

The Lakewood Township Committee held a Meeting on Thursday, March 17, 2016, in the Lakewood Municipal Building, at 5:30 PM for the Public Meeting, with the following present:

Mayor.....Absent.....Menashe P. Miller
Deputy Mayor.....Albert D. Akerman
Committee Members..... Raymond Coles
Michael J. D’Elia
Meir Lichtenstein
Municipal Manager..... Thomas L. Henshaw
Municipal Attorney..... Steven Secare, Esq.
Municipal Clerk..... Kathryn Hutchinson

Adequate notice of this meeting has been provided in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6, and published in the Asbury Park Press on January 6, 2016, and revised via e-mail on March 7, 2016.

ROLL CALL

CLOSED SESSION

Resolution No. 2016-152 – Adopted

ROLL CALL

SALUTE TO THE FLAG AND PRAYER

OPEN SESSION

Motion by Committeeman Coles, second by Committeeman Lichtenstein, and carried, to open the meeting.

MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES OF: March 3, 2016

Motion by Committeeman D’Elia, second by Committeeman Lichtenstein, and carried, to approve the above Minutes.

MOTION TO APPROVE WORKSHOP AND CLOSED SESSION MINUTES: March 3, 2016

Motion by Committeeman Lichtenstein, second by Committeeman D’Elia, and carried, to approve the above Closed Session Minutes.

ORDINANCES FOR DISCUSSION - None

QUALITY OF LIFE

Deputy Mayor Akerman reviewed quality of life items from the previous meeting.

With regard to the request by Committeeman Lichtenstein for the Chief of Police and

Engineering Department to review the request by residents, by petition, for traffic control at the intersection of West County Line Road and Teaberry Court, the Committee was informed that Traffic & Safety is awaiting a response from the County, and the Engineering Department advised they forwarded the petition to the County Engineer, who responded they were investigating the matter.

Committeeman Lichtenstein requested that this item remain on the Agenda for the next quality of life session.

Comments from Committee Members on Quality of Life Items:

Committeeman D'Elia proposed that the Committee approach the County to do a survey to re-stripe Central Avenue, travelling eastbound, for at least a quarter of a mile before Route 9, in order to move traffic along. He asked that Traffic & Safety review this request, to restripe Central Avenue, adding a second lane coming up on the right as you approach Route 9.

Committeeman Lichtenstein noted that since this is a State/County Intersection (Route 9/Central Avenue), they need to obtain State comment as well.

Committeeman D'Elia asked if the Engineering Department has heard anything from the State regarding the turn signals along Route 9.

Ally Morris responded that she is not aware of any updates, as she has not heard from them, nor has she heard discussion with regard to this matter.

Committeeman D'Elia advised they have been promised by the State, to look into left turn signals along Route 9. They have the lanes, but do not have left turn signals. He would like to know the status of this matter.

PRESENTATIONS – Fire Budget

Committeeman Coles removed the following item from the Consent Agenda for discussion and Public Hearing.

Resolution of the Township of Lakewood, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Fixing the Annual Budget for the Lakewood Township Fire District Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:14-78.5.

Deputy Mayor Akerman opened the meeting to the public for a Public Hearing on the Fire Budget and invited anyone who wished to comment on the Fire Budget, to please step forward and state their name and address for the record.

Larry Loigman, Lakewood – Asked if this is a public hearing.

Mr. Secare responded, yes it is.

Mr. Loigman state it was not advertised as a Public Hearing. And asked again if it is a Public Hearing.

Deputy Mayor Akerman responded, yes it is.

The Township Clerk responded it was advertised.

Mr. Loigman stated he had a copy of the Notice, which appears to say.....in accordance with provisions of NJSA 40A:14-78.5, Public Notice is hereby given that the Lakewood Township Municipal Fire Budget is scheduled to be discussed at the Lakewood Township Committee Meeting to be held on March 17, 2016 at 5:30 PM at the Lakewood Municipal Building, Auditorium, 231 Third Street, Lakewood, New Jersey 08701.

Mr. Loigman again asked if this was a discussion or is it a Public Hearing.

Mr. Secare responded it is the Public Hearing pursuant to the statute.

Mr. Loigman repeated, so it is a Public Hearing without being advertised as a Public Hearing.

Mr. Secare stated he disagreed with Mr. Loigman.

Mr. Loigman responded, OK. And continued that he had sent a letter to the Deputy Mayor, and he is not sure if it was received or read by him, but he wanted to read pertinent parts into the record: "On February 20th, 2016, the voters failed to approve the calendar year 2016 budget for Lakewood Township Fire District No. 1. As a result, the budget is to be reviewed by the Township Committee which is then required to affix the amount of each appropriation section, NJSA 40A:14-78.5B. I am advised that Committeeman Michael J. D'Elia has been extensively involved at every stage of the budget review process, and on behalf of the Committee, has been engaged in meetings with the Township Manager, and representatives of the Fire District. I am further advised that he intends to participate in the meeting on March 17, 2016 at which the Budget will be considered. As you are aware, Mr. D'Elia has been a member of the Fire Department for over half a century, has held many ranking positions within the Fire Department, received financial and other benefits resulting from his membership and continues today to be a member. He is a former member of the Board of Fire Commissioners, his son is one of two Deputy Fire Chiefs. While I have the utmost respect for Mr. D'Elia, whose dedication to the Township is unquestionable, I am constrained to inform you of my belief that his participation demonstrates an incontestable and non-waivable conflict of interest. I am sure that the Township Attorney is familiar with the relevant law governing such conflicts and would not need to have called to his attention the provisions of the Local Government Ethics Law NJSA 40A:9-22.1, et seq., and such leading cases as Randolph vs Brigantine Planning Board, 406 NJ Super 215, Mountain Hill vs. the Township Committee of Middletown, 403 NJ

Super 146, and _____ Tenafly Inc. vs Tenafly Zoning Board of Adjustment, 307 NJ Super 362. Committeeman D'Elia's involvement in the Fire District Budget process, where his own interests would be perceived by an informed member of the public to be different than those of the citizens at large, is improper. His objectivity and independence of judgment are impaired by his lengthy association with the Fire Department. Removing the taint of his involvement requires that the entire process be commenced de novo. None of the work in which he participated should be used in any manner as the basis for a decision by the governing body." He continued that "This letter should not be construed as a waiver of any other objections which he may later advance as to the procedural or substantive actions of the Committee".

Mr. Loigman continued that he did not receive a response to this letter probably because the letter was only dated yesterday. He also wanted to note, for purposes of the record, that he inquired at the Township Clerk's Office this morning, for a copy of the Agenda, and was told it was not ready, and he asked for a copy of the Resolution, which he sees has been marked as L-2 on the Agenda, and was told it would be sent to him later in the day, but in fact, it was not. He advised he wanted to get to the substance of this Resolution, in addition to just talking about the procedure, which is wholly defective. Substantively, what the Township Committee is about to do, if they adopt this particular Resolution, is to make common cause with the propaganda experts and the demi-gods who have attempted during the last month or two to assault and to attack and to destroy the Fire Department. It is extremely unfortunate that some of the individuals involved in this process are the leaders of those efforts to destroy public fire protection in this Township. To endanger the residents, and the business people and the visitors to the Township of Lakewood, for crass, political reasons. The Budget as proposed in this Resolution would reduce the tax rate by not a plug nickel. The purpose of this Resolution is solely and exclusively and only to advance a certain political agenda. That's all that is going here. This Resolution does not in any way, shape or form do anything to conform to the needs of the citizens of this Township. It does not advance public safety. It interferes with public safety. It does not, in any way, help any legitimate objective that anyone would hope to achieve.

Mayor Akerman responded that he heard Mr. Loigman's point, and is obviously not going to address any conflict that Mr. D'Elia may have, as he is not an attorney, as is Mr. Loigman. There was a lot of information, and he obviously is not going to look up all the statutes, as he will leave it all to the Township Attorney, and if he cares to comment, that is up to him, as well. It sounds like this is going further than just this room here. But what he will say about the Budget itself, it is his understanding that all they cut out of the Budget was two paid fire fighters, and some of the over-time that was budgeted. They are confident they are not affecting the safety of the town. He would not want the safety affected because if there was a fire in this town, then he would want the fire department to be quick to handle it. To his knowledge, that is what was done.

Mr. Loigman responded that he understands that, and he certainly respects his sincerity, and respects his beliefs, and he has to completely disagree. He thinks that what is going here is more than just cutting out a little bit of the budget. What is going on

here is a directed attack on public fire protection in this Township. It is very sad, and if he had more than the four minutes than he has been allotted, he would be glad to go into greater detail about it. They may end up discussing it at some other point, but he thinks that this Committee needs to very seriously consider what it is that they are trying to do here, who it is that they are trying to satisfy, and why it is that they would be making these cuts in the Budget without giving any tax relief to anybody.

Mr. Secare responded that he feels he should complete the record on the allegations about Mr. D'Elia. He considers himself somewhat of an expert on conflicts of interests for a number of reasons, including the fact that he is the secretary to the Local Attorney's Ethics Committee, and is asked questions about conflicts of interest on a regular basis. He has vetted the conflict of interest issue on a number of occasions on a number of issues, and he is very familiar with the Local Government Ethics Law, in fact he just did an opinion two days ago. Mr. D'Elia has absolutely no conflict of interest. He does not want to defend him, he does not need any defending. But he wanted the record to show that he has looked at this issue and there is absolutely no conflict of interest.

Mr. Loigman responded to Mr. Secare, stating that he does not know if Mr. Secare knows all the facts involved here.

Mr. Secare responded that he is not going to get involved with a dialog with Mr. Loigman. If he wants to speak with him, at some other time, he asked Mr. Loigman to please call his office and he would be happy to speak to him. They have to adhere to the four minute limit, and if they break it for him, then they are obligated to break it for other people as well. He would be more than happy to discuss the matter, at Mr. Loigman's convenience, but not this evening.

Seeing no one else wishing to speak on the subject of the Fire Budget, Deputy Mayor Akerman closed the Public Hearing to the public.

Resolution of the Township of Lakewood, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Fixing the Annual Budget for the Lakewood Township Fire District Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:14-78.5.

The above Resolution was offered by Committeeman Coles, second by Committeeman Lichtenstein.

On Roll Call – Affirmative: Committeeman Coles, Committeeman Lichtenstein, Committeeman D'Elia and Deputy Mayor Akerman.

Resolution No. 2016-142 – Adopted.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Comments from the public will be heard for a limit of one (1) hour. Each speaker will have four (4) minutes and shall be limited to one time at the podium.

Deputy Mayor Akerman opened the meeting to the public.

Pastor Jerome Robinson, 322 East Fifth Street – Commented on the usage of a public park at Lake Carasaljo. Going back two years ago, they used the park in the summer. This year, they put a request into the Township, on January 15th, and have been told that the park would not be able to be used. He called the Mayor with regard to this request, and subsequent denial for the use of the park, and was told that the Committee would discuss the matter. He asked for help in understanding, and if the Committee was the group who makes the decision as to how that park is used.

Deputy Mayor Akerman responded, yes.

Pastor Robinson questioned in what manner.

Deputy Mayor Akerman offered his apologies, but when he found out that the Mayor would not be here this evening, he should have reached out to him. The Mayor is not in the country, and he was probably busy preparing to leave, but offered his apologies about the communication. He advised that they used to give the park out to anyone who wanted it, any day of the week. What happened was that the people in the neighborhood were complaining because they use the park all day Saturday. So just for Saturday, they ask people, and that is for anybody who is putting in a request, they have been asking them if they would mind using Pine Park, or any other park, or just doing it a different day.

Pastor Robinson responded, that is not sufficient, and asked what community was he making reference to.

Deputy Mayor Akerman responded, that the neighbors who live there have said that they use it as a park, and it was being used by organizations every single week, and the neighbors were not able to use the park on Saturday.

Pastor Robinson asked about Saturday. He is not sure who Deputy Mayor Akerman is making reference to, because when they have their events, they utilize the amphitheater, and they sit around and have food, and they worship their God. With that in mind, he does not see why, when he is asking for this he was told that they would not be able to use the park. Since trying to contact the Mayor, six weeks have elapsed, and he has not heard from him. His point is, that as tax paying citizens, and churches, he is the Pastor of a Church, they should be able to have any event they want there, when they want to. It should just be simple. In fact, they do as much to protect the community as anybody else does.

Someone asked if there was an issue with the use of Pine Park.

Pastor Robinson said they used Pine Park in 2015. They have a lot of people, and the Mayor said that maybe they can get transportation to Pine Park. The best park for what they do on that Saturday, is Lake Carasaljo, and that is why they need to have it.

Deputy Mayor Akerman explained that they received complaints on two parks. There is one park on Sunset, where people were using it for private birthday parties, and the park with the amphitheater that people were using for all sorts of events. In both cases, the neighborhoods were saying that it is the one day of the week that they need the park. So they always ask people, and offer to accommodate them in any which way possible, with any other park, that is not strictly a local community park for that day. Seating, etc., can be set up in any other park.

Pastor Robinson stated that is not beneficial to their request. There are always exceptions. He does not know how this decision lies with a group of people for a town.

Committeeman Lichtenstein responded that at the beginning, Pastor Robinson was asking which community it was for. He wanted to clarify that as the town is growing, in all communities, they have been denying parks across the board. They all looked at it together. They have these community parks, and they have a tiered system that while it is not official, it has sort of developed into that now. They have the out-of-town organizations that try to come in and use the parks; that is the lowest level tier. Obviously if they need to prioritize the use for the residents, that one comes last. Then they have organizations, which may be religious organizations, youth organizations, etc. That is the next step. Then they get the residents that live right near the park that have specific needs. And they try to juggle this. They spoke about this at the last Township Committee Executive Session. They need to build more parks. There are not enough parks in this town because they are growing. They are going to be building more parks and they are allocating more money. Committeeman Coles had some great ideas about how to put some more parks in. What they are trying to do is, if there is a neighborhood that is using the park more on a specific day, especially in the summer when school is out, on a Saturday, then they just try to take that event and move it to some place where now both the locals who live in the immediate area that want to send their children across the street, as well as the organization, has something to use. This seems like such a simple solution. Committeeman Lichtenstein asked what is their issue with Pine Park, and why is it that they say there is no way they can use Pine Park. They say they can not use any other area, other than the amphitheater. He again asked what is their issue with Pine Park. There is a stage, seating, restrooms, roads, parking, etc. He heard the issue that some people had to walk there, so the Mayor offered shuttle transportation.

Pastor Robinson stated this was their third year of doing this community fellowship, and they have walkers, and it's a choice. This is the park that they like the best. They will have some music there, they are not out of line or anything like that.

Pastor Glenn Wilson stated the issue is really about access. He is a life long resident of Lakewood. It shocks him to hear that the neighbors are complaining. And because the neighbors are complaining, they are being denied access to the park. He believes that when neighbors move close to the park, they are to note that there is a park. And the neighbors should not be accommodated over people who want to use the park. This is a public park. Any park in Lakewood is a public park. So if the person applies within the proper amount of time, they should be accommodated. Especially when you are talking about Lakewood residents. They are not people coming in from out of town to use the park.

Deputy Mayor Akerman clarified there used to be requests for the park every week. So that means basically they can tell the neighborhood, sorry there is no park here one day of the week. Which to many of the residents, that is the only day of the week that they really need the park. Or we can tell them they can have the park, and we can accommodate other groups in other places; groups that come in for Saturday can be accommodated at other parks.

Pastor Wilson stated what they are being told is that on that particular day of the week, that park belongs to those neighbors, and that should not be so.

Deputy Mayor Akerman repeated that they can accommodate them in other areas. They can accommodate organizations and groups that come in to use parks, and then the neighbors can be accommodated also. They figure they can accommodate everyone this way, and why not do it in a way where everybody is happy.

Committeeman Lichtenstein explained and asked them if they would be willing to sit down with Public Works, and work together. They are trying to accommodate two groups, they are not trying to push or pull one way or another. There are two groups, and this is a way that it seems to have worked. This is not done with malice. They are just trying to make it work. He asked again what is their issue with Pine Park.

Pastor Wilson responded that the issue with Pine Park is that they have a lot of walkers who want to come to this particular event, as they have in other years. They can not access Pine Park because they can not walk to Pine Park.

Committeeman Lichtenstein asked if they would be willing to walk to the amphitheater, and use the Township's transportation to take them to Pine Park.

Pastor Wilson answered that he did not know if that would work for them. Because what he is being told is that their organization, as Lakewood residents, would never be able to use Lake Carasaljo again.

Committeeman Lichtenstein responded that is not what they are saying

Pastor Wilson stated that they note the two parks that are being complained about.....Sunset Park and Lake Carasaljo.

Committeeman Lichtenstein responded that those are the only two parks that they received complaints about from the neighbors. It is incorrect to say those are the only two parks. Because at D'Zio Park, and even Pine Park, they have had groups that have been moved around. This occurs at John Patrick Park as well as John Street. There have been groups they have moved around because they want to use it for an event, but the neighbors like it on the weekend. He feels like there is the thought that the Committee had malice, bad intentions, but they are just trying to juggle everyone's needs.

Deputy Mayor Akerman added they have the same problem at D'Zio Park. They have to make tough decisions some times. It is not against any group, or for any group.

Pastor Wilson stated he understands, but asked if they can come up with a solution, that once a month, those parks will be open to the public. What he can not fathom, nor can he accept, is that the neighbors are going to dictate to the whole community, that on Saturday, the park is theirs. So maybe once a month, that park can be a public place.

Committeeman Lichtenstein stated that they hear their request. He suggested that they take the time to speak to Public Works, and see if you they can help accommodate both groups. If they can't, it will come back to the Committee. They just want to make everyone happy.

Committeeman Coles added they are not looking to eliminate anyone from any of the parks on any given day. They are looking to make sure that the park is available to everyone, that there is no event going on there that is taking over the majority of the facility, and that the park is there for the benefit of everyone in town. Just because the park is not available to a group on that Saturday, doesn't mean you are not welcome to come there, anyone in the community is welcome there. He understands it is frustrating, especially this time of the year when schools are getting out, everyone wants to use the parks. They could double the amount of parks they have and still come up short. If there is a way they can accommodate all the requests from the community, they would do it in a heartbeat. What they are trying to do is for the entire neighborhood, not just the neighbors directly around the park, but anyone who is a walker, that might only be able to come to that one park, to let them have the enjoyment of that park every Saturday, whether they are from the Orthodox community, Hispanic, African American, or his own, they can come over there and not feel they should not be there, because there is a group that is having an organized event there. That was the theory behind it, and those two parks, are the only two they have received concerns about from the neighbors, because a lot of people are walking there. If there is a way they can accommodate them at another park, they will do it in a heartbeat, if not, he will consider whatever they have to do to make sure their event goes off.

Committeeman D'Elia stated they have had to put other groups aside, who wanted to monopolize the parks, and control them, for the whole summer. They have to be open for other people as well. If there is something they can do, and resolve it to their best interests, he will definitely work on that.

Pastor Wilson stated he is asking for one Saturday out of twelve months.

Deputy Mayor Akerman responded that is just one request, but there are many groups that make the request for Saturday.

Committeeman Coles added that of maybe fifteen or twenty Saturdays that the park can be used, they get thirty to forty requests for it. That is one of the reasons it came up. Maybe the idea of setting aside one Saturday per month is something they can work out.

Committeeman Lichtenstein added then maybe there are twelve days that groups can compete for. The Committee understands their request. They do not want their event not to go well. He again asked to see if they can work it out at Pine Park, for them to sit down with Public Works, see what accommodations they can make. If it doesn't work, it will come back to them, and they will make a decision by the next meeting. It sounds like the Committee wants to see their event work. They are not looking to hurt them. They are trying to do the juggling act, by accommodating a large town, and getting everyone to be able to get into a park when they want to.

Deputy Mayor Akerman, stated for the record, the group that Committeeman D'Elia was referring to, that they had to send away, was a Jewish group, and it was very recently. There was a group that made some requests, and the Committee had to send them away. They were told no. It is not specific to anyone. They have a very hard time because they lack parks in Lakewood.

Committeeman Lichtenstein added they have many parks, but they have many groups that try to take them.

Edward Harper, Pastor of Macedonia Baptist Church stated that what it sounds like to him is that the park they are talking about is not equally accessible to everyone. And as citizens of Lakewood, everyone should be able to use it, and it should not be reserved for just for one group, and they are being told that they can not have it even one time out of a year. He feels there is nothing fair at all about that; it is discriminating.

Committeeman Lichtenstein responded that he does not think that is what they said.

Pastor Harper responded that it is not that they are not intelligent enough to hear what is being said; they heard what the Committee said, but it still boils down to the fact that one group can use it all the time, and then you tell everyone else they can't. They are requesting to use the park one time out of the year. He can see if they were trying to have it every weekend, but they are trying for one time out of the year.

Committeeman Lichtenstein asked, who is we?

Pastor Harper responded, we, who are standing here. They are requesting one time out of the year.

Committeemen Lichtenstein asked what is the one group he is referring to, the one group they say is permitted to use it.

Pastor Harper responded, you name it.....you said one group.

Committeeman Lichtenstein repeated the park is open to the public. Go there on any Saturday, when it is a public use, you will see a mix of the entire mosaic of Lakewood using it; on any Saturday. He does not live near there, and he does not drive, but the few times that he has walked in that area, in the summer, there was a mix of people using that park. You are allowed to be a part of that mix. They are not talking about people; they are talking about organizations. The struggle and the juggle that they have is between the general public and a neighborhood being able to use their park, and organizations taking it and locking them out for an event. So they are trying to juggle the two.

Pastor Harper stated it should be open to the public.

Deputy Mayor Akerman responded that is exactly what they are saying, they are leaving it open to the public, they are not giving out permits for that date. They are letting the public use the park. And he does walk around the lake, on many Saturdays, and he sees people in all the parks of all races and nationalities. No one monopolizes the park. It is open to the public, and they are leaving it open to the public, as opposed to giving it to special groups.

Pastor Robinson spoke again and stated they do not have to come back, because Pine Park does not work. They just want to use that park at the Lake. The date is August 7th, so what they have to do for planning purposes is to know they will be able to use the park, and they can go ahead with plans like they should be.

Committeeman Coles explained that part of the problem they have is that they instituted a policy that was never really codified by the Township. He thinks if they want to make sure that certain parks are available to everyone, all the time, that they do not lock them up for one group, and they should do that by Ordinance. And that is something they have not done yet, so really, to have these gentlemen come forward to the Committee, and we say we are talking about a policy that does not really exist. His suggestion would be that they draft an Ordinance that will set aside whatever parks they feel are necessary so that only the general public uses them on Saturday or Sunday, so that everyone in the neighborhood can use it, but until that is done, maybe they can make the exception to allow this group to have their event, and then this way, after this, there is no gray area. Then everyone will know that these parks are set aside for the public in

general, not for any organization, and the policy is there, and there will be no confusion going forward.

Pastor Robinson asked if there was anyone besides the Committee, as far as making that decision, and if there was a way that someone else could be part of that decision making process. He thinks that it would be good if some of the Pastors could be included in that decision making process, because the community is changing a lot, and they still need to be able to do some things around the town.

Committeeman Coles suggested that they draft an Ordinance to codify their policy about the parks. They need to look at things on a case by case basis. He understands why people enjoy the parks on the weekends. He does not have an answer for these gentlemen as to why there is a policy that is not codified, that is being enforced.

Pastor _____ - Stated that particular park is important to them because it is the only park in town that has an amphitheater and stage seating, and it is within walking distance. It might work at Pine Park if they have facilities like that. But they don't.

Pastor _____ made the suggestion that at least once a month it be made available.

Deputy Mayor Akerman responded they will discuss it at their workshop session, and someone will contact them. He thanked everyone for coming.

Pastor Robinson commented with regard to Committeeman Coles suggestion, that for now, because it is not an Ordinance, that their request that was submitted on January 15th be approved, because by this time they had wanted to put out different information as far as marketing goes.

Committeeman Coles requested that they give it until the next meeting to come up with a plan they can all agree on.

Pastor Robinson agreed, but they hope the answer is yes.

Anne Key, one of the elders at Pastor Simpson's church stated that her concern is that with regard to the amphitheater at Lake Carasaljo, they have many mothers and children, and if the town is providing transportation, maybe that particular time they are providing the transportation may not be suitable to them. Sometimes on Saturday mornings they are taking care of their chores, and doing different things. People look forward to walking to that park. These pastors do a lot of work for the community. Many issues that do not reach this Committee are resolved through the clergy.

Deputy Mayor Akerman advised that for an event like this, if they came to the agreement to provide transportation, they would have a bus going back and forth constantly.

Mr. Key responded that still would not be conducive to their needs.

Committeeman Lichtenstein thanked all the pastors, as he has worked with most of them. He expressed his opinion, and it does not lessen the respect he has for them, or the opportunity that they have to work together.

Committeeman D'Elia thanked the Pastors also. If there is anything they can do, they will try their best to accommodate them.

Seeing no one else wishing to be heard, Deputy Mayor Akerman closed the meeting to the public.

CONSENT AGENDA

The items listed below are considered to be routine by the Township of Lakewood and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no formal discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, this item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.

- 1. Resolution of the Township of Lakewood, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Authorizing Emergency Temporary Appropriations for the Period Between the Beginning of the Current Fiscal Year and the Date of the Adoption of the 2016 Budget.
Resolution No. 2016-143**

- 2. Resolution of the Township of Lakewood, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Fixing the Annual Budget for the Lakewood Township Fire District Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:14-78.5.
Committeeman Coles removed this item from the Consent Agenda for discussion and Public Hearing.**

- 3. Resolution of the Township of Lakewood, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Authorizing the Issuance of a Duplicate Tax Sale Certificate Pursuant to Chapter 99 of the Public Laws of 1997 (Block 150.07, Lot 38)
Resolution No. 2016-144**

- 4. Resolution of the Township of Lakewood, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Authorizing the Tax Collector to Reimburse Lien Holder for Certificate Erroneously Sold at Tax Sale with Legal Interest (Block 536, Lot 75.03)
Resolution No. 2016-145**

5. **Resolution of the Township of Lakewood, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Authorizing a Refund of Taxes for 2015 Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:4-3.30, et seq. (Block 1449, Lot 7.38)
Resolution No. 2016-146**
6. **Resolution of the Township of Lakewood, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Authorizing a Refund Based on a Tax Court Judgment (Block 1606, Lot 5)
Resolution No. 2016-147**
7. **Resolution of the Township of Lakewood, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Releasing a Performance Guarantee Posted by Somerset Development, LLC, in Connection with ZB #3809, Block 208, Lots 4 and 5
Resolution No. 2016-148**
8. **Resolution of the Township of Lakewood, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Reducing the Performance Guarantee (First Reduction) Posted by Excel VII, LLC, in Connection with SP #2095, for Block 1603, Lot 2
Resolution No. 2016-149**
9. **Resolution of the Township of Lakewood, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Accepting a Fiscal Year 2016 Community Development Block Grant
Resolution No. 2016-150**
10. **Resolution of the Township of Lakewood, County of Ocean, and State of New Jersey, Authorizing a State Contract Purchase for a 2016 Ford Explorer
Resolution No. 2016-151**

Motion by Committeeman Coles, second by Committeeman Lichtenstein, to approve Resolution Nos. 1 and 3 through 10 on the Consent Agenda.

On Roll Call – Affirmative: Committeeman Coles, Committeeman Lichtenstein, Committeeman D’Elia and Deputy Mayor Akerman.

Resolution Nos. 2016-143 through 2016-151 – Adopted.

At this time the professionals left the meeting.

ORDINANCES SECOND READING

An Ordinance of the Township of Lakewood, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Authorizing the Private Sale of Block 830, Lots 42 and 43, in the Township of Lakewood, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, at Private Sale Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:12-1, et seq.

Read by title only for second reading.

Deputy Mayor Akerman opened the meeting to the public. Seeing no one wishing to be heard, the hearing on this Ordinance was closed to the public.

The above Ordinance as offered by Committeeman Coles, second by Committeeman Lichtenstein.

On Roll Call – Affirmative: Committeeman Coles, Committeeman Lichtenstein, Committeeman D’Elia and Deputy Mayor Akerman.

Ordinance No. 2016-15 adopted on second reading.

An Ordinance of the Township of Lakewood, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Amending and Supplementing Chapter II of the Revised General Ordinances of the Township of Lakewood, 1999, Entitled “Administration”, Section 2-36 Entitled “Provisions Applicable to Both the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Adjustment”, Specifically Subsection 2-36.4 Entitled “Fees”

Read by title only for second reading.

Deputy Mayor Akerman opened the meeting to the public. Seeing no one else wishing to be heard, the hearing on this Ordinance was closed to the public.

The above Ordinance was offered by Committeeman Lichtenstein, second by Committeeman D’Elia.

On Roll Call – Affirmative: Committeeman Lichtenstein, Committeeman D’Elia and Deputy Mayor Akerman.

Negative: Committeeman Coles

Ordinance No. 2016-16 adopted on second reading.

ORDINANCES FIRST READING – Second Reading and Public Hearing to be held on April 14, 2016 - None

CORRESPONDENCE – PARKS AND EVENTS

Per schedule of thirteen (13) parks/events requests, attached hereto and made a part hereof.

Motion by Committeeman Lichtenstein, second by Committeeman Coles, and carried, to accept and process the above correspondence items.

MOTION TO APPROVE BILL LIST OF: March 16, 2016

Motion by Committeeman Lichtenstein, second by Committeeman D’Elia, to approve the above Bill List.

On Roll Call – Affirmative: Committeeman Coles, Committeeman Lichtenstein, Committeeman D’Elia and Deputy Mayor Akerman.

Bill List approved.

COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS – None

ADJOURNMENT – Public Portion

Motion by Committeeman Lichtenstein, second by Committeeman Coles, and carried, to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 6:23 PM.

Motion by Committeeman Lichtenstein, second by Committeeman Coles, and carried, to go into Closed Session. Committee members proceeded to Closed Session.