**MINUTES**

**WOOLWICH TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE**

**DECEMBER 19, 2022**

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

Mayor Frederick made the following statement:

The December 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 resent saluted the American Flag.

Motion was made by Committeeman Marino and seconded by Committeewoman Minhas to approve resolution **R-2022-279 Resolution Making an Appointment to the Position of Patrolman within the Woolwich Township Police Department**

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

Oath of Office administered to Officer Daniel Featherer, and he was welcomed on board. Officer Featherer stated thanked the Committee and department for the opportunity to serve and said he is ready to get started.

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

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

Mayor Frederick advised that Ordinance **2022-15 Ordinance Approving the Application and Financial Agreement for a Long-Term Tax Exemption with CP Woolwich Urban Renewal, LLC for Block 28.04, Lot 7 on the Official Tax Map of the Township of Woolwich** is anticipated to be tabled in order to work out additional contractual matters with the applicant, but requested a motion to open the scheduled public hearing on said Ordinance. So moved Committeeman Marino and seconded by Committeewoman Minhas.

With no public comment, the public hearing closed upon a motion by Committeeman Marino, seconded by Dep. Mayor Callahan and unanimously passed.

Deputy Mayor Callahan moved to table Ordinance 2022-15. Committeewoman Minhas 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 second reading:

**2022-16 An Ordinance of the Township of Woolwich, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Adopting an Amendment to the Kings Landing Redevelopment Plan**

Motion to open public hearing: Minhas Second: Callahan All in favor

Amanda Gottwald, 38 Spring Hill Drive questioned the purpose of the Ordnance. Mayor Frederick replied that the purpose of the Ordinance is to clean up certain elements of the plan.

There were no further comments.

Motion to close public hearing: Marino Second: Callahan All in favor

Motion to adopt: Callahan Second: Minhas

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

Motion was made by Deputy Mayor Callahan and seconded by Committeeman Marino to approve a consent agenda for resolutions R-2022-280 through and including R-2022-290. All were in favor.

**R-2022-280 Resolution Authorizing Street Opening Permit(s) to South Jersey Gas-5 Victoria Drive and 88 Oliphants Mill Road**

**R-2022-281 Resolution of the Township of Woolwich Authorizing Renewal of a Lease Agreement for Farming Purposes on Municipally Owned Lands Known as Block 28.01 Lot 1, Blk. 3, Lot 6, Block 5, Lot 4 and Block 5, Lot 3 to Gary Stecher in the Total Amount of $3,250.00 for the Year 2023**

**R-2022-282 Resolution Authorizing Hiring Per Diem Employee to Conduct Snow Removal**

**R-2022-283 Resolution to Cancel Outstanding Checks Drawn on Accounts of the Township of Woolwich**

**R-2022-284 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**

**R-2022-285 Resolution Authorizing and Requesting the Joint Land Use Board to Undertake, Assemble Data and Advise the Township Committee as to Potential Areas for Rehabilitation**

**R-2022-286 Resolution Authorizing the Release of Cash Bond Posted for Soil Removal from Project Located at 201 Oak Grove Road**

**R-2022-287 Resolution Authorizing the Tax Collector to Transfer or Refund Overpayment of Taxes**

**R-2022-288 Resolution Adopting Rules and Regulations for the Woolwich Township Police Department**

**R-2022-289 Resolution of the Township of Woolwich Authorizing Reduction No. 1 of Letter of Credit #21-14 Posted on the Behalf of Villages I, Section 4.6**

**R-2022-290 Resolution of the Township of Woolwich Authorizing Reduction No. 1 of Letter of Credit #21-15 Posted on the Behalf of Villages I, Section 4.7**

Motion was made by Committeewoman Minhas and seconded by Deputy Mayor Callahan to adopt resolutions R-2022-280 Through and including R-2022-290.

Mayor Frederick noted that R-2022-285 is a referral to the Joint Land Use Board to consider a rehabilitation designation which would allow a five (5) year tax abatement on residential improvements.

Roll Call on Consent agenda resolutions:

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

The following reports were submitted for the month of November:

Tax Collector: $3,739,572.28 remitted

Woolwich Fire Company: Monthly Report

In the absence of the fire chief, Mayor Frederick reported that the company is reporting a 6 minute response time. He added that the company sold 300 Christmas trees in 2 weeks. Committeeman Marino suggested that there be an evaluation of the fire draft pumps to see if any repairs or maintenance is required.

Police: Monthly Report

Chief Morgan advised that Patrolmen Kemp and Boyko attended the Holiday hero Event. Discussion was further held as to tractor trailer parking overnight on Oldmans Creek Road. He suggested that no parking signage be installed. Deputy Mayor Callahan prompted discussion about how best residents can advise the PD when they wish to report parked trucks on roadways.

Township Engineer: Monthly Report

Jake Schwartz presented the Engineers Report. He advised that revised plans for the Swedesboro Avenue municipal aid grant application have been submitted to NJDOT. He also advised that the Township was awarded 2023 Municipal Aid grants-$234,990 for Russell Mill and Back Creek Roads and $251,000 for Phase 3 of High Hill Road bike path. Design improvements for the 2022 Viereck Road project are ongoing. He further advised the NJDEP has notified the owner of the Warrington Mill Dam as to lowering the water level. Mr. Schwartz also discussed the status of development projects.

Committeeman Marino asked if there is a time line for the Viereck Road project. Mr. Schwartz replied that he will check with the design team.

Mayor Frederick advised that the High Hill Bike path project will complete the full loop of the bike path from the Auburn Road circle to the park entrance. He added that prior applications were denied and that he is happy it has now been awarded.

Precision Land: Monthly Sewer Project Update

Andrew Shaw advised that the project is on schedule. Discussion was held as to repaving and restoration of Rt. 322 and Locke Ave.

Administrator’s Report: Monthly Report

The Administrator/Clerk advised that NJDEP will require an Archeological Study on the park expansion project. She further discussed the need for the County to execute the Warrington Mill Dam NJDEP permits. She also advised the state deadlines for the submission of 2023 Annual Financial Statement and 2023 budget introduction and adoption deadlines.

Municipal Services: Monthly Report

The following Committee Liaison Reports were provided:

Committeeman Marino: Solid Waste/Recycling; JLUB

89 metal and 232 bulk collections were conducted in November. Noted that easement was secured

on Auburn Road at no cost to the Township.

Committeewoman Minhas: Municipal Alliance; Recreation-No reports

Committeeman Nocentino: Municipal Services; Env. Commission;

45 zoning applications were submitted in November. The Environmental Commission continues to

discuss plastic contamination of collected recycling materials and purchase and planting of trees on

school properties.

Deputy Mayor Callahan: Educational Partners (SWSD/KRSD)

Noted that two student representatives were sworn in to the KRSD School Board to allow the students

to have a voice. Noted that KRSD enrollment are inching from 1882 in 2022 closer to 2,000. A

regionalization feasibility meeting is scheduled for February 2nd. The State is paying for the study.

Mayor Frederick: Administration; Public Safety

2023 budget is being developed. Follow up is being conducted as to the use of remaining designated

project funds shown in the 2021 audit.

Under old business, Mayor Frederick advised that a 23 page letter has been submitted to the state as to

why the Township’s TDR Program is no longer feasible.

The Mayor further advised that the planner and legal counsel are working with the Township to finalize

the Master Plan reexamination process which is targeted for completion by the end of Q1l, 2023 to

address rezoning of TDR parcels.

Noted that Committeeman Nocentino will be working with Chief Morgan regarding park security.

Under new business, the NJDOT FY2023 grant awards were noted as presented in the engineer’s report.

Discussion was held regarding the need for an archeological study for the park expansion project

Waterfront Development permit for which an initial quote was received in the amount of $43,000.

Motion was made by Committeeman Marino and seconded by Committeewoman Minhas to authorize

an RFP for archeological study. All were in favor.

The Administrator/Clerk will see if a prior study was conducted.

The Committee will revisit a pickle ball project in 2023 Q1.

It was noted that the 2023 Reorganization Meeting is scheduled for January 3, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.

Motion was made by Deputy Mayor Callahan and seconded by Committeewoman Minas to open the

meeting to public comment. All were in favor.

Christina Trautz, 1 Sunset Court inquired as to what can be done to prevent tractor trailer parking,

Chief Morgan replied as to increased patrol and signage. Committeeman Marino advised that 911 can

be called when an issue is noted.

Jordan Schlump, 10 Wilshire, Asked if an outside committee is needed to address the recycling

contamination issue. Mayor Frederick deferred the question to Committeeman Nocentino,

Environmental Commission liaison who replied that the Environmental Commission may visit the

recycling center, and will continue to discuss the issue.

Mr. Schlump then asked what can be done to prevent truck traffic attempting to use cut-throughs to

avoid traffic signals. Discussion was then held regarding reporting incidents based on license plates.

Chief Morgan stated that officers cannot ticket on a license plate report.

Hearing no further comments, the public portion closed upon a motion by Committeewoman Minhas,

seconded by Deputy Mayor Callahan and unanimously passed.

Motion was made by Committeeman Marino and seconded by Committeewoman Minhas to approve

resolution **R-2022-291 Resolution for Closed Session.** All were in favor.

The Committee entered closed session at 7:37 p.m. for the purpose of discussing the following matters:

Personnel: Police Matters

Potential Litigation: Oldmans Creek Holdings

Contractual Matters: July Holdings

The regular meeting reconvened at 9:07 p.m. upon a motion by Deputy Mayor Callahan, seconded by

Committeeman Marino and unanimously passed.

Motion was made by Committeeman Marino to authorize the hiring of Mark DePasquale as Patrolman

to be appointed at the reorganization meeting. 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 November 21, 2022 Regular and Executive

Session and December 5, 2022 Regular and Executive Session. Committeewoman Minhas seconded.

Mayor Frederick noted two amendments to the minutes of November 21st. The Clerk so noted. All were

in favor.

Committeewoman Minhas moved to approve the bill list. Deputy Mayor Callahan seconded.

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

With no further business, Committeewoman Minhas moved to adjourn the meeting. Committeeman Marino seconded. All were in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 9:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane DiBella

Administrator/Clerk

Minutes not verbatim

Audio Recording on file