

Millburn Township Committee Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Millburn, in Essex County, New Jersey, held in Town Hall starting at 7:30 PM on the above date.

Mayor Lieberberg opened the meeting and read the following statement:

In accordance with Section 5 of the Open Meetings Act, Chapter 231, Public Laws, 1975, are advised that notice of this meeting was made by posting on the Bulletin Board, Town Hall, and serving the officially designated newspapers, a notice stating that this meeting would take place at the Town Hall at 7:30 PM on March 3, 2020.

Mayor Lieberberg asked all those present to stand for the Salute to the Flag.

Upon call of the roll, the following Committee members were recorded present: Jackie Benjamin Lieberberg, Tara B. Prupis, Dianne Thall Eglow and Richard J. Wasserman.

Cheryl H. Burstein was absent.

Also present were Business Administrator Alexander McDonald, Township Attorney Christopher Falcon, Township Clerk Christine Gatti and Assistant Administrator Jimmy Homs.

Approval of Agenda

Mayor Lieberberg asked for a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was offered by Ms. Prupis and seconded by Ms. Thall Eglow.

Roll Call Vote: All Ayes

Minutes

Mayor Lieberberg asked for a motion to approve the February 4, 2020 regular meeting minutes. The motion was made by Ms. Prupis and seconded by Mr. Wasserman.

Roll Call Vote: All Ayes

Reports

Mayor Lieberberg read the following report: *“PLASTIC REDUCTION ORDINANCE: There will be 2 information sessions regarding the Plastic Reduction Ordinance (2547-19) that was passed last year and will be effective in the Township beginning on June 12th. These information sessions regarding the plastic reduction plan will be presented on Thursday, March 5th at the Library. One session will be held from 11am-noon, and the second from 7pm-8pm. These sessions are for the entire Millburn/Short Hills Community – BOTH business and residential—there are flyers on the table that summarize the ordinance—*

PAPERMILL STUDIOS: Paper Mill Studios will be expanding their “footprint” in Millburn and will be opening a new studio for theatre and dance instruction in the old Bike Shop --- there will be a ribbon cutting tomorrow morning at 9 am. I also want to share---that the community is invited to an Education Open House on Saturday, March 14 featuring free classes for students ages 6 to 15. Spots are free but must be reserved in advance—at PaperMill.org/studios <http://tinyurl.com/PMPStudios>

CEDA (Advisory Committee on Culture, Engagement, Diversity and Arts) REPORT: The excitement is building for our first Millburn Founding Day event. It will take place at the Bauer Center—1-4 PM on Sunday, March 15th. Music—The Mood Swings, Poet Section, Big Romance, Midnight Sun. ALL residents are welcomed and encouraged to attend. Food, Pizza, Prizes, Games, Music --- meet your neighbors—listen to our local musicians and have some fun—Rain or Shine.

BOY SCOUTS: On Saturday, February 29th—6 Millburn/Short Hills young men---Boy Scouts from Troop 17, St. Rose Of Lima received their Eagle Scout Certification--- I was honored to be present for the Awards ceremony. These fine young men are: Gabe Liwschitz, Somil Agarwal, Thomas Beacham, Matthew Kirschenbaum, Colin Woros, and Liam Pilarski.

RAHWAY RIVER: On February 21st several members of the Mayor's Rahway River Coalition met with Mayor Warren of Orange and members of his staff to invite them into discussions once more on possible alternatives being contemplated. These solutions include the possibility of installing a bypass at the Orange Reservoir. It was an important step to ensure that the City of Orange Township was invited to be a part of continued conversations that may include their properties. The meeting was fruitful and Orange's questions and input are valuable to the process as the group continues to explore flood mitigation options. A follow up meeting has been scheduled for March 20th again at the City of Orange Township and a subsequent full meeting of the Mayor's Rahway River Coalition hosted by Millburn on April 1st.

CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19): I was on a call this afternoon with Governor Murphy, Health Commissioner Judy Persichilli, Asst. Commissioner Chris Neuwirth and Dr. Tan, the State Epidemiologist. There are NO Cases in NJ— (8 people have been tested and response is negative--) "No time to panic—time to be prepared". It is recommend we follow all the CDC guidelines. Note that NJ Transit announced this afternoon announced that they will be putting forth aggressive cleaning service mandates on all surfaces on the trains and stations--- Governor Murphy spoke with Port Authority officials and he anticipates similar protocols by the end of the day. Any questions--- 24 hr hotline in multiple languages: 800-222-1222. Web site: Nj.gov/health, Email--- NCOVID@doh.nj.health.gov

ESSEX COUNTY: The Township and its officials participated in a call on February 28th from Essex County officials regarding Covid-19 or Coronavirus. The main message from this call was about preparation and prevention, not panic. County officials ensured its municipalities that there will be more county wide calls going forward as the situation in New Jersey evolves, however the most prudent action at this point is to disseminate reliable information that can be found on the New Jersey Department of Health and Center for Disease Control websites. This information is shared on the Township's website, with helpful links to information about the virus. A fact sheet from Essex County has also been posted to the Township's news feed on this subject. We encourage our residents to educate themselves about Covid-19 and the Township of Millburn will continue to update the community on additional information as it is received from both our local health office and county officials.

BOARD OF EDUCATION—Statement made last Wednesday- We are monitoring the alerts from the [CDC](#) about the possibility of the spread of the Coronavirus within the United States. We continue to follow the current guidance posted by the [New Jersey Department of Education](#) and the [New Jersey Department of Health](#). Please note, at this time we have no concerns about this virus in our schools.

Again, we would like to remind you of the recommended precautions for preventing the flu and other viruses:

- *Cover your coughs and sneezes with a tissue or into your sleeve, not your hands.*
- *Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth*
- *Wash hands often, with soap and water, for at least 20 seconds, especially after coughing or sneezing.*
- *Keep your children home when they are sick.*
- *Children should not return to school unless they have been fever-free without medication for 24 hours.*
- *Avoid people who are sick*
- *Get a flu shot – it's not too late to be protected*
- *Clean and disinfect frequently-touched surfaces and objects.*

Additionally, some of our local residents have set up an Anonymous Support system for individuals/families that may be impacted by going through home-isolation and self-monitoring as guided by CDC. We know friends who traveled from impacted areas and voluntarily stayed at home for 14 days. We respect their sense of responsibility to themselves and the community as a whole. We also understand the logistic difficulties they had to overcome during the course of such home monitoring. That respect and understanding sparked a support group.

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- **Who we are**—we are “Millburn Short Hills Health Support”, a group of over eighty Millburn/Short Hills residents who volunteer to assist our neighbors going through home-isolation and self-monitoring to prevent the spread of the coronavirus in our community.
- **What we do**—we help with shopping for groceries and other daily necessities and provide doorstep delivery.
- **How we do it**—we are divided into 5 groups covering each of the 5 geographic areas of Millburn (namely: South Mountain, Wyoming, Glenwood, Deerfield and Hartshorn). If a Millburn/Short Hills resident is seeking our assistance or would like to join our volunteer efforts, please send an email to MSHHealthAssistance@gmail.com. For detailed instructions, please refer to the “**Guidelines for Residents Seeking Help**” and “**Guidelines for Volunteers**” at the end. The gmail account is monitored by a single administrator, who will share the information with the respective neighborhood liaison.

Once again, the email address is: MSHHealthAssistance@gmail.com SUBJECT LINE: VOLUNTEER or SEEKING ASSISTANCE—there are detailed descriptions of the process that can be forwarded through email.”

Ms. Prupis announced that the Millburn Township Environmental Commission met on February 11th and unanimously passed a resolution requesting Essex County halt the development of an amphitheater at the Turtle Back Zoo until an environmental impact study can be done. She advised that it has been sent to the Essex County Freeholders and Environmental Commission. She stated that at the March 4th Planning Board meeting they will be discussing and possibly voting on the land use amendment pertaining to the Wells Fargo site. She announced a community meeting regarding PACTS (Pedestrian and Circulation Traffic Safety Ad Hoc Committee) that is scheduled to be held on March 8th from 2:00 to 4:00 PM.

Mr. Wasserman advised that he and Mayor Lieberberg sat down with representatives from the Board of Education and discussed how to stay in sync for planning and communication purposes. He pointed out that he sits on the Finance Sub Committee with Ms. Thall Eglow and the town’s finances are in very good condition and he is very impressed with our team. He said one of the things addressed was to set aside funds to hire 4 police officers. He added that it is important that the departments have tools to do their jobs.

Ms. Thall Eglow reported that the budget will be introduced at the March 17th meeting. She also spoke about an event held this past Saturday at the Library that addressed issues regarding gun violence. She noted that various legislators participated. She spoke about a new program called ERPO which address high risk situations involving firearms. She said they also spoke about the effectiveness of school safety drills.

Mr. McDonald reported on the Locust Grove improvements, including parking. He said he expects the work to begin in the next few weeks. He also spoke about the flood modeling project and said he received a proposal in the amount of \$15,000 to start the process. The Township Committee gave Mr. McDonald consensus to move forward with the flood modeling project.

Public Comment

Phil Kirsch, of 93 Cedar Street, reviewed concerns regarding the expansion at the Turtle Back Zoo and asked the Township Committee to publicly discuss and endorse the resolution passed by Millburn’s Environmental Commission.

Judy Rosenthal, of 93 Main Street, thanked the Environmental Commission for the resolution and their hard work. She voiced her concerns about the expansion of the zoo and mentioned that South Orange has passed a resolution opposing the expansion.

Harshal Gorde, of 12 Briarwood Drive, spoke about being a victim of a home burglary. He spoke about his experience and wants the town to do something to prevent this from happening to others.

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Manik Bambha, of 251 Parsonage Hill Road, advised that two men came to his property and tried to steal his cars. He reviewed his safety concerns in the town. He requested that the Township Committee work with the police and make sure their work is a priority. Mayor Lieberberg responded that the police have the full support of the Township Committee and Mr. Wasserman added that he feels terrible about their experiences and said the Township Committee will make sure the police have the resources to do the best job possible.

David Cosgrove, of 99 Oakview Terrace, came forward and asked what new housing projects are out there. He was advised other than the one on Woodland and the one at Wells Fargo, there are none.

Sara Sherman, of 42 Greenwood Drive, asked if Millburn is in discussion with Springfield about the portion of the Saks property that is in Millburn and also what is the plan for the construction work that is scheduled to happen on the bridge on Main Street because it is likely to impact the South Mountain section. Mr. McDonald stated that he has reached out to DOT regarding the bridge project, but has not received a response yet. Mr. McDonald said he would be sure to disseminate information as it is available. Mr. McDonald and Ms. Sherman discussed opposing lane closures while the bridge work is happening.

Sanjeev Vinayak, of 2 Rippling Brook Drive, wondered why key performance indicators (KPIs) are not discussed at these meetings. He said whether it is taxes, safety, or new real estate, these KPIs should be a standard discussion at meetings. He said safety in town should be paramount.

Public Comment – Consent Agenda

Mayor Lieberberg asked if there were any comments or questions regarding items on the Consent Agenda. No comments or questions were presented.

Consent Agenda

Mayor Lieberberg asked for a motion to approve the items on the consent agenda. Ms. Prupis made a motion to approve the consent agenda which was seconded by Mr. Wasserman.

Roll Call Vote: All Ayes

RESOLUTION 20-071
APPROVE BILLS PAYABLE

RESOLVED that the Township Treasurer be and hereby is authorized to accept for payment and pay bills or items as they appear on Schedule dated March 3rd, 2020, in the following accounts:

Table with 2 columns: Fund Name and Amount. Rows include General (\$399,402.32), Capital Fund (82,853.95), Parking Utility - Operating Fund (4,243.12), Dog Trust Fund (134.55), Escrow Trust Fund (64,314.59), and Police Off Duty Trust Fund (16,317.00).

RESOLUTION 20-072
AUTHORIZE THE REFUND OF TAX OVERPAYMENTS

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Treasurer of the Township of Millburn be and he is hereby authorized and directed to the draw warrants to pay the payees listed below in the specified amounts;

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<u>Make check payable to:</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Irwin & Heinze PA Attorney Trust Acct FBO 382 Millburn Ave Assoc. Plaintiff 383 Main Street Suite 101 Chatham, NJ 07928 Block 801 Lot 8 382 Millburn Ave	Tax Appeal 2019 taxes	\$1,930.00
Irwin & Heinze PA Attorney Trust Acct FBO 533 Realty, LLC Plaintiff 383 Main Street Suite 101 Chatham, NJ 07928 Block 1706 Lot 3 533 Millburn Ave	Tax Appeal 2018 taxes (\$1,652.84) 2019 taxes (\$2,159.67)	\$3,812.51
Jennifer R. Jacobus, Trustee & Jayshree and Roger A. Sawhney 201 Littleton Rd. 1 st Floor Morris Plains, NJ 07950 Block 3201 Lot 11 346 Hartshorn Dr.	Tax Appeal 2018 taxes (\$4,001.81) 2019 taxes (\$4,060.72)	\$8,062.53
Jennifer R. Jacobus, Trustee & Harry Allan & Alicia Connaughton 201 Littleton Rd. 1 st Floor Morris Plains, NJ 07950 Block 2901 Lot 37 31 Woodfield Dr.	Tax Appeal 2019 taxes	\$3,863.86
Corelogic Real Estate Tax Services Mail code: DFW 1-3 3001 Hackberry Rd. Irving, TX 75063 Block 1101 Lot 19.02 33 Blaine St.	Tax Refund 2020 taxes paid in error (overcollection)	\$1,763.54
Corelogic Real Estate Tax Services Mail code: DFW 1-3 3001 Hackberry Rd. Irving, TX 75063 Block 1604 Lot 11 2 Pinewood Court	Tax Refund 2020 taxes Duplicate pymt (overcollection)	\$11,156.37

**RESOLUTION 20-073
REAPPOINTMENT OF TOWNSHIP ENGINEER - CALLAHAN**

WHEREAS, Martha J. Callahan has been effectively serving as Township Engineer for the Township of Millburn since May 1, 2017; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee has confidence in the demonstrated ability of Martha J. Callahan to continue to perform the duties of the Office of Township Engineer;

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Millburn, County of Essex, State of New Jersey, in accordance with the provisions of NJSA 40A:9-140, that Martha J. Callahan is hereby reappointed as Township Engineer for a three (3) year term, from May 1, 2020 to April 30, 2023.

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RESOLUTION 20-074
AWARD CONTRACT – MUNICIPAL POOL FOOD CONCESSION

WHEREAS, the Township of Millburn advertised for bids for Municipal Pool Food Concession services on two separate occasions and no bids were received on January 9, 2020 and January 30, 2020; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(3) this contract may be negotiated without bidding because it has been advertised unsuccessfully on two occasions; and

WHEREAS, the Millburn Township Recreation Director engaged in negotiations with two firms known to provide food concession services; and

WHEREAS, S.A. Food Associates, LLC, 1231 Beech Avenue, Mountainside, New Jersey 07092, provided a proposal acceptable to the Township to provide concession services at Millburn pools; and

WHEREAS, the Township Recreation Director has recommended that a contract be awarded to S.A. Food Associates, LLC for the 2020 and 2021 pool seasons, with the option on the part of the Township to renew the contract for up to two, one year options for 2022 and 2023; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee hereby awards the said contract by the adoption of a Resolution by a two-thirds affirmative vote of the authorized Membership of the Township Committee as required by the above referenced statute; and

NOW, THEREAFTER, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Millburn that the proper Township Officials are authorized and directed to execute a contract with S.A. Food Associates, LLC, 1231 Beech Avenue, Mountainside, New Jersey 07092, in a form approved by the Township Attorney and pursuant to the proposal, the amount of the payment to the Township as set forth in the contract shall be as follows: \$4,900.00 each year for 2020 and 2021.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in the event that the Township, in its discretion, chooses to extend the contract not to exceed two, one year extensions, any change in the concession amount included as part of an extension shall be based on the then current concession amount, adjusted on an annual basis, but not adjusted to exceed the change in the index rate for the twelve months preceding the most recent quarterly calculation available at the time the contract is renewed.

RESOLUTION 20-075
APPROVE RAFFLE LICENSES

WHEREAS, the following have submitted application to the Township Clerk to conduct a raffle, providing all required identification and the appropriate fees; and

WHEREAS, the Police Department is in receipt of a copy of the application per the regulation of the Legalized Games of Chance Control Commission;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the following be approved:

PTO Hartshorn School

Ordinance/Introduction

Ordinance 2551-20

Ms. Thall Eglow brought forth Ordinance 2551-20 for introduction. Ms. Thall Eglow moved that the ordinance be taken up and passed on first reading, noting that the public hearing would take place on April 7, 2020. Mayor Lieberberg seconded the motion and requested a roll call vote.

Roll Call Vote: All Ayes

ORDINANCE NO. 2551-20
AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION BY PURCHASE OR CONDEMNATION
OF AN EASEMENT INTEREST IN A PORTION OF THE REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 383
HOBART AVENUE, KNOWN AS BLOCK 3508, LOT 4

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STATEMENT OF PURPOSE: This ordinance is being proposed to authorize the acquisition of permanent easement on the corner of Hobart Avenue and Hobart Gap Road in order to enable certain signal and related infrastructure improvements to be made to the intersection.

WHEREAS, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:12-5(a)(1) "any municipality, by ordinance, may provide for the acquisition of any real property, capital improvement, or personal property: (1) by purchase, gift, devise, lease, exchange, or condemnation;" and

WHEREAS, there is a need to improve the intersection of Hobart Avenue and White Oak Ridge Road with the addition of a signal and related infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, through consultation with the Township's engineering consultants, Simco Engineering, PC the Township has determined that certain signal improvements at the intersection of Hobart Avenue and White Oak Ridge Road would improve roadway safety the intersection; and

WHEREAS, Simco Engineering, PC has designed proposed signal and infrastructure improvements which improvements will require the Township to acquire a permanent easement over a portion of property located at 383 Hobart Avenue, also known as Block 3508, Lot 4, as identified in the attached parcel description by metes and bounds, in the Township of Millburn; and

WHEREAS, based upon the goal of improving traffic safety at the intersection and in consultation with the Township's consulting engineers, the Township has identified the property located at 383 Hobart Avenue as a necessary location on which to locate certain improvements related to the proposed signal and infrastructure improvements; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Township Committee:

- 1. The appraisal of the permanent easement located at 383 Hobart Avenue, (Block 3508, Lot 4) prepared by Integra Realty Resources on behalf of the Township is hereby accepted and approved in its entirety, including but not limited to the appraised value of \$1,700.00.
2. The Business Administrator and/or the firm of Maraziti, Falcon, LLP is authorized to submit a written offer for the purchase of the aforementioned drainage easement and to negotiate its acquisition with the property owner on the basis of the aforementioned appraisal.
3. In the event that the Business Administrator and/or the firm of Maraziti, Falcon, LLP is unable to acquire the property interest through good faith negotiation, the firm of Maraziti Falcon, LLP is authorized to file an action in Superior Court to acquire the same through condemnation in accordance with the Eminent Domain Act of 1971, N.J.S.A. 20:3-1 et seq. and pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:12-5(a)(1).
4. This ordinance shall take effect after final passage and publication as provided by law.

Ordinance 2552-20

Mayor Lieberberg brought forth Ordinance 2552-20 for introduction. Mayor Lieberberg moved that the ordinance be taken up and passed on first reading, noting that the public hearing would take place on April 7, 2020. Ms. Thall Eglow seconded the motion. Mayor Lieberberg requested a roll call vote.

Roll Call Vote: All Ayes

ORDINANCE NO. 2552-20
AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION BY PURCHASE OR CONDEMNATION OF AN EASEMENT INTEREST IN A PORTION OF THE REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 48 HOBART GAP ROAD, KNOWN AS BLOCK 3403, LOT 13

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STATEMENT OF PURPOSE: This ordinance is being proposed to authorize the acquisition of permanent easement on the corner of Hobart Avenue and Hobart Gap Road in order to enable certain signal and related infrastructure improvements to be made to the intersection.

WHEREAS, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:12-5(a)(1) "any municipality, by ordinance, may provide for the acquisition of any real property, capital improvement, or personal property: (1) by purchase, gift, devise, lease, exchange, or condemnation;" and

WHEREAS, there is a need to improve the intersection of Hobart Avenue and White Oak Ridge Road with the addition of a signal and related infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, through consultation with the Township's engineering consultants, Simco Engineering, PC the Township has determined that certain signal improvements at the intersection of Hobart Avenue and White Oak Ridge Road would improve roadway safety at the intersection; and

WHEREAS, Simco Engineering, PC has designed proposed signal and infrastructure improvements which improvements will require the Township to acquire a permanent easement over a portion of property located at 48 Hobart Gap Road, also known as Block 3403, Lot 13, as identified in the attached parcel description by metes and bounds, in the Township of Millburn; and

WHEREAS, based upon the goal of improving traffic safety at the intersection and in consultation with the Township's consulting engineers, the Township has identified the property located at 48 Hobart Gap Road as a necessary location on which to locate certain improvements related to the proposed signal and infrastructure improvements; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Township Committee:

- 1. The appraisal of the permanent easement located at 48 Hobart Gap Road, (Block 3403, Lot 13) prepared by Integra Realty Resources on behalf of the Township is hereby accepted and approved in its entirety, including but not limited to the appraised value of \$4,000.00.
2. The Business Administrator and/or the firm of Maraziti, Falcon, LLP is authorized to submit a written offer for the purchase of the aforementioned drainage easement and to negotiate its acquisition with the property owner on the basis of the aforementioned appraisal.
3. In the event that the Business Administrator and/or the firm of Maraziti, Falcon, LLP is unable to acquire the property interest through good faith negotiation, the firm of Maraziti Falcon, LLP is authorized to file an action in Superior Court to acquire the same through condemnation in accordance with the Eminent Domain Act of 1971, N.J.S.A. 20:3-1 et seq. and pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:12-5(a)(1).
4. This ordinance shall take effect after final passage and publication as provided by law.

Ordinance 2553-20

Mr. Wasserman brought forth Ordinance 2553-20 for introduction. Mr. Wasserman moved that the ordinance be taken up and passed on first reading, noting that the public hearing would take place on April 7, 2020. Ms. Thall Eglow seconded the motion. Mayor Lieberberg requested a roll call vote.

Roll Call: All Ayes

ORDINANCE NO. 2553-20
AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION BY PURCHASE OR CONDEMNATION OF AN EASEMENT INTEREST IN A PORTION OF THE REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 375 HOBART AVENUE, KNOWN AS BLOCK 3302, LOT 7

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE: This ordinance is being proposed to authorize the acquisition of permanent easement on the corner of Hobart Avenue and Hobart Gap Road in order to enable certain signal and related infrastructure improvements to be made to the intersection.

WHEREAS, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:12-5(a)(1) "any municipality, by ordinance, may provide for the acquisition of any real property, capital improvement, or personal property: (1) by purchase, gift, devise, lease, exchange, or condemnation;" and

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WHEREAS, there is a need to improve the intersection of Hobart Avenue and White Oak Ridge Road with the addition of a signal and related infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, through consultation with the Township’s engineering consultants, Simco Engineering, PC the Township has determined that certain signal improvements at the intersection of Hobart Avenue and White Oak Ridge Road would improve roadway safety the intersection; and

WHEREAS, Simco Engineering, PC has designed proposed signal and infrastructure improvements which improvements will require the Township to acquire a permanent easement over a portion of property located at 375 Hobart Avenue, also known as Block 3302, Lot 7, as identified in the attached parcel description by metes and bounds, in the Township of Millburn; and

WHEREAS, based upon the goal of improving traffic safety at the intersection and in consultation with the Township’s consulting engineers, the Township has identified the property located at 375 Hobart Avenue as a necessary location on which to locate certain improvements related to the proposed signal and infrastructure improvements; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Township Committee:

1. The appraisal of the permanent easement located at 375 Hobart Avenue, (Block 3302, Lot 7) prepared by Integra Realty Resources on behalf of the Township is hereby accepted and approved in its entirety, including but not limited to the appraised value of \$2,700.00.
2. The Business Administrator and/or the firm of Maraziti, Falcon, LLP is authorized to submit a written offer for the purchase of the aforementioned drainage easement and to negotiate its acquisition with the property owner on the basis of the aforementioned appraisal.
3. In the event that the Business Administrator and/or the firm of Maraziti, Falcon, LLP is unable to acquire the property interest through good faith negotiation, the firm of Maraziti Falcon, LLP is authorized to file an action in Superior Court to acquire the same through condemnation in accordance with the Eminent Domain Act of 1971, N.J.S.A. 20:3-1 et seq. and pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:12-5(a)(1).
4. This ordinance shall take effect after final passage and publication as provided by law.

Old Business

Mayor Lieberberg asked if anyone had old business to present.

Ms. Thall Eglow made the following statement: *“Mayor, is PACTS being disbanded? We have not met and at the last meeting I asked that we schedule a meeting to have Maurice from Mazer, our traffic consultant, update the group after reviewing PACTS 5 recommendations, which were presented to the merchants and at a TC meeting. I specifically would like to know his firms findings on the recommendation of the reconfiguration to the Entrance on Essex Street onto Town Hall Plaza? As this would be beneficial to allow a safer turning radius into Town Hall Plaza, it has been 3 years and the Jersey Barrier is still there due to the crash hazard by the physical impediment of the GUY wire. This plan also creates between 15-20 additional parking spots. This would allow Town Hall Plaza to be used for what it was intended, a cut through from Essex Street to Millburn Avenue and not having to go all the way to Douglas Street (at the end of Essex Street). Especially when Wells Fargo is developed this will be a needed improvement to circulation. It may also deter drivers from cutting through the parking lot at Nancy and David’s and causing potential conflicts in the Dunkin Donut lot. Speaking of the Dunkin Donut lot, has there been a resolution to purchase and install a blinking pedestrian alert light at that cross walk? I believe we have a price and this can be done with no construction disturbances.”*

Mr. McDonald stated he has a price of \$4,500 for the blinking pedestrian sign and if the Township Committee is agreeable, he will move forward. Mr. Wasserman said we have a lot of confidence in Maurice our Traffic Engineer from Maser Consulting and we should ask Maurice for his professional

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recommendation and suggestion before doing anything immediate. Ms. Thall Eglow asked the Mayor if PACTS is being disbanded since there have not been any meetings. She replied, no, and perhaps Maurice should come and make a public presentation. Ms. Prupis noted that there is a community PACTS meeting on Sunday and things should be taken step by step.

Mr. McDonald suggested outlining specifically for Maurice what he should review with the Township Committee. Ms. Thall Eglow pointed out that she understands that Town Hall Plaza will take time but does not understand why nothing has been done about the pedestrian sign when it can be done without any construction disruption. Members of the Committee engaged in a brief discussion regarding the delay in moving forward regarding the PACTS recommendations.

New Business

No new business was presented.

Adjournment

Mayor Lieberberg asked if anyone has any remaining comments or questions. Receiving none, she called for a motion to close the public session of the meeting, which was offered by Ms. Prupis and seconded by Mr. Wasserman. The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 PM. Vote: All Ayes

Christine A. Gatti, RMC
Township Clerk

Approved: April 7, 2020