

WESTAMPTON TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING

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

October 16, 2017

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 January 5, 2017. The flag was saluted and there was a moment of silence. Mayor Daniels welcomed all guests.

Roll Call:

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

Brian Schotts, Solicitor, was present. Township Engineer, Doug Johnson was present. Administrator Maria Carrington and Municipal Clerk Marion Karp were present.

Approve 10/16/17 Agenda – motion to approve by Mr. Lopez; second by Ms. Teleisa. All voted yes.

Regular Meeting minutes of 10/2/17– motion to approve by Mr. Lopez; second by Mr. Wisniewski. All voted yes. Closed session minutes of 10/2/17 – motion to approve by Mr. Lopez; second by Mr. Wisniewski. All voted yes.

Public Comments on agenda items

Nancy Burkley – is opposed to eliminating longevity for supervisors. She thinks it encourages employees to stay here; supervisors shouldn't receive less than other employees; it is demeaning.

Old Business

None

New Business

Fire/EMS Report – no further comments made.

Police Report – no further comments made.

Engineer's Report – no further comments made.

Resolutions

125-17 Payment of Vouchers – motion to approve by Mr. Lopez; second by Ms. Smith-Hartman. All present voted yes.

126-17 Establish Policy for Tax Appeal Notifications – motion to approve by Mr. Lopez; second by Ms. Teleisa. All voted yes.

127-17 Establish Policy for Eliminating Supplemental Salary Payments for Non-Union Employees – motion to approve by Mr. Lopez; second by Mr. Wisniewski. All voted yes. Mr. Lopez said they discussed they would be transparent regarding salaries for directors; this should be done on the front end and not after they have negotiated the front end salary. Mr. Wisniewski said this practice will only affect the Administrator, Public Works director and Recreation Director. No one here will be losing anything; it will affect new hires only. This comes from the Best Practices inventory and needed to be established.

128-17 Chapter 159, NJ Body Armor Grant – motion to approve by Ms. Teleisa; second by Mr. Lopez. All voted yes.

129-17 Tarnsfield Road Project Grant – motion to approve by Mr. Lopez; second by Ms. Teleisa. All voted yes.

130-17 In Support of the Creation & Establishment of the Rancocas Creek National Water Trail – motion to approve by Mr. Lopez; second by Ms. Smith-Hartman. All voted yes. Ms. Teleisa asked what the legalities are surrounding this; she is a little hesitant. Solicitor Schotts explained that this is simply a resolution of support. Mr. Lopez explained that the Rancocas Creek is already open to the public for use; any resident is welcome to use it at the State park. Mayor Daniels is in favor of this becoming a National Water Trail; this can help to put Westampton on the map along with other Townships.

131-17 Appoint Purchasing Agent – motion to approve by Ms. Teleisa; second by Ms. Smith-Hartman. All voted yes.

132-17 Hire Police Officer – motion to approve by Mr. Lopez; second by Ms. Teleisa. All voted yes.

Correspondence

Note of thanks from the Timbuctoo Advisory Committee

NJLM 102nd Annual Conference – information for attendees

Dates to Remember

October 27, Fall Festival, 6 – 9 PM, Westampton Sports Complex

October 27th – Susan G. Komen fundraiser, bingo, Police are partnering with them at Crescent shrine, 6 PM

November 5 – 5 K Walk & Run at Great Adventure, Police will be attending

November 6 – Westampton Middle School, Veterans Day celebration

November 14-16 – NJLM Annual Conference, Atlantic City

October 17 – deadline to register to vote

November 11 – American Legion Annual Spaghetti Dinner

Open to public Comment

Jerry Mengel – is part of the Fernbrooke Homeowners Association and wondered whether they would now be charged to hold their meetings here. They are an exempt group; Maria Carrington believes the Recreation Director will waive the fee.

Janet Curran – the Fire Police did an outstanding job directing traffic for those who came to the Rancocas Ham dinner on Saturday, she wanted to thank them. She spoke regarding affordable housing and the fact that she thinks there is enough here in Westampton.

Todd Johnson, 21 Brighton Road – spoke regarding Megan's Law. He asked Mr. Lopez where he was regarding speaking to our legislators. Mr. Lopez had spoken with Joe Howarth who gave him his word in opening up an inquiry for Megan's Law. He is willing to start the process but warned him that the legislative body isn't meeting in the fall until the elections are over. He asked Ms. Smith-Hartman how she was dealing with the schools; she had met with the Superintendent and they are looking into starting the Stranger Danger program. He asked whom he could contact regarding the property maintenance code. He was advised to contact Zoning Officer Gene Blair.

Ernestine Jones, Brighton Road – asked what they could do, as residents, about having sex offenders residing in their neighborhood. Police Chief Joe Otto explained the tier ratings of sex offenders and how they are ranked. Mr. Lopez wondered if we could post a safety type of notice on the Township website regarding Halloween; Chief Otto would

contact the prosecutor's office to review before anything was posted just to check and see. He thinks it would be safer just to post what they normally do for Halloween but he would reach out and clarify this with the prosecutor.

Ms. Jones – had called the prosecutor's office and she felt they were dismissive with her about this.

Mayor Daniels – we are a very vigilant community, he is sorry that she had that experience with the prosecutor's office. He thanked the residents for bringing this discussion before them; he thanked his colleagues for their efforts.

Nancy Burkley – parents should be out with their children on Halloween. We should just be talking about safety like the Police Chief said; it could be anyone out there.

Mayor Daniels - thank you to everyone for their comments.

Comments from Department Heads

Police Chief Otto – Sasheen Welsh had a tough week with the passing of her father and her brother in law.

Fire/EMS Chief Farnsworth – they had a nice turnout for Fire Prevention Week.

Committee Members Comments

Mr. Wisniewski – thanks to the residents for coming out; great job at the Fire Prevention Open House; have a good night

Ms. Smith-Hartman – Go Eagles!

Ms. Teleisa – it was a very enjoyable Fire Prevention Night; thanks to the firefighters, EMTs and the Fire Police. It is good to have Craig back.

Mr. Lopez – has no further comments, Ms. Teleisa and Ms. Smith-Hartman have said it all tonight.

Mayor Daniels – last Wednesday Freedom Village and TD Bank held a tree planting day where they planted 35 trees. It was a great afternoon. He commended FF/EMT Dave Shaw who received an award last week; kudos to the department for a great job with their open house. Patrolman Einstein is representing our Township and the spirit of what being a good American is all about. This Thursday at the Burlington County Library Bernard Cabler will be spotlighted for his book of poems that he wrote. He thanked all for coming out tonight.

There were no further comments and the meeting was adjourned at 7:54 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marion Karp, Municipal Clerk