

The Lakewood Township Committee held a Meeting on Thursday, June 2, 2016 in the Lakewood Municipal Building, at 6:30 PM for the Workshop/Executive Session, and 7:30 PM for the Public Meeting, with the following present:

Mayor..... Menashe P. Miller
Deputy Mayor..... Albert D. Akerman
Committee Members..... Raymond Coles
Michael J. D'Elia
Meir Lichtenstein
Municipal Manager..... Thomas Henshaw
Municipal Attorney..... Steven Secare, Esq.
Municipal Clerk..... Kathryn Hutchinson

Adequate notice of this meeting has been provided in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6, and published in the Asbury Park Press on January 6, 2016.

ROLL CALL

CLOSED SESSION

Resolution No. 2016-210 - Adopted

ROLL CALL

SALUTE TO THE FLAG AND PRAYER

OPEN SESSION

Motion by Committeeman Coles, second by Committeeman Lichtenstein, and carried, to open the meeting.

MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES OF: May 5, 2016 and May 19, 2016

Motion by Committeeman D'Elia, second by Committeeman Lichtenstein, and carried, to approve the above Minutes. Committeeman Coles abstained.

**MOTION TO APPROVE WORKSHOP AND CLOSED SESSION MINUTES:
May 5, 2016 and May 19, 2016**

Motion by Deputy Mayor Akerman, second by Committeeman Lichtenstein, and carried, to approve the above Closed Session Minutes. Committeeman Coles abstained.

PRESENTATIONS - EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

2016 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

Mr. Henshaw explained that this year's budget was \$80,649,644.00. The Municipal Purposes Tax was \$55,545.00. There was a zero increase this year in the Municipal Tax Rate.

Mayor Miller repeated that there was a zero percent increase in the Municipal portion. He thanked the CFO, Bill Rieker, and the Municipal Manager, Tom Henshaw, for their hard work on the Budget, as well as Deputy Mayor Akerman, the Liaison to the Finance Department.

PUBLIC HEARING - 2016 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

Mayor Miller opened the Public Hearing on the 2016 Municipal Budget.

Baruch Blaustein, 20 Empire Lane – Advised that Deputy Mayor Akerman, who was last year's Mayor, stated that last year's Budget was flat, and he was expecting that this year's Budget should be flat, which it is, which is amazing. He feels that Lakewood still needs to put a lot of money into infrastructure. He feels that the infrastructure is horrible. He complained about the County roads, which he feels are horrendous. He personally lives off Prospect Street, and the traffic is terrible. He feels that the roads need to be widened to two lanes, similar to what is needed on Route 9, with turning lanes, more traffic lights, etc. With regard to the local infrastructure for Township streets, the roads need to be repaved. Traffic lights are needed at a lot of intersections. The Township has put in Stop signs, which has helped a lot, but in his opinion, at some intersections it does not. Obviously, this costs a lot of money and the question is how to balance that without raising the Budget. He believes there was discussion a while ago about putting out bonds for the roads, but he does not know if that actually happened. If they can figure out some way of cutting costs, and finding additional revenue, that would be even better. He does know that at the beginning of the year there were many land sales, but he does not know what happened to that money, if that just goes into the regular Budget and is used to offset it. One other recommendation that he came to discuss today, is trying to keep the costs under control for their largest expense in the Municipal Budget, which is the Lakewood Police Department. He has had his run-ins with the Police Department, which he is sure that the Committee is aware of. He still appreciates what they do, and thinks they do a good job, but they have their differences. But the Lakewood Scoop recently put out an article about having Auxiliary Police. They wrote that in Manchester, they just graduated another class of Auxiliary Police. They are basically, from his understanding of the article, volunteer officers that get training, with some sort of State certifications, with some minimum standards that they have to do. They can do light duty Police work, paper work, Watch Commander duties, etc., and in his opinion, that is something that the Lakewood Police Department is spending a considerable amount of time on, and it would be a win-win situation if they could have something similar to that. The Lakewood Scoop wrote that back in 2010, Chief Lawson said that there was something in Lakewood previously, and he would never reinstate it because it was a disaster. The auxiliary officers did not have enough training and it was more of a liability to the town than an asset. The Lakewood Scoop did write that Manchester is going above and beyond the State minimum for training, which he believes is thirty-six hours; they are doing fifty hours. And it seems like it is something that the Township should look into, and speak to the Chief about it, to see if it is possible to do something similar to what Manchester is doing, to invest more time

initially. Obviously there is a cost involved in that as well. But probably in the long term, they would end up saving a lot of money. In the Budget it says that basically the Police Department, just for Salaries and Wages and Other Expenses, is close to nineteen million dollars, and that is probably without pension, allowances for uniforms, vehicles, etc., etc., so he would not be surprised if those numbers are thirty or thirty-five million by the time they are done. Auxiliary Police Officers, in his opinion, if structured properly, would be a great start, because at the end of the day, the Police Department is one of the biggest expenses in the Budget. If they could work something out like this, it would help everyone. It would help the Police focus on the real crime, the real issues, and it would help out the whole town. They could invest their money in infrastructure.

Mayor Miller thanked Mr. Blaustein. He advised that the good news is that built into the zero increase is a very robust sidewalk and road resurfacing program for this year. Diamond Construction was awarded the bid to do the work, and they have just started. The project includes sidewalks, handicap ramps, road repairs and resurfacing. And they are not cutting down on the services, which will continue running as in the past.

With regard to the recent land sales, Mayor Miller advised that the monies that came in during the year, can only be spent the following year. If it is realized this year, it can only be spent the following year. That is the story with the land sales.

Seeing no one else wishing to be heard, Mayor Miller closed the Public Hearing on the 2016 Municipal Budget.

Calendar Year 2016 - Model Ordinance to Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and to Establish a Cap Bank (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14)

Read by title only for second reading.

Mayor Miller opened the meeting to the public. Seeing no one wishing to be heard, the hearing on this Ordinance was closed to the public.

The above Ordinance was offered by Committeeman Coles, second by Committeeman Lichtenstein

On Roll Call – Affirmative: Committeeman Coles, Committeeman Lichtenstein, Committeeman D’Elia, Deputy Mayor Akerman and Mayor Miller.

Ordinance No. 2016-24 adopted on second reading.

RESOLUTION - 2016 MUNICIPAL BUDGET ADOPTION

Motion by Committeeman Coles, second by Committeeman Lichtenstein

On Roll Call – Affirmative: Committeeman Coles, Committeeman Lichtenstein, Committeeman D’Elia, Deputy Mayor Akerman and Mayor Miller.

Resolution No. 2016-211 – Adopted.

ORDINANCES FOR DISCUSSION - None

PUBLIC COMMENT

Comments from the public will be heard for a limit of one (1) hour. Each speaker will have four (4) minutes and shall be limited to one time at the podium.

Mayor Miller opened the meeting to the public.

Alice Kelsey, 295B Malvern Court East – Commented on the Lakewood Resource and Referral Center, which opened eleven years ago. It was the creation of Committeeman Coles, and funded by the Township Committee, using CDBG monies and Township funding. The center was to operate as a partnership between the Lakewood Resource and Referral Center and the Puerto Rican Action Board. The LRRC was established in a building on Clifton Avenue, across the street from the Puerto Rican Action Board office. Both agencies have since moved to other locations. The LRRC came into existence at a time that Lakewood was building affordable housing, and was focused on providing assistance to residents to quality for home ownership such as entitlement screening and problem resolution such as case management, crisis intervention, translation services and immigration services. All the while that the LRRC was providing these services on one side of the street, the Puerto Rican Action Board was providing services across the street. Both agencies provided services, as needed, to the communities they served. The PRAB continued to provide an array of services to the community, which included housing counselling, domestic violence prevention, legal orientation, client advocacy, translation, and interpretation services. Services would be targeted to the economically disadvantaged individuals and families. While both agencies served all residents of Lakewood, they were perceived as being especially sensitive to the cultural needs of different communities. The PRAB was seen as culturally sensitive to the Spanish speaking Latino community. As the PRAB is leaving Lakewood this month, the need to provide culturally sensitive services to the Spanish speaking Latino community remains. As Lakewood Township did eleven years ago, she is asking the Township Committee to provide funds to continue the culturally sensitive services provided by the PRAB under the metropolitan multi-cultural Latino agency. And to that end, she would like to offer a proposal for those services. (Ms. Kelsey provided literature to the members of the Township Committee)

_____, 127 Claire Drive – Complained about the condition of Finchley Boulevard, which had been resurfaced approximately two years ago. A developer built five sets of duplexes, and dug up the road in many places, and did a horrible job of repaving. The road is a mess, even though it is less than two years ago. Nothing has been done with the road, so he followed up. He received a phone call back today from someone from the Township. He was told that there is a Township road resurfacing program. All the monies are allocated for this year, but they will look into it to see what they can do for next year. His question is why is that not the responsibility of the developer to fix it, and he would like to ask that when a developer breaks open a road, and digs up a road, what does the Township require them to do. Do they just dump dirt and slap down some tar, and that is it? He asked what are the requirements.

Mayor Miller explained that the Township actually just amended the Ordinance. In the past, the developer would come in to dig a trench, and he would fill it, and run over it with a steamroller. And as the years would go by, it would sink and get shallow and fall apart. They have now amended the Ordinance that any time a developer opens up a road, they have to use a method called “infrared”, where the resurfacing is heated up and meshed with the roadway. It is an expensive procedure, but it makes it almost seamless. This is the new requirement.

Mayor Miller added he will follow up with Mr. Staiger with regard to who opened the road, and to require them to make the proper repairs.

Harold Hershkowitz, 1496 Cedar Row – He thought that there would be open bidding this evening on Billboard signs that were being proposed throughout Lakewood.

Mr. Secare advised it happened already. It was a private bidding because only the qualified bidders were permitted to be there.

Mr. Hershkowitz asked if they did not feel that the public should have been told about signs that are being put up throughout their town. He feels that besides being an eyesore, and an embarrassment, because no other towns have signs like that on roadways that are not highways, it is known that there is a thirty percent increase in fatalities in areas that are near these signs. He asked if they do not think that the public should have been warned that these signs were being permitted. He also asked who was awarded the bid. It is known that there is a thirty percent increase in fatalities. It is a documented fact. If these signs are approved, he stated he will remind the Committee that when there are accidents, and there are deaths, he will be there to say that he accuses them, for allowing these signs to be put up in the town. He also feels that Jackson Township is not going to be happy to see signs for _____ or the Lakewood Cheder dinner right on the border of their town. So if they are concerned about how Lakewood is perceived by neighboring towns, they should not be approving these signs. And he wants to know how much money the Township is gaining from these signs and if it is worth even a one percent chance of someone’s life being put in danger. He wants them to keep this in mind, and remember this moment, because it is going to come back to haunt them if they are going to put up these signs.

Beth McLaughlin, 11 Eldorado Drive – At the May 5th meeting, a resident discussed the subject of free solid waste pick-up. As a concerned resident of Lakewood, she has some questions regarding how tax dollars are spent on solid waste pick-up for non-public schools. She asked if it is true that all non-public schools are currently receiving the benefit of free solid waste pick-up.

Mayor Miller responded that all not-for-profits in town, which includes churches, schools, and entities, are all presently receiving garbage pick-up.

Ms. McLaughlin confirmed that is “free solid waste pick-up”.

Mayor Miller responded yes, that is correct.

Ms. McLaughlin further asked the following questions: How many non-public schools are there in Lakewood; what is the cost per pick-up at each facility; how often are the pick-ups; who, among the Committee, were serving as Committeemen at the time that free solid waste pick-up for non-public schools was approved; is it true that former Mayor, State Senator Robert Singer, consented to their tax dollars to be spent on free solid waste pick-up for non-public schools; who voted to allow their tax dollars to be spent in this manner; why did that practice of free solid-waste pick-up at non-public schools commence; where can they find the documentation to support the vote for approval of free solid waste pick-up at non-public schools; how can they stop free solid waste pick-up. Ms. McLaughlin asked how long before they receive these answers, and if they can have the answers by the next meeting in two weeks.

Ms. McLaughlin further commented in conclusion, since the non-public schools do not pay property taxes, why are their tax dollars paying for their solid waste pick-up. It seems to her that it appears to be a double taxation for the residents. It is not fair to all of the tax paying residents of Lakewood. They demand that this practice end immediately.

Mayor Miller responded he did not have the information to many of her questions with him. He would be happy to provide the information, and could provide many of the answers by tomorrow morning when town hall opens.

As to the approximate number of non-public schools within the Township, someone from the audience stated it was one hundred thirty-seven.

Committeeman Coles responded that he believes he was on the Committee when this commenced, but he would have to check. He does not know if it was just before he came on in 2002, or after, but he has been here since it started. Committeeman Coles further advised that the other members of the Committee at the time were Mitch Dolobowsky, Marta Harrison, Robert Singer, Charlese Cunliffe, and that was in 2002.

As to where she could find the documentation to support the vote for approval of free solid waste pick-up at non-public schools, Mayor Miller responded as it was way before any of the current Committeeman served on the Committee, besides Committeeman Coles, that the information could possibly be found in the Clerk's Office.

As to how they can stop free solid waste pick-up, Mayor Miller responded that is a great question, which they will have to think about.

Mayor Miller further advised that as to the remaining information, he would provide answers as early as tomorrow morning, which he will certainly try to do.

Mayor Miller wanted to clarify one thing that is important to note. This protocol of picking up for all not-for-profits in Lakewood was obviously put into place before most of them currently on this Committee were actually on this Committee. No one on this Committee is the one who said go ahead and do this. This is something that was put into place way before they came on. And he did a little research. This is not the first time this has been brought up. And the little bit of information that he found out is that when this practice started, it was the churches who requested it. There were no Jewish schools back in those days. There were maybe one or two schools. It was the churches and other places who requested it.

Carol Dunbar, 75 Jumping Brook Drive – She has been informed that solid waste collection from businesses in downtown Lakewood is being conducted without cost to the business owner. These are businesses that operate on a for-profit basis. She also understands that the non-public schools which number one hundred thirty seven are also receiving the benefit of free solid waste collection. If this is true, particularly now about the businesses, how long has this practice been in effect.

Mayor Miller responded that it has been in effect way before he came on the Committee so he can not answer as to the exact number of years. He has been on the Committee for thirteen years, but he does now know how many years before it was put into place, but it was put into place prior to them coming to the Committee. The philosophy at the time for the downtown businesses is that when you go to a regular shopping plaza, a regular shopping plaza has a management company that manages that plaza. In Lakewood, in the downtown there is no management company. The management company that manages the downtown, which includes the Strand, etc., is the governing body. So that is why for the Lakewood Township downtown, they don't have separate haulers coming in all hours during the day and at different times. The downtown, town hall included, and he believes it is from Fifth Street down to possibly Main Street, that is the area that is considered the downtown area, the Township is the manager of that area, and that is why they provide garbage pick-up for that particular area.

Ms. Dunbar confirmed that the vendors in malls pay for that pick-up.

Mayor Miller responded that is correct. In private entities, that is what happens, because they pay it to their management company. Lakewood Township is the management company of the businesses in the downtown area.

Ms. Dunbar stated that the point is that they pay. The businesses in downtown Lakewood do not pay.

Deputy Mayor Akerman added that encouraging economic growth is a normal thing. It is normal for a town to give incentives to businesses to grow. It is his understanding that it started because the downtown was going to pot, and there were buildings that were getting boarded up. So they created an incentive for people to move in. The rents there are more expensive. It is not something that he would be in favor of taking away.

Deputy Mayor Akerman continued that he is also a taxpayer, and he is happy to see his tax dollars going to the downtown businesses to pick up trash. Not everything they do is bad. He thinks it is a great thing.

Ms. Dunbar asked if this is an informal practice or is there a regulation permitting this.

Mayor Miller responded it was probably done by Ordinance, he does not know, they do not have this information off hand. They would have to research it.

Ms. Dunbar continued that she is presenting these questions, and they are very interested in knowing what the situation is at the present time, not in 2002. They want to know about now. By what logic do business owners receive such a benefit, while the citizens have to pay for it. She asked if they know the cost to the taxpayer for this particular portion of the collection.

Deputy Mayor Akerman responded as of a couple of years ago, he asked Tony Arecchi and was told that the combined cost of both was roughly a million dollars, for schools and businesses combined. This goes back two years, when he got the rough number of a million dollars.

Ms. Dunbar stated this will have to be investigated because it has to stop. She further asked when could she have the answers to her questions.

Mayor Miller responded that he does not know. They will have someone do the research. He does not know how long, but certainly as soon as they possibly can.

Committeeman Coles added that he believes that the business pick-up goes back to the late 1970's, that is what he was told when he first came on.

Mario Arsay, 44 Jumping Brook Drive - In an article in the Asbury Park Press, December 16, 2014, a Committee person, Ray Coles, was quoted as saying....it has worked well for generations and the Lakewood downtown streets would be clogged with garbage trucks if the municipality did not pick-up. There could be trucks out there at all times of the day and night. That might have worked for generations in the past, but it is not good today. He asked In the last ten years, how many private schools have been built? He believes that there have been a great number. So they can not refer to generations in the past. He is a Lakewood taxpayer and he has seen uncontrollable growth with a lack of planning, and now they see the results. He can not see paying for solid waste collection of Lakewood's private school and downtown businesses. It is not right, it is not fair, or even justified that this burden has been placed on the backs of taxpayers.

Rebecca Spinnelli, 48 Bay Hill – Stated that a few years ago when she was attending a meeting here, a gentlemen got up and asked about the garbage collection, and at the time, the Committee stated this started when there were only approximately twelve schools they were picking up for. And even though the number of private schools

increased dramatically, the Committee was extending this courtesy to the additional schools as they were built. This courtesy was never extended to the Township public schools. Township public schools have to budget for their own private solid waste removal. She asked why don't the private schools, and how many of the private schools is the town paying for.

Deputy Mayor Akerman responded it is approximately one hundred thirty seven.

Ms. Spinelli asked that shouldn't the Committee know what they are paying for out of the Township tax dollars. She also asked that if the number of private schools increases during a fiscal year, do they receive this service when they open, or do they wait until the beginning of the next fiscal year. And if they receive this service when they open, how does the Department of Public Works adjust their budget to pay for the additional private schools that open after the budget has been approved for any given fiscal year.

Deputy Mayor Akerman answered that he does not think that every individual school is as costly as people think.

Ms. Spinelli responded it does not matter. Even if it is a thousand dollars.....how does Public Works adjust their budget.

Deputy Mayor Akerman responded that the way government works, if you need a million dollars you budget a drop more; that is the way business works, too. A Department Head typically asks for more money than they need. The Committee beats them down, and says they do not need that much, and they know the Committee will do that, so they ask for even more than they need. At the end of the year, there is leftover money that gets put into the next year's budget, in the form of surplus. But they typically have enough money.

Committeeman Coles added that they also know through the Planning Board when schools are being built, and probably be opened, and during the budgeting process, a lot of that information is taken into account.

Ms. Spinelli continued for the past few years, residents have been questioning this practice and expressing their disapproval, and they want it stopped. They do not think it is fair. They do not think it is right. They do not want their taxpayer dollars being paid for that, and they would like an answer. She also asked how many people shop downtown. It is a shame and unfortunate that people do not go downtown anymore. They do not want to deal with the traffic; they can't find a parking space, so they are only driving through. She also asked how many millions in surplus do they have this year.

Deputy Mayor Akerman added they have over eighteen million dollars.

Ms. Spinelli stated that she wants a refund. She asked if the Committee can lower their taxes, and start giving them some money back.

Deputy Mayor Akerman responded they can talk about that. It is a very long conversation, but they can talk about it. He spent a lot of time on it, and he can answer many of their questions.

Ms. Spinelli stated they can spend all the time in the world, but it is not pleasing the taxpayers. That is what it comes down to.

Deputy Mayor Akerman stated it should please the taxpayers that they are one of the only municipalities that for over five out of the last seven years, there has been a flat budget.

Ms. Spinelli stated they have the highest tax rate in the County.

Deputy Mayor Akerman disagreed. They may have the highest percentage, but it does not mean that their house is assessed accordingly to value, which is another thing. It is very complicated, and he could explain it. Deputy Mayor Akerman added they can talk about it. They can meet, and can have a separate meeting.

Mayor Miller added that Deputy Mayor Akerman always makes himself available. Any time they would like to come out to town hall, they can make an appointment, and they will be more than happy to speak to them. During business hours, they may actually be able to get some answers immediately. Otherwise, you have to wait for town hall to open.

_____ Schubert, 18 Gefen Drive – Stated they have a problem in their neighborhood since they moved in, but it has gotten progressively worse. Around the curves, school buses get stuck in the morning, and in some areas, there are sight restrictions. He feels this is a serious hazard, that there are cars going around the curve that can not see what is coming the other way. He feels they need to do something about this, by making no parking zones in some areas.

Mayor Miller asked if they have a homeowner's association.

Mr. Schubert answered no.

Mayor Miller responded that generally when they have issues in developments, they very often have a homeowners' association, where they speak to that one person in the association.

Mr. Schubert stated they went around, and there are people who are definitely agreeable to having no parking zones.

Mayor Miller asked if they had a list of suggestions.

Mr. Schubert stated they have two suggestions, one is to make no parking areas on certain streets.

Mayor Miller asked if they are a complete circle, and asked if they would like to go one way.

Mr. Schubert stated that was brought up recently.

Mayor Miller responded that is a great suggestion, and they have done that in a lot of developments, and they have found it to have the best success. He stated he would like to set up a meeting for him with the Traffic & Safety Division of the Police Department, and sit down with him and go over the suggestions.

Committeeman Lichtenstein asked that he submit his contact information to the Clerk and within the week they will set up a meeting.

Ray _____, 49 Golden Springs – Asked whose responsibility is it to come up with the finances in reference to the Budget.

Mayor Miller responded that would be the CFO and the Township Manager.

Ray _____ continued that he feels there is a financial crisis in Lakewood because they are talking about one hundred thirty-seven schools. He could ask how many more are proposed, but they won't know until they look. Eventually, they will not be able to pay it. They can't pay for private schools, and as to anyone running a business, he does not think that garbage pick-up makes a big difference whether or not they will open a business in Lakewood. He is trying to say that it needs to stop.

Ray _____ suggested that one of the Committee members make a Motion, to stop the garbage pick-up for the private schools, and put those funds toward the budget.

Mayor Miller stated they will certainly look into this. They appreciate everyone coming out tonight.

Tom Gatty – Stated that as far as the downtown businesses and the free garbage pick-up, if someone is making \$50,000 a year, or someone is making \$350,000 a year, there certainly can be a sliding scale that they do not put anyone out of business. And the business owner that earns \$50,000 will pay a lot less than the person that is earning \$350,000. So it certainly can be done without putting anyone out of business. The second thing is as far as the schools are concerned, he feels there has got to be a moral issue, and he will pose it to anyone who wants to answer it. Why should the schools get free garbage pick-up? It is just a moral dilemma to him, that he can not understand, especially if the public schools are paying for their garbage pick-up. Regardless of what the number is, he feels they should not be paying for the private

schools, and that if the private schools had to pay for their own garbage pick-up, somehow it would filter down to tuition.

Bill Hobday, 30 Schoolhouse Lane – Wanted to ask about the recently conducted tax revaluation, where Lakewood Township was one of those Township's that needed to do a revaluation. In the beginning, they invited the firm to come over to the Fairways to give them a presentation, and they did a wonderful job. And it took away most of the questions and issues. But there has been a lack of information since then. He does not know if they are complete because when he had questions, it was his understanding that when it is complete, the database will be set and they will be able to seek the information that they request from the database. He has no further information, and asked if they were done. If the database is set, and can he start inquiring on that database as to statistics, etc.

Mayor Miller responded that he does not believe they are complete yet. The last time he spoke with Ed Seeger, the Tax Assessor, who is overseeing this entire process, he advised it will soon be completed. Once that happens, they will have all the information in front of them, and every homeowner will have the opportunity to sit down to review their own information. That information will be forthcoming. He does not know when the project ends, but he thinks it is supposed to be in time for the upcoming tax year, 2017.

Bernadette Amaniano, 61 Forsgate Way – Asked that if the free solid waste pick-up is stopped, couldn't that money be used to fix the roads, and the PA system in the auditorium.

Mayor Miller responded that is a good idea.

Walt Lucas, lives in southwest Lakewood – Commented with regard to planning and zoning. Presently in southwest Lakewood, there are approximately twenty schools, most of which are within a quarter of a mile of each other. He looked at the tax maps, and they consume about fifty acres. He is not anti-private schools; all his children went to private schools. Whether it is a year from now, or two or three years, the zoning will change, and those schools, one by one, will be here asking for a change of use to put houses. His concern is that replacing fifty acres of schools will be the job of the Committee. If houses go out there, all of a sudden there will be the need to put fifty acres of schools somewhere else. So what are they doing regarding zoning and planning. He thinks they have to be concerned and think about that.

Mayor Miller advised that members of the Master Plan Committee are present this evening, and he is sure they are listening intently to what was just said, and certainly they will take this information into consideration.

Baruch Blaustein, 20 Empire Lane – Stated that if you really think about it, the public schools are getting their garbage pick-up by the taxpayer as well, including himself, because all their revenue comes from the taxpayers. So they are actually paying for the

public schools, so why should the private schools be any different. Because they are not being funded by tax dollars. It is something to think about.

Mr. Blaustein continued his comments regarding the development he lives in, as a resident, and also as a homeowners' association board member. He wants to discuss two issues, which boils down to what the Township's responsibilities are to the roadways, etc. From listening to the audio of the meetings, he has come across comments from someone that snow removal is covered by the Municipal Services Act. And from his research about the Act, it seems like, in most cases the Township is responsible for garbage pick-up, snow removal, and for street lights. They are the primary things. In his development, he believes they are being reimbursed for the street lights. However, snow removal is at their expense. This last Winter was a disaster. They probably paid close to ten thousand dollars for snow removal for their development. And they are not a big development. They are Prospect Park, which is located on Prospect Street, right past Massachusetts Avenue on the left side. If the Township does not want to plow his development, and one of the reasons why that is the case in his development, is because of the head-on parking. Under the law, the Township would have to reimburse, and this is something he would like to get more information about. He does not know if the Township Attorney wants to discuss it now, or if it is something they would like to set up a meeting for, but it is something he would like to follow up on. The second thing with regard to the development is the bonds were only released at the end of 2015, and what concerns him is that it came to his attention from reviewing the site development plans, that the developer was trying for quite a while to get his bond released, and the inspectors put out a punch list of items that needed to be repaired. And when he discovered it, he went through it, took the whole list and walked all around the development, and he found numerous other things. His primary concern is that there are cracks in the roads; there are a few sink holes; the curbs are coming away from the sidewalks etc. He wrote a letter, it is in the file for SD #1545. He spoke with Jeff Staiger, and Committeeman Lichtenstein about it. He was advised by Jeff Staiger that the inspectors will look into, and it was never addressed. He is upset that the bonds were released and it was never addressed. Now it looks like it will be at their expense, and he is not sure how to proceed with that.

Frances DiMicco, Four Seasons – Commented on the difference between a private school and a public school, and they need to be specific and talk about Lakewood. It has always been her understanding through life, that when you make the selection of attending private school, you pay for it yourself, completely, or you can go to a public educational institution. A reference was made about churches, but she did not hear it all. However, she does know, from experience, those who choose to go to a private pay tuition to go to that private school. She is not here to put that down. But because it is a selection, not a requirement that a family makes for their children, they should pay the bill. And they see houses mushrooming all over the place. Who is paying for all of this? Why are seniors who have worked all their lives to be independent at this point, why must they have to come to a meeting like this to have to say they don't want to pay for the garbage, or they don't want to pay for the schools. They are private. That is

their choice. And lastly, she thinks when you know there is a particular subject matter that is going to come up at a meeting, they should come prepared.

Someone came forward to speak for the second time, which is not permitted, and asked: Why does the Committee feel that they should continue to pay for the garbage. He wants to know what each of the Committee members thinks. Do they have a reason why they feel the residents should continue to pay, but most importantly he wants to know their own personal opinion as to whether or not they should be paying for the garbage pick-up.

Mayor Miller responded he would be more than happy to discuss this after the meeting.

Chaim Cohen, 21 Rosepark Crescent – Asked if recycling is optional in the Township.

Someone responded, it is mandatory.

Mr. Cohen continued that he understands the Township gets revenue from the recycling, and he does not see a lot of recycling going on. He wants to ask that the Township look into trying to increase the participation of the recycling at an institutional level. He feels it will benefit all; there will be less garbage, more revenue. A lot of it is education. If the taxpayers knew that it is costing them money when they throw the recycling in the garbage, he believes they will see a rise in the recycling rate. A lot of it is public education, and public awareness. His second issue is that he is a veteran. He thanked the Township Committee for providing a veterans deduction, but it is only \$250.00 per year for veteran. He put sixteen years of his life into the military, and he would like to know the last time it was that the veterans property tax exemption was raised.

Mayor Miller responded that is state statute.

Mr. Secare added he believes it was raised about ten years ago, from \$50.00 to \$250.00.

Mr. Cohen further commented with regard to cycling, and suggested there are many opportunities for bike lanes to be utilized, and suggested that it be mandated that bike racks be placed at newly constructed shopping centers.

Joyce Blay, NJ News and Views, 311 Floral Way, Toms River – Advised that it came to her attention that the Master Plan Advisory Committee has already held their first meeting, and she asked the Mayor to provide the date of their next meeting, so that the public may attend.

Mayor Miller responded that he does not believe that a new date has been set. They have to reach out to the Planner to get his availability, as well as the Attorney.

Ms. Blay asked if the Township will be advertising or noticing that next meeting so that the public can participate.

Mayor Miller responded that any part of the Master Plan Committee that will have a public portion will be advertised. Any part that does not have a public portion will not be advertised.

_____, 1040 Central Avenue – Advised he currently works by Excel Park. Advised that traffic has become a real problem. Route 9 and Hope Chapel Road are bottlenecks; there is no way to get around those two going north or south. A lot of developments are going up on Prospect, and it has become dangerous, and hazardous to turn left and right. He feels that a lot of the mistakes that have happened along Route 9, that have led to the problems with Route 9 today, are being duplicated along Prospect Street, Cross Street and Massachusetts Avenue.

Committeeman D’Elia advised he has had a meeting, together with Committeeman Lichtenstein, with the State. There is work being done to increase the left turn signals, and left turn lanes. They are also going to have a meeting with the County. They are talking about restriping Central Avenue, and opening up roads. They are aggressively working on a couple of the roads right now. So there is some work that it is being done on issue.

Seeing no one else wishing to be heard, Mayor Miller closed the meeting to the public.

CONSENT AGENDA

The items listed below are considered to be routine by the Township of Lakewood and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no formal discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, this item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.

- 1. Resolution of the Township of Lakewood, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Authorizing the Execution of an Agreement Between the Ocean County Board of Health and the Township of Lakewood for the Provision of Administrative and Programmatic Lakewood Municipal Alliance Oversight. Resolution No. 2016-212**
- 2. Resolution of the Township of Lakewood, County of Ocean State of New Jersey, Requesting Permission for the Dedication by Rider for Unemployment Compensation Insurance. Resolution No. 2016-213**

- 3. Resolution of the Township of Lakewood, County of Ocean State of New Jersey, Accepting a Bid for Block 1069 Lot 2 as a Result of the Private Land Sale in the Township of Lakewood, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:12-1, Et Seq.
Resolution No. 2016-214**
- 4. Resolution of the Township of Lakewood, County of Ocean State of New Jersey, Rescinding the Acceptance of Bids for Block 1142 Lot 1 and Block 1135 Lot 1 Previously Auctioned at a Public Land Sale in the Township of Lakewood, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Held on January 21, 2016 Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:12-1, Et Seq., and as Memorialized by Way of Resolution #2016-102
Resolution No. 2016-215**
- 5. Resolution of the Township of Lakewood, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Authorizing the Execution of the Emergency Management Agency Assistance Grant.
Resolution No. 2016-216**
- 6. Resolution of the Township of Lakewood, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Memorializing Salary Increases for Non-Union Employees for the Year 2016.
Resolution No. 2016-217**
- 7. Resolution of the Township of Lakewood, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Increasing the Change Fund in the Office of the Township Clerk.
Resolution No. 2016-218**
- 8. Resolution of the Township of Lakewood, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Authorizing the Liquor License Renewal for 2015-2016, to On the Grill, Liquor License No. 1514-33-049-002.
Resolution No. 2016-219**
- 9. Resolution of the Township of Lakewood, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Authorizing the Liquor License Renewal for 2016-2017, To Town & Country Liquors LLC, T/A Wine Academy Super Stores License No. 1514-44-005-011.
Resolution No. 2016-220**
- 10. Resolution of the Township of Lakewood, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Authorizing the Liquor License Renewal for 2016-2017, To RTR Enterprises LLC, T/A Spirits Unlimited License No. 1514-44-019-010
Resolution No. 2016-221**

- 11. Resolution of the Township of Lakewood, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Releasing the Maintenance Guarantee Posted by MCH Developing, LLC, in Connection with SD #1822, Block 1159.01, Lot 30.01
Resolution No. 2016-222**
- 12. Resolution of the Township of Lakewood, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Authorizing the Liquor License Renewal for 2016-2017, to Kokes Fairways, LLC, T/A Eagle Ridge Golf Club License No.1514-33-025-009.
Resolution No. 2016-223**
- 13. Resolution of the Township of Lakewood, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Authorizing the Liquor License Renewal for 2016-2017, to 978 River Avenue, LLC, T/A 978 River License No. 1514-33-002-008.
Resolution No. 2016-224**
- 14. Resolution of the Township of Lakewood, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Authorizing the Liquor License Renewal for 2016-2017, to Lakewood Recreation Centers, License No.1514-33-031-007.
Resolution No. 2016-225**
- 15. Resolution of the Township of Lakewood, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Authorizing the Liquor License Renewal for 2016-2017, to Jay Prabhu Inc. T/A Rite Liquors License No.1514-44-013-004.
Resolution No. 2016-226**
- 16. Resolution of the Township of Lakewood, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Authorizing the Liquor License Renewal for 2016-2017, to Parsuns Liquors Inc., T/A Best Liquors License No. 1514-44-004-008.
Resolution No. 2016-227**
- 17. Resolution of the Township of Lakewood, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Authorizing the Liquor License Renewal for 2016-2017, to Ocean Lanes, License No. 1514-33-014-008.
Resolution No. 2016-228**
- 18. Resolution of the Township of Lakewood, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Authorizing the Liquor License Renewal for 2016-2017, to Ruby Tuesday Inc. License No. 1514-33-012-006.
Resolution No. 2016-229**

Motion by Committeeman Coles, second by Deputy Mayor Akerman, to approve Resolution Nos. 1 through 18 on the Consent Agenda.

On Roll Call – Affirmative: Committeeman Coles, Committeeman Lichtenstein (abstained on Resolution Nos. 3, 13, and 18), Committeeman D’Elia, Deputy Mayor Akerman and Mayor Miller.

Resolution Nos. 2016-212 through 2016-229 – Adopted.

ORDINANCES SECOND READING

Ordinance of the Township of Lakewood, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Releasing, Extinguishing and Vacating All of the Township of Lakewood’s Right, Title and Interest in a Drainage Easement, a Shade Tree Easement, and Two Sight Triangle Easements Over a Portion of Block 769 Lots 19.10, 19.11, 19.12 & 19.13 in the Township of Lakewood.

Read by title only for second reading.

Mayor Miller opened the meeting to the public. Seeing no one wishing to be heard, the hearing on this Ordinance was closed to the public.

The above Ordinance was offered by Committeeman Coles, second by Committeeman Lichtenstein.

On Roll Call – Affirmative: Committeeman Coles, Committeeman Lichtenstein, Committeeman D’Elia, Deputy Mayor Akerman and Mayor Miller.

Ordinance No. 2016-25 adopted on second reading.

Ordinance of the Township of Lakewood, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Amending and Supplementing Chapter III of the Revised General Ordinances of the Township Of Lakewood, 1999, Entitled “Police Regulations” by the Addition of a New Section 3-29 Entitled “Prohibiting the Possession of Weapons at First Energy Park”

Read by title only for second reading.

Mayor Miller opened the meeting to the public. Seeing no one wishing to be heard, the hearing on this Ordinance was closed to the public.

The above Ordinance was offered by Committeeman Coles, second by Committeeman Lichtenstein.

On Roll Call – Affirmative: Committeeman Coles, Committeeman Lichtenstein, Committeeman D’Elia, Deputy Mayor Akerman and Mayor Miller.

Ordinance No. 2016-26 adopted on second reading.

ORDINANCES FIRST READING – Second Reading and Public Hearing to be held on June 16, 2016

Ordinance of the Township of Lakewood, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Authorizing the Private Sale of Block 3 Lot 1, in the Township of Lakewood, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, at Private Sale Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:12-1, Et Seq.

Read by title only for first reading.

The above Ordinance was offered by Committeeman Coles, second by Committeeman D'Elia.

On Roll Call – Affirmative: Committeeman Coles, Committeeman Lichtenstein, Committeeman D'Elia, Deputy Mayor Akerman and Mayor Miller.

Ordinance No. 2016-27 adopted on first reading. Second reading and public hearing to be held on June 16, 2016.

Ordinance of the Township of Lakewood, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Authorizing the Public Sale of Block 445 Lot 9, in the Township of Lakewood, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, At Open Public Sale Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:12-1 Et Seq.

Read by title only for first reading.

Ordinance died due to lack of Motion.

CORRESPONDENCE – PARKS AND EVENTS

Per schedule of fifteen (15) parks and events requests, attached hereto and made a part hereof.

Motion by Committeeman Lichtenstein, second by Committeeman Coles, and carried, to accept and process the above correspondence items.

MOTION TO APPROVE BILL LIST OF: None

COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mayor Miller thanked everyone for coming this evening to share their thoughts.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Committeeman D'Elia, second by Committeeman Lichtenstein, and carried, to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 9:08 PM.