

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

May 26, 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, and Marion Karp, Deputy Clerk, were present.

The Committee had met at 7:00 PM for closed session to discuss litigation and contracts.

All guests were welcomed. The flag was saluted. There was a moment of silence.

Minutes of the May 12, 2009 meeting. Closed Session minutes of May 12, 2009. Motion to approve the regular minutes by Mr. Daniels, second by Mr. Robbins. All voted yes. Mr. Robbins wanted some comments added to the minutes. When approving the ordinances at the last meeting, he asked if the amounts specified are in the budget and are consistent with the labor contracts. These comments would be added. Motion to approve the closed session minutes by Mr. Daniels, second by Mr. Maybury. All voted yes.

**Open Meeting to Public for Comment on Agenda Items**

Janet Curran – Timbuctoo was a beautiful event; the weather was awesome. She thanked everyone for helping bring it all together. It was a big success and a beautiful affair. Mrs. Wright was there in attendance, it was a tough day for her, it was just a year since she lost Mr. Wright.

**Old Business**

Beazer Homes – Rich Rybak made an attempt to contact Beazer's attorney, without success. Donna spoke with their construction manager late on Thursday afternoon; he will go through each punch list item with Donna and Gene and our engineer, they are

ready to move and get on maintenance bond. They don't want the bonds foreclosed on. They will pay for both Dave Denton and our new engineer, CME to attend the meeting. Mr. Robbins suggests developing an internal timeline, perhaps two weeks, in case this is just a stalling tactic. Donna would provide an update and timetable by the end of June to the Committee.

Timbuctoo – comments would be made later in the meeting.

Rancocas Community Center – the Committee has decided not to pursue the sale to the Westampton Historical Society but will pursue a long term lease. Mr. Maybury made a motion to approve, seconded by Mr. Adams. Mr. Daniels and Mr. Robbins voted no, Mr. Adams, Mr. Maybury and Mayor Camp voted yes.

Cable Franchise – Public Hearing @ 7:00 PM on July 14, 2009 – Solicitor Rybak spoke with James Malin at Comcast about the possibility of renewing both at the same time, a two for one. Comcast prefers to do them one at a time for legal reasons, after discussing it with their accounting department.

### **New Business**

Westampton Township Municipal Court Report – Mr. Daniels asked if the figure represented our net gain/profit margin. It is just revenue, the expenses have not been deducted as of yet. This figure will be forthcoming.

Hainesport & Eastampton Township Municipal Court Reports – the report contains figures for only Hainesport Court this month.

Public Works Report – Mike Meenan has an employee out for two weeks, who is having surgery. There are no other problems in the department. He had a discussion with Lighting Science Group; they made the suggestion that Mike visit the facility and take a tour. Mayor Camp would like the entire Committee to attend if possible. Mike will be attending a solar energy seminar from 10 AM – 12:00 noon on Friday at the Adventure Aquarium. Mr. Daniels commented that there will be a solar panel array demonstration coming up soon; he would get this information to Mike shortly in case he wanted to attend. Mr. Daniels asked Mayor Camp if we were talking with the schools as it relates to renewable energy; if so, he would like to participate in this. Mr. Maybury asked about the pole barn being put up; it is primarily for equipment storage. He asked if we are getting the most efficient heating/cooling units, and if we had an energy audit. Mike stated that we haven't had the audit done yet, we don't even know if it is feasible to cut down from two units at this point to one unit. He is talking with different people at this time. Mr. Daniels asked when chipping would resume; it would begin again on Monday.

Fire Prevention Report – everything has been going smoothly; the Knox Box system has taken off, they have about 25 applications waiting for approval. John Augustino is working on a system for multi tenant places such as shopping centers.

Raffle License #8-2009 (Westampton Historical Society; 12/12/09) – motion to approve by Mr. Adams; seconded by Mr. Daniels. All voted yes.

Police Report – Tony Marino’s retirement is effective June 1<sup>st</sup>. Mr. Maybury wanted an update on the resource officer for 2009-2010. Mayor Camp asked if the Class II candidates could come before the Committee for interviews. They could do the interviews on June 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM. He asked for an update on the incident that took place behind the Wawa. Mr. Daniels commented that he wasn’t here for the March 10 meeting where we honored the officers, but he did attend the Procops event. Detective Rogers and Officer Welthy are a point of pride. They are shining examples of what police departments should be. Mr. Maybury asked about Megan’s Law registration. He asked what the SLEO background investigations are; they are for the Class II officers.

EMS Report – Chief Wylie Johnson explained that they put in for a local grant as well as a regional grant proposal. Seven towns participated in the regional grant; it is an RF tag technology that scans in order to provide tracking of fire fighters. If it is awarded, it is pretty cutting edge for Burlington County. Included are the five RV towns and Willingboro and Mt. Laurel. They are in the process of developing a kid's safety camp which will include fire safety, safety and awareness. They want to influence the kids while they are younger, and could possibly build their volunteer base for the future for in town. He is working on this with Lt. Otto.

Mr. Daniels – asked in the event of an emergency, does the Township have a telephone tree. Donna Ryan carries the numbers with her; she also has them at home. He commended the Fire Dept. on their training efforts. Mr. Maybury noticed they have four new volunteers; we have about 56 total volunteers at this point. Some will be weeded out due to inactivity; the numbers will probably remain around 50 members.

Appoint Patrolman Deon McCall as permanent – Mr. Robbins asked if there is a formal written evaluation process; Police Chief Smith stated there is not for the 6 month probationary period, this is by ordinance. Mayor Camp asked when Patrolman McCall started with the department, it was in October for full time, however, he started in June, part time. Mr. Daniels made a motion to approve; it was seconded by Mr. Adams. All voted yes.

## **Resolutions**

88-09 Payment of Vouchers – motion to approve by Mr. Robbins; seconded by Mr. Adams. All voted yes. Mr. Robbins – on page 7 the item listed as a Recreation Trust Fund item appropriation, he asked what it was. It is for twelve thousand dollars and is a salary. On page 11, this month we are approving bills that total about \$13,700 for the Recreation Trust Fund. They are pre approved. Mayor Camp – on page 8, he wanted to know what the 2009 budget appropriation figure was. Donna explained it is the down payment for the bond ordinance that was recently passed. As far as the reimbursement for the current fund; this is our debt service, notes that we have, payment of principle

and interest. Mr. Maybury asked what the overhead door service is; it is the weather stripping that was added.

89-09 Receive Bids for Improvements to Lancaster Drive – motion to approve by Mr. Robbins; seconded by Mr. Adams. All voted yes. Mr. Robbins asked if this was budgeted, it has been. The original grant amount was for \$150,000.

90-09 Executive Session - motion to approve by Mr. Daniels; seconded by Mr. Robbins. All voted yes.

### **Ordinances**

6-2009 Salary Ordinance for Township Employees, second reading. Motion to approve by Mr. Robbins; seconded by Mr. Daniels. All voted yes. This was opened to the public for comment. There was no public comment.

7-2009 Salary Ordinance for Full Time EMT/Firefighters, second reading. Motion to approve by Mr. Robbins; seconded by Adams. All voted yes. This was opened to the public for comment. There was no public comment.

8-2009 Salary Ordinance for Police Officers, second reading. Motion to approve by Mr. Robbins; seconded by Mr. Daniels. All voted yes. This was opened to the public for comment. There was no public comment.

9-2009 Salary Ordinance for Chief of Police & Lieutenant, second reading. Motion to approve by Daniels; seconded by Mr. Maybury. All voted yes. This was opened to the public for comment. There was no public comment.

### **Correspondence**

1. Mt. Holly Municipal Utilities Authority – Notice of Public Hearing (rate increase) – this is for new connections only. Mr. Robbins asked what the percentage of increase was, Donna would find out.

### **Workshop Items**

1. Fernwood Springs Farm – no update

2. Project Freedom – Mayor Camp visited the Robbinsville location last Friday; the project is about 20 years old. He will visit a newer location as well. Mr. Daniels asked if these visits would this be conducted individually because he would like to go as well. Mr. Adams asked Mayor Camp what he thought of it. It was well maintained, surrounded by newer townhouses that were built up around it.

3. Environmental Resource Inventory – there is no update on this, Donna hasn't heard yet

## **Dates to remember**

Cable Franchise – Public Hearing @ 7:00 PM on 7/14/09

## **Comments**

Fire Chief Wylie Johnson – volunteers did their fund drive this weekend; the bulk of funds will go towards updating/renovations at the station; also towards the awards dinner.

Police Chief Rick Smith – Tony Marino's retirement dinner is being held June 5th at the FOP Hall; there are still tickets available.

Mr. Daniels – asked if the Township was doing anything in recognition. There is a shadowbox ordered and his retirement badge.

Donna – will be away next Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday for a JIF conference.

Mr. Daniels – next year we will celebrate our 160<sup>th</sup> year; perhaps at next year's Westampton Day we could put together some sort of a timeline in conjunction with the Historical Society. He attended the Recreation Committee meeting – the boy scouts and cub scouts attended and presented the charters to the Committee. Rich Coleman, president of the Rancocas Valley Chiefs football, came before the Committee; they expressed interest in having our Sports Complex as their home fields. He thought the event at Timbuctoo was great; all came together to memorialize the commitment and participation and sacrifices made by the soldiers in the Civil War. The ceremony was wonderful; the bus service worked well. We might consider placing a port a pot out at the site for next year's ceremony. The Memorial Day ceremony yesterday was well attended; the American Legion and Am Vets sponsored. He attended the Burl. Co. Shared Services Forum today.

Mr. Maybury – we had KSK at our last meeting with Mr. Robbins for the Visioning Plan; he asked if the Farmland draft plan was forwarded to KSK. Donna had forwarded part of it, but the maps were not ready yet. He asked if the costs were ready for Phase II of the Sports complex; they are not. He asked if we have a copy of the Springside Road Bike Plan upstairs available for review. Donna answered that we have an old plan; she would get it together for him.

Mr. Robbins – he is disappointed that the Committee has changed their minds regarding the sale of the Rancocas Firehouse.

Mr. Adams – thanked Mr. Daniels for attending the Memorial service. He wished the Fire/EMS Department well on their boot drive.

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

### **Comments from the Public**

Norm Miller – he would like someone from the Committee to explain to him their thinking in their change in policy for the sale of the Community center. Mayor Camp commented that he went back and did some digging; there are state grants available for properties such as this that are owned by the municipality. There was some confusion earlier regarding this. His decision was based on the fact that he has an issue giving away a piece of property that the Township owns when there is still the chance of going out and getting grants to make the repairs. Norm Miller commented that in doing this, the Township has kept their liability with the property; he is amazed that the Committee would take this approach.

Janet Curran – thanked Mr. Robbins for his vote with the Community Center; this is part of their (Rancocas Village's) history. You need to go back when it was a lyceum, before it was a Fire House. She asked about the Sports Complex and if it has been slowed down and down sized. She wanted to know if there would be a trailer for concessions installed instead of a deluxe model. She stated that the CYO concession stand was constructed by volunteers.

With no further comment the meeting was closed to the public.

Mayor Camp – regarding the Sports Complex, we are waiting for figures from our engineer, everything is based on this. Janet Curran asked where we stood with the Dolan application and the entrance to Ikea; she asked if Ikea has responded to the letter that was sent. Donna said they had and it was not favorable. She asked if there was anything the Township could do about this decision. It is a private road; most likely there is nothing the Township could do to force this.

Mr. Daniels – regarding the Rancocas Community Center, he is hopeful that we can maintain the level and spirit of cooperation that has been there even though there is disappointment in the decision. He is hopeful and wants to move forward.

Mayor Camp – was impressed by the attendance at Timbuctoo; roughly 70 people attended. He thanked Mr. Daniels and Mr. Maybury for the set up and break down process. The Police Department supported them, the Fire Police and Public Works, as well as a donation from the Recreation Department of water that came in handy. It turned out to be a very good day. Yesterday was the American Legion and Am Vets Memorial ceremony. The attendance was less than what he would have liked to have seen.

There were no further comments and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Marion Karp, Deputy Clerk

