

WESTAMPTON TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING
7:00 PM Closed Session 8:00 PM Regular Meeting

November 10, 2009

The regular 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 on 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, and Marion Karp, Deputy Clerk, were present.

The flag was saluted. There was a moment of silence.

Mr. Daniels asked if everyone would consider the Veterans that were lost at Ford Hood last week during the moment of silence.

Minutes of the October 13, 2009 meeting. Motion to accept by Mr. Adams; seconded by Mr. Robbins. All voted yes. Minutes of the October 27, 2009 meeting. Mr. Robbins asked that his comments made regarding the visioning plan could be expanded in the minutes. He would also like Tom DiOrio's comments added to the minutes. Mr. Daniels stated that he had met with the Census representatives along with the Mayor, and that he is hoping the Township achieves a 10,001 count in the next Census. Motion to accept as corrected by Mr. Daniels, second by Mr. Robbins. All voted yes, Mr. Maybury abstained. Closed Session minutes of October 27, 2009. Motion to accept by Mr. Daniels; second by Mr. Robbins. All voted yes, Mr. Maybury abstained.

Open Meeting to Public for Comment on Agenda Items

Norm Miller – asked about the properties to be acquired in the ordinances; one parcel is adjacent to Spring Meadows, one is land behind Dunkin Donuts and Walgreens and the last is a small triangle of land on Hancock Lane near Burlington Township. He asked how loitering would be dealt with if we repealed the ordinance. Solicitor Rich Rybak explained that loitering is not considered a crime under State statute.

Janet Curran – there was a miscommunication regarding the agenda, there would be more residents present if they knew the traffic issue was on the agenda.

Tom DiOrio – asked how long it would take for the money to become available for the preservation of Fernwood Springs Farm. Donna would submit the applications in December, we would hear sometime in the spring. This is a different procedure since it involves farmland and development rights and she needs to learn how to go about it; she is hopeful that by early spring we should know.

Old Business

Timbuctoo – working on having a presentation done on December 8th at 7 PM.

Purchase of Sharpless Farm – this is in the purchaser's attorney's hands, according to Rich Rybak

New Business

Appointment to EAC Committee (alternate) – Glen Smith. Motion to appoint was made by Mr. Robbins; seconded by Mr. Maybury. All voted yes. The term ends 12/09.

Rancocas Village, Main Street traffic problems. The Committee received a letter from the Civic Association. Norm Miller, on behalf of the association, explained that they have felt for a long time that they as residents have to do something about the speeders that pass through town. It seems to be difficult to get police cars down there on a regular basis. The police need to be there between 6:30 AM and 8:00 AM during rush hour; the same thing happens late in the afternoon, from 4 PM to 6 PM. Something needs to be done. They have looked into getting a speed indicator sign, even discussed purchasing one with a camera.

Preston McGiboney – stated that it is not just Main Street, but also involves the side streets. Sooner or later a child will be killed. They have suggested stop signs and speed humps, but have been told these are illegal. He doesn't understand why other Townships use them if they are illegal. He asks that the Township do something to help them.

Nancy Burkley – people are coming out of East Stokes Road and turning left. She would like to see a traffic light by East Gate and Beneficial Bank so that the cars could turn here and not have to zoom through town.

Lisa Baker – lives on East Stokes Road; it is unbelievable the way people speed through town and make illegal left hand turns from East Stokes Road onto Main Street. She is afraid of being hit by a car. The bad times are in the morning and later in the afternoon, unfortunately, the police aren't there at those times.

Cindy Schmidtner – lives on Bridge Street, there are no fences at the Friends School, she is worried about the children playing on the playground and the cars speeding just a few feet away.

Harry Bell – his child was hit by a car years ago; now there are many children in town. It is like a race course on Bridge Street, the worst offenders are the commercial drivers. It is a matter of time until someone is injured.

Gary Jacques – wants to thank the police for what they have been doing; they are writing tickets there. They have the flashing speed signs in Cape May and say that they work; he thinks they would be a really great first step to try. He would like the Committee to consider these and the Civic Association would like to contribute money towards these signs.

Preston McGiboney – they are willing to fork over some of the cost to help solve this problem. Please consider these signs as a possible addition.

Mayor Camp – speed bumps hinder snow removal, they slow police response, there is also a noise factor. Mt. Holly's speed bumps are in a commercial area, not residential.

Preston McGiboney – Haddonfield has them in a residential area; he is willing to sacrifice his peace and quiet for the speed bumps.

Mayor Camp – asked if our sign reads the speed of an oncoming car. Chief Rick Smith stated that it does do this.

George Stevenson – asked if cameras are legal in conjunction with these signs. Chief Smith stated they are not legal in NJ. He commented that Westampton officers do concentrate on Main Street. They have many complaints for speeding on various Township streets. They do what they can, they are always very busy. They are currently looking at installation of a pedestrian walkway near the Post Office.

George Stevenson – thinks well marked cross walks are a good idea at several locations in town. He thinks they may naturally control the speed of cars since they would have to slow down.

Chief Smith – it is a quick fix but he thinks it will have only a minor effect.

Norm Miller – thought about installing four way stop signs at Bridge and Second and Main and Olive Streets.

Nora Dunfee – has spent most of her life on Main Street. At one time the crosswalk did have a few lines on it and was effective. She wondered if it would be possible to have crosswalks installed along with pedestrian signage.

Mayor Camp – Donna would look into pricing out some of these signs. The Chief will make sure there are more patrols over there during busier times of the day. He thinks the pedestrian crossings are a good start; we would mark out and stripe three of them. The engineer would be part of the process to make sure it is done the right way.

Harriet Miller - asked if the bus stops could be changed back to their former locations. They would contact Debi Baker at the Board of Education, who does the bussing schedules.

Mr. Robbins – would like to engage the engineer now to make sure we go about this in the correct manner. He would like all options explored and wants to develop a comprehensive plan.

Vicky Stevenson – she appreciates the Committee’s efforts. This is a significant problem. The Township could gain some revenue by writing tickets. Any help is greatly appreciated.

The Township will contact the Civic Association after hearing from the engineer.

Proclamation – World Diabetes Day. Motion made by Mr. Daniels; seconded by Mr. Robbins. All voted yes.

Bingo License #1-2010 (Crescent Temple Shrine) - bingo will take place weekly though out the year. Motion to approve by Mr. Adams; seconded by Mr. Robbins. All voted yes.

Raffle License #1-2010 (Crescent Temple Shrine) - raffles would take place on a daily basis through out the year. Motion to approve by Mr. Robbins; seconded by Mr. Daniels.

Proclamation – Organ and Tissue Donation. Mr. Daniels asked for the preparation of this proclamation. Next week is the NJLM convention and one of the workshop sessions under health is on organ and tissue donation. He is a recipient of a kidney in 2002. Motion to approve by Mr. Robbins; seconded by Mr. Maybury. All voted yes.

Proclamation – Veteran’s Day. Mr. Daniels asked for this to be prepared; Happy Birthday to the US Marine Corps. He thinks that since tomorrow is Veteran's Day that this is most appropriate. Motion to approve by Mr. Daniels; seconded by Mr. Adams. All voted yes.

Resolutions

151-09 Payment of Vouchers – motion to approve by Mr. Robbins; seconded by Mr. Maybury. All voted yes. Mr. Robbins asked if the health and dental payments on this bill list are yearly or monthly. They are monthly payments. He questioned a COAH payment, it is a payment to our Court Master, we are obligated to pay this.

152-09 Acquisition of Auto Cart Containers, 2009, Round 2 – motion to approve by Mr. Adams; seconded by Mr. Robbins. All voted yes.

153-09 Chapter 159, HAVA Funding for Handicapped Accessibility – motion to approve by Mr. Daniels; seconded by Mr. Robbins. All voted yes.

154-09 Executive Session – to discuss contracts; motion to approve by Mr. Maybury; seconded by Mr. Robbins. All voted yes.

Ordinances

14-2009 Amend Chapter 250, Zoning, The Code of the Township of Westampton – second reading. Motion to approve by Mr. Daniels; second by Mr. Robbins. All voted yes. This was opened to the public for comment; no comment was made.

16-2009 Authorize Emergency Appropriation for Tax Map Update for Tax Revaluation – first reading. Motion to approve by Mr. Maybury; second by Mr. Daniels. All voted yes. Mr. Robbins asked why we have to do this; it was ordered by the County. The second cost will be over \$350,000 and we will pay for this over a number of years.

17-2009 Authorize Acquisition of Block 203, Lot 4, first reading. Motion to approve by Mr. Maybury; second by Mr. Robbins.

18-2009 Authorize Acquisition of Block 401, Lot 2, Block 401, Lot 8 & Block 903, Lot 1 – first reading. Motion to approve by Mr. Daniels; second by Mr. Robbins. All voted yes.

19-2009 Repeal Chapter 158 of the Code of the Township of Westampton – first reading. Motion to approve by Mr. Robbins; second by Mr. Maybury. All voted yes.

Correspondence

Comcast – Ordinance Granting Municipal Consent. The Township was in receipt of a letter from Comcast stating that the process has started. We should receive money in twelve months.

Workshop Items

1. Fernwood Springs Farm – beginning work on this
2. Tarnsfield Pool Lease – still waiting for dates. Mr. Daniels and Mr. Robbins would be coming up with some possible meeting dates; they would get them to Donna.

Dates to remember

Senior Citizen's Holiday Dinner 12/9/09 5:30 PM
AmVets Spaghetti Dinner, November 14, 2009 Rancocas Firehouse
Westampton Township's Annual Rabies Clinic – November 21, 2009 9-11 AM
Veteran's Day - November 11, 2009
November 14 – Foreclosure Workshop, Burlington County Library
December 19 – Westampton Township's Annual Fire Department's Santa Run

Comments from the Liaisons

John Augustino – we are approaching the winter heating season, get your heater cleaned and chimney checked.

Fire Chief Wylie Johnson – our Fire/EMS Department will be the primary responders to accidents on the southbound Turnpike from Exit 5 to Exit 4 and northbound from Exit 5 to Exit 6. They will be paid; it could turn out to be very lucrative. Everyone who is interested has been able to get their H1N1 flu shots.

Police Chief Rick Smith – we have an arrangement with Willingboro to cover our Animal Control. It will be free until December 1st, after that, we will be paying them.

Mayor Camp – we will be sending our police overtime bill to the County the next time they have a flu clinic. Two officers were called out there the last time the County held a clinic. He advised the Chief to send the bill to the attention of Maryanne Reinhart.

Mr. Adams – thank you to the Veterans for their services.

Mr. Daniels – asked if there is a breakfast at the American Legion tomorrow. There will be, according to Mr. Adams, to be held at 9:00 AM. The Burlington County Community College is having a ceremony to talk about plans to build a Veteran’s memorial. ALS is now a service connected injury, as is Parkinson’s disease. He talked about possibly hosting a regional meeting here in the building, Connors and Adler would be present.

The last Recreation meeting was October 21, they discussed background checks for coaches, Eastampton has adopted an ordinance, this is something that we need to do. Donna met with Patrick Byrne, the manager of TD Bank yesterday; they discussed forming a business association in the Township. He would like to create an office of constituent affairs, he would volunteer to staff an office for a few hours a week to take questions from the public.

The meeting was opened to the public for comment.

Tom DiOrio- congratulated Mr. Camp and Mr. Maybury on their re election. He thinks our municipal election was one of the most vicious and negative campaigns he has seen as far as personal attacks. He gave copies of DVDs to the Committee called the 11th Hour which relates to environmental issues and how everything impacts the environment.

Nancy Burkley – she had to call the Fire Department when she had a problem with her furnace. We have a wonderful group of firemen, they put her at ease.

Janet Curran – all of our departments provide services to the County buildings. The Thanksgiving baskets will be ready on Monday Nov. 23rd for distribution to needy families.

There being no further comment, the meeting was now closed for public comment.

Mayor Camp – thinks this was the most negative campaign he has been involved in. He never went negative with any campaign he has run, it saddened him to go door to door and tell people that the things written about him were untrue. He hopes that in the future that we will treat each other with respect, talk about the issues and remain focused. He is looking forward to the next three years. We had Visioning workshops all day on Nov. 4, the plan is moving forward. The next step is to come back with their recommendations, which will happen probably sometime in January. He thanked the Veterans and all active duty military.

There were no further comments and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Marion Karp, Deputy Clerk

