

**MINUTES
WOOLWICH TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
JUNE 19, 2023**

The meeting was called to order at 6:34 p.m. by Mayor Craig Frederick who made the following statement:

The June 19, 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: ABSENT Nocentino: PRESENT Callahan: PRESENT
Frederick: PRESENT

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

Those present saluted the American Flag.

Mayor Frederick advised those in the audience that the Township website has been down and unfortunately, it was not possible to send out the agenda ahead of the meeting.

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

Jordan Schlump, 10 Wilshire Blvd. stated that the lack of public access to the agenda did not allow the public to have the meeting information for review prior to the meeting.

Hearing no further comments, motion was made by Committeeman Marino to close the public portion. Deputy Mayor Callahan seconded. All were in favor.

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

2023-18 An Ordinance of the Township of Woolwich Amending the Woolwich Township Code to Create Various Stop Control Areas on Longleaf Lane

Motion to introduce: Marino Second: Callahan

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

2023-19 An Ordinance of the Township of Woolwich Accepting the Deed of Right-Of-Way Dedication for a Portion of Village Green Drive and Balsam Road

Motion to introduce: Callahan Second: Marino

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

R-2023-20 An Ordinance of the Township of Woolwich Repealing and Replacing Chapter 29, Article V of the Code of the Township of Woolwich Entitled "Municipal Administrator" and Repealing Article VIII Entitled "Director of Community Development" in its Entirety

Motion to introduce: Callahan Second: Marino

Mayor Frederick explained that this Ordinance is necessary to ensure a smooth transition in the position of Administrator upon the April 2024 retirement of the Administrator/Clerk. He also explained how the hiring process will move forward.

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

2023-21 Ordinance of the Township of Woolwich Amending Ordinance 2023-12 Relating to the 5A Five Acre Residential District

Motion to introduce: Callahan Second: Marino

Mayor Frederick advised that this Ordinance is the result of discussions at the June 5th meeting at which time it was determined that buffer requirements should be amended on lands adjacent to actively farmed land. The Ordinance will be forwarded to the Joint Land Use Board for their consideration and recommendation, and then considered for adoption by the Township Committee on July 17th

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

The following actions were taken regarding the 2023 Municipal Budget.

R-2023-144 Township of Woolwich, County of Gloucester-Resolution to Read Budget by Title Only

Motion: Callahan Second: Marino

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

Lois Yarrington, Woolwich Township CFO provided a re-cap of the budget. She noted that the budget includes funds for two new police officers to fill vacancies, plus two more officers. Additionally, it includes additional salaries in the 4th quarter in preparation for the Administrator/Clerk retirement, an increase to debt service and interest for sewer installation among others. She noted that the budget is being adopted with a 0% tax increase, by utilization of \$2.99 million in surplus, leaving \$2.7 million in surplus. She added that PILOT funds are not anticipated, but will go to surplus for next year.

Mayor Frederick stated that it was the Committee's goal to maintain a 0% increase.

Motion was made by Deputy Mayor Callahan and seconded by Committeeman Marino to open the public hearing on the 2023 budget.

Jordan Schlump, 10 Wilshire Blvd. noted that the budget is allowed to be increased by 2%, and if the budget is not increased, we will be behind.

The CFO responded that you are allowed to increase appropriations by 2%, but not what taxes can be raised by. Mayor Frederick added that the goal going forward is to offset any budget increases with additional revenue.

Ann Dorsett, 169 Russell Mill Road questioned increase due to sewer. The Mayor responded the goal is to offset those payments through ratables.

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

Public Hearing on 2023 Municipal Budget

R-2023-145 Resolution Authorizing Self-Examination of Budget for the Township of Woolwich, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey

Motion: Marino Second: Callahan

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

R-2023-145 a. Resolution of the Township of Woolwich, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Adopting the 2023 Municipal Budget Motion: Marino Second: Callahan

Deputy Mayor Callahan asked the CFO what the drivers are that increase the budget. Ms. Yarrington responded that costs have risen, including health insurance, more employee's utilizing health care benefits, increase to salaries and pensions. The Mayor added that over \$700,000 is interest towards debt service. The Deputy Mayor thanked those involved in the budget process for holding the line on taxes. Roll Call on budget adoption follows:

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

Committeeman Marino moved to approve a consent agenda for resolutions R-2023-146 through and including R-2023-152. Deputy Mayor Callahan seconded. All were in favor.

R-2023-146 Resolution of the Township of Woolwich Making an Elevation Within the Woolwich Township Police Department

R-2023-147 Resolution Authorizing the Renewal of a Shared Service Agreement Between the Township of Woolwich and the Township of East Greenwich for the Provision of Electrical SubCode Official Services

R-2023-148 Resolution of the Township of Woolwich, County of Gloucester Authorizing a Traffic Signal Agreement Between the Township and New Jersey Department of Transportation for the Location of Route 322 and Locke Avenue/Oak Grove Road (CR 671)

R-2022-149 Authorizing Application Under 2024 NJDOT MA-Garwin Road

R-2022-150 Authorizing Application Under 2024 NJDOT MA-Colony Place and Colony Court

R-2023-151 Resolution of the Township of Woolwich Authorizing the Quote of R. E. Pierson Construction Company, Inc. in the Amount of \$20,961.75 for the Installation of Three Speed Humps on Frederick Blvd.

R-2023-152 Resolution Authorizing Professional Services Appointment for Risk Management Consultant

Motion was made by Committeeman Marino and seconded by Deputy Mayor Callahan to adopt resolutions R-2023-146 through and including R-2023-152.

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

The following departmental reports were provided for the month of May.

Tax Collector: \$3,024,257.56 remitted

Woolwich Fire Company: Monthly Report

Police: Monthly Report

The Committee was provided with updates regarding the Police Academy Camp, noting that 35 applications were received. Donations have also been provided to fund the camp. Additionally, Chief Morgan noted that Captain Daniels and Lt. Verrilli completed the Command and Leadership Academy.

Township Engineer: Monthly Report

The Engineer reported that the Contract for Swedesboro Avenue NJDOT project has been signed by all parties and a pre-construction meeting is being scheduled. High Hill Road is being surveyed under the High Hill Path phase 3 project. The Viereck Road NJDOT Project requires property access from a Viereck Road resident. Mayor Marino offered to obtain signed permission from the resident. The street map is being amended to reflect the new intersection at Locke and Oak Grove Roads. Pickle Ball survey has been completed and plans are being drawn with an expected bid in mid-September. Warrington Mill Dam embankment will be inspected. Orleans has advised that paving is out to bid for Lexington Mews Drive.

Precision Land: Monthly Sewer Project Update

Restorations in East Greenwich are taking place. Will be meeting with GCUA.

Administrator's Report: Monthly Report

The Administrator presented her report as self-explanatory, but advised that no bids were received on the sale of a Plenary Retail Consumption License. Mayor Frederick suggested discussing re-bid under old business.

Municipal Services: Monthly Report

The following Committee liaison reports were presented:

Committeeman Marino:

Solid Waste/Recycling; The department conducted 46 cardboard, 138 metal and 268 bulk collections in May. Shredding event was held. Tonnage Report has not yet been provided. New stop intersections have been installed along Long Leaf Lane. JLUB; Meeting was cancelled due to lack of agenda. Projects. Mayor Frederick advised that a special JLUB meeting is scheduled for June 29, 2023. In the Kingsway Middle School Gym.

Committeewoman Minhas:

Municipal Alliance; Recreation-No Report/Absent

Committeeman Nocentino:

Municipal Services; 52 Zoning Violations issued in the month of May. Maintenance of streets, municipal facilities, sports fields and open space. Env. Commission; Working on Swedesboro raised bed garden. Social Media/IT: Looking into how to best conduct resident outreach. Website is currently down. Issue is being addressed.

Mayor Frederick reported that the informal Town Hall Meeting held on June 7th was a success with good dialog held.

Deputy Mayor Callahan:

Educational Partners (SWSD/KRSD); Will meet with Kingsway Administration in the next few weeks to

discuss the flashing signal project Noted that the Class of 2023 will graduate on June 21st. Noted that a member of the sophomore class recently passed away. Asking for prayers. Resident Communications; No Report. Park Utilization: No Report.

Mayor Frederick:

Administration; Will conduct analysis of funding/sewer payments/PILOT funds. Public Safety

Under old business, the Committee discussed re-bid of consumption liquor license, changing to bid of both available licenses and deleting the requirements as to location and operational timing.

The Mayor then moved to authorize the sale of two licenses, removing timing and location requirements with action to be memorialized at the 7-17 meeting. Committeeman Marino seconded.

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

Under new business, the Committee reviewed and discussed the In Rem Foreclosure list.

Solicitor DeMarcantonio advised that it is a long process, and recommended that the Committee consider obtaining a quote from an attorney experienced in In Rem Foreclosures.

Mayor Frederick then moved to authorize receipt of quotes for special counsel for In rem Foreclosure. Committeeman Marino seconded.

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

Also under new business, the Committee accepted the bid of BarnCo in the amount of \$2,026 to purchase Block 11, Lot 29. Committeeman Marino moved to authorize the sale. Deputy Mayor Callahan seconded.

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

The Committee reviewed and discussed the quote provided by the Township Engineer to assist with the new Tier A Stormwater requirements.

Motion was made by Deputy Mayor Callahan and seconded by Mayor Frederick to authorize the 2023 tasks not to exceed \$54,000. It was also noted that the Township is in receipt of a grant for these purposes in the amount of \$75,000.

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

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

Jordan Schlump, 10 Wilshire Blvd. inquired as to stormwater compliance reg's and asked if private communities will have to take the same actions as the Township. The Township Engineer replied that private communities will have to abide by the Tier A regulations. He added that it will be the responsibility of the Township to ensure that HOA's are meeting their obligations under Tier A.

Ann Dorset, 169 Russell Mill Road noted the status of the bridge on Russell Mill Road over Basgalore Creek held up well during recent heavy rainstorm.

She also inquired if the Township is still experiencing vandalism at its park.

Committeeman Nocentino replied that security systems are being reviewed, but that otherwise, it has been quiet at the park.

With no further public comment, motion was made by Committeeman Marino and seconded by Deputy Mayor Callahan to close the public portion. All were in favor.

Motion was made by Committeeman Marino and seconded by Deputy Mayor Callahan to approve resolution **R-2023-154 Resolution for Executive Session**.
All were in favor.

The Committee entered Executive Session at 7:29 p.m. for the purpose of discussing Personnel-Police Interviews-SOP Review and Contractual Matters-Rt. 322 Development.

The regular meeting resumed at 9:38 p.m. upon a motion by Deputy Mayor Callahan, seconded by Committeeman Nocentino and unanimously passed.

Deputy Mayor Callahan moved to authorize the hiring of two police officers to begin on July 7th, naming Brett Dolgos and Joel Seabo. Committeeman Nocentino seconded.

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

Deputy Mayor Callahan moved to table resolution **R-2023-153 Resolution Authorizing Execution of Redevelopment Agreement with NP Woolwich Industrial, LLC for Block 60, Lots 7 and 7.02 and Block 61, Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 4.01 and 7**. Second: Marino

Mayor Frederick stated that issues will be worked out and the Resolution will come back before the Committee at the July 17th meeting.

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

Committeeman Marino moved to approve the minutes of May 15, 2023 and June 5, 2023. Deputy Mayor Callahan seconded. All were in favor.

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

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

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

The meeting adjourned at 9:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane DiBella
Administrator/Clerk

Minutes not verbatim
Audio Recording on file