

WESTAMPTON TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING

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

April 28, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM with Mr. Maybury, Ms. Teleisa and Ms. Chang present, Mr. Thorpe and Mr. Daniels were absent.

Resolution 4-28-15 was adopted to go into Executive session to discuss the Ikea Drive dedication and the Redevelopment Plan.

The meeting was again called to order and reopened at 7:05 PM by Mayor Chang. Requirements of the Sunshine Law were read. This meeting was advertised in the Burlington County Times January 6, 2015. The flag was saluted and there was a moment of silence.

Roll Call:

Committeeman Daniels	Absent
Committeeman Maybury	Present
Committeewoman Teleisa	Present
Committeeman Thorpe	Absent
Mayor Chang	Present

George Saponaro, Solicitor, was present.

Marion Karp, Deputy Clerk was present.

Approve 4/28/15 Agenda – motion to approve by Mr. Maybury; second by Ms. Teleisa. All voted yes.

Minutes of the 4/14/2015 meeting – motion to approve by Ms. Teleisa; second by Ms. Chang. All voted yes, Mr. Maybury abstained. Closed session minutes of the 4/14/2015 meeting – motion to approve by Ms. Teleisa; second by Ms. Chang. All voted yes, Mr. Maybury abstained.

Scheduled Appointments:

None

Public Comments on agenda items

Janet Curran, 123 Main Street – asked about the Redevelopment Plan Ordinance. She noticed that there are for sale signs on either side of the road near the Project Freedom site. Wasn't there supposed to be open space at the site? The Mayor stated that she had no idea what the for sale signs were for; it could be for Wawa. George Saponaro stated that there is some open space adjacent to the Project Freedom site. Mr. Maybury said there are about 9 acres that will remain open. The for sale signs are for Wawa and their

adjacent parcel of land. On the other side of Woodlane Road there is a sign near the Floyds. Wawa was asking about \$900,000 for the 3 acres of land they are selling.

Old Business

None

New Business

NJ DOT Grant Award – Mayor Chang is happy to report that we are receiving another grant which will be used for the Holly Lane Phase 3 improvements. It is the third grant we have received and is in the amount of \$196,000.00.

Resolution – in memoriam for Mary Daniels, a longtime Westampton resident.

Police Report – Mayor Chang noted that Police Chief Joe Otto was involved in a project on Friday; it would be on the next report according to the Chief.

Bureau of Fire Prevention Report – no further comments made.

Public Works Report – they are close to concluding the upgrade to the playground over at Spring Meadows. Mr. Maybury asked about the roofing and heating project for the Municipal Building; according to Mike Meenan it should be going out to bid soon and completed by the fall.

EMS Report – Fire Chief Jason Carty stated that there was a fatal fire in Eastampton last night. The department still has an employee out on an injury.

Resolutions

59-15 Payment of Vouchers – Mr. Maybury didn't receive the bill list in enough time so he recommended tabling it. Ms. Teleisa said she had several questions as well. They didn't receive it until Monday morning. They need more time to review it. Mr. Maybury made a motion to table the bill list; the motion was seconded by Ms. Teleisa. All voted yes.

60-15 Police Hiring Resolution – motion to approve by Mr. Maybury; second by Ms. Teleisa. All voted yes.

61-15 Authorize Issuance of Bonds – motion to approve by Mr. Maybury; seconded by Ms. Teleisa. All voted yes.

Ordinances

5-2015 Adoption of Redevelopment Plan, Block 203, Lot 4.03 (second reading) – motion to approve by Mr. Maybury; second by Ms. Teleisa. All voted yes. This was opened to the public for comment. George Saponaro gave the public a brief overview of the Project Freedom site. This was to allow for the additional 24 units to be constructed for a total of 72 units. This will help Project Freedom to obtain tax credits. Abraham Lopez, 59 Amara Lane – asked if the additional units were also for disabled persons; they are.

Correspondence

Regional School District Tax Levy Share – for each of the sending districts that send to RVRHS.

Burlington County Overlay Program – will be resurfacing part of Woodlane Road. The County looks for planned projects since there will be a three year moratorium on road opening once the road projects are completed.

Dates to remember

April 29th, Westampton Firehouse - Spaghetti dinner for Project Graduation RVRHS

May 4- Board of Education, Public Hearing on the school budget

Ham Dinner, May 2nd 4 to 7 PM, Rancocas Community Center

Burlington County Police Chiefs Association – for fallen Police Officers, ceremony will take place May 20th at 10:30 AM and 7 PM. There is also a dedication for fallen Firefighters at the Public Safety Center in Westampton.

Memorial Day – the Historical Society will lay two wreaths, one at the civil war cemetery at Timbuctoo, the other at the Veteran's memorial.

Comments – Department Heads & Professionals

Fire Chief Jason Carty – May 7 at 9:30 AM, mock crash at RVRHS along with the Mt. Holly Fire Department. The public is welcome to attend.

Police Chief Joe Otto – was invited this past Friday night to an event at Tabernacle Baptist Church; it was a much needed and well attended meeting. Keep an open line of communication. Take your child to work day was this past Thursday; 17 kids participated. The Police Department will receive a \$4,000 grant for “Click It or Ticket” which will run the last two weeks in May.

Solicitor George Saponaro– received feedback on the Timbuctoo Ordinance from the Township Committee; he will have it ready for introduction at the next meeting. He recently met with the Historical Commission, it was helpful to them. They just

reorganized. He has been having ongoing discussions regarding the Woodmont Project. He will ask to start some of the architectural and planning for the proposed senior citizen project.

Open to public Comment

Nancy Burkley – talked about impact aid for Veterans. She spoke to Congressman McArthur who thought it was a great idea. She is sure everyone is aware that the Centerton Bridge is out; they have been trying to get the Freeholders to put in a left turn light when coming out of Rancocas. There are lots of accidents before the bridge was out, now there is even more traffic. She was wondering if there was anything the Committee could do to push this along as it has been more than three years that they have been considering this. Mayor Chang would speak with Donna about this and see what they could do.

Janet Curran – attended the Historic Preservation meeting; she was disappointed that 3 residents that don't have knowledge of the history of Rancocas Village were appointed to the Commission. She wanted to know how they were chosen to be on the Commission. Mayor Chang stated that she should read the Ordinance; there is nothing that says they have to all be historians. There is one class of member that does need to be a historian. Janet wants to see Westampton remain a small town and not grow into a city. Asked why we don't give the Recreation Center to the senior citizens. The Mayor stated that there will be a contribution made by a developer very shortly to add on to the Recreation Center for the senior citizens. The building is in need of renovations in order to make it suitable for the seniors, according to the Mayor. It is the Committee's intent to do this. George Saponaro explained that work on the senior addition would take place in conjunction with work that the developer would be doing in town, as it was more economically feasible.

Karen Sampson – asked about the budget and if any meetings were scheduled to review it. There is a workshop scheduled for Tuesday May 5th. She asked if there was a reason for the delay. Mayor Chang stated that everyone was available on this day. She asked why it took from February 24 until May 5 to schedule a meeting. Mayor Chang stated that no member of the community appeared at any budget workshop nor made any comments even though all meetings were advertised.

Abraham Lopez – the sound is much better this time now that the microphones are on. Community policing is very important, he applauds the Police Chief for attending the meeting. He would have made time to attend the meeting if he knew about it. Mayor Chang stated that the event was advertised via social media. Emails were sent to every single elected official in Burlington County. She thanked Chief Otto for speaking at the event for the Department of Homeland Security. This will not be the last symposium; she will be sure to have Donna place future dates on our website and advertise it in more detail. Mr. Lopez asked if residents had been invited. Mayor Chang said there were a number of residents in attendance; she assumes they heard it from their elected officials or from social media. He asked if the agenda could be posted earlier so that the public

could review it. Mayor Chang stated that it should be posted on Thursdays before the meetings.

Gil Gehin Scott – asked if anyone from the public would show up at the next budget meeting on May 5, how they could become involved. Mayor Chang stated that they could go through the budget line by line. Ms. Teleisa said not one person attended the workshops. Mayor Chang remembers Janet Curran attending a few meetings and asking questions. She was the only person who attended.

Committee Members Comments

Ms. Telesia – went to the Arbor Day Festival at the Rancocas Nature Center. The Mayor was also in attendance; it was a wonderful event. Unfortunately attendance was low. The public hearing on the Board of Education's school budget is May 4th.

Mayor Chang– attended the symposium at the Tabernacle Baptist Church on how your faith based community can partner; along with community policing and initiatives. The Department of Homeland Security spoke at length about different programs as well as discussing grants that are available. She thanked Chief Otto for giving a wonderful presentation. She also attended the Arbor Day celebration and presented a proclamation; they are doing a wonderful job at the Rancocas Nature Center.

There were no further comments and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Marion Karp, Deputy Clerk