

## WESTAMPTON TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING

6:00 PM Closed Session    7:03 PM Regular Meeting

September 6, 2016

The regular meeting was called to order at 7:01PM by Mayor Daniels. Requirements of the Sunshine Law were read. This meeting was advertised in the Burlington County Times on January 14, 2016. The flag was saluted. Mayor Daniels dedicated the moment of silence to Patrolman Max Scherzer. There was a moment of silence.

### Roll Call:

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

Al Marmero, Solicitor, was present.

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

### **Scheduled Appointments**

7:00 PM – Swear in new Class II Police Officers: Mikki Gable, Joshua Meeks, Kody Johnson. Mayor Daniels swore in the 3 new Class III Police Officers. He extended his congratulations to all three new Westampton officers.

A ten minute break was taken for refreshments.

Approve 9/6/16 Agenda – motion to approve made by Ms. Chang; seconded by Mr. Lopez. All voted yes.

Closed Session Minutes of 8/1/16 – motion to approve by Mr. Lopez; seconded by Ms. Smith-Hartman. Mr. Lopez, Ms. Smith-Hartman and Mr. Daniels voted yes; Ms. Chang and Ms. Teleisa abstained.

Regular Meeting Minutes of 8/1/16 – motion to approve by Mr. Lopez; seconded by Ms. Teleisa. All voted yes.

### **Public Comments on Agenda Items**

Gary Barberian – had attended the last meeting and commented. His name appeared incorrectly in the minutes.

## **Old Business**

Mr. Daniels – we ended the last meeting on a note where there was some thought as to whether Westampton Township was a named party in a lawsuit; in fact, we were not named. He proceeded to read some quotes from a letter to the Editor Mr. Kotch had written to the Burlington County Times.

## **New Business**

Proclamation – *Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over 2016 Statewide Crackdown*

Westampton Memorial American Legion Post 509 – Annual Report of Community Activities. Mr. Daniels thanked Post 509 for their tireless work for the community. They lead the pack in terms of leadership and department and countywide activities. Sam Hayes spoke on behalf of the Post; they sent 11 boys to NJ Boy's State this year; he thanked the Committee for their support.

Police Report – Mr. Daniels thanked Chief Joe Otto; the last few weeks have been tough on the department. Their efforts have not gone unnoticed.

EMS Report – Mr. Lopez stated that Chief Craig Farnsworth had a conflict this evening and couldn't be here.

## **Resolutions**

73-16 Payment of Vouchers – motion to approve made by Mr. Lopez; seconded by Ms. Teleisa. All voted yes.

74-16 Approve Tax Appeal Settlement – motion to approve made by Ms. Chang; seconded by Ms. Teleisa. All voted yes.

75-16 Appoint Deputy Municipal Clerk – motion to approve made by Ms. Teleisa; seconded by Mr. Lopez. All voted yes.

76-16 Chapter 159, CDBG Woodlane Road improvements – motion to approve by Mr. Lopez; seconded by Ms. Teleisa. All voted yes.

77-16 Cancel Taxes, Block 604, Lot 16 - motion made by Ms. Chang; second by Ms. Teleisa. All voted yes.

78-16 Appoint Contact Person for the EPL Attorney Consultation Service – motion to approve by Ms. Teleisa; seconded by Mr. Lopez. All voted yes.

79-16 Appoint BURLCO JIF Fund Commissioner – motion to approve by Ms. Teleisa; seconded by Mr. Lopez. All voted yes.

80-16 Authorize Shared Services Agreement – motion to approve by Mr. Lopez; seconded by Ms. Smith-Hartman. All voted yes, Ms. Chang abstained. Mr. Daniels explained that this would enable Westampton Township to use Willingboro’s vehicle wash system which is something we have needed for Public Works.

81-16 Extension of Time for Payment of Tax Bills – motion to approve by Ms. Smith-Hartman; seconded by Mr. Lopez. All voted yes.

82-16 Cancel Taxes, Block 906.06, Lot 12 – motion to approve by Mr. Lopez; seconded by Ms. Smith-Hartman. All voted yes. Mr. Lopez mentioned that resident Mr. D’Errico has stated he wants to meet with the Tax Assessor who is willing to meet with him regarding the process she uses to qualify Veterans for tax exemption.

83-16 Refund Taxes, Block 1001.08, Lot 14 – motion to approve by Mr. Lopez; seconded by Ms. Teleisa. All voted yes.

84-16 Chapter 159, Click It or Ticket – motion to approve by Mr. Lopez; seconded by Ms. Chang. All voted yes.

### **Ordinances**

None

### **Correspondence**

None

### **Dates to Remember**

Westampton Township Farmers Market – every Thursday at the Burlington County Library from 4 to 7 PM.

October 1<sup>st</sup> – Rancocas Ham Supper

October 15<sup>th</sup> – Westampton PTO Fun Run, registration is at 9 AM.

September 17<sup>th</sup> – first marching band competition for RVRHS. It will involve bands from all over Burlington County. Ms. Jones asked Chief Otto if they could put it on their portable sign.

Firehouse Open House – October 2016

October 28 – Westampton Fall Festival, Westampton Sports Complex

Sept 17<sup>th</sup> 2 11 PM – special presentation to Sean Cullen’s family

October 14 - Congressman McArthur – will be honoring veterans at the Medford VFW. If anyone knows of any vets who served during WWII please let Mr. Daniels know as he would like them to attend.

### **Open to Public Comment**

Vernita Jones – asked the Solicitor if Westampton Township could be named in the lawsuit; he answered sure, anyone could be named.

Garfield Harper – has lived here a long time; people are in for a rude awakening. When the schools needed an addition taxes went up about a thousand dollars a year; that's what happened back then. He went to see the Fire Marshal again; his next door neighbor has been lighting huge bonfires again in the backyard. His wife is handicapped and is in a wheelchair; she can't get out if the house catches on fire. Mr. Lopez would reach out to the Fire Chief to see what they could do; he is the liaison. This is the third time Mr. Harper has complained about this.

Janet Curran – thanked the Police Department for the National Night Out in August. She would like to sit down with the Timbuctoo Advisory Commission and give them her ideas. She wants to know why we aren't trying to purchase some open space. Ms. Chang told her that a sign just went up on property on Burrs Road for the Deacon Farm which was just preserved thanks to the County and Westampton Township. Mr. Daniels thanked her for bringing this to their attention.

### **Comments from Department Heads and Professionals**

Police Chief Otto – thanked the Committee for authorizing the hiring of the 3 new Class II officers and for their support. He is looking forward to working with new Administrator Maria Carrington.

Emergency Management Coordinator Daryl Caulfield – congratulated Maria Carrington, he looks forward to working with her. We did dodge Tropical Storm Hermine; thankfully it didn't come to fruition. FEMA has a very good website with lots of resources; it is a good idea to check since we are in hurricane season. Paperwork for winter storm Jonas is still in process; it takes a long time. Most of it was submitted in March and April. He submitted more that was requested today; it takes patience.

Maria Carrington – thanks to everyone for coming out to Donna's retirement luncheon. She looks forward to working with everyone.

Ms. Smith-Hartman – congratulations to Maria and Marion. She wants to address the time limit allotted to public comment; she doesn't want to appear to be rude but the Committee did decide to limit it to three minutes per person so they should adhere to it.

Ms. Teleisa – thanked Vince Knott and the EMS staff; she still drops by the fire station. They didn't have dinner until about 9 PM that evening due to the volume of calls. She

rode along on one of the calls; it was a car fire on the Turnpike. It was amazing to watch them work; she is very impressed. The last few months have been very difficult for the police department; they truly are the definition of a family. She is very appreciative of them. Congratulations to Marion on her new appointment; a good job by Maria on her first meeting.

Ms. Chang – congratulations to Maria on her new position; and to Marion. Thanks so much to the police department; the National Night Out was wonderful. She hopes everyone had a restful Labor Day weekend to spend with family and good friends.

Mr. Lopez – welcome again to Maria; thanks for being proactive. He feels as if the transition was seamless and congratulations to Marion. The school issue is a community issue, one that they have to tackle together. He believes that meetings should follow Robert's Rules of Order; he was disheartened and saddened to see that this was not followed by some members of the Committee at the August meeting. Discussion and debate should be encouraged before a vote is taken, not during the actual vote. He thinks what happened is an offense to the residents by reading a prepared statement as was done by one Committee member. He feels like many left the meeting thinking that information was withheld from them. He hopes that moving forward the procedural rules will be followed.

Mayor Daniels– he doesn't have meetings outside of the ones that take place here at the municipal building. He congratulated Maria and Marion on their new positions. He feels the Committee made the absolute best and wisest choice. He had an opportunity to salute Donna Ryan last week on her retirement; she worked tirelessly for the Township for 38 years. We would salute her more formally in October. Today was the first day of school; there were 2 school board members in attendance this evening. One of our municipal court personnel's brother suddenly passed away in August as did Patrolman Scherzer. He spoke about Kelsi Worrell and her Olympic achievements. If anyone knows anyone that needs school book bags, they are available to give out, just let Maria know. He thanked our EMS personnel for all of their efforts. National Night Out was a success. Abe Weston passed away last week; he is the former husband of Mary Weston, a resident and the father of Guy Weston, the chair of our Timbuctoo commission.

There were no further comments and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Marion Karp, Municipal Clerk