in neighboring communities; and

WHEREAS, the Warren County Planning Department conducted a traffic study to determine the impacts that would result from the full buildout of the industrial zoning districts throughout Warren County and published the Warren County Light Industrial Site Assessment (WCLISA) Final Report on September 9, 2020, and

WHEREAS, the WCLISA Report made certain findings that relate to the Township of Knowlton which are summarized as follows:

- The WCLISA states that Warren County's location in the Region and proximity to Interstates 78 and 80 position the County as a desirable center for warehouse development and freight/goods movement. The County is currently experiencing increased interest in warehousing and distribution development. The study was undertaken to understand the potential long-term impact of such development in the County.
- Fifteen sites within Warren County (outside of the Highlands Preservation Area) were identified as having potential for industrial development, two of which include the Industrial and LDI Low Density Industrial Districts in the neighboring community of White Township.
- The fifteen industrial sites reviewed contain over 4,000 acres and have a potential to produce over 45 million square feet of gross floor area for industrial and warehousing development.
- The WCLISA found that at full buildout these sites would generate a substantial amount of traffic, both from trucks and automobiles, as increased employment and goods movement would be generated to and from these industrial sites.

WHEREAS, the WCLISA Report failed to study the potential environmental impacts of anticipated increased truck and passenger vehicles traffic along Route 46 in Knowlton Township, which is currently heavily traveled by trucks and vehicles desiring to travel westbound towards Interstate 80 or eastbound from Interstate 80; and

WHEREAS, there are two planned warehouse developments in municipalities adjacent to Knowlton, one in White Township measuring an anticipated 2.6 million square feet and one in Upper Mount Bethel, PA, measuring an anticipated 6 million square feet; and

WHEREAS, these two warehouse complexes, according to the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission and the Upper Mount Bethel developer, anticipate the generation of 21,000 additional vehicles, many of which are trucks, traveling on highways that transverse Knowlton Township; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency states that mobile source air pollution from cars and trucks poses a serious health risk to those who live, work or attend school near major roads, such as Route 46 and Route 80, causing higher rates of asthma onset and aggravation, cardiovascular disease, impaired lung development in children, and premature death among other health conditions; and

WHEREAS, federal researchers have identified the health risk from ultrafine particles is greatest downwind and within 300 feet or 100 meters of a busy highway, and

WHEREAS, the Knowlton Township Elementary School is located on U.S. Route 46, within 300 feet of a busy highway where children play outside next daily; and

WHEREAS, many of Knowlton Township's households are also located within 300 feet of busy highways Route 46 or Route 80; and

WHEREAS, the NJDEP's Columbia air monitor currently monitors for O₃, PM_{2.5}, NO₂ and SO₂, but does not measure ultrafine (smaller than two- and one-half microns or less in width) particulate matter, which would aid the NJDEP in tying local pollution specifically to motor vehicles; and

WHEREAS, should a device for measuring ultrafine air pollution be added to Columbia's NJDEP air monitor, it would assist the NJDEP in measuring the impact of increased trucks due to warehousing and in providing legislators with the data necessary to enforce cleaner standards for vehicles on NJ's roadways; and

WHEREAS, in NJDEP released its draft New Jersey Ambient Air Monitoring Network Plan 2022 in May 2022, which details the plan for monitoring air quality around the state and has invited public comment until June 20, 2022.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Township of Knowlton hereby requests that the NJDEP add ultrafine pollution monitoring to the Columbia, NJ, air monitoring station.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this request be sent to the NJDEP Bureau of Air Monitoring Chief Luis Lim as well as the site for public comment on the NJ Ambient Air Monitoring Network Plan 2022: bamweb@dep.nj.gov.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be forwarded to the Warren County Commissioners, State Senator Steven Oroho, Assemblyman Parker Space, Assemblyman Hal Wirths, as well as the municipalities of White Township and Upper Mount Bethel, where warehousing complexes are planned.

Motion by Starrs, Second by Cuntala carried to approve Resolution 2022-50

2022-51 Approval of reimbursement to historic commissioner

WHEREAS, the Knowlton Historic Commissioner purchased a Heavy-Duty Canopy and Frame Set in the amount of \$2,095.00 directly from Extreme Canopy and is requesting Township Reimbursement; and **WHEREAS**, the Knowlton Township Finance office was not made aware of this purchase until after the payment was made; and

WHEREAS, the Knowlton Township Finance office and the Knowlton Township Historic Commissioner have agreed to a one-time reimbursement for said item with the understanding that the Township will no longer reimburse out of pocket expenses;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Knowlton, County of Warren, and State of New Jersey Reimburse Mr. Hal Bromm \$2,095.00 for the Purchase of a Heavy-Duty Canopy with the understanding that out of pocket reimbursements will no longer be permitted.

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

2022-52 Fixing the Salaries and Wages of Officials, Appointees and Employees of the Township of Knowlton in the County of Warren, State of NJ for 2022

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Township Committee of the Township of Knowlton, in the County of Warren and State of New Jersey that the salaries of the elected officials, appointees and employees of the Township of Knowlton, in the County of Warren and State of New Jersey, shall be as follows for the year 2022:

	AMOUNT	PER
Mayor	4,001.00	Year
Committee Member	3,417.00	Year
Township Clerk	26,390.00	Year
Acting Clerk	54,000.00	Year
Officer Manager	200.00	Day
Registered Municipal Clerk Classes	750.00	Per Class
Registrar	5,384.00	Year
Deputy Clerk	27.51	Hour
Deputy Registrar	2,825.00	Year
Administrative Assistant	15.31	Hour
American Rescue Plan Reporting	4,000.00	Year
Recreation Director	9,288.00	Year
Recreation Laborer (P/T)	15.00-16.62	Hour
Tax Assessor	19,739.00	Year
Assist. Tax Assessor	4,339.00	Year
Property List Certification	10.00	as billed
Tax Collector	28,260.00	Year
Deputy Tax Collector	22.42	Hour
Fire Prevention Official	6,935.00	Year
Code Enforcement Official	13,312.00	Year
Code Enforcement Official Court Appearance	43.38	hour
Public Works Manager	33.44	hour
Public Works Assist. Supervisor	29.68	hour
Public Works Driver/Laborer I	19.76	hour
Public Works Laborer II	22.00	hour
Public Works Laborer III	17.42	hour
Public Works Driver/Laborer Part Time	15.00-20.00	hour
Animal Control Officer	8,215.00	Year
Driveway Inspector	30.09	per inspection
Secretary - Board of Adjustment	8,529.00	Year
Secretary – Planning Board	8,529.00	Year
Emergency Management Coordinator	4,172.00	Year
Emergency Management Assistant	35.00	HourEmergency
Management Deputy	1,836.00	Year
9-1-1 Coordinator	1,994.00	Year
Clean Communities Supervisor	3,537.00	Year
Maintenance Custodian	8,282.00	Year
Chief Financial Officer (Interlocal)	25,161.00	Year

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that other employees' benefits and compensation are set forth in a Personnel Policy, as amended.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall be retroactive to January 1, 2022, except as otherwise noted.

**Motion made by Starrs, second by Cuntala and approved by roll call vote:
Cuntala—yes, Mazza—yes, Shipps—yes, Van Horn—yes, Starrs—yes**

2022-53 Resolution approving New Jersey State alcohol beverage control special affairs permit for Belvidere Masonic Temple associates

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

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

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Governing Body of Knowlton Township hereby approves NJABC special affair permit for the Belvidere Masonic Temple associates to be held on June 11, 2022 at the Knowlton Lions club pavilion located at 89 Rte 46 Columbia, New Jersey.

Motion by Starrs, Second by Cuntala carried to approve Resolution 2022-53

2022-54 Resolution authorizing the distribution of leftover township wood

WHEREAS, in the past when the Township has felled trees, Knowlton residents have contacted members of the Committee and the Township municipal offices expressing a desire to take possession of the leftover wood; and

WHEREAS, the Township allowed interested persons to pick up the leftover wood located on next to the Knowlton Municipal Building parking lot on a first come, first serve basis and same was memorialized in Resolution 2017-33, and

WHEREAS, the Township of Knowlton has again recently authorized the removal of ash trees impacted by Emerald Ash Borer on municipal property; and

WHEREAS, the leftover wood has no practical use or monetary value to the Township of Knowlton; and

WHEREAS, the NJ Department of Agriculture permits utilizing impacted ash wood as completely and as locally as possible for use as firewood or wood chips and recommends that keeping ash wood local; and

WHEREAS, the Township wishes to accommodate these requests in as fair and equitable manner as possible.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee authorizes the Township Clerk to notify residents who have inquired and to allow those Knowlton residents to pick up the leftover wood stacked and located at Tunnel Field on a first come, first served basis during business hours beginning on May 26, 2022, and continuing until all the wood has been removed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the wood shall be made available only to those who sign a waiver absolving the Township of Knowlton of liability in connection with the wood.

Motion made by Starrs, second by Cuntala carried to approve Resolution 2022-54

2022-55 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 Starrs, second by Cuntala and approved by roll call vote:
Cuntala—yes, Mazza—yes, Shipps—yes, Van Horn—yes, Starrs—yes

Clerk Shipps requested to know the status of the Montague Tools bill of \$1,845.28. Deputy Mayor Shipps suggests setting up time to do inventory at the DPW building.

Motion made by Mazza, second by Shipps and approved by roll call vote:
Cuntala—yes, Mazza—yes, Shipps—yes, Van Horn—yes, Starrs—yes approved payment of \$1,845.28 to Montague Tools.

NEW BUSINESS

Maintenance of FEMA buyout lots

Mayor Starrs discussed there have been complaints of ATV's being driven on the FEMA lots. Trees that have been planted are also being pulled up. Knowlton Township's alternate zoning officer George Boesze recommends sending a letter to the adjacent neighbors as a reminder that riding ATV's on the property is prohibited and to notify the township if they do witness anyone on the property doing so. A letter was drafted for the committee's review to be sent to those adjacent neighbors.

Motion by Starrs, Second by Cuntala carried to approve sending out letters to adjacent neighbors of FEMA buyout lots.

OLD BUSINESS--None
CORRESPONDENCE --None

MEETING MINUTES

March 14, 2022 public session meeting minutes

Motion made by Starrs, second by Cuntala and carried to approve March 14th Public Session Minutes

PUBLIC COMMENT--No Public Comments

EXECUTIVE SESSION

2022-56 Resolution Authorizing Executive Session

Motion made by Starrs, second by Cuntala and carried to go in to Executive Session at 7:52 pm

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 8:06 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Starrs, second by Cuntala and carried to adjourn tonight's meeting at 8:06