

**MINUTES
WOOLWICH TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
MARCH 16, 2020**

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

Mayor Marino made the following statement:

The March 16, 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 Nocentino: 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.

Committeewoman Santore moved to open the meeting to public comment for agenda items only. Committeeman Frederick seconded. All were in favor.

Jordan Schlump, 10 Wilshire Blvd. questioned R-2020-89 regarding the Memorandum of Understanding between the Township, Borough of Swedesboro, GCIA and GCUA. He questioned who is paying for the Swedesboro pump station, how the tie in will be accomplished, and if this downgrades costs.

Mayor Marino responded that the number will be what it is with the inclusion of Swedesboro, he advised that one force main will be and that costs are still being explored.

Mr. Schlump asked if the Mayor should recuse himself from the topic. Solicitor Alice replied that he sees no need for the Mayor to recuse himself.

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

Mayor Marino noted that the softball and baseball awards tournament along with a presentation by SLK would be postponed due to COVID-19 concerns.

Sal Barbagallo of SPS approached the Committee regarding his home energy audit program that was bid and awarded by the Township at the cost of \$49 per audit. He stated that he would like to increase the price.

Deputy Mayor Matthias stated that she had the audit conducted in her home and was appreciative of the cost, but is not sure what the effort will be if the cost is increased by \$100.00.

Committeewoman Santore stated that she sees no problem with right sizing the cost of the assessment. Mayor Marino also said that he sees no downside. Mr. Barbagallo noted that it helps the township to be greener.

Discussion ensued regarding whether or not the project would need to be re-bid. The Mayor suggested that the Solicitor review the bid pack and see if it is open ended.

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

2020-05 Ordinance of the Township of Woolwich Amending Chapter 159 of the Code of the Township of Woolwich Entitled "Streets and Sidewalks"

Motion to open the public hearing: Santore Second: Matthias All were in favor Motion Carried
No public comment

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

Motion to adopt: Santore Second: Nocentino

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

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

2020-06 An Ordinance of the Township of Woolwich, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Adopting an Amendment to the Weatherby Town Center Redevelopment Plan

Motion to introduce: Matthias Second: Santore All in favor Motion Carried

2020-07 An Ordinance of the Township of Woolwich Amending Chapter 203-5B of the Code of the Township of Woolwich Entitled "Definitions and Word Usage: to Create the Definition of Supermarket

Motion to introduce: Santore Second: Matthias All in favor Motion Carried

Committeewoman Santore moved to approve a consent agenda for resolutions R-2020-81 through and including R-2020-90. Deputy Mayor Matthias seconded, requesting the resolution R-2020-89 be removed from the consent agenda. All were in favor.

Deputy Mayor Matthias moved to adopt resolutions R-2020-81 through and including R-2020-90 with the exception of R-2020-89. Committeewoman Santore seconded.

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

Committeeman Frederik noted that resolution R-2020-81 allowing Remington and Vernick to conduct engineering under FY2019 NJDOT Funds, should be for the Swedesboro Avenue Project as opposed to Rainey and Viereck Roads. He then moved to strike and amend R-2020-81 as stated. Deputy Mayor Matthias seconded.

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

R-2020-81 Resolution of the Township of Woolwich, County of Gloucester Authorizing Quote of Remington and Vernick Engineers in the Amount of \$42,000 for Engineering and Oversight of FY2019 NJDOT Trust Fund Project

R-2020-82 Resolution Authorizing Utilizing the Services of "Extra Duty Solutions" for Extra Duty Scheduling of the Woolwich Township Police Department

R-2020-83 Resolution Making an Elevation within the Woolwich Township Police Department

R-2020-84 Resolution of the Township of Woolwich, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Prohibiting Left Turns at the Proposed US Rt. 322 Driveway for the Commodore Business Center-North

R-2020-85 Resolution Authorizing Totally Disabled Veteran Exemption

R-2020-86 Resolution Authorizing Totally Disabled Veteran Exemption

R-2020-87 Resolution Authorizing the Hiring of Part Time Seasonal Janitorial Staff-Locke Avenue Park

R-2020-88 Resolution Authorizing the Extension of Lease Agreement Between the Township of Woolwich and D & J Catering for Concession Stand Services

R-2020-89 Resolution of the Township of Woolwich, County of Gloucester Approving a Memorandum of Understanding Between the Township of Woolwich, the Gloucester County Utilities Authority, the Borough of Swedesboro and the Gloucester County Utilities Authority in Regards to Sewer Conveyance and Construction and Operation of a Pump Station and Force Main Related Thereto

R-2020-90 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

Deputy Mayor Matthias moved to add a paragraph within resolution R-2020-89 stating "WHEREAS, the Township of Woolwich hereby incorporates the September 9, 2019 MOU, herein at length, as it remains in effect and is complimentary to the instant MOU." Committeewoman Santore seconded.

Solicitor Alice said that would be a valid comment and legal, and makes clear the intent of the Governing Body.

R-2020-89 Resolution of the Township of Woolwich, County of Gloucester Approving a Memorandum of Understanding Between the Township of Woolwich, the Gloucester County Utilities Authority, the Borough of Swedesboro and the Gloucester County Utilities Authority in Regards to Sewer Conveyance and Construction and Operation of a Pump Station and Force Main Related Thereto
Roll Call: Frederick: YES, Nocentino: YES, Santore: YES, Matthias: YES, Marino: YES

Mayor Marino further noted that the addition of Swedesboro into the MOU does not interfere with anything already in motion.

Committeewoman Santore thanked the Mayor and Deputy Mayor for all that they have done to bring this to fruition.

The following reports were provided:

Tax Collector: \$4,461,728.05 Jan. \$6,612,954.78 February and 2019 year end

Committeeman Frederick questioned the number of tax arrears.

Woolwich Fire Company: Monthly Report

Committeewoman Santore noted a change in policy as it relates to EMS calls, as the department is not properly equipped. Committeewoman Santore also advised that the vast number of calls for service were for false alarms

Mayor Marino noted that there is another bat problem in the fire house, and that the Township and Borough will work together to remediate. Committeeman Frederick noted that the Environmental Commission is working on the bat house project as a way to limit mosquito's.

Police Chief: Monthly Report

Mayor Marino noted the restructuring of the department. The Deputy Chief said all is going well.

Township Engineer: Monthly Report

Reported that High Hill Path project is well underway and the bridge has been installed. Discussion was further held regarding moving phase 3 funding to phase 2 and determine what additional length of pathway could be constructed. He suggested the focus be on connecting from the Auburn Road circle to the park entrance.

Discussion then commenced regarding safe access from Weatherby. The engineer stated that crossing wetlands would be a problem.

The Committee was in agreement to move the funding and the engineer will look at the options and cost differential and report back at the next meeting.

Committeeman Frederick questioned time line on the park project. The engineer responded that permitting, geotech and storm water planning continue and may take some time.

Administrator's Report: Monthly Report
Self Explanatory

Municipal Services: Monthly Report

The following liaison reports were provided:

Committeeman Frederick:

Municipal Services; (Blds./Grounds/Code/UCC/Zoning/Public Works); 37 permits issued, mostly decks and solar. Park facilities have been closed to teams. Portable lights have been purchased and will be positioned. P/W conducting in-field mix work and mulching landscaping. PW is also working on storm drains, and filling pot holes. Environmental Commission: Joint meeting was held with BDAC and a few business owners to review and discuss the plastic bag ordinance. Noted Earth Day on April 26th. The Commission is also requesting funding in the approximate amount of \$450 to purchase guinea hens for tick control at Tranquility Trail.

Discussion then ensued among the Committee regarding guinea hens with the Committee agreeing that tick control is needed.

Committeeman Frederick moved allow the purchase of guinea hens through the EC budget at a cost NTE \$1,000 pending certification of funds from the CFO. Mayor Marino seconded.

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

Committeeman Frederick further advised that the Commission is seeking members and suggested that consideration be given to expand membership to include Jr. Associates (2-Woolwich and 2-Swedesboro).

Deputy Mayor Matthias asked if the community cleanup will be rescheduled from the April 26th date. The Administrator/Clerk will look into that.

Committeeman Nocentino:

Municipal Alliance: Committeeman Nocentino advised of anti-bullying signage to be purchased through the Alliance for posting at the local schools.

Committeewoman Santore:

BDAC; Held joint meeting to discuss plastic bag ordinance. Bill to address plastic bag ban on state level is moving out of lame duck. Will keep Committee apprised of any movement. Trash/Recycling: Noted that 31 recycling carts were exchanged in the month of February and 12 were leased. There were 197 bulk pickups. Violations have decreased.

Dep. Mayor Matthias:

Educational Partners; (KRHS and SWSD); Schools are conducting at-home studies following state COVID-19 mandates. Funding allocations have been announced both S/W and Kingsway received funding allocation increases. Kingsway has added new policies regarding grading and class rank. Recreation: Upcoming events have been cancelled due to COVID-19 crisis. Still waiting on decision to be reached about whether Fun Day will be held. Recreation is looking for new members.

Committeeman Frederick noted that discussions are taking place regarding a 9-hole course of Frisbee golf potentially being added to recreation.

Mayor Marino:

Administration: (Finance; Court; JLUB, TDR Task Force); Mayor Marino thanked Senator Sweeney for his push on the Fair Funding issue. Mayor Marino noted that COVID-19 has and will continue to affect operations, He advised that he has participated in daily county briefings which will continue daily at 10 a.m. He advised that the municipal building will be closed to public access beginning on 3-17. Plans have been put in place to address public needs. Public Works will deep clean and disinfect the municipal building. Every precaution against the virus will be maintained. Court and Land Use Board meetings have been cancelled. Inspections will continue on a limited basis. County is setting up 211 service for information. There will be no disruption to emergency services.

Committeewoman Santore said that she appreciates the steps taken to address public needs. She also expressed concerns with children using park and playground facilities.

There was no old business.

Under new business, motion was made by Committeewoman Santore and seconded by Committeeman Frederick to authorize advertisement for the lease of farmland for the following township owned parcels:

Block 28.01 Lot 1	13 tillable acres
Block 5, Lot 3	15 tillable acres
Block 5, Lot 4	20 tillable acres
Block 3, Lot 6	17 tillable acres

All were in favor.

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

Jordan Schlump, 10 Wilshire Blvd. stated that there are never more than 20 people at one time in the Community Garden. He also asked if mulch can be used in the beds. Mayor Marino replied that the mulch is to be used by PW to township landscaping. What is left over can be used. Mr. Schlump also suggested that the Committee do their homework as to guinea fowl.

Ann Dorsett, 169 Russell Mill Road said that she is glad the township has put plans in place for the continuity of business during the health crisis.

She also advised that guinea hen breeders can find the best areas to place the hens. She also added that bat box projects would be a good scouting projects, and further advised that the blue bird project will be starting once again.

With no further comments, the public portion closed upon a motion by Committeewoman Santore, seconded by Committeeman Frederick and unanimously passed.

Committeewoman Santore moved to adopt resolution **R-2020-90 Resolution for Closed Session**. Committeeman Frederick seconded. All were in favor.

The Committee entered closed session at 7:24 p.m. for the purpose of discussing personnel: DOCD Position and Potential Litigation: Meadow Woods Storm Water.

The regular meeting reconvened at 8:30 p.m. upon a motion by Committeewoman Santore, seconded by Committeeman Frederick and unanimously passed.

Motion was made by Deputy Mayor Matthias and seconded by Committeewoman Santore to authorize the Clerk to advertise a position for utility/administrative assistant. All were in favor.

Committeewoman Santore moved to approve the following minutes:

February 18, 2020 and Closed Session

March 2, 2020 and Closed Session

Committeeman Nocentino requested an amendment to the minutes of February 18th.

All were in favor.

Committeewoman Santore moved to approve the bills and purchase orders presented. Committeeman Frederick seconded.

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

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane DiBella, Administrator/Clerk

Minutes not verbatim. Audio recording on file.