

WESTAMPTON TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING
6:30 PM Closed Session 8:00 PM Regular Meeting

August 11, 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.

Minutes of the July 14, 2009 meeting. Closed Session minutes of July 14, 2009. Motion to accept by Mr. Robbins, second by Mr. Adams. All voted yes.

Open Meeting to Public for Comment on Agenda Items

Janet Curran wanted to know where we are with the surveying with Timbuctoo. This would be discussed later in the meeting.

Old Business

Beazer Homes – we have the final punch list, all the work will be finished by August 15th. The performance bonds will be reduced to maintenance bonds by September. Both engineers are involved. According to Donna, there will be no further update until the September meeting. Mayor Camp would like an update prior to that, if possible. Donna thought she might hear something by the end of August, she would email the Committee.

Timbuctoo – Mayor Camp met with Dave Orr last Monday; the survey came out better than they had expected, they were surprised with the information gathered. There is a tentative date set for an archeological dig out at the site. He gave a brief history of the site and the project to the audience.

New Business

Environmental Advisory Committee vacancies – the Committee received a letter from Dena Moore, Chairwoman; there are two positions open due to resignations. Mr. Robbins recommended Dave Guerrero to the Committee.

Police Report – Mr. Maybury commented that we will not be getting a resource officer for BCIT this year. Chief Rick Smith was informed that they had changed their mind. Mayor Camp had some discussions with a liaison (Freeholder); there will be some on going discussions with the superintendent of the school. The money is in the county budget for the SRO according to Chief Smith. Our Police department goes to the school several times a week according to the Chief. It is a burden to the department. Mr. Robbins stated that there was an attempted break in at his home and his neighbor's home. He praised the Police department for their response and their effort. Mayor Camp commented that less than two weeks ago there was an armed robbery at Pirone's restaurant; there has since been an arrest made. Mr. Daniels asked if there was an update on the burglary at Deerwood; there is not. He also wanted to mention the letter written in praise of Officer Welthy.

American Legion Post 509 Annual Report – this is their yearly report of their activities. Mr. Daniels wanted to commend them as far as being named the most outstanding post, most new members and for their membership award. It is an excellent report.

EMS Report (June & July) – Fire Chief Wylie Johnson stated that the department could not run the fire and safety camp, there weren't enough kids to hold the camp. They would hold something for a day instead. It was a fairly busy month.

Springside-Rancocas Road Closing – the bridge near Millcreek Commons and Westampton Court Condos is being replaced, the road will be closed for four months.

Westampton/Hainesport/Eastampton Court Report – Mayor Camp asked what figure represented our revenue; Donna read the figures aloud.

Bureau of Fire Prevention Report – John Augustino – had one incident during a thunder storm at 833 Rancocas Road; the storm took a line down and started a brush fire. We have several new businesses that have come into town. Businesses are getting online with the Knox box system.

Raffle License #10-2009 (Burl. Co. Cerebral Palsy Assoc. 9/28/09) – Mr. Robbins requested that the applicants answer all questions on the application. Mr. Adams made a motion to approve; the motion was seconded by Mr. Daniels. All voted yes.

Raffle License #11-2009 (YMCA of Burl. Co. 8/17/09) – Mr. Daniels made a motion to approve; the motion was seconded by Mr. Maybury. All voted yes.

Resolutions

117-09 Payment of Vouchers – motion to approve by Mr. Adams; seconded by Mr. Maybury.

All voted yes. Mr. Maybury asked about expenses for the phones; and wanted to know if the Township participates in competitive bidding on this. Donna stated that we use quotes; Verizon is for cell phones, ACC Business is for the Municipal Building lines.

118-09 Municipal Drug Alliance – motion to approve by Mr. Daniels; seconded by Mr. Robbins. All voted yes.

119-09 Extension of Time for Payment of Tax Bills – motion to approve by Mr. Robbins; seconded by Mr. Daniels. All voted yes.

120-09 Renew Comcast Cable Franchise – motion to approve by Mr. Maybury; seconded by Mr. Robbins. All voted yes. Mr. Robbins asked what the period of time the renewal is for; Solicitor Rybak stated it would be specified in the ordinance.

121-09 Award Road Construction Contract for Lancaster Drive – motion to approve by Mr. Maybury; seconded by Mr. Robbins. All voted yes. Mr. Robbins asked if the contract was awarded to the lowest bidder, which it was.

122-09 Authorize Funding of MACCS Contract – motion to approve by Mr. Daniels; seconded by Mr. Robbins. All voted yes.

123-09 Executive Session – to discuss potential litigation and contracts - motion to approve by Mr. Robbins; seconded by Mr. Adams. All voted yes.

Ordinances

None

Correspondence

DEP – Recycling Enhancement Act – expenditure of monies – we use this money to fund the cart program

The NJ Economic Stimulus Act of 2009 – COAH Fees – Mike Moubert is looking into this. The State can't agree on the language they used to write this.

Letter regarding Municipal Court Operation – Mayor Camp spoke to Court Administrator Karen Cochran about this. This letter was sent to all municipalities in the County. A municipality cannot furlough any one in the court system without consulting the State. Mr. Robbins asked if our changes that were made to the court system were brought about in the correct manner, they were.

Workshop Items

1. Fernwood Springs Farm – we are waiting for the referendum in November to see if the State will approve additional funding for Green Acres.
2. Project Freedom – the Township has a meeting set for September 15th; the presentation will take place at 7:00 PM. There will be a Project Freedom representative present at the meeting to answer questions, as well as Harry McVey, the Township Planner.
3. Environmental Resource Inventory – the EAC has started this process, there is a meeting planned for next week, the necessary information has been gathered.
4. Tarnsfield Pool Lease – the Township is going to meet with the management in September and October in order to clarify discrepancies that exist in the lease.

Dates to remember

Westampton Day - Saturday, September 26, 2009 11:00AM - 4:00 PM
Project Freedom Presentation - September 15, 2009 7:00 PM

Comments

Chief Wylie Johnson– the EMS/Fire Department has put together a team which will be competing in a fire fighters competition on September 19 in Maryland.

Chief Rick Smith – the NIXLE system is now up and running, information is going out with the tax bills that include instructions on how to register. It costs the Township nothing. Alerts can be done town wide or based on a geographic area or zones. Mr. Robbins commented that it might be a good idea to give this information to new residents.

Mr. Maybury – welcomed all the new faces in the audience. The Township has received a Smart Growth grant from the State; we are trying to plan how the Route 541 corridor will be developed. The information is on the website. This is in the early phases at this point, if anyone is interested; there is a PDF presentation on the website. He recommends that everyone look at the website. Regarding the budget, he asked if there is a projection where we are as far as spending for the year. Donna usually compiles this information at the end of August.

Mr. Daniels – thanked everyone for coming out. He thanked the Chiefs for their effort on National Night Out. He wished that more people in town had participated. The NIXLE system could possibly help get the word out for an event such as this. Our Recreation Department held it's movie night on July 30th, they would like to hold another one possibly in September or October; perhaps the NIXLE could be used for this too. There was a quarterly meeting regarding the Tarnsfield Swim Club; they will sit down with the management to go over the lease and the ordinance. Bill 28-96 was passed and signed into law, 34-33 authorizes set asides and fees and A40-51 for deed restrictions on affordable housing.

Solicitor Rybak – the lease with Historical Society is in the final stages, it should be wrapped up soon.

Comments from the Public

Mr. Milanes – is going to close out the account for the Veteran's Memorial. He would like help putting up the new flags. We must educate our children as to what the flags represent.

Mr. Daniels – for those who might not know, he explained to the audience what the Veteran's Memorial was. He echoes Mr. Milanese's sentiments. He thanked him for his efforts.

Unidentified resident – asked if the NIXLE system protects the email addresses it acquires. According to Chief Smith, they do.

Unidentified resident – received something in the mail regarding satellite dishes. Mayor Camp explained that this is an issue that is deed restricted; the Township does not enforce these. He knows that Deerwood residents received a notice from a resident; this was not something that the Township distributed. There is no one that enforces these covenants today as far as the single family residences. Donna explained that the Township cannot ban satellite dishes. The dishes are allowed but should not be visible from the street. Donna thinks this may not be able to be enforced.

The Deerwood residents also had issues with the large blue paper carts; they do not have room for them in their garages.

John Augustino asked Solicitor Rybak if there was anything that could be done to allow residents to be able to keep the paper carts outside. He was concerned regarding fire hazards.

Mayor Camp stated that the residents have the ability to start their own homeowner's association. They might want to approach Terry Mulligan about this.

The NIXLE system should be posted on our website, according to an unidentified resident; as well as on the school websites.

Tom DiOrio – asked if a notice could be put on the website for volunteers for the EAC; it is on there. The Rancocas Conservancy is having a dinner at Smithville Mansion on September 14th.

Tanya Ray asked how the residents would be notified for the Project Freedom meeting. Letters would be mailed out.

Janet Curran – thanked the Police Department for responding to an incident at their home. She asked if any progress was made regarding the Dolan warehouse and the access on Ikea Drive. There is nothing new on this at this time. She wants to know where we stand on the Sports Complex. Phase II is underway, it should go out to bid in the early fall. Lighting, water, sewer, slab for the concession stand, bleachers and benches are all included.

Several residents asked if the Township could consider twice a week trash pick up in the summer.

Janet Curran thanked Mike Meenan and the Public Works Department.

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

Mayor Camp – the movie night was well attended, probably 100 residents showed up. National Night Out took place the week after, kudos to the County Sheriff's Department. He thinks that all residents of the Township should take extra care regarding the appearance of their properties; it takes the whole Community to protect the appearance of this Township.

There were no further comments and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Marion Karp, Deputy Clerk