

**MINUTES  
WOOLWICH TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE  
JUNE 15, 2020  
6:00 p.m.**

The meeting was conducted via teleconference due to COVID-19 Emergency Directives.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Vernon Marino at 6:00 p.m. with the following statement:

The June 15, 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

It was noted that Committeeman Nocentino, Deputy Mayor Matthias, Mayor Marino, Administrator/Clerk DiBella and CFO Pine were present, and Committeewoman Santore, Committeeman Frederick, Engineer Greiman, Solicitor Alice, Planner Jones, Police Chief Jaramillo and Fire Chief Valichka were present on teleconference.

Those present saluted the American Flag.

Deputy Mayor Matthias moved to open the meeting to public comment. Committeeman Nocentino seconded. All were in favor.

Bob McCartney, residing at 250 Daniels Way advised that due to a typo on the Township website, he was considered paying his 2<sup>nd</sup> Q taxes after the end of the grace period and was charged interest which he requested be returned. Mayor Marino advised that the situation would be discussed later in the meeting.

Hearing no further public comment, motion was made by Committeewoman Santore and seconded by Committeeman Frederick to close the public portion. All were in favor.

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

**2020-11 Ordinance of the Township of Woolwich Amending Chapter 39 of the Code of the Township of Woolwich Entitled "Access to Public Records"**

Motion to open public hearing: Santore                      Second: Frederick                      All in favor

No public comment

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

Motion to adopt: Santore                      Second: Frederick

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

The Committee considered the following relative to the 2020 Municipal Budget:

**R-2020-124 Township of Woolwich, County of Gloucester-Self Examination of Budget Resolution**

Motion: Matthias                      Second: Santore

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

**R-2020-125 Township of Woolwich, County of Gloucester, Resolution to Read Budget by Title Only**

Motion: Matthias      Second: Nocentino

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

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

The CFO provided a brief summary of the budget content.

There was no public comment.

Committeewoman Santore moved to close the public hearing. Committeeman Frederick seconded. All were in favor.

Motion was made by Committeewoman Santore and seconded by Committeeman Frederick to approve the following resolution:

**R-2020-126 Resolution of the Township of Woolwich, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Adopting the 2020 Municipal Budget**

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

Mayor Marino read the following resolutions by title only:

**R-2020-127 Resolution Authorizing the Execution of the First Amendment to Designate Conditional Redeveloper and Provide for Payment of Administrative Costs in Regards to Commodore Business Center North**      Motion: Santore      Second: Frederick

It was noted that the amendment extends the Agreement for an additional 180 days, and that costs are to be charged to escrow. All were in favor

**R-2020-128 Resolution Temporarily Relaxing Existing Ordinances and Procedures Associated with Review and Approval for Existing Restaurants and Food Establishments and Retail Business Provisions for Outdoor Dining and Outdoor Displays to Provide Assistance to Local Retail Businesses under the Current Social Distancing Restrictions Enacted in Connection with the Ongoing, Coronavirus Public Health Emergency and Subject to the Rescission and/or Relaxation of the Current "Stay at Home" Executive Order**      Motion: Matthias      Second: Santore

Committeewoman Santore said that she is happy to assist the business community. Mayor Marino suggested that the Committee may wish to extend operating hours for bars/restaurants until 2:00 a.m. Discussion ensued.

Deputy Mayor Matthias suggested that Committee consider if there will be any impact related to the Township's noise ordinance. Mayor Marino asked that consideration be given to allow the bar/restaurants to remain open until 2:00 a.m. as township ordinance allows, in an effort to help those businesses to reestablish. Committeewoman Santore was in agreement.

Mayor Marino moved to amend the resolution to allow those types of business to remain open until 2:00 a.m. Deputy Mayor Matthias seconded.

Committeeman Frederick asked if this would be effective for all businesses, and Mayor Marino replied that it only be effective for those liquor licensed premises.

Solicitor Alice noted that all requirements would be under the jurisdiction of the Administrator and Police Chief.

Committeeman Frederick question the effective time line and was told it would only be until restrictions are lifted. Committeeman Frederick also asked if restrictive barriers should be in place to protect the public, and was told that discretion would be determined by the Administrator and Chief also.

Roll Call on resolution as amended:

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

**R-2020-129 Resolution Authorizing Placement of Municipal Liens-Property Maintenance**

Motion: Frederick Second: Santore

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

The following reports were provided for the month of May:

Tax Collector: \$7,363,840.90

Woolwich Fire Company: Monthly Report

Chief Velichka reported that the department has been busy and that paid PT is working well, adding that the schedule is filled through August. Mayor Marino thanked the members of the fire company and noted that he receives nothing but positive feedback.

Police Chief: Monthly Report

Chief Jaramillo reported the efforts of the PD to address concerns at the High Hill Road crosswalk. He also noted that the community solidarity march was well organized and without incident. Committeeman Frederick asked if a blinker would help at the High Hill Road Crossing and was told it is signalized.

Committeewoman Santore noted commendations to the young women that planned and executed the solidarity march. Committeeman Frederick asked if there was ahead count and was told it was estimated at 300-350.

Township Engineer: Monthly Report

Travis Greiman advised that the municipal aid application will be submitted by the July 1<sup>st</sup> deadline for Swedesboro Ave. and phase 3 of the High Hill Road bike path. A resolution will be on the next agenda to approve the application. He also noted that a meeting is scheduled with NJDEP in regards to the park expansion. Noted that the bid for the Enclave is due on the 19<sup>th</sup> with award at the July meeting.

Committeeman Nocentino requested status of the Rainey/Viereck Road grant application. Mr. Greiman advised the project can move forward with advertisement, which he will coordinate with the Clerk.

Administrator's Report: Monthly Report

The Administrator/Clerk presented her report as self-explanatory, but advised of ongoing building repairs after flooding and target date of July 1<sup>st</sup> to re-open the building post COVID.

Municipal Services: Monthly Report

The following liaison reports were provided:

Committeeman Frederick:

Municipal Services; (Blds./Grounds/Code/UCC/Zoning/Public Works); Environmental Commission Noted re-opening of the park for team practice and games. Park is getting readied for the seasons. 56 permits for issued, most of which were for new construction. Environmental Commission held a brief Zoom Meeting. Garden plots are sold out. Bluebird houses are being monitored. Shade Tree meeting is scheduled with S/W school district. On-line school recycling assembly programs were successful. Moving forward with guinea hens at Tranquility Trail. Pet Waste stations will be installed as well. Committeewoman Santore asked if there could be feeders for feeding the guinea hens.

Committeeman Nocentino:

Municipal Alliance: No report

Committeewoman Santore:

BDAC; Trash/Recycling: There has been an uptick in household waste and bulk pickup, as well as metal collection tonnage and vegetative waste. BDAC has been on hiatus, but will reconvene in July and focus on the Business Appreciation event.

Dep. Mayor Matthias:

Educational Partners; (KRHS and SWSD); Recreation: State released its budget and made cuts to additional school aid. That information I on the school websites. End of year celebrations have been underway. A Committee has been formed to plan for reopening school and will be looking at 3 options. Committeewoman Santore questioned the amount of state aid and was told that the districts will still receive what they received last year, but will not receive increases and proposed prior to the epidemic.

Mayor Marino:

Administration: (Finance; Court; JLUB, TDR Task Force); Public Safety Noted that the Committee heard from the CFO on the 2020 budget. First video court session went well. JLUB will be held in person on June 18th

Under old business, Committeewoman Santore's T&R stat results will be held until the July meeting.

Mayor Marino reminded that there will only be on meeting in July, scheduled for the 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

Under new business, Deputy Mayor Matthias noted that some taxpayers were charged interest for being later after a mistaken due date was posted on the township website. She proposed allowing refunds to those persons if the resident makes such request, provided there are no other arrears, and that this would apply only to 2<sup>nd</sup>Q 2020 taxes paid between June 1-10.

Committeewoman Santore followed with a motion to approve. Committeeman Frederick seconded.

Deputy Mayor Matthias noted that 22 persons were affected by late fees and then amended her motion to apply to all 22 persons eligible. Committeeman Frederick seconded.

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

Motion was made by Deputy Mayor Matthias, seconded by Committeewoman Santore and unanimously passed to approve resolution **R-2020-130 Resolution for Closed Session.**

The Committee entered closed session at 7:04 p.m. for the purpose of discussing litigation in the matter of Woolwich Adult.

The regular meeting reconvened at 8:23 p.m. upon a motion by Committeeman Frederick, seconded by Committeeman Nocentino and unanimously passed.

Mayor Marino advised that RFP responses were received that day from Arbok Partners (\$2,000,000) and Johnson Development Associates (\$2,500,000) and advised that they will be undergoing legal review.

Committeewoman Santore moved to approve the minutes of May 18, 2020 and June 1, 2020 regular and closed session. Deputy Mayor Matthias noted that she was present on June 1<sup>st</sup>. Motion was thereafter amended by Committeewoman Santore and seconded by Deputy Mayor Matthias. All were in favor.

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

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

With no further business, motion was made by Committeeman Nocentino and seconded by Committeewoman Santore to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane DiBella  
Administrator/Clerk

Minutes not verbatim  
Audio recording on file