

WESTAMPTON TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING

6:30 PM CLOSED SESSION 7:00 PM REGULAR MEETING

AUGUST 9, 2011

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 February 25, 2011. The flag was saluted and there was a moment of silence.

Mr. Daniels wanted to recognize the loss of life that occurred over in Afghanistan and just very recently another death.

Roll Call:

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

George Saponaro, Solicitor, was present.

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

Minutes of the July 12, 2011 meeting; motion to accept by Mr. Robbins, second by Mr. Daniels. All voted yes. Closed session minutes of July 12, 2011; motion to accept by Mr. Daniels, second by Mr. Robbins. All voted yes. Minutes of the July 19, 2011 special meeting; motion to accept by Mr. Daniels, second by Mr. Maybury. All voted yes, Mr. Robbins abstained.

Scheduled Appointments

6:00 PM – Closed session

7:30 PM – Timbuctoo presentation. Chris Barton gave a presentation on the progress of the dig at Timbuctoo.

Comments on agenda items

No comments made.

Old Business

Fernwood Springs Farm – we are continuing to wait for updates, Donna spoke to the County yesterday, soon she would have a resolution before the Committee to proceed.

Farmer's Market Rules – we will put this back on the agenda in late winter; it is a bit too late to pursue now.

New Business

Appoint Susan Graubart (Temporary Municipal Court Deputy Clerk) – motion to approve by Mr. Daniels; second by Mr. Robbins. All voted yes.

Appoint Alternate Public Defender – motion to appoint Robert Prisco made by Mr. Robbins; there was no second made. All voted no, Mr. Robbins voted yes. Mr. Daniels made a motion to appoint Daryl Pennington; there was no second made. All voted no, Mr. Daniels voted yes, Ms. Chang abstained. Mr. Maybury then nominated James Grace; there was no second made. All voted no, Mr. Maybury and Mayor Camp voted yes. None of the motions carried.

Ms. Chang then made a motion to conduct interviews with the candidates; the motion was seconded by Mr. Robbins. All voted yes.

Public Works Report – Mr. Maybury asked if there was an approximate count on man hours for the recent storm. Supervisor Mike Meenan stated that the crews worked for 7 hours in Rancocas and took 26 tons of tree parts to the County landfill. They chipped 36 yards of brush and tree parts from Rancocas from the storm. Mr. Maybury asked if we can apply for state aid for the storm damage. Donna said that would could not, the damage would have had to be more widespread, they didn't declare it a state of emergency

Police Report – Chief Smith was in Virginia yesterday; he flew on a C9 and a Blackhawk helicopter. Officer Caulfield is down there on active duty.

Raffle License #8-2011, The Drenk Foundation (Burlington Country Club 9/20/11) – motion to approve by Mr. Daniels; second by Mr. Robbins. All voted yes.

Raffle License #9-2011, The Drenk Foundation (Burlington Country Club 9/20/11) – motion to approve by Mr. Robbins; second by Mr. Maybury. All voted yes.

Raffle License #10-2011, Professional Assistance Program, 9/26/11 – motion to approve by Mr. Daniels; second by Mr. Maybury. All voted yes.

Best Practices Inventory Questionnaire – the Committee had a copy of Donna's responses for this year. It needs to be reviewed at a Township meeting. We are within the limits to not have any State aid taken away.

Westampton Memorial American Legion Post 509 Annual Report – Mr. Daniels stated that this is the most outstanding post in terms of membership and activity in Burlington County.

Municipal Court Reports – Donna will compile another report that will be up to date at the next meeting. The figures shown in this report are the net receivable to the Township, Eastampton and Hainesport.

Bureau of Fire Prevention Report – will be getting ready for Fire Prevention week in October. There has been no fire activity in town recently according to Fire Official John Augustino.

EMS Report – Fire Chief Wylie Johnson stated that the department has entered into a contract with Virtua which has improved training opportunities, as well as providing better medical records. It is free to the Township and the contract lasts for five years. Mr. Daniels asked if they had a replacement for the fire safety trailer. The department is looking at grants that may be available. Mr. Daniels asked if it can be used for a training device; the Chief stated it is just best to not use it; it is very old, nearly 25 years old. It is past repair. Mr. Daniels asked about the two firefighters that were injured; they are both fine.

Appoint Joshua Rowbottom – he will replace the Police officer that left on August 1. Mr. Robbins asked what this does to our budget; it actually reduces the budget expense. We will offer him the position tomorrow morning; and will have a resolution to appoint him and swear him in at our September meeting. He has been a Class 2 officer for us for 2.5 years. Mr. Daniels made a motion to approve; the motion was seconded by Mr. Maybury.

Approve \$35K COAH payment for 611 Downing Court – this unit will go towards our affordable housing stock. Motion to approve by Mr. Maybury; Mr. Daniels seconded the motion. All voted yes.

Ordinances

11-2011 Solar Energy System Regulations, second reading – motion to approve by Mr. Daniels; second by Mr. Robbins. All voted yes. This was opened to the public for comment, no comment was made.

Resolutions

80-11 Payment of Vouchers – motion to approve by Mr. Maybury; seconded by Ms. Chang. All voted yes. Mr. Robbins asked about the Verizon teleconference charge; this is for the court and is a monthly charge. He asked about replacement of the Police Department floor, it is a capital item. He questioned the PDA engineering bill; he thought all the costs for this was going to be borne by the PDA. They are paying for these engineering bills out of their escrow account.

81-11 Chapter 159, 2009 Recycling Tonnage Grant – motion to approve by Mr. Robbins; seconded by Mr. Maybury. All voted yes.

82-11 Reduction of PDA Bond – motion to approve by Mr. Maybury; seconded by Mr. Daniels. All voted yes.

83-11 Executive Session – for discussion of personnel. Motion to approve by Mr. Daniels; seconded by Mr. Maybury. All voted yes.

Correspondence

Master Plan Reexamination – time to review the Master Plan is reduced to every ten years instead of every 6 years. This will be a cost saver to municipalities.

NJ Dept. of Transportation – Municipal Aid, Bikeway & Safe Streets to Transit Programs – we will apply for the second part of Holly Lane; as well as the bikeways on Route 541 and Springside Road; the engineering is already done so we will re submit for those grants.

FBI National Academy – attendance invitation for Chief Smith. This is an 11 week program; it is all day, five days a week. It is the equivalent of 17 college credits. Mr. Daniels congratulated Chief Smith.

Workshop – discussions to be scheduled at a later date

Rancocas Traffic –

Snow parking – Mike Meenan would like to see this done at the end of October or the beginning of November.

Burlington County Farmland Preservation Program Ordinances – still waiting for the County to send these.

Historic Preservation Ordinance – will have another workshop in the fall.

Wawa – Springside Road – workshop 9/27/11 6:00 PM

Dates to remember

September 24th – Westampton Day

October 13th – Open House at the Fire House 6 PM – 9 PM (Fire Prevention Week)

September 11th – 10 year anniversary of 9/11

Comments

Fire Chief Wylie Johnson – there were lots of fires for the crews in July, accidents and traumas.

Mike Meenan – thanked Rancocas for their patience with the clean up and thanked the employees for getting in as quick as they could that night. He also thanked Gene for helping out several hours that night with the clean up.

Solicitor George Saponaro – before the interviews for the alternate prosecutor are conducted you may want to schedule single court sessions to try them out; it is just a suggestion. Other towns do things similar to this.

Mr. Daniels – kudos to Westampton Town Watch in cooperation with our Police Department for National Night Out and the car show. It exceeded his expectations; he looks forward to events like this in our community.

Ms. Chang – Westampton recreation is preparing for Westampton day. Mr. Daniels asked if there will be any surprises or anything different this year.

Open to public Comment

Janet Curran – Westampton Police did a fabulous job along with Town Watch on National Night Out. She wanted to know why there was an article in the paper in 2010 that said the football field would cost 30 to 40 thousand but now it is costing so much more. The field isn't free, we are paying for it.

Dave Guerrero – wants the approval of the Committee for the Solicitor to put out a Request for Approval to install solar on the municipal building. George Saponaro stated that we wouldn't be able to define the scope of the bid without first paying an engineer to find out exactly what we would need. Mr. Maybury commented that the Mt. Holly MUA just opened bids today for the exact same thing; it costs about \$50K to pay for engineering work. Mr. Robbins asked why we couldn't just request information from vendors; nothing formal. Why couldn't they come and give us suggestions as to how we should proceed. He thinks there is no harm in doing this. Solicitor Saponaro thinks this is a dangerous proposition; we still need to define in what direction we want to go; the engineer is still going to have to work on this; he will need to examine the roof, etc. The engineer must do it in such a manner that the specifications are all there. He doesn't think we will get what we want at all if we ask them to do it this way. Mr. Robbins thinks we should ask different solar companies to come out and tell us how to proceed. Solicitor Saponaro could reach out to a few companies he has dealt with and have them come in. Mr. Robbins wants to make a motion. Mayor Camp stated that most companies he has dealt with would require a percentage first. Mr. Robbins made a motion to seek an RFI on solar; second by Mr. Daniels. Mr. Daniels thinks if we move forward by way of an RFI that it would appear there is no commitment on our part, it is just for information. Solicitor George Saponaro doesn't recommend putting anything out publicly. Mr. Maybury says the engineering will have to be done at some point, why not do it in the beginning? Mr. Robbins thinks we should just ask for information. The Solicitor asked that the Committee at least ask the engineer what it would cost. Mr. Daniels would like a formal request from various types of suppliers. Donna suggested that they let Dave Guerrero pursue this; he has offered to gather information.

Chris Valerio, 216 Main Street - was on his way to work this morning and looked at the sports complex; they took down a 100 year old tree today. He thinks it is sad that all this money was take from the Open Space Fund and they couldn't save this tree. He thinks it should be made more natural looking and taking this tree down is not the way to go.

Mayor Camp – spoke regarding the presentation given by Dr. Orr and Chris Barton on Timbuctoo. The dig took place from late June through mid July. The next Committee meeting will take place on Sept. 13th at 7:00 pm.

There were no further comments and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Marion Karp, Deputy Clerk