

WESTAMPTON TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING

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

September 22, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM with all present. Resolution 9-22-15 was adopted to go into Executive session to discuss personnel.

The meeting was again called to order and reopened at 7:00 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	Present
Committeeman Maybury	Present
Committeewoman Teleisa	Present
Committeeman Thorpe	Present
Mayor Chang	Present

George Saponaro, Solicitor, was present.

Donna Ryan, Clerk/Administrator was present.

Approve 9/22/15 Agenda – motion to approve by Mr. Maybury; second by Mr. Daniels. All voted yes.

Closed session Minutes of 9/8/15 – motion to approve by Mr. Daniels; second by Ms. Teleisa. Mr. Thorpe abstained, all others voted yes. Minutes of 9/8/15 meeting – motion to approve by Mr. Daniels; second by Ms. Teleisa. Mr. Thorpe abstained, all others voted yes.

Scheduled Appointments

Public Comments on agenda items

Janet Curran – wanted an explanation on the Dolan Industrial Park Redevelopment Resolution. She wanted to know if there were changes to the zone. She also questioned the Abandoned Property Ordinance and would it mean properties were demolished.

Gil Gehin Scott, 104 Second Street – asked why the blocks and lots in Resolution 123-15 were designated in need of redevelopment. Would obsolete warehouses be replaced with newer bigger warehouses.

John Mumbower, 29 Lancaster Drive – questioned making the Dolan site a redevelopment site and wanted an explanation on what the HDITA fund was.

Abraham Lopez, 59 Amara Lane –asked for an explanation of the Dolan redevelopment zone so that he could understand it. Were studies performed that confirms these areas needed redevelopment? Were there new ideas for development? What was shared with the public?

Committeeman Maybury stated that Mr. Dolan was a long time developer of property in Westampton and had brought many good ratables to Westampton. Mr. Dolan had several properties that could be developed but he couldn't compete when Burlington Township and Florence offered tax incentives. He needed the ability to attract businesses to Westampton. The Committee agreed to a study to determine if the area qualified as a redevelopment area.

Solicitor Saponaro stated that a redevelopment area has tools it can use to make it desirable. It benefits both Dolan and the Township. He also stated that current warehouses were not eligible for PILOTS.

Mr. Lopez wanted the facts and an understanding. Developers come into small towns, get breaks and leave them ruined.

Jonathan Wright, 18 Glasgow Road – stated he had lived here for 30 years and didn't know about pilots and redevelopment zones.

Ginny D'Aiutolo, from Springside Road stated if residents attended meetings as she has for the past 5 years, they would understand what is going on.

Robert Lee, Mayfaire Circle stated he retired to Westampton because it had good fire and police departments and a good governing body that did their job. There shouldn't be arguments back and forth over land.

Old Business

Mr. Milanes was requesting a monument for the 65th Infantry in the Korean War; Mr. Daniels stated the Committee would look into this and see what they could do. Mr. Milanes stated the current memorial was messy and needed geese patrol.

Committeeman Thorpe wanted to address the Woodmont Pilot Agreement. He agrees with the concerns of the school and high enrollment. He made a motion to reject the PILOT agreement and remove it from the agenda. The Mayor seconded it. Committeeman Daniels asked what impact this would have. Mr. Saponaro said it would come off the agenda and Woodmont could reopen the discussion and reapply with new information or terms. All present voted yes.

New Business

Timbuctoo Committee appointments:

Motion by Maybury; second by Daniels:

Class A member – Archaeologist, 3 year term ending 12/31/17 – Dr. Chris Barton

Class B member – Historian, 3 year term ending 12/31/17 – Dr. Linda Caldwell

Motion by Daniels; second by Maybury:

Class C member – Active member of American Legion, 3 year term ending
12/31/17 – Michelle Miller

Motion by Maybury; second by Daniels:

Class D member – Township Committee member, 1 year term ending 12/31/15
Carolyn Chang

Class E members (2) Decedents of Timbuctoo settlement village (3 year terms)

One class E member, term ending 12/31/16 – Mary Weston

One class E member, term ending 12/31/17 – Guy Weston

Class F members (3) residents of Westampton Township (3 year terms)

One class F member, term ending 12/31/16 - vacant

One class F member, term ending 12/31/17 – Linda Williams

One class F member, term ending 12/31/18 – Danita Curry

All members voted yes.

There were no additional comments on the Police or EMS reports. A proclamation was read – Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day, October 10, 2015.

PW Director Mike Meenan was asked for the status of the HVAC/Roof project – he stated it was moving along and was on time.

Resolutions

119-15 Payment of Vouchers – motion to approve by Mr. Maybury; seconded by Ms. Teleisa. All voted yes.

120-15 Cancel Taxes – motion to approve by Mr. Maybury; seconded by Mr. Daniels. All voted yes.

121-15 Cancel taxes – motion to approve by Ms. Teleisa; second by Mr. Maybury. All voted yes.

122-15 HIDTA Dedication by Rider – motion to approve by Ms. Teleisa; seconded by Mr. Maybury. All voted yes.

123-15 Non-Condemnation Redevelopment Area, Dolan Contractors – motion to approve by Ms. Teleisa; seconded by Mr. Maybury. Mr. Daniels and Mr. Thorpe abstained; all others voted yes. Mr. Daniels wanted to clarify his abstention; it was because he had voted yes to reject the Woodmont pilot and he still had some concerns.

Ordinances

12-2015 Establish Policy for Employee use of Township Owned vehicles; first reading; motion by Mr. Maybury, second by Mr. Daniels; all voted yes

13-2015 Establish Provisions for the maintenance of vacant and abandoned properties; first reading; motion by Mr. Maybury, second by Mr. Daniels; all voted yes

14-2015 Adopt a Redevelopment Plan for Block 401, Lots 2, 7 and 8; first reading; motion by Mr. Maybury, second by Mr. Daniels; all voted yes

Correspondence

NJ American Water – rate increase

Letter from the Weather Service thanking the Fire Police for helping with their Open House.

Dates to Remember

Oct. 4th – Rancocas Ham Dinner

Oct. 8th – Fire Prevention Week, Annual Open House, 6 to 9 PM

Oct. 30th – Halloween Festival, 6 to 9 PM

Open to public Comment

Nancy Burkley, 226 Olive Street, stated Willingboro had a memorial with the names of Westampton veterans. We should check this out. She volunteered to help with a new monument. She was confused about who was qualified to rent a Freedom Village apartment; were they affordable units? This was an affordable rental development for which Westampton received COAH credits. The Mayor read the following statement from Project Freedom: The mission of Project Freedom is to provide affordable and accessible rental units for mobility impaired individuals, and so we continue to give prospective tenants who use wheelchairs top priority.

Janet Curran – wanted to know why football games were being played on the turf fields and not on the football field. Did the township have a plan to preserve more land?

Jonathan Wright – still had not gotten an answer why his brother Justin had been banned from the EMS website. Who ran the website and how could he get an answer? Said that NJ.com and the BCT needed to report both sides of each story.

Robert Lee – the Police were the biggest ambassadors for a community. They know everything and can tell you how a town is being run. He has seen only one African American Police Officer in Westampton and didn't know if there were any African Americans or other minorities in the EMS Dept. or Township offices. There should be diversity.

Department Head Comments

Jason Carty – staff thanked Ms. Teleisa for her visit to the station.

Mike Meenan asked if his crew had missed something at the American Legion building. Mr. Thorpe told him, no, his crew did a great job keeping it neat.

Committee Comments

Mr. Daniels thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. He knows everyone doesn't always agree but we are a community moving together. He thanked the police for their Explorer's unit.

Mr. Thorpe thanked Public Works for taking care of everything in the township and not missing anything.

Mayor Chang attended the Latino festival this past weekend. She has always supported them with her time and funds. She was still attending meetings to end homelessness for veterans.

Mr. Daniels thanked her for the update on veterans.

There were no further comments and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Ryan, Township Clerk