

**MINUTES
WOOLWICH TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 16, 2021**

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

Mayor Marino called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

The Mayor made the following statement:

The February 16, 2021 regular 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.

Mayor Marino read a statement and called for a moment of silence in memory of lifelong resident and Woolwich Township Crossing Guard Wendy Beckett upon her passing.

Roll Call: Callahan: PRESENT Frederick: PRESENT Nocentino: PRESENT
Matthias: PRESENT Marino: PRESENT

Also present was John Moustakis for John Alice and Jane DiBella, Administrator/Clerk.

Joining virtually were Engineer Travis Greiman, CFO Will Pine, Dep. Chief Joe Morgan and Fire Chief Valichka.

Those present saluted the American Flag.

Lynne Bussott, residing at 122 East Avenue, Swedesboro, approached the Committee asking for permission to conduct a summer garden club in the Community Garden. As a second grade teacher in the S/W District and member of the S/W Environmental Commission, Ms. Bussott stated that she is seeking permission from the school district for this project, with plans to accommodate a 30x30 plot and conduct the club on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Mayor Marino stated that it is great idea for children to learn about gardening and added that he has no problem with the idea provided that CDC guidelines are met. He further suggested that the township waive the plot fee.

Committeeman Frederick agreed to waive the fee,

Committeeman Callahan asked if there would be a concern with others using the garden. Committeeman Frederick suggested that a corner or side plot be assigned to avoid interference with other gardeners.

Deputy Mayor Matthias voice concern with liability and was told that the school could provide a Certificate of Insurance.

Mayor Marino suggested that Mrs. Bussott arrange to meet with the Township Administrator to finalize plans.

Motion was made by Deputy Mayor Matthias and seconded by Committeeman Frederick to open the meeting to public comment for agenda items only.

Daria Roat, 45 Willow Pond Court expressed concern with a proposed warehouse planned for Rt. 322 and Locke Avenue.

Mayor Marino advised that the Committee will be looking at re-zoning a few parcels and will be requested that the Joint Land Use Board investigate best uses for certain parcels, but that5 no determination has been made. The Mayor further advised of a few warehouse projects that have been approved by the JLUB along the Rt. 322 corridor.

Mrs. Roat was advised to further discuss with the Administrator.

Mrs. Benjamenson, of 33 Willow Pond Court wished to address the authorization for rezoning, stating that approving 4 warehouses within 2 miles does not seem to be in the best interest of the townships vision. She added that tax reductions would be in accordance with decreased property values. She also voiced concern with bringing in transient workers.

Mayor Marino replied that while he appreciates the concerns, the Rt. 322 regional center has been zoned for retail, commercial and industrial growth for years, and that the corridor is well suited for that type of growth.

Mrs. Roat asked how she can access minutes of the JLUB and was directed to the Township Website by Committeeman Nocentino.

John Monteleone of 18 Licciardello Drive inquired as to the process for approval of a group home on Daniels Way.

Mayor Marino replied that the property was purchased by Bancroft as a home for disabled adults. He further advised that there are 15-20 such homes in the Township and that the township has no jurisdiction over the sale of these homes, but that Bancroft is required to provide notice to adjoin properties. He further advised that the homes are staffed 24/7, and there will be between 5-7 residents of this particular home.

Mr. McCartney, of 250 Daniels Way stated that he has not yet received notification from Bancroft.

Hearing no further comments, motion was made by Committeeman Frederick, seconded by Committeeman Nocentino and unanimously passed to close the public portion.

Mayor Mario read the following Ordinance by title only upon seconded reading:

Ordinance 2021-01 An Ordinance of the Township of Woolwich, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey, Deleting Article II of Chapter 157 of the Code of the Township of Woolwich entitled "Stormwater Control" and Replacing with the Following

Motion to open public hearing: Matthias	Second: Nocentino	All in favor
No public comment		
Motion to close public hearing: Matthias	Second: Frederick	All in favor

Motion to adopt 2021-01 Callahan Second: Matthias

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

Deputy Mayor Matthias moved to approve a consent agenda for resolutions R-2021-52 through and including R-2021-61. Committeeman Frederick seconded. All were in favor.

R-2021-52 Resolution Authorizing Totally Disabled Veteran Deduction

R-2021-53 Resolution Authorizing Totally Disabled Veteran Deduction

R-2021-54 Resolution of the Township of Woolwich, County of Gloucester, Authorizing the Quote of Remington and Vernick Engineers in the Not to Exceed Amount of \$14,250 for Engineering (Change of Scope) Towards Locke Avenue Park Development Phase 1

R-2021-55 Resolution of the Township of Woolwich, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing Reduction in the Amount of (\$38,940.00) on the Project Known as Ogden Road Emergency Stormwater Repairs and Authorizing Said Balance to be Allocated to Hunters Run Emergency Repairs Via a Change Order to Said Contract in the Amount of (\$59,559.58)

R-2021-56 Resolution of the Township of Woolwich Authorizing the Endorsement of a "Statement of Consent" Form-Woolwich Township Wastewater and Conveyance System-Villages II, Sections 1.2, 1.3 and 1.4

R-2021-57 Resolution Authorizing and Requesting the Woolwich Township Joint Land Use Board to Make an Investigation and Recommendation to Determine Whether or Not Certain Changes to the Zoning Classification in Areas within the Kings Landing Redevelopment Area Should be Made

R-2021-58 Resolution Authorizing Renewal of an Agreement with Apple Counseling Service for Employee Assistance Program

R-2021-59 Resolution Authorizing the Tax Collector to Transfer or Refund Overpayment of Taxes

R-2021-60 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-2021-61 Resolution Authorizing Release and Closure of Escrow Accounts

Motion was made by Deputy Mayor Matthias and seconded by Committeeman Frederick to adopt R-2021-52 through and including R-2021-61.

Committeeman Frederick requested the Engineer take into consideration the traffic flow reflected in R-2021-57 and further questioned the Employee Assistance Program with Apple Counseling and was told that it is a renewal contract required by the PBA Agreement.

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

The following reports were provided for the month of January:

Tax Collector: \$2,158,536.06 remitted

Woolwich Fire Company: Monthly Report

Chief Valichka detailed the January activity report. He advised that membership is well and safe and currently undergoing COVID vaccinations. Annual fire safety training is being conducted online and all are invited to attend ice-rescue training scheduled for February 27th at Lake Narraticon.

Police: Monthly Report

Deputy Chief Morgan noted that two officers are under quarantine due to COVID exposure. He further reported on an accident with a police vehicle, in which the officer was uninjured.

Township Engineer: Monthly Report

Mr. Grieman advised that he is relocating, and that he has enjoyed working with the township. Mr. Grieman advised that a proposal for the Meadow Woods erosion issue will be forthcoming. As for remaining emergency roadway repairs, Mr. Grieman advised that Hunters Run repair is underway and Oliphants Mill Road awaits owners decision as to decommissioning of the dam. Traffic counts for Locke Avenue Park improvements will be underway through March-April.

Committeeman Frederick asked if relevant dates can be added to the report in the future.

Committeeman Callahan asked for background on the Rainey Road project. Mr. Grieman responded the award was made under 2018 DOT funding. .

Committeeman Frederick questioned grant status for Phase 3 of the High Hill walking path. Mr. Grieman advised that NJDOT denied the townships application. Mr. Greiman said that he will follow up with the Phase 3 path estimate.

Administrator's Report: Monthly Report

Report was submitted as self-explanatory. Mrs. DiBella noted that her reports provide relevant dates on current projects. She also added that she will contact County Land Preservation as to potential preservation projects.

Municipal Services: Monthly Report

The following liaison reports were provided:

Committeeman Frederick:

Municipal Services; (Blds./Grounds/Code/UCC/Zoning/Public Works); Noted that a field scheduling call is scheduled for March 29th. Seven or 8 tournaments will be scheduled. Noted that 452 tons of salt have been used during recent storms. . Public Works is doing a fantastic job. Environmental Commission: Reminded Committee that Jordan Schlump has stepped down from the Community Garden. Currently looking for options to pursue. Discussing purchase of Guinea Hens for Tranquility Trail. Will also be discussing allowing horses on the trail. Will be meeting with a designer for Frisbee Golf and report back to the Committee in March. The project could be up and running by summer. The EC will be providing recycling information at the parks and rec event.

Committeeman Frederick moved to authorize the expenditure of \$1,000 for the establishment of a

guinea hen program at Tranquility Trail. Deputy Mayor Matthias seconded.

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

Committeeman Nocentino:

Administration: (Finance; JLUB, TDR Task Force); 2021 budget is underway. JLUB is business as usual. BDAC meeting was held and discussed lack of communication from the business community. BDAC is looking for continue support of local business via township video updates. Mayor Marino suggested the Committee look to spot light local businesses again.

Committeeman Callahan:

Solid Waste/Recycling; Provided update as to trash and recycling numbers and cart exchanges. Shredding event dates are being finalized. Municipal Alliance: No report.

Dep. Mayor Matthias:

Educational Partners; (KRHS and SWSD); New Board Members have taken office. Schools remain on hybrid learning. S/W School is looking for a new Superintendent. Recreation: Easter Egg Hunt scheduled for March 27th. Noted this is a free event. Social distancing will be enforced. More information can be found on the P&R Website.

Mayor Marino:

Public Safety; (Police, Fire, Courts); As noted, there was an officer involved single vehicle crash. Thankfully the officer was uninjured. Virtual Court sessions continue. February "What's Happening in Woolwich" video has been released.

Under Old Business, the Committee discussed the further remediation of the Palladino property with Robert Lamilla of Parker McCay. An overview of the issue was provided for the benefit of Committeeman Callahan, advising that NJ Green Acres has issued a remediation response action for further remediation of naturally occurring arsenic and capping of certain areas. He was further advised that those activities could be over \$20,000 with a recapture of prior expenses in the amount of \$300,000 is dependent upon said remediation.

The Administrator was advised to determine exact costs to date and report back to Committee.

Under new business, the Committee reviewed and discussed a proposed Shared Service Agreement for the provision of Electrical Inspection services to Logan Township.

Discussion ensued in regards to hours, job share and solicitor review of agreement.

Committeeman Callahan moved to move forward with the Agreement with Logan Township to be finalized at the next meeting. Committeeman Nocentino seconded.

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

The Committee and Mr. Grieman then discussed the bid results for the FY 2019 NJDOT project for Swedesboro Avenue. Mr. Grieman noted that award was in the amount of \$200,000 and that the bid came in at \$297,800.

The Engineer issued a "Recommendation to Award" but also provided the Committee with other options.

It was agreed to revisit the bid once funding information is provided by the CFO.

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

Hearing none, the public portion closed upon a motion by Committeeman Nocentino, seconded by Committeeman Frederick and unanimously passed.

Motion was made by Committeeman Frederick, seconded by Deputy Mayor Matthias and unanimously passed to approve resolution **R-2021-62 Resolution for Closed Session.**

The Committee entered closed session at 7:52 p.m. for the purpose of discussing the following matters:
Contractual Matters-PILOT Negotiations-Reserve at Woolwich
PILOT Negotiations-Commodore Business Center North
Sewer

The regular meeting reconvened at 10:09 p.m. upon a motion by Committeeman Nocentino, seconded by Committeeman Callahan and unanimously passed.

Mayor Marino moved to authorize the issuance of a "Letter to proceed" to Precision Land Development for the Townships portion of sewer pending ratification of "Not to Exceed" amounts as discussed in closed session. Deputy Mayor Matthias seconded.

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

Committeeman Nocentino move to approve the minutes of January 19, 2021 and February 1, 2021. Committeeman Frederick seconded. All were in favor.

Committeeman Callahan moved to approve the bills and purchase orders. Committeeman Nocentino seconded.

Roll Call: Callahan: YES, Frederick; YES (abstain on Verizon), Nocentino: YES, Matthias: YES, Marino: YES Motion carried

With no further business, Deputy Mayor Matthias moved to adjourn the meeting. Committeeman Nocentino seconded. All were in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 10:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane DiBella
Administrator/Clerk

Minutes not verbatim
Audio recording on file.