

# WHITE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

# MINUTES OF MEETING APRIL 22, 2020

## CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Herb called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and stated ‘Adequate Notice of this ZOOM meeting of April 22, 2020 has been given in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act by forwarding a notice of the date, time, and location of the meeting to the Express-Times; and by posting a copy thereof on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building and the township website. Formal action may be taken at this meeting. Public participation is encouraged. This agenda is subject to last minute additions and deletions by the White Township Committee’.

## FLAG SALUTE

The Mayor asked everyone to stand for the flag salute.

## ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Herb, Committeewoman Collom, and Clerk Kathleen Reinalda. Committeeman Race and Attorney Tipton were absent.

## RESOLUTIONS

**Res. 2020-24** Motion made by Mrs. Collom, seconded by Mayor Herb and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote to approve the following resolution. Herb – yes, Collom – yes, Race – absent. Resolution adopted.

### **RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE STATE AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENTS TO IMMEDIATELY ALLOCATE CRITICALLY NEEDED EMERGENCY AND ECONOMIC FUNDING TO THE COUNTY OF WARREN FOR THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

#### **RESOLUTION 2020-24**

**WHEREAS**, in response to the deadly COVID-19 (Corona Virus) pandemic the Federal Government recently enacted several pieces of legislation aimed at reducing the economic impact and protecting public health; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Corona Virus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (the ‘CARES Act’) is the largest emergency aid package in United States history and provides for over two trillion dollars (\$2,000,000,000,000) in emergency and economic aid and allocates billions of dollars of relief to individuals, businesses, the health care system and state, county and local governments; and,

**WHEREAS**, on April 2, 2020, the United States Senators for the State of New Jersey, Robert Menendez and Cory Booker, announced the release of the first wave of Federal funding

pursuant to the CARES Act under which New Jersey would receive a combined total in excess of eighty-two million dollars (\$82,000,000) in State and local funding and of which fifteen million seven-hundred thousand dollars (\$15,700,000) in discretionary funding was allocated directly to the State government; and,

**WHEREAS**, notwithstanding that Northern New Jersey has one of the highest concentrations of confirmed cases in the entire world and is currently considered to be at the epicenter of the national and global emergency caused by the deadly Corona Virus, the County of Warren is only one (1) of four (4) New Jersey counties not to receive any Federal funding; and,

**WHEREAS**, while several other counties within the State with significantly less Corona Virus cases received Federal aid, the taxpayers and residents of Warren County and a few other counties have been marginalized, ignored and left to carry the heavy burden and cost of responding to the most significant national emergency that has faced this Country since World War 2 alone and without the benefit of critically needed Federal and State assistance; and,

**WHEREAS**, unlike the other parts of the State where testing centers have been opened with the help of State and Federal assistance, Warren County, with the assistance of St. Luke's Hospital and local municipalities, took action to open a testing center on its own initiative and funded solely by the County.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the White Township Committee, County of Warren, State of New Jersey, imploring Federal and State Government to take notice of the significant impact on residents and taxpayers of Warren County caused by the Corona Virus epidemic and to take immediate action to correct and address the inequities caused by the current allocation of State and Federal aid and provide the necessary funding and resources to the County Warren and municipalities within the County to protect the health and safety of the public.

**Res. 2020-25:** Motion made by Mrs. Collom, seconded by Mayor Herb and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote to approve the following resolution. Herb – yes, Collom – yes, Race – absent. Resolution adopted.

**RESOLUTION IMPLORING THE GOVERNORS OF NEW JERSEY AND PENNSYLVANIA, AS WELL AS THE BOARDS OF TRUSTEES OF ST. LUKE'S UNIVERSITY HEALTH NETWORK AND THE LEHIGH VALLEY HEALTH NETWORK, TO PROMULGATE UPDATED PROTOCOLS REGARDING OBSTETRICAL LABOR, DELIVERY AND VISITATION**

## **RESOLUTION NO. 2020-25**

**WHEREAS**, to witness the birth of a child is our best opportunity “to experience the meaning of the word miracle” (Paul Carvel); and

**WHEREAS**, one of the greatest joys experienced by a spouse is being able to participate in the birth of and have that initial bonding with a new baby; and

**WHEREAS**, many Warren County couples have brought it to the attention of the Board of Chosen Freeholders that St. Luke’s University Health Network and Lehigh Valley Health Network have imposed a ban on New Jersey visitors, including for maternity visits; and

**WHEREAS**, this ban is particularly discriminatory against Warren County couples, as neither hospital in Warren County offers maternity services, leaving expectant parents no choice but to use medical facilities located outside of the County; and

**WHEREAS**, Warren County’s number of COVID-19 infections is far fewer than the amount reported in Pennsylvania’s Lehigh Valley, where St. Luke’s University Health Network and Lehigh Valley Health Network maternity facilities are located, so a ban on family members assisting in the birth of a baby is an unnecessary and heavy-handed approach not supported by the facts; and

**WHEREAS**, the New York Department of Health has updated specific guidelines for obstetrical and pediatric settings providing for familial support in labor and delivery as well as the immediate postpartum period if the patient so desires; and

**WHEREAS**, New Jersey Health Commissioner Judith Persichilli has issued an order to hospitals requiring them to allow one designated support person to be with the expectant mother, deeming such support as essential to patient care throughout labor, delivery, and the immediate postpartum period; and

**WHEREAS**, the Warren County Board of Chosen Freeholders shares the sentiment that a child’s birth is a special moment and should be celebrated; and

**WHEREAS**, the delivery of a baby without a spouse or any family members present creates additional stress and anxiety, which could impact delivery; and

**WHEREAS**, an amended order on visitation, being cognizant of symptoms of COVID-19 and protocols addressing the health, safety and welfare of all patients and staff, should be implemented to ensure a practical, prudent, and reasonable policy;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the White Township Committee, County of Warren, State of New Jersey requests that Governor Phil Murphy of the State of New Jersey and Gov. Tom Wolf of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, as well as the respective boards of trustees of St. Luke’s University Health Network and Lehigh Valley Health Network, modify the policies for labor and delivery for the birth of a child to permit participation by designated family; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a certified copy of this resolution be sent to Gov. Murphy, Gov. Wolf and to respective boards of trustees of St. Luke’s University Hospital Network and the Lehigh Valley Health Network.

**Res. 2020-26:** Motion made by Mrs. Collom, seconded by Mayor Herb and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote to approve the following resolution. Herb – yes, Collom – yes, Race – absent. Resolution adopted.

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WHITE, COUNTY OF WARREN AND  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY, DESIGNATING NEWSPAPERS TO RECEIVE NOTICES  
OF MEETINGS**

**WHEREAS**, Section 3 (d) of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, requires that certain notices of meetings shall be submitted to two (2) newspapers, one of which shall be designated as the official newspaper of the Township of White; and

**WHEREAS**, the second newspaper designated by this body must be one that has the greatest likelihood of informing the public within the jurisdictional boundaries of this body of such meetings.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Committee of the Township of White, County of Warren, and State of New Jersey:

- 1) The EXPRESS-TIMES Warren County NJ Zone is hereby designated as the official newspaper of the Township of White to receive all notices of meetings as required under the Open Public Meetings Act.
- 2) The STAR-LEDGER has the greatest likelihood of informing the public within the jurisdictional area of this body of such meetings.

This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Motion made by Mrs. Collom, seconded by Mayor Herb and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote to appoint Frances Dale Glynn as Plumbing Inspector effective May 1, 2020. Herb – yes, Race – absent, Collom – yes. Ralph Price resigned the position, but remains the Building and Fire Official.

The 2020 Municipal Budget is complete and will be Introduced at the May meeting.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Arnold Hyndman, 52 Beechwood Rd., encouraged the committee to support local businesses.

Tom Bodalsky, Hope Township resident, expressed his support for the recently introduced soil importation ordinance.

**PRESENTATION OF VOUCHERS**

On motion by Mrs. Collom, seconded by Mayor Herb and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Committee approved the following list of bills:

<u>Check No.</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Payee</u>
16557	5590.00	A.B.E Parking Lot Striping Co.
16558	438.25	Adams Fire Protection Inc.
16559	5547.00	Arae Network Solutions LLC
16560	191.66	CenturyLink
16561	609.50	Comcast
16562	50.00	Discovery Benefits
16563	600.00	Edmund GovTech
16564	272.00	J.C. Ehrlich Co., Inc.
16565	654.73	Elizabethtown Gas
16566	547.45	Elizabethtown Gas
16567	5800.00	Florio, Perrucci, Steinhardt & Cappelli
16568	932.50	Gebhardt & Kiefer P.C.
16569	1380.00	GenServe Inc.
16570	4687.50	GTM Turf Management
16571	27.22	Home Depot Credit Services
16572	315.10	Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of NJ
16573	2756.66	JCP&L
16574	15.50	Kathleen Reinalda
16575	7525.26	Maser Consulting P.A.
16576	28.19	Mayberry Sales & Service
16577	489.30	Montage Enterprises Inc.
16578	208.73	North East Parts Group LLC
16579	63.90	ReadyRefresh by Nestle
16580	1058.00	NJ American Water Company
16581	1369.31	NJ Advance Media
16582	19.00	NJPO
16583	24,881.00	Public Alliance Insurance Coverage Fund
16584	10.20	Public Employees Retirement System
16585	20.58	Rigo's General Hardware
16586	136.16	Sanico, Inc.
16587	1161.20	S&L Equipment Rental Inc.
16588	467.95	Staples Credit Plan
16589	907.50	Steven P. Gruenberg, Attorney
16590	2147.78	TGM Services
16591	219.99	Verizon Wireless
16592	520.00	Vital Communications
16593	605,443.00	White Twsp. Board of Education
16594	373.82	Wire's Electrical Shop
16595	606.79	Xerox Corporation
TOTAL.....	\$678,072.73	

CURRENT VALLEY MANUAL

2350	23,654.26	Payroll Account
2351	12,975.95	Payroll Account

DEVELOPER'S ESCROWS

1195	907.50	Bright View Engineering
1196	272.00	Gebhardt & Kiefer P.C.
1197	697.50	Suburban Consulting Engineers
1198	1294.46	Maser Consulting P.A.
1199	75.00	Maser Consulting P.A.
1200	33.00	Gebhardt & Kiefer P.C.

GRAVEL PIT ESCROWS

229	454.17	Maser Consulting P.A. (for HS&G)
237	89.94	Maser Consulting P.A. (for BS&G)

CAPITAL ACCOUNT

1556	443.44	Maser Consulting P.A.
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DOG ACCOUNT

1174	52.20	NJ Dept. of Health & Senior Services
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SEWER ACCOUNT

1360	600.00	Edmunds GovTech
1361	1800.00	Warren County (PR) MUA
1362	73,733.75	Warren County (PR) MUA

TOTAL ALL FUNDS.....\$795,155.90

**ADJOURNMENT**

Being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 6:32p.m. on motion by Mrs. Collom, seconded by Mayor Herb and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Kathleen R. Reinalda, RMC  
Township Clerk