

TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG  
Meeting Minutes  
6:30 pm Executive/7:30 Regular Session

July 5, 2023

The Regular Meeting of the Lopatcong Township Council was called to order by Mayor Mengucci. The meeting was held in the Municipal Building located at 232 S. Third St., Phillipsburg, New Jersey.

A Prayer was offered followed by the Oath of Allegiance.

Mayor Mengucci stated “adequate notice of this meeting has been provided indicating the time and place of the meeting in accordance with Chapter 231 of the Public Laws of 1975 by advertising a Notice in The Star Ledger and The Express-Times Warren County Zone and by posting a copy on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building.”

Present: Councilman Belcaro, Councilman McQuade, Councilman Palitto, Council President Wright, Mayor Mengucci. Also present were Attorney Baldwin and Engineer Sterbenz.

Motion to resume Regular Session by Council President Wright, seconded by Councilman Palitto. All in favor.

Attorney Baldwin discussed the Executive Session matters as listed on the agenda. Matters requiring action are Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, and 7. Motion to approve actions as discussed by Councilman Belcaro, seconded by Councilman McQuade. Roll call vote:

AYES: Councilman Belcaro, Councilman McQuade, Councilman Palitto, Council President Wright, Mayor Mengucci.

NAYS: None

**Proclamation – Eagle Scout Award** Robert Van Houten

**Presentation – Pool/Park Plans – Pool Design**

**Public Comment – Agenda Items Only.** No comments.

**Old Business:**

**Minutes – June 7, 2023 Executive and Regular Session Minutes.** Motion to approve by Council President Wright, seconded by Councilman Palitto. Roll call vote:

AYES: Councilman McQuade, Councilman Palitto, Council President Wright, Mayor Mengucci.

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: Councilman Belcaro

**Ordinance No. 23-14 – Second reading and public hearing of Chapter 227 entitled “Vehicles and Traffic”, to Amend the Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) Exclusion for Baltimore Street.** Motion to hold a public hearing by Council President Wright, seconded by Mayor Mengucci. All in favor. Robert Bruce – 11 Harwich Road

Motion to close the public hearing by Councilman Palitto, seconded by Mayor Mengucci. All in favor.

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-14

SECOND NOTICE OF AN ORDINANCE

NOTICE is hereby given that a regular meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey, held on Wednesday, July 5, 2023 at the Municipal Building, 232 South Third Street, Phillipsburg, New Jersey, the following Ordinance

was presented and passed on the final reading. The Ordinance was then ordered to be published according to law by title only.

ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 227 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF  
LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY ENTITLED "VEHICLES  
AND TRAFFIC", TO AMEND THE GROSS VEHICLE WEIGHT RATING (GVWR)  
EXCLUSION FOR BALTIMORE STREET

Said Ordinance may be read and inspected at any time at the Office of the Municipal Clerk, Lopatcong Township Municipal Building, 232 S. Third Street, Phillipsburg, New Jersey Monday through Friday 9:00 am to 4:30 pm.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

Motion to adopt this Ordinance by Councilman Belcaro, seconded by Mayor Mengucci. Roll call vote:

AYES: Councilman Belcaro, Councilman McQuade, Councilman Palitto, Council President Wright, Mayor Mengucci.

NAYS: None

**Ordinance No. 23-15** – Second reading and public hearing to establish position of Deputy Supervisor of Public Works. Motion to hold a public hearing by Council President Wright, seconded by Councilman Palitto. All in favor. No comments from the public. Motion to close the public hearing by Councilman Belcaro, seconded by Councilman McQuade. All in favor.

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-15

SECOND NOTICE OF AN ORDINANCE

NOTICE is hereby given that a regular meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey, held on Wednesday, July 5, 2023 at the Municipal Building, 232 South Third Street, Phillipsburg, New Jersey, the following Ordinance was presented and passed on the final reading. The Ordinance was then ordered to be published according to law by title only.

**ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF  
WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AMENDING AND  
SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 35 “OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES,” TO  
CREATE ARTICLE VII, “DEPUTY SUPERVISOR OF DEPARTMENT OF  
PUBLIC WORKS” OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG.**

Said Ordinance may be read and inspected at any time at the Office of the Municipal Clerk, Lopatcong Township Municipal Building, 232 S. Third Street, Phillipsburg, New Jersey Monday through Friday 9:00 am to 4:30 pm.

Margaret B. Dilts, MMC

Motion to adopt this Ordinance by Councilman Palitto, seconded by Councilman Wright. Roll call vote:

AYES: Councilman Belcaro, Councilman McQuade, Councilman Palitto, Council President Wright, Mayor Mengucci.

NAYS: None

**Ordinance No. 23-16** – Second reading and public hearing to establish position of Qualified Purchasing Agent; a statutory position established pursuant to the New Jersey Local Public Contracts Law. Motion to hold a public hearing by Council President Wright, seconded by Councilman Palitto. All in favor. No comments from the public. Motion to close the public hearing by Council President Wright, seconded by Councilman Belcaro. All in favor.

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-16

SECOND NOTICE OF AN ORDINANCE

NOTICE is hereby given that a regular meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey, held on Wednesday, July 5, 2023 at the Municipal Building, 232 South Third Street, Phillipsburg, New Jersey, the following Ordinance was presented and passed on the final reading. The Ordinance was then ordered to be published according to law by title only.

**ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG,  
COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO CREATE  
THE POSITION OF QUALIFIED PURCHASING AGENT**

Said Ordinance may be read and inspected at any time at the Office of the Municipal Clerk, Lopatcong Township Municipal Building, 232 S. Third Street, Phillipsburg, New Jersey Monday through Friday 9:00 am to 4:30 pm.

Margaret B. Dilts, MMC

Motion to adopt this Ordinance by Council President Wright, seconded by Mayor Mengucci.

Roll call vote:

AYES: Councilman Belcaro, Councilman McQuade, Councilman Palitto, Council President Wright, Mayor Mengucci.

NAYS: None

**New Business:**

**Ordinance No. 23-17** – First reading to regulate the establishment of a rate for Police Department outside employment.

**O: 2023-17**

**ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN,  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING SECTION 47-17 OF  
THE TOWNSHIP CODE ENTITLED “RATES OF COMPENSATION” OF ARTICLE  
IV, CHAPTER 47—OUTSIDE EMPLOYMENT FOR OFF-DUTY POLICE  
OFFICERS—TO ESTABLISH UNIFORM RATES OF COMPENSATION FOR  
CONTRACTING THE SERVICES OF OFF-DUTY POLICE OFFICERS**

**WHEREAS**, on February 2, 2005, the Township of Lopatcong has enacted Ordinance No. 2005-03 that establishes rates and regulations regarding Outside Employment for Off-Duty Police Officers; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Council of the Township of Lopatcong believes that the current rate established thereunder is too cumbersome, and desires same to be amended; and

**WHEREAS**, such amendment to the rates established under the Ordinance will be uniform, and will not be contingent upon the officer’s rank and/or longevity; and

**WHEREAS**, the rates established pursuant to this Ordinance may be established and/or amended from time to time by the Township Council via the passage of a resolution, and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Council believes that such an amendment to Section 47-17 of Article IV is in the best interest of the Township and its residents.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the Township Council of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren, State of New Jersey that Section 47-17 of the Township Code entitled “Rates of Compensation” of Article IV, Chapter 47—Outside Employment for Off-Duty Police Officers—is hereby amended to establish uniform rates of compensation, as may be established and/or amended from time to time by the Township Council, for contracting the services of off-duty police officers whose services have been solicited, as follows:

**SECTION 1:**

**§ 47-17. Rates of Compensation.**

- A. Rates of compensation for contracting the services of off-duty police officers shall be uniform, regardless of the officer’s rank, and shall include fringe benefits, as may be established and/or amended from time to time by the Township Council.
- B. An additional fee, as may be established and/or amended from time to time by the Township Council, will be charged for utilization of police vehicles.

**SECTION 2.**

Severability. The various parts, sections and clauses of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be severable. If any part, sentence, paragraph, section, or clause is adjudged unconstitutional or invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this Ordinance shall not be affected thereby.

**SECTION 3:**

Repealer. Any ordinances or parts thereof in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed as to their inconsistencies only.

**SECTION 4:**

Effective Date. This Ordinance shall take effect upon final passage and publication as provided by law.

NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that the foregoing Ordinance was introduced to pass on first reading at a regular meeting of the Council of the Township of Lopatcong held on Wednesday, July 5, 2023, and ordered published in accordance with the law. Said Ordinance will be considered for final reading and adoption at a regular meeting of the Township Council to be held on Wednesday, August 2, 2023 at 7:30 PM or as soon thereafter as the Township Council may hear this Ordinance at the Municipal Building located at 232 So. Third St., Phillipsburg, New Jersey, at which time all persons interested may appear for or against the passage of said Ordinance.

Margaret B. Dilts, MMC

Motion to adopt this Ordinance on first reading by Councilman Palitto, seconded by Council President Wright. Roll call vote:

AYES: Councilman Belcaro, Councilman McQuade, Councilman Palitto, Council President Wright, Mayor Mengucci.

NAYS: None

**Ordinance No. 23-18** – First reading to Amend, Revise and Supplement Chapter 227 “Vehicles and Traffic”, including Section 20 “Vehicles Over Designated Weight Excluded from Certain Streets”.

**ORDINANCE: 2023-18**

**ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 227 TITLED “VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC” TO ADD SECTION 227-20A “VEHICLES OVER DESIGNATED GROSS VEHICLE WEIGHT RATING (GVWR) EXCLUDED FROM CERTAIN COUNTY STREETS**

**WHEREAS**, The Township Council of the Township of Lopatcong previously passed ordinance 227-20 excluding vehicles over gross vehicle weight ratings of 4 tons from Township streets to protect the health and safety of the residents of the Township; and

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 39:4-197.2 provides that any municipality, which maintains a paid police force, may, by ordinance, resolution, or regulation, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 39:4-197 and with the consent of the governing body of the County, regulate traffic and parking along and upon any County road or part thereof, lying within its corporate limits, in the same manner and to the same extent that is authorized by law to regulate the same upon municipal roads and streets; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Council wishes to amend Chapter 227 to include 227-20A to apply to certain County streets, specifically Liberty Road (CR 637) and Belvidere Road (CR 646), located within the Township of Lopatcong, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 39:4-197; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Council believes that such an amendment to Chapter 227 is in the best interest of the Township and its residents.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the Township Council of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren, State of New Jersey that Section 227 of the Township Code entitled “Vehicles and Traffic” is hereby amended to include Section 227-20A entitled “Vehicles Over Designated Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) Excluded from Certain County Streets” as follows:

**§ 227-20A. Vehicles Over Designated Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) Excluded From Certain County Streets.**

**SECTION 1**

Vehicles over the gross vehicle weight rating are hereby excluded from the streets or parts of streets described except for the pickup and delivery of materials on such streets:

Name of Street	GVWR (tons)	Limits
Liberty Road (CR 637)	10	Between CR 519 and NJ 57
Belvidere Road (CR 646)	4	Between Harmony Township boundary line and Lincoln Road

**SECTION 2**

Severability. The various parts, sections and clauses of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be severable. If any part, sentence, paragraph, section or clause is adjudged unconstitutional or invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this Ordinance shall not be affected thereby.

**SECTION 3**

Repealer. Any ordinances or parts thereof in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed as to their inconsistencies only.

#### **SECTION 4**

Effective Date. This Ordinance shall take effect upon final passage and publication as provided by law.

#### **NOTICE**

NOTICE is hereby given that the foregoing Ordinance was introduced to pass on first reading at a regular meeting of the Council of the Township of Lopatcong held on Wednesday, July 5, 2023, and ordered published in accordance with the law. Said Ordinance will be considered for final reading and adoption at a regular meeting of the Township Council to be held on Wednesday, August 2, 2023 at 7:30 PM or as soon thereafter as the Township Council may hear this Ordinance at the Municipal Building located at 232 So. Third St., Phillipsburg, New Jersey, at which time all persons interested may appear for or against the passage of said Ordinance.

Margaret B. Dilts, MMC

Motion to adopt this Ordinance on first reading by Councilman Belcaro, seconded by Councilman Palitto. Roll call vote:

AYES: Councilman Belcaro, Councilman McQuade, Councilman Palitto, Council President Wright, Mayor Mengucci.

NAYS: None

**“Little Free Library”** at the Delaware Park Green in Memory of Raelyn Jo Stires. Brandon Stires approached the Council about setting up this Library in memory of his deceased daughter.

Motion to authorize by Mayor Mengucci, seconded by Council President Wright. Roll call vote:

AYES: Councilman Belcaro, Councilman McQuade, Councilman Palitto, Council President Wright, Mayor Mengucci.

NAYS: None

#### **Consent Agenda:**

Motion to adopt this Consent Agenda by Councilman Belcaro, seconded by Mayor Mengucci.

Roll call vote:

AYES: Councilman Belcaro, Councilman McQuade, Councilman Palitto, Council President Wright, Mayor Mengucci.

NAYS: None

R 23-108

#### **RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING CONSENT AGENDA FOR COUNCIL’S CONSIDERATION**

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey do hereby approve and authorize a Consent Agenda to move routine items of business requiring no discussion; and

WHEREAS, there are listed Items one through Thirteen on the Consent Agenda.

1. Resolution – Approve Grant Application MA-2024 for Stonehenge Drive Road Improvement Project 00162 with the NJ Dept. of Transportation.
2. Resolution – Authorize Redemption of Tax Sale Certificate No. 2022-019 on Block 86.01, Lot 23 in the amount of \$1,169.77, Premium \$2,100.00.
3. Resolution – Authorize Redemption of Tax Sale Certificate No. 2022-029 on Block 116.12, Lot 6 C0086 in the amount of \$2,305.45, Premium \$3,000.00.

4. Resolution – Authorize Redemption of Tax Sale Certificate No. 2022-014 on Block 70, Lot 8 in the amount of \$1,191.09, Premium \$2,200.00.
5. Resolution – Authorize Redemption of Tax Sale Certificate No. 2022-032 on Block 141, Lot 15 in the amount of \$1,742.27, Premium \$2,600.00.
6. Resolution – Authorize Redemption of Tax Sale Certificate No. 2022-031 on Block 141, Lot 4 in the amount of \$873.53.
7. Resolution – Correct Tax Account on Block 85, Lot 2.09.
8. Resolution – Authorize Redemption of Tax Sale Certificate No. 2022-002 on Block 2, Lot 31.12 in the amount of \$1,542.30, Premium \$31,000.00.
9. Resolution – Authorizing Redemption of Tax Sale Certificate No. 2021-026 on Block 116.11, Lot 9 C0101 in the amount of \$1,194.34, Premium \$800.00.
10. Resolution – Authorizing Redemption of Tax Sale Certificate No. 2022-019 on Block 86.01, Lot 23 in the amount of \$1,169.77, Premium \$2,100.00.
11. Resolution – Hire Tyler Bahr as Police Officer in the Lopatcong Police Department from the Civil Service Certification of Eligibles List OL221392.
12. Resolution – Refund or Overpayment non-residential Development Fee on Block 101, Lot 1 in the amount of \$181,288.45.
13. Resolution – Cancellation of taxes Q3 & Q4 – correction of errors.

#### CERTIFICATION

I, Margaret B. Dilts, Municipal Clerk of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by Council at a meeting held on Wednesday, July 5, 2023.

Margaret B. Dilts, MMC

**Resolution No. 23 – 109** – Approve Grant Application MA-2024 for Stonehenge Drive Road Improvement Project 00162 with the NJ Dept. of Transportation.

#### R 23-109

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF GRANT APPLICATION AND EXECUTE A GRANT CONTRACT WITH THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE STONEHENGE DRIVE ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Township of Lopatcong formally approves the grant application for the above state project,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council and Municipal Clerk are hereby authorized to submit an electronic grant application identified as MA-2024-Stonehenge Drive Road Improvement Project-00162 to the New Jersey Department of Transportation on behalf of the Township of Lopatcong.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council and Clerk are hereby authorized to sign the grant agreement on behalf of the Township of Lopatcong and that their signature constitutes acceptance of the terms and conditions of the grant agreement and approves the execution of the grant agreement.

#### CERTIFICATION

I, Margaret B. Dilts, Municipal Clerk of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by Council at a meeting held on Wednesday, July 5, 2023.

Margaret B. Dilts, MMC

**Resolution No. 23-110** – Authorize Redemption of Tax Sale Certificate No. 2022-019 on Block 86.01, Lot 23 in the amount of \$1,169.77, Premium \$2,100.00.

R 23-110

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING REDEMPTION OF TAX SALE CERTIFICATE  
NO. 2022-019 ON BLOCK 86.01, LOT 23

WHEREAS, at the Lopatcong Township Municipal Tax Sale held on December 1, 2022, a lien was sold on Block 86.01, Lot 23 also known as 1 Foxwood Lane for delinquent sewer; and  
WHEREAS, this lien known as Tax Sale Certificate No. 2022-019 was sold to PROCAP 8 FBO FIRSTTRUST BANK; and

WHEREAS, on June 5, 2023, the Certificate No. 2022-019 has been satisfied in the amount of \$1,169.77, Premium \$2,100.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, on this 5<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2023, that the Chief Financial Officer is authorized to issue a check in the amount of \$1,169.77, Premium \$2,100.00 for the redemption of Tax Sale Certificate No. 2022-019 to:

ProCap 8 FBO Firsttrust Bank

P.O. Box 774

Fort Washington, PA 19034-0774

CERTIFICATION

I, Margaret B. Dilts, Municipal Clerk of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by Council at a meeting held on Wednesday, July 5, 2023.

Margaret B. Dilts, MMC

**Resolution No. 23-111** – Authorize Redemption of Tax Sale Certificate No. 2022-029 on Block 116.12, Lot 6 C0086 in the amount of \$2,305.45, Premium \$3,000.00.

R 23-111

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING REDEMPTION OF TAX SALE CERTIFICATE  
NO. 2022-029 ON BLOCK 116.12, LOT 6 QUALIFICATION C0086

WHEREAS, the Lopatcong Township Municipal Tax Sale held on December 15, 2022 a lien was sold on Block 116.12, Lot 6 Qualification C0086 also known as 86 Limerick Lane for delinquent sewer; and

WHEREAS, this lien known as Tax Sale Certificate No. 2022-029 was sold to EVOLVE Bank and Trust; and

WHEREAS, on June 12, 2003, the Certificate No. 2022-029 has been satisfied in the amount of \$2,305.45, Premium \$3,000.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, on this 5<sup>th</sup> day of July 2023, that the Chief Financial Officer is authorized to issue a check in the amount of \$2,305.45, Premium \$3,000.00 for the redemption of Tax Sale Certificate No. 2022-029 to:

Evolve Bank and Trust



6000 Poplar Ave., Suite 300  
Memphis, TN 38119

CERTIFICATION

I, Margaret B. Dilts, Municipal Clerk of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by Council at a meeting held on Wednesday, July 5, 2023.

Margaret B. Dilts, MMC

**Resolution No. 23-112** – Authorize Redemption of Tax Sale Certificate No. 2022-014 on Block 70, Lot 8 in the amount of \$1,191.09, Premium \$2,200.00.

R 23-112

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING REDEMPTION OF TAX SALE CERTIFICATE  
NO. 2022-014 ON BLOCK 70, LOT 4

WHEREAS, at the Lopatcong Township Municipal Tax Sale held on December 15, 2022, a lien was sold on Block 70, Lot 8 also known as 211 South Third Street for delinquent sewer; and

WHEREAS, this lien known as Tax Sale Certificate No. 2022-014 was sold to BALA Partners, LLC; and

WHEREAS, on June 5, 2023 the Certificate No. 2022-014 has been satisfied in the amount of \$1,191.90, Premium \$2,200.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED on this 5<sup>th</sup> day of July 2023, that the Chief Financial Officer is authorized to issue a check in the amount of \$1,191.09, Premium \$2,200.00 for the redemption of Tax Sale Certificate No. 2022-014 to:

BALA Partners, LLC  
P.O. Box 303  
Pottersville, NJ 07979

CERTIFICATION

I, Margaret B. Dilts, Municipal Clerk of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by Council at a meeting held on Wednesday, July 5, 2023.

Margaret B. Dilts, MMC

**Resolution No. 23-113** – Authorize Redemption of Tax Sale Certificate No. 2022-032 on Block 141, Lot 15, in the amount of \$1,742.27, Premium \$2,600.00.

R 23-113

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING REDEMPTION OF TAX SALE CERTIFICATE  
NO. 2022-032 ON BLOCK 141. LOT 15

WHEREAS, at the Lopatcong Township Municipal Tax Sale held on December 15, 2022, a lien was sold on Block 141, Lot 15 also known as 5 Jade Lane for delinquent sewer; and

WHEREAS, this lien known as Tax Sale Certificate No. 2022-032 was sold to EVOLVE Bank and Trust; and

WHEREAS, on June 5, 2023, the Certificate No. 2022-032 has been satisfied in the amount of \$1,742.27, Premium \$2,600.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED on this 5<sup>th</sup> day of July 2023 that the Chief Financial Officer is authorized to issue a check in the amount of \$1,742.27, Premium \$2,600.00 for the redemption of Tax Sale Certificate No. 2022-032 to:

Evolve Bank and Trust  
6000 Poplar Avenue, Suite 300  
Memphis, TN 38119

#### CERTIFICATION

I, Margaret B. Dilts, Municipal Clerk of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by Council at a meeting held on Wednesday, July 5, 2023.

Margaret B. Dilts, MMC

**Resolution No. 23-114** – Authorize Redemption of Tax Sale Certificate No. 2022-031 on Block 141, Lot 4, in the amount of \$873.53.

R 23-114

#### RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING REDEMPTION OF TAX SALE CERTIFICATE NO. 2022-031 ON BLOCK 141, LOT 4

WHEREAS, at the Lopatcong Township Municipal Tax Sale held on December 15, 2022 a lien was sold on Block 141, Lot 4 also known as 19 Grant Way for delinquent sewer; and

WHEREAS, this lien known as Tax Sale Certificate No. 2022-031 was sold to BALA Partners, LLC; and

WHEREAS, on June 16, 2023 the Certificate no. 2022-031 has been satisfied in the amount of \$873.53.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED on this 5<sup>th</sup> day of July 2023, that the Chief Financial Officer is authorized to issue a check in the amount of \$873.53 for the redemption of Tax Sale Certificate No. 2022-031 to:

BALA Partners, LLC  
P.O. Box 303  
Pottersville, NJ 07979

#### CERTIFICATION

I, Margaret B. Dilts, Municipal Clerk of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by Council at a meeting held on Wednesday, July 5, 2023.

Margaret B. Dilts, MMC

**Resolution No. 23-115** – Correct Tax Account Block 85, Lot 2.09.

R 23-115

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO CORRECT THE TAX ACCOUNT FOR BLOCK 85, LOT 2.09

WHEREAS, per resolution 20-62 dated April 1, 2020, the Tax Collector was to apply a payment of \$1,635.17 to the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2013 and cancel any interest associated with the failure to timely post this payment to Block 85, Lot 2.09 also known as 901 Coventry Drive; and

WHEREAS, in reviewing the tax account it has been found that the Tax Collector had not made the necessary corrections.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Mayor and Council of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey do hereby authorize the Tax Collector to apply the \$1,635.17 payment made on January 7, 2013 and cancel any and all interest resulting from the failure to timely post the payment to Block 85, Lot 2.09.

CERTIFICATION

I, Margaret B. Dilts, Municipal Clerk of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by Council at a meeting held on Wednesday, July 5, 2023.

Margaret B. Dilts, MMC

**Resolution No. 23-116** – Authorize Redemption of Tax Sale Certificate No. 2022-002 on Block 2, Lot 31.12 in the amount of \$1,542.30, Premium \$31,000.00.

R 23-116

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING REDEMPTION OF TAX SALE CERTIFICATE  
NO. 2022-002 ON BLOCK 2, LOT 31.12

WHEREAS, at the Lopatcong Township Tax Sale held on December 15, 2022 a lien was sold on Block 2, Lot 31.12 also known as 10 Anna Place for delinquent sewer; and

WHEREAS, this lien known as Tax Sale Certificate No. 2022-002 was sold to EVOLVE Bank and Trust; and

WHEREAS, on June 12, 2023, the Certificate No. 2022-002 has been satisfied in the amount of \$1,542.30, Premium \$31,000.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED on this 5<sup>th</sup> day of July 2023 that the Chief Financial Officer is authorized to issue a check in the amount of \$1,542.30, Premium \$31,000.00 for the redemption of Tax Sale Certificate No. 2022-002 to:

EVOLVE Bank and Trust

6000 Poplar Ave., Suite 300

Memphis, TN 38119

CERTIFICATION

I, Margaret B. Dilts, Municipal Clerk of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by Council at a meeting held on Wednesday, July 5, 2023.

Margaret B. Dilts, MMC

**Resolution No. 23-117** – Authorize redemption of Tax Sale Certificate no. 2021-026 on Block 116.11, Lot 9 C0101 in the amount of \$1,194.34, Premium \$800.00.

R 23-117

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING REDEMPTION OF TAX SALE CERTIFICATE  
NO. 2021-026 ON BLOCK 116.11, LOT 9 QUALIFICATION C0101

WHEREAS, at the Lopatcong Township Municipal Tax Sale held on December 14, 2021, a lien was sold on Block 116.11, Lot 9 Qualification C0101 also known as 101 Limerick Lane for delinquent sewer; and

WHEREAS, this lien known as Tax Sale Certificate No. 2021-026 was sold to PROCAP 8 FBO Firsttrust Bank; and

WHEREAS, on June 22, 2023, the Certificate No. 2021-026 has been satisfied in the amount of \$1,194.34, Premium \$800.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED on this 5<sup>th</sup> day of July 2023, that the Chief Financial Officer is authorized to issue a check in the amount of \$1,194.34, Premium \$800.00 for the redemption of Tax Sale Certificate No. 2021-026 to:

Procap 8 FBO Firsttrust Bank  
P.O. Box 774  
Fort Washington, PA 19034-0774

CERTIFICATION

I, Margaret B. Dilts, Municipal Clerk of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by Council at a meeting held on Wednesday, July 5, 2023.

Margaret B. Dilts, MMC

**Resolution No. 23-118** – Authorize redemption of Tax Sale Certificate No. 2022-019 on Block 86.01, Lot 23 in the amount of \$1,169.77, Premium \$2,100.00.

R 23-118

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING REDEMPTION OF TAX SALE CERTIFICATE  
NO. 2022-019 ON BLOCK 86.01, LOT 23

WHEREAS, at the Lopatcong Township Municipal Tax Sale held on December 15, 2022, a lien was sold on Block 86.01, Lot 23 also known as 1 Foxwood Lane for delinquent sewer; and

WHEREAS, this lien known as Tax Sale Certificate No. 2022-019 was sold to Procap 8 FBO Firsttrust Bank; and

WHEREAS, on June 5, 2023, the Certificate No. 2022-019 has been satisfied in the amount of \$1,169.77, Premium \$2,100.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED on this 5<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2023, that the Chief Financial Officer is authorized to issue a check in the amount of \$1,169.77, Premium \$2,100.00 for the redemption of Tax Sale Certificate No. 2022-019 to:

Procap 8 FBO Firsttrust Bank  
P.O. Box 774  
Fort Washington, PA 19034-0774

CERTIFICATION

I, Margaret B. Dilts, Municipal Clerk of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by Council at a meeting held on Wednesday, July 5, 2023.

Margaret B. Dilts, MMC

**Resolution No. 23-119** – Hire Tyler Bahr as Police Officer in the Lopatcong Township Police Department from Civil Service List of Eligibles OL 221392.

R 23-119

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIING HIRE OF TYLER M. BAHR AS POLICE OFFICER  
IN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT PURSUANT TO CERTIFIED LIST FROM CIVIL SERVICE  
COMMISSION OL 221392

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey hereby authorize the appointment of Tyler M. Bahr full-time in the Police Department pursuant to Certified List of Eligibles from the Civil Service Commission; and

WHEREAS, Tyler M. Bahr will receive a salary and benefits according to the Collective Bargaining Agreement; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey that Tyler M. Bahr be appointed as Police Officer full-time in the Police Department pursuant to a Certified List of Eligibles OL 221392 from the Civil Service Commission and shall receive a salary and benefits pursuant to the Collective Bargaining Agreement.

CERTIFICATION

I, Margaret B. Dilts, Municipal Clerk of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by Council at a meeting held on Wednesday, July 5, 2023.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

**Resolution No. 23-120** – Refund of Overpayment Non-Residential Development Fee on Block 101, Lot 1 in the amount of \$181,288.45.

R 23-120

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO REFUND OVERPAYMENT OF NON-RESIDENTIAL  
DEVELOPMENT FEE ON BLOCK 101, LOT 1, I-78 LOGISTICS PARK LOPATCONG  
URBAN RENEWAL, LLC

WHEREAS, the property owner of Block 101, Lot 1 was assigned a Non-Residential Development Fee in 2020 and made the corresponding payment to the Township of \$1,825,000 (Check #15416). The property owner has since appealed the value placed on their property and a subsequent settlement has been reached. The settlement reflects a revised payment amount of \$1,643,711.55. As such, a refund of \$181,288.45 is owed to the property owner.

WHEREAS, if the Mayor and Council of the Township of Lopatcong agree with the above refund of overpayment in this matter, the action will be completed by the CFO.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Township of Lopatcong on this 5<sup>th</sup> day of July 2023, that the above referenced NRDF is acceptable and the Tax Assessor and CFO are hereby authorized to make the necessary adjustments to reflect this.

CERTIFICATION

I, Margaret B. Dilts, Municipal Clerk of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by Council at a meeting held on Wednesday, July 5, 2023.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

**Resolution No. 23-121** – Cancellation of taxes Q3 & Q4 – correction of errors.

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY CANCELLATION OF TAXES, Q3 & Q4 2023

CORRECTION OF ERRORS

**WHEREAS**, the below listed properties have been incorrectly classed as taxable on the 2023 tax list:

BLOCK	LOT	QUAL	PROP LOCATION	PROP OWNER
2	16		1639 BELVIDERE ROAD	SMITH, LELAND SCOTT
2	29		1351 ROWES LANE	COX, GARY J & PATRICIA A
2	36		7 GRANDVIEW AVENUE	KELLY, KAREN W & BRIDGET E
16	1		7 PARK SQUARE	NEEDHAM, BRANDON
25	7		226 AURORA STREET	PATITUCCI, JASON & MICHELLE
25	10		695 BELVIDERE ROAD	LAUGHERY, PATRICIA
55	1		996 BELVIDERE ROAD	THATCHER, CHARLES & BARBARA B
56	9		6 BRIARSTONE AVENUE	ABEL, DAVID M. & BRENDA L.
58.01	3		410 SOUTH FIRST STREET	STEFANO, DEBRA A & JOSEPH M
85.02	20		581 EDWARD STREET	BARRETO, HERMAN &NEREIDA DIAZ
85.04	16		11 DINAH DRIVE	GONZALEZ, MARK J & CINDY L
85.05	9		27 SYLVIA STREET	SPAGNOLA, MARIO & JUDITH
86.02	1		6 FIELDHEDGE LANE	FRASER, JIMEL
86.08	2		23 HIGHLANDS WAY	FERRERO, STEVEN & MEGAN
90	17		62 FOX FARM ROAD	LOPATCONG TOWNSHIP
90	17.02		68 FOX FARM ROAD	LOPATCONG TOWNSHIP
90	18.04		LOWS HOLLOW ROAD	LOPATCONG TOWNSHIP
90	36		RESERVOIR ROAD	LOPATCONG TOWNSHIP
93.01	9		6 STONE ROW LANE	ROBB, KRISTINA L & SCOTT DOUGLAS
99	307	C0125	125 MARLBORO CIRCLE	MYLOD, MARK P
99	399	C0313	313 CLOVER COURT	AGANS, ROBERT R SR & SUSAN
130	14		23 KYLE DRIVE	CLAX, JR, WILLIAM & DEBBIE HAMILTON

138	22		302 STONEHENGE DRIVE	CUMMINGS, MICHAEL E & ANDREA N
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**WHEREAS**, if the Mayor and Council of the Township of Lopatcong agree with the above cancellation of the Q3 and Q4 property taxes for the 23 listed properties for 2023, the action will be completed by the tax collector;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Mayor and Council of the Township of Lopatcong on this 5th day of July 2023 that the above referenced properties are tax exempt and the Tax Collector, Tax Assessor, and CFO are hereby authorized to make the necessary adjustments to reflect this.

CERTIFICATION

I, Margaret B. Dilts, Municipal Clerk of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by Council at a meeting held on Wednesday, July 5, 2023.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

**Council Reports:**

Councilman McQuade – No report.

Councilman Belcaro – No report.

Councilman Palitto – Reported that the Car Show has been rescheduled to Community Day August 26<sup>th</sup>.

Council President Wright – No report.

Mayor Mengucci – Recommended that everyone, if they can, should attend the “Music in the Park”, good groups, sounds and it’s free.

Engineer Sterbenz – Grant application to obtain funds to improve Stonehenge Drive between Buckley Hill Road and Red School Lane was filed and it looks good for funding. Work on Baltimore Street between Red School Lane and Strykers road is ongoing. The schedule to repave will begin next week. Lastly, the TAP grant for sidewalks is still awaiting the Civil Rights Division to approve the bid so the contract can be awarded.

**Department Reports** – Motion to approve by Councilman Belcaro, seconded by Councilman McQuade. All in favor.

**Payment of Bills** – Motion to approve by Councilman Palitto, seconded by Councilman Belcaro. Roll call vote:  
AYES: Councilman Belcaro, Councilman McQuade, Councilman Palitto, Council President Wright, Mayor Mengucci.  
NAYS: None

**Audience Participation:**

Robert Bruce – 11 Harwich Drive – Asked for police reports like he has seen from Greenwich Township on the number of traffic truck stops along with violations along with enforcement.

John Betz – Brakeley Gardens 225 Red School Lane – Asked about the truck turning at the facility on lower Strykers Road.

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Councilman Belcaro, seconded by Council President Wright.  
All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret B. Dilts, MMC  
Clerk/Administrator

James E. Mengucci  
Mayor