

**MINUTES
WOOLWICH TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
OCTOBER 21, 2019**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Vernon Marino at 7:04 p.m. with the following statement:

The October 21, 2019 regular 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 Frederick: PRESENT Santore: PRESENT
Matthias: PRESENT Marino: PRESENT

Also present on the dais were Solicitor Alice and Administrator/Clerk DiBella.

Those present saluted the American Flag.

Motion was made by Deputy Mayor Matthias and seconded by Committeewoman Santore to open the meeting to public comment for agenda items only.

Stephanie Lerch and Deb Iana made a presentation to the Committee regarding the creation of a "Learning Trail" at Locke Avenue Park. They explained that this is an initiative they are taking to have these trails located in every county municipality. The educational trail would be geared towards children aged 2-7.

They further explained that cost between \$1,500-\$1,600 is fully funded through sponsorships, but the township would have to install the educational signage.

The Committee approved and intends to adopt a resolution of approval when they next meet with a targeted installation of early spring.

Angela Napoliello-Ivory, 3 Brockton Court questioned the Action Plan as referenced in Resolution R-2019-248. Mrs. DiBella said that she would forward the plan to Ms. Napoliello-Ivory.

Hearing no further comment, the public portion closed upon a motion by Committeewoman Santore, seconded by Deputy Mayor Matthias and unanimously passed.

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

2019-17 Ordinance Authorizing Financial Agreement for an Assisted Living Project for the Property Location at Block 28.01, Lot 2 on the Tax Maps of Woolwich Township, Pursuant to the Long Term Tax Exemption Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:20-1 Et. Seq.

Motion to open the public hearing: Santore Second: Matthias All in favor

Jordan Schlump, 10 Wilshire Blvd. asked what the amount of tax exemption is and noted that to his understanding, there are two amounts noted within the document. Mayor Marino suggested that the Ordinance be tabled to allow the Committee to obtain clarification of the numbers.

Motion to close public hearing: Battisti Second: Santore All in favor Motion Carried

Motion was made by Committeewoman Santore and seconded by Committeeman Frederick to table Ordinance 2019-17. All were in favor.

**2019-18 Ordinance of the Township of Woolwich, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey,
Amending Chapter 177 of the Code of the Township of Woolwich Entitled "Trees"**

Motion to open public hearing: Santore Second: Frederick All in favor
No public comment
Motion to close public hearing: Santore Second: Frederick
Motion to adopt: Frederick Second: Santore
Roll Call: Battisti: YES, Frederick: YES, Santore: YES, Matthias: YES, Marino: YES Motion Carried

2019-19 Ordinance of the Township of Woolwich Accepting Jurisdiction and Control of Pancoast Road Located Between Kings Hwy (CR 551) and State Highway Route 322 and Amending Chapter 182 of the Code of the Township of Woolwich Accordingly

Motion to open public hearing: Battisti Second: Frederick All in favor
No public comment
Motion to close public hearing: Santore Second: Frederick
Motion to adopt: Santore Second: Battisti
Roll Call: Battisti: YES, Frederick: YES, Santore: YES, Matthias: YES, Marino: YES Motion Carried

2019-20 Ordinance Authorizing Financial Agreement for an Office Building for the Property Location at Block 28.01, Lot 2.02 on the Tax Maps of Woolwich Township, Pursuant to the Long Term Tax Exemption Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:20-1 Et. Seq.

Motion to open the public hearing: Santore Second: Battisti All in favor
Jordan Schlump, 10 Wilshire Blvd. said he has the same question as in Ordinance 2019-17. Mayor Marino said he is aware.
Motion to close the public hearing: Santore Second: Frederick All in favor
Based upon an inconsistency of the wording of the Ordinance by the applicant's attorney of record, there was no motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-20.

Motion was made by Committeeman Battisti to approve a consent agenda for resolutions R-2019-244 through and including R-2019-255 with the removal of R-2019-252. All were in favor.

R-2019-244 Resolution Authorizing Totally Disabled Veteran Tax Exemption

R-2019-245 Resolution Authorizing Placement of Municipal Lien(s) – Property Maintenance

R-2019-246 Resolution Authorizing Proposal of Eaise Design in the Amount of \$5,540.00 and Landscaping, Inc. for Various Landscaping Activities

R-2019-247 Resolution Authorizing Street Opening Permits to South Jersey Gas-402 Harrisonville Road and 163 Erica Court

R-2019-248 Resolution of the Township of Woolwich Approving the Corrective Action Plan for the 2018 Municipal Audit

R-2019-249 Resolution Authorizing the Proposal of Remington and Vernick Engineers to Conduct Paulsboro Road Sanitary Sewer Extension Analysis in the Amount of \$29,200.00

R-2019-250 Resolution Authorizing the Tax Collector to Transfer or Refund Overpayment of Taxes

R-2019-251 Resolution Authorizing Totally Disabled Veteran Tax Exemption

R-2019-252 Resolution Authorizing Totally Disabled Veteran Tax Exemption

R-2019-253 Resolution of the Woolwich Township Committee Referring the Kings Landing Amended Scattered Site Redevelopment Plan to the Woolwich Township Joint Land Use Board for Review and Recommendation Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:12-1, *et. seq.*

R-2019-254 Resolution of the Township of Woolwich Authorizing the Lease of Five Vehicles Via a Nationally Recognized Co-Op with Sourcewell from Enterprise Fleet Management

R-2019-255 Resolution of the Township of Woolwich, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Accepting the Best Practices Inventory Report for CY2019

Motion was made by Committeeman Battisti and seconded by Committeewoman Santore to adopt resolutions R-2019-244 through and including R-2019-255 with the removal of R-2019-252.

Committeeman Frederick wished to clarify resolution R-2019-246 from the action items listed under new business.

Mayor Marino explained that Eaise provided quotes for landscaping work on Center Square Road and the municipal building but the Committee had requested additional quotes for work on Township Line Road and portions of Center Square Rd. Committeeman Frederick stated that he feels the municipal building landscaping may be hampered by a pending construction project and suggested that the municipal building portion be excluded from approval.

Committeeman Frederick also wished to discuss resolution R-2019-248 as to the 2018 audit corrective action plan, questioning what the SAGE Program is. He was told that it is a state web based application of the administration of grant applications.

Committeeman Frederick also questioned resolution R-2019-249 and asked what the sewer extension along Paulsboro road will entail. Mayor Marino replied that township engineer's proposal is to conduct an analysis of running sewer lines down Paulsboro Road and determine if it makes sense for future development.

Committeeman Frederick then questioned the lease of vehicles referenced in resolution R-2019-254. Mayor Marino replied that one vehicle is for the construction code office and four are for the Police Department as covered through the shared service agreement with S. Harrison Township.

Mayor Marino further advised that resolution R-2019-252 is a duplicate resolution and would not be voted upon.

Roll Call: Battisti: YES, Frederick: YES, Santore: YES, Matthias: YES, Marino: YES Motion Carried

The Township Committee reviewed and discussed the following tree removal and landscaping quotes under old business as a follow-up to discussion held at the previous meeting.

Tree Removal Quotes-Stanch's \$3,775.00 Tree Awareness/No Bid

Landscaping Quotes	Center Square Rd. Eaise \$4,775.00	Four Seasons \$7,762.00
	Township Line Road Eaise \$5,845.00	Four Seasons \$4,850.00

Motion was made by Committeewoman Santore and seconded by Committeeman Frederick to approve the low quotes per project.

Roll Call: Battisti: YES, Frederick: YES, Santore: YES, Matthias: YES, Marino: YES Motion Carried

The engineer provided an evaluation of erosion concerns on private property on Kirschling Drive. He noted that the Township has conducted work within its drainage easement, but that further work is needed by the homeowner to stabilize the slopes into Raccoon Creek. He further noted that the project may require the services of a geotech engineer. The Committee also discussed the potential cost to the homeowner. It was suggested the homeowners may want to seek legal guidance and pursue relief through their title agency.

The Solicitor was advised to write a letter to the homeowner advising them of possible steps.

Under new business, Committeeman Battisti spoke regarding a political brochure that was sent to residents, referencing "update from your township committee," "looming debt crisis" and "dollars being spent to plug holes." Committeeman Battisti stated that he knew nothing about the flyer, that it was misleading to the public and did not represent the other two members of committee.

Committeeman Battisti also advised of the Blue Ribbon awarded to the Woolwich Community Garden by the Horticultural Society.

The Committee also discussed vehicles speeding through the municipal building parking lot.

Committeeman Battisti moved to open the meeting to public comment. Committeewoman Santore seconded. All were in favor.

Jordan Schlump, 10 Wilshire Blvd. stated that Committeeman Battisti did not receive a response to his statement. He asked what debt the flyer referred to. Mayor Marino advised that the audit is posted on the website where he can obtain a copy. He asked what playgrounds are referenced in the flyer, asking where new playgrounds are proposed, and was told that the park expansion project would include additional playgrounds. Mr. Schlump then asked what the Borough of Swedesboro will pay towards the park expansion and what Swedesboro children will pay to use the park. Mayor Marino responded that the park expansion project is located in Woolwich Township only. Mr. Schlump said that shared service should be shared cost.

Solicitor Alice said that there would not be a response and that the public should draw their own conclusions.

Mr. Schlump was advised that his five minutes were up.

Maria Schlump, 10 Wilshire Blvd. stated that there were two individuals who were not included as a part of the flyer. She then requested to turn the microphone back to her husband.

Solicitor Alice stated that he has used his time.

With no further comment, the public portion closed upon a motion by Committeewoman Santore, seconded by Deputy Mayor Matthias and unanimously passed.

Committeewoman Santore moved to approve resolution **R-2019-256 Resolution for Closed Session**. Deputy Mayor Matthias seconded. All were in favor.

The Committee entered closed session at 8:04 p.m. for the purpose of discussing the following:
Contractual Matters/Sewer and Litigation/ GLO-L-000011-19.

The meeting reconvened at 9:02 p.m. upon a motion by Committeeman Battisti, seconded by Committeewoman Santore and unanimously passed.

Motion was made by Committeeman Battisti and seconded by Committeewoman Santore to approve the bills and purchase orders.

Committeeman Frederick questioned the \$1,000 reimbursable to Seven Stars and was told that it was for a senior bus trip.

Roll Call: Battisti: YES, Frederick: YES (abstain from Verizon bills), Santore: YES, Matthias: YES, Marino: YES

With no further business, motion was made by Deputy Mayor Matthias, seconded by Committeewoman Santore and unanimously passed to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 9:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane DiBella
Administrator/Clerk

Minutes not verbatim
Audio recording on file