

INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
Meeting held at the Municipal Building, Great Meadows, NJ.
August 10, 2021 7:00 p.m.

This is a regular meeting of the Township Committee of Independence Township, Warren County, New Jersey. This meeting was called to order by Mayor Robert Giordano at 7:00 p.m. with the following announcement: "Adequate notice of this meeting was given in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act by providing a schedule of regular meetings to the Herald Times and The Express Times, posting a copy thereof on the Township bulletin board and filing a copy thereof in the office of the Municipal Clerk." The Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag was led by Mayor Giordano.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Mr. Cogle, Mrs. Gesumaria, Mayor Giordano, Mrs. Kelsey, Debi Hrebenak, Mike Finelli and Leslie Parikh

Absent: Mr. Pennington

Farview Drive Retention Pond – Vita Frankowski

Consent Agenda:

Resolution 21-49

Title or Subject: APPOINTMENTS/ADJUSTMENTS

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Independence that the following appointments/adjustments are hereby made:

Melissa Shurack-p/t Recreation Director, fifteen (15) hours per week rate of \$ 20,400.00 per annum effective August 2, 2021.

Resolution 21-50

Title: Raffle

WHEREAS, SS. Peter & Paul's Church is registered by the State of New Jersey to operate legalized games of chance, (253-1-2709) and,

WHEREAS, they have submitted an application for a Raffle to be held on 10.31.2021 and all fees have been paid,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Independence, that RA# 478 be issued to Ss. Peter & Paul's Church.

Resolution 21-51

Title: 50/50 Raffle

WHEREAS, SS. Peter & Paul's Church is registered by the State of New Jersey to operate legalized games of chance, (253-1-2709) and,

WHEREAS, they have submitted an application for a 50/50 Raffle to be held on 10.31.2021 and all fees have been paid,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Independence, that RA# 479 be issued to Ss. Peter & Paul's Church.

Resolution 21-52

Approval to submit a Grant application and execute a grant contract with the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the Russling Road Section 2 project.

WHEREAS, Independence Township, Warren County, New Jersey has given Finelli Consulting Engineers the approval to submit this grant on the behalf of the Township of Independence,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Committee of the Township of Independence formally approves the grant application for the above stated project,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to submit an electronic grant application identified as **LA-2022 MA-00023- Independence Township Russling Road Section 2 -21** to the New Jersey Department of Transportation on behalf of the Township of Independence.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to sign the grant agreement on behalf of the Township of Independence and that their signature constitutes acceptance of the terms and conditions of the grant agreement and approves the execution of the grant agreement.

Resolution 21-53

Approval to submit a Grant application and execute a grant contract with the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the Cemetery Road Resurfacing project.

WHEREAS, Independence Township, Warren County, New Jersey has given Finelli Consulting Engineers the approval to submit this grant on the behalf of the Township of Independence,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Committee of the Township of Independence formally approves the grant application for the above stated project,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to submit an electronic grant application identified as **LA-2022-MA-00024- Independence Township Cemetery Road, Resurfacing Section 1- 21** to the New Jersey Department of Transportation on behalf of the Township of Independence.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to sign the grant agreement on behalf of the Township of Independence and that their signature constitutes acceptance of the terms and conditions of the grant agreement and approves the execution of the grant agreement.

Resolution 21-54

A RESOLUTION OF AWARD, RESURFACING OF ASBURY ROAD

Be it resolved, that on August 10, 2021 the Township Committee of the Township of Independence adopted this resolution to award unit bid prices for individual construction items to perform the necessary construction to complete the Resurfacing of Asbury Road, a New Jersey Department of Transportation Local Aid funded project with a total project grant award in the amount of \$70,000.

Be it further resolved, that the Township Committee of the Township of Independence does hereby award unit prices for individual construction items-based unit prices as awarded under the individual contracts awarded by the Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council bidding process with a total cost of \$43,893.46. The award is made to the Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council vendor, South State Inc., which included the following items and unit prices:

| ITEM NO. | DESCRIPTION UNIT | QUANTITY | UNIT | UNIT PRICE | TOTAL EXTENSION |
|----------|----------------------------------|----------|------|------------|-----------------|
| 1,2 | 2" Hot Mix Asphalt (HMA) 12.5M64 | 615 | TN | \$66.25 | \$40,743.75 |
| 3 | Milling 0-2" Thk | 118 | SY | \$2.70 | \$318.60 |
| 4 | HMA Driveway 2" Thick | 43 | SY | \$66.25 | \$2,848.75 |
| TOTAL | | | | | \$43,893.46 |

Be it further resolved, that the Township Committee of the Township of Independence does hereby award unit prices for individual construction items-based unit prices as awarded under the individual contracts awarded by the Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council bidding process with a total cost of \$21,166.00. The award is made to the Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council vendor, Road Safety System, LLC, which included the following items and unit prices:

| ITEM NO. | DESCRIPTION UNIT | QUANTITY | UNIT | UNIT PRICE | TOTAL EXTENSION |
|----------|----------------------------------|----------|------|------------|-----------------|
| 5 | Tangent Guiderail Terminal | 3 | EA | \$3,100.00 | \$9,300.00 |
| 6 | Control Release Terminal | 1 | EA | \$1,990.00 | \$1,990.00 |
| 7 | Beam Guiderail | 25 | LF | \$35.00 | \$875.00 |
| 8 | Beam Guiderail Bridge Attachment | 4 | EA | \$2,000.00 | \$8,000.00 |
| 9 | Remove Beam Guiderail | 143 | LF | \$7.00 | \$1,001.00 |
| TOTAL | | | | | \$21,166.00 |

Be it further resolved, that the Township Committee of the Township of Independence does hereby award unit prices for individual construction items based unit prices as awarded under the individual contracts awarded by the Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council bidding process with a total cost of \$1,153.04. The award is made to the Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council vendor, Denville Line Painting, Inc, which included the following items and unit prices:

| ITEM NO. | DESCRIPTION UNIT | QUANTITY | UNIT | UNIT PRICE | TOTAL EXTENSION |
|----------|---|----------|------|------------|-----------------|
| 10 | 4" Yellow Traffic Stripes, EPOXY method | 3,976 | LF | \$0.29 | \$1,153.04 |
| TOTAL | | | | | \$1,153.04 |

Mr. Cogle made a motion to approve Resolutions 21-49, 21-52, 21-53 and 21-54 as written. Mrs. Gesumaria seconded the motion with roll call as follows:

Ayes: Mr. Cogle, Mrs. Gesumaria, Mrs. Kelsey and Mayor Giordano
 Nays: None recorded
 Abstain: none recorded

Mr. Cogle made a motion to approve Resolutions 21-50 and 21-51 as written. Mrs. Gesumaria seconded the motion with roll call as follows:

Ayes: Mr. Cogle, Mrs. Kelsey, and Mrs. Gesumaria

Nays: None recorded

Abstain: Mayor Giordano

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Tax Collector – Report submitted via email. Deadline extended to August 6

Construction/Zoning – Reports submitted via email.

Environmental – No meeting in July. Fall cleanup

Treasurer – Reports submitted.

Recreation/Green Acres – Field hockey sign up

Police – Report submitted via email.

Emergency Services – First Aid Squad did a coin toss. Fire Department starting breakfast in September

DPW – Report submitted via email. Mt. Bethel Road paving.

Municipal Clerk: No workshop in September.

Land Use Board – No applications submitted

Board of Education – no report.

PROFESSIONAL REPORTS:

Attorney Parikh: Report submitted.

Engineer Finelli: Mr. Finelli spoke on Woodmont construction. Asbury Road Section 2 – approved by DOT. Working with DPW on scheduling.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mr. Wiseman asked about CPR classes; advised him to contact the squad directly.

BILLS: A motion was made by Mr. Cogle to pay the bills as presented. Mrs. Gesumaria seconded the motion with roll call as follows:

Ayes: Mr. Cogle, Mrs. Kelsey, Mrs. Gesumaria and Mayor Giordano

Nays: None recorded

Abstain: None recorded

EXECUTIVE SESSION: 7:45 pm – 8:11 pm

The following Resolution was approved at 7:45p.m. to enter Executive Session with a motion by Mrs. Kelsey, seconded by Mr. Cogle and followed by a unanimous roll call.

WHEREAS: N.J.S. 2:4-12, Open Public Meetings Act, permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist:

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

The public shall be excluded from discussion of the hereinafter specified subject matters;

The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows:

Personnel Matter

It is anticipated at this time that the above matter will be made public upon completion of the matter discussed.

A motion was made by Mr. Cogle at 8:11 p.m. to exit the executive session, seconded by Mrs. Kelsey followed by a roll call of all ayes

Mayor Giordano stated that Personnel Matter issues were discussed and no action will be taken at this time.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Mrs. Kelsey to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m. Mr. Cogle seconded the motion with roll call as follows:

Ayes: Mr. Cogle, Mrs. Kelsey, Mrs. Gesumaria, and Mayor Giordano

Nays: None recorded

Abstain: None recorded

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah M. Hrebenak, RMC/CMR
Municipal Clerk