



KINGWOOD TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

March 13, 2023 – 1:00 P.M.

Mayor Andrew Russano, Jr., called the special meeting of the Kingwood Township Committee to order on March 13, 2023 at 1:00 P.M. Mayor Russano announced that this meeting is called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act. Notice of this meeting was faxed to the Hunterdon County Democrat, Courier News, and the Trenton Times, was posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building and filed with the Township Clerk on March 9, 2023.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Russano led those in attendance in the pledge to the nation's flag.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Andrew Russano, Jr., Deputy Mayor Maureen Syrnick, Committeeman Lance Riggo, Acting Township Clerk Tiffany Crivelli, Deputy Clerk Michele Tipton-Walters, CFO Diane Laudenschach, Township Attorney James Moscagiuri, Open Space Chair Sandy McNicol, and Jacki Middleton – Hunterdon County Land Trust.

RESOLUTION #2023-37

Deputy Mayor Syrnick asked if everyone read and understood the Green Acres Agreement and understood the actions required if adopted.

Committeeman Riggo noted he had no concerns.

Mayor Russano stated he spoke with Open Space Coordinators and that this was done by many municipalities. Mayor Russano noted that no monies would be exchanged at this time, that it was only earmarked and that the Township does not have to use the funding.

Deputy Mayor Syrnick stated that the Township is required to adhere to all obligations for Green Acres as well as to update the Open Space and Recreation Master Plans which requires planner funding.

Committeeman Riggo stated that the Township has already committed in the past and he did not want to hold up Open Space from not getting funding.

A motion by Riggo, seconded by Syrnick to approve Resolution #2023-37 was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

Riggo: Yes; Syrnick: Yes; Russano: Yes

RESOLUTION NO. 2023 – 37

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY, DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
GREEN ACRES PROGRAM ENABLING RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Green Acres Program (“State”), provides loans and/or grants to municipal and county governments and grants to nonprofit organizations for assistance in the acquisition and development of lands for outdoor recreation and conservation purposes; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Kingwood has previously obtained a grant of \$3,989,000.00 from the State to fund the following project(s):

1016-00-077 – Open Space Plan; and

WHEREAS, the State and the Township of Kingwood intend to increase Green Acres funding by \$500,000.00; and

WHEREAS, the applicant is willing to use the State’s funds in accordance with its rules, regulations and applicable statutes, and is willing to enter into an Amendment of the Agreement with the State for the above-named project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee in the County of Hunterdon and State of New Jersey that:

1. The Mayor of Township of Kingwood is hereby authorized to execute an agreement and any amendment thereto with the State known as 1016-00-077 – Open Space Plan, and;
2. The applicant has its matching share of the project, if a match is required, in the amount of \$4,489,000.00.
3. In the event the State’s funds are less than the total project cost specified above, the applicant has the balance of funding necessary to complete the project, and;
4. The applicant agrees to comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations in its performance of the project.
5. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT – PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mayor Russano opened the floor to public comment.

Sandy McNicol, Open Space Chair, had questions and concerns on the submission of items required.

Hearing no other members of the public speak up, Mayor Russano closed the floor to public comment.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Riggio and seconded by Syrnick to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 1:19 PM.

Tiffany Crivelli, Acting Township Clerk

Andrew Russano, Jr., Mayor

Approved: