

**MINUTES
WOOLWICH TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
NOVEMBER 4, 2019
CAUCUS-6:00 P.M.**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Vernon Marino at 6:04 p.m.

Mayor Marino made the following statement:

The November 4, 2019 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 Frederick: ABSENT Santore: PRESENT
Matthias: ABSENT Marino: PRESENT

Those present saluted the American Flag.

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

Ann Dorset, 169 Russell Mill Road questioned the status of proposed changes to the TDR Ordinance. Mayor Marino replied that review is in the hands of the Solicitor and moving along as quickly as possible.

Motion was made by Committeewoman Santore and seconded by Committeeman Battisti to remove the following Ordinance from the table:

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.

Mayor Marino stated that the Administrator has worked through the corrections needed to the Ordinance with the applicant's attorney. The Administrator added that all questions regarding difference in taxable amounts have been understood, noting that the difference in value is land value.

Motion was made by Committeeman Battisti and seconded by Committeewoman Santore to adopt Ordinance 2019-17.

Roll Call: Battisti: YES, Santore: YES, Marino: YES Motion carried

Motion was made by Committeeman Battisti and seconded by Committeewoman Santore to introduce Ordinance **2019-21 Ordinance Authorizing Financial Agreement for an Office Building for the Property Location at Block 28.01, Lot 2.01 on the Tax Maps of Woolwich Township, Pursuant to the Long Term Tax Exemption Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:20-1 Et. Seq.** by title only upon first reading.

Roll Call: Battisti: YES, Santore: YES, Marino: YES Motion carried

Motion was made by Committeeman Battisti and seconded by Committeewoman Santore to introduce Ordinance **2019-22 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.** by title only upon first reading.

Roll Call: Battisti: YES, Santore: YES, Marino: YES Motion carried

Motion was made by Committeewoman Santore and seconded by Committeeman Battisti to introduce Ordinance **2019-23 An Ordinance Making Amendments to the 2019 Salary Ranges for Certain Officials and Employees of the Township of Woolwich in the County of Gloucester** by title only upon first reading.

Committeeman Battisti asked what salaries are being amended. Will Pine, CFO answered that the salaries being amended are for the positions of Court Administrator, Police Chief, Judge, Prosecutor and Interpreter and the increases are due to the additional workload accompanying the South Harrison shared service agreement for police and court.

Committeewoman Santore asked if the Committee would be discussing the actual salaries of the referenced positions. Mayor Marino replied that the salaries would be discussed. He added that the costs were funded through the agreement.

Roll Call: Battisti: YES, Santore: YES, Marino: YES Motion carried

Motion was made by Committeeman Battisti and seconded by Committeewoman Santore to approve a consent agenda for resolution R-2019-257 through and including R-2019-267. All were in favor.

Motion was made by Committeewoman Santore and seconded by Committeeman Battisti to adopt resolutions R-2019-257 through and including R-2019-267.

R-2019-257 Resolution of the Township Committee of the Township of Woolwich Amending Resolution R-2019-243 and Designating Woolwich Center Square Partners II Limited Liability Company Redeveloper of Block 28.01, Lot 2.01 on the Official Tax Maps of the Township of Woolwich Within the Weatherby Town Center Redevelopment Area

R-2019-258 Resolution Designating Woolwich Center Square Partners Limited Liability Company Redeveloper of Block 28.01, Lot 2.02 on the Official Tax Maps of the Township of Woolwich Within the Weatherby Town Center Redevelopment Area

R-2019-259 Resolution Authorizing the Release of Performance Bond #CM100158 as Posted for the Villages, Section 2.5A

R-2019-260 Resolution Authorizing Totally Disabled Veteran Tax Exemption

R-2019-261 Resolution Making an Elevation Within the Woolwich Township Police Department

R-2019-262 Resolution Authorizing Remington and Vernick Engineers to Conduct Supplemental General Planning Services for the Township of Woolwich

R-2019-263 Resolution Authorizing Various Quotes for Tree Removal and Landscaping Projects

R-2019-264 Resolution of the Township of Woolwich Authorizing the Submission of a Grant Application and Execution of a Grant Contract with the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the Various Streets and High Hill Road Shared Use Path Project

R-2019-265 Resolution Authorizing Release of Escrow

R-2019-266 Resolution Authorizing Budget Appropriation Transfers During the Last Two Months of the Fiscal Year for the Township of Woolwich, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey

R-2019-267 Resolution Authorizing Disposal of Certain Township Owned Equipment and Personal Property from the Fixed Asset List of the Township of Woolwich

Roll Call: Battisti: YES, Santore: YES, Marino: YES Motion carried

The following reports were provided and discussed:

Tax Collector: \$4,131,645.61 (Oct.)

Police Chief: Monthly Report

Township Engineer: Monthly Report

Travis Grieman, R&V noted the applications for 2020 aid will be submitted. He further noted award in the amount of \$500,000 from Green Acres for the Park Expansion. Mr. Grieman also noted the quote for Paulsboro Road sewer extension is still pending.

DOCD Report: Monthly Report

Mr. Blake presented his report as self-explanatory with nothing to add.

Administrator's Report: Monthly Report

Ms. DiBella presented her report as self-explanatory also, but noted pending items regarding renewal of the Comcast Cable Franchise and also advised that she will be working on NJDOT CDL substance abuse policy.

Municipal Services: Monthly Report

Presented as self-explanatory.

The following Committee liaison reports were presented:

Committeeman Battisti:

Municipal Services; (Blds./Grounds/Code/UCC/Zoning/Public Works); Presented the monthly code permit information. Noted that street and road repairs are ongoing as well as park maintenance. Tournament was conducted on the 25th. P/W is also addressing basin overgrowth. Municipal Alliance: NO report.

Mayor Marino noted the addition of the recently installed LaCrosse wall noting that he and Committeeman Frederick attended the ribbon cutting. It is a nice addition to the park.

Committeeman Frederick arrived at 6:20 p.m.

Committeeman Frederick:

Environmental: (SWEC, Green Team, Shade Tree, Open Space/Ag): Environmental Commission continues to discuss the plastic bag ban ordinance. The Administrator/Clerk advised that the township purchased cloth grocery bags and have been handing them out to residents. They were purchased through Clean Communities Grant funds.

Committeewoman Santore:

BDAC; Trash/Recycling: Noted that 75 e-mail addresses were collected to add to the resident e-mail blast process. Township is getting ready to begin the Logan Shared Agreement for trash collection. Committeeman Battisti asked what happens if a resident has more trash than what will fit in their cart. It was noted that anything left outside of the carts will not be collected. Discussion ensued regarding the ability of residents to lease additional carts.

In the absence of Deputy Mayor Matthias, Committeeman Frederick noted that the track and field project at Kingsway is on schedule. S/W District continues labor negotiations. Parks and Recreation will be holding their holiday village and tree lighting on November 30th following the Swedesboro Christmas Parade. The Committee and employees will be able to participate in the parade with their children. A Bowling Party is scheduled for the holiday break.

Committeewoman Santore asked if any action is needed to conduct a beer garden at the holiday village event. Mayor Marino replied that it is governed by ABC Licensing.

Committeewoman Santore provided the log report of the Woolwich Fire Company for the month of October.

She added that the last BDAC meeting was cancelled, but the Committee will meet in November.

Committeeman Battisti stated that the Fire Company Fire Prevention event was very nice.

Mayor Marino:

Administration: (Finance; Court; JLUB, TDR Task Force); Public Safety: New court employee is working out well as well as the court merge with S. Harrison. 3,415 cases have been heard, with 271 heard in September. The TDR Task Force Report has been prepared and is under review. The Mayor further added the receipt of \$500,000 in Green Acres Funding for park improvements, noting that it was less than requested, but still a significant amount. He further detailed plans to proceed with a pre-engineered building as a concession stand in an effort to lower costs.

Further discussion ensued regarding the park expansion project and what it will include. Mayor Marino suggested that the project be placed on the next agenda to discuss next steps and notice to proceed.

Under old business, Mayor Marino advised that the Eaise landscaping project discussed at the last meeting only includes one tree within the construction area. The Committee determined it is OK to move forward with that quote as proposed.

The Administrator/Clerk noted that the full list of Best Practices Analysis has been provided to the Committee as discussed at the 19-21-19 meeting.

Mayor Marino advised that he received a thank you note from a resident of Chestnut Ridge for working with the developer to address development deficiencies and for listening to the resident's vent.

Committeeman Frederick stated that the need for proceeding with phase 3 of the Shared Use Path project should require further discussion if awarded.

Motion was made by Committeeman Battisti and seconded by Committeeman Frederick to open the meeting to public comment.

Ann Dorsett, 169 Russell Mill Road noted that those administering the county flu clinic were very kind.

Hearing no further comment, motion was made by Committeeman Battisti, seconded by Committeewoman Santore and unanimously passed to close the public portion.

Motion was made by Committeeman Battisti, seconded by Committeewoman Santore and unanimously passed to approve the following minutes:

October 7, 2019 Caucus, Regular Meeting, Closed Session

October 21, 2019 Regular Meeting, Closed Session

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

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

Motion carried

Committeeman Battisti moved to adjourn. Committeewoman Santore seconded. All were in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 6:53 p.m.

MINUTES

WOOLWICH TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

REGULAR MEETING

NOVEMBER 4, 2019

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

The November 4, 2019 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: ABSENT
Marino: PRESENT

Those present saluted the American Flag.

Mayor Marino administered the Oath of Office to Reverend Gregory M. Wilson for the position of Police Chaplain.

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

Mayor Marino advised those present that due to the next day's general election, most of the Committee's business was conducted during the work session.

Joan Robinson, 109 Somerfield Rod., stated her concern with receipt of the county reassessment letter and her assessment is increasing by \$50,000.

Mayor Marino replied that it is important to not apply the new assessment to the current tax rate as the tax rate will be adjusted and won't be known until July of 2020.

Mrs. Robinson asked who will reap the benefit of increased taxes.

Mayor Marino replied that the municipality only receives about .15 of the rate. He urged residents to contact the county assessor's office with their concerns.

Beth Sawyer, 1807 Lexington Mews, questioned the "looming debt crisis" noted in a political mailer and asked what the crisis is. Will Pine, CFO, replied that there are several items of debt that the municipality has not had to borrow yet, but will at some point.

Ms. Sawyer asked if the special assessment for sewer that was voted down at the end of 2018 has anything to do with the debt. Mr. Pine said that it may have saved a little. Mayor Marino advised that connection fees and PILOT Agreements will pay for some of the sewer costs.

Hearing no further questions or comments, Committeewoman Santore moved to close the public portion. Committeeman Battisti seconded. All were in favor.

Mayor Marino apologized for those that came out. He noted no further business and requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Committeeman Battisti so moved. Committeewoman Santore seconded. All were in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane DiBella
Administrator/Clerk

Minutes not verbatim
Audio recording on file