I. CALL TO ORDER & FLAG SALUTE

Mayor Moore called the meeting to order at 7:31PM. He then led the Flag Salute.

II. OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS STATEMENT

The Township Clerk read the following statement into the record: “Adequate notice of this meeting has been provided in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act, P.L. 1975, Ch. 231 setting forth the time, date, place and purpose of this Public Meeting through a legal notice published in the Burlington County Times on January 13, 2022 & the Courier Post, on January 18, 2022. Said notice was also posted on the Bulletin Board and filed in the Office of the Municipal Clerk.”

III. ROLL CALL

Present were Committeewoman Kimberly Brown, Committeeman Mark Hartman, Committeewoman Nancy McGinnis, Committeeman Robert Sunbury, and Mayor Samuel R. Moore, III. Also present were the Administrator, Casey English, the Clerk, Everett Falt, the Solicitor, William Burns, Esq., the Chief Financial Officer, Rodney Haines, the Construction/Code Official Thomas Boyd, and a representative from Pennoni Engineering, Blake Fitzpatrick.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

Stuart Brooks, of 78 Moore’s Meadow Road, came forward. Mr. Brooks inquired what the plan for the new Town Hall would be. He then inquired what the process is for acquiring prospective property for the new building. He also wanted to know if the 2018 appraisal could be used for the old Tabernacle Rescue Squad (TRS) building. Mr. Brooks finally inquired what the bond payment was for vehicle 4313 for the fire department.
Fran Brooks, of 78 Moore’s Meadow Road, came forward. Mrs. Brooks wanted to know if the attorney found any case law prohibiting reducing the public comment time. Mrs. Brooks wanted to know why the Administrator did not address the agenda not being posted on the Friday prior to the meeting. Mrs. Brooks expressed several concerns she had about transparency. Finally, she expressed that limiting public comment to two minutes was nefarious.

With no one else coming forward, Mayor Moore closed the public comment.

V. EXECUTIVE SESSION (RESOLUTION 2022-52)

Mayor Moore requested the Clerk read Resolution 2022-52 into the record. The clerk read Resolution 2022-52. Mayor Moore requested a motion to adopt said resolution. Mr. Sunbury offered a motion with Mr. Hartman seconding. Mayor Moore requested a roll call vote.

Roll Call Vote AYE  BROWN, HARTMAN, MCGINNIS, SUNBURY, MAYOR MOORE
NAY  NONE

With all ayes and no nays, the motion carried.

The Township Committee went into Executive Session at approximately 7:45PM. The Township Committee reconvened the Public Portion of the meeting at 8:15PM. Mayor Moore requested a motion to reopen the meeting to the public. Mr. Sunbury offered said motion, with Mr. Hartman offering a second. Mayor Moore requested a roll call vote.

Roll Call Vote AYE  BROWN, HARTMAN, MCGINNIS, SUNBURY, MAYOR MOORE
NAY  NONE

With all ayes and no nays, the motion carried.

Mayor Moore requested that the Administrator inform the public what the executive session was in regards to in in vague terms. Ms. English stated there were initially two properties they had looked at for the new building. She clarified one of the property owners was not interested in selling. Ms. English then informed that the Township was looking at a piece of
land that was 19 acres on Carranza Road, that was a potential location for a new municipal complex. She further clarified that the property owner wanted to move quickly and the Administrator further clarified that she thought the pricing for the land was advantageous for the Township.

Ms. English asked Mr. Boyd to inform on the history of the proposed property. Mayor Moore asked the Solicitor what the best path forward was. The Attorney recommend making a motion to allow the Administrator, Clerk, and Attorney to do all things necessary to move forward with the purchase and to draft a “Letter of Intent” to provide to the property owner. Thomas Boyd, the construction official, informed the committee that negotiation on this particular piece of land had begun with Mr. Guzzi, the former engineer. He further informed there were a number of discussions that had begun with the former Administrator, Doug Cramer.

Mr. Burns confirmed that the Township was in the preliminary stages of procuring property. He further clarified it is for that reason the Committee is being very discreet. Mr. Burns stated we would draft a letter of intent. Mr. Burns requested the Township Committee authorize the Township professionals to do all things necessary to develop a letter of intent for the purchase of real property. Mrs. McGinnis made said motion, with Mr. Hartman seconding. No additional discussion was had. Mayor Moore requested a roll call vote.

Roll Call Vote AYE  BROWN, HARTMAN, MCGINNIS, SUNBURY, MAYOR MOORE

NAY  NONE

With all ayes and no nays, the motion carried.

VI. COMMITTEE WORKSHOP

2022 Recycling and Solid Waste Services Agreement

The Administrator, Casey English, informed the Township Committee the aforementioned agreement was a boiler plate agreement that was provided by Burlington County and that the Township Solicitor had reviewed the document and believed it was advisable for the Mayor to
sign it as the county would not be likely to accept any changes. The Administrator informed the agreement was for an increase in tipping fees for recycling and refuse. Mayor Moore requested a motion which was offered by Mr. Sunbury. Mr. Hartman offered a second. Mayor Moore requested a roll call vote.

Roll Call Vote AYE  BROWN, HARTMAN, MCGINNIS, SUNBURY, MAYOR MOORE
NAY

With all ayes and no nays, the motion carried.

Township Tax Liens/Properties

The Administrator informed the Township Committee with regard to Tax Liens. The Chief Financial Offered, Rodney Haines, shared his insights into tax sales certificates. The Township Solicitor informed the Township Committee what the process was for Tax Liens/Auctions. Mr. Burns offered to work with Mr. Haines on determining the most advantageous path forward on all the various properties and liens that were owned by the Township. Mr. Burns indicated they could set the parameters of which certificates should be assigned to third parties. It was the consensus of the Committee for the CFO and Solicitor to work together on the tax sale certificates.

VII. REPORTS

a)  Engineer

Blake Fitzpatrick from Pennoni Engineering, provided a report to the Township Committee members. Pennoni Engineering reviewed 9 road opening permits. The contracts for the 2020 drainage projects were received. He informed that a pre-construction meeting was held in February.

Blake added they had received the plans for the Carranza Road Phase II project. He stated they held a site visit in the beginning of March. He believes paving will likely begin in early April. Additionally, he informed that the Parks grant project contracts had been received and will be dropped off with the Clerk for execution.
Finally, Blake concluded the Pinelands Committee will have to review the plans for the Municipal Building, which could take quite a bit of time.

b) Administrator

Mrs. English reminded the Township Committee that the Court Administrator was retiring in May. She also reiterated they will need to replace Deputy Court Administrator as well as she had recently submitted her resignation. Mrs. English stated there were a variety of options that we would need to be discussed as the retirement and the resignation will create vacancies shortly that would need to be dealt with. She informed that she has so far only received one quote to winterize the old TRS building. Finally, she informed that some employees had been moved over to the trailers. Mr. Sunbury asked about the IT service RFPs. Mrs. English informed that the RFPs were due back on March 15, 2022.

c) Township Solicitor

Mr. Burns reiterated that he would work with Rodney on a resolution for certificate of tax sales. Mr. Burns informed that there were two cases with the appellate court. Mr. Burns requested permission to follow up with a title company regarding a recent lawsuit that was filed in the Clerk’s office. He informed that a title search could help clear up the matter. Mayor Moore requested a motion. Mr. Burns clarified it would help determine who owned the land and who the piece of land belongs too. Mayor Moore requested a motion to authorize the Solicitor to work with a title company on the litigation. Mr. Sunbury offered said motion, with Mr. Hartman seconding. Mrs. Brown asked what the benefit of the title search would do. Mr. Burns indicated it would help determine who in fact owned the property. Mayor Moore requested a roll call vote.

Roll Call Vote AYE  BROWN, HARTMAN, MCGINNIS, SUNBURY, MAYOR MOORE
NAY  NONE

With all ayes and no nays, the motion carried.

d) Emergency Management
No one was present to report from the Fire Department or the Tabernacle Rescue Squad (TRS).

e) CMFO

Mr. Haines indicated that he had provided several state contract specifications to the Administrator for the vehicle the Fire Chief had requested. He also said he would work with the Solicitor on the tax liens.

f) Township Committee

Mayor Moore asked Mr. Hartman if he had anything for his report. Mr. Hartman had nothing to add. Mr. Sunbury also indicated he had no additional comment. Mrs. McGinnis asked that the LDB Board make a change to our local sign ordinance and allow “digital signs that move.” Mr. Sunbury agreed the ordinance is too restrictive. Mr. Hartman concurred. Mrs. Brown abstained as she worked for the school district. Mr. Burns indicated that correspondence should be sent to the Land Development Board for a recommendation to amend the sign ordinance. Mrs. McGinnis had nothing further. Mayor Moore had nothing additional to report.

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION (RESOLUTION 2022-53)

The attorney read Resolution 2022-53 into the record. Mayor Moore requested a motion to adopt Resolution 2022-53. Mr. Hartman offered the motion, with Mrs. Brown seconding. Mayor Moore requested a roll call vote.

Roll Call Vote AYE  BROWN, HARTMAN, MCGINNIS, SUNBURY, MAYOR MOORE

NAY  NONE

With all ayes and no nays, the motion carried. The Township Committee went back into Executive Session at 9:13PM.

IX. RECONVENE TO WORKSHOP
The Township Committee came out of executive session at approximately 9:50PM. Mrs. McGinnis offered a motion to reopen the meeting to the public, with Mr. Hartman seconding. Mayor requested a roll call vote.

Roll Call Vote AYE  BROWN, HARTMAN, MCGINNIS, SUNBURY, MAYOR MOORE
  NAY  NONE

With all ayes and no nays, the motion carried.

X.  ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Moore requested a motion and a second for adjournment. Mr. Sunbury offered the motion with Mrs. McGinnis offering the second. All voted in favor via voice -vote. The meeting was adjourned at 9:51PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Everett Falt, RMC/CMR
Township Clerk