

TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG
Special Meeting Minutes
6:30 pm

January 27, 2020

The Special 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 Gazette and The Express-Times and by posting a copy on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building.”

Present – Councilman Palitto, Councilman Belcaro, Councilman Wright, Council President Pryor, Mayor Mengucci. Also present was Engineer Sterbenz and Attorney Campbell.

Public Comment:

John Budd – Budd Agency – Discussed his agency’s reappointment with the Council to provide Risk Management through Statewide’s Joint Insurance Fund for 2020.

Business:

Resolution No. 20-31 – Appointing Acrisure, LLC as Risk Management Consultants for 2020.

R 20-31

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND
STATE OF NEW JERSEY APPOINTING ACRISURE, LLC, AS RISK MANAGEMENT
CONSULTANTS FOR 2020

WHEREAS, Township of Lopatcong (hereinafter “Local Unit”) has joined the Statewide Insurance Fund (hereinafter “Fund”), a joint insurance fund as defined in N.J.S.A. 40A:10-36 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, the Bylaws require participating members to appoint a Risk Management Consultant as those positions are defined in the Bylaws, if requested to do so by the “Fund”; and

WHEREAS, the Local Unit has complied with relevant law with regard to the appointment of a Risk Management Consultant; and

WHEREAS, the “Fund” has requested its members to appoint individuals or entities to that position; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the governing body of “Local Unit”, in the County of Warren and State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. Township of Lopatcong (Local Unit) hereby appoints Acrisure, LLC, its Risk Management Consultant.
2. The Township of Lopatcong (authorized representative of the public entity) and Risk Management Consultant are hereby authorized to execute the Risk Management Consultant’s Agreement for the year 2020 in the form attached hereto.

Name of Entity – Lopatcong Township

Attest:

Margaret B. Dilts

James E. Mengucci, Mayor

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 special meeting held on Monday, January 27, 2020.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

Motion to adopt this Resolution by Councilman Wright, seconded by Councilman Belcaro. Roll call vote:

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

NAYS: None

Resolution No. 20-32 – Appointing Gibbons PC to Provide Services as Bond Counsel for 2020

R 20-32

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY APPOINTING GIBBONS, P.C. TO PROVIDE SERVICES AS BOND COUNSEL FOR THE YEAR 2020

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and State of New Jersey as follows:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Gibbons, P.C., is appointed as Bond Counsel to the Township as outlined in a Professional Service Contract.

This award is in accordance with N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 et. Seq.

This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

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 special meeting held on Monday, January 27, 2020.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

Motion to adopt this Resolution by Council President Pryor, seconded by Councilman Wright.

Roll call vote:

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

NAYS: None

Consent Agenda:

Council President Pryor made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, consented by Councilman Wright. Roll call vote:

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

NAYS: None

Foggia Trinity Electric, LLC – Authorize Change Order No. 1 and Final Payment in the amount of \$15,594.80 to Foggia Trinity Electric, LLC for work completed on School Zone Improvement Project.

Messercola Excavating Co., Inc. – Authorize Change Order No. 1 and Final Payment in the amount of \$114,950.00 to Messercola Excavating Co., Inc., for work completed on Red School Lane Storm and Sanitary Sewer Repairs.

Resolution No. 20-29 – To Participate in the Leap Implementation Grant

R 20-29

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND STATE
OF NEW JERSEY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE
LEAP IMPLEMENTATION GRANT

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey has appropriated \$10 million for Shared Services and School District Consolidation Study and Implementation Grants to assist local units with the study, development and implementation of new shared and regional services; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Community Affairs, Division of Local Government Services (DLGS) is tasked with administering these grant funds through the Local Efficiency Achievement Program (LEAP); and

WHEREAS, LEAP Implementation Grants exist to support costs associated with shared service implementation to ensure that meaningful, efficiency generating initiatives are not hindered by short term transitional expenses; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Washington and Township of Lopatcong have entered into a shared services agreement, but face certain expenses associated with implementation that present a burden to the local units; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of this shared services agreement is to administer the Southern Warren County Regional Animal Control program which benefits the residents of all participating local units; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Washington has agreed to be the lead agency in this program and will submit the application to DLGS on behalf of all participating units; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Township of Lopatcong that the Township of Lopatcong does hereby join with the Borough of Washington in applying for a LEAP Implementation Grant in the amount of **\$250,000.00** to support implementation of this shared service.

CERTIFICATION

I, Margaret B. Dilts, Municipal Clerk of the Township of Lopatcong in the County of Warren and the State of New Jersey do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the Council at a meeting held on Monday, January 27, 2020.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

Resolution No. 20-30 – To Participate in the Leap Challenge Grant

R 20-30

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOPATCONG, COUNTY OF WARREN AND STATE
OF NEW JERSEY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE
LEAP CHALLENGE GRANT

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey has allocated \$150,000 within each county for a statewide total of \$3.15 million in Local Efficiency Achievement Program (LEAP) funds to promote innovation among peer local units across New Jersey, and

WHEREAS, the Department of Community Affairs, Division of Local Government Services (DLGS) administers the LEAP grant program; and

WHEREAS, the LEAP Challenge Grant exists to challenge municipalities and counties to collaborate on more extensive partnership and collaborations to produce efficiencies through shared services; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Washington and Township of Lopatcong have determined to apply for a LEAP Challenge Grant through the State of New Jersey Local Efficiency Achievement Program in the amount of **\$70,000**; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Washington has agreed to be the lead agency in this program; and

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey has made LEAP grants available to assist local units to study, develop and implement new shared services initiatives; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the project submitted in this grant application is intended to provide benefits to the participant local units' residents through the sharing of animal control services through the Southern Warren County Regional Animal Control program;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Township of Lopatcong, that the Township of Lopatcong does hereby join with the Borough of Washington in applying for a LEAP challenge grant to support undertaking this endeavor.

CERTIFICATION

I, Margaret B. Dilts, Municipal Clerk of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren and the State of New Jersey do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by Council at a meeting held on Monday, January 27, 2020.

Margaret B. Dilts, CMC

Phoenix Advisors, LLC – Renew Continuing Disclosure and Independent Registered Municipal Advisor Services with Phoenix Advisors, LLC for 2020.

Sally Port Project – Reject all bids on Sally Port Project.

Public Comment:

John Betz – Asked Council to explain why Council went with a company outside of the town for the Risk Management appointment.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret B. Dilts
Clerk/Administrator

James E. Mengucci
Mayor