

**GLOUCESTER TOWNSHIP COUNCIL MEETING  
MAY 22, 2017  
MUNICIPAL BUILDING, CHEWS LANDING NEW JERSEY**

Pledge Allegiance to the Flag

Statement: Mr. Mercado read a statement setting forth the time, date and place of this meeting, that it was properly advertised, posted and filed in the Office of the Township Clerk pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act.

Roll Call: Mr. Hutchison Mr. Carlamere, Solicitor  
Mr. Schmidt  
Mrs. Stubbs Mr. Cardis, Business Administrator  
Mrs. Winters Mrs. DiJosie, Twp. Clerk, RMC  
Mr. Mignone  
Mrs. Trotto  
Mr. Mercado

Mr. Lechner, Comm. Dev.-abs.  
Chief Earle, Police

**PUBLIC PORTION:**

Mr. Mercado opened the public portion.  
There being no comment, the public portion was closed.

**RFQ REPORT:**

**RFP/RFQ FOR DEFERRED COMPENSATION PLAN  
RECEIVED APRIL 12, 2017**

Nationwide  
Lincoln Financial Group  
AXA  
Valic

Mr. Hutchison made a motion to accept, seconded by Mrs. Stubbs. Roll call vote: All in favor.  
Motion carried. 7-0

**ORDINANCES: SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING**

**O-17-19**

**ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 48 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF  
GLOUCESTER TO AUTHORIZE THE KEEPING OF BACKYARD CHICKENS**

Mr. Mercado opened the public hearing.

Charlene Orzechowski stated that she has some uncomfotability with the pilot program. She questioned why there was no written report on the pilot program. Mr. Mercado stated that he did not see any reason for the report as only 7 licenses were written with no complaints. Mr. Carlamere stated that this topic was on the meeting for several months prior to adoption. He stated that ordinances were reviewed from several towns and the intent of pilot program was to allow for a temporary period to see how it works. She stated that she was not opposed to anyone having chickens and asked why this is not a zoning issue. Mr. Carlamere explained that this is a regulatory ordinance. Ms. Orzechowski had several questions concerning the chickens themselves. She stated that she would like to see the ordinance amended to change the height of the fence. It was explained that council put the 4 foot requirement in, so that there would not be any additional cost to the homeowner. She also asked if council had taken into consideration any restrictions to the size of the lot.

Mike DiVito of Gloucester Township stated that he doesn't have chickens but asked the Council to remove the restriction of 6 chickens.

Mr. Mike Attanasio stated that he was a permit holder. He thanked Council for passing this ordinance. He stated that he has neighborhood children coming over to see the chickens and learn about them. He stated that this ordinance is enabling residents to teach children where their food comes from and to respect the animals. He stated that these chickens are pets and not livestock. He stated that it has been nothing but a success. Mr. Mercado questioned the process and if the online course were informative. Mrs. Stubbs asked if there were any questions in the course about health concerns.

Mr. Robert Bigwood of Timberbirch thanked council for passing this ordinance originally. He stated that he was the pioneer of this ordinance and he came to the meeting for 6 months. He stated that he has a lot of money wrapped up in the coops. He stated that all of his family takes care of the chickens. Mr. Bigwood stated that the chickens do not give human people sicknesses and he never heard of a person getting sick from a chicken. Mr. Mignone asked when a chicken expires, would it be taken to the vet. Mr. Bigwood stated that it would.

Cherie Heim stated that she got her chickens because of her dad had them. She stated that she has 5 children that are between the ages 8 and 19 and that it has been nothing but the best learning experience. She stated that the kids and neighbors love the chickens. It has been a great experience and there has been nothing negative about it.

Mr. Jay Michaels stated that the Council should pass this ordinance as there is nothing negative about a chicken. He stated that the coops should be at least 5 foot high.

Mr. George Clark of the Cherrywood townhouses applauded the speakers that are for the ordinance. He stated that he has an objection to the amount of chicken coops there could be in the township. He stated that the township has to consider the neighbors.

There being no further comment, the public portion was closed.

Mr. Hutchison made a motion to adopt, seconded by Mrs. Trotto. Roll call vote: Mr. Schmidt stated that until he knows that none of the chicken matter could be airborne and harmful, he would be voting no, all others voted yes. Motion carried. 6-1.

**RESOLUTIONS:**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**R-17:05-146**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE** Township Council of the Township of Gloucester, in the County of Camden, that the following bills are approved by the Township Council in accordance with the provisions of Ordinance 0-82-16 and certified by the Chief Financial Officer that the claims are proper obligation of the township, that adequate funds are available to honor these claims in the account indicated and the claim should be paid:

**CURRENT ACCOUNT**

Per attached computer readout of the claims presented in the amount of \$ 584,492.99

**CAPITAL ACCOUNT**

Per attached computer read out of the claims presented in the amount of \$ 343,364.09

**TRUST**

Per attached computer readout of the claims presented in the amount of \$ 10,741.61

**DEVELOPERS ESCROW**

Per attached computer readout of the claims presented in the amount of \$ 15,740.14

**ANIMAL TRUST**

Per attached computer readout of the claims presented in the amount of \$ 8,536.10

**MANUAL CHECKS**

Per attached computer readout of the claims presented in the amount of \$ 2,918.96

Adopted: May 22, 2017

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PRESIDENT COUNCIL

ATTEST:

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TOWNSHIP CLERK

Mr. Hutchison made a motion to adopt, seconded by Mrs. Stubbs. Roll call vote: All in favor. Motion carried. 7-0.

**R-17:05-147**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN  
THE TOWNSHIP OF GLOUCESTER AND VALIC**

**WHEREAS**, the Township Council of the Township of Gloucester, County of Camden, determined that there is a need for a Deferred Compensation provider

**WHEREAS**, the Township Council received RFQ's for this provider

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Council of the Township of Gloucester that the proper Township Officials are hereby authorized to enter into an agreement with VALIC as a Deferred Compensation Provider.

Adopted: May 22, 2017

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PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

ATTEST:

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TOWNSHIP CLERK, RMC

Mr. Hutchison made a motion to adopt, seconded by Mrs. Stubbs. Roll call vote: All in favor. Motion carried. 7-0.

**R-17:05-148**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN  
THE TOWNSHIP OF GLOUCESTER AND CXT, INC.**

**WHEREAS**, the Township Council of the Township of Gloucester, County of Camden, determined that there is a need for a Prefabricated Concrete Restroom for Veterans Park; and

**WHEREAS**, sufficient funds have been provided, and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Council of the Township of Gloucester that the proper Township Officials are hereby authorized to enter into an agreement

with CXT Inc. 901 North Highway 77, Hillsboro, TX 76645 purchased through the Township established co-op purchasing agreement with NJPA, member # 31114, Contract #030117-CXT, for a Prefabricated Concrete Modular Restroom for Veterans Park; in the amount of \$ 86,930.00

Adopted: May 22, 2017

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President of Council

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Township Clerk

Mr. Hutchison made a motion to adopt, seconded by Mrs. Stubbs. Roll call vote: All in favor. Motion carried. 7-0.

**R-17:05-149 RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION R-17:02-065 ENTITLED  
“RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RELEASE OF SECURITIES FOR  
AP CONSTRUCTION, INC. IN THE TOWNSHIP OF  
GLOUCESTER**

**WHEREAS**, resolution R-17:02-065 was adopted by the Township Council of the Township of Gloucester on February 13, 2017 and

**WHEREAS**, resolution-17:02-065 is hereby amended to read as follows:

**WHEREAS**, the developer of AP Construction Inc. has supplied the Township of Gloucester with securities covering this development within the Township of Gloucester, and

**WHEREAS**, the Engineer has inspected this project and has given his report to the Township Council of the Township of Gloucester, and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Council of the Township of Gloucester that the securities in the amount of \$96,801.75 in the name of AP Construction, Inc. be released upon the posting of an approved maintenance bond in the amount of \$13,444.69

ATTEST:

Adopted: May 22, 2017

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President of Council

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Township Clerk

Mr. Hutchison made a motion to adopt, seconded by Mrs. Stubbs. Roll call vote: All in favor. Motion carried. 7-0.

**R-17:05-150**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUNDING OF TAXES**

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Gloucester to authorize the refunding of the following credit balances:

**BLOCK LOT NAME AND ADDRESS YEAR AMOUNT REASON**

9904 5 Leonard and Mary Collier 2017 670.14 Overpayment  
10 Antietam Dr.  
Laurel Springs, NJ 08021

13201 81 Helen Coyne 2017 643.51 Duplicate  
1007 Turkey Run Rd. Payment  
McLean, VA 22101

18310 15 James and Angela Beckett 2017 5,907.75 Overpayment  
24 Scenic Point Circle  
Sicklerville, NJ 08081

**ADOPTED:** May 22, 2017

\_\_\_\_\_  
President Council

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Township Clerk

Mr. Hutchison made a motion to adopt, seconded by Mrs. Stubbs. Roll call vote: All in favor. Motion carried. 7-0.

**GT E-GOV ACCESS:**

*Dave Johnson of 408 Apple Avenue, Blenheim, NJ 08012*

*“I had asked about the cost of Heritage Park on Somerdale Road on April 11 and was given a response that the cost of the project won’t be known until it is done. What was the PROJECTED, or ESTIMATED cost of the project before it was started?*

*What is the PROJECTED cost of the new Bike Share Kiosk that is being built by the Caboose on West Church Street and Railroad Ave.*

*A question about the new pre-fab bathrooms that are being voted on tonight to be located at Veteran's Park. Roughly, where in the park will these bathrooms be located? Will these bathrooms be like the bathrooms by Timber Creek Park? Will they have separate men's and women's rooms or will they be gender neutral bathrooms? Will these bathrooms have a "family" style bathroom that will be equipped with a changing station for parents with infants?*

Mr. Mercado stated that the approximate cost of the Heritage Park would be \$30,000.00. The funds for this project are derived from the redevelopment or developers open space account. When a developer comes into our township, there are two accounts that they provide money towards. If they are not providing sidewalks, the money would go into the sidewalk fund. If they are not putting recreation in the particular development or development project, the money would go into a Redeveloper's recreational open space account. That is where the funding for Heritage Park came from.

The cost of the Bike Share Kiosk is approximately \$25,000.00. The kiosk, \$13,250.00 and the shelter \$11,990.00. He stated that this is from a \$25,000.00 grant from Camden County.

The prefab bathrooms will be on the left hand side of the park where the Port-a-Pots are located. The bathrooms will be a little smaller than the bathrooms located at Timber Creek Park. There will be a separate men and women's bathroom, handicapped accessible, so 4 different stalls, two and two. The Bathrooms will not be family style but we do have the option later on to add a changing station for parents with infants.

Mr. Mercado thanked Mr. Johnson for his question.

#### **PUBLIC PORTION:**

Mr. Mercado opened the public portion.

Miss Grace of Brittany Woods spoke about a "Walk Sip and Talk" that they will be having in Brittany Woods on the 17<sup>th</sup> of June. She stated that she is attending the council meeting to update council about the cleanup effort in Brittany Woods. She stated that the good news is that people are buying homes in the development. The development is cleaner, although there are some concerns with teenage boys hanging around. She also stated that they will be having an "Adopt a Mailbox" program as most of the mailboxes in the development are broken or non-existent. She stated that they still have problems with the renters in the neighborhood. She stated that they are trying to make the neighborhood more beautiful and it is coming along.

Miss Shirley of Brittany Woods asked when the township was going to break ground for the playground. She also stated that she has concerns with the neighborhood boys and she doesn't want to see the park closed because of these teenagers.

Miss Donna of Brittany Woods stated that she has spoken with Officer McLaughlin concerning the easements behind their homes that are overgrown. Mr. Mercado stated that we will first determine if it is the township's property and if it is, the township will have the Public Works Department remedy it. She also asked that a clean community sign be put up and possibly some trash cans near the school bus stops.

Rich Cinaglia stated that he has a paving problem in front of his house where the water is laying there all the time. He stated that he has tried to contact Public Works and the Mayor's Office and has not heard back from anyone. Mr. Mercado stated that he will get him some answers and will personally contact him.

Joanna of 10 Sumter Court complained of high grass at a neighboring vacant property. Mr. Cardis stated that the township would be able to mow this lawn and then put a lien on the property.

Ray Polidoro of Erial spoke about the tax situation from last year. He stated that he just read this afternoon that the Camden County Freeholders will increase the county taxes by 6.6 million dollars. He asked when the township would be notified of this increase. Mr. Cardis stated that the township will be notified when the county sends a final certification from all the entities such as the schools, library, etc. He asked if there was a way, in the future, if the township could communicate with the different entities. Mr. Mercado stated that the township has been in communication with the schools.

Charlene Orzechowski asked about the amount of chicken permits and if this amount would ever change. Mr. Mercado stated that it could be revisited in the future. She also asked if a tenant was able to get a permit. It was stated that they would need the homeowners consent.

Mr. Jim Williams of Tiffany Place in Erial stated that the landlords are responsible for their properties. He thanked Mr. Cardis for getting the grass cut at the abandoned home on Bromley Drive. He also spoke about the playground in Sturbridge Oaks and stated that kids from around the area are using the park and drinking beer and alcohol in the park and in their cars. The Police Department will monitor this.

There being no further comment, the public portion was closed.

#### **POLLING OF COUNCIL**

Mr. Hutchison thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.

Mr. Schmidt thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and for their comments. He reminded everyone about the Gloucester Township Memorial Services.

Mrs. Stubbs thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.

Mrs. Winters thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and she stated that she appreciates their comments.

Mr. Mignone thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and wished them a good night.

Mrs. Trotto thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and she wished everyone a safe holiday.

Mr. Mercado thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. He reminded everyone there is a movie night this Friday. "Finding Dory". He stated that he and Ms. Winters attended the St. Baldrick's celebration this past weekend and the celebration made \$33,000 for pediatric cancer. He thanked Debbie Simone for heading this project. Mr. Mercado also stated that Laura Power passed away on May 2, 2017. He stated that she loved serving her community and will be missed and that many people may remember seeing her at the council meetings taking pictures.

Mr. Hutchison made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mrs. Stubbs. Roll call vote: All in favor.  
Motion carried. 7-0

Respectfully submitted,

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Rosemary DiJosie  
President of Council    Township Clerk