

Mayor Coles advised there would be several presentations this evening, the first being the most difficult. A few days ago, Lakewood lost one of its finest in Wayne LeCompte when he passed away. On behalf of the Township Committee, Mayor Coles offered his deepest sympathy to his family. Chief Lawson, Senator Singer, and Police Commissioner Miller joined Mayor Coles at the Podium for the personal tributes, the reading of the Proclamations and presentations to the family.

Mayor Coles advised that the next Proclamation is bittersweet as well, because the Township is losing someone who has worked for the Township for many years. But it is a very happy occasion for Wayne Burdge as he celebrates his retirement. John Franklin presented a Proclamation to Mr. Burdge on the occasion of his retirement from the Department of Public Works.

Mayor Coles advised that the next Proclamation is a very happy occasion, welcoming someone home to town. Senator Singer and Mr. Cunliffe joined Mayor Coles at the podium. Mayor Coles and Mr. Cunliffe congratulated and thanked Officer Stillwell for his service to his country. Senator Singer presented a Proclamation to Petty Officer Matthew G. Stillwell on the occasion of his return from service in the United States Navy.

T & M Associates

Deputy Mayor Lichtenstein requested that John Jennings from T & M Associates give a brief presentation with regard to the downtown bus service. A more in depth presentation will be given in January.

Mr. Jennings advised that there is a transportation and traffic sub-committee that has studied the traffic and has been developing over the course of the past year, transit services for Lakewood. This transit service will help to relieve congestion in the downtown area. This service will help to improve air quality. This service is vitally needed because of the rapid population growth in Lakewood. Transit service is consistent with Smart Growth Planning and will help with the resurgence and redevelopment of businesses in the downtown area. There has been a Federal Transit Administration (FTA) earmark or grant up to 2.5 million dollars to be used for capital expenses to get this service up and running also to look at an intermodal transportation facility. They have developed six bus routes with this sub-committee and had it reviewed by several people. The maps for these routes will be on display in the Municipal Clerk's Office in January before the next meeting so that people can review the routes in more detail. Mr. Jennings continued to briefly describe the proposed bus routes. The six routes will be coordinated with existing services that NJ Transit provides, that Job Link provides and that Ocean Ride provides. The FTA money is available in yearly allotments. These are two year allotments that are available right now and his understanding from NJ Transit is that if that money is not authorized by September 1st of 2008, the Township would lose that money. They have to back off from that September 1st date to come up with one of the key points that needs to be addressed in the next month or so by Lakewood. Lakewood has to supply an application to NJ Transit to access the FTA funds. That 1.1 million dollars would acquire eight or nine buses. They have put together a package that would use eight buses. Federal transit allows you to acquire one backup bus, so they would actually request nine buses to be used on these

routes. So that package has to be put together and submitted to NJ Transit by February 1st in order for them to review and submit it to FTA and get approvals in place by September. Lakewood also has to look at how to fund the operation of the buses. The operational funds are not included in the federal grant, so Lakewood would have to estimate what would be the need to operate the buses at the level of service that is projected to be needed. Based on the number of hours, they developed costs for each route that include the number of buses that are assigned to each route, and their hours of service. Several local bus companies have been contacted, and they have also contacted Ocean Ride and talked to NJ Transit, who have quoted a price of bid service of being \$65.00 per hour. Mr. Jennings continued with the estimates for annual costs, which could be offset by several potential sources of revenue. There is also the possibility of accessing Congestion Mitigation Air Quality funds, which is another federal program allocated to the North Jersey area, which Ocean County is a part of. It would not be unrealistic to apply for approximately \$200,000 per year, but there is no guarantee on the part of the North Jersey Planning Authority that Lakewood would be one of the recipients of that money. Mr. Jennings also mentioned that they did get an estimate of cost per bus and for drivers for those buses from John Franklin, Department of Public Works. They calculated the cost again based on the same amount of service, and based on those services, the costs do come in considerably less. Adjusting for the operating expenses, and using both the high range of \$65.00 per hour, and using John Franklin's estimated cost, they come into a ballpark range of an obligation for Lakewood Township of between 1 million to 1.6 million dollars per year in order to operate the buses. The reason that would have to be put into the package is that there has to be a commitment on the Township's part to operate the buses for three years. If they are not operated for three years, Lakewood could be on the hook for reimbursing the federal government for the cost of those buses. So the actual municipal and organizational obligations of funds, based on when buses could be delivered, if the application goes forward, is that in 2009, NJ Transit has said the buses could be delivered potentially in September. So this is not for this budget year, but for budget year 2009, the Township Committee, if everything goes according to plan, would need to allocate one quarter of a year of operating budget to cover from September until December, and then the following years 2010 and 2011, there would have to be a full allocation of funds to keep those buses on the road. These estimates are paid down from the other sources except for the CMAQ money. The full application would have to be reviewed by the Committee and approved so that they could submit it to NJ Transit and then they could apply for the federal authorization. In summary, that is the status of the project at this point. He will be back in January with the prepared maps, and have an application to the Committee in the beginning of January for their review.

LAND SALE – GROUND LEASE - Block 778.01, Lot 18.01

Mr. Secare advised they have advertised this evening for a ground lease on Block 778.01, Lot 18. If anyone is interested in bidding on this land lease, which has a minimum bid of \$500.00 per month, he asked that they please come to the microphone and identify themselves.

Eli Rosenblatt, 2 Sharon Court came forward, and offered the minimum bid of \$500.00 per month.

Mr. Secare advised Mr. Rosenblatt that \$600.00 would be required as a deposit to be submitted to the Clerk.

Mayor Coles reviewed quality of life items from the previous meeting.

As to the puddling issue on Fourteenth Street and Cedarview Avenue, Mr. Mignella advised that after review, there is clearly a low spot of about two and a half inches. Fourteenth Street does lack a formal drainage system. It has got a series of bandaids with some sump inlets. He advised he will try to draft a plan with Mr. Franklin in order to have a sump inlet placed at the low point.

Deputy Mayor Lichtenstein advised that the next street down, Oakwood, also has a puddling issue, and he requested Mr. Mignella to look at that area as well.

Mr. Cunliffe advised he met with the manager at Charlie Brown's, and he is happy to report that they began construction on curb stops and have poured a concrete walkway for the handicapped so they can safely get into the restaurant. He asked that the concerned individuals be advised, and thanked Mayor Coles and Mr. Mack for their work on this issue.

Mr. Cunliffe further asked Chief Lawson if they can work out something with the school system. When school dismisses, primarily from the Oak Street and Spruce Street schools, he has had calls from residents in that area who advised that Marc Drive and Washington Street get totally backed up all the way to the school. He feels that an officer is needed to direct traffic out of those streets.

Chief Lawson advised he will take a look at it.

Mr. Miller advised he spoke with Traffic & Safety about this matter, and requested to attend the meeting to offer his input.

Senator Singer advised that a new building was built on James Street, a roofing facility, where the retention basin is always filled with water.

Mr. Mignella advised there was a design flaw, and it is now considered a wet pond. It will always retain water.

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.

Mayor Coles opened the meeting to the public.

Mike McNeill, 201 Lincoln Street – Thanked Mayor Coles and the members of the Committee for their support over the past year.

Danny Hill, Vice President of the Sand & Stone Construction, LLC – Advised they will be doing the brick work at the affordable housing site. Thanked the Committee for allowing them to come in to Lakewood to work on this project.

Crystal Amadore, STEPS – Introduced herself to everyone, and offered her help on this project.

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

At this time, the professionals left the meeting.

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 Authorizing Appropriation Transfers in the 2007 Municipal Budget
Resolution No. 2007-375
2. Resolution Awarding a contract to Performance Mechanical Corporation for the Installation of a Dust Collection System at the new Public Works Garage pursuant to and in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 ET SEQ., in the amount of \$34,485.00
Resolution No. 2007-376
3. Resolution requesting and endorsing the Application for Expansion of the Township of Lakewood, New Jersey, Foreign Trade Zone for Exit 8A Property located in Jamesburg, NJ owned by IDI (UEZ)
Resolution No. 2007-377
4. Resolution Authorizing the Lakewood Township Tax Collector to cancel any and all Taxes, Penalties, Interest due on Block 1248, Lot 280.03 C100C
Resolution No. 2007-378
5. Resolution Authorizing the Lakewood Township Tax Collector to cancel any and all Taxes, Penalties, Interest due on Block 1587, Lot 1215.02 C100B
Resolution No. 2007-379
6. Resolution Authorizing the Lakewood Township Tax Collector to cancel any and all Taxes, Penalties, Interest due on Block 1449, Lot 12.36
Resolution No. 2007-380
7. Resolution Authorizing the Lakewood Township Tax Collector to Cancel Taxes as to Block 1051.01, Lot 18
Resolution No.2007-381

Motion by Mr. Cunliffe, second by Mr. Miller, to approve Resolution Nos. 1 through 7 on the Consent Agenda.

On Roll Call – Affirmative: Senator Singer, Mr. Miller, Mr. Cunliffe,
Deputy Mayor Lichtenstein and Mayor Coles.

Resolution Nos. 2007-375 through 2007-381 – Adopted.

ORDINANCE SECOND READING - None

ORDINANCE FIRST READING (Second reading and Public Hearing) - None

CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence from Carluccio, Leone, Dimon, Doyle & Sacks, LLC, regarding 53 West Cross Street, LLC, Land Use Matter, Block 251, Lots 12 and 13, located in Lakewood, and the adjacent property located in Jackson Township, known as Block 13802, Lots 5, 6 and 7.

Motion by Mr. Cunliffe, second by Deputy Mayor Lichtenstein, that the above correspondence is received and filed, and that it be forwarded to the professionals for their review.

Mr. Secare advised this was discussed in closed session, and it was put on correspondence so that action could be taken in public, and it was the general consensus that it be denied.

The Motion was amended, and carried, to reflect that a letter be written to Mr. Doyle, that the request be denied.

MOTION TO APPROVE BILL LIST OF: 12/18/07

Motion by Mr. Cunliffe, second by Deputy Mayor Lichtenstein, to approve the above Bill List.

On Roll Call – Affirmative: Mr. Miller, Mr. Cunliffe, Deputy Mayor Lichtenstein and Mayor Coles.
Negative: Senator Singer

Bill List approved.

COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS - None

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. Cunliffe, second by Deputy Mayor Lichtenstein, and carried, to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.