

**MINUTES
WOOLWICH TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
APRIL 18, 2022**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Frederick at 6:32 p.m.

Mayor Frederick made the following statement:

The April 18, 2022 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: Marino: PRESENT Minhas: PRESENT Nocentino: PRESENT
Callahan: PRESENT Frederick: PRESENT

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

Those present saluted the American Flag.

Motion was made by Committeeman Marino and seconded by Deputy Mayor Callahan to open the meeting to public comment for agenda items only. All were in favor.

Hearing no public comment, Committeeman Marino moved to close the public portion. Committeewoman Minhas seconded. All were in favor.

Deputy Mayor Callahan briefly explained the renewal of the Comcast Franchise which require a public hearing, and introduced Comcast's Public Affairs Director Fred D'Andrea.

Committeeman Marino moved to open the public hearing. Committeewoman Minhas seconded. All were in favor.

Mayor Frederick removed himself from the subject matter due to conflict.

Mr. D'Andrea advised those present of the regulations as to franchise renewal and key measures undertaken by Comcast.

Deputy Mayor Callahan questioned Comcast "hotspots." Mr. D'Andrea responded that they are mounted on networks.

The Deputy Mayor also questioned how franchise fees are determined.

Mr. D'Andrea replied that they are capped at 2% and that fees are non-negotiable.

Deputy Mayor Callahan noted that when he had previously met with Mr. D'Andrea concerning renewal, discussion had taken place as to some portions of the township not being served, and asked status.

Mr. D'Andrea replied that it is still under review, but preliminary reviews showed no major gaps.

The Deputy Mayor also inquired as to the ability for Comcast to service the Kingsway District with HD channel. Mr. D'Andrea replied that it will be explored through the renewal process.

There was no comment from the public.

Motion was made by Committeeman Marino and seconded by Committeewoman Minhas to close the public hearing. All were in favor.

Mayor Fredrick advised that resolution **R-2022-102 A Resolution of the Township Committee of the Township of Woolwich Authorizing the Adoption of the 2022 Gloucester County New Jersey Hazard Mitigation Plan Update** would remain tabled.

Motion was made by Committeeman Marino and seconded by Deputy Mayor Callahan for a consent agenda on resolutions R-2022-114 through R-2022-119. Said motion was then amended to remove resolution R-2022-115. All were in favor.

R-2022-102 A Resolution of the Township Committee of the Township of Woolwich Authorizing the Adoption of the 2022 Gloucester County New Jersey Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

Previously Tabled on 4-4-22

R-2022-114 Resolution for Public Fireworks Display

R-2022-116 Resolution of the Township of Woolwich Authorizing Acceptance and Filing of Performance Surety Bond #SU1182873 Filed on the Behalf of Somerset Woolwich Urban Renewal, LLC-Block 4, Lot 4-Shop Rite

R-2022-117 Resolution of the Township of Woolwich Amending Resolution R-2022-111 to Correct Lot Number

R-2022-118 Resolution Authorizing the Tax Collector to Transfer or Refund Overpayment of Taxes

R-2022-119 Township of Woolwich, County of Gloucester 2022 Emergency Temporary Budget NJSA 40A:4-20

Motion was made by Committeeman Marino and seconded by Deputy Mayor Callahan to adopt resolutions R-2022-114 through R-2022-119, removing R-2022-115.

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

Motion was made by Deputy Mayor Callahan and seconded by Committeewoman Minhas to table resolution **R-2022-115 Resolution Authorizing the Reduction of Letter of Credit #21-08 Posted for Four Seasons, Phase 3, Section 2B** to allow the reconfirmation of numbers. All were in favor.

The following reports were provided for the month of March.

Tax Collector: \$388,591.90 remitted

Woolwich Fire Company: Monthly Report

Reported that response was provided to 53 incidents and 2 fires. Safety mitigations efforts are underway. Response time was 6 minute average. Upcoming fund raising events are planned.

Police: Monthly Report

Chief Morgan presented his report and noted that the department has instituted a new officer recognition program. Officer Brian Hill was named for the 1st quarter.

Precision Sewer installation

Install is on schedule despite delays to obtain pump station materials. The company is working towards the border with East Greenwich Township and no road closures are anticipated at this time.

Township Engineer: Monthly Report

Engineer Rick Alaimo presented his firms proposal for oversight of the Swedesboro Ave. NJDOT program. He noted that his firm discovered some discrepancies from the plans drawn by form engineering firm R&V, including the need for the addition of a guiderail. He added that a portion of the roadway could be removed from the project to free up cost of the guiderail, and projected a new project estimate of between \$215,000-\$255,000. He further noted that the Township must award the project by November. Mr. Alaimo also advised that some complications have been found with the 2022 NJDOT project for Viereck Road as to roadway width, right of way and drop offs.

Committeeman Nocentino questioned the status of the park expansion project. The engineer replied that the former engineer has estimated that the project would be ready to bid by the end of May, but that he thinks that timeframe may not be met.

Committeeman Nocentino also questioned the status of the Auburn Chase punchlist. Mr. Alaimo responded that he is waiting for a call back from the management company. Solicitor Gaglione added that a letter has been received from the HOA Atty. in regards to the condition of basin fencing.

Administrator's Report: Monthly Report

Presented as self-explanatory

Municipal Services: Monthly Report

The following Committee Liaison reports were presented:

Committeeman Marino:

Solid Waste/Recycling; 80 metal and 219 bulk collections-month of March. Spring cleanup conducted on April 9th. 114 volunteers participated and collected 82 bags of roadside trash and dumped bulk items.

JLUB: Next meeting has been cancelled due to lack of agenda.

Committeewoman Minhas:

Municipal Alliance; No report. Recreation: Noted past and upcoming activities.

Committeeman Nocentino:

Municipal Services; Noted that par maintenance activities are underway and the irrigation has been turned on. Vandalism at the park restrooms resulted the restroom closures with the exception of special events. Overhead doors were replaced at the maintenance building. Env. Commission; Will apply for a

\$1,500 grant. Disc Golf opening to be held on the 23rd.

Deputy Mayor Callahan:

BDAC; No meeting was held in March. Hoping to meet in person on the 27th. Dee Dots are the Business of the month for April. Educational Partners (SWSD/KRSD): Kingsway Budget increased at max 2% .

Budget includes 9 new positions, renovations, increased transportation costs. Class of 2022 is selling Phillies tickets to assist with senior picnic. S/W District budget No estimate available for average homeowner increase.; State Aid is up.

The Mayor questioned the state aid figures and requested where we are on the dollar.

Mayor Frederick:

Administration; Budget may be introduced at the May 2nd meeting. Public Safety: Report provided.

Under old business, the Committee was agreeable to a lease extension to D&J Caterers for the concession stand. Until it is up and running, food trucks are allowed.

Motion was made by Committeeman Marino and seconded by Committeewoman Minhas to allow the lease extension. All were in favor.

The Committee reviewed and discussed purchasing video cameras at the park to fight vandalism. One quote was obtained in the amount of \$56,000 for top of the line equipment. More quotes will be sought.

Committeeman Marino thanked the Police Chief for working on this and added that something has to be done to deter vandalism.

Deputy Mayor Callahan asked what the estimate is for damages over the past five years and it was estimated at between \$12,000-\$15,000. Committeeman Marino added with damage that has been done to fields, the estimate could exceed \$20,000.

Also under old business, the Committee discussed vehicle maintenance. The police department has obtained quotes for alternative repair facilities and will obtain more for further discussion in May. In-house mechanic will be looked at for the 2023 budget.

Mayor Frederick advised that bonds have been posted and plans have been signed for Shop Rite. Groundbreaking will be held on April 26th at 10 a.m.

Under new business, Chief Morgan advised the Committee of work done on the departmental Rules and Reg's. He advised that the Rules and Reg's are a clear and concise document which holds officers to the highest standards and safeguards the township against liabilities. He further noted that Internal Affairs were taken out of Standard Operating Procedures and added to Rules and Reg's along with an "Officers Code of Ethics".

Committeeman Marino said that it is the perfect time to update the document and thanked the Chief for working on it.

Also under new business, the Committee reviewed and discussed a proposal from Alaimo Group to oversee the 2021 NJDOT project for Swedesboro Avenue in the amount of \$51,000. This will be brought back at the next meeting.

The Committee also received and accepted a resignation from Matt O'Loughlin as OEM and noted they will be seeking a replacement.

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

Jordan Schlump, 10 Wilshire Blvd. asked for status on the Oldmans Creek Redevelopment and asked if the township is appealing the state's decision. He noted that the last administration provided ongoing video updates to advise residents of what is going on in the township.

The Solicitor responded that the Judge remanded the matter back to the state.

Mr. Schlump asked how the public is made ware of these types of actions. The Solicitor replied that said the matter does not have to go to the public.

Mayor Frederick advised Mr. Schlump that there is no update on the matter.

Committeeman Marino advised Mr. Schlump that the appeals are on the property owners, not the Township.

Mr. Schlump thanked Committeeman Marino.

Ann Dorsett, 169 Russell Mill Road asked if there is any news on recycling. Committeeman Marino said a report will be provided by the T&R Coordinator.

With no further public comment, Committeeman Marino moved to close the public portion. Committeewoman Minhas seconded. All were in favor.

Deputy Mayor Callahan moved to adopt resolution **R-2022-120 Resolution for Closed Session**. Committeeman Marino seconded. All were in favor.

The Committee entered closed session at 7:28 p.m. to discuss personnel-Police Administration.

The regular meeting resumed at 8:18 p.m.

Committeeman Marino moved to accept the Police Chief's recommendation as to promotions to the positions of Deputy Chief and Captain. Mayor Frederick seconded.

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

Committeeman Marino moved to authorize the Police Chief to float promotional exam for vacancies created by recent promotions. Mayor Frederick seconded.

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

Committeeman Marino moved to authorize the hiring of officers and a part time records clerk as discussed in closed session. Mayor Frederick seconded.

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

Deputy Mayor Callahan moved to approve the minutes of March 21, 2022 and Executive Session and April 4, 2022 and Executive Session. Committeewoman Minhas seconded. All were in favor.

Motion was made by Committeeman Marino and seconded by Deputy Mayor Callahan to approve the bills and purchase orders.

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

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane DiBella
Administrator/Clerk

Minutes not verbatim
Audio recording on file