

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING – SEPTEMBER 7, 2021

Mayor Brantley called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and requested the Clerk to call the roll. The following members were present: Robert Lane, Jr., Tassie D. York, Keith Cafferty, Nicholas Williams and Mayor Michael Brantley.

Also present at the dais were Vito Gadaleta, Business Administrator; Gene Anthony, Township Attorney; and Richard J. Cuttrell, Municipal Clerk.

The Mayor led the Flag Salute.

Mayor Brantley announces that the notice requirements of R.S. 10:4-18 have been satisfied by the publication of the required advertisement in Asbury Park Press on September 4, 2021 and notification to the Coaster on September 2, 2021, posting the notice on the Board in the Municipal Complex, and filing a copy of said notice with the Municipal Clerk. In addition, the meeting agenda and resolution are posted on the Township web site (www.neptunetownship.org) and the meeting is being streamed live via townhallstreams.com.

The Mayor requested comments from the public and they were as follows:

Nancy Clarke, 47 Embury Avenue, asked if the Committee will continue to search for a permanent replacement the Township Engineer, why couldn't this resolution wait until the September 13th regular meeting, and is it normal procedure for the Engineer to consult with the Township Committee prior to allocating work to other engineering firms. Mr. Gadaleta responded that consultation with the Committee is normal procedure. He also explained that the urgency in this matter is due to the resignation of the Assistant Engineer last week. The Mayor stated that there are projects that are behind and other projects that need to be addressed. Mr. Cafferty stated that it is difficult finding a qualified engineer. The Committee will proceed in this manner for now and evaluate moving forward. Ms. Clarke feels that there should be a Township event to mark the 20th anniversary of the 9-11 terrorist attacks. She suggested a gathering at the fishing pier for a time of reflection. Mr. Gadaleta stated that there is a County-wide event on 9-11. He asked that Ms. Clarke contact him for follow-up on a potential event.

APPOINT REMINGTON & VERNICK ENGINEERS, INC., AS A NEW INTERIM ENGINEERING FIRM FOR NEPTUNE TOWNSHIP

Mr. Williams offered the following resolution, moved and seconded by Ms. York, that it be adopted:

WHEREAS, Leanne Hoffmann was Neptune Township's In-house Township Engineer, and submitted a letter of resignation, effective June 1, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee authorized the advertising for a Request for Proposals/Request for Qualifications for professional services in accordance with the Public Contract Law in seeking engineering services until the end of 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee reviewed all applications submitted for the position of In-house Engineer, and recognizing that the Township will be continuing to maintain an Engineering Pool List for special projects pursuant to a resolution of May 9, 2016, which based on conflict of interest would prohibit any engineering firm to serve as a permanent or Interim In-house Engineer while also serving on the Engineering Pool List.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Township Committee of the Township of Neptune, County of Monmouth and State of New Jersey, that the governing body hereby appoints as Interim In-house Engineer the engineering firm of Remington & Vernick Engineers, Inc., with primary offices located at 2059 Springdale Road, Cherry Hill, New Jersey 08003; to serve between the date of appointment and December 31, 2021; to undertake on a part-time basis of not less than 3 full days per week and being on call and to perform all duties of the In-house Engineer and Engineering Department as set forth more fully on the Township Website under Department of Engineering, "Responsibilities" for a pro-rated fee of \$150,000.00 per year, pro-rated from the date of appointment through December 31, 2021, on a weekly basis with no other municipal benefits.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Remington and Vernick Engineers, Inc., in addition to performing those responsibilities set forth on the website for the Engineering Department and In-house Engineer, shall also be responsible to allocate projects to engineering firms presently on the Engineering Pool List, other than itself, after any necessary consultation with the Mayor and Township Committee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that per the Resolution of May 9, 2016, the Interim In-house Engineer shall provide monthly reports to the governing body as to the selection of engineers for services for special projects by the In-house Engineer from the Engineering Pool List, and the basis for such selection.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Interim Engineer appointed shall receive its fee through the Municipal Budget Salary Line Item entitled, "Engineering."

The resolution was adopted on the following vote: Cafferty, aye; Lane, aye; Williams, aye; York, aye; and Brantley, aye.

Mr. Lane offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Cafferty to adjourn. All were in favor.

Richard J. Cuttrell,
Municipal Clerk