

**MINUTES
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
WORKSHOP MEETING
SEPTEMBER 10, 2024**

Deputy Mayor Choi called the Workshop Meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Chatham to order at 7:04 P.M.

Adequate Notice of this meeting of the Township Committee was given as required by the Open Public Meetings Act as follows: Notice was given to both *The Chatham Courier* and the *Morris County Daily Record* on January 3, 2024; notice was posted on the bulletin board in the main hallway of the Municipal Building on January 3, 2024; and notice was filed with the Township Clerk on January 3, 2024.

Roll Call

Answering present to the roll call were Committeeman Lois, Committeeman McHugh, Committeewoman Rowland and Deputy Mayor Choi. Mayor Ewald was absent.

Committeeman McHugh participated via Zoom.

Executive Session

**RESOLUTION 2024-P-13
RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CHATHAM IN
THE COUNTY OF MORRIS, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING CONFERENCE OF
THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE WITH THE PUBLIC EXCLUDED**

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 of the Open Public Meetings Act permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Chatham is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Chatham, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from discussion of the specified subject matter.
2. The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows:
 - a. Personnel
 - b. Any discussion involving tactics and techniques utilized in public safety
3. The matters to be discussed in closed session are to remain in the strictest of confidence by all Township Committee Members in furtherance of their fiduciary duties to the Township of Chatham.
4. It is anticipated that the minutes on the subject matter of the Executive Session will be made public upon conclusion of the matter under discussion; and in any event, when appropriate pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-7 and 4-13.
5. The Committee will come back into Regular Session and may take further action.
6. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Committeeman Lois moved to adopt Resolution 2024-P-13 to enter Executive Session at 7:06 PM. Committeewoman Rowland seconded the motion.

Roll call: Committeeman Lois, Aye; Committeeman McHugh, Aye; Committeewoman Rowland, Aye; Deputy Mayor Choi, Aye; Mayor Ewald, Absent.

The Township Committee returned to Public Session at 7:41 PM.

Deputy Mayor Choi led the Flag Salute.

Hearing of Citizens

The Clerk indicated that no written comments were received.

Deputy Mayor Choi opened the Hearing of Citizens.
Seeing no public comment, Deputy Mayor Choi closed the Hearing of Citizens.

Resolutions

RESOLUTION 2024-182 RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CHATHAM AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF A 2024 FORD F-250 UTILITY TRUCK WITH PLOW FROM NIELSEN FORD OF MORRISTOWN, INC PURSUANT TO NEW JERSEY COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM CONTRACT #23-FLEET-34922

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11(5) authorizes contracting units to establish a cooperative pricing system and to enter into cooperative pricing agreements with other contracting units as defined under N.J.S.A. 40A:11-2(1) for its procurement of goods and services; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Chatham (the “Township”), as a local government contracting unit, is a member of the State of New Jersey Cooperative Purchasing Program (the “NJCPP”); and

WHEREAS, the Township may, without advertising for bids, purchase any materials, supplies, services, or equipment under an approved cooperative contract, whereby the contracting unit, NJCPP, serving as the lead agent, has complied with the provisions of the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1, et seq.) (the “LPCL”); and

WHEREAS, the NJCPP awarded Contract #23-Fleet-34922 to Nielsen Ford of Morristown, Inc., 170 Ridgedale Avenue, Morristown, New Jersey 07960 (“Nielsen”), for the purchase of a 2024 Ford F-250 utility vehicle with plow (the “Vehicle”); and

WHEREAS, the Township needs to purchase the Vehicle for the Township Department of Public Works as specifically set forth in the quote from Nielsen, which is attached hereto as Exhibit A, pursuant to NJCPP Contract #23-Fleet-34922 in an amount not to exceed Sixty-Nine Thousand Four Hundred Seventy-Eight Dollars (\$69,478.00); and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer of the Township has certified that adequate funds for such a purchase are available.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Chatham, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, that:

1. The forgoing Recitals are hereby incorporated herein by reference as if set forth at length.
2. The Township hereby authorizes the purchase of the Vehicle for the Township Department of Public Works as specifically set forth in the quote from Nielsen, which is attached hereto as Exhibit A, pursuant to NJCPP Contract #23-Fleet-34922 in an amount not to exceed Sixty-Nine Thousand Four Hundred Seventy-Eight Dollars (\$69,478.00).
3. A certified copy of this Resolution shall be provided by the Township Clerk to each of the following:
 - i. Township Purchasing Agent
 - ii. Township Chief Financial Officer
 - iii. Township Director of Department of Public Works
 - iv. Nielsen
4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Committeewoman Rowland moved to adopt Resolution 2024-182. Committeeman McHugh seconded the motion.

Mr. Shehady said that this resolution is on the workshop agenda because the State Contract pricing expires on September 12th, after which the pricing will increase. He also noted that the funds will come from a capital account.

Deputy Mayor Choi said that DPW Director Rich Young has illustrated sound leadership, and the DPW has performed a lot with limited constraints.

Roll call: Committeeman Lois, Aye; Committeeman McHugh, Aye; Committeewoman Rowland, Aye; Deputy Mayor Choi, Aye; Mayor Ewald, Absent.

Reports

Administration

Mr. Shehady provided an overview on the zoning overlay ordinance recommended by the Planning Board. Mrs. Cofoni said that the property is owned by PSE&G, and most will be conveyed to the National Wildlife Refuge. A portion is slated to be conveyed to the Great

Swamp Watershed Association, who will relocate their headquarters to the site. The overlay zone would allow that use of the property. Mrs. Cofoni said that she is working with the Township Planner and Planning Board Attorney to clarify some issues in the ordinance. Deputy Mayor Choi commented on the cooperative efforts in the drafting of this ordinance. Committeeman Lois asked if there was a vote at the Planning Board. Mr. LaConte said that there was a unanimous vote by the Planning Board to recommend the ordinance to the Township Committee for consideration. Committeeman Lois said that he would like to review any adjustments before the Township Committee takes any action. Mrs. Cofoni said she will send a red-line version. Committeeman McHugh asked if this ordinance will have an impact on other properties. Mrs. Cofoni said that it will apply just to the one property, but if adopted it will remain in effect until further action is taken by the Township Committee. Mrs. Cofoni reviewed some of the questions she has regarding the ordinance as currently drafted.

Mr. Shehady commented on the proposed purchase of a new fire apparatus, and a resolution will be on the next meeting agenda. He further reported that the Senior Center Lighting Project is out to bid, with the possibility of an award at the next meeting. The Affordable Housing Transportation Services bid opening was held on September 4th, and the sole bid that was submitted is under legal review. Committeeman McHugh asked about the per use fee in the public transportation bid, and Mr. Shehady confirmed it is an additional fee for riders.

Mr. Shehady commented on municipal service agreements, and explained that the Township is obligated to reimburse housing complexes when they provide a service that would otherwise have been provided by the Township. The reimbursement will be in the amount that it would cost the Township to provide the service. Deputy Mayor Choi asked how the rated is calculated if they began plowing when there is less snowfall than when the Township would have begun plowing. Mr. Shehady said that it would be based on the Township's standards.

Mr. Shehady reported that the Chatham Club is planning to host the 1st Annual Veteran Suicide Awareness Obstacle Race, and they want to use the Green Village Trail. An indemnity agreement will be drafted, and proof of insurance coverage will be provided by the Chatham Club. Committeewoman Rowland asked about having the road closed for the event. Mr. Shehady said that the road would not be closed, however there would be road crossing assistance. Deputy Mayor Choi asked who would run the event. Mr. Shehady said that members of the Chatham Club will run the event. The consensus of the Township Committee was that there were not any objections to the event.

Mr. Shehady said that the Chatham Township Volunteer Fire Department is hosting an event at the Municipal Building in October. An indemnity agreement will be needed as they plan to sell alcohol at the event.

Public Works

Mr. Shehady noted that there will be an auction for two surplus vehicles. He said he inquired if they could be repurposed, however there are suspension and transmission issues.

Recreation

Committeeman Lois asked about progress addressing the issue of public access to Esternay Field. Mr. Shehady said that the gate there is to address a safety issue, and a policy change would be needed to remove the gate. He said that input from Chief Miller can be sought regarding the public safety aspects. Committeeman Lois expressed wanting to have public access to Esternay Field during the day. Mr. Shehady said that the field is publicly accessible, the only limitation is to parking cars in the parking lot there. Deputy Mayor Choi recommended that the Recreation Subcommittee discuss the matter to determine what options are available for increased public accessibility to Esternay Field.

Hearing of Citizens

Deputy Mayor Choi opened the Hearing of Citizens.
Seeing no public comment, Deputy Mayor Choi closed the Hearing of Citizens.

Executive Session II

**RESOLUTION 2024-P-14
RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CHATHAM IN
THE COUNTY OF MORRIS, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING CONFERENCE OF
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4. The Committee will come back into Regular Session and may take further action.
5. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Committeewoman Rowland moved to adopt Resolution 2024-P-14 to enter Executive Session at 8:24 PM. Committeeman Lois seconded the motion.

Roll call: Committeeman Lois, Aye; Committeeman McHugh, Aye; Committeewoman Rowland, Aye; Deputy Mayor Choi, Aye; Mayor Ewald, Absent.

The Township Committee returned to public session at 8:41 PM.

Committeeman Lois moved to adjourn at 8:41 PM. Committeewoman Rowland seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Gregory J. LaConte
Municipal Clerk