

**MINUTES
WOOLWICH TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
WORK SESSION MEETING
April 3, 2017**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Alan Schwager at 7:02 p.m.

Mayor Schwager made the following statement:

The April 3, 2017 work session meeting of the Woolwich Township Committee is being called to order. Adequate notice of this meeting has been given in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

Roll Call: Battisti: PRESENT Carleton: PRESENT Schlump: PRESENT
Rizzi: PRESENT Schwager: PRESENT

Also present on the dais were Solicitor Mark Shoemaker, Director of Community Development Matt Blake and Administrator/Clerk Jane DiBella.

Those present saluted the American Flag.

Motion was made by Committeeman Carleton and seconded by Committeeman Battisti to open the meeting to public comment. All were in favor.

Ed Moody of 27 Licciardello Drive requested that the Committee consider a four way stop at Licciardello and Nocentino Drives.

Mayor Schwager asked if Mr. Moody has any data as to accidents at the intersection. Mr. Moody replied that he does not, and is not aware of any traffic accidents there, but is concerned about speeding and the safety of approximately 28 minors within the development.

Mayor Schwager said that he will discuss this with the Police Chief. Perhaps through utilizing the portable speed devices, data can be collected, but further said that any changes must first receive the approval of NJDOT.

Mr. Bock, residing at 1142 Russell Mill Road addressed the Committee regarding numerous accidents at the intersection of Oldmans Creek and Woodstown Road, one of which involved a fatality a few weeks ago.

Mayor Schwager replied that there is data on that intersection, and that there is no dispute it is a dangerous intersection. He advised that trying to get traffic signals installed is difficult. He further noted that it is a county intersection. The Mayor offered to add this to his conversation with the Police Chief.

Mr. Bock presented photos of flashing stop signs and said that anything will help.

The Mayor said that he will speak with the Chief, pull intersection data and speak with the County. Solicitor Shoemaker added that the residents may also consider attending County Freeholder meetings in this regard.

Tom Evans of 9 Karens Court said that he has lived in the Township for fourteen years. His neighbor on Georges Landing uses the cul de sac as a “construction area, parking heavy duty equipment on his lawn and in the cul de sac. He said that he has spoken with the zoning officer and was informed there is no ordinance to correct this.

Mr. Evans then said that he went to the referendum meetings conducted by the Kingsway Districts last year and had the opportunity to speak with the Superintendent about school buses running nearly empty. He said that he has seen buses pulling out of the Harker School with only one child on the bus.

Mayor Schwager advised that the Township does not control bus schedules.

Mr. Evans replied that he sees this as a problem. He then stated that the school superintendent told him that the district paid \$3,000 each to conduct the referendum votes, and said that his tax dollars can be better spent.

Mayor Schwager responded that voters elect school board members to make these types of decisions.

Mr. Evans then said that he was told the Kingsway District spends \$3,000 to go to away games, and feels that this too is a waste of his tax dollars.

Mr. Evans then said that everything in Woolwich Township is done in isolation. He said that the rest of the world has trails, sidewalks and bike paths, but that there is no connectivity in Woolwich.

Hearing no further public comment, the public portion closed upon a motion by Deputy Mayor Rizzi, seconded by Committeeman Carleton and unanimously passed.

Mayor Schwager read the following Ordinances by title only upon second reading:

2017-05 An Ordinance of the Township of Woolwich, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey, Releasing and Extinguishing the Public Right Pertaining to Sycamore Lane

Open public hearing: Schlump Second: Carleton All in favor

No comment

Close public hearing: Rizzi Second: Carleton All in favor

Motion to adopt: Carleton Second: Schlump

Roll Call: Battisti: YES, Carleton: YES, Schlump: YES, Rizzi: YES, Schwager: YES

2017-06 An Ordinance of the Township of Woolwich Amending Chapter 5 of the Code of the Township of Woolwich Entitled “Business Development Advisory Committee

Open public hearing: Battisti Second: Carleton All in favor

No comment

Close public hearing: Rizzi Second: Carleton All in favor

Motion to adopt: Battisti Second: Carleton

Roll Call: Battisti: YES, Carleton: YES, Schlump: YES, Rizzi: YES, Schwager: YES

2017-07 An Ordinance of the Township of Woolwich Amending Chapter 149 of the Code of the Township of Woolwich

Open public hearing: Carleton Second: Schlump All in favor

No comment

Close public hearing: Rizzi Second: Carleton All in favor
Motion to adopt: Rizzi Second: Schlump
Roll Call: Battisti: YES, Carleton: YES, Schlump: YES, Rizzi: YES, Schwager: YES

2017-08 An Ordinance of the Township of Woolwich Amending Chapter 95 of the Code of the Township of Woolwich Entitled “Fees”

Open public hearing: Carleton Second: Schlump All in favor
No comment
Close public hearing: Rizzi Second: Carleton All in favor
Motion to adopt: Schlump Second: Carleton
Roll Call: Battisti: YES, Carleton: YES, Schlump: YES, Rizzi: YES, Schwager: YES

Mayor Schwager called for a motion on resolution **R-2017-93 2017 Municipal Budget Introduction**. Committeeman Carleton so moved. Committeeman Schlump seconded.
Roll Call: Battisti: YES, Carleton: YES, Schlump: YES, Rizzi: YES, Schwager: YES

Deputy Mayor Rizzi made a motion to approve a consent agenda for resolutions **R-2017-94 through R-2017-109**. Committeeman Carleton seconded. All were in favor.

Mayor Schwager asked that resolution **R-2017-95** be removed from the agenda.

Committeeman Schlump then moved to approve resolutions **R-2017-94** through resolution **R-2017-109** with the exception of resolution **R-2017-95**. Committeeman Carleton seconded. All were in favor. Mayor Schwager abstained from **R-2017-94** and **R-2017-96**

Said resolutions follow:

R-2017-94 Resolution Authorizing Extension of Licensed Premises for an Event

R-2017-95 Resolution of the Township of Woolwich Authorizing the Execution of a Release in the Matter of Craig v. Woolwich Township et als

R-2017-96 Resolution of the Township of Woolwich Authorizing the Execution of a Completion and Settlement Agreement Between Bond Safeguard and the Township of Woolwich Regarding Scotts Glen

R-2017-97 Resolution of the Township of Woolwich Authorizing the Execution of a Settlement Agreement in the Matter of NAR Farms v Woolwich Township Joint Land Use Board and Woolwich Township

R-2017-98 Resolution Authorizing Lease Agreements for Farming Purposes on Block 5, Lot4 and Block 5, Lot 3

R-2017-99 Resolution Authorizing the Quote of DVRPC for Environmental Resource Inventory Update

R-2017-100 Resolution Authorizing the Quote of Suasion Communications for Update to Municipal Website

R-2017-101 Resolution Authorizing the Proposal of Alaimo Group for Shared Use Path, Phases II and III

R-2017-102 Resolution Authorizing Street Opening Permit- 113 Steeplebush

R-2017-103 Resolution Endorsing the Findings and Determination Statement and Authorizing the Clerk to Submit Application for Raffle License on Behalf of Ryans 41319 Foundation

R-2017-104 Resolution Authorizing Totally Disabled Veteran Deduction

R-2017-105 Resolution Making Appointments to the Woolwich Township Business and Economic Development Committee

R-2017-106 Resolution Authorizing Release of Traffic Control Escrows-Disposal Systems, Inc.

R-2017-107 Resolution of the Township of Woolwich Authorizing Refund of NSF Fee/Tax Account

R-2017-108 Resolution Making an Appointment to the Position of Deputy Court Administrator

R-2017-109 Resolution Authorizing Municipal Reimbursement to The Oaks for Trash and Recycling Collection and Disposal

The Administrators report was presented as self explanatory. There were no questions from the Committee.

Tax Collector Kim Jaworski entered the meeting and explained to the Committee a request to approve a dismissal of bankruptcy regarding Block 45, Lot 4.25. She explained that the property currently owes \$50,000 in back taxes and that the property cannot be placed into the tax sale due to bankruptcy, but that it can go to bankruptcy court. She asked for authorization to retain special counsel Keith Bonchi to proceed with the dismissal so that the Township can recoup the tax dollars lost.

Motion was made by Deputy Mayor Rizzi to enter into a contract with Keith Bonchi regarding Block 45, Lot 4.25 and a stay to pursue outstanding taxes. Committeeman Schlump seconded. All were in favor.

Mr. Blake then led a discussion regarding both the Township's efforts in the Sustainable Jersey Program and Complete Streets Programs.

He explained that he is ready to kick up the quest for Sustainable Jersey certifications, which will open further doors to grant funding opportunities. The certification process requires the accumulation of points in various areas and updating certain sustainable project documentation of the township's efforts.

Mr. Blake noted that one of these area's is a complete streets program. While the township adopted this program in 2013, it no longer meets the standards in areas of bike and pedestrian facilities, infrastructure and connectivity. He added that a portion of the recent Master Plan recommended by the Land Use Board focused on complete streets.

Mr. Blake presented the updated policy and model resolution. He advised that he wanted to get the opinion of the Committee and see if they agree to have the Planner look at it and suggest tailoring it to fit the township's needs.

Mayor Schwager stated that the Planner was going to review Residential Site Improvement Standards (RSIS) and trying to make these types of improvements a requirement of developers. He said that the Township may have no jurisdiction to make them comply, but added that it is worth looking at.

Mr. Blake said that he is currently waiting for the Planner to get to him on this issue.

Committeeman Battisti said that the way the township is growing, the process may be a way to sell our story and obtain larger NJDOT grants.

Solicitor Shoemaker suggested that the Planner be allowed to chime in on what types of things may be optional as opposed to mandatory. He added that this process is a policy statement, and that he does not know what Sustainable Jersey will accept.

Mr. Blake agreed that this is not an initiative that should be rushed.

Deputy Mayor Rizzi suggested that Mr. Blake research what other towns have done.

Mayor Schwager then stated that he does not want to slow down the process, and that he supports pursuing it. He suggested that Mr. Blake reach back out to Tim.

There was no old or new business.

Motion was made by Deputy Mayor Rizzi and seconded by Committeeman Battisti to approve the bills and purchase orders pending the Mayor's final approval. All were in favor.

Having no further business, motion was made by Deputy Mayor Rizzi and seconded by Committeeman Battisti to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 852 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane DiBella
Administrator/Clerk

Minutes not verbatim
Audio recording on file