

**MINUTES
WOOLWICH TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
APRIL 19, 2021**

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

The April 19, 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.

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

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

In the audience were Timothy Staszewski, Township Engineer, Fire Chief Valichka and Woolwich Police Chief Jaramillo. Andrew Shaw of Precision was also present to provide a sewer project update.

Those present saluted the American Flag.

Motion was made by Committeeman Frederick and seconded by Deputy Mayor Matthias to open the meeting to public comment on agenda items only. All were in favor.

Hearing none, Deputy Mayor Matthias moved to close the public portion. Committeeman Nocentino seconded. All were in favor.

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

2021-04 An Ordinance Authorizing Sale of Municipal Property-Nike Missile Base Site-Pursuant to Redevelopment Plan

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

There was no public comment

Motion to close public hearing: Matthias Second: Frederick All in favor

Motion to adopt: Frederick Second: Matthias

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

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

2021-05 An Ordinance of the Township of Woolwich Repealing Chapter 149-5(1) of the Code of the Township of Woolwich and Replacing with the Following

Motion to introduce: Matthias Second: Nocentino All were in favor

2021-06 An Ordinance of the Township of Woolwich Amending the Woolwich Township Code to Create a Four-Way Stop Control Along Balsam Road

Motion to introduce: Nocentino Second: Callahan All were in favor

Motion was made by Committeeman Frederick and seconded by Committeeman Nocentino to approve a consent agenda for resolutions R-2021-90 through and including R-2021-97. All were in favor.

R-2021-90 Resolution Authorizing the Quote of Remington and Vernick in the Not to Exceed Amount of \$6,280 for Environmental Service on Block 5, Lot 3

R-2021-91 Resolution Authorizing the Quote of the Ambient Group in the Not to Exceed Amount of \$9,000 to Conduct Remediation Activities on Block 5, Lot 3

R-2021-92 Resolution Authorizing Totally Disabled Veteran Deduction

R-2021-93 Resolution Authorizing Acceptance of Performance Surety Bond for Safety and Stabilization-Liberty Venture I, LP

R-2021-94 Resolution of the Township of Woolwich, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing Change Order #2 in the Amount of (\$4,373.05) on the Project Known as Ogden Road Emergency Storm Water Repairs

R-2021-95 Resolution Authorizing the Tax Collector to Transfer/Refund Overpayment of Taxes

R-2021-96 A Resolution to Authorize Execution of a Redevelopment Agreement with Paulsboro Rd AP LLC and Appointing Paulsboro Rd AP LLC as Redeveloper for Nike Missile Base Site

R-2021-97 Resolution of the Township of Woolwich Making an Appointment to Board/Committee Membership

Motion was made by Committeeman Frederick and seconded by Committeeman Nocentino to adopt resolutions R-2021-90 through and including R-2021-97. Committeeman Frederick questioned the proposal regarding the Palladino property as to the elevation of capping. The engineer replied that the plan is per NJDEP requirements.

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

The following reports were presented for the month of March:

Tax Collector: \$623,725.68 remitted

Woolwich Fire Company: Monthly Report

Chief Valichko noted that two members of his department assisted in an entrapment save during a fire in Logan Township.

Police: Monthly Report

Chief Jaramillo provided an update on new body cameras in his department. He further advised on the status of FEMA/OEM reimbursements for the August 2020 storms. He advised that the department has issued 300 firearm permits since January 2021. Officers are exercising discretion due to the nationwide state of affairs. He then noted that two officers assisted in saving the life of a person in South Harrison Township recently.

Mayor Marino commended the department for keeping up morale and being community caretakers. The Mayor further suggested that commendations be presented to the firefighters and police officers for their lifesaving measures.

Committeeman Callahan said that the Chief touched on some interesting points regarding policing, and his concern that hands off policing may lead to more crime. He said that it is important to track any developing trends, and said that he would like to discuss these things with the Chief when he is available.

Mayor Marino noted that in 2020, Woolwich was designated the 65th safest town nationally.

Township Engineer: Monthly Report

Noted that R&V will move forward with a remediation schedule. Advised that the Rainey Road contractor identified soft sub base areas which led to finding a failed cross pipe. Replacement of the pipe will require a \$35,000 change order to the contract. Mayor Marino noted that not replacing the pipe will cause future failure.

Committeeman Callahan asked why the project was not done in phases. Mr. Staszewski replied that the contract required pulverization of the road bed.

Committeeman Frederick suggested that Rainey Road residents be notified of the delay in contract.

Deputy Mayor Matthias asked for status of the park improvement project.

Mr. Staszewski advised that permitting is on track for submittal to NJDEP.

Committeeman Frederick asked for timeframe and understanding of the erosion remediation in the Meadowoods development.

Mr. Staszewski advised that the project has been designated an emergency which allows obtaining a contractor to conduct the work and apply for permitting once completed.

Mr. Staszewski also advised that the township is waiting for a decision from the owner of the Oliphants Mill Dam as to whether they intend to rebuild or decommission the dam. Mayor Marino asked that the residents be contacted to ask for their decision.

Precision Land: Monthly Sewer Project Update

Andrew Shaw advised the Committee that clearing has been completed and the field office is under construction. Equipment for the jack and bore under Conrail Railroad crossing will be delivered to the site shortly.

Administrator's Report: Monthly Report

Presented as self-explanatory. There were no questions from Committee.

Municipal Services: Monthly Report

Self-explanatory

CFO: Preliminary 2021 Budget

Self-explanatory

The following Committee Liaison reports were provided:

Committeeman Frederick:

Municipal Services; (Blds./Grounds/Code/UCC/Zoning/Public Works); Park maintenance continues. 120 yards of mulch have been placed. 125 people participated in the spring cleanup and over 149 bags of trash/recycling were collected. 60 code permits were issued/month of March. Environmental Commission: Latest "What's Happening in Woolwich" video highlighted the efforts of the Environmental Commission. Guinea hens will be released at Tranquility Trail on Earth Day.

Committeeman Nocentino:

Administration: (Finance; JLUB, TDR Task Force); The 2021 Municipal Budget should be ready for introduction on May 3rd. Increases are due to statutory obligations in addition to 2020 emergency expenses that must be raised in 2021. On the positive side, low interest rates will assist with bonds and the fund balance is trending positive. No JLUB meeting was held. Still waiting for a decision from state agencies as to the TDR Program. BDAC: Inn the Village chosen as "Business of the Month" for May.

Committeeman Callahan:

Solid Waste/Recycling; 7 recycling carts were exchanged, 5 trash cart leases signed, 86 metal collections and 277 bulk pick ups were completed. Recycling tonnage grant will be in the amount of \$36,000+. Municipal Alliance: No report.

Dep. Mayor Matthias:

Educational Partners; (KRHS and SWSD); Schools have gone to 4 days/week with Wed. a flex day. Awaiting fall schedule. Recreation: Welcome to new member Lauren. Many thanks to the volunteers at the Easter Egg Hunt. Gearing up for May 22nd Spring Fling. Warriors baseball have purchased and installed batting cages.

Committeeman Callahan noted the high traffic volume at the high school during drop off and pick up. Issue will be discussed with the Police Chief and Superintendent.

Mayor Marino:

Public Safety; (Police, Fire, Courts): Court session remain virtual. Commendations for police officers and volunteer firefighters will be given at the next meeting.

Under old business, Committeeman Frederick presented the details of the itemized quote from DiscParkGolf. He noted that a second quote received was higher and third quote was non responsive.

Committeeman Frederick then moved to approve the quote of DiscGolfPark and designer Adam Harris in the Not to Exceed amount of \$39,000 for creating a disc golf park at Tranquility Trail. Deputy Mayor Matthias seconded.

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

Mayor Marino thanked Committeeman Frederick for his work on this project that will be good for the community.

Also under old business, Solicitor Alice held discussion with the Committee regarding the SAM Policy as recommended by the township's JIF insurer.

Solicitor Alice provided background as to the need to adopt this policy, but that compliance is onerous. He added that the insurer should be providing a list of vendors to conduct the security and background information required by the policy.

The solicitor reiterated that 3rd party groups would not fall under the township policy, but should have their own regulations in place. Deputy Mayor Matthias asked if outside groups would be held to the same standards and the solicitor replied in the affirmative.

Deputy Mayor Matthias noted that while she supports the theory behind the policy, it seems we are left in limbo as to compliance until a vendor is placed.

Committeeman Frederick asked what volunteers should do in the meantime. Mayor Marino replied that at minimum, we should proceed with background and Meghan's Law check.

It was noted that the policy is a work in process to be continued.

Solicitor Alice then prompted discussion on the outside storage of vehicles. He said that he is ready to draft an ordinance, but wished to obtain the committee's thoughts on vegetative v non-vegetative materials on property. Discussion ensued.

The Committee revisited the cannabis legislation and discussed how best to move forward.

Committeeman Callahan said he would like to do more research and is interested in prospects for municipal revenue, but concerns include odor and understanding regulations.

Mayor Marino advised that he is open to grow facilities, but is a hard no as to retail sales.

The Administrator/Clerk advised that she is fielding many calls from those interested in grow facilities and said that a presentation from one such business will be heard at the 5-3 meeting.

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

Dan Cordle of 188 Eisenhower Drive said that he is pleased the Committee is discussing a disc golf course as he has played since 1983. He noted that there are no many local courses, and he commended the Committee for their forethought.

Mr. Cordle advised that the Committee should think to provide adequate parking, as courses sometimes generate many players.

Ann Dorsett, Russell Mill Road questioned the delay in resolving the TDR issue.

Mayor Marino responded that the Township's TDR Counsel is in weekly communication with the State Office of Planning. Meetings are scheduled at the state level for the end of August and beginning of May where the state will discuss the township's TDR Program and the township is hoping to get movement.

With no further comment, the public portion closed upon a motion by Deputy Mayor Matthias,

seconded by Committeeman Nocentino and unanimously passed.

There was no new business.

Motion was made by Deputy Mayor Matthias, seconded by Committeeman Frederick and passed to approve resolution **R-2021-98 Resolution for Closed Session.**

The Committee entered closed session at 7:31 for the purpose of discussing litigation in the matter of Woolwich Adult v. Woolwich Township.

The meeting reconvened at 7:38 p.m. upon a motion by Committeeman Nocentino and seconded by Committeeman Callahan. All were in favor.

Deputy Mayor Matthias moved to approve the minutes of March 15, 2021 and April 5, 2021. Committeeman Nocentino seconded. All were in favor. Committeeman Frederick abstained from the minutes of March 15, 2021.

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

Roll Call: Callahan: YES, Frederick: YES (abstain from Verizon); Nocentino: YES, Matthias: YES, Marino: YES

With no further business, motion was made by Committeeman Frederick and seconded by Deputy Mayor Matthias to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane DiBella
Administrator/Clerk

Minutes not verbatim
Audio recording on file