

City of Lambertville
Special Scheduled Session of Mayor and Council
Monday, March 26, 2012, 7 PM
Justice Center, 25 South Union Street, Lambertville
MINUTES

Mayor DelVecchio called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. with a statement of compliance with the Open Public Meeting Act, providing the required notice on Friday, March 23, 2012 to the Beacon, the Democrat, the Times, posting the agenda to the bulletin board at City Hall, the website at www.lambertvillenj.org, and noticing various people on the list serve, inclusive of department heads, city attorney and city engineer.

ROLL CALL.

Present: Councilwoman Asaro (phone), Councilman Sanders, Councilwoman Warner, Mayor DelVecchio.

Absent: Council President Stegman.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

Mayor DelVecchio led the public in the Pledge of Allegiance.

MOMENT OF SILENCE.

Mayor DelVecchio asked everyone to remain standing while Mrs. Ege led the public in a Moment of Silence in honor of those serving in the United States Armed Forces.

APPOINTMENTS.

Mayor DelVecchio nominated Patricia Barnett to the Office of Emergency Management. Councilwoman Warner made a motion to confirm the appointment of Patricia Barnett to the Office of Emergency Management. Councilman Sanders seconded the motion. An affirmative roll call vote was taken in favor of the motion by all members present. MOTION CARRIED.

RESOLUTIONS.

RESOLUTION NUMBER 76-2012: A Resolution to Establish a Bank Account, Authorize Signatures on the Bank Account, and Authorize the Mayor and Clerk to Sign the Contract with AFLAC for the Flexible Spending Account Established in Accordance with the 2011 Pension and Health Care Reforms.

Mayor DelVecchio asked if all was in order with this resolution. Attorney Faherty advised that he was able to make the necessary amendments to the agreement. This resolution is also to establish a bank account to administer the flexible spending program.

Councilman Sanders commented that this is a requirement of the 2011 Pension and Health Benefit Reforms.

City of Lambertville
Resolution 76-2012

A Resolution to Establish a Bank Account and Authorizing the Signature on the Contract

WHEREAS, under the 2011 Pension and Health Care Reforms, Municipalities are required to offer employees a Flexible Spending Account to assist with unpaid medical and dental expenses, and

WHEREAS, on December 19, 2011, the City of Lambertville adopted Resolution Number 180-2011, authorizing the contract with AFLAC for a flexible spending account for City employees, and

C: The Beacon, The Democrat, The Times, The Herald, Department Heads, City Attorney, City Engineer, Various Individuals through the List Serve, the Bulletin Board at City Hall and the City's website at www.lambertvillenj.org.

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WHEREAS, the contract has been received and reviewed by the City's Attorney, and is found to be acceptable, and

WHEREAS, the contract requires the City to establish a bank account for the purpose of administering the Flexible Spending Account, and

WHEREAS, the authorized signatures include the following with the requirement of three signatures, one of which shall be the Mayor or Council President:

David M. DelVecchio, Mayor
Steven M. Stegman, Council President
Cynthia L. Ege, City Clerk
Diane Sherry, CFO

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOVLED BY Mayor and Council of the City of Lambertville, in the County of Hunterdon, in the State of New Jersey, that the Mayor and City Clerk are authorized to sign the contract with AFLAC for the Flexible Spending Account as required in the 2011 Pension and Health Care Reforms.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Mayor and Council authorize the establishment of an account for the purpose of collecting and administering the benefits of the Flexible Spending Account.

ADOPTED: March 19, 2012

Mayor DelVecchio asked for a motion to adopt Resolution 76-2012. Councilwoman Asaro made a motion to adopt Resolution 76-2012. Councilman Sanders seconded the motion. An affirmative roll call vote was taken in favor of the motion by all members present. MOTION CARRIED.

RESOLUTION NUMBER 75-2012: *A Resolution Requesting the Executive County Superintendent Issue a Report on the Advisability of Proceeding with Regionalization Options.*

Mayor DelVecchio informed the members of the public present that this resolution is to:

- request the Executive County Superintendent issue a report on the advisability of proceeding with regionalization options,
 - the report be inclusive of, but not limited to advisability of dissolution of the existing South Hunterdon 7-12 Regional School District and form an all-purpose regional school district from Pre-K through 12 including the Borough of Stockton, City of Lambertville and Township of West Amwell; and
 - include the advisability of an all-purpose regional school district funded through regional tax levies.

West Amwell Township is meeting on March 28, 2012.

Stockton Borough is meeting on April 9, 2012.

City of Lambertville
Resolution 75-2012
*A Resolution Requesting the Executive County Superintendent Issue a Report on the Advisability of
Proceeding with Regionalization Options*

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the South Hunterdon Regional School District, a limited purpose regional school district, organized under N.J.S.A. 18A:13-2b, and the Boards of Education of Lambertville, Stockton, and West Amwell, all operating as K-6 local school districts, have formally conducted a study to

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explore the feasibility of forming a regional school district, as provided in 18A:13-33; and

WHEREAS, the respective Boards of Education believe that school district regionalization is in accordance with the goals of the New Jersey Department of Education, and could produce educational benefits to the students of the region, as well as financial savings to the taxpayers of the region;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City of Lambertville, that the Executive County Superintendent issue a report on the advisability of proceeding with regionalization options; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the report be inclusive of, but not limited to advisability of dissolution of the existing South Hunterdon 7-12 Regional School District and formation of an all-purpose regional school district serving students in Pre-K through 12 from the Borough of Stockton, the City of Lambertville and the Township of West Amwell; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the report be inclusive of, but not limited to advisability of an all-purpose regional school district funded through regional tax levies; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Executive County Superintendent of Hunterdon County Office of the New Jersey Department of Education, the municipal offices of the municipalities of Lambertville, Stockton and West Amwell, and the other boards of education upon action by this body.

ADOPTED: March 19, 2012

Dan Seiter and Steve Wolock were present to discuss the purpose of the resolution. Mr. Seiter started by saying this resolution is the same that was sent to the Township of West Amwell, the Borough of Stockton, Lambertville Public School, West Amwell Elementary School and Stockton Elementary School and is asking the Executive County Administrator to advise on regionalization. Mr. Seiter gave a brief background review of the requirements. He said it will ultimately be the decision of the voters, but will begin with the majority of the councils and sending districts to adopt this resolution. Then, they will need to petition the Commission of Education to approve and the final step is the referendum. The five steps are as follows: SHRHS BOE – approval to issue an RFP for a regionalization feasibility study (completed in November 2010), LV/WA/STK BOE – approval by resolution to support a regionalization feasibility study (completed in November 2010), SHRHS BOE – approval to submit a 2nd ballot question to fund the regionalization feasibility study (completed January 2011), Vote on 2nd Question – passed by majority of voters in Lambertville, Stockton and West Amwell (completed April 2011), Formation of the regionalization committee consisting of representatives from the four school boards, the three communities and the three municipal governments.

Mayor DelVecchio asked him to obtain a timeline from the Executive County Superintendent because a resolution requesting the referendum has to be filed with the County Clerk's Office by mid-August. Steve Wolock commented that the Executive County Superintendent has 60 days to respond to this resolution. They do not see this as an impediment; however, it may not be ready by mid-August.

Councilman Sanders asked if there were discussion points and if Jeff Scott was looking at the Porzio Study. Dan Seiter stated that Mr. Scott was not looking at the Porzio Study. Councilman Sanders asked if Mr. Scott's scope was limited to the options laid out in the Porzio Study. Mr.

Seiter said yes, it was his understanding that Mr. Scott's scope would be limited to the options as laid out by the study.

Mayor DelVecchio complimented Mr. Scott and said we were lucky to have someone serving that understands the time issues and he was a pleasure to deal with throughout the budget process.

Mayor DelVecchio stated that the City of Lambertville was the first governing body to adopt the resolution and asked if Mr. Seiter had a sense for the outcome of Stockton and West Amwell. Mr. Seiter stated he had a sense that they are both prepared to go forward.

Mayor DelVecchio asked Councilwoman Warner if she had any questions. She said she was very familiar with the process and has been following it throughout the process. She sees no reason why we shouldn't adopt this resolution because it is the next logical step.

Mayor DelVecchio commented that the voters have the ultimate say.

Mayor DelVecchio asked Councilwoman Asaro if she had any questions. She said she agrees with Elaine.

Mayor DelVecchio asked David Burd if he had any questions. Mr. Burd stated that given this opportunity, this step should be taken to continue the process.

Mayor DelVecchio stated he was comfortable moving forward because the voters will make the final decision.

Steve Wolock stated that he appreciates the support of Mayor and Council.

Mayor DelVecchio asked Curt Yeske, a writer for the Times, if he had any questions. Mr. Yeske asked in light of the County plan, if there was a chance that the County wouldn't act on this resolution. Mr. Seiter responded by saying it would be extraordinary for the County to derail this. Mr. Wolock stated that they were initially asked to include East Amwell and Delaware Township but felt it was better to simplify the process. Mayor DelVecchio responded that with the County's plan there are 13 winners and 13 losers. They need 26 winners. Mr. Wolock stated that the Commissioner of Education has the power to redistrict but thinks due to political reasons it won't be done. Councilman Sanders stated that the report was developed to make all three sending districts winners. He appreciated the efforts of the committee in making everything transparent; putting everything on the website was a great idea.

Dan Seiter thanked Councilman Sanders and Councilwoman Warner for all of their efforts and for serving on the committee.

Mayor DelVecchio asked for a motion to adopt Resolution Number 75-2012. Councilman Sanders made a motion to adopt Resolution 75-2012. Councilwoman Warner seconded the motion. An affirmative roll call vote was taken in favor of the motion by all members present.
MOTION CARRIED.

CORRESPONDENCE - None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

DOG AND CAT LICENSES are past due. All registrations received after February 29th will incur an additional \$25 late fee.

LANDLORD REGISTRATIONS are due April 1, 2012. All registrations received after April 1, 2012 will incur an additional \$50 late fee.

SHAD FESTIVAL is scheduled for April 28 and 29. Come and enjoy the festivities!

SPARKLE WEEK SCHEDULE:

ZONE ONE AND TWO: Begins May 8 and ends May 9

ZONE THREE AND FOUR: Begins May 17 and ends May 18.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION/PETITIONS OF CITIZENS AND PUBLIC DISCUSSION.

ATTORNEY FAHERTY advised Mayor and Council of the following:

1. The easement with the Taylor's has been reviewed and accepted by the Taylor's attorney and is in the process of being signed.
2. The release with Lamberts Hill Homeowners Association is in process.

ADJOURNMENT.

The meeting adjourned at 7:29 p.m. with a motion made by Councilwoman Warner and seconded by Councilman Sanders. A voice vote was taken in favor of the motion by all members present. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia L. Ege

Cynthia L. Ege
CMR, RMC, City Clerk

Approved at the regularly scheduled session of Mayor and Council held on Monday, April 16, 2012.