

WESTAMPTON TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING
7:00 PM Regular Meeting Minutes
October 18, 2022

The meeting was called to order and opened at 7:00 PM by Mayor Sandy Henley. Requirements of the Sunshine Law were read. This meeting was advertised in the Burlington County Times on January 10, 2022. This meeting was held in person in the Westampton Township Municipal Building Courtroom. The flag was saluted and there was a moment of silence.

Roll Call:

Committeewoman Burkley	Present
Committeeman Carr	Present
Mayor Henley	Present
Committeewoman Mungo	Present
Committeewoman Wright	Present

Township Administrator, Deputy Clerk, Township Solicitor, Chief of Police and Fire Chief were also present.

Presentation:

Oath of Office for Officer Daniel Hurff

The committee took a brief break.

Approval of Minutes:

October 4, 2022, Regular meeting minutes.

Motion to approve was made by Ms. Mungo; seconded by Mr. Carr.

Ms. Burkley commented on the reason behind why she asked for the motion to table the minutes, which was not explained in the published minutes. She would like for in the future that they sit down together to talk about how to write out motions.

Mayor Henley commented back that, in the future if any committee members would like to have a meeting after the meetings to discuss as a collaborative group on how to write out motions, that would be appropriate.

Motion carried 5-0.

Ayes: Burkley, Carr, Mungo, Wright, Mayor Henley

Naye: none

Abstain: none

Open Meeting for Public Comments on Agenda Items Only:

Gary Berberian, 138 Winstead Drive, had a question on page 2 of the monthly police report, asking about the meeting that the Police Chief had with human services on the 26th of September about the homelessness. He was wondering if there were any minutes or summary of that meeting.

Police Lieutenant Brian Ferguson responded to Gary that the meeting was informal and not recorded.

Terrance Brown, 9 Pine Tree Drive, looked up the canvassing and soliciting Ordinance for clarification in other towns, regarding if it included or excluded political campaigning door to door. He found that in other townships such as Evesham, Lincoln Park and Clinton, NJ they do not include political campaigning. He requested the Ordinance to be more clearly written to avoid confusion. Terrance also had a question about the licensing fees for veterans, asking for a clearer understanding of who is entitled to the exemptions and who is not.

Daniel Pensiero, 13 East Dogwood Court, was looking for clarification on the wording for Ordinance 9-2022.

All in favor to close public comment.

Monthly Reports: Westampton Township Police Department Report, Westampton Township Fire/EMS Report

Ordinances:

Second Reading

- a. 8-2022 Ordinance Authorizing the Township of Westampton, in the County of Burlington, New Jersey to Amending Chapter 203 of the Code of the Township of Westampton Entitled "Solicitors and Canvassers"

Public Comment on Ordinance 8-2022:

Gary Berberian, 138 Winstead Drive, noticed that the only way to register for a NO KNOCK tag was either in person or online. He asked if there could be a mail-in option for the people who do not have computers, or for disabled people who cannot register in person.

Mayor Henley asked Robert Wright our Township Solicitor if the mail-in option could be done.

Mr. Wright responded by saying the Committee would have to amend the Ordinance.

Nancy Burkley stated that she clarified with Township Administrator, Wendy Gibson, that this Ordinance only applies to someone who is coming door-to-door trying to sell you something, not someone who is campaigning.

Motion to approve was made by Ms. Mungo; seconded by Ms. Burkley.

Motion carried 5-0.

Ayes: Burkley, Carr, Mungo, Wright, Mayor Henley

Naye: none

Abstain: none

Second Reading

- b. 9-2022 Ordinance Authorizing the Township of Westampton, in the County of Burlington, New Jersey to Amending Chapter 88 of the Code of the Township of Westampton Entitled "Licensing Fees"

Public Comment on Ordinance 9-2022:

Chris D'Alessandro, 119 2nd Street Rancocas Village, explained the definition of a reservist and who is applicable. He would like to see the wording in the Ordinance changed to reflect all qualified reservists.

Gary Berberian, 138 Winstead Drive, stated that the Ordinance is only strictly applied to members of the armed services. He would like to see it broadened to all the uniform services, including all eight of the uniform services of the United States.

Daniel Pensiero, 13 East Dogwood Court, supports everything the Committee is trying to do with this Ordinance, but he would appreciate if the verbiage could be changed so it does not confuse people.

Mayor Henley asked Township Solicitor, Robert Wright, if the Ordinance could be amended to cover the changes.

Mr. Wright responded by saying that the intent was to include the National Guard and all other uniform servicing members. There would have to be a motion to amend the Ordinance to include the correct verbiage.

Motion to amend and approve was made by Ms. Burkley; seconded by Ms. Mungo.
Motion carried 5-0.

Ayes: Burkley, Carr, Mungo, Wright, Mayor Henley

Naye: none

Abstain: none

Resolutions:

- a. 150-22 Payment of Vouchers – this resolution approves the payment of bills through 10/18/2022.

Motion to approve was made by Ms. Burkley; seconded by Mr. Carr.
Motion carried 5-0.

Ayes: Burkley, Carr, Mungo, Wright, Mayor Henley

Naye: none

Abstain: none

b. 151-22 Resolution Authorizing Purchase of Playground Equipment

Nancy Burkley wanted clarification on which vendor the Township was purchasing from. Ms. Gibson responded that we were purchasing with the lesser expensive one.

Motion to approve was made by Mr. Carr; seconded by Ms. Wright.

Motion carried 5-0.

Ayes: Burkley, Carr, Mungo, Wright, Mayor Henley

Naye: none

Abstain: none

OPM Mailbox & Correspondence:

None.

Open Meeting for Public Comment:

Lori Hustus, 14 Kanabe Drive, requested the Committee members to be kind to each other.

Mayor Henley agreed with Ms. Hustus.

All in favor to close public comment.

Dates to Remember:

Dates to Remember: Next Scheduled Meeting November 1st @7PM; Recruiting Event at Camden County College on October 19th 10AM-2PM; Trunk-or-Treat October 29th 3-5PM@ Westampton Middle School; Rabies clinic November 12th 9-11AM@ the Westampton Township Municipal Building.

Administrator's Report:

Ms. Gibson thanked our Deputy Clerk, Samantha Horton, for stepping in for Ms. Gibson while she could not attend the last two meetings, and that she is doing a very good job. Secondly, she would like to congratulate Mr. Carr on passing his Bar exam.

She gave an update on the purchase of the playground, stating that she was able to negotiate the cost down a little lower, by having our Township Public Works department disassemble the current playground equipment. This will save the Township \$9,000.

She also gave an update on the ladder truck Fire Chief Farnsworth is trying to purchase for our Township. He has been doing extensive research on trying to find the best truck for our Township's needs.

She provided an update on the road program. The Township just completed Rancocas Court and Howell Road. These were projects originally approved in 2021 but needed to be rebid on due to PSE&G involvement.

Ms. Gibson then provided clarification on the NO KNOCK Ordinance, stating it prevents solicitation for financial gain, not informational, religious nor political affiliation.

Committee Liaison Reports/Comments:

Committeeman Carr commented that the changes for the Master Plan are posted online. He encourages the residents who are interested to review the information.

Committeewoman Mungo congratulated Officer Hurff on being sworn in as a full time officer. Ms. Mungo also congratulated Chief Farnsworth on the Fire House's open house during Fire prevention week, and congratulated Jim DiDonato on becoming our new Superintendent for the Westampton School District. She thanked him for being at the committee meeting to meet the committee members.

Committeewoman Wright thanked our Public Works team on getting the basketball courts done at the Holly Hills School, and she invites all residents to go out and enjoy the brand-new courts.

Committeewoman Burkley congratulated Committeeman Carr on passing the Bar exam. Ms. Burkley mentioned that it was a great turn out at the Fire House's open house, she said the fire fighters were excited to show off all their new equipment and she can tell the fire fighters really love their jobs and working for Chief Farnsworth.

Ms. Burkley also congratulated Mr. DiDonato on becoming the new Superintendent, and she is excited to see all the good work he does for our township.

Mayor Henley thanked the police, fire, Administrator, Solicitor, and Deputy Clerk for being at the meeting. He extended additional congratulations to Ms. Horton for overseeing the last two meetings, while our Administrator was out.

Mr. Henley welcomed Mr. DiDonato to the township and stated that he looks forward to working with him. Mr. Henley also thanked all residents that came out to the meeting and those who gave their input on making some adjustments.

All in favor to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:28 PM.
Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Gibson, Acting Municipal Clerk