

INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
Meeting held at the Municipal Building, Great Meadows, NJ.
December 10, 2019 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 Star Gazette 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 Deputy Mayor Cogle.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Mayor Robert Giordano, Deputy Mayor Cogle, Bonnie Kelsey, Mike Pennington, Tim Norton and Debi Hrebenak. Also present were Attorney Leslie Parikh.
Absent: none

Minutes Approval: 6.11.2019, 9.10.2019, 10.08.2019 and 11.12.2019

Mr. Cogle made a motion to approve Minutes 6.11.2019, 9.10.2019, 10.08.2019 and 11.12.2019 as written. Mrs. Kelsey seconded the motion with roll call as follows:

Ayes: Mayor Giordano, Mrs. Kelsey, Mr. Pennington, Mr. Norton, and Mr. Cogle

Nays: None recorded

Abstain: none recorded

Motion carries with five (5) affirmative votes

Consent Agenda:

Resolution 19-85

2019 Body Armor Grant

WHEREAS, NJS 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 thereof was not determined at the time of the adoption of the budget, and

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

WHEREAS, the Township of Independence has received notice of an award of \$1,339.35 from the State of New Jersey, Special Legislative Grant and wishes to amend its 2019 Budget to include this amount as a revenue.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Independence in the County of Warren State of New Jersey hereby requests the Director and the Division of Local Government Services to approve the insertion of an item of revenue in the budget of the year 2019 in the amount of \$1,339.35 which is now available as revenue from:

Miscellaneous Revenues:

Special Items of General Revenue Anticipated

With Prior Written Consent of the Director of the

Division of Local Government Services:

State and Federal Revenues Off-set with

Appropriations: State of New Jersey Special Legislative Grant

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the sum of \$1,339.35
Be and the same is hereby appropriated under the caption of
General Appropriations:

- (a) Operations Excluded from CAPS
State and Federal Programs Off-Set by

Revenues: 2019 Body Armor Grant

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Township Clerk forward one certified copy of this resolution to the Director of Local Government Services for approval. December 10, 2019

Resolution 19-86

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON (MORRIS COUNTY) AND THE TOWNSHIP OF INDEPENDENCE, COUNTY OF WARRREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1, *et seq.*

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Uniform Fire Code, N.J.A.C. 5:70-1.1 *et seq.*, the Township of Independence (the “Township”) is required provide fire prevention services; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Washington, Morris County (“Washington”) has agreed to furnish the services of its Fire Official and Fire Inspector pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1, *et seq.*; and

WHEREAS, the Township and Washington have determined it is in their mutual best interests to provide shared services for Uniform Fire Code administration and enforcement; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Independence, in the County of Warren, that the Township of Independence hereby authorizes Washington Township (Morris County) to provide fire prevention services pursuant to the Uniform Fire Code, N.J.A.C. 5:70-1.1 *et seq.*, as set forth in the Shared Services Agreement (attached hereto as Exhibit A); and,

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and the Clerk are authorized to sign the Shared Services Agreement in substantially the same form as attached hereto.

Resolution 19-87 APPROPRIATIONS TRANSFERS

WHEREAS, there appears to be insufficient funds in the below listed account(s) to meet the demands thereon for the balance of the current year, and

WHEREAS, there appears to be a surplus in the below listed account(s) over and above the amount deemed necessary for the balance of the current year.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Independence that, in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-58, part of the surplus in the account(s) heretofore mentioned be and same are hereby authorized as transfers to the account(s) mentioned as being insufficient, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Finance Officer is hereby directed to make the following transfers:

FROM	AMOUNT	TO	AMOUNT
Animal Control O/E	\$ 2,000.00	Buildings & Grounds O/E	\$ 5,500.00
Police S&W	\$ 8,500.00	Vehicle Maintenance O/E	\$ 5,000.00
TOTAL	\$ 10,500.00	TOTAL	\$ 10,500.00

Resolution 19-88

**Title or Subject: Approval of Limousine License
(ESQ Chauffered Services LLC)**

WHEREAS, Matthew J Gleason, DBA: ESQ Chauffered Services LLC has submitted an application for a Limousine License in accordance with the Code of the Township of Independence, Chapter 354, and

WHEREAS, Matthew J Gleason is qualified for the license and all the necessary fees and proof of insurance have been submitted, and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Independence Township Committee that a Limousine License is hereby issued to Matthew J Gleason, DBA: ESQ Chauffered Services LLC., effective date January 1, 2020.

Resolution 19-89

Title or Subject: Cancellation of Grant Balances

WHEREAS, there exists amounts in Grants Receivable that are no longer valid; and

WHEREAS, there exists amounts in Appropriated Grant Reserves that are no longer valid:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Independence, in the County of Warren, New Jersey, that the following receivable amounts be cancelled to Current Fund Operations:

Drive Sober Year End Holiday Crackdown	\$ 4,877.65
Wastewater Management Plan Grant	\$ 16,000.00
Highlands Plan Conformance Grant	\$ 3,240.55
Highlands Plan Assessment Grant	\$ 15,000.00

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ALSO RESOLVED that the following appropriated reserve amounts be cancelled to Current Fund Operations:

Drive Sober Year End Holiday Crackdown	\$ 4,877.65
Wastewater Management Plan Grant	\$ 1,252.50

Resolution 19-90 Municipal Alliance

WHEREAS, the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse established the Municipal Alliances for the Prevention of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse in 1989 to educate and engage residents, local government and law enforcement officials, schools, nonprofit organizations, the faith community, parents, youth and other allies in efforts to prevent alcoholism and drug abuse in communities throughout New Jersey.

WHEREAS, The Township Committee of the Township of Independence, County of Warren, State of New Jersey recognizes that the abuse of alcohol and drugs is a serious problem in our society amongst persons of all ages; and therefore has an established Municipal Alliance Committee; and,

WHEREAS, the Township Committee further recognizes that it is incumbent upon not only public officials but upon the entire community to take action to prevent such abuses in our community; and,

WHEREAS, the Township Committee has applied for funding to the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse through the County of Warren;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township of Independence, County of Warren, State of New Jersey hereby recognizes the following:

1. The Township Committee does hereby authorize submission of a strategic plan for the Great Meadows Regional Municipal Alliance grant for fiscal year 2020 in the amount of:

DEDR	\$ 4,706.00
Cash Match	\$ 1,176.50
In-Kind	\$ 3,529.50
2. The Township Committee acknowledges the terms and conditions for administering the Municipal Alliance grant, including the administrative compliance and audit requirements.

Mr. Cogle made a motion to approve Resolutions 19-85 thru 19-90 as written. Mrs. Kelsey seconded the motion with roll call as follows:

Ayes: Mayor Giordano, Mrs. Kelsey, Mr. Pennington, Mr. Norton, and Mr. Cogle
Nays: None recorded
Abstain: none recorded
Motion carries with five (5) affirmative votes

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Tax Collector - Posted

Construction/Zoning – Reports were submitted.

Environmental – nothing to report.

Treasurer – Report submitted.

Recreation/Green Acres – Report submitted.

Police – Report has been submitted.

Emergency Services – Fire Department Clyde Snyder gave a report. Thanked everyone for their help with the Food and Toy Drive.

DPW – Report was submitted.

Municipal Clerk – Budget Meeting 1/25/20 at 9 am. Re-organization Meeting 1/7/2020. Grant received for Asbury Road. New phone system.

Land Use Board – No meeting in December.

Seniors – Meeting on Thursday.

Board of Education – Mrs. Cullen spoke regarding the 2% cap.

PROFESSIONAL REPORTS:

Attorney Parikh: report submitted.

Engineer Finelli: Report Submitted. Not in attendance.

OLD BUSINESS: none

NEW BUSINESS: none

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mrs. Cullen asked about the shared services. Mr. Fuela thanked everyone for a great year.

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

Ayes: Mayor Giordano, Mr. Norton, Mrs. Kelsey, Mr. Cogle, and Mr. Pennington,
Nays: None recorded
Abstain: None recorded
Motion carries with five (5) affirmative votes.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Mr. Norton to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 p.m. Mr. Cougle seconded the motion with roll call as follows:

Ayes: Mayor Giordano, Mr. Cougle, Mr. Norton, Mrs. Kelsey, and Mr. Pennington

Nays: None recorded

Abstain: None recorded

Motion carries with five (5) affirmative votes.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah M. Hrebenak, RMC/CMR
Municipal Clerk/Administrator