

WESTAMPTON TOWNSHIP

7:00 PM CLOSED SESSION REGULAR MEETING 8:00 PM

MARCH 9, 2010

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, 2010. The flag was saluted and there was a moment of silence.

Roll Call:

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

George Saponaro, Solicitor, was present.

Donna Ryan, Clerk/Administrator, and Marion Karp, Deputy Clerk were present.

Minutes of the February 23, 2010 meeting. Motion to accept by Mr. Robbins, second by Mr. Adams. All voted yes.

Scheduled Appointments

None

Comments on agenda items

None

Old Business

Rancocas Village traffic – waiting for report from our engineer

New Business

Dedication of Ikea Drive and Stemmers Lane – the Township received a letter from Mike Dolan requesting the dedication. Donna has a lot of research to do on this before a decision can be made, as she gets the information she would give it to the Committee; she wanted them to see his request.

Burl. Co. Alliance for Action Meeting – will take place on 3/19/10 at 8:15 AM

Proclamation – American Red Cross Month

Appoint Bob Stover to the EAC - a motion to appoint was made by Mr. Robbins; seconded by Mr. Maybury. All voted yes.

Ordinances

None

Resolutions

35-10 Payment of Vouchers – motion to approve by Mr. Adams; seconded by Mr. Maybury. All voted yes. Mr. Robbins asked about a bill on the list. This was needed to get Steve Ent trained, we couldn't do the training ourselves according to Fire Chief Wylie Johnson. He asked about an EMS fire alarm monitoring service bill and wanted to know what this was for (AFA Protective Services Systems). There is an alarm system installed in the firehouse, this is for a private monitoring service and is a yearly amount.

36-10 Bond Release, Beazer Homes, Deerwood Country Club, Section T-4 – motion to approve by Mr. Robbins; seconded by Mr. Adams. All voted yes.

37-10 Transfer of Appropriation Reserves – motion to approve by Mr. Robbins; seconded by Mr. Adams. All voted yes.

38-10 Bond Release, Jefferson St. Partners (Academy Bus), Phase II Site Plan – motion to approve by Mr. Adams; seconded by Mr. Robbins. All voted yes.

39-10 Green Acres Enabling Resolution – motion to approve by Mr. Robbins; seconded by Mr. Adams. All voted yes.

40-10 Executive Session – for discussion of contracts and litigation. Motion to approve by Mr. Adams; seconded by Mr. Robbins. All voted yes.

Correspondence

None

Dates to remember

March 13 - daylight savings time; change your smoke detector batteries

Comments

John Augustino – there have been some multiple fatalities involving fire; the economy is affecting this; in some areas more than one family is occupying a home.

Solicitor George Saponaro – ordinances are being prepared. Separation of church and state dictates the reason why there is no prayer period during Township meetings, but instead, a moment of silence.

Sean McGough – there was a death in Chief Smith’s family; he could not attend the meeting this evening.

Mr. Maybury – John Adler will be here at the Municipal building on March 20 for a tax forum.

Mr. Robbins – the Committee continues to work on the budget, it is not easy. They appreciate the comments of the public. We are waiting to see what the State is going to do; they are still struggling to close the gap in the budget. More discussion will take place next week; they are working as fast as they can but not rushing through it.

Mr. Adams – echoes Mr. Robbin's statements about the budget. It is an ongoing process; we waiting for the County as well as the State.

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

Norm Miller – thanked the Committee for the EAC appointment; there was some question as to whether he would be a regular member or an alternate member. Donna would check on this and get back to him. He asked if the budget deficit is still around a million dollars; the Committee answered that it was. He asked if they were considering layoffs. He thinks that head count needs to be reduced and that it needs to be done across the board since this is a problem that will recur, it won’t just happen this year. He doesn’t think no layoffs are a reality.

Janet Curran – asked if the Committee's final decision will be made next week on the budget. She would not like to see anyone get laid off; she hopes each department can come together and make cuts. She does not want to see our police officers laid off.

Mayor Camp – complemented Donna with her efforts, the deficit has been reduced from \$1.7 million to 1 million by her work.

The Mayor had attended a Freeholder’s meeting where they were voting on having Westampton classified as a recovery zone.

Ms. Curran asked when opening day would be for the Westampton Sports Complex. The fields will be used for baseball and soccer this spring. Games will start there in approximately two weeks. All fields are ready; there will be football played there in the fall.

Jim Lutz – echoes what Norm Miller said about the budget. Steps should have been taken last year to guard the surplus; 15 cents is the largest tax hike every proposed in the history of the Township. Their affection for the township employees should not outweigh their concern for the Township residents.

Dave Barger – thanked Harry Adams for his years as liaison to the Historic Commission; and thanked Mr. Robbins for stepping up and volunteering for the Commission this year. He has several issues he hopes to resolve this year. He would like to appoint an alternate member to the Commission; it is the last position that needs to be filled in order to comply with the ordinance. He wants to start the process of revising the existing ordinance. They would like to expand the historic district as he feels there are other historically sensitive areas of the Township.

Mayor Camp asked if a member of the Commission would have to live within Rancocas Village; Dave thinks that they do not have to; at least one member does, according to the ordinance.

Dave Barger would like to increase the buffer zone from 500 feet to two thousand feet. Lastly, he wanted to address enforcement of the ordinance. He hoped to establish a workshop session. Names of people to consider for alternate would be submitted to the Committee.

Ms. Curran would like someone from the Recreation Committee to be at the next Committee meeting to explain what is going on at the Sports Complex.

Mayor Camp -went to Mt. Laurel's meeting where our Fire Department received a proclamation for an accident that occurred on the NJ Turnpike; he was honored for the acknowledgement of our Department. Our March 23 meeting will be back in the meeting room, for that one meeting only, due to a scheduling conflict in the court room. We are diligently working on the budget process, the Committee does not take any of it lightly; there is some agreement and some disagreement amongst them. They hope to have first reading of the budget on March 23rd.

There were no further comments and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Marion Karp, Deputy Clerk