

**MINUTES
WOOLWICH TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
APRIL 3, 2023**

The meeting was called to order at 6:34 p.m. by Mayor Frederick.

Mayor Frederick made the following statement:

The April 3, 2023 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 DeMarcantonio and Administrator/Clerk DiBella

Those present saluted the American Flag.

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

Frank Casella, 24 Mill Road asked for an update on the lowering and repairs to the Mill Road Dam, advising that his property is on the lakefront and that he is aware of the water lowering taking place.

Mayor Frederick advised that there is only a few feet left to lower in order to reach a safe level. He further responded that there are four parties involved and there has been very little movement towards an agreement. He further stated that once lowered, an analysis of the needed repairs would be undertaken.

Mr. Casella asked if the lowering is being funded by the county and Mayor Frederick replied that it is.

Mr. Casella then prompted discussion as to who owns what portions of the dam and bridge. The Mayor advised that there is complexity in definition.

Solicitor DeMarcantonio advised that dam ownership is “anybody that touches it” and that it has not been looked at piecemeal, while currently, the focus is getting the water lowered to a safe level.

Mr. Casella advised that he has experienced significant property damage due to the issue with the dam, and who is accountable for the damage.

Mayor Frederick responded that there are multiple parties involved along with the state, and that the township is trying to understand the requirements.

Mr. Casella replied that no one is worried about the Casella property, adding that if the lake ends up being a stream, who will restore his property.

Mayor Frederick responded that there is no answer tonight.

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

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

2023-11 An Ordinance of the Township Committee Amending the Woolwich Township Code of Ordinances to Repeal Chapter 103 Flood Damage Prevention; To Adopt a New Chapter 103; to Adopt Flood Hazard Maps; to Designate a Floodplain Administrator; and Providing for Severability and Effective Date

Committeewoman Minhas moved to introduce Ordinance 2023-11. Committeeman Marino seconded.
Roll Call: Marino: YES, Minhas: YES, Nocentino: YES, Callahan: YES, Frederick: YES Motion carried

Committeeman Marino moved to adopt a consent agenda for resolutions R-2023-92 through and including R-2023-100. Committeewoman Minhas seconded. All were in favor.

R-2023-92 A Resolution Fixing the Salaries for Certain Officers and Employees of the Township of Woolwich in the County of Gloucester

R-2023-93 Resolution Authorizing Street Opening Permit(s) to South Jersey Gas-195 Yorktown and Fairway Drive

R-2023-94 Resolution of the Township of Woolwich Denying Grievance of Robert Walker

R-2023-95 Resolution of the Township of Woolwich Authorizing Contracts for Certain Items/Equipment/Services for 2023 Fun Day

R-2023-96 Resolution of the Township of Woolwich Authorizing a Shared Service Agreement Between the Township of Woolwich and the County of Gloucester Regarding the Use of Certain Stage Units for Special Events-Fun Day

R-2023-97 Resolution of the Township of Woolwich Authorizing a Shared Service Agreement Between the Township of Woolwich and the County of Gloucester Regarding the Use of Certain Stage Units for Special Events-Juneteenth Celebration

R-2023-98 Resolution of the Township of Woolwich Authorizing the Execution of a Service Agreement between the Township of Woolwich and the Gloucester County Utilities Authority for Sewer Service

R-2023-99 Resolution Authorizing 2022 Municipal Service Reimbursement for Snow Removal and Street Lighting Pursuant to the Municipal Services Agreement-Four Seasons at Weatherby

R-2023-100 Resolution Authorizing 2022 Municipal Service Reimbursement for Snow Removal and Solid Waste/Recycling Removal Pursuant to the Municipal Services Act-Lexington Mews Condominium Association

Motion was made by Committeeman Marino and seconded by Committeewoman Minhas to adopt resolutions R-2023-92 through and including R-2023-100.

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

Under old business, the Committee reviewed and discussed engineering costs for the Oliphants Mill dam project. The Mayor explained that in 2020, Remington and Vernick had proposed a scope in the amount of \$142,000. This amount was based on decommissioning the dam. Subsequent to the approved scope, the dam owner decided to recommission the dam which involved additional engineering costs. Remington and Vernick have now proposed an additional \$26,000 to complete the bid specifications.

Motion was made by Committeeman Marino and seconded by Committeeman Nocentino to authorize the scope modification, including the additional \$26,000, with the change to be memorialized at the next meeting.

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

Also under old business, Mayor Frederick advised of a meeting conducted with various landowners impacted by TDR and the intended repeal of the program. A follow up meeting will be held with them as the Township moves towards rezoning TDR parcels, with Ordinance introduction slated for 5-1, following JLUB recommendation and possible adoption by the Township on May 15th.

Under new business, Mayor Frederick advised of the resignation of the township's Public defender. An RFP has been submitted which will be due on April 11.

The Mayor also advised that the NJDOT approved improvements to the Locke Ave/Oak Grove Road/Rt. 322 intersection will begin with the next few weeks and that traffic patterns will be detoured.

Also, the location of the April 20th JLUB hearing on the Auburn Road Warehouse will be held in the Kingsway High School Auditorium, due to an anticipated large audience.

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

Jordan Schlump, 10 Wilshire Blvd. questioned the engineering change of scope on the Oliphants Mill Road dam project, asking if those costs will be split with the county and dam owner. Mayor Frederick responded that the change of scope is the township component.

Mr. Schlump then asked if there is a requirement that an earthen dam be incorporated into the road. The Mayor answered in the affirmative. Mr. Schlump then inquired as to whether the earthen dam is considered to be a part of the dam owner's responsibility. The Mayor responded that there is no full answer yet. Solicitor DeMarcantonio added that from a legal standpoint, each situation is on a case by case basis and fact specific.

Mr. Schlump asked if there is anything the township can do to ensure that the lake be restored. The Mayor replied that restoration of the lake is the ultimate desire of the Township, but other considerations must be taken.

Dawn Fenza of Williamstown asked if the Township has yet discussed the TNVR cat program and if anyone has any questions.

Mayor Frederick replied that due to a large backload of projects and developments, the Committee will consider the ordinance at the end of the 2nd quarter.

Hearing no further public comment, Committeeman Marino moved to close the public portion. Deputy Mayor Callahan seconded. All were in favor.

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

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

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane DiBella
Administrator/Clerk

Minutes not verbatim
Audio recording on file