

WESTAMPTON TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING

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

March 6, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM with all Committee members present. Resolution 3-6-17 was adopted to go into Executive session to discuss staffing, Professional Development Day, use of sports complex fields and municipal building policies.

The meeting was again called to order and reopened at 7:00 PM by Mayor Daniels. Requirements of the Sunshine Law were read. This meeting was advertised in the Burlington County Times January 5, 2017. The flag was saluted and there was a moment of silence.

Roll Call:

Committeeman Lopez	Present
Committeewoman Smith-Hartman	Present
Committeewoman Teleisa	Present
Committeeman Wisniewski	Present
Mayor Daniels	Present

Al Marmero, Solicitor, was present.

Maria Carrington, Administrator and Marion Karp, Clerk, were present.

Approve 3/6/17 Agenda – motion to approve by Mr. Lopez; second by Ms. Smith-Hartman. All voted yes.

Minutes of the 2/21/2017 meeting – motion to approve by Mr. Lopez; second by Ms. Teleisa. All voted yes. Minutes of the 2/21/2017 Closed session meeting – motion to approve by Mr. Lopez; second by Ms. Smith-Hartman. All voted yes.

Scheduled Appointments

None

Public Comments on agenda items

Janet Curran – asked about Ordinance #1-2017; she wasn't able to attend the last Township meeting; she asked if this was about the Wawa. This one will be close to our developments; most Wawa stores that have gas stations aren't close to neighborhoods.

New Business

2016 Safety Incentive Program Awards – we are receiving the maximum award.

Resolutions

54-17 Payment of Vouchers – motion to approve by Mr. Lopez; seconded by Ms. Teleisa. All voted yes.

55-17 Refund Taxes, Block 1001.01, Lot 24 – motion to approve by Mr. Lopez; seconded by Ms. Smith-Hartman. All voted yes.

56-17 Authorize Closing of Municipal Building for Professional Development – motion to approve by Mr. Lopez; second by Ms. Smith-Hartman. All voted yes.

57-17 Authorize Shared Service Agreement – motion to approve by Mr. Lopez; seconded by Ms. Smith-Hartman. All voted yes.

58-17 Authorize Lease/Purchase of Pickup Truck – motion to approve by Mr. Lopez; seconded by Ms. Smith-Hartman. All voted yes.

Ordinances

1-2017 Amend Chapter 250, Section 250-4, Zoning (second reading) – motion to approve by Mr. Lopez; seconded by Ms. Smith-Hartman. This was opened to the public for comment. Nancy Burkley asked about the current service stations at this intersection and if they will be grandfathered. Anyone who is currently operating as such will be grandfathered in. Ms. Teleisa wanted to go on the record to state that Wawa needs a traffic study; it is a very busy intersection. She believes in economic development, we all do, however, she would feel more comfortable in getting a traffic study done now. Mr. Lopez, speaking as a resident in District 1, thinks this is something for the whole town; he thinks it will attract more business to the community that the residents do want. He acknowledges Ms. Curran's and Ms. Teleisa's concerns; Wawa will have to appear before the Land Development Board and present plans as well as a traffic impact study. There are currently two gas stations on the corner; one is for sale and the other is being used as an auto repair. He thinks the residents need a gas station over in this area. The existing Wawa is in dire need of remodeling; the parking lot is much too small as well as being a safety hazard. Mayor Daniels is in favor of this ordinance; it represents smart economic growth for Westampton Township. Ms. Teleisa wanted to reiterate that Wawa should go through the Land Development Board; she wants to proceed with caution and doesn't want to skip anything. Mr. Lopez explained that under our current ordinance this type of gas and convenience store retail establishment isn't permitted; Wawa would have to seek a use variance. They will still have to come before the Board for approvals; they won't, however, have to ask for a use variance. They will still require a site plan approval. All voted yes, Ms. Teleisa voted no.

2-2017 Ordinance to Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits & to Establish a Cap Bank (first reading) – motion to approve by Mr. Lopez; seconded by Ms. Smith-Hartman. All voted yes. Maria Carrington explained that this ordinance must be done annually; under the 1977 appropriation law Townships couldn't increase their budgets due to the COLA law. This gives us more leeway and also lets us bank any appropriations that aren't expended.

Correspondence

KME Aerial Truck – letter regarding extension of warranty. The Township has been granted an additional 18 months of warranty with the option to purchase additional time if they so desire. Mr. Lopez would like a resolution accepting the additional warranty. We should still proceed with caution. There are 27 pages of issues/work that has been performed on the truck.

Dates to Remember

3/29/17 @ 6 PM Elected Officials Liability Seminar, Eastampton, NJ, O'Connor's Restaurant – all Committee members would attend; we receive \$250 off of our insurance premium for each that attends.

PTO Spring Fling Basket Auction, Crescent Shrine – March 10, 2017

2017 Budget Meetings – 3/6/17 @ 8 PM; 3/16/17 @ 5:30 PM

3/18/17 Rancocas Nature Center Beef n Beer, Mt. Holly Moose Lodge, 7-10 PM

WMS – 3/23/17 Career Day

3/24/17 Rutgers University; RVRHS 3/25/17 International Timbuctoo Symposium

4/18/17 @ 10:30 AM - Blue Mass for fallen officers to be held at St. Mary's Cathedral, Trenton

Carolyn Chang – there are various dates involving Timbuctoo: 3/24/17 and 3/25/17, Rutgers University, a site visit here in Westampton and a symposium at RVRHS.

Mary Weston – is saddened by the absence of any mention of Timbuctoo. Mayor Daniels stated that it will be posted on our Township website. Maria Carrington stated that we need to be informed of these events so that we can publicize them. Mr. Lopez asked if Ms. Weston could send any flyers or promotional materials to us so that we can publicize it. The Committee does want to be fully informed about what is going on and what their plans are for the future.

Open to public Comment

Janet Curran – she wants to know more about Timbuctoo and what is happening there.

Gary B., 138 Winstead Drive – asked if the aerial truck was the subject of the shared service agreement. Mr. Lopez stated that the mechanics would work on all of our trucks. He looked at the shared service agreement; he stated that he didn't see any language regarding the aerial ladder. We are saving \$10/hour on routine maintenance charges and also saving on mileage taking the trucks for service. Craig Farnsworth explained that Mt. Laurel has 2 KME certified mechanics that are authorized to perform warranty service. Mr. Barberian is concerned that the same people won't be working on the truck and thus won't be familiar with it. A lot of the work is preventative maintenance according to Craig.

Comments – Department Heads & Professionals

Craig Farnsworth – a controlled burn by the Division of Forestry was done last week in Rancocas State Park; they have a problem with early notification. Whether or not they can burn depends on the weather. The Fire/EMS Department only got a 12 hour warning which was not as much as they would have liked. They will have the Police put it out on Nixle, as well as putting it on Facebook and do a reverse 911. They plan on burning a section a year; it is good for the forest.

Committee Members Comments

Mr. Wisniewski – keep up the good work department heads; thanked the residents for coming out.

Ms. Smith-Hartman – echoed Mr. Wisniewski's sentiments

Ms. Teleisa – have a good evening

Mr. Lopez – happy Women's Month; happy Irish Heritage month.

Mayor Daniels – commended and thanked Patrolwoman Mikki Gable who participated in a run down at Disney World. Out of 18,000 participants she finished in the top 900; truly a notable accomplishment.

There were no further comments and the meeting was adjourned at 7:47 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marion Karp, Municipal Clerk

