

ALEXANDRIA TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
July 22, 2020

This meeting was advertised in The Hunterdon Democrat notice posted in the Alexandria Township Municipal Offices and the Alexandria Township Website (www.alexandrianj.gov) as required by the Open Public Meetings Act. In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et, seq., and in consideration of Executive Order No. 103, issued by Governor Murphy on March 9 ,2020, declaring a State of Emergency and a Public Health Emergency in the State of New Jersey, the State of New Jersey does hereby notify the public that to protect the health, safety and welfare of our citizens while ensuring the continued functioning of government, the meeting of the Mayor and the Township Committee scheduled July 22, 2020 will be held electronically only. Members of the public who wish to participate in the meeting may do so by calling 1-978-990-5000 and followed by meeting number Access Code: 333891 at 6:00 PM. Individuals calling into this number will be able to fully participate in the meeting, including providing public comment. A non-public dial in number will be used if executive session is required.

Meeting Called to order at 6:00 PM.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Mayor Plumer, Committeeman Pfefferle, Committeeman Kiernan, Twp. Atty. Dragan

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT:

DPW Foreman Heiser

FLAG SALUTE:

Mayor Plumer led the flag salute.

NEW BUSINESS:

Note: Comm. Pfefferle had to recuse himself from the agenda items listed below and disconnected from the conference call until after these items were discussed.

- Contract for Solid Waste Services at the Alexandria Twp. DPW Garage between Alexandria Township and LMR Disposal, LLC.

Comm. Kiernan made a motion, seconded by Mayor Plumer to enter into a contract with LMR Disposal, LLC for solid waste services.

Roll Call: Aye: Plumer, Kiernan

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried

- 2020-088 Awarding a Solid Waste Contract to LMR Disposal, LLC

Comm. Kiernan made a motion, seconded by Mayor Plumer to approve Resolution 2020-088.

Roll Call: Aye: Plumer, Kiernan

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried

RESOLUTION 2020-088 OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ALEXANDRIA, COUNTY OF HUNTERDON AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY AWARDING A SOLID WASTE CONTRACT TO LMR DISPOSAL, LLC

WHEREAS, the Township of Alexandria authorized the solicitation of sealed bids seeking a private industry hauler for the removal, hauling and disposal of bulky waste and certain recyclable items from the Alexandria Twp. Department of Public Works Garage, located at 255 Hickory Corner Road, Milford, NJ for a one year term; and

WHEREAS, the bids were duly advertised on February 20, 2020 and June 3, 2020 was the date set for bid opening. On that date, the Township Clerk received three (3) bids for the above services which were all subsequently reviewed by the Township Attorney; and

WHEREAS, the lowest bid, from LMR Disposal, LLC was for a one-year contract, extendable at the option of the Township for one or more periods, up to an additional three years under the same terms and conditions, including price. The price bid for bulky waste roll off containers was \$273.00 (rate/haul) for up to four containers at \$70.00 per ton and the price bid metal for \$275.00 (rate/haul) with no tonnage charge and with no rental/daily fees for containers; and

WHEREAS, it was found that the bid submitted by LMR Disposal LLC., was acceptable in all respects.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Alexandria, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey as follows:

1. The Township Committee hereby awards the above-described contract to the bidder LMR Disposal, LLC. for hauling and disposal services of type 13 bulky waste and recyclable items from the Alexandria Township Department of Public Works Garage, located at 255 Hickory Corner Road, Milford, NJ 08848 for a one-year term with the ability of the Township to extend the contract for one or more periods, up to an additional three years, under the same terms and conditions, including price. The price

for bulky waste containers shall be \$273.00 (rate/haul) for up to four containers at \$70.00 per ton and metal for \$275.00 (rate/haul) with no tonnage charge. As set forth in the Bidder's proposal, there shall be no rental/daily fees charged for containers. The contract to be signed by the parties shall be in accordance with all the terms and conditions set forth in the Township's specifications and the Bidder's proposal. In accordance with the Township's Notice to Bidders, the Township shall not reimburse Bidder for disposal costs.

2. The Township Committee's award of the above is conditioned on the Bidder submitting all necessary post-bid documentation upon receipt of notification of the award, as well as the Bidder entering into a contract with the Township and complying with all conditions set forth and in accordance with the bid package.
3. Award is further conditioned on the CFO's certification as to the availability of funds.

Note: Comm. Pfefferle was notified via telephone by Township Clerk/Administrator Bobrowski that the above agenda matters were discussed and that he could call back into the meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA:

All items listed with an asterisk on the agenda "*" are considered to be routine by the Township Committee and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Committee member or citizen requests, in which event the item will be removed from the General Order of Business and considered in its normal sequence on the agenda

Motion/Roll Call: Comm. Pfefferle made a motion, seconded by Comm. Kiernan to approve the resolutions below on the Consent Agenda.

Roll Call: Aye: Plumer, Kiernan, Pfefferle

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried

- 2020-086 Authorizing the Chief Financial Officer to Refund Local Property Taxes to Fully Disabled Veteran James Kramer

RESOLUTION 2020-086 OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ALEXANDRIA, COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER TO REFUND LOCAL PROPERTY TAXES TO FULLY DISABLED VETERAN JAMES KRAMER

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 54:4-3.30-34 grants an exemption from local property taxes for the dwelling house of a qualified totally disabled veteran; and

WHEREAS, **James Kramer**, a veteran, has been declared a 100 percent totally disabled veteran by the Department of Veteran's Affairs effective June 10, 2018; and

WHEREAS, **James Kramer** made application for exemption from taxes on March 27th, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Tax Assessor has determined the dwelling of **James Kramer** is exempt from property taxation effective January 1, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Township has granted refunds of previously paid taxes to totally exempt veterans under certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, the decision as to whether to reimburse totally exempt veterans for past taxes is discretionary on behalf of the Township; and

WHEREAS, the Township wishes to strike a balance between honoring veterans who have made an incredible sacrifice on behalf of their fellow countrymen against the financial burden that the return of taxes imposes upon non-exempt property owners; and

WHEREAS, the caps placed upon municipal spending by the State of New Jersey have imposed financial burdens on the Township and placed severe strains on its budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Alexandria, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey as follows:

1. The Township Committee believes that a fair and reasonable balance to be struck between its responsibilities to the general taxpayers and its need to recognize the sacrifices made by totally disabled veterans is accomplished by providing that totally disabled veterans will receive a refund of local property taxes from January 1st of the year the veteran submits to the Tax Assessor a fully qualifying application for exemption from local property taxes on the veteran's dwelling pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:4-3.30-34.

2. In the case of **James Kramer**, he is declared exempt from local property taxes on his dwelling commencing January 1, 2020 and the Chief Financial Officer is authorized to refund him \$4,362.83 of local property taxes paid from January 1, 2020 and the Tax Collector forgive the remaining taxes owed on Block 10.01, Lot 9 located at 530 County Road 579, Hampton, New Jersey 08827, for tax year 2020. The 3rd and 4th quarters have yet to be determined

3. The Township Committee will apply this policy to any future veterans seeking totally exempt status but reserves the right to amend and alter it based on the future financial condition of the municipality.

- 2020-087 Authorizing the Chief Financial Officer to Refund Local Property Taxes to Fully Disabled Veteran John Opeiken

**RESOLUTION 2020-087 OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ALEXANDRIA, COUNTY OF HUNTERDON,
STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER TO REFUND
LOCAL PROPERTY TAXES TO FULLY DISABLED VETERAN JOHN OPEIKUN**

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 54:4-3.30-34 grants an exemption from local property taxes for the dwelling house of a qualified totally disabled veteran; and

WHEREAS, John Opeikun, a veteran, has been declared a 100 percent totally disabled veteran by the Department of Veteran's Affairs effective June 5, 2019; and

WHEREAS, John Opeikun made application for exemption from taxes on March 27th, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Tax Assessor has determined the dwelling of **John Opeikun** is exempt from property taxation effective January 1, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Township has granted refunds of previously paid taxes to totally exempt veterans under certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, the decision as to whether to reimburse totally exempt veterans for past taxes is discretionary on behalf of the Township; and

WHEREAS, the Township wishes to strike a balance between honoring veterans who have made an incredible sacrifice on behalf of their fellow countrymen against the financial burden that the return of taxes imposes upon non-exempt property owners; and

WHEREAS, the caps placed upon municipal spending by the State of New Jersey have imposed financial burdens on the Township and placed severe strains on its budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Alexandria, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey as follows:

1. The Township Committee believes that a fair and reasonable balance to be struck between its responsibilities to the general taxpayers and its need to recognize the sacrifices made by totally disabled veterans is accomplished by providing that totally disabled veterans will receive a refund of local property taxes from January 1st of the year the veteran submits to the Tax Assessor a fully qualifying application for exemption from local property taxes on the veteran's dwelling pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:4-3.30-34.

2. In the case of **John Opeikun**, he is declared exempt from local property taxes on his dwelling commencing January 1, 2020 and the Chief Financial Officer is authorized to refund him \$4,801.75 of local property taxes paid from January 1, 2020 and the Tax Collector forgive the remaining taxes owed on Block 21, Lot 41.03 located at 17 Weston Drive, Pittstown, New Jersey 08867, for tax year 2020. The 3rd and 4th quarters have yet to be determined

3. The Township Committee will apply this policy to any future veterans seeking totally exempt status but reserves the right to amend and alter it based on the future financial condition of the municipality.

- 2020-091 Authorizing the Engagement of Tilcon New York, Inc and Denville Line Painting, Inc. through the Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council for the Schaaf Road Section One Resurfacing Project

Alexandria Township Resolution# 2020 -91

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ENGAGEMENT OF TILCON NEW YORK, INC AND DENVILLE LINE PAINTING, INC THROUGH THE MORRIS COUNTY COOPERATIVE PRICING COUNCIL FOR THE SCHAAF ROAD SECTION ONE RESURFACING PROJECT

WHEREAS, Alexandria Township is a member in good standing with the Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council (MCCPC) and;

WHEREAS, Tilcon New York Inc., Parsippany, NJ has been awarded contracts by the MCCPC to provide In Place Milling of Hot Mix Asphalt and installation of Hot Mix Asphalt Pavement through December 31, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Township wishes to authorize Tilcon New York, Inc. to provide approximately 2,698 SY of In Place Milling of Hot Mix Asphalt at the MCCPC unit price of \$3.15/SY for a cost of \$8,498.70; and

WHEREAS, the Township wishes to authorize Tilcon New York, Inc. to deliver, lay and compact approximately 600 tons of Hot Mix Asphalt 9.5M64 at the MCCPC unit price of \$74.40/Ton for a cost of \$44,640.00; and

WHEREAS, the Township wishes to authorize Tilcon New York, Inc. to deliver, lay and compact approximately 100 tons of Hot Mix Asphalt 19M64 at the MCCPC unit price of \$68.90/Ton for a cost of \$6,890.00; and

WHEREAS, Denville Line Painting, Inc., Rockaway, NJ has been awarded a contract by the MCCPC to provide in Traffic Striping on Roadways through December 31, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Township wishes to authorize Denville Line Painting, Inc. to install approximately 1,421 LF of 4" Thermoplastic Traffic Striping at the MCCPC unit price of \$0.86/LF for a cost of \$1,222.06; and

WHEREAS, the Township wishes to authorize Denville Line Painting, Inc. to install approximately 30 SF of 24" Thermoplastic Traffic Striping at the MCCPC unit price of \$6.00/SF for a cost of \$180.00; and

WHEREAS, the Township has been awarded \$180,000.00 in FY 2019 Local Aid Funding from the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT); and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified that there will be sufficient funds for this contract;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Alexandria, in the County of Hunterdon, as follows:

1. The Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to authorize Tilcon, New York, Inc. and Denville Line Painting, Inc. through the MCCPC for Schaaf Road Section One Resurfacing Improvements for \$61,430.76; and
 2. A copy of the Agreement shall be available for public inspection in the Township Clerk's Office during regular business hours.
- 2020-092 Authorizing the Engagement of Tilcon New York, Inc and Denville Line Painting, Inc. through the Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council for the Schaaf Road Section Two Resurfacing Project

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ENGAGEMENT OF TILCON NEW YORK, INC AND DENVILLE LINE PAINTING, INC THROUGH THE MORRIS COUNTY COOPERATIVE PRICING COUNCIL FOR THE SCHAAF ROAD SECTION TWO RESURFACING PROJECT

WHEREAS, Alexandria Township is a member in good standing with the Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council (MCCPC) and;

WHEREAS, Tilcon New York Inc., Parsippany, NJ has been awarded contracts by the MCCPC to provide In Place Milling of Hot Mix Asphalt and installation of Hot Mix Asphalt Pavement through December 31, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Township wishes to authorize Tilcon New York, Inc. to provide approximately 6,382 SY of In Place Milling of Hot Mix Asphalt at the MCCPC unit price of \$3.15/SY for a cost of \$20,103.30; and

WHEREAS, the Township wishes to authorize Tilcon New York, Inc. to deliver, lay and compact approximately 1,400 tons of Hot Mix Asphalt 9.5M64 at the MCCPC unit price of \$74.40/Ton for a cost of \$104,160; and

WHEREAS, the Township wishes to authorize Tilcon New York, Inc. to deliver, lay and compact approximately 160 tons of Hot Mix Asphalt 19M64 at the MCCPC unit price of \$68.90/Ton for a cost of \$11,024.00; and

WHEREAS, Denville Line Painting, Inc., Rockaway, NJ has been awarded a contract by the MCCPC to provide in Traffic Striping on Roadways through December 31, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Township wishes to authorize Denville Line Painting, Inc. to install approximately 3,171 LF of 4" Thermoplastic Traffic Striping at the MCCPC unit price of \$0.86/LF for a cost of \$2,727.06; and

WHEREAS, the Township has been awarded \$170,000.00 in FY 2020 Local Aid Funding from the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT); and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified that there will be sufficient funds for this contract;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Alexandria, in the County of Hunterdon, as follows:

3. The Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to authorize Tilcon, New York, Inc. and Denville Line Painting, Inc. through the MCCPC for Schaaf Road Section Two Resurfacing Improvements for \$138,014.36; and
4. A copy of the Agreement shall be available for public inspection in the Township Clerk's Office during regular business hours.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

PUBLIC COMMENT ON GENERAL MATTERS:

Comm. Pfefferle asked DPW Foreman Heiser if he had enough help this coming winter for snowplowing and if an ad had been placed in the newspaper yet for additional snowplow operators. DPW Foreman Heiser noted that the snowplow operator from last year will be returning and that would provide 6 drivers to handle the snow plowing routes. Comm. Pfefferle noted that he would like the Township to consider going out to bid for snow plowing in developments. DPW Foreman Heiser noted that the Township has a six-man route and the guys are done in 4 hours. DPW Foreman Heiser also stated that the DPW employees have plowed the same routes for years and know the routes well. DPW Foreman Heiser noted that other Townships who sub out snow plowing need to have their

DPW still go out afterwards to salt which prolongs the roads to be done. The Township plows and salts the roads within a 4-hour period. Township Clerk/Administrator Bobrowski noted that the Township receives calls from residents after snowstorms asking if the DPW could come out and plow their developments because their private contractor hadn't yet and they need to get out and go to work. These developments have private roads and are not overseen by the Township. Township Clerk/Administrator Bobrowski noted that this is a concern the Township should consider in the event a contractor does not plow a road in a development at a reasonable hour for residents. The Township Committee will not pursue going out to bid for snow plowing in developments but will advertise for additional snowplow operators for this winter.

Comm. Pfefferle noted that he saw a lawn service sign at the middle school when he drove past and would like to explore a shared service between the school and Township for grass cutting. DPW Foreman Heiser noted that the Township currently employ a part-time employee to cut grass at the park for about 24 hours a week. The school grass cutting could add another 24-30 hours a week. Mayor Plumer noted that someone from the Township Committee should reach out to the school to see if there is interest in a shared service for grass cutting. Mayor Plumer noted that in the past there was no interest from the school but with a new superintendent and school board there could be renewed interest.

Comm. Pfefferle made a motion, seconded by Comm. Kiernan to go into Executive Session. (6:37 PM)

Roll Call: Aye: Plumer, Pfefferle, Kiernan

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried

Open Public Meetings Act RESOLUTION- Executive Session

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 2:4-12, Open Public Meetings Act, permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township of Alexandria, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from discussion of the hereinafter specified subject matters.
2. The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows:

___ A confidential or excluded matter under Federal or State Law or Court Rule.

___ A matter involving information that may impair the Township's rights to receive funds from the United States Government.

___ A matter constituting an unwarranted invasion of an individual's privacy rights.

X Collective Bargaining Agreement or negotiation of the Agreement.

DPW Contract

___ Matters involving the purchase, lease or acquisition of real property with public funds which it could adversely affect the public interest if discussion were disclosed.

___ Tactics and techniques to protect the safety and property of the public, including investigations of violations or potential violations of the law.

X Pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiations in which the public body is or may become a party.

Beneduce Vineyards

___ Matters falling within the attorney-client privilege.

X Personnel matters involving a specific employee or officer of the Township.

Finance Assistant Position

___ Deliberations of the Township occurring after a public hearing that may result in the imposition of a specific penalty or suspension or loss of a license or permit.

3. It is anticipated at this time that the above matter will be made public: at the conclusion of the litigation and at such time as attorney client confidentiality is no longer needed to protect confidentiality and litigation strategy.
4. The executive session minutes will be placed on file in the township clerk's office, and will be available to the public as provided for by New Jersey law.
5. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Comm. Pfefferle made a motion, seconded by Comm. Kiernan to return to Public Session (7:59 PM).

Roll Call: Aye: Plumer, Pfefferle, Kiernan

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried

A pending Litigation Matter regarding Delaware River Tubing was added on the Executive Session Agenda.

Comm. Pfefferle made a motion, seconded by Comm. Kiernan to authorize Township Attorney Dragan to speak with Special Litigation Attorney Tauriello and have him do an Order to Show Cause against Delaware River Tubing due to public safety.

Roll Call: Aye: Plumer, Pfefferle, Kiernan

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried

Comm. Pfefferle made a motion, seconded by Comm. Kiernan to approve resolution 2020-085.

Roll Call: Aye: Plumer, Kiernan, Pfefferle

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried

**RESOLUTION 2020-085 OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ALEXANDRIA, COUNTY OF HUNTERDON,
STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO APPOINT A
PART-TIME FINANCE ASSISTANT, DEPUTY REGISTRAR, AND COAH LIAISON**

WHEREAS, the Township of Alexandria is in need of a part-time individual to assist in purchasing aspects of the Township, the clerical aspects of the finance department, a Deputy Registrar, and COAH Liaison per Chapter 53. Affordable Housing, Article V Section 53-24, and;

WHEREAS, Jennifer Houck is qualified for these positions, and;

WHEREAS, Jennifer Houck received certification as a Deputy Registrar on July 19, 2019 and was appointed as Deputy Registrar for Alexandria Township on January 2, 2019 per Resolution 2019-030, and;

WHEREAS, Jennifer Houck received certification as a COAH Liaison on December 31, 2019 and was appointed as the COAH Liaison for Alexandria Township on January 2, 2020, and;

WHEREAS, Jennifer Houck has been attending purchasing courses through Rutgers and continues to do so for certification as a Qualified Purchasing Agent, and;

WHEREAS, on January 2, 2019 Jennifer Houck was appointed as a Full-Time Office Assistant and Jennifer has stepped down from this position to become a part-time hourly employee.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, effective this date the Township Committee of the Township of Alexandria, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, does hereby appoint **Jennifer Houck** to the part-time positions of Finance Assistant, Deputy Registrar, and COAH Liaison for the Township of Alexandria, at a hourly rate of \$22.00 to work approximately 20 hours week. This appointment shall take effect immediately.

The following matters were discussed in Executive Session:

- Delaware River Tubing

Numerous complaints have been on social media and been made to the Township offices regarding multiple violations of the Governor's Executive Orders that have been observed.

- Union Contract

Matter to Stay in Executive Session

- Beneduce Vineyards

A survey will be going out to area residents with a self-addressed envelope to mail their survey responses to the Township.

- Finance Assistant Position
- Matter to Stay in Executive Session

Township Clerk/Administrator Bobrowski will follow up with COAH Atty. Drill and Township Planner Banisch as to the status of the Township's Court approvals for Affordable Housing.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Comm. Kiernan made a motion, seconded by Comm. Pfefferle to adjourn at 8:12 PM.

Roll Call: Aye: Plumer, Pfefferle, Kiernan

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried

Meeting Adjourned at 8:12 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:

Michele Bobrowski, CMC/RMC

Township Clerk

I hereby certify that I have reviewed these Minutes of the Township Committee Meeting of July 22, 2020 and certify that said Minutes were approved by the Township Committee on the 12th day of August 2020.

Gabe Plumer, Mayor