

WESTAMPTON TOWNSHIP

REGULAR MEETING

NOVEMBER 27, 2012

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mayor Sidney Camp. Requirements of the Sunshine Law were read. This meeting was advertised in the Burlington County Times January 6, 2012. The flag was saluted and there was a moment of silence.

Roll Call:

Committeewoman Chang	Present
Committeeman Daniels	Present
Committeeman Maybury	Present
Committeewoman Teleisa	Present
Mayor Camp	Present

George Saponaro, Solicitor, was present.

Marion Karp, Deputy Clerk was present.

Minutes of the November 13, 2012 meeting – motion to approve by Mr. Maybury; second by Ms. Teleisa. All voted yes. Closed session minutes of the November 13, 2012 meeting – motion to approve by Ms. Chang; second by Ms. Teleisa. All voted yes.

Comments on agenda items

No comments were made

Old Business

Mr. Daniels – two meetings ago he had introduced a resolution for Lisa's Law (Domestic Violence Act) which gives greater powers to monitoring individuals accused of domestic violence. Troy Singleton, co-sponsor of the bill, said that the bill needs to be tested; we should probably wait a bit so that due diligence takes place. Mr. Daniels would like to formally withdraw the resolution that was tabled.

New Business

Fire/EMS Report – Chief Johnson could not make it to the meeting tonight. The Annual Santa Run is scheduled for Dec. 15th. This is the same day as the Breakfast With Santa.

Police Report – no comments made

Fire Prevention Report – no comments made

Public Works Report – leaves, tree parts and chipping have gone up due to the Hurricane. Forty eight tons of tree parts have already been collected and there is much more to still pick up. The Mayor asked if Mike Meenan could give some kind of a timeline as to when the chipper would be up and running. They are trying to get the bulk of the leaves up right now before it snows and they freeze since once frozen, they are very hard to remove from the streets. Hopefully the chipper will be out on the streets by next Monday. The Mayor asks that the residents be patient and that things could be much worse as it is in other towns.

Ms. Chang – commented that some residents have placed large piles of leaves and limbs so far into the road that it has become a hazard driving around them, especially at night. This is a real issue right now. Mike Meenan commented that this is a major concern for sure. They just can't keep up; all the leaves came down at once, combined with many limbs and trees from the storm. She asked if there was a way to notify residents to not place as many limbs out onto the street.

Ms. Teleisa – there are a few towns in North Jersey that were severely affected by the storm. They sent letters out to the residents and also posted information on their websites. Temporary yard waste sites were set up so residents could drop off limbs and leaves; this is also an option that could be explored. She thought it was important for residents to know exactly when to expect the limb and leaf removal on their street.

Mr. Maybury – commented about the large amount of leaves collected this year, as was detailed in the Public Works report. We are not paying for leaf disposal; we are recycling them in different places. Mr. Maybury commented that leaves can be mulched and don't have to be placed at the street for disposal; it would save the Township a lot of work. Landscapers are blowing huge amounts of leaves to the street.

Mr. Daniels asked if it was possible to contract out for leaf removal services. Mike Meenan tried reaching out for borrowing equipment but everyone around us is in the same boat and has been affected. The parts for the chipper came in today and it should be up and running shortly. He wants to finish out the week with the two leaf vacs and will bring the chipper back next week.

Burlington County ADA Designation, Hogan Farm – the County is going to remove the farm from consideration for Farmland Preservation. Mayor Camp asked if Donna could attend the hearing on November 29th; Marion Karp would pass along the request.

Resolutions

114-12 Payment of Vouchers – motion to approve by Mr. Maybury; seconded by Ms. Chang. All voted yes.

115-12 Cancel Taxes, Block 203.07, Lot 48 & Block 1206, Lot 8 - motion to approve by Mr. Maybury; seconded by Ms. Chang. All voted yes.

116-12 Tort Claim Procedures Update – motion to approve by Ms. Teleisa; seconded by Mr. Maybury. All voted yes.

Ordinances

None

Correspondence

DEP – 2012 Wetland Condition Assessment letter of thanks. They thanked Donna and the Township for allowing some test pits around town.

Dates to remember

Breakfast with Santa, December 15th, 2012 @ 9 AM – 11 AM, Westampton Middle School

Senior Citizens Holiday Dinner, December 19, 2012 @ 6 PM, Westampton Middle School

Santa Run, Westampton Fire/EMS, December 15th

Comments

Fire Official John Augustino – nationwide we have more fires in the winter; it has been a sad week in the County due to two fire fatalities this week. Everyone should check their heaters.

Solicitor George Saponaro – reached out to Mike Dolan's attorney; and is on board with AT&T Wireless. He noticed on the Police Report that one of our officers is involved on the task force for the DEA. There has been some seized money and assets; probably about 30 to 40 thousand dollars. Chief Smith stated that Officer Brewer has been with them since April; in that time he has been involved in seizing more drugs and money than the Department has done in its lifetime. It mostly all comes from the Camden and Philadelphia region.

Mr. Daniels – the Veterans Compensation Cost of Living Adjustment Act was signed today. It is worth about \$500; it is only about \$41 a month; but is a good thing since they received no increases the last two years.

Ms. Chang – there were significant arrests for drunk driving in Westampton over the holiday. There were probably 8 arrests in the past week according to Chief Smith.

Open to public Comment

Jerry Mengel – asked about Hancock Lane; it looked like one of the trash trucks dumped its contents all over the road. There was a big sign that was knocked down during the storm and was lying in the road but has since been moved to the side. The Mayor stated that this is a County road.

Janet Curran – thought there was an Ordinance that prohibited residents from placing leaves in the street. She wanted to commend the Public Works Department, Fire and EMS and Police Departments for their work during the storm. There was a telephone pole near the Turnpike entrance that was leaning and about to fall over. She called many different departments to try to get someone to come and fix it. The pole has finally been replaced; PSE&G did it. It was a dangerous situation. She thanked everyone who may have contributed to the Thanksgiving food drive in Westampton. There was over \$700 dollars in gift cards that were donated and a lot of food as well.

There were no more comments from the public and the meeting was closed.

Mayor Camp – agrees with Ms. Curran and thinks we will have more bad storms in our future. With regards to the pole, the day before and of the storm he was at the Firehouse and they had knowledge of all of the poles that were down in the Township and this information was given to our Emergency Management team. He contacted Freeholder Bruce Gargiano regarding a particular pole that carried the 911 lines into Central. They were trying to prioritize poles that needed repair or replacement.

There were no further comments and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Marion Karp, Deputy Clerk