

August 28, 2012
Special Meeting

The Special Meeting of the Evesham Township Council was called to order by Mayor Brown at 7:00p.m. The meeting was held in the Meeting Room of the Evesham Township Municipal Complex at 984 Tuckerton Road, Marlton, NJ 08053.

Flag Salute.

Mayor Brown announced that the meeting was being held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act. Notice was sent to the The Central Record and The Burlington County Times, posted on the Bulletin Board and sent to those who requested notification.

ROLL CALL: Present: D'Andrea, Hackman, Zeuli, Mayor Brown
Absent: Croft
Also Present: Interim Township Manager Cromie, Township Solicitor Gillespie, Deputy Township Clerk Friddell, Recording Secretary Schmitt

WORK SESSION

Mayor Brown opened the work session by reviewing the bond history for the ISCC golf course, noting that bond payments are scheduled to increase in upcoming years.

Present Council does not want to add a significant amount of debt to the current budget nor do they want to raise taxes to make the bond payments. Consequently, Council needs to find a workable solution.

Mayor Brown asked Interim Township Manager Cromie to give an overview of the previous minimum bid amounts for the ISCC lease option. Interim Township Manager Cromie stated that the lease minimums were originally set at \$475,000 for food and beverage; \$375,000 for golf; and \$750,000 for a combined food, beverage, and golf bid.

Mayor Brown stated that the Township did not receive any bids that met the minimums and therefore, the Mayor suggested that Council reduce the minimums to \$400,000 for food and beverage; \$300,000 for golf; and \$690,000 for an all-inclusive food, beverage, and golf.

Mayor Brown further stated that the driving range has shown substantial gross revenue.

Councilwoman Hackman stated that she agrees with the numbers the Mayor proposes; however, she would like to see the \$690,000 minimum a little lower.

Councilman D'Andrea offered some background on the establishment of the country club stating that originally there was not a business plan established and the catering facility was built without thought given to income. He also stated that the reason for the current bid process is not a quality issue with the current vendors; it is a numbers issue for the township budget. Councilman D'Andrea is in agreement with the Mayor to reduce the current minimum lease numbers to a more business friendly approach.

Deputy Mayor Zeuli stated that Council needs to get the right entities operating ISCC to maximize monies for the township and to get the most value for the taxpayer.

Township Solicitor Gillespie said that some administrative issues need to be addressed with regard to the bid specifications; however, it would be possible to have the bid ready for advertisement this coming Friday. The bid documents would be faxed to anyone who previously showed interest. Receipt of bids would be set for September 18, 2012. A report could be generated for Council's review at the council meeting that evening.

There being no further comments, Mayor Brown requested a motion to amend the existing ISCC golf course lease option, adjusting the minimums.

On motion by Councilwoman Hackman, seconded by Deputy Mayor Zeuli it was moved to amend the existing ISCC golf course lease option to reflect changes in the minimum bid amounts to: \$300,000 for golf; \$400,000 for food and beverage; and \$675,000 for a combination of food, beverage, and golf.

Recorded Vote: Aye: D'Andrea, Hackman, Zeuli, Brown
 Nay: XXX
 Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 4-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ed Quinn of 6 Kenton Avenue addressed Council and stated that he has been in the golf business for many years and the numbers Council established are not realistic. He further stated that the fixed costs to run a facility of this kind are extremely high, and in this bad economy no vendor can afford the costs related to the equipment and utilities. He suggested that in order to do this a vendor would have to raise prices on the golf course, and if council wants legitimate bidders they would need to lower the minimum numbers.

On motion by Councilwoman Hackman, seconded by Deputy Mayor Zeuli, it was moved to adjourn the meeting.

Recorded Vote: AYE: All Ayes.
 NAY: XXX
 Abstain: XXX

Motion Carried 4-0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:36p.m.

Lori A. Friddell
 Lori Friddell, Deputy Township Clerk

Randy Brown
 Randy Brown, Mayor

Maggie Schmitt
 Maggie Schmitt, Recording Secretary

Submitted: September 7, 2012

Approved: September 18, 2012

