

HARDING TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
MONDAY, JULY 12, 2021
IN-PERSON (Only)
EXECUTIVE SESSION at 7:00 PM
REGULAR MEETING at 7:30 PM
Kirby Hall, Blue Mill Road, New Vernon, New Jersey

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

CALL MEETING TO ORDER – Mayor Jones

Mayor Jones called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

ADEQUATE NOTICE of this July 12, 2021 meeting of the Harding Township Committee was sent to the Observer Tribune on January 4, 2021 and published in the Observer Tribune on January 7, 2021.

Mayor Jones announced adequate notice of the July 12, 2021 meeting of the Harding Township Committee was published in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

ROLL CALL – Municipal Clerk

Ms. Chipperson, Ms. DiTosto, Mr. Platt, Mr. Yates, Mr. Jones

Mayor Jones called for the roll. Mrs. Sharp called the roll. Let the record show that all members were present in person with the exception of Mr. Platt who was absent. Mr. Falzarano, Township Administrator and Mr. Roselli, Township Attorney were present.

RESOLUTION TO RECESS INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Jones asked for a motion to recess into executive session. Upon a motion made by Township Committee Member Yates, seconded by Township Committee Member DiTosto, and with a roll call vote of all ayes, Mr. Platt was absent, none opposed, the meeting recessed at 7:06 pm.

Resolution TC 21-131– Resolution to Recess into Executive Session

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Harding Township Committee that it shall adjourn into executive session to discuss the following subject matter(s) without the presence of the public in accordance with the provisions of R.S. 10:4-12b; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the matter(s) discussed will be made known to the public at such time as appropriate action is taken on said matter(s), and when disclosure will not result in unwarranted invasion of individual privacy or prejudice to the best interests of the Township of Harding provided such disclosures will not violate Federal, State or local statutes and does not fall within the attorney-client privilege. The Township Committee will return to public session after this Executive Session.

Contracts:

1. Property Acquisitions – M. Roselli

Vote on Resolution:

	MOTION	FOR APPROVAL	AGAINST APPROVAL	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Ms. Chipperson	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ms. DiTosto	2 nd <input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Platt	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Yates	1 st <input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Jones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

RECONVENE INTO PUBLIC SESSION – Mayor Jones

Mayor Jones asked for a motion to reconvene the meeting back into public session at 7:30 p.m. Upon a motion made by Township Committee Member Yates, seconded by Township Committee Member DiTosto and with a roll call votes of all ayes, none opposed, the meeting opened at 7:30 pm.

ROLL CALL – Municipal Clerk

Ms. Chipperson, Ms. DiTosto, Mr. Platt, Mr. Yates, Mr. Jones

Mrs. Sharp called the roll all Township Committee members were present, Mr. Platt was absent. A total of twelve members of the public were in attendance.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Mayor Jones

Mayor Jones led the Township Committee and members of the public in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADEQUATE NOTICE of this meeting of the Harding Township Committee was given as follows: Notice was sent to the *DAILY RECORD* and the *OBSERVER TRIBUNE* on January 4, 2021, and published in the *OBSERVER TRIBUNE* on January 7, 2021; Notice was posted on the Bulletin Board in the Township Municipal Building on Blue Mill Road in Harding, NJ on January 7, 2021, and Notice was filed with the Municipal Clerk on January 7, 2021.

Mayor Jones announced adequate notice of the July 12, 2021 Township Committee meeting was published in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

RESOLUTION TC 21-132 – RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Mayor Jones asked Township Committee Member DiTosto to proceed with Resolution TC 21-132 listed on the Non-Consent agenda. *Township Committee Member DiTosto read as follows:*

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Harding that the minutes from the following meeting(s) are approved as prepared and shall be filed as a permanent record in the Municipal Clerk's office: **June 14, 2021 and July 6, 2021 Special Meeting**; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Harding that the minutes from the following Executive Session meeting(s) are approved as prepared and shall be filed as a permanent record in the Municipal Clerk's office: **June 14, 2021**

Mayor Jones asked for a motion to accept the Township Committee meeting minutes.

A motion was made by Township Committee Member Chipperson, seconded by Township Committee Member Yates, Township Committee Member DiTosto abstained from the July 6, 2021 Special Meeting Minutes, Mr. Platt was absent, and with none opposed, the meeting minutes for June 14, 2021 and July 6, 2021 were accepted.

Mayor Jones asked the Municipal Clerk for a Roll Call: *Mrs. Sharp called the roll as follows:*

Vote on Resolution:

	MOTION	FOR APPROVAL	AGAINST APPROVAL	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Ms. Chipperson	1 st	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ms. DiTosto	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> June 14, 2021	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> July 6, 2021	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Platt	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Yates	2 nd	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Jones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

RESOLUTIONS – (NON-CONSENT – REQUIRING SEPARATE ACTION):

Mayor Jones asked Township Committee Member DiTosto to proceed with Resolution TC 21-133 listed on the Non-Consent agenda.

Township Committee Member DiTosto read Resolution TC 21-133 in its entirety. Let the record show that Township Committee Member Platt arrived at 7:35 p.m.

RESOLUTION TC 21-133 RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HARDING, COUNTY OF MORRIS, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, ACCEPTING THE RETIREMENT OF LORENE WRIGHT AND RECOGNIZING HER CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE TOWNSHIP OF HARDING

WHEREAS, Lorene Wright has announced her retirement effective, October 1, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Lorene Wright was appointed on February 9, 2015 as Harding Township Assistant Administrator; and

WHEREAS, Lorie has served as Harding Township's Municipal Risk Manager, Suburban Joint Insurance Fund Commissioner, North Jersey Health Insurance Fund Commissioner, Public Agency Compliance Officer, Qualified Purchasing Agent, Designated Employer Representative, Certified Flood Plain Manager, Municipal Housing Liaison, Deputy Registrar, Employee/Retirees Human Resource Representative, and conducted Grant applications for Harding Township.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Harding in the County of Morris, State of New Jersey hereby accepts the retirement of Lorene Wright effective October 1, 2021 and reminding Lorie of the adage that "Life begins at Retirement"; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Township Committee hereby extends their appreciation and congratulations for the years of service to the residents of Harding Township. Good Luck!

Township Committee Member DiTosto made a motion to approve the resolution placed on this evening's Non-Consent Agenda by consent of the Township Committee, seconded by Township Committee Member Yates.

Mayor Jones asked the Municipal Clerk for a Roll Call: *Mrs. Sharp called the roll as follows:*

Vote on Resolution:

	MOTION	FOR APPROVAL	AGAINST APPROVAL	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Ms. Chipperson	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ms. DiTosto	1 st	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Platt	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Yates	2 nd	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Jones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Mayor Jones presented Lorie Wright with a copy of Resolution TC 21-133. Ms. Wright said thank you to the Governing Body and Township Administrator and all employees. Everyone has been terrific. Ms. Wright commented that Harding Township is a great place to work. Thank you for making me feel special. The Township Committee commented thank you and said best of luck in your retirement.

RESOLUTIONS – (NON-CONSENT – REQUIRING SEPARATE ACTION):

Mayor Jones asked Committee Member Yates to proceed with Resolution TC 21-134 listed on the Non-Consent agenda. *Township Committee Member Yates read Resolution TC 21-134 in its entirety.*

RESOLUTION TC 21-134 RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HARDING, COUNTY OF MORRIS, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, ACCEPTING THE RETIREMENT OF KENNETH NOETZLI AND RECOGNIZING HIS OUTSTANDING COMMITMENT AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE TOWNSHIP OF HARDING

WHEREAS, Kenneth Noetzli was appointed on April 15, 1988 as Laborer/Driver/Operator in the Department of Public Works; and

WHEREAS, Kenneth has served as a member of the Department of Public Works (DPW) Road crew from April 15, 1988 to June 1, 1996; and

WHEREAS, Kenneth also assisted the Mechanic in the DPW shop when needed from April 15, 1988 through June 1, 1996; and

WHEREAS, Kenneth was promoted to Mechanic with the Department of Public Works on June 1, 1996; and

WHEREAS, Kenneth has worked as a Mechanic for the Department of Public Works from June 1, 1996 through August 30, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Kenneth Noetzli has a small engine certification, gas and diesel senior technician certification, is a diesel certified technician for medium/heavy duty trucks, has a certification for heavy truck air brake inspection; and has a police emergency vehicle electronic and diagnostic certification.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Harding, in the County of Morris, State of New Jersey hereby accepts the retirement of Kenneth Noetzli effective August 30, 2021; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Township Committee hereby extends their appreciation and congratulations for the many years of service to the residents and employees of Harding Township. Good Luck!

Township Committee Member Yates made a motion to approve the resolution placed on this evening's Non-Consent Agenda by consent of the Township Committee, seconded by Township Committee Member Platt.

Mayor Jones asked the Municipal Clerk for a Roll Call: *Mrs. Sharp called the roll as follows:*

Vote on Resolution:

	MOTION	FOR APPROVAL	AGAINST APPROVAL	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Ms. Chipperson	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ms. DiTosto	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Platt	2 nd	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Yates	1 st	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Jones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Mayor Jones commented that the resolution does not explain that Kenny knows every wire to every vehicle that is at the DPW Garage and parked outside the Municipal Building. It is truly a marvel to watch Kenny work.

Mr. Platt commented that on occasion he would stop by DPW and Ken would be working on machinery which Mr. Platt cannot describe. Ken replaces calipers on vehicles that are so large he needs a fork lift to lift the calipers off. Mr. Platt commented that Kenny is amazing. To say you will be missed, is just a classic understatement.

Township Committee Member Yates commented that ever since he has been in Harding, he heard TC members come and go, Administrators come and go, DPW Superintendents come and go, but the person you can never let go is Ken and here it is Ken is leaving.

Mayor Jones presented Mr. Noetzli with a signed copy of Resolution TC 21-134. Mr. Noetzli commented it is a great town to work in and live in too. Kenny stated he is 5th generation and my son is 6th generation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS/REPORTS/CORRESPONDENCE – Mayor Jones

Mayor Jones -- announced that on June 23, 2021, Mr. Modi, Mrs. Chipperson, the Glen Alpin team of professionals, and myself went before the State House Commission. The State House Commission unanimously approved the Glen Alpin Disposal/Diversion. This mile stone, five (5) years in the making, it is the largest lift of items to be completed. There are still a few items remaining with Morris County. On July 6, 2021, there was a public meeting held at the Kirby Municipal Building and opened the Local Land & Building Law hearings and regulations regarding disposing the property. Mayor Jones commented that for four years he has been saying there is light at the end of the tunnel, we're at the one yard line, and now the Township really is.

Township Committee Member Yates -- congratulated Mayor Jones and Mr. Modi, Mrs. Chipperson, and Mr. Falzarano for all the work getting this to where it is. Mr. Yates commented that it was a shame that so many trees had to lose their lives with the volume of paper for this project.

Township Committee Member Platt – *congratulated Mayor Jones and Mr. Modi. Mr. Platt commented that the first time he heard the word diversion was with Kit Falcon in 2010/2011 when Ned Ward was on the Township Committee and ran on the platform that he was going to solve the Glen Alpin problem.. The great thing about the disposal/diversion is that the Township was able to save additional open spaces that the Township might not have been as aggressive going after, and the soft landing that the Glen Alpin House will receive is following the initial architects green acres report. Mr. Platt thanked Mr. Jones, Mr. Modi, Mr. Falzarano, and Mrs. Chipperson for getting this through.*

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT TIME LIMIT

Hearing of citizens during the Public Comment section of the Agenda is an opportunity for any member of the public to be heard about issues which are/are not topics scheduled for Public Hearing tonight. To help facilitate an orderly meeting, and to permit all to be heard, speakers are asked to limit their comments to a reasonable length of time.

Mayor Jones -- *opened the meeting to members of the public for comment at 7:46 pm. Mayor Jones asked that members of the public state their name, address, and then make your comment.*

Mr. Larry Weppler, Lee's Hill Road – *commented Congratulations to Mayor Jones and to the Township Committee as a whole for the Glen Alpin Disposal/Diversion. As you are aware, Mr. Weppler is a part of the Open Space Committee and every month you were asked about the status of Glen Alpin and Mayor Jones would comment it's just around the corner. Mr. Weppler stated congratulations, great job, well done.*

With no further comments from members of the public, Mayor Jones closed the public comment portion of the meeting at 7:47 pm.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. 2020 Audit – Steve McDermott

Mr. Steve McDermott, Audit Manager for the Auditor (Suplee Clooney Auditors), provided an update to the 2020 Audit. Mr. McDermott commented that their audit team conducted field work on-site and remotely in April into May of 2021. The report was delayed in being issued due waiting for information from the State Division of Pension/Benefits regarding the required disclosures for 68-75 for the pension and retirement benefits. The information did not come out in a timely fashion and thankfully the Division of Local Government Services provided a Local Finance Notice to move ahead without the information.

The good news is that Harding Township's audit received an unmodified opinion and there are no findings appearing in the report. Any small items or adjustments that we had, were already taken care of. Mr. McDermott thanked Mr. Shah, Mr. Falzarano, Mr. Fiore, and the entire Township Staff for facilitating everything. Mr. McDermott commented that the Township will be transitioning to a new court agreement with a different town for the court. The joint court was discussed with Mr. Falzarano and Mr. McDermott explained it is commendable that the Township is actively looking for deficiencies in your operation which is a great point.

Mr. McDermott commented on the American Rescue Plan money (COVID) and stated that the Township is scheduled to get two sets of \$196,000 for 2021 and 2022. As discussed with Mr. Shah and Mr. Fiore, about \$170,000 of this money will be considered under the revenue loss calculation. For those that may not know, if the budget went up based on the federal calculation it was allowed to be called the revenue loss because they used a 4.1% base for increases, so you could go up but still be considered a loss. Mr. McDermott explained that we recommend that all our clients not use what is considered a one shot revenue for operating expenses.

The pilot agreement for Hurstmont was discussed with Mr. Falzarano which will be a 30 year deal that will work for all parties involved. Again, it is commendable that the Township is able to satisfy the portion of your housing requirements in a way that is not hurting the Town. Unfortunately, we do not see a lot of these efficient moves in many of the Municipalities, Harding is above many places with this and it is great. Mr. McDermott asked if there were any questions with regard to the audit.

Mayor Jones – *commented that the audit was straight forward and thanked Mr. McDermott and his team.*

Mr. Falzaran, Township Administrator – *commented to Mr. McDermott and Mr. Swisher and stated you were professionals through the entire audit. Over my 46 years, I have been through a number of different auditors, and I can say that you treat the staff well, are very focused, and Mr. Falzarano was glad that you recognized the importance of bringing up the Hurstmont project and the shared court. Thank you.*

Township Committee Member Yates – *thanked Mr. Fiore since much of the audit report reflects Mr. Fiore's diligence and commitment in getting everything done right and his leadership that he has provided on many of these finance issues. The Township is fortunate to have Andy here and grateful for the work that he does. Mayor Jones commented we all feel that way, thank you Andy. Mr. Yates explained that the Township does take to heart about what Mr. McDermott said regarding not using one time revenue for operating expenses. This has been the Township's policy for years now. The Township only uses recurring revenues to pay operating expenses.*

Let the record show that Mr. McDermott left the meeting at 7:53 pm.

2. Tree Repository Project – Jim Novotny

Mr. Jim Novotny, member of the Environmental Commission provided an overview presentation on the Harding Tree Repository Project behind the Harding Township School. A copy of the presentation is appended to these minutes.

Mr. Novotny explained that there were 178 tree saplings that the Harding Township School students helped plant behind the school. Of the 178 planted, 169 are thriving thanks to the tubes, which keeps the weeds out and the moisture in. Mr. Novotny thanked Mr. Spelker, the students, and the Township's DPW for all their help. There is a plan to continue watering the trees down the road but it will require some equipment, such as a solar powered drip irrigation system.

Township Committee Member Platt – commented if the entire orchard would be deer fenced. Mr. Novotny explained that almost the entire field is fenced in with a 6 foot fence, except for the tree line going along the baseball fields. A discussion ensued. Mr. Novotny commented that it would be about 4 to 5 years before the trees mature and be transferred out. Mr. Platt commented he is good at raising money, is there any kind of equipment to help with the planting of trees. Mr. Novotny explained that the

school is committed to use this as a learning tool for the children. School is committed to continue the watering and down the road a spade attachment for a backhoe would be necessary. Mr. Platt commented that he would be willing to assist in speaking to people who would be willing to help with this. A discussion on a tree spade attachment and deer fencing ensued. Mr. Novotny and Mr. Toribio will work together in coming up with a cost number for a tree spade attached. Township Committee Member Yates commented the complete the deer fencing, it should be 8 feet instead of the 6 feet. Mr. Novotny will speak with Mr. Spelker regarding the drip irrigation system. The Township Committee thanked Mr. Novotny for his presentation.

Mayor Jones asked if there were any further comments:

Mr. Larry Weppler, Lee's Hill Road – *commented about the trees in Bayne Park. An assessment of the trees in Bayne Park should be completed. If the Township would like the trees at Bayne Park to look like they do now in 50 years, the trees that need to be removed should be removed and replaced.*

Township Committee Member Yates – *commented that Open Space should speak with the representatives of CPAC; Mr. dePorteere and Ms. Donna Wilson (Bayne Park rep) and come up with a joint proposal.*

Mr. Falzarano, Township Administrator – *commented that the State provided the tax rate and the tax bill should be out by next week. Mayor Jones explained that they will not be estimated tax bills and thanked Mr. Fiore and Mr. Moise with getting this information pull together. Mr. Platt asked if Mrs. Chipperson had anything regarding the centennial to go in with the tax bills. Mrs. Chipperson will submit information for the mailing.*

ORDINANCES FOR SECOND READING: NONE

ADD-ON RESOLUTIONS: NONE

RESOLUTIONS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA FOR DISCUSSION AND VOTE

CONSENT AGENDA

The following items are considered to be routine by the Harding Township Committee and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Township Committee Member so requests, in which event the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered in its normal sequence on the Agenda.

RESOLUTIONS TC 21-135 THROUGH RESOLUTION TC 21-143 HAVE BEEN PLACED ON THE CONSENT AGENDA

CONSENT AGENDA VOTE:

Mayor Jones asked Township Committee Member Chipperson to proceed with the Resolutions listed on the Consent agenda. Resolutions TC 21-135 through TC 21-143.

Township Committee Member Chipperson made a motion to approve the resolutions placed on this evening's Consent Agenda by consent of the Township Committee, seconded by Township Committee Member Platt.

Mayor Jones asked the Municipal Clerk for a Roll Call: *Mrs. Sharp called the roll as follows:*

Vote on Resolution:

	MOTION	FOR APPROVAL	AGAINST APPROVAL	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Ms. Chipperson	1 st	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ms. DiTosto	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Platt	2 nd	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Yates	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Jones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

APPOINTMENTS:

Resolution TC 21-135 – Resolution To Appoint Steven Westervelt as a Full-Time Senior Mechanic with the Department of Public Works

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Harding in the County of Morris and State of New Jersey that effective July 16, 2021, Steven D. Westervelt, is hereby appointed as a full time Senior Mechanic for the Department of Public Works at a salary of \$75,000 to be prorated for the remainder of 2021.

CONTRACTS:

Resolution TC 21-136 – Resolution Authorizing Submittal of Grant Application and Execution of Grant Contract with the NJDOT for 2022 Resurfacing of Pleasantville Road

WHEREAS, The Township Committee of the Township of Harding, County of Morris, State of New Jersey desires to apply for grant funds under the New Jersey Department of Transportation Municipal Aid FY2022 program.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Harding, County of Morris, State of New Jersey formally approves the grant application for the stated project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Township Clerk are hereby authorized to submit an electronic grant application identified as MA-2022-Pleasantville Road 2022 Resurfacing-00644 to the New Jersey Department of Transportation on behalf of the Township of Harding, County of Morris, State of New Jersey.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Township Clerk are hereby authorized to sign the grant agreement on behalf of the Township of Harding, County of Morris, State of New Jersey and that their signature constitutes acceptance of the terms and conditions of the grant agreement and approves the execution of the grant agreement.

Resolution TC 21-137 – Resolution to Authorize an Increase to the Greener By Design Professional Services Agreement

WHEREAS, at the January 3, 2021 Township Committee meeting, the Township Committee authorized \$15,000.00 for the services of Greener By Design LLP, under their professional services contract; and

WHEREAS, at the March 8, 2021 Township Committee meeting, the Township Committee authorized an increase of \$15,000.00 for the services of Greener By Design LLP, under their professional services contract; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to increase the authorization for the services of Greener By Design LLP, under their professional services contract to perform diversion/disposal tasks; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer for the Township of Harding has certified that additional monies are available in the amount of \$10,000.00 from account number # 05-9999-1155-0155-2-00000; and

WHEREAS, the total amount shall not exceed \$40,000.00.

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Harding in the County of Morris and State of New Jersey that the following contract is hereby awarded for a one year period; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all Township employees are hereby authorized and directed to take all action necessary and appropriate to effectuate the terms of this Resolution.

Glen Alpin Disposal/Diversion Greener By Design	1/1/21 to 12/31/21
	\$175.00 per hour
	Not to exceed \$40,000.00
	05-9999-1155-0155-00000

FINANCE:

Resolution TC 21-138 – Bill List

WHEREAS, vouchers for payment have been submitted to the Township Committee by various municipal departments.

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Harding that all vouchers approved by the Finance Chairman be paid subject to the certification of the availability of funds by the Chief Financial Officer.

Resolution TC 21-139 – Resolution to Approve the 2020 Audit Review

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:5-4 requires the governing body of every local unit to have made an annual audit of its books, accounts, and financial transactions; and

WHEREAS, The Annual Report of Audit for the year 2020 has been filed by a Registered Municipal Accountant with the Township Clerk as per the requirements of N.J.S.A. 40A:5-6, and a copy has been received by each member of the governing body; and

WHEREAS, the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey is authorized to prescribe reports pertaining to the local fiscal affairs, as per R.S. 52-27BB-34; and

WHEREAS, the Local Finance Board has promulgated a regulation requiring that the governing body of each municipality shall by resolution certify to the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey that all members of the governing body have reviewed, as a minimum, the sections of the annual audit entitled: "General Comments" and "Recommendations;" and

WHEREAS, the members of the governing body have personally reviewed at a minimum the annual Report of Audit, and specifically the sections of the annual audit, as per the regulations of the Local Finance Board; and

WHEREAS, all members of the governing body have received and have familiarized themselves with, at least, the minimum requirements of the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey, as stated aforesaid and have subscribed to the affidavit, as provided by the Local Finance Board; and

WHEREAS, failure to comply with the promulgations of the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey may subject the members of the local governing body to the penalty provisions of R.S. 52:27BB52 to wit: R.S. 52:27BB52- "A local officer or member of a local governing body who, after a date fixed for compliance, fails or refuses to obey an order of the Director of Local Government Services, under the provisions of this article, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, may be fined not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) or imprisoned for not more than one year, or both, in addition shall forfeit his office."

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Harding, hereby states that it has complied with the promulgation of the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey dated July 30, 1968, and does hereby submit a certified copy of this resolution and the required affidavit to said Board to show evidence of said compliance.

Resolution TC 21-140 -- Resolution of The Township Committee of the Township of Harding, County of Morris, State of New Jersey Extending the Grace Period for 2021 Third Quarter Tax Payments

WHEREAS, the certification of the tax rate for 2021 Third Quarter Tax Bills have been delayed; and

WHEREAS, due to the delay to certify the 2021 tax rate, the Tax Collector was unable to issue Tax Bills for the Third Quarter of 2021.

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Harding that the Tax Collector is hereby authorized to extend the grace period for the Third Quarter Tax Bills from August 10, 2021 to August 25, 2021 or 25 days after the date of mailing whichever is later, after which time interest will be assessed at the rate already adopted by the Township from the due date of August 1, 2021; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution be filed in the Office of the Township Clerk.

MISCELLANEOUS:

Resolution TC 21-141 – Resolution of the Township Committee of the Township of Harding, State of New Jersey, County of Morris Authorizing a Liquor License Renewal for the 2021-2022 Application Year

WHEREAS, the applicant for Alcoholic Beverage Control License set forth below has been duly investigated; and

WHEREAS, the Harding Township Committee is satisfied that all the rules and regulations of the Alcoholic Beverage Law, Title 33, Chapter 1 of the Revised Statutes of New Jersey, 1937, as amended and supplemented, including P.L. 1970, Ch. 77, have been duly complied with.

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Harding in the County of Morris and State of New Jersey, that the Harding Township Committee hereby agrees to issue to the following applicants, the following permanent license under the aforesaid State Statutes for the following annual fee, said license to commence *July 1, 2021*, and to expire at midnight on *June 30, 2022* upon clearance of the fee to the Harding Township Treasurer's Account.

PLENARY RETAIL DISTRIBUTION LICENSE:

Applicant:

Dharma Bhaki 09, LLC
T/A The Country Store
Plenary Retail Consumption License
No. 1413-44-002-005

ADDRESS:

1098 Mount Kemble Avenue
Morristown, NJ

FEE:

\$2,500.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Municipal Clerk is hereby authorized to issue the aforesaid license in the form approved by the Department of Alcoholic Beverage of the State of New Jersey to the aforesaid applicant.

Resolution TC 21-142 – Resolution to Authorize Sale of Surplus Property through GOVDEALS Online Auction Website

WHEREAS, the Township Committee authorized the sale of surplus property through GOVDEALS Online Auction at their May 10, 2021 meeting; and

WHEREAS, the surplus items did not sell and will be advertised through the GOVDEALS Online Auction for one last time; and

WHEREAS, by the Township Committee of the Township of Harding, County of Morris, State of New Jersey that the Township has surplus property acquired for the use of the Harding Township Police Department which are not needed for public use, or is obsolete or unfit for the use for which it was acquired; and

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey permits the sale of surplus property no longer needed for public use through online auction services, pursuant to the Local Unit Electronic Technology Pilot Program and Study Act, P.L. 2001, c.30; and

WHEREAS, GovDeals, an internet auction entity specializing in government surplus items, will list the items for auction on its website, www.govdeals.com for 10 days at a cost of 7½% of the final (closing) sales price. Successful bidders will receive a Buyer's Certificate by email from GovDeals. Payment in full shall be due not later than 5 business days from the time and date of the Buyer's Certificate. Payment shall be accepted in the form of U.S. Currency, Certified Cashier's Check, Money Order or Company Check (with Bank letter guaranteeing funds) and shall be remitted to the Township of Harding. Buyers will arrange all handling, loading

and transportation of purchases within 10 business days from the time and date of the Buyer's Certificate. Purchases will be released only upon receipt of payment as specified.

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Harding, County of Morris, State of New Jersey that the Municipal Clerk is hereby authorized to advertise in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-36 and auction the following surplus property for the second and final time via online:

1. Lot of Six Dell Desktop Towers, the lot contains various Dell models and, serial numbers as follows:
 - * 00186248260854
 - * 00144475854309
 - * 00186234618356
 - * 00186189346715
 - * 00186234618345
 - * 00816189205254
2. Two Laptops
3. Two Dell wired keyboards and 4 Dell Monitors (2007)

PERSONNEL:

Resolution TC 21-143 – Resolution Accepting the Resignation of A.H.

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Harding, County of Morris, State of New Jersey hereby accepts the resignation of A. H. effective July 6, 2021.

ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READING -- NONE

ADJOURNMENT – Mr. Jones

With no further comments, Mayor Jones asked for a motion to adjourn. Upon a motion made by Township Committee Member Yates, seconded by Township Committee Member DiTosto, and with a vote of all ayes, none opposed, the meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

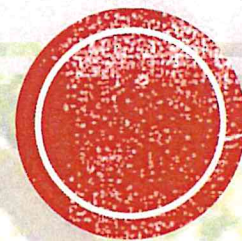


Lisa A. Sharp
Municipal Clerk

HARDING TREE REPOSITORY UPDATE

July 12, 2021

“The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The second best time is now.”



TREE PLANTING DAY

- The planting of 178 trees by the Harding Township School students on May 13th was a success! In addition to planting the trees, students learned about the benefits of trees, the issues facing our trees in Harding, the various soil types, and the process for planting trees and tending to them afterwards.



TREE PLANTING DAY

- This project would not have been the success that it was without the help and support of many people throughout the town. The list includes: **Hugh Symonds**, **Chris Yates**, and **Richard Clew** for acquiring the trees. **Tracy Torbitto** and his team for tiling the ground/mixing in compost. The town for supplying tree tubes to protect the trees, **Tree Tech** for extra wood chips. **Joe Pitcher** and his crew for their help preparing for the tree planting, helping students throughout the day, and the watering of the trees afterwards. Finally, thanks needs to be shared with **Matt Spelker**, the teachers/aides of HTS and the students for their work getting the trees in the ground!
- Mike Condon wrote two nice articles in the Observer Tribune
https://www.newjerseyhills.com/observer-tribune/news/harding-environmental-commission-teams-with-schools-to-harvest-transplant-trees/article_88db9059-7c78-5a58-9860-fcb257ec1fcc.html
https://www.newjerseyhills.com/observer-tribune/news/harding-students-plant-trees-for-posterity-on-school-property/article_fba2edb5-a0f0-5e83-b3e7-383811759b09.html





End of Day 1... 178 Trees in the ground!



TUBES...

- Worked great until we had a windy thunderstorm...



WATERING...

- Very dry and hot at the beginning of June...

Need to water trees about every 4-5 days!



Hand watering...

6 - 35 Gal. Garbage Cans

1st time via gravity feed
(Sloooooow)

12V Pump (connected to truck
battery)

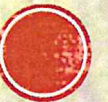
Flow rate = 10 Gal./Min.

3 Gal Water = 20 Seconds

20 seconds/tree = 60 minutes

to water 178 trees

Possibly 2 times per week
during the summer



STATUS — 6/2/21

138 BUDDED TREES, 40 DORMANT TREES



STATUS — 7/12/21

- Added stakes to hold tubes in place (works!)
- Good “cool” and rainy conditions have helped - No extra watering since early June!
- **169 Trees are alive and growing!**



HELP!

- This project needs help! We need help watering the trees. There was considerable interest by the students to help with the watering of the trees over the summer. I am hoping the various committees and groups can work together to assemble a simple/easy to maintain method to water the trees. I have several ideas and would like to get something in place before school lets out so that the students, and their families, can be involved over the summer.



PLANS

- **Irrigation System**

- Drip or Spray?
- Water Supply
- Power Supply
- Ease of Use
- Security

- **Hand water?**

- Flow rate = 10 Gal./Min.
- 3 Gal Water = 20 Seconds
- 20 seconds/tree = 60 minutes to water 178 trees
- Possibly 2 times per week during the summer



PLANS

- **Drip System Thoughts (after meeting with several “experts”)**
 - Pressurized Drip – 25 PSI drip nozzles
 - 2 - 275 Gal. Storage Tanks (Tractor Supply) connected to header and 4 PVS Tube Runners
 - 1 - 275 Gal Storage Tank with transfer pump for back of F250 Pick-up (to fill 2-275 Gal. tanks at field)
 - 12 V pump, battery and solar panel charger
 - 12 V Timer
 - Fence Enclosure?
 - Expandible



NEXT STEPS

- HTS School is willing to help
- Verbal Support from Harding Environmental Commission & Shade Tree Committee
- Lessons Learned / Planning for the Future **(1000 Trees By 2025?)**
- Irrigation support is needed
- Tree Spade Attachment for Tractor (3-4 years from now - \$4–10k)
- NJ Tree Replacement Grant???





Proposal for Harding Story Trail

Alison Maxwell
Kemmerer Library

What is a Story Trail?

- ▶ A fun, educational activity that places the pages from a children's book along a trail in a community, for families to enjoy
- ▶ It encourages members of a community to get outdoors and enjoy nature, to get exercise, and helps to develop literary skills in children

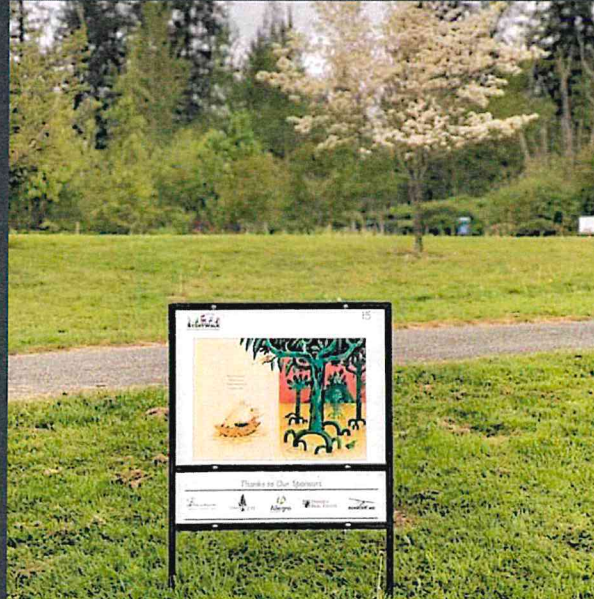
Why have a Story Trail Here?

- ▶ The existing trail loop that begins in the parking area outside the Municipal Building is the **PERFECT** location
 - ▶ PERFECT length for all ages to enjoy without being challenging
 - ▶ PERFECT length to fit a children's story, in 10-12 'reading stations'
 - ▶ PERFECT level ground with no obstructions to erecting simple reading board
 - ▶ It ADDS INTEREST to this simple trail (REASON to visit)
 - ▶ Begins and ends at the LIBRARY

More Than Just Children's Stories...

- ▶ Lends itself to a number of purposes
 - ▶ Celebrate Harding's Centennial, Harding history
 - ▶ Highlight Harding nature
 - ▶ Feature anything of interest!
e.g. local event, notable author etc.

Examples of 'Reading Stations'





Trail Stations



Additional Thoughts



- ▶ Low Cost to build - UV protective Perspex
- ▶ Low maintenance
- ▶ Support of DPW
- ▶ Library to manage quarterly rotation of 'stories'
- ▶ Optional 'add-ons' e.g. benches