

WESTAMPTON TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING

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

November 24, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM with all present. Resolution 11-24-15 was adopted to go into Executive session to discuss personnel and potential litigation.

The meeting was again called to order and reopened at 7:03 PM by Mayor Chang. Requirements of the Sunshine Law were read. This meeting was advertised in the Burlington County Times on 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	Present
Mayor Chang	Present

Justin Yost, Solicitor, was present.

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

Approve 11/24/15 Agenda – motion to approve by Mr. Maybury; second by Mr. Daniels. All voted yes.

Closed session Minutes of 11/10/15 – motion to approve by Mr. Daniels; second by Ms. Teleisa. All voted yes. Minutes of the 11/10/15 meeting – Mr. Daniels, Ms. Teleisa and Mayor Chang had additions and corrections to the minutes. Motion to approve the minutes as corrected by Mr. Daniels; second by Ms. Teleisa. All voted yes.

Public Comments on Agenda Items

No comments were made.

New Business

2016 CDBG Grant Application – the Township has to hold a public hearing for review and comment on applying for a grant. The application is for the same project that we applied for in 2014; it is for widening the sidewalk at the Project Freedom site. We reapplied for the grant since it was too late to do the project in 2015 as we just received DEP and County Engineering approval. This sidewalk runs along Woodlane Road. There were no comments from the public.

EMS Report – no further comments made

Bureau of Fire Prevention Report – no further comments made

Police Report – no further comments made

Resolutions

143-15 Payment of Vouchers – motion to approve by Mr. Maybury; seconded by Ms. Teleisa. All voted yes.

Consent Agenda: one motion and second to approve the following grass lien resolutions: motion to approve by Ms. Teleisa; seconded by Mr. Maybury. All voted yes.

- 144-15 Block 203.01, Lot 41, 81 Westwind Way, \$400.00
- 145-15 Block 203.02, Lot 10, 46 Westwind Way, \$500.00
- 146-15 Block 301.01, Lot 48, 106 North Hill Drive, \$200.00
- 147-15 Block 301.02, Lot 24, 67 North Hill Drive, \$400.00
- 148-15 Block 301.04, Lot 30, 61 North Hill Drive, \$100.00
- 149-15 Block 301.05, Lot 26, 27 North Hill Drive, \$600.00
- 150-15 Block 401.03, Lot 18, 35 Amara Lane, \$600.00
- 151-15 Block 803.01, Lot 4, 8 Kanabe Drive, \$450.00
- 152-15 Block 1001.01, Lot 119, 46 Sawgrass Drive, \$450.00
- 153-15 Block 1001.04, Lot 4, 1 Birkdale Court, \$350.00
- 154-15 Block 1208, Lot 8, 15 Seeley Drive, \$475.00
- 155-15 Block 1209, Lot 5, 12 Seeley Drive, \$275.00
- 156-15 Block 1209, Lot 9, 401 Pennington Drive, \$450.00
- 157-15 Block 1304, Lot 72, 19 Whitlow Drive, \$300.00
- 158-15 Block 1306, Lot 4, 402 Pennington Drive, \$700.00
- 159-15 Block 1502, Lot 57, 19 Lancaster Court, \$450.00

c. 160-15 Authorize 2016 CDBG Application – this resolution authorizes the submission of an application for Project Freedom sidewalk improvements. Motion to approve by Mr. Daniels; seconded by Mr. Maybury. All voted yes.

Ordinances

a. 15-2015 Salary Ordinance (second reading) – this ordinance sets the salaries, wages & compensation of certain employees of Westampton Township (Administration, CFO, Construction Official, Public Works, Court employees). Motion to approve by Mr. Maybury; seconded by Ms. Teleisa. This was opened to the public for comment, no comment was made. All voted yes.

b. 16-2015 Salary Ordinance (second reading) – this ordinance sets the salaries, wages & compensation of certain employees of Westampton Township

(Full time EMTs & Firefighters). This was opened to the public for comment, no comment was made. Motion to approve by Mr. Maybury; seconded by Ms. Teleisa. All voted yes, Mr. Daniels voted no, Mr. Thorpe abstained.

c. 17-2015 Salary Ordinance (second reading) – this ordinance sets the salaries, wages & compensation of certain employees of Westampton Township (Police, Patrolmen & Sergeants). This was opened to the public for comment, no comment was made. Motion to approve by Mr. Maybury; seconded by Ms. Teleisa. All voted yes.

d. 18-2015 Salary Ordinance (second reading) – this ordinance sets the salaries, wages & compensation of certain employees of Westampton Township (Chief of Police & Lieutenant). This was opened to the public for comment, no comment was made. Motion to approve by Mr. Maybury; seconded by Mr. Daniels. All voted yes.

Correspondence

Mayor Chang had received correspondences from the DCA and NJ Housing and Mortgage Finance agency – the Ingerman Apartments and Project Freedom were both approved; they are proud to provide assistance for these 2 worthwhile projects.

200 Club of Burlington County – Friday Feb. 19th, 2016 at Merion Caterers – dinner in honor of EMS and Police Officers whose performance demands special recognition. Mr. Daniels asked if patrolman Einstein might be honored that evening.

Hampton Behavioral Health – a letter was received wishing everyone a Happy Thanksgiving; thanks for attending their ground breaking ceremony.

Dates to Remember

Senior Citizens Holiday Dinner, Wed., Dec. 9th @ 6 PM, WMS

Dec. 12, Breakfast with Santa, 9 AM, WMS

“Santa Around Town”, EMS/Fire, December 19th

Mr. Daniels – had an item of correspondence that he received regarding Virtua; Mayor Chang explained it was read at the last LDB meeting.

Open to public Comment

Nancy Burkley, Olive Street – is confused about Ms. Teleisa’s comment that the public can’t ask questions but can only comment. She asked for clarification. The Mayor explained that Ms. Teleisa was attempting to modify the minutes that she didn’t feel the need to answer a particular question at that time. Mr. Burkley asked what is and what

isn't a question and answer period. Ms. Teleisa explained that the meeting she was referring to was where lots of residents were asking lots of questions, rather like a debate. She felt like not joining in at the time, but answered the question at a later meeting. She didn't feel that it was protocol. Ms. Burkley asked if there was a scheduled time for the Woodmont workshop that had been discussed; Mayor Chang stated that the new Committee members wanted it held next year.

Abraham Lopez – wants to know when the appropriate time is to ask questions; when does this body want to receive questions or is he hearing there is no time for questions. Mayor Chang asked the Solicitor what the statute said; he replied if the Committee wishes to respond, they can do so, some Committees do this directly and some choose to follow the agenda. Mayor Chang asked if a question was posed could the Committee make not of them and answer all of them at one time. The Solicitor answered that the majority of Committees take all of the questions at once and answer them at the end unless they are very simple. Mr. Lopez said he never stated that he wanted to wait until the New Year to hold a Woodmont workshop. Donna Ryan explained that she wanted to bring the new Committee members up to speed on the project; and assumed the workshop would be held after the New Year. Donna hasn't addressed it at all; she wasn't sure if the Committee wanted one since the PILOT agreement was tabled. She thinks it is only fair that the new Committee members meet with Woodmont first. He understands that an agreement was made and signed; he would like to learn more about it and the ramifications of the agreement. It is to his benefit as a newcomer to analyze how best to handle the situation. He wants to make sure that Westampton's best interests are at heart. Mayor Chang finds it interesting that she has reached out twice through Donna for a meeting and hasn't heard anything back. Mr. Lopez is more than willing to meet. Mayor Chang was told that he wouldn't meet with her.

Mr. Daniels – wasn't this body given an opportunity to deal with the Woodmont issue? He doesn't want it to be perceived that we are throwing Donna under the bus. We need to move forward. Donna stated that it was her decision to wait; the agreement was tabled and we have two new committee members; we are obligated to sign a PILOT agreement with them. There isn't enough time this year to introduce an ordinance nor time to hold a workshop. They need to be up to speed and to meet with Woodmont; it is commonsense; we can't act on it until the new Committee members come on.

Mr. Milanes – came last month and doesn't have an answer yet; he says no one cares. Mayor Chang says it is unfair to say that no one cares; they do and they have been discussing it in closed session. They talked about whether there were any grants or any way to finance the monument that he signed for. Perhaps he could head up a Go Fund Me in order to help finance the project. Mr. Daniels had suggested that he meet with his fellow Vets and if it was appropriate to have a monument dedicated to a single unit; she isn't familiar with the protocol. Everyone on this dais cares about this, according to Mayor Chang. This isn't something that is going to happen out of nowhere. Mr. Milanes says there is money for everything else but no money for the Veterans. Mr. Daniels stated that the 65th unit was legendary and very distinctive and a segregated unit. He explained that they want to be careful and not step on anyone's toes. Perhaps there could

be a Korean War monument and list those units that distinguished themselves. He will go over to Willingboro's Millcreek Park and examine their memorials and how they are done. They must be fair and equitable across the board. They have spent a fair amount of time, especially in closed session tonight discussing this. Mr. Milanes wants the kids in the Township to be brought to the memorial so they will know what it stands for. He wants them to know that the Veterans are cared about.

Comments – Department Heads & Professionals

Police Chief Joe Otto – Happy Thanksgiving

Fire Chief Jason Carty – wants to give credit where credit is due; Mr. Knott has been assigned full time to fire inspections and has done a phenomenal job. Revenue is significantly increased as is the level of safety. He wanted to give him a public “Atta boy”. Wants to thank Ms. Teleisa for participating in the fire interviews as well as Deputy Chief Farnsworth and Stephen Ent.

Solicitor Yost – spoke regarding an article in the Philadelphia inquirer; Moorestown has been disingenuous and has drawn the ire of the Fair Share Housing Center and Mr. Walsh and will serve as a cautionary tale to other towns. They will be subject to a lengthy litigation. Westampton has done an exemplary job providing for fair share housing development.

Committee Members Comments

Mr. Daniels – thanked the schools who on November 11th honored all Veterans and active duty by giving awards, one for Mr. Milanes and one for Patrolman Einstein. Mr. Milanes was cited for saving many men in his unit due to having a rapport with many of the local children. Some of these children told him that an attack was probably imminent and they were credited along with him for saving many American lives. Mr. Daniels spoke about the POW white table; the American Legion also held a breakfast that morning. Several meetings ago he was asked a question regarding the running of campaigns and he answered truthfully and named an individual who is sitting in the audience tonight. Since that time there have been some rumblings that what he said was a lie and that he didn't speak the truth; when he answered he answered truthfully. He has no axe to grind and he wants to be abundantly clear. He is fine with even dropping this whole matter.

Mr. Thorpe – have a wonderful Thanksgiving

Ms. Teleisa – this is a time to give thanks and to be thankful for the good things in our lives.

Mr. Maybury- Happy Thanksgiving, enjoy your time with family and friends.

Mayor Chang – there is a lot going on there regarding campaign managers; she herself has served as a campaign manager. Folks can define things the way they want to; it is what it is. Thanksgiving is a family holiday; enjoy your time with your families.

Janet Curran – didn't get a chance to speak during the public comment session. Thanksgiving is very special; we have many families in the Township that we weren't able to take care of this time. We were able to help some families in the Township; if there are more they would like to find out about it. They will be starting up with their Christmas program soon.

Mayor Chang appreciates this; she received a phone call from a court clerk recently regarding someone who didn't have enough food for their family for Thanksgiving. She was referred to Donna and she hopes this woman and her family received some assistance.

There were no further comments and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Marion Karp, Deputy Clerk