

## WESTAMPTON TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING

6:00 PM Closed Session    7:00 PM Regular Meeting

November 21, 2016

The closed session meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM; all Committee members were present. Resolution 11-21-16 was adopted to go into closed session to discuss fire engine repairs, clearing of fire hydrants, COAH update and the Ingerman agreement amendment.

The regular meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM by Mayor Daniels. Requirements of the Sunshine Law were read. This meeting was advertised in the Burlington County Times on January 14, 2016. The flag was saluted. There was a moment of silence.

### Roll Call:

Committeewoman Chang	Present
Committeeman Lopez	Present
Committeewoman Smith-Hartman	Present
Committeewoman Teleisa	Present
Mayor Daniels	Present

Brian Shott, Solicitor, was present.

Maria Carrington, Administrator and Marion Karp, Clerk were both present.

Approve 11/21/16 Agenda – motion to approve made by Mr. Lopez; seconded by Ms. Smith-Hartman. All voted yes.

Closed Session Minutes of 11/7/16 – motion to approve by Mr. Lopez; seconded by Ms. Smith-Hartman. All voted yes.

Regular Meeting Minutes of 11/7/16 – motion to approve by Mr. Lopez; seconded by Ms. Smith-Hartman. All voted yes.

### **Scheduled Appointments**

7 PM – Mayor Daniels swore in the 3 new Fire/EMS Lieutenants: Chad Bozoski, Bryan Iannacone and Michael Westdyk. He then swore in 2 new Firefighters/EMTs: Benjamin Guerrini and Julian Vallery

The Committee congratulated all. A five minute recess was taken.

### **Public Comments on Agenda Items**

Vernita Jones – asked about Resolution #113-16 and if there is an interview process to appoint the Municipal Court judge. She asked how long the term was – it is at least until December 31, 2017 but may be a bit longer. She wanted to know how the Committee

could select anyone they wanted; Administrator Maria Carrington advised her that our solicitor was consulted and they were advised that this was the way the Committee should proceed. She asked if there were other qualified judges; Mayor Daniels explained that Mr. Andronici comes highly recommended and he has worked here before.

### **New Business**

EMS Report – no additional questions. Mayor Daniels extended his congratulations on the promotions and new hires.

Police Report – no additional questions

Public Works Report – Supervisor Mike Meenan was unable to attend this evening's meeting due to a family obligation

2016 Best Practices Inventory – this is required each year by the DLGS; if you aren't able to answer yes to a certain number of questions in the inventory it can put your state aid at risk.

### **Resolutions**

108-16 Payment of Vouchers – motion to approve made by Mr. Lopez; seconded by Ms. Smith-Hartman. All voted yes.

109-16 Tax Appeal Settlement, Walgreens, 100 Springside Road – motion to approve made by Ms. Chang; seconded by Ms. Teleisa. All voted yes.

110-16 Tax Appeal Settlement, Walgreens, 800 Woodlane Road – motion to approve made by Ms. Chang; seconded by Ms. Teleisa. All voted yes.

111-16 Joint Purchase of Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) – motion to approve made by Mr. Lopez; seconded by Ms. Smith-Hartman.

112-16 Grass Cutting Liens – motion to approve made by Ms. Teleisa; seconded by Ms. Smith-Hartman.

113-16 Appoint Municipal Court Judge – motion to appoint Richard Andronici made by Mr. Lopez; seconded by Ms. Smith-Hartman. Ms. Chang made a motion to appoint Willingboro judge Harold George or Judge Jason Witcher from Salem and Gloucester Townships. Ms. Teleisa seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken on the first motion. Mr. Lopez, Ms. Smith-Hartman and Mayor Daniels voted yes; Ms. Chang and Ms. Teleisa voted no. The motion to appoint Richard Andronici would carry. Ms. Chang wanted to thank Judge Rodney Thompson for his service; he took our court which had a negative culture and changed it. He handled things in an expedited manner; litigants reported that the judge was respectful, courteous and patient and his decisions were fair. It is her hope that the new judge would mirror Judge Thompson's demeanor. We don't

need a judge to take us backwards in Westampton when Judge Thompson had made positive changes. Ms. Smith–Hartman commented that she had spoken to our police officers whom are thrilled that Judge Andronici is coming back. Mayor Daniels spoke about the good job Judge Thompson did here in Westampton Township. He was not only a great judge but an even better person; he will be sorely missed here.

114-16 Renew Interlocal Service Agreement with Eastampton Township – motion to approve made by Ms. Teleisa; seconded by Mr. Lopez. All voted yes.

### **Ordinances**

19-2016 Salary Ordinance for Police Officers (second reading) – motion to approve by Mr. Lopez; seconded by Ms. Teleisa. This was opened to the public for comment, no comment was made. All voted yes.

20-2016 Salary Ordinance for Full Time Firefighters/EMTs (second reading) – Motion to approve by Mr. Lopez; seconded by Ms. Smith-Hartman. This was opened to the public for comment, no comment was made. All voted yes.

21-2016 Salary Ordinance for the Chief of Police & Lieutenant (second reading) – motion to approve by Ms. Teleisa; seconded by Ms. Smith-Hartman. This was opened to the public for comment, no comment was made. All voted yes.

22-2016 Amend Chapter 182; Property, Vacant & Abandoned (second reading) – motion to approve by Ms. Chang; seconded by Ms. Smith-Hartman. This was opened to the public for comment, no comment was made. All voted yes.

23-2016 Salary Ordinance for Administrative and Public Works Employees (first reading) – motion to approve by Ms. Teleisa; seconded by Mr. Lopez. All voted yes.

24-2016 Amend Chapter 128, Fire Prevention (first reading) – motion to approve by Ms. Teleisa; seconded by Mr. Lopez. The ordinance was amended slightly regarding liability and open burning. All voted yes.

25-2016 Amend Chapter 128, Fire Prevention (first reading) – motion to approve by Mr. Lopez; seconded by Ms. Smith-Hartman. All voted yes.

26-2016 Amend Chapter 250, Signs (first reading) - motion to approve by Mr. Lopez; seconded by Ms. Smith-Hartman. All voted yes.

### **Correspondence**

Willingboro MUA – hearing for proposed rate changes 12/5/16

Note of thanks from League of Women Voters – they held a debate here in the Municipal Building

### **Dates to Remember**

December 10<sup>th</sup> – Westampton Recreation's Annual Breakfast with Santa, WMS, 9 AM

December 14<sup>th</sup> – Senior Citizen's Holiday Dinner, WMS, 6 PM

December 17<sup>th</sup> – EMS Annual Santa Around Town – starts at 10:30/11 AM

December 7<sup>th</sup> – Pearl Harbor Day

### **Open to Public Comment**

Lori Hustus – asked about the promotional sign ordinance. There was a huge sign during election time that blocked the view when exiting Kanabe Drive onto Rancocas Road.

Nancy Burkley – appreciates Judge Andronici coming back; it was an embarrassment the way he left. He was well loved here in the Township. She is glad that the election is over, however the Facebook Page “Westampton is a Great Place to Live” is horrible. We need to stop the hatred and the meanness, we need to work together and support each other. We need to get along; she is embarrassed to see this kind of stuff, please stop.

Janet Curran – Westampton is a great place to live.

### **Comments from Department Heads and Professionals**

EMS/Fire Chief Craig Farnsworth – thanked the Committee for filling the vacancies in the department tonight and for the promotions and continued support.

Police Chief Joe Otto – congratulations to Judge Thompson on his promotion to Superior Court; congratulations to the new Lieutenants as well as the new Firefighter/EMTs. Happy Thanksgiving to everyone.

Administrator Maria Carrington – Happy Thanksgiving to all; spend time with your families.

Ms. Smith-Hartman – Happy Thanksgiving to everyone; congratulations to the Judge on his promotion.

Ms. Teleisa – congratulations to the 3 new lieutenants; and congratulations to our 2 newest EMTs; they have great role models. Happy Thanksgiving to everyone; let's give thanks for all the blessings we do have.

Ms. Chang – asked Nancy Burkley to read the study done by Seton Hall on court practices; it might change her mind. Judge Thompson is deserving of his promotion to Superior court, although it is Westampton's loss.

Mr. Lopez – congratulations to new Committee member John Wisniewski; the elections are over and now it's time to work together. He wishes him a successful career on the Township Committee. Congratulations to those who received promotions and to our new EMTs. He went to Washington DC this weekend and attended a seminar on how to be a better Committee person. There was an emergency at his house this weekend; his wife had to call 911 for his daughter. He felt comfortable knowing our Police and EMTs were there and already on site helping his family. He thanked both departments for doing what they do every day and night. Today is Janet Curran's birthday; she does so much for the Township and he wants her to be recognized. It's ok to disagree on policy and we should not make it personal. He is going to try to do better going forward; we need to move forward together.

Mayor Daniels – this was a great meeting tonight. He extended his congratulations to new Committeeman John Wisniewski. He attended the NJLOM conference last week; he is proud of our community. We need to work together and to come to some degree of a consensus; Happy Thanksgiving to all. Two weeks ago they attended Project Freedom's annual gala held up in Hamilton. Westampton Township was presented with their Freedom Bell award this year.

Ms. Chang – when Project Freedom came to Westampton Township every member of the Committee voted yes; she is very proud of this community. They fill a gap for independent living for individuals.

There were no further comments and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Marion Karp, Municipal Clerk