

**TOWNSHIP OF BYRAM  
TOWNSHIP COUNCIL MEETING  
JANUARY 19, 2021  
BUDGET WORKSHOP SESSION - 6:00 P.M.  
REGULAR SESSION TO FOLLOW**

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER** – Mayor Rubenstein called the meeting to order.

**OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT**

This meeting is called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Law. Both adequate and electronic notice of the meeting has been provided, specifying the time, place. In addition, a copy of this notice is available to the public and is on file in the office of the Municipal Clerk, posted on the main door, the bulletin board of the Municipal Building, on the Township website at: [https://www.byramtwp.org/index.php/town\\_hall/township\\_council](https://www.byramtwp.org/index.php/town_hall/township_council), and has been forwarded to those persons requesting notice.

**ROLL CALL OF THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL** – Councilman Bonker here; Councilwoman Franco, here; Councilman Gallagher, here; Councilman Roseff, here; Mayor Rubenstein here. Also present was Township Manager Joe Sabatini, Attorney Tom Collins and Municipal Clerk Cynthia Church.

**FLAG SALUTE**

**BUDGET WORKSHOP SESSION** - The Mayor stated that Council has reviewed the budget that was presented by the Township Manager. The purpose of the Budget workshop is to review the budget, ask questions and recommend adjustments.

CFO Ashleigh Frueholz was also present.

Mr. Sabatini said that the Council should be in receipt in their packet of information. The packet included a Draft 2021 Municipal Budget Memo, Sports Equality Memo dated January 11, 2021, 2021 Capital Budget, a summary of capital projects for years 2021 through 2033 and a memo from Sept 25, 2020 regarding road resurfacing and an annual dedicated funding and program support, and budget details that are also on the Township website.

Mr. Sabatini thanked all Department Heads and Ashleigh for their help with delivering a responsible budget. This past year has been very challenging due to the pandemic. Every year the township council is called upon to establish a municipal policy through the adoption of the Municipal Budget, while the Manager and staff prepare recommendation in the form of a draft document. The council must ensure that the adopted budget adequately satisfies the needs of the community and serves the best interest of the township. The current budget presents an increase of .75%. Overall anticipated revenues are down \$140,000. Mr. Sabatini recommended a reduction in the dependency of fund balance by \$100,000. If the affects of the pandemic continue into 2021 for a significant time period it would be expected that we would be in a similar situation of canceling unexpended balances at the end of the year to offset some shortfalls of revenue. On the appropriations side the budget includes some one-time opportunities that helped offset the loss of revenues. Overall operating budget including salary and wages and operating expenses for each department have reduced \$56,650. The largest impact on the budget on the expense side is the pension expenses. This year the township has seen an \$80,000 increase in expenses as it relates to pensions. The negative impact of the budget in the capital program, does not support an increase in dedicated funding towards the annual road resurfacing program. The annual dedicated funding for streets and roads should be around \$900,000. The current budget plan only includes \$871,943.00 in funds to cover proposed streets and roads, and the new DPW equipment as presented in the capital budget. That leaves the township with a shortfall of \$592,557.00. There are some opportunities to help fund the shortfall in the 2021 budget cycle. The township is still working off preliminary calculations for the Fund Balance. Last year \$1,610,500 went towards offsetting operations.

Opened to Council for discussion:

Mr. Bonker:

- Councilman Bonker would have liked to see a decrease in the budget like it was last year. This year has a slight increase due to things outside of the townships control. The Garden State Preservation Trust was cut by \$22,745.00, and the pension funds were increased by \$80,000. That is over \$100,000 outside of the control of the township. Without that extra \$100,000 they would have accomplished another decrease in the budget.
- The budget reflects the hiring of a full-time construction official which is an increase in cost, however, there is potential for shared services with other towns.
- This budget includes a part time recreation leader. Councilman Bonker said that he supports the hiring of a part time recreation leader because of the savings, however, he does not support it on a full time basis.
- Impact of Sports Equality should be included in the budget this year. Some of the money can come out of the Open Space Fund.

Councilwoman Franco said that supports sports equality and the part time recreation leader. She would like a better understanding as to where the Municipal Building fits in the budget. Mayor Rubenstein said that there is room in the capital ordinance to support that.

Councilman Gallagher asked about retirements in 2021, and how that would affect this budget. Joe said if they retire within the year it would become an unexpended balance.

Councilman Roseff inquired about the Fund Balance, the \$450,000 was considered a 1-time additional appropriation in 2020 and asked if that was going to be regenerated. Mr. Sabatini explained the \$450,000 is fully expended as it was earmarked for the capital improvement fund. At the end of the year it was decided to offset the shortfall in revenues due to the pandemic they ended up canceling \$100,000 of that \$450,00, leaving \$350,000 going into the Capital Improvement fund. It will not go to the regeneration of the fund balancing. \$35,000 was allocated toward the technology ordinance.

Councilman Roseff said that he agreed with Councilman Bonker regarding the construction department, and is looking forward to more shared services and revenue coming in. Councilman Roseff was also in agreement with a part time recreation person and believes in engaging with our neighboring towns with programs.

Mayor Rubenstein said that his comments echo what others have already said. Mayor Rubenstein said that it became apparent that the township was shafted by the State with the \$80,000 increase in pensions, and the \$22,000 loss in state aid. This is over \$100,000 in loss revenue in the budget. Because of the pandemic, we became aware of concept of interest on our banking balances that has now evaporated. Overall, we are looking at a \$200,000 hole in the budget, yet the administration has presented a budget with only .75% increase, without a loss of service.

Councilman Roseff said we are at .75% percent increase and there are still contemplations of other expenditures and the Municipal Bundling which will have an increase that will carry into future years.

The Mayor opened to the public for comments pertaining only to the Budget Workshop:

There were no other questions, closed to public.

Motion by Councilman Bonker, second by Councilman Gallagher to close to the public. All members in favor. Motion carried.

Sports Equality: In November Mr. Sabatini took direction from the council and worked with DPW Superintendent. The budget was based on painting of lines for initial set up and maintenance.

- Capital Expenditures – Self-Propelled High-Pressure Sprayer and 55 Gallon Paint Mixing System. Not to exceed \$8,000 for those two items. May be able to pay out of Open Space Trust Fund.
- Operating Expense impact – Paint Cost of \$5,000. Currently the Township spend approximately \$2,000 per year on paint. The estimated increase to the township would be \$3,000.
- Labor Cost – 30 weeks of maintaining lines of the field would be an estimated cost of \$8,904.00

Councilman Bonker thanked the Manager and the DPW superintendent, he believes all sports in town and all participants should be treated fairly. This is the right thing to do for a small amount of money and asked the council to make this part of the budget.

Mayor Rubenstein said that if we proceed, it will be about \$12,000 out of the General Fund.

Councilwoman Franco agrees to keep it fair for all and feels that it would be a good choice for our town.

Councilman Gallagher asked what it would cost to hire a part time person to do the work. Mr. Sabatini said it would be a seasonal / part-time hire, the goal would be to see what the cost would be to bring someone in. He would be in favor of doing this.

Councilman Roseff asked if the Open Space could pay for the labor. Joe said it could only be done that way with a vendor expense.

Mayor Rubenstein agreed that this would be the right thing to do. He is in support of the project overall, as well as the temporary seasonal labor.

Capital Budget Program for 2021 – Mr. Sabatini reviewed the Capital Budget Program for 2021. He said that the road programs could cover total cost of streets and roads and DPW equipment with the funding that was put in there last year (\$315,000 as well as the cancellation of unexpended balances from previous capital authorizations). In 2021 we are planning mill and pave project for the following:

Fieldstone Trail \$317,500  
Deer Hill Run North & South \$78,000  
Continental Drive \$90,000  
Cranberry Lake Area \$186,000  
Route 206 corridor \$270,000  
Forest Lakes Area \$200,000

Additional proposed projects are:

DPW Equipment \$293,000  
DPW Facility improvements \$200,000

Alcohol Drug Testing \$20,000  
 Playground Equipment at Riverside Park \$98,000  
 Fire Engine \$550,000  
 Drainage Improvements \$5,000  
 Capital Improvements \$25,000

Councilman Bonker asked about the alternative East Brookwood access. Mr. Sabatini said the owner of the property had a medical procedure and is not interested in meeting with us at this time. Meanwhile he reached out to statewide insurance regarding any concerns with the indemnification they are requesting. He is waiting on a final answer on that. Mr. Sabatini does not see any issues with getting the easement if the property owner is willing to move forward. Mayor Rubenstein thinks that this is premature to put this on the Capital Plan now. Mr. Sabatini said he will add the East Brookwood alternative access to this budget and indicate that it may require a debt authorization.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA** – Motion by Councilman Bonker, second by Councilman Gallagher, to approve the agenda as presented. All in favor. Motion carried.

**GREENER BY DESIGN PRESENTATION** – Ben Spinelli of Greener by Design provided a power point presentation and reviewed the background on the Parks and Recreation Plan, and the elements of the plan. Mr. Spinelli also reviewed the Trails Plan, Stewardship and Asset Management Plan, and the Eco-Tourism based Economic Development Plan. Mr. Spinelli also included in the presentation the final deliverables of a marketing brochure, new logos, trailhead markers, promotional videos, social media outlets “Byram Outdoors” (YouTube Channel, Instagram, Facebook, Website – Byramoutdoors.org) and a formatted press release.

The Township council was supportive as to what was presented by Mr. Spinelli.

Motion by Councilman Bonker, second by Councilman Gallagher to accept the scope of work presented.

	Councilman Bonker	Councilwoman Franco	Councilman Gallagher	Councilman Roseff	Mayor Rubenstein
Motion	x				
2 <sup>nd</sup>			x		
Yes	x	x	x	x	x
No					
Abstain					
Absent					

**APPROVAL OF NEW FIRE DEPARTMENT MEMBER** – Gary Card  
 Chief Rudloff presented Mr. Card as a past member of the Byram Fire Department who wished to come back on. Mayor Rubenstein swore him in.

**APPOINTMENT OF PLANNING BOARD MEMBER** – Gregory R. Smith II – Alternate II – Term Expires 12/31/2021

Motion by Councilwoman Franco, second by Councilman Gallagher to appoint Gregory R. Smith II to the Byram Township Planning Board – Alternate II.

	Councilman Bonker	Councilwoman Franco	Councilman Gallagher	Councilman Roseff	Mayor Rubenstein
Motion		x			
2 <sup>nd</sup>			x		
Yes	x	x	x	x	x
No					
Abstain					
Absent					

**PROCLAMATION** – School Board Recognition Month in New Jersey – January 2021  
 Motion by Councilman Gallagher, second by Councilwoman Franco to sign the proclamation. All members in favor. Motion carried.

**TOWNSHIP MANAGER, MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS**

**Township Manager** – There is a special joint meeting of the Township Council and Municipal Building Subcommittee on Tuesday February 9<sup>th</sup> with a 7:00 p.m. start. Estimates will be posted on the website at the end of the week. The budget will be introduced March 2, 2021 and will be on for adoption April 6, 2021. There will be a Nixel notice going out about the temporary closing of the Tamarack Park trail due to the timber harvest. Mr. Sabatini thanked the Mayor for his assistance with the new server installation, the move to SDL, and the roll out of chrome books to council members.

**Mayor Alexander Rubenstein** – No report

**Councilman Bonker** – There will be an Open Space meeting on February 8, 2021. The Open Space committee will look at the conceptual plans for the C.O. Johnson re-design, and the potential next steps now that the Greener by Design process has been completed. The timber harvest will be starting on January 20, 2021, by February 8<sup>th</sup> there should be an update. The Open Space Committee will also be going over goals for 2021. Happy to see the resolution for the SDL licenses on the agenda.

**Councilman Bonker Councilwoman Franco** – The Planning Board reorganization meeting was held on January 7<sup>th</sup>; new business was tabled. Looking forward to this Thursday’s discussion on WaWa.

**Councilman Gallagher** – There will be a Recreation meeting January 20<sup>th</sup>, they will be reviewing the Greener by Design presentation. Thursday nights are training nights for the Fire Department. The Fire Department is looking for members. The high school meeting is tonight as well.

**Councilman Roseff** – nothing to report.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION I** – Motion by Councilwoman second by Councilman Bonker to open to the public. All members were in favor. Motion Carried.

No Comments.

Motion by Councilman Bonker, second by Councilman Gallagher to close to the public. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- 01-02-2021 Regular & Closed Session Minutes – Motion by Councilman Gallagher, seconded by Councilwoman Franco to approve the minutes.

	Councilman Bonker	Councilwoman Franco	Councilman Gallagher	Councilman Roseff	Mayor Rubenstein
Motion			x		
2 <sup>nd</sup>		x			
Yes	x	x	x	x	x
No					
Abstain					
Absent					

**CONSENT AGENDA** – All are considered to be routine by the Members of the Township Council and will be enacted on by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a citizen or Council member so requests in which event the item may be removed from the general order of business and considered in its normal sequence on the agenda. Motion by Councilman Gallagher, second by Councilwoman Franco to approve the consent agenda.

- A. Resolution No. 032-2021 – Resolution of the Township of Byram, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey “Authorizing Taxes Be Remitted (Cancelled) for 2021” – Block 5 Lot 687 – 34 Belton Street
- B. Resolution No. 033-2021 - Resolution of the Township of Byram, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey “Authorizing Taxes Be Remitted (Cancelled) for 2021” – Block 7 Lot 218 – 58 Ash Street
- C. Resolution No. 034-2021 - Resolution of the Township of Byram, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey “Authorizing Taxes Be Remitted (Cancelled) for 2021” – Block 7 Lot 240 – 48 Ash Street
- D. Resolution No. 035-2021 - Resolution of the Township of Byram, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey “Authorizing Taxes Be Remitted (Cancelled) for 2021” – Block 7 Lot 259 – 40 Ash Street
- E. Resolution No. 036-2021 - Resolution of the Township of Byram, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey “Authorizing Taxes Be Remitted (Cancelled) for 2021” – Block 7 Lot 291 – 41 Beech Street
- F. Resolution No. 037-2021 - Resolution of the Township of Byram, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey “Authorizing Taxes Be Remitted (Cancelled) for 2021” – Block 7 Lot 295 – 39 Beech Street
- G. Resolution No. 038-2021 - Resolution of the Township of Byram, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey “Authorizing Taxes Be Remitted (Cancelled) for 2021” – Block 70 Lot 7.02 B01 – Route 206
- H. Resolution No. 039-2021 - Resolution of the Township of Byram, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey “Authorizing Taxes Be Remitted (Cancelled) for 2021” – Lock 70 Lot 7.02 – Route 206
- I. Resolution No. 040-2021 - Resolution of the Township of Byram, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey “Authorizing Taxes Be Remitted (Cancelled) for 2021” – Block 91 Lot 290 – Wild Cherry Trail
- J. Resolution No. 041-2021 - Resolution of the Township of Byram, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey “Authorizing Taxes Be Remitted (Cancelled) for 2021” – Block 157 Lot 262 – Wa-Po-Ga Trail
- K. Resolution No. 042-2021 - Resolution of the Township of Byram, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey “Authorizing Taxes Be Remitted (Cancelled) for 2021” – Block 172 Lot 31 – 14 Meteor Trail
- L. Resolution No. 043-2021 - Resolution of the Township of Byram, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey “Authorizing Taxes Be Remitted (Cancelled) for 2021” – Block 216 Lot 1 – 1 Willor Drive
- M. Resolution No. 044-2021 - Resolution of the Township of Byram, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey “Authorizing Taxes Be Remitted (Cancelled) for 2021” – Block 222.01 Lot 5.03 – 5 Roger Drive
- N. Resolution No. 045-2021 - Resolution of the Township of Byram, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey “Authorizing Taxes Be Remitted (Cancelled) for 2021” – Block 228 Lot 305 – Bank Street
- O. Resolution No. 046-2021 - Resolution of the Township of Byram, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey “Authorizing Taxes Be Remitted (Cancelled) for 2021” – Block 229 Lot 12 – Lackawanna Drive
- P. Resolution No. 047-2021 - Resolution of the Township of Byram, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey “Authorizing Taxes Be Remitted (Cancelled) for 2021” – Block 230 Lot 6 – Richmond Road
- Q. Resolution No. 048-2021 - Resolution of the Township of Byram, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey “Authorizing Taxes Be Remitted (Cancelled) for 2021” – Block 230 Lot 6 – 6 Richmond Road
- R. Resolution No. 049-2021 - Resolution of the Township of Byram, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey “Authorizing Taxes Be Remitted (Cancelled) for 2021” – Block 231 Lot 12 – 16 Lake Drive
- S. Resolution No. 050-2021 - Resolution of the Township of Byram, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey “Authorizing Taxes Be Remitted (Cancelled) for 2021” – Block 365.04 Lot 9 – 5 Joan Drive

- T. Resolution No. 051-2021 - Resolution of the Township of Byram, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey “Authorizing Taxes Be Remitted (Cancelled) for 2021” Block 365.04 Lot 16 – 32 Ross Road
- U. Resolution No. 052-2021- Resolution of the Township of Byram, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey “Authorizing Taxes Be Remitted (Cancelled) for 2021” Block 230 Lot 12 – 6 Richmond Road
- V. Resolution No. 053-2021 – Tax Sale Premium Escheat After Five Years / Foreclosure
- W. Resolution No. 054-2021 – Resolution Authorizing SHI to Upgrade the Township’s Existing 2 Seat Enterprise License with Spatial Data Logic (SDL) to an On-Premises Small-Town Licensing Subscription: Ten (10) Seats / Computers
- X. Resolution No. 057-2021 – Resolution to Transfer 2020 Appropriation Reserves – Current Fund
- Y. Resolution No. 058-2021 – Cancellation of Unexpended Balances of Improvement Authorizations

	Councilman Bonker	Councilwoman Franco	Councilman Gallagher	Councilman Roseff	Mayor Rubenstein
Motion			x		
2nd		x			
Yes	x	x	x	x	x
No					
Abstain					
Absent					

**RESOLUTION NO. 055- 2021 - Authorizing Execution of Service Agreement with the Lowest Responsible Bidder for the Supply of Electricity for Residential Customers - Government Energy Aggregation**

Mayor Rubenstein said that there has been an ongoing conversation about energy aggregation that would be provided to everyone in town unless you opt-out. There could be a discount as much as 10% to our residents. The decision tonight is whether permission is given to the Township Manager to go out to bid. The Township will set the threshold. Councilman Bonker thinks the absolute minimum threshold should not go below 5%, and that this should be strictly about saving money. Councilwoman Franco is on board with a 5%-8% savings. Mayor Rubenstein said he is on board with 7.5% or higher savings. Councilman Gallagher was ok with moving forward. Councilman Roseff is not comfortable with the plan as it is not clear as to what the numbers are based off of.

Mr. Sabatini explained that Township will give GEA the parameters and will go out to bid on our behalf. The contingency would be that the rates will be lower than JCP&L.

The Township Council is requiring the bid documents and this resolution to include the following language:

- o The Township Council is requiring the bid documents that is soliciting pricing for this program must include language stating that bidding suppliers to offer pricing that are lower than the LDC’s applicable BGS tariff rate throughout the term of the energy aggregation program.
- o The Township Manger is only authorized to accept a bid that is at least an 8% discount.

Motion by Councilman Bonker, second by Councilman Gallagher to approve Resolution 055-2021

	Councilman Bonker	Councilwoman Franco	Councilman Gallagher	Councilman Roseff	Mayor Rubenstein
Motion			x		
2nd	x				
Yes	x	x	x	x	x
No					
Abstain					
Absent					

**BILL LIST – January 19, 2021 – Motion by Councilman Bonker, second by Councilman Gallagher to approve the bill list as presented. Mayor Rubenstein excused himself from the approval of PO #22863 and PO# 22038.**

	Councilman Bonker	Councilwoman Franco	Councilman Gallagher	Councilman Roseff	Mayor Rubenstein
Motion	x				
2nd			x		
Yes	x	x	x	x	x
No					
Abstain					
Absent					

**ORDINANCES – Introduction/First Reading**

- Ordinance to Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and to Establish a Cap Bank (N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)

**Purpose Statement:** The purpose of this ordinance is to exceed the State mandated COLA percentage of 1.0% and increase to 3.5% and to bank the difference between the Township's final appropriation subject to the cap and 3.5%.

Mrs. Sabatini said that it is recommended that this ordinance be adopted annually. It does not define the township policy for the budget, but it does give protections in the future should there be a need to exceed the cap.

Councilman Roseff said that we are already under the 1%, he does not think we need to bank permission to exceed in the future and feels that it is inappropriate and disrespectful to the taxpayer.

Councilman Bonker said that every Board of Education & Municipality in New Jersey uses this tool. It is strictly used for emergencies.

Motion by Councilman Bonker, second by Councilwoman Franco to introduce the ordinance.

	Councilman Bonker	Councilwoman Franco	Councilman Gallagher	Councilman Roseff	Mayor Rubenstein
Motion	x				
2 <sup>nd</sup>		x			
Yes	x	x	x		x
No				x	
Abstain					
Absent					

BE IT RESOLVED, that said Ordinance shall be further considered for final passage at the meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Byram on the 2nd day of February, 2021 at 7:30 p.m., on an audio conference call using Zoom at which time and place a public hearing will be held thereon and all persons and citizens interested shall have an opportunity to be heard.

- **An Ordinance Amending & Replacing Chapter 211 - Stormwater Control of the Township of Byram Code**

**Purpose Statement:** The purpose of this ordinance is to amend the existing Stormwater Control Ordinance to address the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection’s adopted amendments to the New Jersey Stormwater Management Rules at N.J.A.C. 7:8.

Mr. Stoner said that the State of NJ is mandating the new storm water management regulations and is requiring all towns to update their ordinances. This will replace the current Stormwater Control, Chapter 211.

Motion by Councilwoman Franco, second by Councilman Bonker to introduce the ordinance.

	Councilman Bonker	Councilwoman Franco	Councilman Gallagher	Councilman Roseff	Mayor Rubenstein
Motion		x			
2 <sup>nd</sup>	x				
Yes	x	x	x	x	x
No					
Abstain					
Absent					

BE IT RESOLVED, that said Ordinance shall be further considered for final passage at the meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Byram on the 16th day of February, 2021 at 7:30 p.m., on an audio conference call using Zoom at which time and place a public hearing will be held thereon and all persons and citizens interested shall have an opportunity to be heard.

**ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

Hayden Harris Memorial – Mayor Rubenstein would like to form a subcommittee to build a memorial on behalf of the late Hayden Harris. Councilman Bonker, Councilwoman Franco and Chief Rudloff will lead the subcommittee.

Bonnie Blackwell, 40 Sleepy Hollow Road - is a veteran and Byram resident who set up a go fund me page for Mr. Harris. She is willing to help in any way she can.

Motion by Councilman Gallagher, Second by Councilman Roseff to create a Hayden Harris Memorial subcommittee. All in Favor, Motion Carried.

Mr. Pitch, 25 Ross Road - would like to be part of the subcommittee.

Annalise DeMagistris, 69 North Shore Road - would also like to be part of the subcommittee.

C.O. Johnson Park – Mr. Sabatini received the first conceptual plans from French & Parrello. Mr. Sabatini spoke with Mike from French & Parrello and said that this is not the final product. What they have provided are two alternatives that they are looking for feedback on. Mr. Sabatini is looking for direction from the Township Council on how to proceed. Mayor Rubenstein said that he would have a few comments and would like to invite them to a council meeting to discuss it further. Mr. Bonker would like the Open Space committee to have a chance to look at the plans and would like it to be on the Open Space agenda for discussion with on February 8<sup>th</sup>. Councilwoman Franco would like to know if we can afford to do what is proposed and thinks that input from the Open Space committee is necessary. Mr. Sabatini said they need to know what to do with the detention basin. Councilman Bonker is happy to see this move forward. Councilwoman Franco is happy with the plans and how they are thinking outside the box. Mr. Sabatini said this is a preliminary review, these are not final plans. Township Councils feedback and any other comments are needed by February 8<sup>th</sup>.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION II** – Motion by Councilman Bonker, second by Councilwoman Franco to open to the public. All members were in favor. Motion Carried.

Jack Moran, 7 East Waterloo Road – commented on the energy aggregation pricing and joining in with other towns to bring down the price. Mr. Moran asked about natural gas. Mayor Rubenstein said that there is no new information at this time, it will be months before the Byram / Stanhope section will be looked at.

Motion by Councilwoman Franco, second by Councilman Gallagher to close to the public. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION** – Motion by Councilman Bonker, second by Councilwoman Franco, to go into executive session and adopt the below resolution.

**RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act, P. L. 1975, Chapter 231 permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist.

- a. Attorney Client Privilege Communication
  - General
  - Property Maintenance – Block 220 Lot 25 & Block 336 Lot 23
  - Forest Lakes Drive – Potholes
  - LES
- b. Personnel
- c. Anticipated Litigation
- d. Contract Negotiations
  - B.A.R.K.S.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Township of Byram, that the public shall be excluded from discussion of the following matters:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Minutes will be kept on file in the Municipal Clerk’s office, and once the matter involving the confidentiality of the above no longer requires that confidentiality, then the minutes shall be made public.

**BYRAM TOWNSHIP COUNCIL**

Certification: I certify that the Byram Township Council adopted the above resolution on January 19, 2021.

Cynthia Church, Municipal Clerk

	Councilman Bonker	Councilwoman Franco	Councilman Gallagher	Councilman Roseff	Mayor Rubenstein
Motion	x				
2 <sup>nd</sup>		x			
Yes	x	x	x	x	x
No					
Abstain					
Absent					

**RETURN TO OPEN SESSION** - Motion by Councilman Bonker, second by Councilwoman Franco to return to open session at 11:45 p.m. All members were in favor. Motion Carried.

**RESOLUTION NO. 056- 2021** – Resolution of the Township of Byram, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey, authorizing an agreement with Lakeland Emergency Squad for responder services.

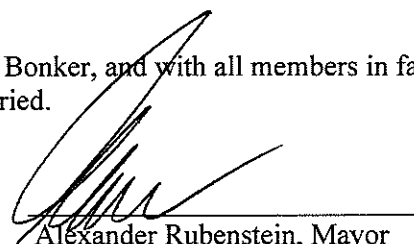
Motion by Councilman Bonker, second by Councilman Gallagher to approve Resolution 056-2021

	Councilman Bonker	Councilwoman Franco	Councilman Gallagher	Councilman Roseff	Mayor Rubenstein
Motion				x	
2 <sup>nd</sup>	x				
Yes	x	x	x	x	x
No					
Abstain					
Absent					

**ADJOURNMENT**

On the motion of Councilwoman Franco, second by Councilman Bonker, and with all members in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 11:50 p.m. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

  
Cynthia Church, RMC  
Township Clerk

  
Alexander Rubenstein, Mayor