TABERNACLE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES
TOWN HALL - FEBRUARY 25, 2019

Governing Body Members In Attendance
Kimberly A. Brown, Deputy Mayor (Telephone Voice Attendance); Stephen V. Lee, IV, Township Committee; Samuel R. Moore, III, Township Committee and Joseph W. Barton, Mayor. Township Committee, Joseph Yates, IV was (Absent).

Administrative Team In Attendance
Douglas A. Cramer, CPWM, Administrator; Rodney R. Haines, CMFO, Finance Officer; Peter C. Lange, Jr., Township Solicitor and La Shawn R. Barber, RMC, Municipal Clerk

Solicitor Lange met with members of the Township Committee to provide an overview of the ongoing litigation case of Fran Brooks v. Township of Tabernacle and Custodian of Records, Docket No. BUR-L-001048-18. Depositions were conducted to explore the amended complaints regarding allegations as previously discussed in prior executive sessions held by this Township Committee. The deposition did not reveal any facts that support the claims that the Municipal Clerk or assistant staff acted willfully or purposefully in a way that would support an assessment of a civil penalty.

The timely provision of executive minutes has been in accordance with the requirement that the minutes be produced promptly. The Township will follow its existing policy and ensure future compliance with the statute.

Solicitor Lange expressed concern about a problematic exposure over documents related to the Hall zoning application as it was requested several times and ultimately provided; the document was in custody of the Township. The OPRA request referenced for block and lot which was transmitted to the appropriate department; the Hall letter and zoning application was ultimately provided from the construction department. Construction Official Boyd and Technical Assistant Love (Cummins) will update their office filing system.

Ms. Brooks already received these documents prior to filing the lawsuit; it is unclear if this would support a violation of OPRA because the documents were not initially produced in response to Ms. Brooks initial OPRA request.

In an effort to resolve the matter, Solicitor Lange request authority to negotiate settlement for Township’s exposure and attorney fees. Township Committee members did not express any objections.

Members of the Township Committee came out of closed session and returned to the regular meeting.

Respectfully,

La Shawn R. Barber, RMC/CMR Municipal Clerk

APPROVED: 04/29/2019

RELEASE DATE: 12/04/2019