

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING – APRIL 24, 2017

Mayor Brantley called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and requested the Clerk to call the roll. The following members were present: Robert Lane, Jr., Kevin B. McMillan, Carol Rizzo, Nicholas Williams and Mayor Michael Brantley.

Also present at the dais were Richard J. Cuttrell, Municipal Clerk; Vito D. Gadaleta, Business Administrator; Michael J. Bascom, Chief Financial Officer; and Gene Anthony, Township Attorney.

Mayor Brantley announced that the notice requirements of R.S. 10:4-18 have been satisfied by the publication of the required advertisement in the Asbury Park Press on January 5, 2017 and The Coaster on January 12, 2017, posting the notice on the Board in the Municipal Complex, and filing a copy of said notice with the Municipal Clerk.

The following items were discussed in open session:

Mr. Anthony stated that he and Mr. Cuttrell researched ordinance regulating gas powered landscaping equipment. Mr. Anthony reported that Maplewood is the only municipality in New Jersey with such an ordinance and there may be a court challenge upcoming. The Maplewood ordinance bans gas powered blowers by commercial users in the summer months. There are similar ordinances in some other states, particularly California, but this is relatively new in New Jersey. Mr. Anthony recommended that the Committee wait for the legal outcome to the possible challenge to the Maplewood ordinance while also getting more feedback from the public. The Committee agreed to wait before taking any action. Mr. Williams noted his concern about the restrictions affecting someone's livelihood.

Mr. Bascom stated that the Township capital budget will be discussed soon; however, the South Riverside Drive bulkhead project may be a topic at the Shark River Hills Property Owners Association meeting on April 25th. This Township submitted a grant application to FEMA for this project in 2011 and FEMA finally approved funding for the project in the amount of \$835,000 (Township share \$280,000). The project would add bulkhead, about four feet in height, along South Riverside Drive from the Shark River Beach & Yacht Club to the bottom of "snake hill". There are pros and cons to the project. It will impact access to the sandy area between the road and the water because the NJDEP is requiring that the bulkhead be installed adjacent to the roadway. The project will also repair storm water outfalls in that area. Mr. Bascom recommended that the Committee consider a bond ordinance at the next meeting with a total appropriation in the amount of \$1,200,000 to get the project moving since the funds must be spent by July, 2018. The Committee asked that the ordinance be placed on the May 8th meeting for introduction.

Mr. Gadaleta stated that the Environmental/Shade Tree Commission is in favor of adoption of an invasive plants ordinance using similar language as that adopted by Brick Township. The Committee asked that this ordinance also be placed on the May 8th meeting for introduction.

AUTHORIZE AN EXECUTIVE SESSION AS AUTHORIZED BY THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT

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

WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and,

WHEREAS, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune, County of Monmouth, as follows:

1. The Public shall be excluded from discussion of and action upon the hereinafter specified subject matters.
2. The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows:

Personnel – Update on litigation
Contract negotiations – RFP for Financial Advisor.
3. It is anticipated at this time that the above stated subject matters will be made public when matters are resolved.
4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

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

The Committee entered executive session for discussion on closed session matters.

Mr. Bascom stated that a Request for Proposals has been issued for a Financial Advisor because of a pending debt issuance by the Township.

Mr. Anthony will prepare a draft ordinance setting forth the Township policy on use of municipal buildings.

Mr. Gadaleta is preparing Requests for Proposals for Historic Architect and Historic Attorney.

The Committee returned to the Meeting Room for the regular portion of the meeting.

Mayor Brantley called the meeting to order and requested the Clerk to call the roll. The following members were present: Robert Lane, Jr., Kevin B. McMillan, Carol Rizzo, Nicholas Williams and Mayor Michael Brantley.

Also present at the dais were Richard J. Cuttrell, Municipal Clerk; Vito D. Gadaleta, Business Administrator; Michael J. Bascom, Chief Financial Officer; and Gene Anthony, Township Attorney.

After a moment of Silent Prayer and the Flag Salute, the Mayor asked the Clerk to indicate the fire exits.

The Clerk stated, "Fire exits are located in the rear of the room and to my right. In case of fire you will be notified by bell and or public address system, then proceed to the nearest smoke-free exit"

Mayor Brantley announced that the notice requirements of R.S. 10:4-18 have been satisfied by the publication of the required advertisement in the Asbury Park Press on January 5, 2017 and The Coaster on January 12, 2017, 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, resolutions and ordinances are posted online at www.neptunetownship.org.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Williams offered a motion, seconded by Ms. Rizzo, to approve the minutes of the meeting held on April 10th. All were in favor.

REPORT OF THE CLERK

The Clerk stated that the following reports and communications are on file in his office:

Tax Collector's monthly statements for January, February and March.

April edition of the Senior Connection newsletter.

COMMENTS FROM THE DAIS

Mr. McMillan stated that he presented a proclamation at an event to celebrate the great military service of Veronica Miller at Assemblyman Houghtaling's office. He also met with Rev. Tommy Miles at Macedonia Church about improving our neighborhoods.

Mr. Lane stated that he attended the Ocean Grove Homeowners Association meeting. He was informed that Asbury Park will be giving parking discounts to employees of businesses which should help the parking situation in Ocean Grove. He attended the MURC meeting at Macedonia Church and a planning meeting in connection with the Township's participation in the State's "Hooked on Fishing, Not on Drugs" program that will be run through the Recreation Department. He went to Assemblyman Houghtaling's office to present a proclamation to Veronica Miller. He attended the Gables Homeowners Association meeting and reminded everyone that the USO Dinner/Dance to benefit Veteran's Memorial Park will be on April 29th at the American Legion on Gully Road.

Ms. Rizzo stated that the Action Together group met with the Police Department about communication with immigrant communities. She thanked Chief Hunt, Capt. Fisher, and Mr. Bascom for providing information at the meeting. She attended a meeting with Moms Demand Action where there was discussion on stemming gun violence and a meeting with tenants of

Winding Ridge to discuss the conversion process with Monmouth Housing Alliance. News 12 conducted interviews for a story on the Ocean Grove fire and an airing date will be announced. She met with hospital representatives on an idea on a partnership to create local jobs. She attended a Library Board of Trustees meeting and reminded everyone that the library does income taxes for residents for free. She attended the Chamber of Commerce meeting and a Gables Homeowners Association meeting. Finally, she was saddened by the death of Kathy Arlt and attended the funeral and presented a proclamation.

Mr. Williams stated that he attended the Fletcher Lake Commission meeting. He met with the Public Works Department and everything is ready for the spring and summer seasons. He also met with Ed Finlay, Harbor Master, to discuss marina operations. The marina is 85% to 90% full and they are also ready to go for the summer boating season.

Mayor Brantley chaired the Wesley Lake Commission meeting. The Commission is changing the meeting start time from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and is going back to alternating monthly meetings between Neptune and Asbury Park. He met with News 12 regarding their story on the fire and he will let everyone know when the story is being aired. He reminded everyone that the Mayor's Ball is June 23rd and the deadline for the ad book has been extended to June 1st. He read a statement regarding the Ocean Grove fire and indicated that the Township is moving forward with the Certified Local Government application and the appointment of a historic architect.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON RESOLUTIONS

Dorothy Argyros, 2100 Rutherford Avenue, asked if the resolution concerning the revocable license agreement is the "fence tax". Mr. Anthony stated the Township does not have a fence tax. The license agreement provides a mechanism for a property owner to retain an encroachment in the municipal right-of-way as opposed to the Township requiring that it be removed. Ms. Argyros asked for details on the 10th Avenue improvement project. Mr. Gadaleta stated that this is a Community Development Block Grant project consisting of roadway and accessibility improvements on 10th Avenue between Atkins Avenue and Highway 35.

Mr. Anthony reminded the Committee that there will be multiple license agreements for South Concourse properties coming up for approval in the near future.

ORDINANCE NO. 17-11 - ADOPTED

Mr. Williams offered the following ordinance, moved and seconded by Mr. McMillan, that it be adopted:

ORDINANCE NO. 17-11

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND VOLUME I, CHAPTER VII, SECTION 7-7.9 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF NEPTUNE BY AUTHORIZING NEW AND CLARIFYING EXISTING ANGLE PARKING ZONES

The Mayor requested public comments on the above ordinance and they were as follows:

Joyce Klein, 105 Mt. Hermon Way, thanked the Committee for following through the recommendation of the Parking Task Force. She asked if the 45 degree parking is consistent with the current standard in Ocean Grove. Mr. Williams stated that the new spots will be the same angle and standard as is currently used. Mr. Cuttrell stated that 45 degrees is in the current ordinance for existing angle parking and the new parking will be the same.

There being no further comments, the Mayor closed the public hearing.

The ordinance was adopted on the following vote: Lane, aye; McMillan, aye; Rizzo, aye; Williams, aye; and Brantley, aye.

ORDINANCE NO. 17-12 - APPROVED

Ms. Rizzo offered the following ordinance, moved and seconded by Mr. Lane, that it be approved:

ORDINANCE NO. 17-12

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND VOLUME I, CHAPTER VII OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF NEPTUNE BY ADDING A RESIDENT HANDICAPPED ON-STREET PARKING ZONE ON

OCEAN AVENUE AND REMOVING A HANDICAPPED PARKING
ZONE ON SURF AVENUE

The ordinance was approved on the following vote: Lane, aye; McMillan, aye; Rizzo, aye; Williams, aye; and Brantley, aye.

Mr. Cuttrell stated that the public hearing on Ordinance 17-12 will be held on Monday, May 8th.

CONSENT AGENDA

Ms. Rizzo offered the following resolutions of the Consent Agenda, moved and seconded by Mr. Williams, that they be adopted:

AUTHORIZE PURCHASE OF TREE GRATES FOR THE WEST LAKE AVENUE STREETScape

WHEREAS, the Purchasing Agent solicited quotes for the purchase of tree grates for the West Lake Avenue Streetscape; and,

WHEREAS, the cost of said item is less than the bid threshold but exceeds \$17,500.00 and therefore must be awarded by Resolution of the governing body; and,

WHEREAS, said quotes were reviewed by the Township Engineer and the Purchasing Agent who have recommended that the low quote be accepted in accordance with the Open Public Contracts Law; and,

WHEREAS, funds for this purpose will be provided in the Tree Preservation Trust Fund and the Chief Financial Officer has so certified in writing,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune that the purchase of tree grates for the West Lake Avenue Streetscape be and is hereby authorized from Atlantic Plumbing Supply Corp. pursuant to their quote of \$30,576.00; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Chief Financial Officer, Assistant C.F.O., and Township Engineer.

PLACE LIEN ON 419 MAPLE AVENUE

WHEREAS, Ordinance #843 of the Township of Neptune states that where a violation or condition exists on any property in the Township of Neptune that is of such a nature as to constitute an immediate threat to life, health, safety and the well being of residents in this township unless abated without delay, the Code Enforcement Supervisor may abate the violation or condition immediately or order the owner, operator or occupant to correct the violation or condition within a three-day period; and

WHEREAS, the Code Enforcement Supervisor determined that the condition of the properties listed below constituted such a threat; and,

WHEREAS, the Code Enforcement Supervisor has notified the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune that the owners of said property have failed to correct the condition/violation as ordered; and

WHEREAS, the Code Enforcement Supervisor has had the condition corrected in accordance with Article IV, Section 6.2 (a) of Ordinance #843 at a total cost as indicated below,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune that the Tax Collector be and is hereby authorized to place the following costs as a lien against the following properties; and,

<u>BLOCK/LOT</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
2704/7	419 Maple Avenue	766.90

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution along with the Code Enforcement Supervisor's report be forwarded to the Tax Collector.

RECLASSIFY EMPLOYEE TO THE POSITION OF BOOKKEEPER IN THE TAX COLLECTION OFFICE

WHEREAS, there is a vacancy in the position of Bookkeeper in the Tax Collection Office;

and,

WHEREAS, the position was duly posted; and,

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector and Human Resources Director have made a recommendation to reclassify an existing employee to said position; and,

WHEREAS, funds will be provided in the 2017 Municipal Budget in the appropriation entitled Revenue Administration S&W and the Chief Financial Officer has so certified in writing,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune that Khareen Raisin be and is hereby reclassified to the position of Bookkeeper in the Tax Collection Office at an annual salary of \$30,000.00 effective April 26, 2017; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Chief Financial Officer, Deputy Tax Collector, Assistant C.F.O., Human Resources Director, and AFSCME Local #1844.

RECLASSIFY EMPLOYEE TO THE POSITION OF FOREMAN IN THE SEWER UTILITY

WHEREAS, there is a vacancy in the position of Foreman in the Sewer Utility; and,

WHEREAS, the position was duly posted; and,

WHEREAS, the Public Works Director and the Business Administrator have made a recommendation to reclassify an existing employee to said position; and,

WHEREAS, funds will be provided in the 2017 Municipal Budget in the appropriation entitled Sewer Utility S&W and the Chief Financial Officer has so certified in writing,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune that Peter Campbell be and is hereby reclassified to the position of Foreman in the Sewer Utility at an annual salary of \$68,000.00 effective May 1, 2017; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Public Works Director, Chief Financial Officer, Assistant C.F.O., Human Resources Director, and AFSCME Local #2792.

RECLASSIFY EMPLOYEE TO THE POSITION OF FOREMAN IN THE BUILDING MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, there is a vacancy in the position of Foreman in the Building Maintenance Department; and,

WHEREAS, the position was duly posted; and,

WHEREAS, the Public Works Director and the Business Administrator have made a recommendation to reclassify an existing employee to said position; and,

WHEREAS, funds will be provided in the 2017 Municipal Budget in the appropriation entitled Building Maintenance S&W and the Chief Financial Officer has so certified in writing,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune that Bruce Latshaw be and is hereby reclassified to the position of Foreman in the Building Maintenance Department at an annual salary of \$73,347.84 effective May 1, 2017; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Public Works Director, Chief Financial Officer, Assistant C.F.O., Human Resources Director, and AFSCME Local #2792.

ACCEPT PERFORMANCE GUARANTEE FILED BY JERSEY SHORE UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER FOR WASHINGTON AVENUE SANITARY SEWER IMPROVEMENTS

WHEREAS, Jersey Shore University Medical Center has filed performance bond 106711925, written by Travelers Casualty and Surety Company of America in the amount of \$432,000.00, guaranteeing sanitary sewer improvements on Washington Avenue in connection with off-site improvements for the HOPE Tower; and,

WHEREAS, the required 10% cash surety and inspection fee escrow have been posted;

and,

WHEREAS, the acceptance of this Performance Guarantee does not authorize the issuance of any licenses or permits by the Construction Department but serves as certification to the Planning Board/Board of Adjustment that compliance with the Land Development Ordinance of the Township of Neptune has been met;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune that the Performance Guarantee as stated above be and is hereby accepted; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to the Township Engineer and Planning Board Administrative Officer.

GRANT SOCIAL AFFAIR PERMITS

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune that the Municipal Clerk and Chief of Police be and are hereby authorized to approve the following Social Affair Permit applications:

American Legion Post #346, 21 Gully Road, April 29, 2017 - 5:00 P.M. to 12:00 A.M.
Frederick Dempsey Post #266, 240 Drummond Ave., May 5, 2017 – 8:00 P.M. to 12:00 A.M.

AUTHORIZE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT FOR THE ASSIGNMENT OF TWO SPECIAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS TO OCEAN GROVE CAMP MEETING ASSOCIATION PROPERTY

WHEREAS, the Ocean Grove Camp Meeting Association has requested the assignment of a Special Law Enforcement Officer – Class II for eight hours a day from May 15, 2017 to October 15, 2017 to patrol property owned by the Association; and,

WHEREAS, the Association has also requested the assignment of a Special Law Enforcement Officer – Class II for eight hours a day/five days a week from Memorial Day through Labor Day to patrol the beachfront area owned by the Association; and,

WHEREAS, the Township has agreed to assign two (2) officers for this purpose,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune hereby authorizes the execution of an Agreement with the Ocean Grove Camp Meeting Association to authorize the assignment of two (2) Township of Neptune Special Law Enforcement Officers – Class II for the time periods and locations as described herein at a fee of \$30,000.00 to be paid by the Association for the purpose of patrolling Association property and enforcing applicable NJ state statutes and municipal ordinances; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Chief Financial Officer, Assistant C.F.O., Chief of Police and OGCMA.

APPROVE THE TRANSFER OF TAXI MEDALLION LICENSE NO. 030

WHEREAS, Ibrahim Abdo-Abdelwahed is the owner of Neptune Township Taxi Medallion No. 030; and,

WHEREAS, he has notified the Taxi License Coordinator of the intent to sell and transfer ownership of said medallion to Sheldon Edwards d/b/a 5 Stars Transportation; and,

WHEREAS, the Taxi License Coordinator has certified that all requirements of transfer have been satisfied,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune that approval is hereby granted for the transfer of Taxi Medallion License No. 030 to Sheldon Edwards d/b/a 5 Stars Transportation; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Taxi License Coordinator and Municipal Clerk.

AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASE OF A FORD EXPLORER THROUGH THE STATE COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Business Administrator has recommended the purchase of a 2017 Ford Explorer 4WD vehicle through an authorized vendor under the State of New Jersey Cooperative

Purchasing Program 1-NJCP; and,

WHEREAS, the purchase of goods and services by local contracting units is authorized by the Local Public Contracts Laws, N.J.S. 40A:11-12; and,

WHEREAS, Beyer Fleet has been awarded New Jersey State Contract No. 83013 for this equipment; and,

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer recommends the utilization of this contract on the grounds that the price reflects a substantial savings; and,

WHEREAS, the cost of the equipment shall not exceed \$31,327.00; and,

WHEREAS, funds for this purpose are available from Ordinance No. 15-33 and the Chief Financial Officer has so certified in writing,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune that the purchase of a 2017 Ford Explorer 4WD vehicle through New Jersey Cooperative Purchasing Program Contract No. 83013 be and is hereby authorized at an amount not to exceed \$31,327.00; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Chief Financial Officer, Business Administrator, Assistant C.F.O. and Auditor.

AUTHORIZE REVOCABLE LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH JOYCE CALABRETTA AND VINCENT P. CALABRETTA OF WEST CONCOURSE, BLOCK 5608, LOT 9 (FORMERLY BLOCK 558, LOT 1.23)

WHEREAS, Joyce Calabretta and Vincent P. Calabretta, with property located at West Concourse, Neptune Township, New Jersey, and more specifically identified as Block 5608, Lot 9, (formerly Block 558, Lot 1.23) on the tax map of the Township of Neptune have requested a Revocable License Agreement be entered into between Neptune Township and Joyce Calabretta and Vincent P. Calabretta in Neptune Township concerning an encroachment upon a municipal right-of way; and

WHEREAS, Joyce Calabretta and Vincent P. Calabretta are seeking a license to provide and to maintain a certain fence and walkways encroachment presently on the municipal right-of-way, which the property owners intend to continue use of, subject to removal should the controlling authority have reasonable cause to believe that such encroachment needs to be removed from the aforesaid municipal right-of-way, and subject to a Revocable License Agreement.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune hereby authorizes a Revocable License Agreement with Joyce Calabretta and Vincent P. Calabretta, with property located at West Concourse, Neptune Township, New Jersey, and more specifically identified as Block 5608, Lot 9, (formerly Block 558, Lot 1.23), Neptune Township, New Jersey, a true copy of such proposed Agreement is on file in the Office of the Municipal Clerk subject to the conditions of the Agreement and prior review of the Township Engineer and approval of this Agreement as a minor encroachment, with a one-time payment to the Township of Neptune of \$150.00 for preparation of the Revocable License Agreement for a minor encroachment, plus costs of recording of said Revocable License Agreement in the Clerk's Office of Monmouth County, paid to the Law Office of Gene J. Anthony, Esq., and subject to all other requirements in the aforesaid Revocable License Agreement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to execute the Agreement, and return to the Township Attorney for recording along with a certified copy of this Resolution

AUTHORIZE PURCHASE OF LAPTOPS, COMPUTER ACCESSORIES AND SUPPORT FOR THE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, the Purchasing Agent solicited quotes for the purchase of laptops, associated accessories, and support for the Emergency Medical Services Department; and,

WHEREAS, the cost of said item is less than the bid threshold but exceeds \$17,500.00 and therefore must be awarded by Resolution of the governing body; and,

WHEREAS, said quotes were reviewed by the EMS Manager and the Purchasing Agent who have recommended that the low quote be accepted in accordance with the Open Public Contracts Law; and,

WHEREAS, funds for this purpose will be provided in Ordinance No. 16-27, and the Chief Financial Officer has so certified in writing,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune that the purchase of laptops, associated accessories, and support for the Emergency Medical Services Department be and is hereby authorized from Telrepc, Inc. pursuant to their quote of \$25,485.00; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Chief Financial Officer, Assistant C.F.O., and EMS Manager.

The resolutions of the Consent Agenda were adopted on the following vote: Lane, aye; McMillan, aye; Rizzo, aye; Williams, aye; and Brantley, aye.

AWARD BID FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO 10TH AVENUE

Mr. McMillan offered the following resolution, moved and seconded by Mr. Lane, that it be adopted:

WHEREAS, on April 18, 2017, the Township Engineer Consultant received bids for the award of a contract for Improvements to 10th Avenue; and,

WHEREAS, said bids were reviewed by the Township Engineer and Consulting Engineer who have recommended that the base bid be awarded to the lowest bid submitted by Black Rock Enterprises, LLC; and,

WHEREAS, said bids were advertised, received and awarded in a "fair and open" competitive bidding process in accordance with the Open Public Contracts Law; and,

WHEREAS, funds for this purpose will be provided in Ordinance No. 16-27, which includes a Community Development Block Grant in the amount of \$138,512.00 for this purpose, and Ordinance No. 13-14, and the Chief Financial Officer has so certified in writing,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune that a contract be awarded to Black Rock Enterprises, LLC on their lowest responsible base bid of \$462,261.22 for Improvements to 10th Avenue; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Chief Financial Officer, Assistant C.F.O., and Township Engineer.

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

EXTEND OFFER OF EMPLOYMENT FOR THE POSITION OF ASSISTANT ENGINEER

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

WHEREAS, due to a retirement, there is a vacancy in the position of Assistant Engineer in the Engineering Department; and,

WHEREAS, the position was duly posted and applicants have been interviewed; and,

WHEREAS, the Human Resources Director and Business Administrator have made a recommendation; and,

WHEREAS, funds will be provided in the 2017 municipal budget in the appropriation entitled Engineering Services S&W and the Chief Financial Officer has so certified in writing,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune that an offer of employment be and is hereby extended to Travis Schembri for the position of Assistant Engineer in the Engineering Department, on a probationary basis for a period of not less than 90 days and not exceeding one year, contingent upon favorable results of the required pre-employment testing, effective May 22, 2017, at an annual salary of \$55,500.00; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Township Engineer, Chief Financial Officer, Assistant C.F.O., AFSCME Local #1844, and Human Resources Director.

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

AUTHORIZE THE PAYMENT OF BILLS

Mr. McMillan offered the following resolution, moved and seconded by Mr. Lane, that it be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune that the following bills be paid if properly certified:

CURRENT FUND	\$4,214,017.83
GRANT FUND	1,832.50
TRUST FUND	68,698.55
GENERAL CAPITAL FUND	73,562.96
SEWER OPERATING FUND	3,342.45
MARINA OPERATING FUND	4,293.10
MARINA CAPITAL FUND	4,810.00
DOG TRUST	69.60
LIBRARY TRUST	150.00
BILL LIST TOTAL	\$4,370,776.99

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Assistant C.F.O.

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

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR/PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jack Bredin, 94 ½ Heck Avenue, stated in the most recent Coaster there was a legal advertisement regarding sealed proposals for law firms interested in serving as Township redevelopment attorneys. He questioned whether a resolution was done to authorize it being put into the newspaper.

Mr. Gadaleta stated it does not require a resolution.

Mr. Bredin questioned why were they doing it because the resolution would state the reason.

Mr. Cuttrell and Mr. Anthony both stated that would occur when the appointment is made.

Mr. Bredin questioned whether the position of redevelopment attorney currently existed and if so did someone retire and what did they do.

Mr. Anthony stated they did not have a position for redevelopment attorney and he had been handling the redevelopment matters. He stated the Township Committee would like to try and explore getting someone who specializes in it and can address all the redevelopment issues in Neptune Township in hopes that they can be in a position to bring redevelopers into town.

Mr. Bredin questioned why have an attorney when you have a Planning Board Attorney who would review it as well as the Township Attorney. He stated if he was the head of WAVE he would say he needed a redevelopment attorney. He questioned whether they were hiring a redevelopment attorney to help WAVE out.

Mr. Anthony stated the purpose of the attorney is that there are certain redevelopment areas that have not been moving and we would like to have someone that might have some expertise who

might be able to move it a little faster.

Mr. Bredin stated it appeared as though the Township was hiring another expert for the North End.

Mayor Brantley stated it was not for the North End. He stated they have received a lot of interest in the areas of redevelopment and they would like to move on this as fast as possible and to make sure that they don't miss anything and to have an expert come in and help us.

Elena Gonzalez, 20 Cedar Terrace, read a prepared statement in which she submitted her resignation as a Sergeant in the Neptune Township Police Department. She stated she had hoped that her many requests of the Township to take action to end the rampant discrimination, harassment and retaliation in the Neptune Police Department would have been taken seriously making this letter unnecessary but the abuse only intensified with each of her requests for action leaving no other option other than her resignation. She stated her complaints about discrimination, harassment and retaliation and her support of other opposing unlawful conduct has resulted in unfair scrutiny of her actions and disciplinary actions taken against her in an effort to force her from the ranks. She stated it was almost inconceivable to her that this situation has deteriorated to this point and negatively affecting her health and overall well being. She stated unfortunately because of her departure Neptune residents are losing a strong advocate and dedicated public servant. She stated they only saw her as an individual employee and failed to recognize in a broader sense and contexts that she was everyone's colleague, sister daughter, wife and mother. The irony here in 2017 is that the leadership standing on this side over here with the exception of Captain Fisher were employed by the Fox News Channel most of the superior officers would have been dismissed from their post and terminated for their misogynistic ways and sexually and racially discriminatory conduct a long time ago. Unfortunately, the Township Committee and Director Bascom have been fully aware of the rampant discrimination, harassment and retaliation and by looking the other way have facilitated the unlawful conduct. She stated despite her many complaints there were never any investigations into the unlawful conduct let alone efforts to stop it. She stated in the end she invested everything her heart and soul into this job her time her effort her ability and service to the community as a public servant. She stated after pouring herself out empty in an effort to do her job to the best of her ability the pressures brought upon her as a result of the harassment and retaliation began to consume her spirit, bruised her confidence and fractured her self respect. Her separation from the Department has already become an essential part of her own personal recovery and she fears the prognosis of the Neptune Township Police Department is not as positive because they failed to acknowledge and refused to understand the clear message of hers and others opposing discrimination. She feared for the conceivable future that women, minorities and others with alternative lifestyles will be forced to suffer due to continued injustice & insensitivity and may be forced to suffer in silence. She stated she would miss those colleagues that stood by her side and they saw her pain and suffering as she fought to maintain her integrity no matter what Police Director Bascom, Captain Robert Mangold, Anthony Guelliario and Captain Michael McGhee, Lt. Stephan Columbo, Sgt Kevin O'Donnell and Sgt Robert Baldwin threw at her and including when Chief Hunt conspired with Chief Robert Brice of Wall Township. She stated she would miss her law enforcement career but most importantly she would miss the residents she served this past 11 years. She stated her leaving may not be a sad moment for them or the Police Administration but she has left with her integrity intact. She stated she fought a good fight and she hoped there would be other officers who will stand up against the wrongs that this Police Director, Chief and Township Administration has engaged in and have allowed to continue without consequence which has driven her from her job, her career and her community that she loves.

Mayor Brantley thanked her for her service.

Mr. Williams offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Lane, to accept the resignation of Elena Gonzalez as a Police Officer. All were in favor.

Michael Golub, 305 Cliffwood Drive, stated he could not say that he expected that and he felt a little diminished in mentioning something that seems a little more trivial than what that poor woman went through but his comments were regarding the comments that the gentleman made about the redevelopment attorney. He stated he really wished that they would look at redevelopment for the entire town in its totality rather than different areas because they all affect each other. He stated there was an expertise in having an attorney for the redevelopment. He asked Mr. Anthony if he ever functioned as a redevelopment attorney. Mr. Anthony stated he did act as a redevelopment attorney in Eatontown. He agreed that he did not specialize in it but has gotten more experience in Neptune. He questioned whether there has been any contact with anyone regarding the issue with the stream that was rebuilt on Route 33 in Hamilton Commons. He stated they could come up with money for out of court settlements but they came seem to come up with six figures for people who did nothing wrong but sit in their own living rooms and watch tv. He stated he did not understand why they could not take a leadership role and call in the State and the County of Tinton Falls and resolve the issue. He urged the Committee to make those residents whole.

Mayor Brantley stated they were looking at redevelopment as a whole for the Township.

Ms. Rizzo stated it was an economic plan.

Mr. Gadaletta stated as he's discussed at prior meetings they have interacted with them at the request of the governing body and they had meetings on site. They've had conversations with the DOT and the County prior to the development moving forward with the project they had designed. He stated there has not be conversations subsequent to the improvements put in but they certainly can reach out to that association and have a discussion with them.

Celestine Overby, Bingham Street, thanked the Committee for the speed limit sign on Bingham Street. She stated that motorists are still speeding through her neighborhood and also on Neptune Blvd.

Dorothy Argyros, 2100 Rutherford Avenue, stated that there were things that happened in Neptune that should never happen under good government anywhere. She referred to the Seidle case, Katie Lee Thomas who was found dead in a Neptune jail and the fire which happened recently because Bill Doolittle was very busy trying to squeeze money out of people under an unconstitutional ordinance about vacant and abandoned properties. She stated he was too busy to look at the fire trap that existed in Ocean Grove. She read the complaint that Gonzales filed. She stated she wondered when the insurance company would realize what a moral risk Neptune is and drop us like a hot potato. As a taxpayer and human being she asked that they fire Mr. Bascom and others who are at the top.

Mayor Brantley stated personal attacks were not allowed.

Mrs. Argyros asked that they fire the Chief of Police and if the Committee won't do it then they should step down and let responsible people take those seats.

Barbara Burns, 4 Ocean Avenue, stated she was deeply concerned about what she heard this evening and that Mrs. Argyros has a constitutional right to petition her elective representatives and that would be all of them. She stated she's heard before about officer Gonzales, Seidle. We've heard all of the stories but we have not heard any of the facts. We've heard disturbing facts from the officer but they've heard nothing from the Committee. There are no facts for them to judge and this has become very painful and questioned where should she put her confidence. They've asked for a report of the fire and they've heard nothing. They have no facts on an officer who shot his wife. They need to see transparency or they are going to lose the confidence of the people.

Mayor Brantley stated that when things are in litigation they were limited as to what they can say.

Kyheem Davis, 506 Stamford Drive, stated it took 135 years for a female to raise in the rank in the Police Department and tonight they had the first female, minority to make the rank of Sergeant tender her resignation. He stated the officers all try to strive for twenty five years, possibly longer. Unfortunately she felt that she could not make it because of certain things that may have occurred. He stated it's disturbing when someone has to give up the career they fought for. It's disturbing she has to resign because of her health it is disturbing and disheartening. He stated speaking as a minority he was ashamed. He went on to say that whatever direction they are going that they take a left and go in another direction because obviously this isn't working and it hasn't been working in a while. He stated this has been going on for years and Sgt. Gonzales concerns would continue. He stated she has a perspective that a lot of them do not have but the new officers can learn from. He urged them to monitor what's going on a little bit more.

Kennedy Buckley, 65 Broadway, asked if the Redevelopment Attorney can revisit the declaration of a blighted area at the North End. Mr. Anthony stated that was not the intent.

Jen Coombs, stated that she is following up on her question from last meeting regarding the impact of bail reform. Mr. Gadaleta stated that he was preparing a report and will advise her when it is complete.

Richard Williams, 1 Abbott Avenue, stated he has been surprised every time he has come to a Township Meeting and he was even more surprised this evening when the officer tendered her resignation and it was just accepted. He felt they acted so swiftly to accept her resignation. He questioned how does a relatively intelligent person sitting in a chair at a meeting have any knowledge about what is going on.

Mayor Brantley stated they get frustrated at times about things they can talk about and things they shouldn't talk about and a lot of times you get comments from the public about things and often some of the comments that are made are not accurate. If it is under litigation they should not

challenge anything they let the process take care of it.

Mr. Williams questioned what could he do to have some understanding as to what is going on.

Mr. Anthony stated like any other litigation there is outreach all around the litigation. There is discussion on everything other than the litigation but the individual came before this Township Committee is involved in litigation and we are represented by an insurance carrier and if we do not follow the instructions of not disclosing certain things which are a part of the litigation. They would not only jeopardize the case in terms of the taxpayers but they would also jeopardize standing with the insurance carrier. He reiterated that they had to follow protocol. He stated they would discuss anything that did not have to do with the case but they could not discuss the case.

Mr. Williams questioned why they could not defer in accepting her resignation until the litigation was over.

Mr. Anthony stated the Committee chose not to and obviously she wanted to resign and they accepted it. He stated people resign all of the time and the Township Committee accepts their resignation right away.

Hank Coakley, Valley Road, asked about the status of the Committee's support of legislation sponsored by Senator Beck to eliminate pensions for convicted felons. The Mayor stated that the Committee has not yet discussed the matter. Mr. Coakley stated that it should be a priority because it affects both taxpayers and people in the pension system.

Janel Jones, 807 Stamford Drive, Gables Association President, stated she wasn't planning to come to the meeting but something compelled her to come tonight. She stated she was really glad she did and she was shocked at the same time. She stated In the year 2017, we are still observing the ugly head of discrimination. Her father Ermon K. Jones fought discrimination. He fought all times of discrimination and to hear this tore her heart apart. She stated they have to come together to not let this happen. She stated she respects the police department but has questions. She stated Lt. Zarro was a wonderful officer and she was not questioning all of them. She felt that they all should come together because discrimination hurts and we need to come together.

Dianna Harris, 17 Willow Drive, President, MURC, questioned the timeline of the streetscape because they were going to have two concerts in July and August and what direction were they moving in.

Mr. Gadaleta stated the project has begun and there is equipment on site. The first process will include doing associated concrete work. As far as the progress and direction he did not have that detail tonight to present to her but he could get that information to her. He stated he did not see that there would be a problem with her ability to use the park for the concerts where they have in the past. By July and August they should be in a position to secure an area that she could host their events if the process is still ongoing.

Ms. Harris stated this is 2017 and women are still dealing with these issues in the Police Department. They've spoken on many occasions about increasing the number of women on the police force and how they are needed but to listen to Sgt. Gonzales and what she says about discrimination and things that are going on for her and whoever else. She asked them to please look closely to what is happening. She stated she knew that they've gone through accreditation as far as putting a lot of ducks in a row, making sure that things look right so that it will help as far as insurance is concerned but does it address discrimination. She questioned whether it discussed or stressed morale in the Police Department and whether it was part of the accreditation process.

Mr. Bascom stated the accreditation process creates structure and fairness for all and that is part of the goal of accreditation and adhering to rules for everyone.

Ms. Harris stated both women and minorities are important and requested they look deeper because this has been happening since she first started attending the meetings in 2006.

Gail Oliver, Neptune City, stated she wanted to echo all the comments made tonight regarding the resignation of Elena Gonzales and to see her go through what she's gone through for years her and the other females in the Police Department is horrific and unacceptable and it should be unacceptable to all of them. She stated all men have women in their lives and questioned would they want that to happen to their loved ones. She stated there was another resignation of a female and they have no idea how demoralizing that is to women. She stated women should be valued and every organization should have diversity initiatives and it should be done from the outside. She stated she was ashamed as to what this has come to.

Reverend Lee, 296 Drummond Avenue, asked who will be managing the West Lake Avenue Streetscape and what will be the timeline. Mr. Gadaleta stated that the equipment is on site. The concrete work will be done first and the paving last. The lighting conduit, street lamps and other work will be done in between. The Township Engineering Department will serve as Project Engineer. He added that the concrete and curbing work will begin within a few days.

Mr. McMillan offered a motion, seconded by Ms. Rizzo to adjourn. All were in favor.

Richard J. Cuttrel,
Municipal Clerk