

WESTAMPTON TOWNSHIP

6:00 PM CLOSED SESSION REGULAR MEETING

FEBRUARY 12, 2013

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, 2013. The flag was saluted and there was a moment of silence.

Roll Call:

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

George Saponaro, Solicitor, was present.

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

Minutes of the January 22, 2013 meeting – motion to approve by Mr. Daniels; second by Ms. Teleisa. All voted yes.

Scheduled Appointments

6:00 PM Closed Session – for discussion of personnel

Comments on agenda items

Louis Lopez – asked about the executive session resolution. He advised everyone that the Burlington County Library is holding a “building green” program on Tuesday Feb. 19th at 7:30 PM.

New Business

Appointment of New Committee Member –Three names were submitted by the Democratic Committee for consideration; Penny Thorpe, Robert Thorpe and Charlene Petkevis. The term ends on December 31, 2013. Mr. Maybury made a motion to appoint Robert Thorpe; seconded by Ms. Teleisa. All voted yes. Robert Thorpe was sworn in to the position by Solicitor Doug Burry.

Community Energy Aggregation – many of our residents in Burlington County and in the state have been approached by companies such as this; it offers savings on energy costs. The County has offered to look into this; it is an offer for residents to join in as well. This letter is inviting us to participate in the initial evaluation. This is simply to investigate the possibility of joining. The Committee is in favor of participating.

Resolutions

38-13 Payment of Vouchers – motion to approve by Mr. Maybury; seconded by Ms. Teleisa. All voted yes, Mr. Thorpe abstained. Mayor Chang asked Chief Smith about an invoice for some type of medical payment for a dog's eyes; the charge was for both Police dogs. She was under the impression that monies that were donated were being used for this. The money is gone, it was used to purchase the dog, pay for his training, etc.

39-13 Defer School Taxes - motion to approve by Ms. Teleisa; seconded by Mr. Daniels. All voted yes, Mr. Thorpe abstained. We have had to pass this resolution several years in a row; we are allowed to use money that we collect for the schools until we have to pay them; they are on a different fiscal schedule than we are. It is a book keeping measure.

40-13 Refund Taxes, Block 203.07, Lot 48 – motion to approve by Mr. Maybury; seconded by Ms. Teleisa. All voted yes, Mr. Thorpe abstained.

41-13 Project Freedom – motion to approve by Mr. Daniels; seconded by Mr. Maybury. All voted yes, Mr. Thorpe abstained. A resolution was passed at our last meeting approving an extension for tax credits; there was a typo in the resolution, it is amended to the 72 units.

42-13 Executive Session – for discussion of personnel. Motion to approve by Ms. Teleisa; seconded by Mr. Daniels. All voted yes, Mr. Thorpe abstained.

Ordinances

1-2013 Convey Block 203, Lot 4.02 to Project Freedom at Westampton Urban Renewal, L.P. – first reading. Motion to approve the amendment in the Ordinance made by Mr. Daniels; second by Mr. Maybury. All voted yes, Mr. Thorpe abstained. This was opened to the public for comment. No comment was made. Motion to adopt the Ordinance was made by Mr. Maybury; seconded by Ms. Teleisa. All voted yes, Mr. Thorpe abstained.

2-2013 Establish Cap Bank (first reading) – motion to approve by Mr. Maybury; seconded by Ms. Teleisa. All voted yes, Mr. Thorpe abstained.

3-2013 Amend Chapter 250, Zoning, Section 250-28 (first reading) – second reading would not take place until March 12 because this has to go back to the Land Development Board for approval. Motion to approve by Mr. Daniels; seconded by Mr. Maybury. All voted yes.

Correspondence

NJ American Water – Notice of Public Hearings (2/12/13; 6:00 PM, Westampton Municipal Building)

Burlington County JIF, Resolution Honoring Donna Ryan as BURLCO JIF Fund Chair – the Committee thanked Donna for her service.

Dates to remember

JIF Elected Officials Dinner, 3/13/12 @ 6 PM, Charley's Other Brother
Green Building Film – Burlington County Library, February 19th at 7 PM

Comments

Chief Smith – the initial canine monetary donation was \$10,000. He explained that the money was used for training, etc. They had some unexpected vet bills for both dogs last month.

He met with the Board of Education; went over security issues. He will attend a summer workshop program.

The Police Department's relationship with BCIT has grown even more; they do all their printing; bodywork and painting of the cars. They are working with both campuses – Westampton and Medford.

Fire Chief Wylie Johnson welcomed Mr. Thorpe to the Committee; we once again completed our Safety Incentive Program for JIF in 2012.

Fire Official John Augustino – there are generally more residential fires that occur in the winter; make sure your chimneys are clean, filters changed and fireplaces cleaned out. Mayor Chang commented that she saw him out inspecting first thing Saturday morning.

Donna Ryan – welcome to Bob Thorpe.

Mr. Daniels – had the honor of participating in a Black History celebration in Willingboro. It was the 60th anniversary of the Korean War veterans. They honored the heroism of the Buffalo soldiers; it was really a heartfelt day and a sobering day as well. This Thursday he is invited by the Burlington County Chamber of Commerce who will meet with the command staff of Joint Base McGuire. He spoke regarding a periodical called the Wire, distributed by Mt. Holly, Hainesport and Lumberton Townships. He asked Donna if we could look into this; it is a good communication device; perhaps we could share the cost with these other Townships.

Mr. Maybury – welcome to Robert Thorpe; congratulations; he wishes him well.

Ms. Telesia – welcomed Robert Thorpe; she attended the Westampton Board of Education meeting last night. They are going through their new evaluation techniques which are taken from the model called STRONG. They were talking about purchasing new social studies books; they aren't up to date. School Superintendent Virginia Grossman met with Donna and Todd; she is looking for ways to enhance summer programs for the students. They are looking to add some programs for middle school students; they would be run over in WMS and may include theatre, art and music. She discussed a safety issue she is concerned with; a defibrillator is needed by the gym. Chief Wylie Johnson and his group would provide training. We would train our coaches to use the defibrillator.

Mayor Chang - February is Black History Month; we will sponsor an essay contest at the middle school. She spoke with Ms. Grossman about the contest. She has a commitment from TD Bank, Citizens and Susquehanna Bank who are offering gift cards as prizes to the students. It is a wonderful way to encourage the students to write. The winners will be invited to the next meeting to receive their prizes. The manager of TD Bank has indicated he would like to be present when the awards are presented to the students.

Mr. Thorpe – thanked the Committee for having him. It should be an interesting year; Westampton is a great place to live. He thanked everyone very much.

Mayor Chang– welcomed Mr. Thorpe and thanked his wife for allowing him to serve. She looks forward to working with him.

Mr. Daniels would like to welcome Mr. Thorpe as well; he looks forward to working with him.

Open to public Comment

Louis Lopez – asked if Mr. Daniels has attended meetings with Senator Sweeney. He asked what sewer serviced Westampton; Mr. Maybury advised him that it was split on the turnpike; some were serviced by Mt. Holly MUA and some were serviced by Willingboro MUA. Tomorrow is the Burlington County Freeholder's meeting.

There were no further comments and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Marion Karp, Deputy Clerk