

The Lakewood Township Committee held a Virtual Meeting on April 8, 2021 at 5:30 PM, with the following present:

Mayor..... Raymond Coles
Deputy Mayor..... Menashe P. Miller

Committee Members..... Meir Lichtenstein
Michael D’Elia
Albert Akerman

Municipal Manager..... Patrick Donnelly
Municipal Attorney..... Steve Secare, Esq.
Municipal Clerk..... Lauren Kirkman

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 on the Township’s website as well as in the Asbury Park Press on January 7, 2021. The public was invited to participate prior to the meeting by emailing premeetingcomments@lakewoodnj.gov. The public was invited to participate during the meeting via comments@lakewoodnj.gov or by using Cisco’s Web-Ex by either phone (audio only) or computer (audio/visual). The Meeting ID# was 132 152 3184. This meeting as advertised was broadcast live and recorded through on Townhall Streams at <https://townhallstreams.com/>

ROLL CALL –Present: Mayor Coles, Deputy Mayor Miller, Committeeman Akerman, Committeeman Lichtenstein, and Committeeman D’Elia.

Absent: None

Also present: Township Attorney: Steven Secare; Township Manager: Patrick Donnelly, and Township Clerk: Lauren Kirkman.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG AND PRAYER

Mayor Coles opened the regular meeting at 5:30 p.m.

MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES:

REGULAR MINUTES OF March 18, 2021.

Motion by Deputy Mayor Miller, seconded by Committeeman D’Elia.

On Roll Call:

Affirmative: Committeeman D’Elia, Committeeman Lichtenstein, Deputy Mayor Miller and Mayor Coles.

Abstain: Committeeman Akerman

Absent: None

Motion carried to approve minutes.

INTRODUCTION OF THE 2021 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

Mayor Coles reviewed the high lights of the budget noting that there was no municipal tax increase and same was done without layoffs and furloughs. Mayor Coles thanked Administrator Donnelly, CFO Reiker and the Department Heads.

Mayor Coles asked for a motion to introduce Resolution 2021-0141, the 2021 municipal budget.

Motion by: Deputy Mayor Miller

Seconded by: Committeeman D'Elia

On Roll Call:

Affirmative: Committeeman D'Elia, Committeeman Akerman, Committeeman Lichtenstein,
Deputy Mayor Miller and Mayor Coles.

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried to introduce Resolution 2021-0141 the 2021 Municipal Budget with a public hearing on May 6, 2021.

INCLUDE THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET INTRODUCTION

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.

Mayor Coles asked for a motion to adopt the consent agenda Resolutions 2021-142 through 2021-169.

Motion by Deputy Mayor Miller

Seconded by Committeeman D'Elia

On Roll Call:

Affirmative: Committeeman Akerman, Committeeman D'Elia, Committeeman Lichtenstein
with abstention as noted below, Deputy Mayor Miller and Mayor Coles.

Nays: None

Abstain: Committeeman Lichtenstein (2021-142)

Absent: None

Motion Carried to adopt consent agenda.

- 2021-142 Releasing A Performance Guarantee Posted By 2220 Pine Partners, LLC., In Connection With SP #2220 (Blvd Of The Americas & Pine St) Block 961.01 Lot 5
- 2021-143 Releasing A Performance Guarantee Posted By 1382 Lanes Mill, LLC., In Connection With SP #2073 (Lanes Mill Road) Block 189.15, Lot 47
- 2021-144 Releasing Performance Guarantee Posted By H&H, LLC SD 1946 (Kenyon Dr & New Hampshire Ave) Block 1603, Lot 2.02
- 2021-145 New Jersey Supporting The 2021 Udrive. Utext. Upay. Distracted Driving Crackdown April 1 - 30, 2021
- 2021-146 Authorizing The Procurement Of Safety Sign Material

- 2021-147 Authorizing The Procurement Of A Forklift For Public Works
- 2021-148 Authorizing The Procurement Of Auto Collision Repair Services
- 2021-149 Authorizing The Procurement Of A Pest Control Service
- 2021-150 Authorizing The Procurement Of IT Support And Material
- 2021-151 Authorizing The Procurement Of Uniforms For Township Personnel
- 2021-152 Awarding Professional Service Contract Conflict Prosecutor Martain Buckley
- 2021-153 Appointing A Member To The Lakewood Housing Authority Angela Caldwell
- 2021-154 Granting Approval For Fireworks Displays To Be Held At First Energy Park

- 2021-155 Authorizing The Issuance Of An Amusement License To American Baseball Company, LLC (Basketball)
- 2021-156 Authorizing The Issuance Of An Amusement License To American Baseball Company, LLC (Goblet Toss)
- 2021-157 Authorizing The Issuance Of An Amusement License To American Baseball Company, LLC (Dart Game)
- 2021-158 Authorizing The Issuance Of An Amusement License To American Baseball Company, LLC (Knock Down The Cats)
- 2021-159 Authorizing The Issuance Of An Amusement License To American Baseball Company, LLC (Ring Toss Game)
- 2021-160 Accepting A Bid For Block 1157, Lot 4 As A Result Of A Sealed Bid Public Land Sale

- 2021-161 Hold A Virtual Auction For The Sale Of Block 182, Lot 2 In The Township Of Lakewood, County Of Ocean, State Of New Jersey Among The Entities Previously Providing Sealed Bids
- 2021-162 Hold A Virtual Auction For The Sale Of Block 1144, Lot 2 In The Township Of Lakewood, County Of Ocean, State Of New Jersey Among The Entities Previously Providing Sealed Bids
- 2021-163 Requesting A Consolidation Of Block 104, Lot 13, And Block 104, Lot 59.01
- 2021-164 Requesting A Consolidation Of Block 411, Lot 48.01, And Block 411, Lot 48.02
- 2021-165 Authorizing The Certification Of Compliance With The United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission’s “Enforcement Guidance On The Consideration Of Arrest And Conviction Records In Employment Decisions Under Title VII Of The Civil Rights Act Of 1964”
- 2021-166 Authorizing A Shared Services Agreement With The County Of Ocean For Fire Inspection Services
- 2021-167 Authorizing The Execution Of An Agreement Between The Ocean County Board Of Health And The Township Of Lakewood For The Governor’s Council On Alcoholism And Drug Abuse Fiscal Grant Cycle July 2020-June 2025
- 2021-168 Authorizing The Tax Collector To Refund Taxes Paid Due To A State Tax Court Judgment (Docket # 003545-2018 & 003849-2019) For Block 1087 Lot 31
- 2021-169 Authorizing The Tax Collector To Remove An Erroneous Payment On Block 815.01, Lot 1.119 C 1000 And Authorizing The CFO To Draft A Check Reimbursing The Title Company That Made This Erroneous Payment

ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READING-

Mayor Coles noted there was a number of comments from the public requesting that this ordinance not be introduced although the Township previously had received a petition requesting same.

Clerk Kirkman read the following Ordinance by title only:

2021-025 Ordinance Of The Township Of Lakewood, County Of Ocean, State Of New Jersey, Amending And Supplementing Chapter XI Entitled “Traffic” Of The Revised General Ordinances Of The Township Of Lakewood, Specifically Section 11-21.1 Entitled “Four-Way Stops” (Powderhorn, Flintlock, Heath, Liberty)

Seeing no motion to introduce Ordinance 2021-025, the ordinance died for lack of motion.

Clerk Kirkman read the following Ordinance by title only:

2021-026 Ordinance Of The Township Of Lakewood, County Of Ocean, State Of New Jersey, Amending And Supplementing Chapter XI Entitled "Traffic" Of The Revised General Ordinances Of The Township Of Lakewood, Specifically Section 11-21.2 Entitled "Three-Way Stops" (Clover Street And School Garden Street)

Mayor Coles asked for a motion to introduce ordinance 2021-026.

Motion by Committeeman Lichtenstein

Seconded by Committeeman Akerman

On Roll Call:

Affirmative: Committeeman Akerman, Committeeman D'Elia, Committeeman Lichtenstein, Deputy Mayor Miller and Mayor Coles.

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried to introduce Ordinance 2021-026 with a public hearing on April 22, 2021.

Clerk Kirkman read the following Ordinance by title only:

2021-027 An Ordinance Of The Township Of Lakewood, County Of Ocean, State Of New Jersey, Releasing, Extinguishing And Vacating The Rights Of The Public Of A Portion Of A Paper Street Known As Brush Avenue And The Entirety Of Summit Avenue, In The Township Of Lakewood

Mayor Coles asked for a motion to introduce ordinance 2021-027.

Motion by Committeeman Lichtenstein

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Miller

On Roll Call:

Affirmative: Committeeman Akerman, Committeeman D'Elia, Committeeman Lichtenstein, Deputy Mayor Miller and Mayor Coles.

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried to introduce Ordinance 2021-027 with a public hearing on May 6, 2021.

Clerk Kirkman read the following Ordinance by title only:

2021-028 An Ordinance Of The Township Of Lakewood, County Of Ocean, State Of New Jersey, Releasing, Extinguishing And Vacating The Rights Of The Public To Portion Of A Paper Street Known As Drexel Avenue In The Township Of Lakewood

Mayor Coles asked for a motion to introduce ordinance 2021-028.

Motion by Committeeman Lichtenstein
Seconded by Committeeman D'Elia

On Roll Call:

Affirmative: Committeeman Akerman, Committeeman D'Elia, Committeeman Lichtenstein, Deputy Mayor Miller and Mayor Coles.

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried to introduce Ordinance 2021-028 with a public hearing on May 6, 2021.

Clerk Kirkman read the following Ordinance by title only:

2021-029 Ordinance Of The Township Of Lakewood, County Of Ocean, State Of New Jersey, Amending And Supplementing Chapter XI Entitled "Traffic" Of The Revised General Ordinances Of The Township Of Lakewood, Specifically Section 11-10 (Stopping Or Standing- Coventry Square)

Mayor Coles asked for a motion to introduce ordinance 2021-029.

Motion by Committeeman D'Elia
Seconded by Committeeman Akerman

On Roll Call:

Affirmative: Committeeman Akerman, Committeeman D'Elia, Committeeman Lichtenstein, Deputy Mayor Miller and Mayor Coles.

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried to introduce Ordinance 2021-029 with a public hearing on April 22, 2021.

ORDINANCES FOR SECOND READING:

Clerk Kirkman read the following Ordinance by title only:

2021-022 Ordinance of the Township of Lakewood, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Amending and Supplementing an Ordinance Entitled "Ordinance of the Township of Lakewood, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Adopting the Updated Township Personnel Policies And Procedures Manual And Creating The Department Of Human Resources

Mayor Coles opened the meeting to the public.

Seeing no comments offered, Mayor Coles closed the meeting to the public.

Mayor Coles asked for a motion to adopt ordinance 2021-022.

Motion by Committeeman Akerman
Seconded by Committeeman Lichtenstein

On Roll Call:

Affirmative: Committeeman Akerman, Committeeman D'Elia, Committeeman Lichtenstein, Deputy Mayor Miller and Mayor Coles.

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Ordinance 2021-022 was adopted after public hearing and second reading.

CORRESPONDENCE- None

MOTION TO APPROVE BILL LIST: Dated April 7, 2021.

Motion by Committeeman Akerman, second by Committeeman Lichtenstein to approve the Bill List.

On Roll Call:

Affirmative: Committeeman Akerman, Committeeman D'Elia, Committeeman Lichtenstein, Deputy Mayor Miller and Mayor Coles

Absent: None

Bill List of April 7, 2021 was approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The public was invited to participate prior to the meeting by emailing premeetingcomments@lakewoodnj.gov. The public was invited to participate during the meeting via comments@lakewoodnj.gov or by using Cisco's Web-Ex by either phone (audio only) or computer (audio/visual).

Mayor Coles opened the meeting to the public:

Edward Lefty Grimes stated he was a representative of Satvia Cross of East Hanover, NJ a 501c3 corporation. Mr. Grimes stated he advocates for the handicap to get medical marijuana. Mr. Grimes discussed the plight of the disabled and the dissatisfaction with utilizing traditional pharmaceuticals. Mr. Grimes explained the difficulties of living in a wheelchair. Mr. Grimes asked that the township permit the sale of medical marijuana within the Township.

Hugh Giordano stated he is a representative United Food Commercial Workers 152. Mr. Giordano stated the union represents marijuana workers. Mr. Giordano discussed the wages and benefits union employees receive working in marijuana facilities. Mr. Giordano expressed his desire for the Township to permit medical marijuana to be sold in the Township. Mr. Giordano invited the Committee to the Bayonne facility and urged the Township to consider an ordinance similar to Bayonne's regulating the sale of marijuana.

Adam Umansky, Chestnut Ridge, NY, discussed the use of cannabis for religious purposes and in anointing oil.

James Van Sciver, Paulsboro, NJ stated she was a member of Sativa Cross, which is a non-profit fighting for the right to use medical marijuana. Ms. Sciver expressed her desire to see Lakewood permit the sale of medical marijuana. Ms. Sciver discussed her dissatisfaction with traditional pharmaceuticals.

Mayor Coles asked if there were any further comments on line. Seeing none he noted the following comment received via email:

From: Oppenheim Family

Sent: Thursday, April 8, 2021 6:00 PM

Subject: [External] We do not want stop signs!!

Thank you so much for always taking care of the safety of our town. As a resident of New England Village for almost 20 years and seeing the comings and going's of our neighborhood I feel it's not safe to put up stop signs. I see it can cause many accidents.

Thank you for your understanding!

May we all help keep the neighborhood safe!

From: Charles Aderet

Sent: Thursday, April 8, 2021 5:58 PM

Subject: [External] Stop sign

I would like the stop signs on powderhorn.
Charles

From: Jacob S Gottlieb
Sent: Thursday, April 8, 2021 5:54 PM
Subject: [External] No to 4 way stops in New England Village

I have been a resident of the neighborhood for 14 years, and there are no traffic flow problems on Powderhorn or Flintlock nor at the intersections. I contend that introduction of 4 way stops would actually aggravate traffic flow and safety.

Respectfully,

Jacob Gottlieb
Cannonball Drive

From: Aaron Aderet
Sent: Thursday, April 8, 2021 5:50 PM
Subject: [External] Thank you for the Stop signs in New England Village

Hi,

I live on the corner of Flintlock and Powderhorn in New England Village. The stop signs would be a tremendous help to stem the thoroughfare traffic that races through to avoid James and Sunset Traffic. It's a big danger in the mornings especially when 10's of children are waiting for the bus. It will also alleviate confusion by the 2 way stop signs of 4 way intersection.

Much appreciated.

From: Gitel
Sent: Thursday, April 8, 2021 5:44 PM
Subject: [External] Proposal for stopsigns

Attn township committee members:

My opinion is that I don't think 4 way stop signs at the corners of powderhorn and flintlock, liberty and flintlock, and powderhorn and flintlock are necessary and will be of increased safety in the neighborhood. I think it may create problems that are not there including people running stop signs and unnecessary traffic. This is a quiet neighborhood and I think it may just be a disturbance.

Thank you for all that you do!

I would like to be signed anonymous

From: Chaim A. Applegrad
Sent: Thursday, April 8, 2021 5:42 PM
Subject: [External] New England Village stop signs

I am very interested in 4-way stop signs for the neighborhood (especially the corner of Powderhorn/Flintlock). Thanks, Chaim A. Applegrad

From: S Greenebaum
Sent: Thursday, April 8, 2021 5:37 PM
Subject: [External] 4 way stop signs in New England Village

To whom it may concern,
We are long time residents of New England Villange living on Flintlock Dr. between Powderhorn and the cul de sac. The neighborhood is relatively quiet and we do not see any issues with the current safety situation. We see no reason to change the status quo with 4 additional all way stop signs. Adding so many stop signs in the neighborhood would be cumbersome, bothersome and inconvenient. Inconvenience in traffic control results in flagrant violation of the rules which would be much more dangerous and detrimental than the current traffic situation. Should the traffic situation change, or a true traffic study prove it is warranted we would revisit our position on this but again at the moment are opposed to this motion.
Thank you,
Shimon and Chavi Greenebaum
119 Flintlock Dr.

From: Eliyahu Tatel
Sent: Thursday, April 8, 2021 4:45 PM
Subject: [External] Township meeting 4 08 2021 4way stop signs Powderhorn & Hearth Ct

Township meeting 4 08 2021 4way stop signs Powderhorn & Hearth Ct

Regarding a proposal to put up 4 way stop signs on the intersections of Powderhorn Drive and Hearth Court also at Powderhorn Drive and Flintlock, I feel these are not necessary do to the low volume of traffic in this area.
If there would be constant traffic and hard to cross Powderhorn Dr from one of these streets, than a 4 way stop would be helpful, but at this time it would only be an added hardship on drivers traveling on Powderhorn Dr.

thank you
Louis Tatel
238 Hearth Ct W.

From: Shmaya
Sent: Thursday, April 8, 2021 4:38 PM
Subject: [External] 4 way stop sign proposal Flintlock powderhorn

Hi the current traffic pattern is working out just fine. It should be left alone.
Shmaya

From: Hank Sheik
Sent: Thursday, April 8, 2021 4:36 PM
Subject: [External] 4 way stop sign flintlock dr and powderhorn

When was the last time there was an accident there it's just causing stress no need for it.

From: JosephCBaum
Sent: Thursday, April 8, 2021 4:35 PM
Subject: [External] New England Village Stop Signs

To Whom It May Concern:

Only this afternoon did become aware of the proposal to place stop signs at several intersections in New England Village. Please don't. The two way stop signs are enough. Please don't fix what isn't broken.

Sincerely,

Joseph Baum
228 Powderhorn Drive

From: Elazar Meisels
Sent: Thursday, April 8, 2021 4:22 PM
Subject: [External] Four Way Stop Signs

Hello,

It's come to our attention that some are seeking to install four-way stop signs at Powderhorn, Flintlock, Heath, Liberty.

We are opposed to this idea as it will slow traffic down for no reason. The traffic volume on these streets is not large and there's no reason for additional encumbrances.

Thank you for your understanding.

Elazar Meisels
104 Albion St.
Lakewood NJ

Mayor Coles noted that the traffic ordinance was not introduced and the Township will look to find other ways to ensure travel progresses safely.

Seeing no other comments, Mayor Coles closed the meeting to the public.

COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS –

Committeeman D’Elia expressed a happy holiday to everyone and asked them to stay safe.

Committeeman Akerman was absent.

Committeeman Lichtenstein wished everyone a Happy Holiday.

Deputy Mayor Miller stated that Committeeman Lichtenstein had received a call from a noted Rabbi in the Township. Deputy Mayor Miller noted that with the upcoming Passover holiday, the Jewish community was prohibited from ingesting hametz or unleavened bread. Deputy Mayor Miller stated as the Township continues to grow there was a concern that the Township having hametz may constitute a partial ownership by residents as the Township is a corporation. Deputy Mayor Miller asked for a letter to be drafted on behalf of Mayor Coles accepting share ownership of the Jewish community on behalf of the Jewish community. Deputy Mayor Miller asked if a poll of the Committee could be taken regarding permitting Mayor Coles to sign such a letter. Committeeman Lichtenstein asked is this for any of the hametz that is across the town even if dropped in the garbage. Deputy Mayor Miller affirmed same. Mayor Coles said he would be happy to do so.

Motion by Deputy Mayor Miller to have the letter drafted; seconded by Committeeman Lichtenstein.

On Roll Call:

Affirmative: Committeeman D’Elia, Committeeman Lichtenstein, Deputy Mayor Miller and Mayor Coles

Absent: Committeeman Akerman

Motion carried.

Mayor Coles had no comments.

CLOSED SESSION: Attorney Secare indicated there was no need for executive session.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Committeeman Lichtenstein, second by Deputy Mayor Miller, with all in favor to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 6:04 PM.

Lauren Kirkman, RMC, CMR
Township Clerk