

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING – MARCH 22, 2021

Mayor Brantley called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was held via Zoom. The Mayor announced that link for access is available on the Township web site.

The Mayor requested the Clerk to call the roll. The following members were present: Keith Cafferty, Robert Lane, Jr., Nicholas Williams, and Mayor Michael Brantley. Absent: Carol Rizzo.

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

The Mayor 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 March 11, 2021, which provided instructions on accessing and participating in the meeting virtually via Zoom. The Notice was filed with the Municipal Clerk and posted on the Township web site (www.neptunetownship.org), along with the meeting agenda, ordinances and resolutions.

The following items were discussed in open session:

Mr. Anthony reviewed a proposed ordinance amendment to prohibit sleeping in a parked vehicle during certain hours. The issue was raised at the March 8th Township Committee meeting. Mr. Cafferty asked that the matter be tabled because it impacts the economically disadvantaged and people who may be struggling. Mr. Lane agreed. Mr. Williams stated that he reviewed other similar laws and ordinances which reflect many different scenarios and situations such as whether or not the key is in the ignition. The ordinance should be more specific because sometimes people need to pull over for valid reasons. Mr. Williams agreed to table the matter for now.

Mr. Anthony renewed discussion on the solicitor/canvassing ordinance. The Committee asked for an ordinance amendment to limit the hours that solicitors are permitted to go door-to-door and a new ordinance to institute a no-knock ordinance. He saw issues where the present ordinance and the new no-knock ordinance would be in conflict. Most ordinances exclude political campaigning from the permit requirements; however, the current ordinance does not. Also, other towns do not require registration for non-profit and religious organizations but the current ordinance does and is likely not enforced. Mr. Cafferty stated the intent is not to stop youth activities and non-profits from going door-to-door. Mr. Anthony will prepare a no-knock ordinance and include the exclusions discussed and remove the registration requirements for excluded organizations.

Mr. Lane stated that an event to honor the late Elizabeth Schneider is being planned at the Senior Center in May.

Mr. Cafferty stated that the Recreation Department will be holding the annual Easter Egg Hunt on March 27th.

The Committee briefly recessed and then began the regular portion of the meeting.

Mayor Brantley called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. by announcing that this a remote meeting via Zoom. The link for access can be found on the Township web site at www.neptunetownship.org

The Mayor requested the Clerk to call the roll. The following members were present: Keith Cafferty, Robert Lane, Jr., Nicholas Williams, and Mayor Michael Brantley. Absent: Carol Rizzo.

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

The Mayor led a moment of Silent Prayer and the Flag Salute.

The Mayor 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 March 11, 2021, which provided instructions on accessing and participating in the meeting virtually via Zoom. The Notice was filed with the Municipal Clerk and posted on the Township web site (www.neptunetownship.org), along with the meeting agenda, ordinances and resolutions.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Lane offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Williams, to approve the minutes of the meetings held on March 8, 2021 and March 15, 2021. All were in favor.

COMMENTS FROM THE DAIS

Mr. Lane reported that Theresa Scalione passed away at the age of 100. She was a World War II nurse and was recognized last year with a proclamation. Betty Reynolds also passed away. Betty was involved with the Red & Black and fund raisers for Neptune sports teams for years. 430 covid vaccinations were given at the Senior Center and he thanked the staff who helped coordinate the event. He thanked Mr. Gadaleta for helping the Jersey Shore Dream Center move into the former Hamilton First Aid building. He attended a meeting to plan a virtual Memorial Day parade. Donations are sought for scholarships for NJROTC cadets attending Neptune High School.

Mr. Cafferty announced the annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held on March 27th. Registration is required so that social distancing can be maintained. The ordinance setting the reduced fee for the Summer Recreation Program is on the agenda for adoption this evening. The geese chasers are at work at Wesley Lake and rain gardens will be added at the lake. He stated that the Office of Emergency Management Team is a hard working group who do a lot of work in the Township. The municipal budget will be introduced this evening and includes a decrease in the tax rate.

Mr. Williams had a phone meeting with the Public Works Director. All snowplows are stored away and residents are now doing spring cleaning and putting leaves at the curb. The marina is starting to awaken with people preparing to their boats to go back into the water. The boating season starts on April 1st.

Mayor Brantley spoke to Michael Badger, OCGMA President regarding parking. He received the report commissioned by the OGCMA and gave it to Mr. Gadaleta. The Township Committee will be reviewing and addressing the matter in the future. The 2021 municipal budget contains a tax rate decrease and he is proud that the budget has been flat or down in recent years. The Police Committee will meet on March 24th and any interested resident in serving on the Police Committee in the vacant resident spot should contact him.

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.

There were no public comments.

ORDINANCE NO. 21-11 - ADOPTED

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

ORDINANCE NO. 21-11

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND VOLUME I, CHAPTER II OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF NEPTUNE BY AMENDING THE FEE FOR THE SUMMER RECREATION PROGRAM

The Mayor requested comments on the above ordinance. There being no comments, he closed the public hearing.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

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

AUTHORIZE SPECIAL EVENT PERMIT FEES PAID BY THE OCEAN GROVE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN 2020 TO BE APPLIED TO THE CURRENT YEAR PERMIT FEES

WHEREAS, the Ocean Grove Chamber of Commerce submitted seven (7) special event applications and accompanying \$100.00 fee for their annual events in 2020; and,

WHEREAS, due to the pandemic, none of these events were held in 2020; and,

WHEREAS, the Chamber of Commerce is submitting applications for seven special events in 2021 and has requested that the fee for 2020 events not held be applied to the 2021 event applications; and,

WHEREAS, the Chamber of Commerce is a not for profit organization comprised of local business owners that provides various community events,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune hereby authorizes the fees paid by the Ocean Grove Chamber of Commerce for seven 2020 special event applications, in the amount of \$700.00, be applied to the 2021 applications for the same seven events because the 2020 events could not be held due to the pandemic; and,

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

AUTHORIZE TEMPORARY STREET CLOSURE IN CONNECTION WITH THE ANNUAL BRIDGEFEST EVENT

WHEREAS, the annual Bridgefest event is planned at the Great Auditorium/Auditorium Park in Ocean Grove on Friday and Saturday, June 25th and June 26th; and,

WHEREAS, it is necessary to designate temporary no parking and close a portion of Pilgrim Pathway for pedestrian safety,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune hereby authorizes the temporary closure and designation of temporary no parking on Pilgrim Pathway between Bath Avenue and McClintock Street on Friday, June 25th between 6:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m. and on Saturday, June 26th between 6:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Director of Public Works, Sgt. MacConchie and the Ocean Grove Camp Meeting Association.

ACCEPT A MAINTENANCE GUARANTEE AND RELEASE A PERFORMANCE GUARANTEE FILED BY NEPTUNE DEVELOPERS, LLC FOR SITE IMPROVEMENTS AT THE FORMER S.S. ADAMS BUILDING (509 MEMORIAL DRIVE)

WHEREAS, on August 1, 2018, Neptune Developers, LLC, posted Letter of Credit #8001688966 issued by Columbia Bank in the amount of \$106,484.76 guaranteeing site improvements at the former S.S. Adams building, 509 Memorial Drive (Block 413, Lot 4); and,

WHEREAS, said Letter of Credit was reduced to the amount of \$31,945.43 by adoption of Resolution #20-208 on June 15, 2020; and,

WHEREAS, the Township Engineer has certified that all site improvements have been completed in a satisfactory manner as of February 28, 2021 and said performance guarantee can be released contingent upon posting a two year maintenance bond in the amount of \$19,019.55 and a performance guarantee in the amount of \$4,980.00 for Memorial Drive sidewalk repair; and,

WHEREAS, Neptune Developers, LLC has submitted a cash maintenance guarantee in the amount of \$19,019.55 guaranteeing said site improvements for a period of two years and a cash performance bond in the amount of \$4,980.00 guaranteeing performance of Memorial Drive sidewalk repairs,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune that the Maintenance Guarantee and Performance Guarantee for sidewalk repairs as stated above be and is hereby accepted and the Letter of Credit performance guarantee is authorized to be released; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the cash portion of the performance guarantee in the approximate amount of \$3,437.12 be and is hereby authorized to be refunded; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Developer and Township Engineer.

AUTHORIZE SHARED SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH THE BOROUGH OF AVON-BY-THE-SEA FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

WHEREAS, the *Uniform Shared Services and Consolidation Act (N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1 through 40A:65-35)* authorizes local units of this State to enter into a contract with any other local unit or units for the joint provision within their several jurisdictions of any service which any party to the agreement is empowered to render within its own jurisdiction; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough of Avon-By-The-Sea ("Borough") and the Township of Neptune, through the Neptune Township Emergency Medical Services, ("Neptune Township Emergency Medical Services") have identified an area where working together through Shared Services will result in a positive outcome for both the Borough and the Neptune Township Emergency Medical Services; and

WHEREAS, the Borough and Neptune Township Emergency Medical Services have agreed that the Neptune Township Emergency Medical Services will serve as the secondary provider of basic life support emergency medical services within the Borough in cases where the primary provider Avon First Aid and Safety Squad is unavailable to provide services in a timely manner; and

WHEREAS, the Neptune Township Emergency Medical Service will provide basic life support emergency medical services between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday and any other time when such services are available from the Township, based upon a schedule set solely by the Township, secondary to those provided by Avon First Aid and Safety Squad; and,

WHEREAS, the system will meet the technical requirements and operational standards set forth in *N.J.A.C. 8:40*; and,

WHEREAS, the Neptune Township Emergency Medical Services will provide direct emergency medical services ("EMS") for the Borough; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough shall authorize and permit the Neptune Township Emergency Medical Services to bill those requesting EMS services in a manner substantially similar to the manner in which system users pay for such services within Neptune Township, pursuant to a rate schedule adopted annually by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune and in accordance with ordinances, regulations, and laws governing the billing of EMS services; and,

WHEREAS, the term of this agreement will be retroactive to January 1, 2021 and ending on December 31, 2021 and this agreement may be renegotiated prior to renewal,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune, County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey that the Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to enter into a Shared Services Agreement ("Agreement") with the Borough of Avon-By-The-Sea with respect to the provision of Emergency Medical Services pursuant to the terms and conditions set forth in the Agreement. A copy of the Agreement shall be open for public inspection at the Office of the Municipal Clerk; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the terms of this Agreement shall take effect upon the adoption of appropriate Resolutions and execution of the Agreement by the parties thereto; 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 EMS Manager.

AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASE OF REFUSE/RECYCLING CONTAINERS THROUGH THE SOURCEWELL NATIONAL PURCHASING COOPERATIVE

WHEREAS, the Public Works Director has recommended the purchase of additional refuse/recycling containers; 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 Township of Neptune is authorized pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:34-6.2(b)(3) to use procurement methods by entering into a nationally recognized cooperative agreement; and;

WHEREAS, the Sourcewell National Purchasing Cooperative has a nationally recognized cooperative agreement and has awarded Contract No. 041217-SFR to Schaefer Systems International, Inc.; and,

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

WHEREAS, the cost of this equipment shall not exceed \$19,500.00; and,

WHEREAS, funds for this purpose are available in the 2021 municipal budget through the

Recycling Tonnage 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 refuse/recycling containers be and is hereby authorized through Schaefer Systems International, Inc. at an amount not to exceed \$19,500.00; and,

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

AUTHORIZE UPGRADES TO TOWNSHIP OWNED TRAFFIC LIGHTS THROUGH THE MONMOUTH COUNTY COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM

WHEREAS, it is necessary to perform upgrades to the traffic signals owned and maintained by the Township; 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, Techna-Pro Electric, LLC has been awarded Contract No. F-60-2021 through the Monmouth County Cooperative Purchasing Program for these services; and,

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

WHEREAS, the cost of these services shall not exceed \$17,750.00; and,

WHEREAS, funds will be provided for the first three months of 2021 in the 2021 Temporary Budget and funds for the balance of 2021 will be provided in the 2021 Municipal Budget in the appropriation entitled Streets and Roads Maintenance O.E. when finally adopted, and the Chief Financial Officer has so certified in writing,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune that upgrades to traffic signals owned and maintained by the Township through Monmouth County Cooperative Purchasing Program Contract No. F-60-2021, Techna-Pro Electric, LLC be and is hereby authorized at an amount not to exceed \$17,750.00; and,

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

APPROVE THE TRANSFER OF TAXI MEDALLION LICENSE NO. 047

WHEREAS, Darryl Downey is the owner of Neptune Township Taxi Medallion No. 047; and,

WHEREAS, he has notified the Taxi License Coordinator of the intent to sell and transfer ownership of said medallion to Hamilton Grant of King Verc, LLC; and,

WHEREAS, the Taxi License Coordinator has certified that all requirements of transfer have been satisfied,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune that approval is hereby granted for the transfer of Taxi Medallion License No. 047 to Hamilton Grant of King Verc, LLC; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Taxi License Coordinator and Municipal Clerk.

AUTHORIZE EXECUTION OF A RIGHT OF ENTRY AGREEMENT FOR TOWNSHIP OWNED GREEN ACRES PROPERTY LOCATED AT GREEN GROVE ROAD AND STATE HIGHWAY 66 (BLOCK 2401, LOT 18) TO PERMIT THE RECONSTRUCTION OF SIDEWALKS BY THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

WHEREAS, the Township of Neptune the owner of Green Acres property located at the intersection of Green Grove Road and State Highway 66, known as Block 2401, Lot 18; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) has requested access to the right-of-way on said property for the purpose of reconstructing sidewalks; and,

WHEREAS, by granting permission to access the property, the NJDOT agrees to reconstruct the sidewalk and perform incidental grading. After completion of the work, the improvements shall become part of the property and shall be maintained by the Township,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune hereby authorizes the Mayor and Clerk to execute a Right of Entry Agreement, a true copy of which is on file in the Office of the Municipal Clerk, with the New Jersey Department of Transportation to permit access to the right-of-way on Township property located at Block 2401, Lot 18, subject to all conditions in the aforesaid Agreement; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Township Engineer and Township Attorney.

AUTHORIZE THE REFUND OF TAXES AS A RESULT OF AN OVERPAYMENT

WHEREAS, the properties listed below reflect an overpayment; and,

WHEREAS, they have furnished the necessary documentation and have requested a refund; and,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune, County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey, that the Tax Collector be and is hereby authorized to refund the taxes as stated herein; and,

BLOCK	LOT	ASSESSED TO	ADDRESS	YEAR	AMOUNT
3401	2	Zimmerman / Bruno	40 Shorebrook Circle	2021	1,674.28
415	2	Neptune Key, LLC	1224 7 th Ave	2020	1,136.93

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

REJECT BID FOR MAINTENANCE OF TOWNSHIP GROUNDS

WHEREAS, on March 18, 2021, the Purchasing Agent received bids for the award of a contract for maintenance of Township grounds; and,

WHEREAS, said bids were reviewed by the Purchasing Agent Public Works Director who recommend that all bids be rejected because the lowest bid substantially exceeds the Township's appropriation for the service; and,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune that the all bids received for maintenance of Township grounds be and are hereby rejected because the lowest bid substantially exceeds the Township's appropriation for the service (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-13.2(b)); and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Purchasing Agent is hereby authorized to re-advertise for the receipt of bids for this service; 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 Public Works Director.

AUTHORIZE THE TRANSFER OF 2020 BUDGET APPROPRIATION RESERVES

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-58 permits the transfer of previous year appropriations during the first three months of the fiscal year; and,

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has recommended that the following appropriation transfers be authorized;

FROM:

Employee Group Insurance O.E. 40,000.00

TO:

Legal Services O.E. 40,000.00

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune that the 2020 Budget Appropriation Reserves be transferred as stated herein; and,

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

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

DESIGNATE CERTAIN AREAS ALONG ROUTE 66 IDENTIFIED AS BLOCK 3903, LOTS 12 AND 13 ON THE TAX MAP OF THE TOWNSHIP OF NEPTUNE, HAVING BEEN MERGED INTO A SINGLE LOT KNOWN AS LOT 12, AS A NON-CONDEMNATION AREA IN NEED OF REDEVELOPMENT

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

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Local Redevelopment and Housing Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1 et seq., the Township Committee may direct the Planning Board to conduct an investigation and public hearing to recommend whether certain areas of the Township are in need of redevelopment pursuant to the procedures set forth at N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-6; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Local Redevelopment and Housing Law, the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune (the "Township Committee"), on November 16, 2020, adopted Resolution #20-360 entitled "Authorize and Direct the Township of Neptune Planning Board to Undertake a Preliminary Investigation to Determine Whether Certain Areas Along Route 66 Identified as Block 3903, Lots 12 and 13 on the Tax Map of the Township of Neptune, Having been Merged into a Single Lot Known as Lot 12, Qualify as an Area in Need of Redevelopment (Non-Condemnation) Pursuant to the Local Redevelopment and Housing Law"; and

WHEREAS, Jennifer C. Beahm, PE, PP, CME, CPWM of Leon S. Avakian Inc. Consulting Engineers conducted an investigation and prepared a report entitled "Area in Need of Redevelopment Investigation Report" (the "Study") pertaining to those certain areas along Route 66 identified as Block 3903, Lots 12 and 13 on the Tax Map of the Township of Neptune, having been merged into a single Lot known as Lot 12 and informally referred to as the Continental Data Building Site Study Area (the "Study Area"); and

WHEREAS, the Study was prepared by analyzing the applicability of the statutory criteria under N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-5 to the Study Area, the boundaries of which are set forth on a map contained with the Study; and

WHEREAS, after public notice required by law was published and mailed in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:12-5, including by regular and certified mail to the owner(s) of the property within the Study Area, the Township of Neptune Planning Board (the "Planning Board") conducted a public hearing on January 27, 2021 to receive the comments of the public regarding the Study and the proposed designation of the Study Area as a non-condemnation redevelopment area (the "Planning Board Hearing"); and

WHEREAS, at the Planning Board Hearing, Christine Bell, PP, AICP of Leon S. Avakian Inc. Consulting Engineers presented the Study and the findings thereof, concluding that the Study Area met the criteria for an area in need of redevelopment under N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-5(b) and N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-3; and

WHEREAS, at the Planning Board Hearing, members of the public, property owners and persons interested in the investigation were permitted the opportunity to present testimony and objections regarding, *inter alia*, the Study; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Board considered the Study and the presentation thereof as well as other such pertinent information pertaining to the Study Area; and

WHEREAS, on February 24, 2021, the Planning Board adopted Resolution No. 21-05 recommending that Block 3903, Lots 12 and 13 on the Tax Map of the Township of Neptune, having been merged into a single Lot known as Lot 12, be designated as a non-condemnation area in need of redevelopment, which Resolution is incorporated herein by reference; and

WHEREAS, this Resolution further incorporates by reference all documents submitted into the record, including the Study, as well as the presentation thereof and any comments provided at the Planning Board Hearing as though same were set forth at length herein; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee has considered the Study and all documents and comments presented to the Planning Board as well as the recommendation of the Planning Board that Block 3903, Lots 12 and 13 on the Tax Map of the Township of Neptune, having been merged into a single Lot known as Lot 12, be designated as a non-condemnation area in need of redevelopment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune, as follows:

1. The Township Committee finds, consistent with the findings of the Planning Board, as follows:
 - a. The Study Area includes a corner lot with approximately 1,950' of frontage on Route 66 and approximately 1,270' of frontage on Green Grove Road.
 - b. The Study area is classified as a commercial use district.
 - c. Based upon the detailed property analysis in the Study, the conclusions of which are accepted and incorporated herein as if set forth at length, the findings of the Planning Board, and the public presentation of Christine Bell, PP, AICP, Block 3903, Lots 12 and 13, having been merged into a single lot known as Lot 12, meets the statutory criteria set forth in N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-5(b) for the designation of a non-condemnation area in need of redevelopment, including the following: "the discontinuance of the use of buildings previously used for commercial, manufacturing, or industrial purposes; the abandonment of such buildings; or the same being allowed to fall into so great a state of disrepair as to be untenable," N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-5(b), and
2. Based upon the detailed property analysis in the Study as well as the presentation before the Planning Board, the conclusions of which are accepted and incorporated herein as if set forth at length, the findings of the Planning Board, and the presentation of Christine Bell, PP, AICP, the Study Area meets the statutory criteria set forth in N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-5 for the designation of a non-condemnation area in need of redevelopment, including N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-5(b) and N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-3.
3. The Township Committee hereby determines that Block 3903, Lots 12 and 13, having been merged into a single lot known as Lot 12 on the Tax Map of the Township of Neptune, should be and hereby are designated as a non-condemnation area in need of redevelopment, as provided in N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-5(b) and N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-3.
4. The Township Clerk shall forthwith transmit a copy of this Resolution to the Commissioner of Community Affairs, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-6.
5. Within ten (10) days of the adoption of this Resolution, the Township Clerk shall further serve a notice of the determination of the Township Committee to designate Block 3903, Lots 12 and 13, having been merged into a single lot known as Lot 12 on the Tax Map of the Township of Neptune, as a non-condemnation area in need of redevelopment upon all record owners of property located within the delineated area, those whose names are listed on the tax assessor's records, and upon each person, if any, who filed a written objection thereto and supplied an address to which notice can be sent.

The resolution was adopted on the following vote: Cafferty, aye; Lane, aye; Williams, aye; and Brantley, aye, adding that he is working with the State on getting the Route 66 road project moving again.

INTRODUCE 2021 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following statements of revenues and appropriations shall constitute the Municipal Budget for the year 2021; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said Budget be published in The Coaster in the issue of April 1, 2021,

General Appropriations

Appropriations within "CAPS" for Municipal Purposes	\$36,842,150.00
Appropriations excluded from "CAPS" for Municipal Purposes	\$7,870,491.56
Reserve for Uncollected Taxes based on Estimated 97.35% of Tax Collections	\$2,400,000.00
 Total General Appropriations	 \$47,112,641.56

General Revenues

Anticipated Revenues Other Than Current Property Tax	\$13,819,629.32
Amount to be Raised for Taxes for Support of Municipal Budget	\$31,825,009.24
Minimum Library Tax	\$1,468,003.00
 Total General Revenues	 \$47,112,641.56

Notice is hereby given that the Budget and Tax Resolution was approved by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune, County of Monmouth, on March 22, 2021. A hearing on the Budget and Tax Resolution will be held at the Neptune Township Municipal Complex, Township Meeting Room, 2nd Floor, 25 Neptune Blvd., Neptune NJ on April 26, 2021 at 7:00 P.M. at which time and place objections to said Budget and Tax Resolution for the year 2021 may be presented by taxpayers or other interested persons.

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

AUTHORIZE AN APPROPRIATION FROM THE GENERAL CAPITAL SURPLUS FUND FOR PRELIMINARY EXPENSES – DEVELOPMENT OF A COMMUNITY CENTER

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

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Local Finance Board by regulation permits municipalities to fund preliminary surveys, architects' fees, engineering costs and similar expenses from Capital Surplus provided that the ultimate project could be funded by a bond ordinance; and,

WHEREAS, the Development of a Community Center would be a bondable capital project with a minimum useful life of twenty (20) years,

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

1. That for the aforesaid reasons, the Township Committee hereby authorizes the establishment a General Capital account designated "Reserve for Preliminary Expenses – Development of a Community Center: in the amount of \$40,000.00.
2. That all related services and costs could result in a project that would be bondable pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:1-1 et seq., having a useful like of not less than twenty (20) years.
3. Upon completion of the project, any unused monies in said reserve shall be returned to the General Capital Surplus Fund.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be provided to the Chief Financial Officer, Auditor and Bond Counsel.

The resolution was adopted on the following vote: Cafferty, aye; Lane, aye; Williams, aye, adding congratulation to Mayor Brantley for starting this process, it has been needed for many years; and Brantley, aye, adding that this step is to explore the development of a community center that the residents need and deserve. He asked for input from the community on what they want the center to look like. He is very happy to be taking this first step.

AUTHORIZE THE PAYMENT OF BILLS

Mr. Cafferty offered the following resolution, moved and seconded by Mr. Lane, 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	5,544,415.81
GRANT FUND	17,023.77
TRUST FUND	41,273.34
GENERAL CAPITAL FUND	145,909.53
SEWER OPERATING FUND	170,855.41
SEWER CAPITAL FUND	135,282.95
MARINA OPERATING FUND	4,413.33
DOG TRUST	47.40
LIBRARY TRUST	2,164.00
BILL LIST TOTAL	\$6,061,385.54

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; and Brantley, aye.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR/PUBLIC COMMENTS

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:

Joan Venezia, Mt. Hermon Way, stated that CAFRA approved the North End application. She heard from others that the clean-up at the site was not sufficient. She asked if there was a new court date and a new date for the HPC application. Mr. Gadaleta stated that he is satisfied that the clean-up is sufficient. There are some hazards in the pool area but he is concerned about Township staff working in that area. The fence will remain for now. Mr. Anthony does not have a date for the court case. Bernie Haney, Land Use Administrator, stated that the CAFRA approval has nothing to do with the HPC application and the HPC hearing will be advertised for April 6th.

Rich Williams, 1 Abbott Avenue, congratulated the Committee for the concept of a community center. He thanked the Camp Meeting Association for authorizing the parking report. He asked the Committee to not delay and take action. In regards to electric cars, Governor Murphy set a goal of 30,000 electric cars in the State by 2025. The Ocean Grove Homeowners Association has started a clean energy committee and is looking at solar panels and how charging stations can be added in Ocean Grove. He advised the Committee that grants are available for charging stations. Mr. Cafferty stated that the Committee has been talking about these issues.

Harriet Bernstein, Ocean Grove United, requested a resolution and to raise the rainbow flag in the month of June for the LGBTQ+ community. Neighboring towns have approved this and there is a large LGBTQ+ community in Neptune Township. The Mayor asked that this matter be placed on the April 12th workshop meeting agenda for discussion.

Joyce Klein, Mt. Hermon Way, congratulated the Committee on the community center idea and thanked the Camp Meeting Association for commissioning the parking study. Cars will be returning to Ocean Grove as the pandemic eases and she wants to see the parking study publicized and discussed in time to do something by this summer. She urged the Committee to review the study with Kimbly-Horn, author of the parking study.

Marc & Cindy Muller, Morrissey Road. Mr. Muller stated two large trees were removed on Overlook Drive. In Ocean Grove, it was important to preserve the homes and laws were enacted. There are no laws or codes that prevent clear cutting trees on proeprty. The Township needs to

protect trees because they are being cut down every day. Shark River Hills deserves a historical designation to preserve the trees. Ms. Muller stated that she is a Realtor and just sold a house. The new owner spoke to the Township and was told he can take down all of the trees on his property. She wants the ordinance changed to protect the trees. Mr. Cafferty replied he has been looking at this issue and reviewing ordinances from all over the State. It is a balancing act between preservation and property owner's right to develop their land. Mr. Lane asked to partner with Mr. Cafferty on this issue. He saw the tree that was removed and it was massive. He has also witnessed clear cutting of trees.

Barbara Burns, Ocean Avenue, stated Pride Month is a great way to recognize the LGBTQ community. She thanked the Camp Meeting Association for getting the Kimbly-Horn parking study done. She asked the Committee to use it as guidance moving forward and asked that the study be released to the public. Ms. Burns concluded that trees are very helpful in soaking up water to prevent flooding.

Erica Muller asked if the Township's Community Forestry Plan is up to date. Mr. Gadaleta stated that he is not sure of the status. Ms. Muller stated she writes these plans and it would be good to reference when drafting the tree ordinance. She cited the example of Toms River where there is a requirement to preserve 15% of the wooded acreage on lots under one acre.

Eileen Michaels, Seaview Avenue, stated she is excited about the community center idea. She applauded Harriet Bernstein for doing something to recognize the LGBTQ community. Unity is a great statement to make. She saw a skateboarder on the North End who told her it is easy to get inside the fence. There is a risk of fire at the North End site and it needs to be monitored for safety. OGNED only cleaned the area that was used for dumping. The entire lot should be cleaned.

Luisa Paster, commended the effort to save trees. She asked the Township to raise the rainbow flag for Pride Month to recognize the LGBTQ community and their contributions to Neptune. This would also draw more people into town and is a sign of respect.

Nancy Clarke, stated that the community center idea is great. She is happy to see the commitment for the Pride Month initiative. The Historic Preservation Commission Guidelines are in the process of being revised, but it has been over a year. She commended Mayor Brantley for publicizing the opening on the Police Committee and asked for an application procedure for membership to Township boards. The Committee indicated that they would like to see an application procedure developed. The Mayor received a sample application from a resident which he will review. Mr. Haney stated the HPC standards are being reviewed by members of the HPC. Mr. Williams added that the Committee needs to look at how to better advertise openings on boards.

Connie Holmes, stated she reviewed a copy of the transcript from the last Township Committee meeting. She asked why she was removed as a member of the Rent Leveling Board. She stated that the Mayor contacted her and told her that she was removed because she went against the party and supported Kevin McMillan. She does not want this to happen to someone else. The community needs to hear from the candidates for Township Committee. People were called traitors for voting against the party.

Marisa Austin, stated that she is on the Ocean Grove Homeowners Association Parking Committee and asked if anything will be done to improve the parking situation by this summer. The Mayor responded that the Committee just received a copy of the Parking Study and everyone needs a chance to look at it. He said that he was not sure how fast the Committee will get to it. Ms. Austin asked that it be discussed at the next meeting.

Reverend Edmund Lee, Pastor of Mt. Carmel Church, asked for a status on the redevelopment of West Lake Avenue and asked where the community center will be built. Mr. Gadaleta replied the Township is waiting to get a value established on the properties owned by the Township. There is one interested party in developing the site which is the same developer of the Schoolhouse Square project. If this party agrees to the price of the Township owned property, a Redevelopment Agreement would be done. Reverend Lee asked if there is a problem with people sleeping in cars in the Township. Mr. Lane responded that the discussion on a possible ordinance to regulate sleeping in cars was tabled.

Frank Gaciovano, asked for a status on the ordinance regulating sleeping in cars. Mr. Anthony responded that the Committee is not moving forward on this. Mr. Gaciovano asked if any Committee members looked at the North End site. The Mayor replied that he saw it. Mr. Gaciovano stated the property is still a mess with weeds and debris around the pool. The clean-up needs to be done properly and in accordance with the notice of violation. The Mayor responded the Committee and Mr. Gadaleta are looking into it. Mr. Gadaleta invited Mr. Gaciovano to join him and Eileen Michaels on March 23rd to view the property and discuss the concerns.

Dianna Harris, 17 Willow Drive, stated she is glad to hear consideration of a community center. Years ago, the Living Word Church site was considered and still would be a great location. The community garden will open on April 10th and there is a problem with illegal dumping next to the park where the garden is located. She supports the rainbow flag idea to recognize the LGBTQ community. She discussed a lack of housing for the working poor. She asked the Committee to consider making Juneteenth a holiday and hold a celebration such as a parade. She stated that the state cut \$4 million in state aid to the Board of Education. Ms. Holmes was a productive member of the Rent Leveling Board and the same thing happened to her when she went against the party. Finally, she stated that MURC would be willing to get involved with sharing information about Board vacancies.

Mark Kourey, 11 Seaview Avenue, stated he is impressed with how the Township Committee meetings are being handled during the pandemic. The various Township departments are amazing and he is thrilled about the community center. He supports the rainbow flag and Juneteenth. He asked that the HPC regulations remain tight. He expressed hope that the North End project will not change the Committee's goal of helping with the parking problem. The Mayor asked Mr. Gadaleta to look into a Juneteenth celebration and also to set up community forums to solicit input on the community center.

Dainelle Irby, Winding Ridge Drive, stated she is the granddaughter of Connie Holmes. Her grandmother has always done what is best and she deserves respect for what she has done in the community. It is wrong to defame her character. Mayor Brantley responded that this is politics. He does not control the Democratic Club and Ms. Holmes should address her concerns about not being reappointed to the Democratic Club.

Mr. Williams offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Cafferty, to adjourn. All were in favor.

Richard J. Cuttrell,
Municipal Clerk