

**MINUTES
WOOLWICH TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
AUGUST 17, 2020
6:00 p.m.**

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

Mayor Marino made the following statement:

The August 17, 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: DeLuca-Curran: PRESENT Frederick: PRESENT Nocentino: PRESENT
Matthias: PRESENT Marino: PRESENT

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

In the audience was Chief Jaramillo, Fire Chief Valichka and Engineer Greiman.

Those present saluted the American Flag.

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

Hearing no comment, the public portion closed upon a motion by Committeeman Nocentino. All were in favor.

Motion was made by Deputy Mayor Matthias and seconded by Committeeman Nocentino to approve a consent agenda. Committeeman Frederick asked that R-2020-165 be removed from the consent agenda. All were in favor.

Motion was made by Committeeman Nocentino and second by Committeeman Fredrick to adopt resolutions R-2020-162 through and including R-2020-171, removing R-2020-154.

Roll Call: DeLuca-Curran: YES, Frederick: YES, Nocentino: YES, Matthias: YES. Marino: YES.

Motion carried.

R-2020-162 Resolution Authorizing the Execution of a Contract Renewing Membership in the Gloucester, Salem and Cumberland Counties Municipal Joint Insurance Fund

R-2020-163 Resolution Authorizing the Release of Street Lighting Cash Bond as Posted on Villages II, Section 1

R-2020-164 Resolution Authorizing Totally Disabled Veteran Deduction

R-2020-166 Resolution of the Township Committee of the Township of Woolwich Designating Arbok Partners Potential Redeveloper of Block 14, Lot 2 Per Their Submitted RFQ in the Amount of \$2,700,000 and Authorizing a Memorandum of Understanding Between the Township and Arbok Partners

R-2020-167 Resolution of the Township of Woolwich Re-Appointment Class II and Class III Special Law Enforcement Officers within the Woolwich Township Police Department

R-2020-168 Resolution Adding to the List of Approved Crossing Guards for the Remainder of the 2020 School Year

R-2020-169 Resolution Authorizing the Release of Performance Bond #CM100312 as Posted for the Development Known as Villages, Section 2.5B

R-2020-170 Resolution Authorizing Disposal of Certain Township Owned Equipment and Personal Property From the Fixed Asset List of the Township of Woolwich

R-2020-171 Resolution Authorizing Placement of Municipal Liens-Property Maintenance

Roll Call: DeLuca-Curran: YES, Frederick: YES, Nocentino: YES, Matthias: YES, Marino: YES
Motion carried.

Deputy Mayor Matthias moved to adopt the following resolution. Committeeman Nocentino seconded.
R-2020-165 Resolution of the Township of Woolwich, County of Gloucester Authorizing the Quote of Remington and Vernick Engineers in the Amount of \$21,500 for Bid Preparation, Contract Administration and Inspection of Emergency Repairs to Back Creek Road

Committeeman Frederick asked the Engineer what his analysis of the bridge failure was; design issue, contractual issue? Mayor Marino noted that design was conducted by the prior township engineer.

Mr. Greiman stated that failure was simply caused by too much rain.

Mayor Marino stated that the other side of the roadway is starting to fail as well. He asked the engineer if the specifications will require a full cut out of the entire road width.

Mr. Greiman responded that the prepared specifications call for a reset of the south side, using bigger stone and headwall on both sides of the road.

Mayor Marino asked if the project is still on board for award on September 7th. Mr. Greiman said that contractor quotes will be received on the 21st and he will work to turn around in a timely fashion.

Roll Call: DeLuca-Curran: YES, Frederick: YES, Nocentino: YES, Matthias: YES, Marino: YES
Motion carried.

The following reports were provided for the month of July:

Tax Collector: \$2,321,000.07

Woolwich Fire Company: Monthly Report

Chief Valichka reported that the company responded to 57 calls in July. He added that two members graduated from the fire academy, one with the highest award. The company is also planning a drill in preparation for an ISO audit.

Mayor Marino thanked the Chief for his department's assistance during the two recent storms.

Police Chief: Monthly Report

Chief Jaramillo noted that morale is high in his department. He further detailed the upcoming receipt of new cars, saying that by October, the department will have seven new vehicles fully operational.

Deputy Mayor Matthias thanked the Chief and his department for their work during the recent storms. She asked what is being done to prevent cut through at closed roads. The Chief stated that he has added patrols to those areas. The Deputy Mayor asked if there is anything that the Committee can do. The Chief said that the future purchase of electronic signs would help in these types of situations.

Chief Jaramillo also said that the department is keeping a solid presence in Swedesboro and S. Harrison.

Township Engineer: Monthly Report

The Engineer detailed the August 7 storm damage to Oliphants Mill, Ogden, Moravian Church, Township Line and Locke Ave. Park access driveway. He advised that Logan Township repaired the damage to Township Line Road, but estimated that repairs to the remaining roads is close to \$3 million.

He added that while every failure was near a stream, DEP permitting will be required, but that the Township could proceed with emergency repairs and address permitting afterwards.

Mayor Marino noted that the dam at Oliphants Mill Dam will most likely have to be decommissioned. The engineer advised that any action to replace the dam would have to go through Dam Safety.

He added that the private owner would have to decide whether he wants to restore the dam. Since the Township's interest is the road, restoration could be done leaving a culvert crossing.

Committeeman Frederick asked if emergency letters have been issued and what repair cost is estimated to be.

The Mayor replied that letters have been received, cost is estimated at \$2,945,000, and that the Township has requested funding assistance from the state and FEMA. Outreach will be made for any funding assistance. In the meantime, the Township may have to authorize a note and hope that the State may come through with some funds.

Committeeman Nocentino asked if there is anything the township should be doing in the meantime. Mr. Greiman replied that more fill might be needed at Back Creek Road.

Committeeman Frederick noted that the township should look at preventative measures for other roads and wondered if there may be other damage that hasn't come to light. The engineer stated that they have looked at all known failures, and once they are stable, other potential problem areas will be looked at.

Committeeman Frederick asked if there is an update to the park expansion project and communications from NJDEP. Mr. Greiman said there is not.

Discussion then ensued regarding authorizing the engineer to proceed with emergency letters for the other road failures, with the Mayor stating that he would like to proceed and hoping to hear from the state regarding assistance.

Committeeman Nocentino asked the engineer if he feels that aid may be forthcoming. Mr. Greiman responded that it is possible, and that due to it being an isolated event, there will be less competition.

Deputy Mayor Matthias asked if it is possible to obtain the engineer's proposal in a not to exceed amount until we hear about funding, and if said proposal could be received prior to conducting an emergency meeting of the township committee.

Mayor Marino suggested that the engineer submit emergency letters for all locations to get permission for work to ensue, and that he provide a phased proposal, with Oliphants Mill and Ogden Road as immediate priorities.

The engineer responded that he will submit emergency letters for all locations along with a proposal in a "not to exceed" amount of \$10,000 for engineering.

Committeeman Frederick moved to authorize the engineer to prepare engineering quote in the not to exceed amount of \$10,000. Deputy Mayor Matthias seconded.

Roll Call: DeLuca-Curran: YES, Frederick: YES, Nocentino: YES, Matthias: YES, Marino: YES

Motion carried.

Administrator's Report: Monthly Report

The report was reviewed and an update from the BDAC Committee was provided. There were no questions from the Committee.

Municipal Services: Monthly Report

Report reviewed.

Mayor Marino requested the Township Committee liaison reports:

Committeeman Frederick:

Municipal Services; (Blds./Grounds/Code/UCC/Zoning/Public Works); Sixty zoning permits issued in June. P/W continues to address storm related issues and work at park. Lightening damaged field lighting. Noted great job by public works post storm. Environmental Commission: No report

Committeeman Nocentino:

Municipal Alliance; No update. Solid Waste and Recycling: 47 carts were exchanged and 7 cart leases were approved. There were 147 metal collections and 377 bulk pickups in July.

Committeewoman DeLuca-Curran:

BDAC-Update was provided by the Administrator/Clerk

Dep. Mayor Matthias:

Educational Partners; (KRHS and SWSD); Plans for hybrid model for the start of school. Ever evolving situation. Recreation: Successful movie night was conducted. P&R is looking to host virtual events in the fall.

Mayor Marino:

Administration: (Finance; Court; JLUB, TDR Task Force); Municipal Court continues virtual operation. JLUB approved the 4th project for Rt. 322. Water and Sewer plans are moving along. Warehouse projects will add to the ratable base. Assisted living and Inspira projects are under construction. TDR issue is still on hold due to litigation. Hope to resolve sooner rather than later. Public Safety: Thank you to all responder during the storm and to OEM Sgt. Beckett for all of his hard work.

There was no old business.

Motion was made by Deputy Mayor Matthias and seconded by Committeeman Nocentino to open the meeting to public comment. All were in favor.

Kathy Butler-Clark of Delaware, stated that her family farm is tied up in the TDR Program and she is begging that the Committee either disbands or provides other options for landowners.

Mayor Marino responded that the program was dropped into the laps of committee. He advised that township professionals are currently looking at the program to either make it work or disband. He told Ms. Butler that the township will not continue to leave landowners hanging.

Corrinne Butler-Sellen of Kings Hwy. in Mickleton said that she understood a TDR task force committee was formed to investigate and address issues with TDR and asked what is being done at the advice of the task force. Mayor Marino responded that there is not much the township can do since the program is tied up in litigation.

Ann Dorsett. 169 Russell Mill Road stated that many farmers are aging and their income is lowering and said that changes to the program are warranted.

Deputy Mayor Matthias stated that regardless of litigation, the committee hopes to have a plan soon.

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

Committeeman Frederick moved to approve resolution **R-2020-172 Resolution for Closed Session**. Committeeman Nocentino seconded. All were in favor.

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 resumed at 8:05 p.m. upon a motion by Committeeman Frederick, seconded by Deputy Mayor Matthias and unanimously passed.

Motion was made by Committeeman Nocentino and seconded by Deputy Mayor Matthias to approve the following minutes:

July 13, 2020 and Closed Session

August 3, 2020 and Closed Session

All were in favor.

Committeeman Frederick asked that the minutes of 8-3 be amended to include discussion about loaning carts to residents when they anticipate excess collection items due to a gathering or party. He asked that it be noted as an open item.

The motion was amended to include the suggested language in the minutes. All were in favor. Committeewoman DeLuca-Curran abstained from the minutes of 8-3.

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

Roll Call: DeLuca-Curran: YES, Frederick: YES (Abstain from Verizon-vote NO to payment approval to SLK), Nocentino: YES, Matthias: YES, Marino: YES

Motion carried.

A brief discussion ensued regarding a request from Salem County to agree to the installation of monitoring wells across the county line in Woolwich. The Solicitor and Administrator will discuss further.

Having no further business, motion was made by Committeewoman DeLuca-Curran and seconded by Deputy Mayor Matthias to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane DiBella
Administrator/Clerk