

**MINUTES
WOOLWICH TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
SPECIAL CLOSE-OUT MEETING
DECEMBER 28, 2020**

VIRTUAL MEETING. CALL IN INFORMATION 206-279-9591 ID# 212514

Mayor Marino called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. with the following statement:

The December 28, 2020 Special Close-Out Meeting for the Year 2020 is being called to order. Adequate notice of this meeting has been given in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

Roll Call: Curran: PRESENT Frederick: PRESENT (via teleconference)
Nocentino: PRESENT (via teleconference) Matthias: PRESENT Marino: PRESENT

Administrator/Clerk DiBella was also present on the dais. Solicitor Alice joined by teleconference.

Those present saluted the American Flag.

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

Hearing no public comment, motion was made by Committeewoman Curran, seconded by Deputy Mayor Matthias and unanimously passed to close the public portion.

Mayor Marino stated that resolution **R-2020-187 Resolution of the Committee of the Township of Woolwich Ratifying the General Settlement Terms Reached in Mediation between the Township of Woolwich and the Wolfson Group and as Placed on the Record on August 27, 2020**, previously tabled on 9-7-20 would remain tabled.

Deputy Mayor Matthias moved to untable resolution **R-2020-253 Resolution of the Township of Woolwich Adopting a Policy Addressing the Protection and Safe Treatment of Minors** (Previously Tabled on 12-21-20). Committeewoman Curran seconded. All were in favor.

Discussion ensued regarding questions and concerns put forth by Committeeman Frederick as to the policy.

As to the period for enacting policy regulations, Solicitor Alice suggested that there is no deadline for enacting the policy. He also added that groups not sponsored by the Township would have to comply on their own.

Mayor Marino offered that the policy is meant to address volunteers for township-sponsored events and not groups independent of the Township.

Committeeman Frederick asked if it is the intent of the Committee to take action on the policy or hold off until his questions are resolved. Mayor Marino responded that he would like to move forward.

Discussion then ensued regarding requiring credit checks on volunteers. Committeeman Frederick said the policy is not clear as to what is being looked for in conducting a credit check. Solicitor Alice said that it is common sense to conduct credit checks on employees and volunteers.

Deputy Mayor Matthias stated that the policy is about the protection of children. Committeeman Frederick replied that he understands and wants to adopt the policy, but has questions about how it is written.

Mayor Marino asked the Solicitor to explain the 18 plus 2 rule. The Solicitor explained that age of majority, which is broadened even more, for sexual issues.

Committeeman Frederick questioned the Code of Conduct that disallows taking and posting pictures of minors and texting.

Solicitor Alice responded that it is meant to ensure that there is no one on one relationship.

Committeeman Nocentino questioned policy enforcement and some incompatibility issues. He asked if the policy is insurance driven.

Solicitor Alice replied that it is insurance driven to prevent liability. Committeeman Frederick asked if the Township could create better interpretation of procedures.

Mayor Marino stated that he recommends policy adoption, and the Township should be everything it can to comply rather than saying the policy should be written differently.

Committeeman Frederick said that he agrees, but questions compliance.

Committeeman Nocentino asked if the township would be exposed to greater liability if the policy is enacted but poorly written. Solicitor Alice replied that the Township is better served if the policy is adopted.

Motion was made by Deputy Mayor Matthias and seconded by Committeewoman Curran to adopt R-2020-253.

Roll Call: Curran: YES, Nocentino: YES, Matthias: YES, Marino: YES, Frederick: YES (based off of Committeeman Nocentino's question, but would request to re-visit the policy within one month to understand the policy adoption.) Motion carried.

Committeewoman Curran moved to approve a consent agenda for resolution R-2020-255 through and including R-2020-258. Deputy Mayor Matthias seconded. All were in favor.

R-2020-255 Resolution of the Township of Woolwich Authorizing a Reduction in Performance Bond Amount-Woolwich Medical Campus, Block 28.01, Lot 2

R-2020-256 Resolution of the Township of Woolwich Authorizing the Endorsement of "Statement of Consent" Form TWA-1 for Villages at Weatherby, Sections 4.2 and P/O 4, 6, and 4.7

R-2020-257 Township of Woolwich Resolution of Need for Affordable Housing Pursuant to the New Jersey Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency's Funding Requirements

R-2020-258 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

Motion was made by Committeewoman Curran and seconded by Committeeman Nocentino to adopt resolutions R-2020-255 through and including R-2020-258.

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

There was no old business or new business.

Motion was made by Committeewoman Curran and seconded by Deputy Mayor Matthias to approve the minutes of December 21, 2020 and Closed Session. All were in favor. Committeeman Frederick noted that the basketball numbers in the minutes should be 430 as opposed to 340. So noted.

Motion was made by Committeewoman Curran and seconded by Deputy Mayor Matthias to approve the bills and purchase orders.

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

Deputy Mayor Matthias thanked Committeewoman Curran for her work on the Committee. Mayor Marino added that he looks forward to continuing to work with Committeewoman Curran in other aspects of the Township.

Committeeman Nocentino stated that it was great having Committeewoman Curran on board.

Committeeman Frederick thanked Committeewoman Curran also.

Mayor Marino wished everyone a safe and happy new year. He added that he is looking forward to 2021, and getting many great things done.

The Mayor reminded that the 2021 Reorganization Meeting will be held on January 4th at 6:00 p.m. in person.

Motion was made by Committeewoman Curran and seconded by Deputy Mayor Matthias to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 6:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane DiBella
Administrator/Clerk

Minutes not verbatim
Audio recording on file