

WESTAMPTON TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING
7:00 PM Regular Meeting Minutes
June 20, 2023

The meeting was called to order and opened at 7:00 PM by Mayor Sandy Henley. Requirements of the Sunshine Law were read. This meeting was advertised in the Burlington County Times on January 6, 2023. This meeting was held in person in the Westampton Township Municipal Building Courtroom. The flag was saluted and there was a moment of silence.

Roll Call:

| | |
|------------------------|---------|
| Committeewoman Burkley | Present |
| Committeeman Carr | Present |
| Mayor Henley | Present |
| Committeewoman Mungo | Present |
| Committeewoman Wright | Present |

Township Administrator Wendy Gibson, Deputy Clerk Samantha Horton, Township Solicitor Robert Wright, Chief of Police Stephen Ent and Fire Marshall Vincent Knott were also present.

Presentations

- a. Civilian Service Award presented by the Westampton Twp Police Department to David Godbolt.

Approval of Minutes:

- a. May 16, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve was made by Mr. Carr; seconded by Ms. Mungo.

Motion carried 4-1-0.

Ayes: Carr, Mungo, Wright, Mayor Henley

Naye: Burkley

Abstain: none

Monthly Reports:

- a. Construction
- b. Police
- c. Fire/EMS
- d. Public Works
- e. Tax Collector
- f. Court

Open Meeting for Public Comments on Agenda Items Only:

Gary Berberian, 138 Winstead Drive, had comments on the monthly reports for police, fire and public works. Mr. Berberian would like to know if the fire and police reports are mirroring one another with some of its calls or are they separate. Mr. Berberian asked if there would be a video or written demonstration posted online, either on our township website or Facebook page, on how GovPilot will be used properly.

Mr. Berberian doesn't think enough residents know about getting lid replacements for the recycling containers, and he suggested some flyers or brochures should be sent out with the next tax bills, to inform the residents that Public Works are the ones who replace the recycling lids when they break.

Mr. Berberian commented that he felt that the Public Defender and Prosecutor salaries should be the same in the salary Ordinance. Mr. Berberian asked why the field training officers are being compensated so low for that job, and he thinks they should be getting a hirer rate.

Township Administrator Wendy Gibson commented that it was part of a contractual agreement.

He also stated that Resolution 86-23, the contract for grant writing services from Millennium Strategies, is a good thing for the township. Mr. Berberian asked if there was a typ in Resolution 105-23 regarding the New Jersey Coop Membership.

Lastly, Mr. Berberian inquired whether the police Interceptors would be covered under a Lemon Law.

All in favor to close public comment.

Ordinances:

SECOND READING: Open to Public Hearing

- a. 6-2023 An Ordinance of the Township of Westampton to Fix the Salaries, Wages and Compensation of Certain Officials and Employees of the Township of Westampton for the Years 2023-2025.

Motion to approve was made by Mr. Carr; seconded by Ms. Burkley.

Motion carried 5-0.

Ayes: Burkley, Carr, Mungo, Wright, Mayor Henley

Naye: none

Abstain: none

- b. 7-2023 An Ordinance of the Township of Westampton to Fix the Salaries, Wages and Compensation of Certain Police Officers of the Township of Westampton for the years 2022-2025.

Motion to approve was made by Ms. Mungo; seconded by Ms. Wright.

Motion carried 5-0.

Ayes: Burkley, Carr, Mungo, Wright, Mayor Henley

Naye: none

Abstain: none

- c. 8-2023 An Ordinance of the Township of Westampton to Fix the Salaries, Wages and Compensation for Police Supervisors of the Township of Westampton for the years 2021-2024.

Motion to approve was made by Ms. Burkley; seconded by Ms. Mungo.

Motion carried 5-0.

Ayes: Burkley, Carr, Mungo, Wright, Mayor Henley

Naye: none

Abstain: none

There was no public comment on the Ordinances.

Resolutions:

- a. 85-23 Payment of Vouchers – this resolution approves the payment of bills through 06/20/2023.

Motion to approve was made by Ms. Mungo; seconded by Mr. Carr.

Motion carried 5-0.

Ayes: Burkley, Carr, Mungo, Wright, Mayor Henley

Naye: none

Abstain: none

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS - RESOLUTIONS NOTE: Consent Agenda items are considered to be routine and will be enacted with a single motion; any items requiring expenditure are supported by a Certification of Availability of funds; any items requiring discussion will be removed from the Consent Agenda.

- a. 86-23 Award of Contract for Grant Writing Services - Millennium Strategies
- b. 87-23 Award of Sale Firetruck Apparatus – Brindlee Mountain
- c. 88-23 Liquor License Renewal - Burlington County Country Club
- d. 89-23 Liquor License Renewal - Crescent Temple AAONMS
- e. 90-23 Liquor License Renewal - Applebees Apple New Jersey LLC
- f. 91-23 Liquor License Renewal - Mount Holly Moose Lodge 737
- g. 92-23 Liquor License Renewal - Courtyard Pollin/Miller Hospitality Strategies INC
- h. 93-23 Liquor License Renewal - Deerwood Country Club
- i. 94-23 Liquor License Renewal - Arcadi Hospitality, Inc.
- j. 95-23 Liquor License Renewal - Hilton Edgewood Management LLC
- k. 96-23 Liquor License Renewal - Westampton Liquors Aashna, Inc.
- l. 97-23 Resolution Approving Purchase from Houston Galveston Regional Planning Commission

- m. 98-23 Resolution Approving Change Order for Resolution Number 114-22 for Purchase of 2022 Ambulance
- n. 99-23 Resolution Approving a Purchase from the NPP for Gear Lockers
- o. 100-23 Resolution Accepting Clean Communities Grant
- p. 101-23 Resolution Accepting Stormwater Assistance Grant
- q. 102-23 Resolution Accepting Bulletproof Vest Grant
- r. 103-23 Resolution Authorizing Contract for Janitorial and Uniform Services
- s. 104-23 Resolution Approving Purchase from a State Contract Vendor for 2023 Capital Improvement - Flooring
- t. 105-23 Resolution Approving New Jersey Coop Membership
- u. 106-23 Resolution Approving Purchase through New Jersey Coop for 2023 Capital Purchase – Zero Turn Mower
- v. 107-23 Resolution Approving Purchase from a State Contract Vendor for 2023 Capital Improvement – Tire Balancer
- w. 108-23 Resolution Approving Purchase from a State Contract Vendor for 2023 Capital Improvement – Police Speed Enforcement Radar
- x. 109-23 Resolution Approving Purchase from a State Contract Vendor for 2023 Capital Improvement – Police SUV Interceptor
- y. 110-23 Resolution Imposing Tax Lien
- z. 111-23 Resolution Accepting Donation of Preowned Furniture

Committeewoman Burkley motioned to remove Consent Agenda Resolution Letter “S” 104-23 for discussion.

Motion to approve Consent Agenda Resolutions Letters “A-R” & “T-Z” was made by Ms. Mungo; seconded by Mr. Carr.

Motion carried 5-0.

Ayes: Burkley, Carr, Mungo, Wright, Mayor Henley

Naye: none

Abstain: none

Motion to approve Consent Agenda Resolution Letter “S” 104-23 was made by Ms. Mungo; seconded by Mr. Carr

Motion carried 4-1-0

Ayes: Carr, Mungo, Wright, Mayor Henley

Naye: Burkley

Abstain: none

Discussion on Resolution Letter “S” 104-23:

Committeewoman Burkley wanted clarification on if the carpet was for the first floor or the second floor.

Township Administrator, Wendy Gibson explained that the carpet was for the first floor of the building, and that the resolution can be approved and amended.

Open Meeting for Public Comment:

Robert Fernholz, 19 Fieldcrest Drive, would like to know if and or how the fence Ordinance in Spring Meadows can be changed. Currently, the Ordinance states the fence must be board-on-board, and Mr. Fernholz would like to put in a request that the Ordinance be changed to allow vinyl fences.

Gary Berberian, 138 Winstead Drive, wanted to thank Officer Chris Morrotto for coming in on his day off to help with a situation that was happening in Spring Meadows.

Mr. Berberian noticed a charge on the bill list that he had some confusion with regarding a fire helmet repair. He wanted to know why the township is paying to repair a fire helmet instead of buying a brand new one, and if the cost is that much different. He thinks for the type of work they do; they shouldn't have to use equipment that could potentially be faulty, due to the repairs.

He stated that he attended the County Commissioner's meeting, where an agreement was signed regarding the Opioid settlement disbursement. He was concerned about the amount of Naxalone kits in the schools. He was concerned that there aren't any kits allocated to Westampton schools or the Fire/EMS Department. He suggested that the Committee request clarification on the disbursement.

He also commented on the presentation for National Trails Day, and that Burlington County is seeking additional funding. He suggested that a clearing house be available to see who is requesting funding for projects in neighboring towns. He suggested that our Governing Body step up to encourage changes in the process.

Kevin Lee, 873 Rancocas Road, has concerns about the basketball courts which are right next to his house. He said there have been multiple weekends where very large groups of people come out to play, almost as if they are in some sort of basketball league with referees. They are there all day, from morning to night; there is a DJ that comes and plays very loud, inappropriate music, people throwing their trash on the ground and people going to the bathroom in residents' backyards, since there aren't any accessible bathrooms.

He commented that there are a group of individuals on unregistered illegal ATV's riding through town that were damaging the area around the courts. He stated he contacted the police, but nothing was done because only one officer was able to respond. He requested that signs or fencing be placed to deter bad behavior, or if neighboring police can be called to assist.

Mr. Lee has a handicapped roommate who lives with him and has no way of being able to leave the house; therefore, she must sit in the house listening to the constant loud music. He would like to know how something like this is even allowed to happen. He is asking if something can be done to stop these types of large gatherings.

Township Attorney Robert Wright commented that the Mayor, Administrator, and he had a conversation with the School Superintendent to work together to enforce use policies, as the property belongs to the school and not the Township.

Mayor Henley also stated that the Township will assist in enforcement. He also stated that no one should be profiting from the use of the property, and that the intent was for the neighborhood kids to play.

All in favor to close public comment.

Dates to Remember:

Next Township Committee Meeting July 11th @ 7PM, Historic Commission June 28th @ 7PM, Land Development Board Meeting July 5th @7PM, Recreation Committee Meeting July 12th @7PM. Youth Police Academy. June 26th- June 30th. National Night Out August 1st.

Administrator's Report

Township Administrator Wendy Gibson explained the discrepancy on the Court report, that was questioned at the last Committee meeting, noting that the report was updated after she had received the report. She also explained how to read the Construction report properly to avoid confusion. She also explained the reasons for waived fees noted in the report.

She also reported that a lot of calls have been coming in regarding the trash company regarding service interruptions. She said she escalated the issues to the managers in Trenton, and that we can withhold funds from payment of invoices, due to the service interruptions. She stated that the Township will be withholding \$10,500.00 from Waste Management for liquidated damages to the Township. She stated for the record that the Township is handling the issues and holding the company accountable.

Ms. Burkley asked why we aren't with another company. Ms. Gibson explained that the Township is in a joint contract with another township, and that due to the way the residents are serviced, Waste Management was one of two companies who were able to bid on the last contract, due to serviceability.

Committee Liaison Reports/Comments:

Committeewoman Burkley congratulated the graduating eighth graders at Westampton Middle School. Now that school is out, they are going to continue with the construction at both schools. They are anticipating having the new classrooms to be completed by December.

Ms. Burkley also expressed her concern over the number of residents who will be voting in District One and suggested that we find a larger polling place for the upcoming elections.

She also commented on Mount Laurel's Diversity Committee, stating they meet monthly to improve diversity and services. She thinks it would be a great idea for Westampton.

Committeeman Carr apologized to Mr. Lee and his roommate for the unfortunate circumstances regarding the basketball court situation. He stated that the Committee is looking into it, and they are going to be having a meeting with the Superintendent from the schools, along with the Recreation Director and Police Chief to find a solution.

Mr. Carr also addressed Mr. Fernholz about the fence Ordinance, stating the Committee will look into it and follow up with a response.

Committeewoman Mungo thanked all the residents for coming out to the meeting and voicing their questions and concerns. Ms. Mungo thanked Police Chief Ent for presenting David Godbolt with a heroic award and congratulated David for being so brave.

Committeewoman Wright thanked all the residents for coming out. Ms. Wright also thanked Police Chief Ent for present David Godbolt with a heroic award and congratulated David.

Mayor Henley congratulated David Godbolt for his heroic act and his family for raising their son the right way. Mr. Henley thanked Mr. Lee for his military service and for his comments regarding the basketball courts. Mayor Henley also said he is going to look into the fence Ordinance and noted that in Spring Meadows there may be a deed restriction. He stated the Committee will see if they can figure out a solution.

Mayor Henley thanked the Township employees and the Committee before motioning for adjournment.

Motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Mungo; seconded by Ms. Burkley.
All in favor of adjourning the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:57 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Gibson, Acting Municipal Clerk