

WESTAMPTON TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING

5:30 PM CLOSED SESSION 7:00 PM REGULAR MEETING

February 24, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM with all members present. Resolution 2-24-15 was adopted to go into Executive session to discuss Dolan real estate and appointment of Township Planner.

The meeting was again called to order and reopened at 7:01 PM by Mayor Chang. Requirements of the Sunshine Law were read. This meeting was advertised in the Burlington County Times January 6, 2015. The flag was saluted and there was a moment of silence.

Roll Call:

Committeeman Daniels	Present
Committeeman Maybury	Present
Committeewoman Teleisa	Present
Committeeman Thorpe	Absent
Mayor Chang	Present

Justin Yost, Solicitor, was present.

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

Approve 2/24/15 Agenda – motion to approve by Mr. Maybury; second by Ms. Teleisa. All voted yes.

Minutes of the 2/10/2015 meeting – motion to approve by Mr. Maybury; second by Mr. Daniels. Mr. Maybury asked that it be put into the minutes that he has been employed at the Mount Holly MUA for 30 years. All voted yes. Closed session minutes of the 2/10/2015 meeting – motion to approve by Mr. Daniels; second by Mr. Maybury. All voted yes.

Scheduled Appointments:

Black History Month Essay & Art Contest Awards – Mayor Chang extended a special welcome to the students that were present to accept their awards. Parents, teachers and administrators are to be congratulated; all the students worked very hard for this year's contest. They had to think about a very complex current issue and record their thoughts in a concise short essay. The students who are winners tonight did a terrific job. She thanked TD Bank and its manager, Christopher Livingston from the High Street office. They have been extremely generous in their donations towards the awards; she thanked him for their support.

Essay Contest Winners:

Vincent Brown – 1st place
Ashley McCoy – 2nd place
Nile Hannon – 3rd place
Nicholas Correa – 4th place
Harleen Gill – honorable mention
Paulina Perez - honorable mention

Antoine Brown – first place winner, Art contest

Mayor Chang thanked Ms. Teleisa for her help in reading the essays and judging the winners.

A five minute recess for refreshments was taken. The meeting was called back to order at 7:26 PM.

Public Comments on agenda items

No comments were made.

Old Business

None

New Business

Appoint Planning Consultant for Redevelopment of Route 541 – DMR Engineers were nominated by Mr. Daniels; second by Ms. Teleisa. All voted yes.

Police Report – no further comments made.

EMS Report – Jason Carty stated that the redesigned website is now up and launched, they are working out the bugs. Kudos to the Public Works Department.

Public Works Report – Mike Meenan stated that it has been a rough number of weeks for the Department. Sorry the report was late. The numerous small storms are harder than a larger storm; they have gone through a lot of salt. There is a shortage again. Our shipment is expected next week. Mayor Chang personally thanked them for the great job they have done especially at Saddle Ridge, thanks for salting the intersection. She commended Lou LaRose, who was in the audience. Mr. Daniels received a letter on Saturday via email from a resident; he read it aloud. The resident wrote to praise the Township's snow removal efforts during the last two storms. He thanked the Public Works department.

Resolutions

30-15 Payment of Vouchers – motion to approve by Mr. Maybury; seconded by Mr. Daniels. All voted yes.

31-15 Receive Bids (municipal building roof replacement and HVAC upgrades) – motion to approve by Ms. Teleisa; seconded by Mr. Daniels. All voted yes.

32-15 Refund Taxes, Block 301.01, Lot 21 – motion to approve by Mr. Maybury; seconded by Mr. Daniels. All voted yes.

33-15 Refund of Taxes, Block 301.03, Lot 19 – motion to approve by Mr. Maybury; seconded by Ms. Teleisa. All voted yes.

34-15 Amendment to Redevelopment Agreement, Project Freedom – motion to approve by Ms. Teleisa; seconded by Mr. Maybury. All voted yes.

35-15 Temporary Capital Budget – motion to approve by Mr. Maybury; seconded by Mr. Daniels. All voted yes.

36-15 Proposed Municipal Budget – motion to approve by Mr. Maybury; seconded by Mr. Daniels. Mr. Daniels voted yes, all voted no. Ms. Teleisa doesn't feel comfortable with it. Mayor Chang feels that she needs to go back to the drawing board to see what else can be done as a service to our residents. Mr. Daniels then changed his vote to "no" to go along with his colleagues. Mr. Daniels asked why we didn't table this instead of voting no. Mayor Chang explained that there is a timetable to introduce the budget and that they were against the wire. Mr. Daniels thought they were all in agreement that this was a budget they worked hard on and were in agreement with, at least at their last meeting they all were. Mayor Chang wants to go back one more time and re examine some of the issues to see if there is anything else they can trim before they introduce it and vote on it.

37-15 Redevelopment Zone, Block 203, Lot 4.03 – motion to approve by Mr. Maybury; seconded by Ms. Teleisa. All voted yes.

38-15 Preparation of Redevelopment Plan, Block 203, Lot 4.03, Project Freedom – motion to approve by Mr. Maybury; seconded by Ms. Teleisa. All voted yes.

39-15 HMEP Grant Program – motion to approve by Ms. Teleisa; seconded by Mr. Maybury. All voted yes.

40-15 Chapter 159, HMEP Grant Program – motion to approve by Ms. Teleisa; seconded by Mr. Maybury. All voted yes.

Ordinances

1-2015 Cap Bank/COLA Ordinance (first reading) – motion to approve by Mr. Maybury; second by Ms. Teleisa. All voted yes.

2-2015 Bond Ordinance (first reading) – motion to approve by Mr. Maybury; second by Ms. Teleisa. All voted yes.

3-2015 Authorize Acquisition of Block 1701, Lot 32 (first reading) – motion to approve by Ms. Teleisa; second by Mr. Maybury. All voted yes.

4-2015 Authorize Acquisition of Block 203, Lot 4.03, Project Freedom (first reading) – motion to approve by Mr. Maybury; second by Ms. Teleisa. All voted yes.

Correspondence

None

Dates to remember

JIF Annual Elected Officials Seminar – 3/11/15, Charley's Other Brother, Eastampton, 6 PM – 8 PM. Mr. Daniels is not able to attend this; he will be out of town.

Comments – Department Heads & Professionals

Police Chief Otto – the medicine drop off box is up and running now, it is outside of the Police Records office. They cannot take syringes.

Open to public Comment

Jerry Mengel – asked who the planning consultant was that was appointed. It is DMR. He asked as the Virtua project progresses if they would receive notice.

Nancy Burkley – asked when the new budget meeting would take place if she would be notified. She was wondering if the date could be sent out via email.

Janet Curran – we have a great community, we always have. She thanked the Public Works, Police and Fire Departments. She feels that the Committee doesn't represent the citizens of Westampton very well. She thinks there is too much power being used and the residents find out information afterwards. Mayor Chang replied that every single member who sits on the Committee has their email address on the website. She gets emails almost every single day from residents that she responds to or forwards them to where they need to go. She is always available, she guarantees she will respond.

Unfortunately she attended a resident's funeral last Friday, Ms. Mary Curry. She will be greatly missed by our seniors in Westampton.

Committee Members Comments

No further comments were made.

There were no further comments and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Marion Karp, Deputy Clerk