

WESTAMPTON TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING

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

September 19, 2016

The regular meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM 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. There was a moment of silence, in recognition of the latest terrorist acts.

Roll Call:

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

Doug Long, Solicitor, was present.

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

Approve 9/19/16 Agenda – motion to approve made by Mr. Lopez; there was no second because the agenda would be amended so the motion was removed. Ms. Teleisa made a motion to table the 3 salary ordinances that were on this evening's agenda; the motion was seconded by Ms. Chang. All voted yes. Ms. Chang moved to approve the new agenda; seconded by Ms. Smith-Hartman. All voted yes.

Scheduled Appointments

7:00 PM – Swear in new EMT/Firefighter Greg Barna – Mayor Daniels swore in new EMT/Firefighter Greg Barna. He then swore in new Deputy Fire Official Vincent Knott.

Resolution #90-16 Appoint Deputy Fire Official – motion to approve by Ms. Teleisa; seconded by Mr. Lopez. All voted yes. This was moved up on the agenda.

Closed Session Minutes of 9/6/16 – motion to approve by Ms. Chang; seconded by Ms. Smith-Hartman. All voted yes.

Regular Meeting Minutes of 9/6/16 – motion to approve by Mr. Lopez; seconded by Ms. Smith-Hartman. Ms. Teleisa wanted a sentence added to the comments section. All voted yes.

Public Comments on Agenda Items

Vernita Jones – wanted a correction to the minutes. She asked if Vincent Knott's salary would change due to him being appointed Deputy Fire Official; it would not.

New Business

Public Works Report – Ms. Chang asked Director Mike Meenan how it was going with limb pickup; she noticed there are still branches out. He answered that they finished in two and one half days. The new rotation begins the first Monday in October. Mr. Lopez asked Mike to explain why the tractor and boom lift was necessary to the residents. It is needed for storm water management regulations to mow the 4 plus miles of drainage ditches. It is required by the DEP. You can't even see Settler's Pond anymore due to the trees. Different DEP inspectors had advised the Township differently – they were told not to cut them several years ago and now they have all overgrown. There are trees growing in them now and they have to be cut, according to the DEP. They really need this piece of equipment. He has reached out to many municipalities as well as the State DOT; there are local municipalities who are interested that would want to use this.

Police Report – Chief Joe Otto said the department has been in the pilot program for body cameras since June; they will be going live in October. They have had 2 stolen cars this month; however both cars have been left running. Taking keys out and locking them will help.

EMS Report – the Fire convention in Wildwood was good; Chief Craig Farnsworth spoke to many vendors; hopefully he will have more information on the ladder truck this week. Mr. Lopez explained that we have asked the Chief to make a special presentation on the ladder truck at the next meeting; we are having major issues with the truck.

JIF 2016 Member Visitation Program Update – Maria's first JIF meeting is tomorrow

Resolutions

85-16 Payment of Vouchers – motion to approve made by Mr. Lopez; seconded by Ms. Chang. All voted yes.

86-16 Purchase of Aerial Boom Lift – motion to approve made by Mr. Lopez; seconded by Ms. Teleisa. All voted yes.

87-16 Opposing the Application of Elcon Recycling Services, LLC – motion to approve made by Ms. Chang; seconded by Mr. Lopez. All voted yes. Ms. Chang stated that this will impact many river towns along the Delaware, including Westampton.

88-16 Purchase of Boom Mower/Tractor – motion to approve by Ms. Chang; seconded by Mr. Lopez. All voted yes.

89-16 Cancel Taxes, 100% Disabled Veteran - motion made by Mr. Lopez; second by Ms. Smith-Hartman. All voted yes. Mr. Lopez commented that resident Anthony D'Errico has expressed concerns when voting on these resolutions; he wanted to make sure residents should really be receiving these exemptions. He has already spoken with the tax assessor.

Ordinances – all tabled

19-2016 Salary Ordinance for Police Officers (first reading)

20-2016 Salary Ordinance for Full Time Firefighters/EMTs (first reading)

21-2016 Salary Ordinance for the Chief of Police and Lieutenant (first reading)

Correspondence

Letter of thanks from the Board of Education thanking the Westampton Township Public Works Department for repairs they had recently made.

Mr. Lopez – had received correspondence from a Deerwood resident regarding group homes; he had asked Administrator Maria Carrington to look further into this. Maria stated that it could be foster children coming into the home; she was working on this.

Dates to Remember

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

October 1st – Rancocas Ham Supper, 4 to 7 PM

October 15th – Westampton PTO 5K Fun Run, registration is at 9 AM.

Firehouse Open House – October 13, 2016

October 28 – Westampton Fall Festival, Westampton Sports Complex

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.

October 31 – leaf vacs will be going out

Open to Public Comment

Garfield Harper – asked who the person was that took Vernita Jones place on the ballot for Township Committee. He said he came to his house on Sunday and wanted support for his campaign. He said he saw photos on Face Book of him with a confederate flag.

Vernita Jones – thanked the EMS Department and Lt. Ent for putting up the signs for the marching band competition for RVRHS.

Mayor Daniels – thanked residents for coming out to the Servicios Latino Heritage Festival at the amphitheater.

Janet Curran – it was a great memorial service for Trooper Sean Cullen on Saturday; she thanked the Police department. She is concerned about where we are going with the sports complex. She commented how the lights are blinding when driving down Rancocas Road.

Mayor Daniels – hasn't been able to observe that the lights are a problem to residents in Rancocas Village. It is a point of pride destination. From his observations he thinks it continues to get better and is of great value to our community.

Mr. Lopez – the priority now at the complex is the installation of nets on all of the current fields. Ms. Teleisa advised Ms. Curran that the recreation meetings are open to the public; anyone can attend.

Ms. Curran – our Fire Department used to have a boot collection; what is happening with this? She heard that approval was given for them to do this at the Sports Complex but Todd told them they couldn't. Maria stated that they are talking about this currently; he is reluctant to have the people coming for tournaments that weekend to having that take place. It takes 3 months to get approval to do a boot drive on a County Road according to Craig; in fact, the County really doesn't want them out on any roads. They are exploring different options.

Comments from Department Heads and Professionals

Mike Meenan – thanks for the approval of the equipment.

Joe Otto – congratulated new EMT Barna and Vince Knott; thanks for the renaming of the street; it meant a lot to the officers and to Sean Cullen's family.

Maria Carrington– congratulations to our new EMT.

Ms. Smith Hartman – wanted all to know that there is a new application for your phone called Recycle Coach.

Ms. Teleisa – congratulations to our new EMT; congratulations to Deputy Fire Official Vince Knott; he has been doing the inspections for a long time, it can be very trying, keep up the great work. It was an honor to be a part of the dedication for our fallen officer Sean Cullen. Our firefighters, EMTs, fire police and police officers put their lives at risk every time they answer a call. She has the deepest respect and admiration for them and thanks them.

Ms. Chang – congratulations to Mr. Barna and to Vince Knott; to all that made the ceremony as good as it was; it was very touching.

Mr. Lopez – congratulations to the new fireman and new fire official. If you see a fire police, please stop them and thank them for the work that they do. They are all volunteers, Roger Roslowski, the captain, is here, they all deserve a round of applause. They were great at the Rancocas Nature Center. Mr. Lopez commended Vernita Jones for her public service, they don't always agree but he wants to praise her for her interest and service in running for Township Committee twice; he wishes her the best.

Mayor Daniels – spoke regarding the service for Sean Cullen that was held on Saturday. He is proud that he had an opportunity to know him and to work with him. He saluted Chief Otto. The RV Chiefs have kicked off their football season. Rancocas Nature Center held an event yesterday; although not as well attended as they would have liked; it was a wonderful event and was the embodiment of community. September is prostate cancer awareness month; please make sure to have your loved ones get tested.

There were no further comments and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Marion Karp, Municipal Clerk