

WESTAMPTON TOWNSHIP

6:00 PM Workshop 7:00 PM REGULAR MEETING

MAY 13, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mayor Carolyn Chang. Requirements of the Sunshine Law were read. This meeting was advertised in the Burlington County Times January 3, 2014. 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

Bill Sitzler, Solicitor, was present.

Donna Ryan, Clerk/Administrator and Marion Karp, Deputy Clerk were present.

Minutes of the 4/8/2014 meeting – motion to approve by Ms. Teleisa; second by Mr. Daniels. All voted yes, Mr. Thorpe abstained. Closed session minutes of 4/8/14- motion to approve by Mr. Daniels; second by Ms. Teleisa. All voted yes, Mr. Thorpe abstained. Minutes of 4/14/14 meeting – motion to approve by Ms. Teleisa; second by Mr. Daniels. All voted yes.

Scheduled Appointments

Swear in new Police Officers: Mayor Chang swore in the two new officers.

Matthew Lloyd, Class II Officer, effective 5/5/14

Michael Lynch, Class II Officer, effective 5/5/14

Public Comments on agenda items

Janet Curran – is sorry that she is just hearing about the celebration at Timbuctoo; there wasn't a story in the newspaper, people are probably already booked for May 17th. She grew up with and went to school with people who grew up in the village of Timbuctoo; she thinks it is sacred. She doesn't want the digs to take place. The Civil War cemetery is a very special place. She wants to know about the open space block and what they wanted to do with it; Mayor Chang answered that it would be acquired for preservation.

Old Business

None

New Business

Timbuctoo Day, Saturday, May 17, 2014, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM – this event is open to the public; this has been on the Township website for at least two weeks according to the Mayor. It has been advertised on a number of mediums.

Purchase of Open Space, Block 604, Lot 3 – the owner is interested in having the Township acquire this for preservation. This is in very preliminary stages at this point; it would be part of the historic site.

Installation of Traffic Signal, Deerwood Country Club – the Mayor has received many calls and emails from residents that live here; Donna stated there was always to be a traffic signal here. The County called a meeting and Donna attended one of them. They want the Committee's support in keeping the escrow funds from Beazer Homes in order to pay for the signal. Donna would correspond with Terry Mulligan to let him know the Committee supports this effort.

Police Report – this is March's report. Three weeks from today Officers Einstein and Velez would be graduating from the police academy. Mr. Daniels commented that Detective Rogers and Polite did some good work, kudos to those two and getting the suspect.

EMS Report – will participate in the RV mock crash on Thursday morning. Crews are at the Fire Academy practicing this evening.

Fire Prevention Report – no further comments

Resolutions

60-14 Payment of Vouchers – motion to approve by Mr. Maybury; seconded by Mr. Daniels. All voted yes.

61-14 Redevelopment of Block 902, Lots 1, 2 & 3 – motion to approve by Mr. Maybury; seconded by Mr. Daniels. All voted yes.

62-14 Authorize Bond Anticipation Notes – motion to approve by Mr. Maybury; seconded by Ms. Teleisa. All voted yes. This is the fourth payment for the 2010 Revaluation project.

63-14 Refund Taxes, Block 109, Lot 14 – motion to approve by Ms. Teleisa; seconded by Mr. Maybury. All voted yes.

65-14 Executive Session – for discussion of personnel issues; motion to approve by Mr. Daniels; seconded by Ms. Teleisa. All voted yes, Mr. Maybury abstained.

Ordinances

5-2014 Redevelopment Plan (second reading) – motion to approve by Mr. Maybury; seconded by Mr. Daniels. All voted yes. Janet Curran asked if this was for the land on Woodlane Road.

6-2014 Amend Chapter 224 of the Township Code of Westampton, Towing & Storage (first reading) – motion to approve by Mr. Maybury; second by Mr. Daniels. All voted yes. If applicants can meet our criteria we can accept them. Central Communications at the County controls the list of approved vendors.

7-2014 Amend Chapter 209, Containerized Yard Waste (first reading) – motion to approve by Mr. Daniels; second by Mr. Teleisa. All voted yes. The definitions needed to be beefed up because residents are placing things into the street that are washing into the storm drains and clogging them and causing flooding. The Mayor suggested further improving it to make sure it specifies to place materials behind the edge of pavement, especially for developments that do not have curbs. Donna agreed and would make that change.

Resolutions Continued

64-14 Designation of Redeveloper for Block 401, Lots 2 & 8 – motion to approve by Mr. Daniels; seconded by Mr. Thorpe. All voted yes.

Correspondence

NJ State Dept. of Education, 2014-15 Municipal Percentage Shares – this is based on the number of students that are sent to RV school for all sending districts. It varies slightly each year.

Public Hearing, Sale of Rowan Property, Thursday, May 22, 2014 @ 7:00 PM – in the Municipal Building.

Dept. of Community Affairs, approval of Block 401, Lots 2 & 8, Area in need of Redevelopment – there is nothing further that has to be done on this by the Township.

NJ State DOT, Holly Lane Phase 2 project – we received another grant (\$200,000) from the State; Holly Lane will be redone all the way up to Bloomfield Drive; the project will take place in July or August. We are responsible for the engineering and inspections; we

have enough in one of our bond ordinances to cover this. We received a grant last year as well.

Dates to remember

Timbuctoo Discovery Project Day – Saturday, May 17th, 2014

Workshops

Timbuctoo – residents would like adequate notice of the next workshop.

Comments

Chief Smith – Lieutenant Otto had his gall bladder removed, he will be out of work for a week or two.

Fire Official John Augustino – three of our large industrial buildings will be now occupied. The new Dollar store has broken ground.

Open to public Comment

Janet Curran – May 11-17 is National Police Week; the Memorial Service in the County is being held tomorrow at 10 AM. May 21st is the ceremony for fallen fire fighters and EMTs. The American Legion will be having a Memorial service; it should be held Monday May 26, on Memorial Day. She would like to see more residents fly American flags. Every cent that taxes are raised makes a difference to families; she thinks we should start living within our means. Her son's car was hit at 4 AM in the morning on Greenwich Drive; luckily they did not leave. There is a lot of speeding throughout the town; it is getting out of control.

Gil Gehin Scott – missed the April 14 meeting; there was a comment he finds troubling. He feels the need to say something. He thinks we could have had a zero percent tax increase if we took the tax appeals that hit us into account and in our budget. Mr. Maybury commented that residents of Deerwood all had tax decreases; the amount of taxes coming in is still the same. Gil Gehin Scott is talking about commercial properties – you can't double the taxes on a commercial property and not expect them to appeal it. This is why we have to give back \$251,000. Regarding 21 Blue Jay Hill Road – the Township has no business buying residential properties; this will take it off the tax rolls. The Mayor explained that the negotiations are just preliminary at this point.

Anthony Dennis, 3 Fenwick Court – 18 Sherwood Lane has been vacant for some time; the gutters are falling down. He thinks it is an invitation to vandals. Gene has contacted the bank and is working on it.

Mary Weston – appreciates the support they have gotten in Timbuctoo; it takes time to make change. She knows that greater things are coming in the future.

Mr. Daniels – as liaison to the seniors group, he met with them on April 23rd. The seniors group should know that this body has taken their issues into consideration and that their concerns will be addressed in a timely manner. They will not be holding their regular meeting at the senior center on May 21 but will be at the Senior Expo at the Masonic Home in Burlington. Monday May 26 is Memorial Day; he agrees with Janet Curran that he wishes every resident would fly the American flag. It is one of 11 federal holidays; he is proud of everyone's service for this great nation of ours. Happy belated Mother's Day to all.

Mr. Thorpe – last Saturday he went to Home Depot for Safety Day; he enjoyed the day. Without a doubt, we have a speeding problem in Westampton. He hopes the new Class II Officers will help with this; he hopes to see more tickets issued on the monthly reports. He voted for them for this reason.

Ms. Teleisa – attended the first Arbor Day festival on April 27th in Westampton where she read a proclamation at the Nature Center. She read a portion of it aloud. It was a wonderful afternoon, attended by lots of children. She also attended the Westampton Township Board of Education meeting; Holly Hills School has 520 students, and 416 students are currently enrolled at Westampton Middle School. They will be breaking ground for the new playground at Holly Hills School this summer. The school budget was approved on April 24th; it is posted on their website.

Mayor Chang– thanked her fellow Committee members who attended the Buddhist Education Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting in Rancocas on Saturday morning; it was wonderful for them to show their support. All of the Rancocas residents were invited; unfortunately only a few appeared. They served lunch to all of the guests; it was truly inspiring. Last night she went to a viewing for Robert C. Ryals, a Township resident. She felt it was important to attend and pay her respects to the family.

There were no further comments and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Marion Karp, Deputy Clerk