

BOROUGH OF LAUREL SPRINGS
WORK SESSION MEETING OF MAYOR AND COUNCIL
MONDAY, November 28, 2022
MAYOR THOMAS A. BARBERA PRESIDING

SALUTE TO THE FLAG AND MOMENT OF SILENCE was led by Mayor Barbera

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS LAW—Mayor Barbera stated adequate notice of this meeting was given by emailing the Retrospect and the Courier-Post on January 11, 2022 and posting on Borough Website and bulletin board.

ROLL CALL recorded as present: Cruz, DiMarco, Riondino, and Redstreak; and absent: DiGregorio and DelPidio

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Regular Meeting of Regular Meeting of November 14, 2022 - The motion to approve by Councilman Redstreak was seconded by Councilwoman DiMarco, with Di Marco and Redstreak in favor, none opposed and Cruz and Riondino abstaining.

LETTER OF RESIGNATION – Sergeant Marco Lombardi – the motion to accept by Councilman Redstreak was seconded by Councilman Cruz with Cruz, DiMarco, Riondino and Redstreak, none opposed and no abstentions.

ORDINANCES – First Reading by Title:

- ORDINANCE #871-2022 – AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING ANNUAL FEE SCHEDULE FOR THE BOROUGH OF LAUREL SPRINGS FOR YEAR 2023
- The motion to introduce by Councilman Redstreak was seconded by Councilman Cruz with Cruz, DiMarco, Riondino and Redstreak in favor, none opposed and no abstentions.
- The second reading by title, public hearing and adoption is scheduled for Thursday, December 29, 2022.

RESOLUTIONS

- **#089-2022 - AUTHORIZING SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENTS BY AND BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF CAMDEN AND THE BOROUGH OF LAUREL SPRINGS FOR THE PROJECT SAVE PROGRAM**

WHEREAS statistics have shown a significant number of municipal court defendants suffer from drug and/or alcohol addiction, which has in large measure contributed to the defendant's commission of non-violent crimes; and

WHEREAS the County of Camden and various County municipalities (the "Parties") have studied various measures available to respond to the substance abuse crisis and have worked with each of their police departments and municipal court officials to determine the best way to connect defendants suffering with addiction with information and options for assessment and/or treatment; and

WHEREAS, after careful consideration, the Parties determined that a cooperative approach to implement the Project SAVE program, a voluntary substance abuse treatment referral and intervention strategy for municipal court defendants arrested for non-violent crimes, would offer the Parties an effective and efficient means of providing these services; and

WHEREAS the County authorized Shared Services Agreements with participating municipalities for a Project SAVE Program for a term of three years from January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2022; and after review of the benefits and successes of the Program, the Parties have determined to continue the Project SAVE program; and

WHEREAS, to continue with the Project SAVE program, the Parties have decided to enter into a Shared Services Agreement to authorize the County to procure a vendor on behalf of the Municipality for this purpose; and

WHEREAS the costs for the professional services performed pursuant to this Agreement shall be paid by the County; and

WHEREAS the term of the Agreement will be for a period of three (3) years, commencing on or about January 1, 2023 and terminating on December 31, 2025; and

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WHEREAS this Agreement is authorized pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1, *et seq.* ("Uniform Shared Services and Consolidation Act") which permits two or more local units to enter into an Agreement for any service which any party to the Agreement is empowered to render within its jurisdiction: and

WHEREAS the Borough of Laurel Springs agrees that their mutual public purposes and their best interests will be promoted by the execution and delivery of this Shared Services Agreement pursuant to the powers conferred by the Uniform Shared Services and Consolidation Act; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Laurel Springs authorizes the Mayor and Borough Clerk to execute all documents necessary to effect Shared Services Agreements for the Project SAVE Program for the term stated herein at no cost to the Borough.

- The motion to approve by Councilman Redstreak was seconded by Councilman Cruz, with Cruz, DiMarco, Riondino and Redstreak with none opposed and no abstentions.
- Resolved to pay \$45,322.18 from Current Fund and \$24,243.16 from the Trust/Capital Accounts. The motion by Councilman Redstreak, was seconded by Councilwoman DiMarco, with DiMarco, Riondino, DelPidio and Redstreak in favor, none opposed and no abstentions.

MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION/CORRESPONDENCES:

From Cannabis, NJLLC – letter of interest – Richard Croft was present. Mayor Barbera read his letter of interest, and he and Borough Council had questions. He was asked where in Atco he had chosen a location, to which he responded the building renovation site across from Atco Lake. He will be using the little building on that site for the retail and the larger building for storage. He said he has looked at sites in Laurel Springs. There was discussion of the old Weaver's Bar site, and reached out to the owner, but the owner is not interested. There was discussion of the Radiology building formerly Foster and Gross. There was discussion of the Bank building and that it is too big, part of it would have to be taken down. Mayor Barbera gave perspective of a Mayors' trip to Maryland. There was discussion of the bank property and the vault and security. Mr. Croft said he lives in Cedar Brook. There was discussion of the steps for permitting and understanding about whether a principal had to live in town or an adjoining town or just promote local employment, not necessarily living in the municipality. Recent recommendation does not require 50% ownership or employees from town or adjoining town. He will check out those requirements and there was discussion of the understanding that that it has changed slightly as regards local ownership. He said he has been a COA for 40 years and is employed at Title America as a real estate CFO. He will look again at the regulations. There was discussion of a letter of support from Council being part of the initial process. Councilman Riondino said he fills out an application to be reviewed by Borough Attorney, to be reviewed for the correct zone, as there is no limitation as far as numbers. He should submit a financial plan and business plan and share the license information and current letters from the State. There was discussion of people needing to be over 21 and discussion of traffic and congestion and the amount of traffic here as compared to Atco. Mayor Barbera mentioned that this is next municipality up the Pike that is allowing, which segued into a conversation about Clementon and that there have been some changes there. There was discussion of the allowed hours for operation, and large operations versus small ones and the difference between North Jersey and South Jersey and it not being so much in this area. There was discussion of his business model which involves a good website and while there would be the ability to come in, there would be a drive-through to give a sense of confidentiality and discourage people from lingering. Mr. Croft didn't think it was good to have people hanging around. He discussed his own security. There was discussion of long lines. There was discussion of changes in the State law and that Categories 5 and 6 are permitted in Laurel Springs and that delivery would also help lines. The next step is to find a location. Mr. Croft asked for property owner's information to be directed to him.

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Receipt of Bids – Professionals – Mayor Barbera reviewed the Receipt of Bids from Professional and pointed out one potential change in the Archer bid versus the Parker McCay bid. The professional is a contact from previous services. Borough Council reviewed the pricing for Archer which was substantially less. The actual appointment will occur at the Reorg meeting. The motion to recommend moving Bond Counsel services to Archer by Councilman Redstreak was seconded by Councilwoman DiMarco with Cruz, DiMarco, Riandino and Redstreak in favor none opposed and no abstentions.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Roy Kane – Park Avenue – pointed out a hole in the street on Tomlinson where a cover or cap is missing.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Saturday, December 3rd Winter Festival Downtown @6-9pm; Tree Lighting @Cord Mansion @7pm
- Wednesday, December 7th - Recreation Commission @7pm @Rec Center
- Monday, December 12th - Regular Council Meeting @ 7pm @Rec Center

ADJOURNMENT –There being no further business a motion was made by Councilman Redstreak to adjourn at 7:33 pm with all in favor and none opposed.

Respectfully submitted

Dawn T. Amadio, RMC, Municipal Clerk