

WESTAMPTON TOWNSHIP

REGULAR MEETING

JANUARY 13, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 PM by Mayor Sidney Camp. Requirements of the Sunshine Law were read. This meeting was advertised in the Burlington County Times January 6, 2009. The flag was saluted and there was a moment of silence.

Roll Call:

Committeeman Adams	Present
Committeeman Daniels	Present
Committeeman Maybury	Present
Committeeman Robbins	Present
Mayor Camp	Present

Richard Rybak, Solicitor, was present.

Donna Ryan, Clerk/Administrator, was present.

Minutes of the December 9, 2008 meeting; closed session minutes of 8/12/08 through 12/9/08. Motion to accept by Mr. Adams, second by Mr. Daniels. All voted yes.

Scheduled Appointments

7:30 P.M. Personnel

Old Business

Beazer Homes – traffic letter from State – the Township is trying to enforce the traffic conditions there, there is a memo from the solicitor as to the new law. This matter will be held over until the next meeting. Donna Ryan would like to continue this. Mr. Robbins asked for clarification regarding enforcement of Title 39. Donna Ryan would take care of this.

Wawa – letter from LDB Solicitor Fred Hardt – Wawa is reconsidering constructing the improvements

Timbuctoo – letter from David Orr, Temple University – he would like to schedule a meeting with the Committee, Donna Ryan had written but has not heard back yet.

New Business

1. Appoint Linda Robbins to fill EAC term ending 12/09 – motion to approve by Mr. Daniels, second by Mr. Adams. All voted yes, Mr. Robbins abstained.

2. FEMA Grant Award – EMS/Fire – this grant was part of the Assistance to Fire Fighters Program. Our EMS/Fire Department was awarded 23 sets of turnout gear for the fire fighters. This is a nice grant; the gear was very much needed. We have budgeted for our portion of the gear.

3. NJLM – Stimulus Package Survey – the Burlington County Bridge Commission will apply for grants, we have projects ready for discussion and will meet with the engineer on Friday to discuss these. We hope to get some money and take advantage of it. There was a meeting with the engineer, the re surfacing of Holly Lane was discussed; may apply for a grant to pave Church Street.

4. Bridge Commission – grants

5. American Water rate increase – Mr. Adams had attended the meeting on the 8th, he protested any rate increase, especially for the seniors.

Resolutions

15-09 Payment of Vouchers – motion to approve by Mr. Adams; seconded by Mr. Robbins. All voted yes. Mr. Robbins asked about an item on page 1 (third line item); he asked what a retirement shadow box was, it is for the Chief's retirement, it is similar to a plaque. He asked what the Verizon Wireless equipment upgrade was; the phones for the Police were replaced. He asked about the EMS bill and if the item was competitively bid for. He asked if we have a policy, there isn't, we use the State contracts guidelines. Every department always compares prices to make sure we get the best deal. Mr. Robbins questioned the Home Depot bills and who was authorized to make purchases and how the process works. There are three credit cards. Mike Meenan, EMS Captain Wiley Johnson and Donna Ryan have cards. Bob Hudnell, CFO goes over the bills. There is a detailed list of the charges she could present if desired. He asked that this area be specifically reviewed during our next external audit. He asked if the amount for retirement was a contractually necessary amount, Donna Ryan answered that it was.

16-09 Interlocal Agreement with Hainesport for Municipal Court – motion to approve by Mr. Daniels; seconded by Mr. Maybury. All voted yes. Mr. Robbins asked for a general summary from the Mayor regarding costs and savings realized by Westampton Township. Virtually any ticket written in Hainesport will be a profit to the Township. Our staff can more than handle the increased volume. Our normal amount of tickets has dropped due to a reduction in ticket writing by the State Police, we feel that we can absorb the additional volume. Separate books will be kept. The projection as to amount of profit is approximately one hundred thousand dollars.

17-09 Bond Release, Phillips & Cohen – motion to approve by Mr. Robbins; seconded by Mr. Daniels. All voted yes.

18-09 Club Liquor License, Crescent Temple Shrine – motion to approve by Mr. Adams; seconded by Mr. Maybury. All voted yes.

19-09 Bond Release, Car Sense – motion to approve by Mr. Adams; seconded by Mr. Daniels. All voted yes.

20-09 Transfer of Appropriation Reserves – motion to approve by Mr. Adams; seconded by Mr. Robbins. All voted yes.

21-09 Exclusion of Public from Public Meeting – motion to approve by Mr. Maybury; seconded by Mr. Daniels. All voted yes.

Ordinances

None

Correspondence

1. Family Services Grant – this may help us, especially regarding COAH requirements
2. American Water Hearing – Harry Adams had protested any rate increase at the hearing on the Township's behalf
3. Burlington County – Solid Waste/Recycling – Marion Karp gave the Committee an update on the paper/cardboard carts that had recently been distributed to a section of the Township.
4. Westampton School Thank You – letter from Dr. Hamilton thanking us for our participation at the Senior Dinner

Workshop Items

Rancocas Community Center – can we set a date that we will address this so it can come off of the agenda? Norm Miller and Donna Ryan would get together and come up with a date.

Vehicle Washing – this is still on the agenda because it is coming up. Mr. Maybury will meet with Mike Meenan of Public Works shortly to give him a tour, should be set in less than 60 days. Waiting for a final approval from executive director of the MUA. Donna would call; it might help move things along.

HPC – would like for Vince Robbins to be involved in this, there is a vacancy, the Committee needs to make an appointment.

Dates to remember

2009 Budget Meetings – the first meeting will be on January 21st at 6 PM, the second will be held on January 28. The meetings are open to the public.

Steve Van Sciver's retirement party – January 16, 2009 at Charlie's Other Brother restaurant.

Comments

Acting Police Chief Rick Smith – Patrolman Andrew Brewer was hospitalized, he had some internal bleeding, was in ICU for a while. He is out of the hospital now but not yet back to work. The Committee asked that their best wishes be sent to Patrolman Brewer.

Fire Captain Wiley Johnson - things are going well, he looks forward to sitting down with CFO Bob Hudnell and bringing him up to speed.

Mayor Camp – welcomed Mike Meenan. Mike stated that this is a transition period, things are going well, there are no problems. The Public Works Department has spread salt and sand three times since December 21st.

Mr. Adams – the less they have to go out the better. He had a call from Bill Haines regarding the development rights on the DeNofa farm.

Mr. Robbins – congratulated Mr. Daniels on his receiving an award, he had to leave the Board of Education to serve on the Township Committee. The Board of Education has two public comment periods during their meetings; he would urge the Committee to adopt the same procedure. The Board of Education is moving to a paperless process with some of their communications, we should look at this as well. He encourages consolidation and shared services in order to reduce administrative costs. In the search for the new superintendent, he recommends that a representative from the Township Committee participate. He is also the liaison for the RVRHS board but unfortunately their meetings are held the same evening as our Township meetings, however, he communicates with Mike Cormier who sits on both Boards.

Mr. Daniels – is planning on attending the Westampton Recreation meeting tomorrow evening. He thanked the Committee for appointing him as the Veterans Affairs liaison. He had attended a work session in Willingboro relative to the mortgage crisis, perhaps we could partner with them next time.

Solicitor Richard Rybak – thank you for the opportunity to let him and his firm represent the Township.

Mr. Maybury – will be the liaison for the senior citizens, and will meet with Allie Stanford the first Wednesday of each month. He needs to set up a schedule with Fire Captain Wiley Johnson.

At this point the meeting was opened to the public for comment.

Comments From the Public

Allie Stanford – everyone is off to a great start; she likes how they are conducting the meetings. She wants a list of all paid employees of the Township and their salaries. Mayor Camp is attending tomorrow's Recreation meeting, after that; they will make the appointment, since there is a vacant seat. Ms. Stanford sends \$100 each year to the Fire/EMS; she thinks it is appropriate

that they acknowledge the donations that are sent. Captain Wiley Johnson says they post a thank you on the fire house sign and on their website. She hopes that all Westampton residents are informed about what is going on at the Rancocas Community Center. It will be a public meeting, open to all concerned.

Norm Miller – asked about the development of a plan to further what is going on at the Recreation Complex. There is a plan; it is available in the Municipal Building.

Mayor Camp – would like to have site or development plans available at the Township meetings for all interested residents.

Janet Curran – there will be a lot of work this year. She feels some of the issues were kind of rushed and a done deal. She wishes the Committee the best in working together. The Westampton Historical Society meets the 3rd Wednesday of the month. She has many articles on Timbuctoo from the people who lived there; she invites Mr. Orr to come to the meeting.

Mayor Camp – got a phone call from the mayor of Mount Holly. They have an interest in participating in the Timbuctoo project as well; a church in Mt. Holly deeded the ground for the cemetery.

Dave Guerrero – commented regarding the proposed one year moratorium on development fees.

Tom DiOrio – asked if there is anything relating to environmental issues in the Bridge Commission grants. Donna Ryan would check on it. He likes the idea of a second open public comment period during the Township meetings, as well as the efforts being made to being good financial stewards of the Township and efforts being made towards the preservation of open space.

Since there were no further comments, public comment was closed.

Mayor Camp – he and Mr. Daniels went to Washington, DC to participate in the swearing in of US Congressman John Adler, they met the new Chief of Staff to our next president and chatted with Senator Menendez. It was an interesting and worthwhile trip. The Committee met with the Township employees to introduce themselves, discuss the budget, and asked employees to participate with cost saving measures. He will attend a conference of Mayors in Trenton tomorrow morning sponsored by the League of Municipalities. Everyone is interested in our shared services with Hainesport court. We are taking the opportunity to lead the charge with shared services.

There were no further comments and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Marion Karp, Deputy Clerk