

**MINUTES
WOOLWICH TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
SEPTEMBER 19, 2022**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Frederick at 6:33 p.m.

Mayor Frederick made the following statement:

The September 19, 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.

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

Jordan Schlump, 10 Wilshire Blvd. noted that there is no information available regarding the proposed Police Chief Contract in the agenda. He asked if the contract is merit based or fixed.

Mayor Frederick informed Mr. Schlump that the contract is fixed and that the salary begins at \$142,500 with annual increases.

Mr. Schlump asked if it includes college tuition reimbursement, saying that most Chiefs should already hold a degree in order to be eligible for the position.

He added that he does not believe that Swedesboro and S. Harrison will be paying their share, since the Shared Service Agreements are still effective.

Mr. Schlump said that the Committee represents the people and the people have the right to know what's going on.

Frank Casella, 24 Mill Road, asked that the Committee provide an update as to the status of Warrington Mill Dam.

Mayor Frederick advised that the Committee has corresponded with NJDOT, and that the dam owner has hired an engineer, but fact finding continues to determine the exact issue with the dam.

Mr. Casella asked if the township will keep him updated with any information as it transpires, and was told that the Township will keep him informed.

Carolyn Casella, 24 Mill Road added that there is concern with the impact to wildlife. Mayor Frederick advised that State Fish, Game and Wildlife are also monitoring the situation at the dam.

Hearing no further public comment, the public portion closed upon a motion by Committeeman Marino, seconded by Committeewoman Minhas and unanimously passed.

Mayor Frederick read the following Ordinance by title only:

2022-10 An Ordinance of the Township of Woolwich Amending the 2022 Salary Ordinance of the Township of Woolwich.

The Mayor noted that the public hearing was already conducted at the 9-6 meeting and asked for a motion to adopt the Ordinance. Committeewoman Minhas then moved to adopt Ordinance 2022-10. Deputy Mayor Callahan seconded.

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

Mayor Frederick read the following Ordinance by title only upon first reading:

2022-11 Ordinance of the Township of Woolwich, County of Gloucester and State of New Jersey Amending Chapter 192 of the Code of the Township of Woolwich to Establish Restricted Parking Within the Development Known as High Hill Estates

Committeeman Marino moved to introduce Ordinance 2022-11. Deputy Mayor Callahan seconded.

Committeeman Nocentino asked why this is being recommended to the Joint Land Use Board. Mayor Frederick replied that there were no parking zones in the land use board approval which had never been enforced.

Mayor Frederick noted that a public hearing will be held at the 1-17 meeting due to the land use board schedule.

Deputy Mayor Callahan said that he appreciates the time put into the Ordinance and no parking schematic, adding that it may seem trivial, but is not trivial to those that live in the High Hill Estates neighborhood.

Roll Call on Ordinance 2022-11:

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

Committeeman Marino moved to approve a consent agenda for resolution R-2022-213 through and including R-2022-223. Deputy Mayor Callahan seconded. All were in favor.

R-2022-213 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 Classifications in Areas Within the Kings Landing Redevelopment Area Should be Made

R-2022-214 Resolution Authorizing the Woolwich Township Joint Land Use Board to Make an Investigation and Hold Public Hearings to Determine Whether Certain Areas are in Need of Redevelopment Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1 *et.seq.*

R-2022-215 Resolution Authorizing Totally Disabled Veteran Deduction

R-2022-216 Resolution of the Township of Woolwich Authorizing the Endorsement of a “Statement of Consent” Form-Paulsboro Road AP, LLC-Block 14, Lot 2

R-2022-217 Resolution of the Township Committee of the Township of Woolwich, in the County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing an Employment Contract for the Position of Chief of Police of the Woolwich Township Police Department

R-2022-218 Resolution Authorizing Totally Disabled Veteran Deduction

R-2022-219 Resolution Requesting Approval of Items of Revenue and Appropriation

R-2022-220 Resolution Authorizing Refund of Permit Fees for Housing Certificate of Occupancy

R-2022-221 Resolution Authorizing Totally Disabled Veteran Deduction

R-2022-222 Resolution of the Woolwich Township Committee Referring Ordinance 2022-11 Regarding restricted Parking Within the Development Known as High Hill Estates to the Woolwich Township Joint Land Use Board

R-2022-223 Resolution Authorizing the Acceptance of a Cash Bond for the Issuance of a Temporary Certificate of Occupancy-Liberty Commodore North

Committeeman Marino moved to adopt Resolutions R-2022-213 through and including R-2022-223. Deputy Mayor Callahan seconded.

Committeeman Nocentino asked where funding comes from in the Clean Communities Grant and how it is used.

Ms. DiBella replied that the amount received is based upon the township’s recycling efforts and further explained how the funds are used.

Roll Call on resolutions:

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

The following reports were submitted for the month of August.

Tax Collector: \$11,176,916.83 remitted

Woolwich Fire Company:

Chief Valichka reported that 2 new members are in the academy for training. He further advised of the efforts of the department towards Fire Prevention week,

Police: Monthly Report

Chief Morgan advised of the departments planning for a Woolwich Police Community Day on October 8th at Locke Avenue Park.

Township Engineer:

Rick Alaimo noted the various status of various projects, roadway grant applications and temporary C.O. for Liberty Warehouse. Committeeman Nocentino inquired as to the status of the Locke Avenue/Oak Grove Road intersection improvements. Mr. Alaimo replied that the plans are still in review by NJDOT.

Precision Land:

Andrew Shaw advised the Committee of ongoing sewer work both in and outside of Woolwich Township.

Administrator's Report:

Ms. DiBella presented her report as self-explanatory, noting that she has received information from other Gloucester County Clerks as to their most recent bids on consumption liquor licenses.

Municipal Services:

Reviewed

The following Committee liaisons were provided:

Committeeman Marino:

Solid Waste/Recycling; 60 extra cardboard collections, 120 metal collections and 234 bulk collections in August. JLUB; No report.

Committeewoman Minhas:

Municipal Alliance; No report. Recreation; Parks and Recreation are planning events for October including Indian Folk dance and a Halloween parade. The Committee is further planning a children's painting class and holiday card writing in November. Event details are on the Facebook page.

Committeeman Nocentino:

Municipal Services; 43 zoning permits were issued in August and 10 zoning violations were issued. Public Works replaced a 20 ft. drainage pipe, and further continues with grounds keeping at the park and municipal properties. Env. Commission; The Committee awaits proposals for tree planting at the schools. There will be a cleanup at Tranquility Trail on October 22nd. Committeeman Nocentino requested the Mayor to see about closing the disc golf course during the cleanup.

Deputy Mayor Callahan:

Educational Partners (SWSD/KRSD); Great start to the school year at both the S/W and KRHS Districts. Both Districts anticipate a normal school year post COVID. The Kingsway District is making personnel appointments, planning workshops, field trips, assemblies and fundraisers. Construction of a student center at the high school has been completed. A meeting was held with the Superintendents of both districts in an effort to keep the lines of communication open and working together to the benefit of students and taxpayers.

Mayor Frederick:

Administration; Municipal Court heard 149 cases in August. Will begin to work with all departments on the 2023 municipal budget. The finance team has been meeting to review, discuss and assess PILOT's v. Township Debt. Advised that PILOT's on record can pay down sewer debt. Committeeman Marino stated that is great news and fulfills a promise made that taxpayers will not have to pay the sewer debt. Public Safety; Previously presented by Chief Morgan.

There was no update to park security under old business.

Under new business, the Committee and engineer discussed the failing of the Warrington Mill Dam.

The engineer advised that the water is going underneath the county culvert. Further discussion was held as to NJDEP communications regarding responsibilities of the dam owner, Woolwich Township, East Greenwich Township and Gloucester County. Plan of action needs to be discussed further.

Committeeman Marin stated that it is unfortunate that the State's first response is to decommission the dam. Committeeman Nocentino agreed that the township needs to make sure that the first option is not to decommission the dam.

Also under new business, Mayor Frederick advised that the Township is looking at having final improvements completed in Lexington Mews, and that a meeting has been scheduled with Chestnut Ridge homeowners to discuss road conditions on Oak View Terrace.

Committeewoman Minhas moved to open the meeting to public comment. Committeeman Nocentino seconded. All were in favor.

Frank Casella, 24 Mill Road, advised that the owner of Warrington Mill Dam is moving the planks and asked who is giving him direction to do this. Mayor Frederick responded that it is part of the township's investigation.

Ann Dorsett, 169 Russell Mill Road questioned the status of the TDR program.

Mayor Frederick replied that the engineer and planner will make a public presentation at the Oct. 3rd Meeting as to the Master Plan Reexamination process and a holistic TDR update to include zoning, credits and land appeal process.

Hearing no further public comment, the public portion closed upon a motion by Committeeman Marino, seconded by Deputy Mayor Callahan and unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Committeeman Marino and seconded by Committeewoman Minhas to approve the minutes of August 15, 2022 and Closed Session and September 6, 2022 and Closed Session. All were in favor.

Motion was made by Committeewoman Minhas 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, motion was made by Committeeman Marino, seconded by Committeewoman Minhas and unanimously passed to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane DiBella
Administrator/Clerk

Minutes not verbatim
Audio recording on file