HARDING TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2022 IN-PERSON

EXECUTIVE SESSION at 5:30 PM REGULAR MEETING AGENDA at 7:00 PM Kirby Hall, Blue Mill Road, New Vernon, New Jersey MEETING MINUTES

CALL MEETING TO ORDER – Mayor

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 5:31 pm.

ADEQUATE NOTICE of this November 14, 2022, meeting of the Harding Township Committee was sent to the Observer Tribune on January 3, 2022 and published in the Observer Tribune on January 6, 2022.

Mayor Jones announced that adequate notice of this November 14, 2022 meeting of the Harding Township Committee was called to order in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

ROLL CALL – Municipal Clerk

Ms. Chipperson, Dr. Lacz, Mr. Platt, Mr. Yates, Mr. Jones

Mrs. Sharp called the roll as follows:

Present: Ms. Chipperson, Dr. Lacz, Mr. Platt, Mr. Yates, Mr. Jones

Absent: No

Also Present: Mr. Falzarano, Township Administrator; Mrs. Sharp,

Municipal Clerk; Mr. Roselli, Township Attorney (arrived at 5:47 pm): Mr. DeNave, Assistant Township Administrator; Mr. Michael

Edwards, Special Councel, and Lt. Gromek, Acting Chief

RESOLUTION TO RECESS INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Resolution TC 22-189 - 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 Platt, seconded by Township Committee Member Lacz, and upon a roll call vote of all ayes, none opposed, the meeting recessed into Executive Session at 5:32 pm.

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. KRE – M. Edwards

Litigation:

1. Verizon – M. Roselli

Personnel:

- 1. Harding Police Candidates M. Gromek
- 2. 2023 Employee Salaries R. Falzarano

Vote on Resolution:

	MOTION	FOR APPROVAL	AGAINST APPROVAL	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Ms. Chipperson Dr. Lacz Mr. Platt Mr. Yates Mr. Jones	2 nd 1st	X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X			

RECONVENE INTO PUBLIC SESSION – Mayor

A motion to reconvene into Public Session was made by Township Committee Member Yates and seconded by Township Committee Member Chipperson. Upon a roll call vote of all ayes, none opposed, the meeting opened at 7:10 pm.

ROLL CALL – Municipal Clerk

Ms. Chipperson, Dr. Lacz, Mr. Platt, Mr. Yates, Mr. Jones

Mrs. Sharp called the roll as follows:

Present:

Ms. Chipperson, Dr. Lacz, Mr. Platt, Mr. Yates, Mr. Jones

Absent:

None

Also Present:

Mr. Falzarano, Township Administrator; Mrs. Sharp, Municipal Clerk; Mr. Roselli, Township Attorney

Members of the Public:

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PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - Mayor

Mayor Jones led members of 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* January 3, 2022, and published in the OBSERVER TRIBUNE on January 6, 2022; Notice was posted on the Bulletin Board in the Township

Municipal Building on Blue Mill Road in Harding, NJ on January 3, 2022, and Notice was filed with the Municipal Clerk on January 3, 2022.

Mayor Jones announced adequate notice of the November 14, 2022, meeting was called to order in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS/REPORTS/CORRESPONDENCE - Mayor Jones

Mayor Jones made the following announcements:

- 1. Mayor Jones commented that last Tuesday voting occurred in Harding Township and all over our great nation. One of our employees who sits at the end of the ad dais, Lisa Sharp, should be commended for all the hard work that she does to keep Harding voting properly. Mrs. Sharp dealt with many issues that day. Voting is the foundation of what we are all about as Americans. Mrs. Sharp believes this, and it was more than evident in the work she did all day long. We tussled with new machines, and there might be a new layout for Primary voting in 2023 as some of the glitches with the new machines get worked out. Mayor Jones stated on behalf of the Harding Township community we cannot thank Lisa Sharp enough for all her hard work and hopefully we have a true result. Mayor Jones commented that he knows his vote has not been counted yet as 1/3 of the Jones' were not able to vote on a standard ballot. Mrs. Sharp comments Mayor Jones was not the only one who had to vote by ballot.
- 2. Mayor Jones congratulated Township Committee Member Platt on his re-election to Township Committee.
- 3. Harding Township Reaches Milestone for Redevelopment of Glen Alpin Mayor Jones explained that on October 26, 2022, all the documents for Glen Alpin were signed and Mr. Roselli, Township Attorney is working feverishly to get the perfected subdivision documents back to Mr. John Hague, which will then be filed the County and the diversion/disposal of Glen Alpin is complete. Mayor Jones commented it has been six (6) years and the pathway to sell or lease Glen Alpin has been made. A copy of the immediate release document is appended to these minutes.
- 4. **Mayor Jones** reported that on November 13, 2022, was the Centennial Hunt, the last official event of the Centennial year. Spring Valley Hounds fox hunted through Harding Township and it went very well. Mayor Jones thanked Mrs. Chipperson for all her hard work this year and thanked everyone who volunteered their time and helped during the year with all the Centennial events.

Township Committee Member Chipperson reported that a new date for the fireworks has not been provided to date. As soon as the date is set, all residents will be notified.

RESOLUTIONS – (NON-CONSENT – REQUIRING SEPARATE ACTION)

RESOLUTION TC 22-190 -- RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Mayor Jones asks Township Committee Member Lacz to proceed with Resolution TC 22-190.

Township Committee Member Lacz read the following:

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Harding that the minute(s) from the following meeting(s) are approved as prepared and shall be filed as a permanent record in the Municipal Clerk's office: October 12, 2022 (Special Meeting) and October 18, 2022; 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: October 12, 2022 (Special Executive Session) and October 18, 2022.

Township Committee Member Lacz 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 Chipperson.

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 Dr. Lacz Mr. Platt Mr. Yates Mr. Jones	2 nd 1 st				

RESOLUTIONS - (NON-CONSENT - REQUIRING SEPARATE ACTION): - NONE

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. Best Practices – A. Fiore

Mr. Fiore explained that the Best Practices Inventory is an annual questionnaire sent from the State and filed by the CFO. The Township's State Aid is based on this questionnaire and the questions cover various topics. A perfect score is 36.5 and Harding Township received 34.5. Mr. Fiore went over the questions that Harding did not receive a score which were based on sewer, hybrid vehicles, and electric charging stations. The Township had no concerns and the questionnaire has be filed with the State.

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 at 7:20 pm.

Mr. Weppler, Lee's Hill Road – commented on a full accounting of Glen Alpin. Mayor Jones commented that a full accounting will be placed on the website shortly.

With no further comments, Mayor Jones closed the public meeting at 7:22 pm.

ORDINANCES FOR SECOND READING:

Mayor Jones asked Township Committee Member Yates to read Ordinance TC #14-2022.

Township Committee Member Yates reads Ordinance TC #14-2022 by title as follows

HARDING TOWNSHIP ORDINANCE #14-2022

"AN ORDINANCE FIXING SALARY RANGES OF CERTAIN EMPLOYEES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HARDING IN THE COUNTY OF MORRIS AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY"

Which said Ordinance was introduced and passed on first reading at a regular Township Committee Meeting held on October 18, 2022.

Mayor Jones asked the Municipal Clerk to give a summary of the legal notice.

The Municipal Clerk States: Mrs. Sharp reported a legal notice was sent for publication on October 21, 2022 to the Observer Tribune for publication on October 27, 2022 indicating that Ordinance #14-2022 was introduced and passed on first reading at the October 18, 2022, meeting and indicated that the second reading and public hearing were to be held on November 14, 2022 at 7:00 pm on or at any time thereafter for consideration of final adoption. Copies of this Ordinance was made available to the general public, posted on the Harding Township website, and posted in accordance with the law.

Mayor Jones opened the meeting at 7:25 pm for public hearing on the Ordinance and any member of the public may be heard.

With no members of the public wishing to be heard Mayor Jones closed the public hearing at 7:25.

Township Committee Member Yates offered Ordinance #14-2022 and moved its adoption.

Township Committee Member Chipperson seconded the motion.

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

Vote on Adoption:

Ms. Chipperson Dr. Lacz Mr. Platt Mr. Yates Mr. Jones	MOTION 2 nd □ 1 st □	FOR APPROVAL	AGAINST APPROVAL □ □ □ □ □ □	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
ADD-ON RESOL	UTIONS: NO	NE			
RESOLUTIONS	REMOVED FE	ROM THE CONSE	NT AGENDA FOR D	ISCUSSION AND	VOTE
CONSENT AGE					
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 CONSENT AGE		HROUGH RESO	LUTION TC 22-19	9 HAVE BEEN F	PLACED ON THE
CONSENT AGE	ENDA VOTE:				
		ommittee Member C 22-191 through T	Chipperson to proce CC 22-199.	eed with the Resol	utions listed on the
			a motion to apprountitee,		
Mayor Jones ask	ed the Municip	oal Clerk for a Roll	Call: Mrs. Sharp	called the roll as f	follows:
Vote on Resoluti	on:				
Ms. Chipperson Dr. Lacz Mr. Platt Mr. Yates Mr. Jones	MOTION 1 st 2 nd 1 ld	FOR APPROVAL	AGAINST APPROVAL	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
APPOINTMENTS	S: NONE				

CONTRACTS:

Resolution TC 22-191 – Resolution to Authorize Preliminary Wetlands Assessment Services

WHEREAS, the Township of Harding has decided to initiate planning for the 2025 Affordable Housing Round 4; and

WHEREAS, site evaluation is necessary to identify potential realistic opportunity for Affordable Housing; and

WHEREAS, preliminary environmental screening services may be necessary; and

WHEREAS, adequate funds in the amount of \$4,600.00 are available in the Township account 25-9999-1110-0170-2-00037.

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Harding, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, that the proposal submitted by Colliers Engineering & Design is hereby approved; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Mayor and all Township Employees are hereby authorized and directed to take all such further actions that are necessary and appropriate to effectuate the terms of this resolutions.

Resolution TC 22-192 – Resolution to Authorize the Award of a Non-Fair and Open Contract for Department of Public Works Paving

WHEREAS, the Township of Harding has a need to acquire paving services for the Department of Public Works lot as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4; and

WHEREAS, the purchasing agent has determined and certified in writing that the value of the acquisition will exceed \$17,500; and

WHEREAS, Ralph Checchio Inc., has submitted a proposal indicating they will provide the labor for the paving of the Department of Public Works lot for \$39,00.00; and

WHEREAS, Ralph Checchio Inc., has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that Ralph Checchio Inc., has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Township of Harding in the previous one year, and that the contract will prohibit the Ralph Checchio Inc. from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract; and,

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer for the Township of Harding has certified that additional monies are available in the amount of \$39,000.00 from account number #04-2015-201503-9939-4-00000; and

WHEREAS, the total amount shall not exceed \$39,000.00.

BE IT RESOLVED, the Qualified Purchasing Agent is hereby directed to effectuate the purchase of herein approved equipment for the approved cost.

FINANCE:

Resolution TC 22-193 – 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 22-194 - Transfer of Funds

WHEREAS, there appears to be insufficient funds in certain accounts listed below to meet the demands thereon for the balance of the Current Year,

WHEREAS, there appears to be a surplus in certain accounts listed below over and above the demand deemed to be necessary for the balance of the Current Year,

BE IT RESOLVED, (not less than two-thirds of all the members thereof affirmatively concurring) that in accordance with the provision of N.J.S.A 40A:4-58, part of the surplus in the accounts listed below be and the same are hereby transferred to the accounts listed below to meet the current demands, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Treasurer be is hereby authorized and directed to make the following transfers:

Current Fund Budget

FROM:		<u>TO:</u>	
Group Insurance – Other Expenses Streets & Roads – Other Expenses Solid Waste Collection – Other Expenses Building & Grounds – Other Expenses	\$64,500 \$7,000 es \$6,000 \$10,000	Board of Adjustments – Other Expenses Gasoline – Other Expenses Board of Health – Salary & Wages General Admin – Salary & Wages Municipal Clerk – Salary & Wages Engineering Services – Other Expenses Cost of Tax Appeal – Other Expenses Legal Services – Other Expenses	\$40,000 \$23,000 \$ 1,000 \$ 1,000 \$ 1,000 \$10,000 \$10,000 \$ 1,500
TOTAL	\$87,500	TOTAL	\$87,500

Resolution TC 22-195 – Resolution to Authorize an Increase to the Professional Services Contract for Dorsey & Semrau

WHEREAS, at the January 3, 2022 Township Committee meeting, the Township Committee authorized \$30,000.00 for the services of Dorsey & Semrau, under their professional services contract; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to increase the authorization for the services of Dorsey & Semrau, under their professional services contract to perform labor council 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 # 01-2022-1150-0151-2-00000; and

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

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

Special Tax Council

1/1/22 to 12/31/22 Not to exceed \$40,000.00 01-2022-1155-0155-2-00000

Resolution TC 22-196 – Resolution to Authorize an Increase to the Professional Services Contract for Plosia Cohen LLC

WHEREAS, at the January 3, 2022 Township Committee meeting, the Township Committee authorized \$15,000.00 for the services of Plosia Cohen LLC, under their professional services contract; and

WHEREAS, at the May 9,2022 Township Committee meeting, the Township Committee authorized an additional \$10,000.00 for the services of Plosia Cohen LLC, under their professional services contract; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to increase the authorization for the services of Plosia Cohen, LLC, under their professional services contract to perform labor council tasks; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer for the Township of Harding has certified that additional monies are available in the amount of \$1,500.00 from account number # 01-2022-1155-0155-2-00000; and

WHEREAS, the total amount shall not exceed \$26,500.00.

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

Labor Council

1/1/22 to 12/31/22 Not to exceed \$26,500.00 01-2022-1155-0155-2-00000

MISCELLANEOUS:

Resolution TC 22-197 – Approval of Best Practice Inventory 2022

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Harding in the County of Morris

and State of New Jersey that the Township Committee, having reviewed the contents in a public meeting, hereby approves of the completed CY 2022 Best Practice Inventory as prepared and certified by the Municipal Clerk, Lisa A. Sharp and the Chief Financial Officer.

Resolution TC 22-198 – A Resolution Consenting to the Proposed Northeast Water Quality Management (WQM) Plan Amendment

WHEREAS, the Township Committee desires to provide for the orderly development of wastewater facilities within the Township of Harding; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) requires that proposed wastewater treatment and conveyance facilities and wastewater treatment service areas, as well as related subjects, conform with an approved WQM plan; and

WHEREAS, the NJDEP has established the WQM plan amendment procedure through the WQMP rules at N.J.A.C. 7:15-3.5 as the method of incorporating unplanned facilities into a WQM plan; and

WHEREAS, a proposed WQM plan amendment publicly noticed in the New Jersey Register on November 7, 2022 for KRE Harding Residential has been prepared by Bohler Engineering.

BE IT RESOLVED, on this fourteenth day of November, 2022, by the Township Committee of the Township of Harding, County of Morris, State of New Jersey that:

- 1. The Township Committee hereby consents to the KRE Harding Residential amendment and publicly noticed in the New Jersey Register on November 7, 2022, prepared by Bohler Engineering, for the purpose of its incorporation into the applicable WQM plan(s).
- 2. This consent shall be submitted to the NJDEP pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:15-3.5(g)6.

PERSONNEL:

Resolution TC 22-199 – Resolution to Authorize a Grade I, Step 2 Salary Increase for E. M. of the Department of Public Works

WHEREAS, a Grade I, Step 2 increase is being recommended by Tracy Toribio, DPW Superintendent and Robert Falzarano, Township Administrator for E.M., DPW Employee.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Harding authorizes a Grade I, Step 2 Annual Salary Increase to \$50,580.00 for E.M. employee of the Department of Public Works commencing on November 1, 2022 and shall be prorated for the remainder of 2022.

ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READING: NONE

ADJOURNMENT - Mr. Jones

With no further comments, Mayor Jones adjourned the meeting at 7:26 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa A. Sharp

Municipal Clerk

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: November 14, 2022

Harding Township Reaches Milestone For Redevelopment of Glen Alpin

TOWNSHIP OF HARDING, NJ – After many years of work, the Township of Harding is pleased to announce that the Green Acres diversion/disposal process is officially complete. After many years of review by several county and state agencies the Township has successfully executed and filed the documents needed to complete the diversion/disposal process. "It has been a long haul, but I'm extremely pleased to be able to report that we're at the final stage and may soon see the property reinvestment happen," said Mayor Jones.

Jones added: "The Township is really excited to see this process conclude so that we can once again enjoy the historic treasure that is Glen Alpin. In private hands, the property will be properly stewarded that the public will be able to enjoy." Committeewoman Rita Chipperson who has been on the Glen Alpin committee since joining the Township Committee in 2021 stated that "it's important to remember that the house and roughly three acres will be turned over to a private developer. The Township looks forward to a beneficial use for Glen Alpin that will draw many to view its historic character and qualities while providing additional benefits to the Township."

The developer must comply with an increased list of permanent historic preservation restrictions that protect all historically significant features on the interior and exterior of the Glen Alpin house. Former Township Committeeman Dev Modi indicated that "the developer will also be required to provide public access to the house. The Township will continue to own the front lawn and will have a public trail head parking area for a future trail that will ultimately connect to the Jockey Hollow National Historical Park."



Mayor Jones (Left) with Harding's redevelopment attorney John Hague