

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING – OCTOBER 25, 2021

Mayor Brantley called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and requested the Clerk to call the roll. The following members were present: Keith Cafferty, Nicholas Williams, Tassie D. York, and Mayor Michael Brantley. Absent: Robert Lane, Jr. (Mr. Lane arrived during the executive session portion of the meeting)

Also present were Richard J. Cuttrell, Municipal Clerk; Vito D. Gadaleta, Business Administrator; and Gene Anthony, Township Attorney.

Mayor Brantley announced that the notice requirements of R.S. 10:4-18 have been satisfied by the publication of the required advertisement in The Coaster and the Asbury Park Press on May 27, 2021, posting the notice on the Board in the Municipal Complex, and filing a copy of said notice with the Municipal Clerk. In addition, the meeting agenda is posted on the Township web site (www.neptunetownship.org) and the meeting is being streamed live via townhallstreams.com.

The following items were discussed in open session:

The Committee reviewed the 2021 Best Practices Survey. Mr. Gadaleta explained that the survey is promulgated by the Department of Community Affairs and deals with certain operating practices that they recommend. The Township needs to score 15 points or higher in order to keep 100% of state aid. The Township's total score was 22.5. The only question that the Township did not score on involved the consolidation of fire districts. The Township's two fire districts function very different in regards to operation and number of paid staff so it is not feasible to consolidate. The survey also included a question regarding the annual approval of the salaries of Fire Commissioners. A resolution is on this agenda to authorize such approval. The Mayor asked about an unscored question regarding imposing open space requirements at the time of site plan approval. Mr. Gadaleta stated that the Township does not have that requirement but it can be discussed in the future.

Mr. Gadaleta discussed an amendment to the personnel ordinance to include provisions for full-time EMTs. He stated that the Township is experiencing difficulty in hiring full-time EMTs. In discussion with the existing EMT staff, one of the difficulties is requiring three 12 hour days and one 4 hour day per week. The 4 hour day is a problem because the EMT cannot use that day to work elsewhere. The proposal is to have two 13 hour days and one 14 hour day per week. This would entice more interest in the full-time positions which are needed because the number of volunteers continues to wane. Mr. Cafferty had questions about other parts of the draft ordinance. Mr. Gadaleta will address that language before the ordinance is placed on the November 8th meeting for introduction.

Mr. Cafferty stated that the Halloween event scheduled at the Gables School after truck-or-treat still has openings and interested families should contact the Recreation Department to sign-up.

AUTHORIZE AN EXECUTIVE SESSION AS AUTHORIZED BY THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT

Mr. Cafferty offered the following resolution, moved and seconded by Mr. Williams, that it be adopted:

WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, 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,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune, County of Monmouth, as follows:

1. The Public shall be excluded from discussion of and action upon the hereinafter specified subject matters.

2. The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows:

Personnel – Request for Proposals for professionals
Personnel – Vaccination policy for volunteers

3. It is anticipated at this time that the above stated subject matters will be made public when matters are resolved.

4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

The resolution was adopted on the following vote: Cafferty, aye; Williams, aye; York, aye; and Brantley, aye.

The Committee entered executive session for discussion on closed session matters.

Mr. Cuttrell stated that he sent the list of 2022 Requests for Proposal to the Committee for review. The Committee indicated that the rates should remain the same as in 2021. They also asked that the position of Interim Engineer be added to the list of positions in the event that an in-house engineer is not hired by the new year.

The Committee discussed the covid vaccination policy as it pertains to EMS and OEM volunteers. Mr. Gadaleta stated that logistically, the policy is difficult to administer with volunteers because there is no central location to administer the testing, the volunteers are not on a set schedule, and the requirement may cause some volunteers to quit. In addition, the two fire districts are not imposing a vaccination requirement on the volunteer firefighters. Mr. Lane arrived. After discussion, the Committee agreed to that the policy will be applicable to paid employees only. This would include EMS and OEM volunteers in the instance when they are paid for storm duty.

The Committee returned to the Meeting Room for the regular portion of the meeting.

Mayor Brantley called the regular meeting to order and requested the Clerk to call the roll. The following members were present: Keith Cafferty, Robert Lane, Jr., Nicholas Williams, Tassie D. York, and Mayor Michael Brantley.

Also present at the dais were Richard J. Cuttrell, Municipal Clerk; Vito D. Gadaleta, Business Administrator; and Gene Anthony, Township Attorney.

After a moment of Silent Prayer and the Flag Salute, the Mayor asked the Clerk to indicate the fire exits.

The Clerk stated, "Fire exits are located in the rear of the room and to my right. In case of fire you will be notified by bell and or public address system, then proceed to the nearest smoke-free exit"

Mayor Brantley announced that the notice requirements of R.S. 10:4-18 have been satisfied by the publication of the required advertisement in The Coaster and the Asbury Park Press on May 27, 2021, posting the notice on the Board in the Municipal Complex, and filing a copy of said notice with the Municipal Clerk. In addition, the meeting agenda, ordinances, and resolutions are posted on the Township web site (www.neptunetownship.org) and the meeting is being streamed live via townhallstreams.com.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Lane offered a motion, seconded by Ms. York, to approve the minutes of the meeting held on October 7, 2021. All were in favor, except Mayor Brantley who was not eligible to vote due to his absence at that meeting.

COMMENTS FROM THE DAIS

Mr. Lane attended the High School track dedication ceremony in honor of Ajee Wilson. There was a great turnout for the event. He attended the Homecoming Parade, the Golden Osprey Awards and the VFW Post 1333 grand opening. He announced a service at Veterans Park on November 7th for Veterans Day. At the November 8th Township Committee meeting, the Pound the Pavement 5km run Committee will make a presentation of the money raised for the Lustgarten Foundation. He announced that \$110,000 was raised for the Jersey Shore Dream Center and asked that anyone in need can contact him. At the Senior Center, a pizza party was held for those who volunteered at the Center during the covid pandemic. A Mocktail Party/Craft Show will be held this week. Early voting is taking place at the Center through October 31st.

Ms. York attended the Ajee Wilson track dedication and the Homecoming parade and football game. She attended a fund raiser by the Cazzeek Brothers to raise funds for football equipment. The Cazzeek Brothers do a lot to help the youth in Neptune and Asbury Park.

Mr. Cafferty stated that the Township broke ground for the Disc Golf Course at the former Welsh Farms site. There will be a Halloween event at the Gables School. It is limited to 50 families and there will be Truck-or-Treat held beforehand in the parking lot.

Mr. Williams stated that the record warm October has meant that leaves are not yet falling but Public Works is ready to go with leaf collection. About half of the boats in the marina are still in the water and boaters are hoping for continued warm weather.

Mayor Brantley presented the Mayor's Trophy at Homecoming to the winning float. He was impressed with the creativity and professionalism of all of the floats. He had the opportunity to speak to Ajee Wilson. She is very engaging and has not forgotten her roots here in Neptune. She is getting ready to attend the next Olympics which will be her third. He attended the ribbon cutting at the VFW Post. They did a nice job on fixing the building. Many people commented and congratulated him on his retirement as a Dentist.

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Gadaleta provided an update on Township projects as follows:

Mr. Gadaleta, along with David Milmoie, DPW Director, and Bill Schwarz, Interim Township Engineer, met with the property owners of four 6th Avenue properties that border Alberta Lake. A property owner addressed the Committee at a previous meeting about flooding during heavy rain events. We listened to the concerns of the property owners and advised that some research will be required to determine a best path moving forward. I assured them I would be back to them with our findings over the next couple of weeks.

The Final Draft of the Route 66/Green Grove Road Redevelopment Plan has been posted on our website for the public's review. As stated at the last meeting the Township Committee will likely consider an enabling ordinance approval at the November 8th meeting.

All residents should be attentive to the weather forecast for this evening for significant rain and winds during the overnight and morning hours. DPW has lowered Alberta Lake and they have been addressing catch basins.

RESOLUTION TO EMPLOY SUPERVISING SPECIAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER IN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT ON A PART-TIME BASIS – TABLED

Ms. York offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Lane, to table a resolution to "Employ Supervising Special Law Enforcement Officer in the Police Department on a part-time basis". All were in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON RESOLUTIONS

Mayor Brantley asked for public comments regarding resolutions presented on this agenda only. The public was permitted to speak one time with a limit of five minutes. Comments were as follows:

Joyce Klein, Mt. Hermon Way, asked for information on Ms. LaPlaca who is being appointed to the position of Business Administrator. Mayor Brantley stated that the Committee is limited in what they can say since this is a personnel matter. Mr. Anthony stated Ms. LaPlaca is presently a Mayor in another municipality and has been in public service for 20 years. Mr. Cafferty and Ms. York stated that she is fantastic. The Mayor added she really stood above the other candidates in the interviews. Mr. Lane replied that her volunteerism is impressive.

Hack Coakley, Valley Road, asked why the purchase of bulletproof vests is being done by two resolutions to two different vendors. Mr. Gadaleta replied that one resolution is to accept a bulletproof vest grant from the US Department of Justice and the second resolution authorizes the purchase of the vests.

ORDINANCE NO. 21-46 - APPROVED

Mr. Lane offered the following ordinance, moved and seconded by Ms. York, that it be approved:

ORDINANCE NO. 21-46

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND VOLUME I, CHAPTER VII OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF NEPTUNE BY ADDING A RESIDENT ONLY HANDICAPPED PARKING ZONE ON INSKIP AVENUE

The ordinance was approved on the following vote: Cafferty, aye; Lane, aye; Williams, aye; York, aye; and Brantley, aye.

The Clerk announced that the Public Hearing on Ordinance 21-46 will be held at the next regularly scheduled Township Committee meeting on Monday, November 8, 2021. Public hearings will also be held November 8th on Ordinances 21-44 and 21-45 which were introduced on October 7th.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Cafferty offered the following resolutions of the Consent Agenda, moved and seconded by Mr. Lane, that they be adopted:

AUTHORIZE TOWNSHIP ENGINEERING CONSULTANT TO PERFORM ENGINEERING SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH THE MODERNIZATION OF THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING ELEVATOR

WHEREAS, the Township of Neptune desires to initiate a project to modernize the existing elevator in the Municipal Building; and,

WHEREAS, it is necessary for a Township Engineer Consultant to perform professional engineering services including document preparation, public bidding, drawing review, and construction administration in connection with this project; and,

WHEREAS, the Township Engineer solicited proposals for said services from engineering firms in the 2021 engineering pool; and,

WHEREAS, T&M Associates submitted the lowest quote and has experience in this type of work; and,

WHEREAS, funds for this purpose will be provided in Ordinance No. 19-28, and the Chief Financial Officer has so certified in writing,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune hereby authorizes T&M Associates to perform the services as stated herein as Township Engineering Consultant, said proposal on file in the Office of the Municipal Clerk, at an amount not to exceed \$27,500.00, for the modernization of the Municipal Building elevator; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Chief Financial Officer, Assistant C.F.O., Director of Public Works and Building Maintenance Supervisor.

ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF JON STOCUM AS A MEMBER OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL/ SHADE TREE COMMISSION

WHEREAS, the Secretary to the Environmental/Shade Tree Commission has received an email from Jon Stocum resigning as a member of the Environmental/Shade Tree Commission effective October 13, 2021,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune that the resignation of Jon Stocum as a member of the Environmental/Shade Tree Commission is hereby accepted effective October 13, 2021; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Secretary to the Environmental/Shade Tree Commission.

APPROVE ANNUAL COMPENSATION FOR FIRE DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS AS ESTABLISHED BY THE BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:14-88 requires the municipal governing body to review and approve annual compensation for fire district commissioners regarding of whether the amount of compensation is being modified; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Fire Commissioners in both Fire Districts have submitted their respective resolutions to the Township establishing their compensation for 2022,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune that the annual compensation for Fire Commissioners in both Neptune Township fire districts for the

year 2022, as established by the respective Board of Fire Commissioners, be and is hereby approved as follows:

Fire District #1 – Commissioner - \$5,000.00 (no change versus prior year)

Fire District #2 – Commissioner - \$1,600.00/Chairperson \$2,000.00 (no change versus prior year)

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to Fire Districts #1 and #2.

AUTHORIZE AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2021 MUNICIPAL BUDGET TO REALIZE MONIES FROM THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE – JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT

WHEREAS, N.J.S. 40A:4-87 provides that the Director of the Division of Local Government Services may approve the insertion of any special item of revenue in the budget of any county or municipality when such item shall have been made available by law and the amount thereof was not determined at the time of the adoption of the budget; and,

WHEREAS, said Director may also approve the insertion of an item of appropriation for an equal amount; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune hereby requests the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to approve the insertion of an item of revenue in the budget for the year 2021 in the sum of \$12,053.00 which is now available from a United States Department of Justice - Justice Assistance Grant in the amount of \$12,053.00; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the like sum of \$12,053.00 is hereby appropriated under the caption of 2021 JAG Law Enforcement Equipment Grant; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the above is the result of funds from the United States Department of Justice – FY21 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program in the amount of \$12,053.00; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk forward three certified copies of this resolution to the Chief Financial Officer and one copy to the Assistant C.F.O., and Auditor.

AUTHORIZE AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2021 MUNICIPAL BUDGET TO REALIZE MONIES FROM THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE - BULLETPROOF VEST PARTNERSHIP GRANT

WHEREAS, N.J.S. 40A:4-87 provides that the Director of the Division of Local Government Services may approve the insertion of any special item of revenue in the budget of any county or municipality when such item shall have been made available by law and the amount thereof was not determined at the time of the adoption of the budget; and,

WHEREAS, said Director may also approve the insertion of an item of appropriation for an equal amount; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune hereby requests the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to approve the insertion of an item of revenue in the budget for the year 2021 in the sum of \$6,906.90 which is now available from a United States Department of Justice – Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant in the amount of \$6,906.90; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the like sum of \$6,906.90 is hereby appropriated under the caption of 2021 Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the above is the result of funds from the United States Department of Justice – Bureau of Justice Assistance FY2021 Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant in the amount of \$6,906.90; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk forward three certified copies of this resolution to the Chief Financial Officer and one copy to the Assistant C.F.O., and Auditor.

AUTHORIZE AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2021 MUNICIPAL BUDGET TO REALIZE MONIES FROM THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY – AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN

ACT

WHEREAS, N.J.S. 40A:4-87 provides that the Director of the Division of Local Government Services may approve the insertion of any special item of revenue in the budget of any county or municipality when such item shall have been made available by law and the amount thereof was not determined at the time of the adoption of the budget; and,

WHEREAS, said Director may also approve the insertion of an item of appropriation for an equal amount; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune hereby requests the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to approve the insertion of an item of revenue in the budget for the year 2021 in the sum of \$1,433,121.85 which is now available from the United States Department of the Treasury – American Rescue Plan Act in the amount of \$1,433,121.85; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the like sum of \$1,433,121.85 is hereby appropriated under the caption of American Rescue Plan Act; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the above is the result of funds from the United States Department of the Treasury Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds as authorized by the American Rescue Plan Act in the amount of \$1,433,121.85; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk forward three certified copies of this resolution to the Chief Financial Officer and one copy to the Assistant C.F.O., and Auditor.

AMEND RESOLUTION #21-322 WHICH AUTHORIZES THE PURCHASE OF BULLETPROOF VESTS FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT THROUGH THE STATE COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM

WHEREAS, on September 27, 2021, the Township Committee adopted Resolution #21-322 which authorized the purchase of Armor Express Razor III bulletproof vests utilizing pricing through an authorized vendor under the State of New Jersey Cooperative Purchasing Program 1-NJCP; and,

WHEREAS, the resolution included an authorization of an amount not to exceed \$31,000.00; and,

WHEREAS, the Police Department has requested that an additional \$1,000.00 be authorized in order to outfit an additional officer; and,

WHEREAS, funds for this purpose are available from Federal Bulletproof Vest funds (\$500.00) and NJ Body Armor Replacement Fund (\$500.00) and the Chief Financial Officer has so certified in writing,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune that Resolution #21-322, which authorized the purchase of Armor Express Razor III bulletproof vests from Lanigan Associates through New Jersey Cooperative Purchasing Program Contract No. 17-FLEET-00763, be and is hereby amended to increase the authorized amount by \$1,000.00 for a total amount not to exceed of \$32,000.00; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Chief Financial Officer, Chief of Police, Purchasing Agent, and Auditor.

ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF MICHAEL MONTENEGRO AS A SPECIAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER IN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, the Chief of Police has received a letter from Michael Montenegro resigning as a Special Law Enforcement Officer - Class II in the Police Department effective October 20, 2021,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune that the resignation of Michael Montenegro as a Special Law Enforcement Officer – Class II in the Police Department is hereby accepted effective October 20, 2021; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Chief Financial Officer, Chief of Police, Police Committee, Assistant C.F.O., and Human Resources Director.

AUTHORIZE TOWNSHIP ENGINEERING CONSULTANT TO PERFORM CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH REPAIRS TO THE PUBLIC WORKS GARAGE BUILDING

WHEREAS, the Township of Neptune awarded a bid for repairs to the Public Works Garage building; and,

WHEREAS, it is necessary for a Township Engineering Consultant to perform part-time construction inspections as necessary to ensure satisfactory completion of the project; and,

WHEREAS, the Township Engineer received a proposal for said services from an engineering firm in the 2021 engineering pool; and,

WHEREAS, funds for this purpose will be provided in Ordinance No. 21-31, and the Chief Financial Officer has so certified in writing,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune hereby authorizes ARH Associates to perform the services as stated herein as Township Engineering Consultant, said proposal on file in the Office of the Municipal Clerk, at an amount not to exceed \$17,290.00, for repairs to the Public Works Garage building; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Chief Financial Officer, Assistant C.F.O., Director of Public Works and Township Engineer.

AUTHORIZE REPLACEMENT OF ENTRANCE DOORS AT THE MUNICIPAL LIBRARY

WHEREAS, the Purchasing Agent solicited quotes for the removal of interior and exterior existing doors and the installation of automatic entrance doors at the Municipal Library; and,

WHEREAS, the cost of said item is less than the bid threshold but exceeds \$17,500.00 and therefore must be awarded by Resolution of the governing body; and,

WHEREAS, said quotes were reviewed by the Library Director and the Purchasing Agent who have recommended that the low quote be accepted in accordance with the Open Public Contracts Law; and,

WHEREAS, funds for this purpose will be provided in the 2021 municipal budget in the appropriation entitled Library O.E., and the Chief Financial Officer has so certified in writing,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune that Stanley Access Technologies be and is hereby authorized to remove the interior and exterior existing doors and install new automatic entrance doors at the Municipal Library pursuant to their quote of \$22,000.00; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Chief Financial Officer, Assistant C.F.O., and Library Director.

ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF PAMELA VALENTINE AS A DEPARTMENTAL SECRETARY IN THE ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, the Business Administrator has received a letter from Pamela Valentine resigning as a Departmental Secretary in the Engineering Department effective November 5, 2021,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune that the resignation of Pamela Valentine as a Departmental Secretary in the Engineering Department is hereby accepted effective November 5, 2021; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Chief Financial Officer, Assistant C.F.O., Township Engineer, Human Resources Director and AFSCME Local 1844.

The resolutions of the Consent Agenda were adopted on the following vote: Cafferty, aye; Lane, aye; Williams, aye; York, aye; and Brantley, aye.

AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASE OF TWO TRUCKS WITH PLOW THROUGH THE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES COMMISSION OF NEW JERSEY PURCHASING PROGRAM

Mr. Cafferty offered the following resolution, moved and seconded by Ms. York, that it be

adopted:

WHEREAS, the Public Works Director wishes to authorize the purchase of two 2022 Chevrolet Silverado 3500HD 4WD trucks with plow (one regular cab and one crew cab) through the Educational Services Commission of New Jersey Purchasing Program; and,

WHEREAS, the purchase of goods and services by local contracting units is authorized by the Local Public Contracts Laws, N.J.S. 40A:11-12; and,

WHEREAS, the Educational Services Commission of New Jersey Purchasing Program has awarded Contract ESCNJ 20/21-09 to Mall Chevrolet for these vehicles; and,

WHEREAS, the Purchasing Agent and Chief Financial Officer recommends the utilization of this contract on the grounds that the price reflects a substantial savings; and,

WHEREAS, the cost to purchase this equipment shall not exceed \$99,500.00; and,

WHEREAS, funds for this purpose are available from Ordinance No. 21-35 and the Clean Communities grant and the Chief Financial Officer has so certified in writing,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune that the purchase of two 2022 Chevrolet Silverado 3500HD 4WD trucks with plow (one regular cab and one crew cab) for the Public Works Department be and is hereby authorized through the Educational Services Commission of New Jersey Purchasing Program Contract ESCNJ 20/21-09, Mall Chevrolet, at an amount not to exceed \$99,500.00; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Chief Financial Officer, Business Administrator, Assistant C.F.O., Director of Public Works and Auditor.

The resolution was adopted on the following vote: Cafferty, aye; Lane, aye; Williams, aye; York, aye; and Brantley, aye.

AWARD BID FOR 2021 ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Mr. Lane offered the following resolution, moved and seconded by Mr. Cafferty, that it be adopted:

WHEREAS, on October 13, 2021, the Township Engineering Consultant received bids for the award of a contract for the 2021 Road Improvement Program; and,

WHEREAS, said bids were reviewed by the Township Engineering Consultant who has recommended that a bid be awarded to P & A Construction, Inc. as the lowest bidder; and,

WHEREAS, said bids were advertised, received and awarded in a "fair and open" competitive bidding process in accordance with the Open Public Contracts Law; and,

WHEREAS, funds for this purpose will be provided in Ordinance No 18-19, as amended by Ordinance No. 19-10, and in Ordinance No. 20-19 and the Chief Financial Officer has so certified in writing,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune that a contract be awarded to P & A Construction, Inc. on their lowest responsible base bid of \$1,692,881.84 for the 2021 Road Improvement Program; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Chief Financial Officer, Assistant C.F.O., Public Works Director, Township Attorney and Township Engineer.

The resolution was adopted on the following vote: Cafferty, aye; Lane, aye; Williams, aye; York, aye; and Brantley, aye.

APPOINT GINA M. LAPLACA AS BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR AS OF JANUARY 1, 2022

Mr. Cafferty offered the following resolution, moved and seconded by Ms. York, that it be adopted:

WHEREAS, Section 2-5.1 of the Neptune Township Municipal Code creates the office of Business Administrator pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A:9-136, et seq.; and

WHEREAS, Section 2-5.2 (a) of the Neptune Township Municipal Code provides that the Business Administrator is appointed by a majority of the Township Committee; and

WHEREAS, the Township's current Business Administrator, Vito Gadaleta, is retiring and has been removed from his position as Business Administrator effective December 31, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee has interviewed a number of candidates for the Business Administrator position; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee desires to appoint Gina M. LaPlaca to the position of Business Administrator after Mr. Gadaleta's retirement; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the Township of Neptune to have a reasonable transition period between Business Administrators;

WHEREAS, funds for this purpose are available in the 2021 Municipal Budget in the appropriation entitled General Administration S&W and the Chief Financial Officer has so certified in writing,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune, County of Monmouth and State of New Jersey, that Gina M. LaPlaca is hereby hired as Business Administrator for the Township of Neptune, effective January 1, 2022; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that pending the retirement of Vito Gadaleta, Gina M. LaPlaca, shall be the Assistant Business Administrator, and shall commence working for the Township on or about November 15, 2021; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Labor Attorney is hereby authorized and directed to prepare a written employment agreement setting forth Ms. LaPlaca's salary at the rate of \$170,000 per year, allowing for 10 vacation and 3 personal days in the first year, providing a Township vehicle for Ms. LaPlaca's use on Township business in accordance with Section 9-26 of the Township Code, and providing such other benefits equal to the benefits provided to the Township Department Heads and Directors; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Business Administrator, Chief Financial Officer, Assistant C.F.O. and Human Resources Director.

The resolution was adopted on the following vote: Cafferty, aye; Lane, aye; Williams, aye; York, aye; and Brantley, aye.

AUTHORIZE THE PAYMENT OF BILLS

Ms. York offered the following resolution, moved and seconded by Mr. Williams, that it be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune that the following bills be paid if properly certified:

CURRENT FUND	4,528,778.68
GRANT FUND	9,066.26
TRUST FUND	46,284.82
GENERAL CAPITAL FUND	131,933.84
SEWER OPERATING FUND	36,834.88
MARINA OPERATING FUND	4,491.48
LIBRARY TRUST	893.11
BILL LIST TOTAL	\$4,758,283.07

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Assistant C.F.O.

The resolution was adopted on the following vote: Cafferty, aye; Lane, aye; Williams, aye; York, aye; and Brantley, aye.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR/PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mayor Brantley asked for public comments. The public was permitted to speak one time with a limit of five minutes. Comments were as follows:

Hazel Samuels, former Business Administrator in Asbury Park, spoke on behalf of Pastor Cedric Miller and the congregation of Living Word Christian Fellowship on Route 35. In February, the façade separated from the church building and collapsed. The church's experts said that the electrical service was not affected. The collapse was reported and the Township made them shut off the electric. The church incurred a large expense for mold remediation and to keep the other services in the building going while the electricity was out. The Pastor met with the Township Attorney and other officials to discuss the matter. It took months to restore the electricity. The church is asking for \$71,000 to make them whole for the costs incurred because of the Township's unwarranted actions to turn off the electricity.

Sikera Stevens, Stratford Avenue, inquired about a cannabis use license and specifically the guidelines for obtaining community support. Mr. Williams stated that the Cannabis Sub-Committee recently reviewed a 2 ½ hour video seminar from the State regarding cannabis regulation and procedure and are meeting to discuss it. The Township is getting a lot of interest because nearby towns have rejected cannabis use facilities. Ms. Stevens asked the Committee to consider Neptune residents when granting licenses. The Mayor asked Ms. Stevens to send him an email and he will share it with the Sub-Committee.

Hank Coakley, Valley Road, stated that a hazardous condition exists on Neptune Boulevard near Route 66 because there is no yellow line in the center of the road. He asked that signs be placed on highway overpasses to identify roadways. Mr. Gadaleta replied that the striping on Neptune Boulevard is included in the Road Program project which was just awarded this evening. Hopefully, the lines will be done in November.

Nancy Clarke, Embury Avenue, thanked Mr. Cafferty and Ms. York for their work regarding the parking problems in Ocean Grove. She asked for an update about a meeting with legislators to discuss funding for Fletcher Lake. Mr. Lane stated that he met with Congressman Chris Smith's office along with state officials and they provided some ideas where funding may be available. Assemblyman Eric Houghtaling's office is taking the lead on the project. Ms. Clarke inquired about minutes of the Police Committee meetings. The Mayor replied that there has not been a meeting in some time. Mr. Gadaleta stated that minutes are done when meetings are held. Ms. Clarke asked about progress on replacing Mr. Cuttrell. The Mayor stated that applications have been received and interviews will be held. The Mayor also stated that discussions on the Recreation Center will start back up soon and there is funding in the budget for this purpose.

Mr. Lane offered a motion, seconded by Ms. York, to adjourn. All were in favor.

Richard J. Cuttrell,
Municipal Clerk