

**GLOUCESTER TOWNSHIP COUNCIL
JANUARY WORKSHOP
JANUARY 2, 2019**

PUBLIC PORTION:

Mr. Mercado opened the public portion.

Sam Sweet of Erial asked Council if the In-Rem Foreclosures being discussed tonight are the same as the township flipping homes. Mr. Carlamere stated IN-REM is a legal term referring to a township held tax certificate. Mr. Sweet asked what is happening with the township seizing abandoning property. Mr. Carlamere stated nothing has been completed to move forward with this.

Peter Heinbaugh of Morningstar Court asked what the status of the charitable donation ordinance is. Mr. Mercado stated there still has to be a seconded reading. Mr. Carlamere stated the ordinance was tabled, not tabled for the next meeting. This ordinance will sit on the table until a council member reactivates it. Mr. Heinbaugh asked if the township has a budget calendar, with certain due dates for things to be submitted to the state. Mr. Mercado stated yes, there is a certain timeline for budget related activities. Mr. Cardis stated the township follows what the State of New Jersey mandates statutorily.

Mr. Sweet asked if Council was aware of any municipalities that have enacted the charitable donation ordinance. Mr. Cardis stated that he is not aware of any others.

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

1. **DISCUSSION OF IN-REM FORECLOSURES** – Mr. Carlamere discussed the property in consideration of IN-REM foreclosure. Lower Landing LLC, is the property owner of two lots on Lower Landing road, lots 2 and 3. The owner made an offer to pay \$30,000 upfront as a down payment and then enter into an 18 month installment agreement to pay the balance. Mr. Carlamere stated that the statute permits the owner to enter into an installment agreement, but the taxes must remain current on the current year and going forward, or the property owner is in breach of the installment agreement and the property will be placed back on the foreclosure list. Mr. Carlamere stated the property owner needs Council’s approval to enter into this agreement. A straw poll was taken with all council members in agreement.

** Mr. Cardis stated that the township is required by the DEP to inventory the Basins and Outfalls throughout the township as part of an ongoing program. Mr. Cardis stated there are funds in the 2018 Capital budget under drainage to cover this. A straw poll was taken with all council members in agreement.

COUNCIL LIAISON REPORTS:

Mr. Mercado stated MLK Day is the 21st of January and asked Council members to make themselves available for the celebration. Mr. Mercado stated that he has a draft regarding the property for the Jehovah’s Witness Assembly Hall for Mr. Carlamere.