

## WESTAMPTON TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING

6:00 PM CLOSED SESSION    7:00 PM REGULAR MEETING

May 16, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM with all present. Resolution 5-16-16 was adopted to go into Executive session to discuss personnel.

The meeting was again called to order and reopened at 7:01 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. Abe wanted to dedicate the moment of silence to Officer Cullen this week, since it is National Police Week.

### Roll Call:

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

Al Marmero, Solicitor, was present.

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

Approve 5/16/16 Agenda – motion to amend (added 2 proclamations and Ordinance 15-2016) this evening's agenda and approve it made by Mr. Lopez; second by Ms. Smith-Hartman. All voted yes.

Closed Session Meeting Minutes 5/2/2016 – motion to approve by Mr. Lopez; second by Ms. Teleisa. All voted yes.

Regular Meeting Minutes 5/2/16 – motion to approve with minor change to how the votes are recorded by Mr. Lopez; second by Ms. Smith Hartman. All voted yes.

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

Mayor Daniels – after some discussion the Committee has decided to keep the meetings moving and will limit comments from each person to 4 minutes each. In the past the agenda stated a three minute rule, however since becoming Mayor he hasn't limited anyone with their comment time but does need to. He thinks this is the best way to move forward.

Janet Curran – said that in prior years there were no limits on time for people to speak. She doesn't like a limit of three minutes; she thinks it should be for five minutes.

## **New Business**

EMS Report – Mayor Daniels commends the department on the Town Hall public session that was held last Monday night; he thought it was well attended and progressive. Acting Fire/EMS Chief Craig Farnsworth said that more of these sessions would be held for different parts of town. Ms. Teleisa wanted to know about the laws for fire hydrants and if the Committee could receive a copy; this is in regards to the snow removal ordinance. She also asked if she could get more information about the Seton Hall dorm fire presentation that they had attended; her son had attended this college.

Police Report – the department has been issued their body cameras; they will go live June 1<sup>st</sup>. They are required to announce the cameras via a press release and on the website as well. They have to show a photo of how the cameras will be worn. It is a pilot program, only certain officers will be wearing them to start with. Mayor Daniels thanked Chief Joe Otto and Lt. Rogers for attending the regional program and workshop at Tabernacle Baptist Church on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. This was about being proactive and not reactive and having open lines of communication.

Public Works Report – no further comments were made

Proclamation – National Police Week 2016. Mr. Lopez read the proclamation aloud. Mayor Daniels asked that Chief Otto pass along everyone's thanks to the department. Westampton was represented by Officers Rowbottom, Davis and Woods down in Washington, DC last week.

Proclamation – Click it or Ticket Mobilization (5/23/16 – 6/5/16) – Mayor Daniels read the proclamation aloud.

## **Resolutions**

48-16 Payment of Vouchers – motion to approve made by Mr. Lopez; seconded by Ms. Smith-Hartman. All voted yes.

49-16 Adopt Employee Handbook – motion to approve made by Mr. Lopez; seconded by Ms. Smith-Hartman. All voted yes. There would be a revision added that this is just a guide and labor agreements supersede the handbook.

## **Ordinances**

12-2016 Amend Chapter 95, Brush, Grass, Weeds & Debris (second reading) – motion to approve by Mr. Lopez; seconded by Ms. Smith-Hartman. All voted yes. Rita Barber

thanked the Committee for supporting her; she was one who was affected by her neighbor's bamboo; the Mayor thanked her for bringing it to their attention.

13-2016 Amend Chapter 54, Police Department (second reading) – motion to approve by Mr. Lopez; seconded by Ms. Smith-Hartman. Mr. Daniels, Mr. Lopez and Ms. Smith-Hartman voted yes, Ms. Teleisa abstained.

14-2016 Amend Chapter 232, Vehicles & Traffic (second reading) – motion to approve by Mr. Lopez; seconded by Ms. Smith-Hartman. All voted yes.

15-2016 Authorize Financial Agreement with Woodmont (first reading) – motion to approve by Mr. Lopez; seconded by Ms. Smith-Hartman. All voted yes. Mr. Daniels explained that this was the same project from last year that was tabled; the Committee had no legal authority to not move forward with the development which is why it was before them again. They looked at the former agreement again and were able to change a few things and add some things that would benefit the Township. A public hearing/workshop session would be held that would explain everything about the Woodmont project on Monday June 6<sup>th</sup> at 6 PM, before the regular meeting. Solicitor Al Marmero explained that since the Committee had approved a redevelopment for this project and a PILOT was a part of this they had to go back and approve it. The Committee renegotiated the agreement and were able to secure a better agreement. They increased the revenue percentages which should amount to about 2 million dollars more for the Township for the life of the agreement. They were also able to secure contributions for a senior addition as well as for repairs to the Tarnsfield Pool. Ms. Smith-Hartman said that the senior center would be open to the entire community.

### **Correspondence**

Mayor Daniels received a letter from the Burlington County Freeholders that the Township has received a \$250,000 grant to pay down our debt obligation on the Deacon Farm.

He also received a call from the Governor's office last week; a \$21,000 Clean Communities grant would be forthcoming. This is an increase over previous year's grants.

### **Dates to Remember**

May 28<sup>th</sup> – Timbuctoo Day, 11 AM – 1 PM.

Memorial Day – May 30<sup>th</sup>; there will be celebrations held in the Township

May 18<sup>th</sup> – 7 PM, 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Memorial Service for fallen firefighters, Public Safety Center. There is a service held at 10:30 AM for fallen police officers.

May 22 – Armed Forces Freedom Ride will be coming through Westampton; they expect about 1000 motorcycles to participate. 10:30 – 11:00 AM.

June 4 – Rancocas Yard Sale (town wide) & Strawberry Festival

May 28<sup>th</sup> – Am Vets and American Legion wreath laying at 10 AM. Ms. Jones extended an invitation to the Committee to attend.

May 18<sup>th</sup> – town hall meeting with Police/Rancocas Village residents at Rancocas Community Center

### **Open to public Comment**

Jerry Mengel, 33 Fernbrooke Drive – thanked the Police for conducting the Town Hall meeting; it was very well conducted. He asked Public Works about repairing cracks in Mayfaire Circle. Mr. Lopez stated that they will prioritize all the roads in town according to need of repair.

Janet Curran, 123 Main Street – had spoken with Mayor Daniels about a misunderstanding regarding the planting of flowers at Timbuctoo and the Boy Scouts. The sign there is starting to deteriorate and they are looking into its restoration. The Scouts would like to help with the area around the Veteran's monument at the American Legion. They are looking for projects.

Mayor Daniels – there was a miscommunication; one of the neighbors planted the flowers there but they found other areas the Scouts could plant.

Nancy Burkley – appreciates the Committee renegotiating the PILOT agreement; however she is concerned about the Tarnsfield pool; not everyone can use it. She would rather see the \$50K going towards the schools who won't be getting money instead of the pool. She doesn't think its right that Westampton residents have to pay to use the pool. Mr. Lopez sees her point; if the Township is making a monetary contribution towards the pool, perhaps the residents should benefit and not have to pay or else have a reduced rate.

Robert Lee, Mayfaire Circle – is encouraged to hear about the Woodmont Project; he thanked the Committee for taking another look at it.

Vernita Jones – asked if the Committee thought about working a deal with Woodmont for additional Police or EMS employees.

Gil Gehin Scott – the Westampton Township Historical Society would lay a wreath at Timbuctoo on Memorial Day. He asked about a bill paid for \$10K to Hainesport for a vehicle for construction. He asked why CME Engineers are still being paid; Donna answered that those bills are for Land Development Board applications and are paid out of escrow accounts. He asked what the Clean Communities grant was used for; Donna answered it is for the collection of litter around the Township. We pay Boy Scouts and

Girl Scout groups and OTC to collect litter. One part time public works employee is paid partially out of this grant since he picks up litter as well.

Roger Rosloski – the Armed Forces Freedom Ride is this Saturday. It is a benefit to raise money for military families who have lost a member. They should be coming through around 10:30 AM along Rancocas Road. This is the tenth year they have been doing this.

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

Vince Knott and Dave Shaw had attended a program given by two men who had survived the dormitory fire at Seton Hall; they wanted to get high schoolers involved. It is a lesson in dorm room safety. Ms. Teleisa stated that it had affected her family as her son was attending the school the year of the fire. She thought it was a wonderful idea.

This Thursday is the mock crash at RV High School in which the Fire/EMS participates.

Ms. Teleisa – June 2 is the resurrection of the Westampton Farmer's Market. It is going to be held at the Burlington County Library in the amphitheater area. It will run from 4 PM to 7 PM every Thursday through mid-September. We need the residents to come out and support this.

Mr. Lopez – there is a lot going on; the Rancocas Friends School and Rancocas Baptist Church just recently held community events. He thinks there is a good vibe regarding outreach in the community; the website will be upgraded as well as upgrades made to the courtroom sound system. Kelsey Worrell, a Westampton resident, signed a contract with a major company. She is trying out for the Olympics this year (swimming).

There were no further comments and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Marion Karp, Deputy Municipal Clerk