

MINUTES OF THE HARDYSTON TOWNSHIP COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING HELD ON NOVEMBER 12, 2013

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Hamilton, at approximately 7:00 P.M. with the opening statement that the meeting had been duly advertised and met all the requirements of the Sunshine Law. Also present were: Deputy Mayor Kula, Councilman Miller, Councilman Cicerale, Councilman Verrilli, Manager Marianne Smith, Clerk Jane Bakalarczyk and Township Attorney Fred Semrau of Dorsey & Semrau.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

A. First Aid Service Options for Weekday Coverage

Township Manager stated that the subcommittee that was formed at the request of the Council had met with various vendors who provide paid ambulatory services. She stated that the recommendation from that subcommittee, who had met with Atlantic, St. Clare's and Sparta Ambulance Squad, was that the potential to do something more formally with Sparta Ambulance Squad seemed to be the best option to recommend to the Council. She stated that she had requested that two of the members of the Sparta Ambulance Squad attend tonight's meeting to meet with the Council and be available to explain how their organization operates. The current captain and former captain were present and gave the Council an overview of how their organization operates, and how they can be of help to the Hardyston Township First Aid Squad with regard to coverage. Township Manager stated that a draft agreement has been prepared should the Council wish to consider moving forward with the recommendation.

B. Passaic County Energy Pricing Cooperative

Township Manager stated that there are a number of municipalities and utility authorities who have come together under this cooperative and that Concord Engineering is the consultant that is managing this cooperative. She stated that it is for buying energy from a third party source, but everything would still go through JCP&L. Passaic County as the Lead Agency would seek bids on behalf of the Cooperative from licensed and appropriate Third Party Suppliers. If the winning bid is selected and agreement executed, individual residential consumers as well as non-residential ratepayers may likely receive a direct reduction in their electric bills, and would retain the option not to participate and to choose any alternatives they desire. If the Township is interested in participating, an ordinance would need to be adopted. An ordinance has been prepared and has been placed on the regular meeting agenda to follow the workshop for the Council's consideration.

C. Summit Lake Dam Restoration Funding

Township Manager stated that the Summit Lake Dam Restoration Project has been completed. She stated that a Bond Ordinance needs to be adopted in order to create a special assessment. She stated that the Township's Bond Counsel has prepared such an ordinance and it has been placed on the regular meeting agenda to follow for the Council's consideration.

D. Reassessment Status

Township Attorney stated that he would update the Council on the reassessment status and some of the legal issues that could evolve during the reassessment process during the Executive Session.

E. Future Appointment Discussion

Township Manager stated that the individuals who showed interest in serving on the various boards have been invited to the Council meeting scheduled for December 3 to meet with the Council.

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COUNCIL COMMENTS: Deputy Mayor Kula stated that the Fire Department did a fantastic job with the “Memories of Elvis” fundraiser concert that they hosted on November 1, 2013. Councilman Verrilli wanted to thank the Zoning Board for honoring his years of service to the Board with a dinner. Councilman Miller thanked Councilman Verrilli for his service to the Zoning Board.

PUBLIC COMMENT (in accordance with P.L. 2002, c.80): A motion was made and seconded to open the meeting to the public. All in favor. Motion carried. Resident Debbie Caggianese asked if she could obtain a list of the Township’s shared services. Township Manager stated that there is a list on the Township’s website. Ms. Caggianese asked to what percentage are the resident’s services being compromised with these shared services. Mayor Hamilton stated that they are not being compromised. Township Manager stated that Hardyston has enough staffing to cover all of Hardyston’s needs. She stated that there are also seasonal drivers that are called in for things like snow removal. A motion was made and seconded to close the meeting to the public. All in favor. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT: At approximately 8:20 p.m., a motion was made by Kula to adjourn seconded by Miller. All in favor. Motion carried.

Jane Bakalarczyk, RMC/CMC
Municipal Clerk