

**MINUTES
WOOLWICH TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 3, 2020**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Vernon Marino at 6:07 p.m.

Mayor Marino made the following statement:

The February 3, 2020 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: Frederick: PRESENT Nocentno: PRESENT Santore: PRESENT
Matthias: ABSENT Marino: PRESENT

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

Those present saluted the American Flag.

Mrs. DiBella introduced Michael Whitecraft and James Short as new hires within the Department of Public Works, to be finalized by resolution at the 2-18-20 meeting.

Motion was made by Committeewoman Santore and seconded by Committeeman Frederick to open the meeting to public comment on agenda items only.

Jordan Schlump, 10 Wilshire Blvd. stated that he wished to acknowledge the hard work of township employee's. He added that in his years on Committee, he witnessed all of the good work that employees do. He then noted that Matt Blake has been a valuable employee, and that upon his resignation, there will be something lost for the residents of Woolwich.

Angela Napoliello-Ivory, 3 Brockton Court questioned what COAH stands for within resolution R-2020-55 and was told "Council on Affordable Housing". Mrs. Napoliello-Ivory asked that the Township discontinue use of acronyms for the benefit of the public.

Mrs. Napoliello-Ivory then asked what service "National Restoration" will provide the township within resolution R-2020-57. Mayor Marino advised that National Restoration will be the designated company to address the needs of residents and restoration of property in the event of fires, and that appointment of said company prevents residents from being overcharged for these services.

Hearing no further comment, the public portion closed upon a motion by Committeewoman Santore, seconded by Committeeman Frederick and passed.

Mayor Marino read the following Ordinance by title only upon first reading:

2020-01 An Ordinance of the Township of Woolwich Amending Chapter 143 of the Code of the Township of Woolwich Entitled "Property Maintenance"

Motion to introduce: Santore Second: Craig All in favor Motion carried

The Committee considered the following resolution as tabled on January 21st.

R-2020-47 Resolution of the Township of Woolwich to be a Participant in the Local Efficiency Achievement Program (LEAP)

Motion was made by Committeewoman Santore and seconded by Committeeman Frederick to remove R-2020-47 from the table. All were in favor.

Committeewoman Santore suggested that the Committee move forward with the amount to be provided later, or with removal of the amount as referenced.

Committeeman Frederick questioned the advantage of moving forward. Committeewoman Santore stated that there is only so much funding at the state level.

Motion was then made by Committeewoman Santore to amend R-2020-47, striking the sentence that contains the amount. Committeeman Frederick seconded. All were in favor.

Committeewoman Santore moved to adopt resolution R-2020-47 as amended. Committeeman Frederick seconded.

Roll Call: Frederick; YES, Nocentino: YES, Santore: YES, Marino: YES Motion carried

Committeewoman Santore moved for a consent agenda on resolution R-2020-50 through and including R-2020-60. Committeeman Nocentino seconded. All were in favor.

Motion was made by Committeewoman Santore and seconded by Committeeman Frederick to adopt resolution R-2020-50 through and including R-2020-60.

Committeeman Frederick questioned the farmland preservation grant agreement, asking how long it has been since the last Farmland Preservation Plan was drafted. Matt Blake, DOCD stated that it has been about 10 years.

Mr. Blake further advised that the Open Space/Farmland Preservation Committee should be reconstituted to assist in the program update.

R-2020-50 Resolution of the Township of Woolwich Appointing William Franklin to the Position of Class III Officer within the Woolwich Township Police Department

R-2020-51 Resolution Authorizing the Proposal of Remington and Vernick Engineers for Bid Services and Inspections for Improvements Within The Enclave at Stone Meeting House

R-2020-52 Resolution of the Township of Woolwich, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing the Entering Into and the Execution of a "Municipal Comprehensive Farmland Preservation Plan Grant Agreement"

R-2020-53 Resolution Authorizing Budget Appropriation Transfers During the First Three Months of the Succeeding Year for the Township of Woolwich, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey

R-2020-54 Resolution Authorizing Release and Closure of Escrow Account

R-2020-55 Resolution Making a Professional Services Appointment for the Position of COAH Special Counsel

R-2020-56 Resolution Making a Professional Services Appointment for the Position of Public Defender

R-2020-57 Resolution Making a Professional Services Appointment for the Position of Fire Restoration Service

R-2020-58 Resolution Authorizing the Tax Collector to Transfer or Refund Overpayment of Taxes

R-2020-59 Resolution Authorizing Totally Disabled Veteran Exemption

R-2020-60 Resolution Appointing a Class II Member to the Woolwich Township Joint Land Use Board

Mayor Marino requested a roll call on the above resolutions:

Roll Call: Frederick; YES, Nocentino: YES, Santore: YES, Marino: YES Motion carried

The following reports were provided, and discussion held on the following:

Tax Collector: \$520,117.98/Month of December

Woolwich Fire Company: Monthly Report & Year End

Police Chief: Monthly Report

Township Engineer: Monthly Report

Travis Greiman, of Remington and Vernick, advised that Phase 2 of the High Hill Road Shared Use Path is underway. He advised that despite traffic control being in place, an incident occurred. Additional measures will be looked at.

Mr. Grieman also advised that NJDOT is agreeable to applying grant funding back to Phase 2. He suggested meeting with staff and determining the plan elements that should be included, and then putting together a scope of work that will require a change order.

Committeeman Frederick wished to verify a connection to the park entrance from the roundabout. The engineer verified the connection.

Mayor Marino asked the status of the residential easement areas.

The engineer then advised that NJDOT is willing to extend the time frame of the Rainey/Viereck Road project an additional six months.

Director of Community Development Matt Blake provided his report. He noted the process that will have to take place in regards to the update of the Farmland Preservation Plan, which will require two public hearings, the 2nd of which will be at the Joint Land Use Board level. He further added that appointments should be made to the Open Space/Ag Committee and that the Committee should work in unison with the JLUB. As to the future of land preservation efforts, Mr. Blake advised that the state and county can acquire standalone projects once the municipal zoning is changed.

The Administrator/Clerk presented her report as self-explanatory. There were no questions.

Committee liaison presented the following reports:

Committeeman Frederick:

Municipal Services; (Blds./Grounds/Code/UCC/Zoning/Public Works); Advised number of permits issued in the month of January. Parks are being readied for spring sports. Field opening is scheduled for March 7, weather permitting. Public works has assisted with asphalt roadwork and placed TDR signs on those farms preserved through the TDR Auction. Schools: (in the Deputy Mayors absence) Noted information and activities on the school websites. SWSD gifted and talented team qualified in South Jersey Championship and won 2nd overall. The high school and middle school are scheduling field trips and conducting fund raisers. Environmental Commission: New member has been seated.

Committeeman Nocentino:

Environmental Commission: Noted that the Commission continues to work on the plastic bag ordinance. They have submitted their annual report. 2020 meetings have been posted in the NewTown Press. The Commission is planning recycling programs within the school system. Municipal Alliance: Meeting was held joint with the Swedesboro MA to discuss unification of the Committee's. Swedesboro declined to unify. Parks and Rec (in the absence of the Deputy Mayor) the January 25th Mother/Son mixer had over 243 attendees and was a huge success. Daddy/Daughter Dance is scheduled for 2-8. Easter Egg Scramble is being planned.

Committeewoman Santore:

BDAC; Meeting is scheduled for 2-26. Trash/Recycling: Shared Service with Logan Twp. Is going well. Residents violations have dramatically decreased. 13 additional carts have been leased. Committeewoman Santore said that the first week, zone 2 had 144 warnings issued and on Jan. 29th, no violations were issued. She added that Logan Township has done a great job of education residents about the new service.

Mayor Marino:

Administration: (Finance; Court; JLUB, TDR Task Force); Public Safety: Court processed 4,438 cases in 2019, which includes S. Harrison numbers beginning October 1st. Noted that certain officers may receive awards for their actions during a 2019 hostage situation in Logan Twp. Noted appreciation and complements to all employees for the jobs that they do. Noted that the CFO and Administrator/Clerk completed and submitted two applications to the State LEAP Program. The Township hopes to receive almost \$800,000 coming back to taxpayers in startup costs for the Police and Trash shared service agreements.

There was no old business.

Under new business, the Committee reviewed and discussed the request of the New Jersey Turnpike Authority for transfer of the Park and Ride parcel to the Township. Mayor Marino noted that the Township already has maintenance responsibilities on the parcel. The Township will investigate the process towards transfer of ownership.

Also under new business, the Committee noted the retirement of Officer Sean Weston. Officer Weston was hired by the police department through the Shared Service Agreement with S. Harrison Township. His retirement decision is due to an off-duty injury received. The Clerk was advised to file the letter.

Mayor Marino further noted the resignation letter of Matt Blake from the position of Director of Community Development as he has accepted a position with the State of New Jersey. The Mayor said that Matt has worked for the township for seven years and done a nice job. He thanked Mr. Blake for all that he has done for the Township.

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

Ann Dorsett, 169 Russell Mill Road, questioned the status of changes to TDR zoning. Mayor Marino responded that the Joint Land Use Board most recently organized with some new members and professionals, and that the new solicitor is working on language for the ordinance.

Mrs. Dorsett then said that she is surprised about Mr. Blake's resignation, noting that he has always been very willing to work with her.

Angela Napoliello-Ivory asked if there are plans for a street light at Village Green and Center Square Road, saying that the area is very dark. Mayor Marino responded that when it becomes a cross street, he assumes that it will have to be lit.

Mrs. Napoliello-Ivory also said that the meeting time should be listed on the agenda.

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

Committeewoman Santore moved to approve resolution **R-2020-61 Resolution for Closed Session**. Committeeman Frederick seconded. All were in favor.

The Committee entered closed session at 6:46 p.m. for the purpose of discussing personnel matters.

The regular meeting resumed at 8:07 p.m. upon a motion by Committeewoman Santore, seconded by Committeeman Frederick and unanimously passed.

Committeewoman Santore moved to introduce Ordinance **2020-02 Ordinance Amending Chapter 36 of the Code of the Township of Woolwich Entitled "Police Department" to Create the Position of Deputy Chief**. Committeeman Frederick seconded.

Roll Call: Frederick; YES, Nocentino: YES, Santore: YES, Marino: YES

Committeewoman Santore moved to approve resolution **R-2020-62 Resolution of the Township of Woolwich Creating and Setting Forth the Qualifications for the Position of Deputy Chief of Police in the Woolwich Township Police Department**.

Roll Call: Frederick; YES, Nocentino: YES, Santore: YES, Marino: YES

Committeeman Frederick moved to authorize the Administrator/Clerk to post and advertise the position of Director of Community Development with language as discussed in closed session. Committeewoman Santore seconded. All were in favor.

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

Roll Call: Frederick; YES (abstain from Verizon), Nocentino: YES, Santore: YES, Marino: YES

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m. upon a motion by Committeeman Frederick, seconded by Committeeman Nocentino and unanimously passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane DiBella
Administrator/Clerk

Minutes not verbatim
Audio recording on file