

TOWNSHIP OF KNOWLTON  
WARREN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY  
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES  
November 30, 2016

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 Adele Starrs.

Mayor Starrs led the public in the pledge of allegiance.

The Mayor read the following statement in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act: "In accordance with Chapter 231 of the Public Laws of 1975, notice of this meeting was given by way of publication with the Express-Times and notice was given to the Star Gazette, filed in the Municipal Clerk's Office and posted in the Knowlton Municipal Building."

**Roll Call**

**Present:** Committeewoman Cuntala, Committeeman Farber, Committeewoman Shipp, Mayor Starrs

**Also present:** Township Engineer Ted Rodman, DPW Supervisor Brian Peck

**Absent:** Committeeman Mathez

Mayor Starrs stated that tonight's Special Meeting is for the purpose of the Salt Shed only. The committee is not to discuss anything else and not to answer any public comments that do not pertain to the Salt Shed.

Engineer Ted Rodman explained that at the last minute the vendor's proposal included the incorrect size of the building. The Emergency purchase of a new salt shed has been rescinded and now will go out for bids.

Mr. Rodman explained that the Township received "no" quotes from two companies and that one company, Hantz Construction, came in with a quote that was considerably more than the appropriated \$125,000.

Committeewoman Shipp asked what needs to be done with the current salt shed in order to get it through the winter. Mr. Rodman replied that with minor fixes the salt shed is safe. DPW Supervisor Brian Peck stated that he will have to keep less amount of snow in the salt shed and keep it covered. Committeewoman Cuntala asked if they are going to be adding to the salt water contamination. Mr. Rodman and Mr. Peck said that they will just have to keep the salt covered and that the only time that it will not be covered is when they are using the salt.

Resident Pam Russweiler questioned the cracks in front of the salt shed. She said according to the DEP presentation, the salt was going into the cracks, which was going into the ground and causing water contamination. Mr. Rodman tried but could not get the COOP or a contractor to come up and do the pad in front of the building. Committeewoman Shipp asked if that we can do it by hand. Mr. Peck explained that it is a big area and he would prefer a contractor.

Mayor Starrs said that she spoke with CFO Christine Rolef and we do have the money to pave the pad if we can find someone to pave.

Motion made by Mayor Starrs, seconded by Committeewoman Cuntala and carried by roll call vote, Cuntala yes, Farber yes, Mathez absent, Shipps yes, Starrs yes, to turn down the Hantz quote because it exceeded the cost estimate for construction of the new shed.

Committee Farber said that we need to look into finding a pavement company in order to repair the cracks in front of the salt shed. Mr. Rodman will continue on making phone calls in finding a company to pave.

To move forward with a new salt shed, Mr. Rodman has agreed to prepare the specs that are needed. He will work with Mr. Peck so there is no confusion and take those approved specs and go out for bids.

### **Public Comments**

Resident Bob McNinch asked who was the individual that declared the salt shed emergency and why is it not considered an emergency now. Mayor Starrs replied that the Committee approved the emergency by resolution and the CFO signed the paperwork that went to the State. Mayor Starrs made sure with CFO Christine Rolef that there will be no penalties from withdrawing the Emergency.

Resident Vince Gaeta asked about the timeline for the emergency. Mayor Starrs stated that today was the deadline. Mr. Gaeta said that the time has expired so that is what changes the emergency status

Mr. Rodman stated that declaring an Emergency relieved the township of a good number of the requirements of the purchasing process. The only requirement was to get one quote with no limit and the only requirement was whoever did the work had to pay prevailing wages and they had to be a registered NJ contractor. The township could have had anyone do it on short notice.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion was made by Mayor Starrs, seconded by Committeeman Farber, and carried to adjourn tonight's Special Meeting at 7:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kristin Shipps  
Acting Municipal Clerk