

**MINUTES  
WOOLWICH TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE  
AUGUST 21, 2023**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Craig Frederick at 6:30 p.m.

Mayor Frederick made the following statement:

The August 21, 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: Minhas: PRESENT Nocentino: ABSENT Callahan: PRESENT  
Frederick: PRESENT

Those present saluted the American Flag.

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

Judy Kennedy, residing at 230 Amesbury Blvd. discussed drainage problems in the rear of the homes between 216 and 242 Amesbury. She advised that Platinum Builders that they are aware of the issue, and will not be making the repairs that the Township Engineer has suggested. She requested the Committee's assistance in getting the issue rectified.

Township Engineer Jake Schwartz explained exactly what is causing the issue, and advised that they came to an agreement with the builder as to regrading of the swale, but that County Soil Conservation asked to hold off on disturbing the swale until mid-September. Mr. Schwartz added that they will continue to push with the developer, builder and the developer's engineer.

Dan Vechesky, Alaimo Engineers added that bonds will not be released until the matter is addressed.

Mayor Frederick requested that the Administrator have the township contact the County to conduct mosquito spraying in this location.

Bob Duca, 240 Amesbury advised that he was told by Platinum that they will do the bare minimum. The Mayor replied that it seems there is a plan to move forward. Mr. Schwartz added that it is unacceptable to have water in the backyards and that he will further speak with Platinum. The Mayor asked Mr. Schwartz to keep the residents informed as to his efforts.

Tanya Turner, 238 Amesbury advised that she had an independent inspection conducted that she is willing to share. Mayor Frederick suggested that a copy be provided to the township engineers.

Hearing no further public comment, Deputy Mayor Callahan moved to adjourn the public portion. Committeewoman Minhas seconded. All were in favor.

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

**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 open the public hearing: Minhas      Second: Callahan      All in favor.  
There was no public comment  
Motion to close the public hearing: Callahan      Second: Minhas      All in favor  
Motion to adopt: Callahan      Second: Minhas  
**Roll Call: Minhas: YES, Callahan: YES, Frederick: YES**      Motion Carried

**2023-22 An Ordinance of the Township of Woolwich Amending Chapter 143 of the Code of the Township of Woolwich Entitled “Property Maintenance” Specifically Section 4.1 “Maintenance of Residential and Non-Residential Property” to Address the Maintenance of Residential Street Trees and Sidewalks**

Motion to open the public hearing: Minhas      Second: Callahan      All in favor.  
There was no public comment  
Motion to close the public hearing: Callahan      Second: Minhas      All in favor  
Motion to adopt: Minhas      Second: Callahan  
**Roll Call: Minhas: YES, Callahan: YES, Frederick: YES**      Motion Carried

**2023-23 An Ordinance of the Township of Woolwich Article V Promotional Policy Amending Chapter 36 of the Code of the Township of Woolwich Entitled Police to Include Promotional Process**

Motion to open the public hearing: Minhas      Second: Callahan      All in favor.  
There was no public comment  
Motion to close the public hearing: Callahan      Second: Minhas      All in favor  
Motion to adopt: Minhas      Second: Callahan  
**Roll Call: Minhas: YES, Callahan: YES, Frederick: YES**      Motion Carried

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

**2023-24 An Ordinance of the Township of Woolwich Amending Chapter 203-62 of the Code of the Township of Woolwich Entitled “Livestock, Animals and Fowl” to Delete the Reference to Bees**

Motion to introduce: Minhas      Second: Callahan  
**Roll Call: Minhas: YES, Callahan: YES, Frederick: YES**      Motion Carried

**2023-25 An Ordinance of the Township of Woolwich Amending Chapter 109 of the Code of the Township of Woolwich Entitled “Grading Plans”, Specifically Section 109-7 Entitled “Permit and Review Fees”**

Motion to introduce: Callahan      Second: Minhas  
**Roll Call: Minhas: YES, Callahan: YES, Frederick: YES**      Motion Carried

Mayor Frederick advised that resolution **R-2023-169 Resolution Authorizing Execution of Redevelopment Agreement with 2024 Oak Grove Road Woolwich, LLC, for Block 11, Lots 6, 6.01, 6.02, 6.03, 6.04, 7, 11, and 11.01** as tabled on 7-17-23 will be discussed in executive session.

Motion was made by Deputy Mayor Callahan and seconded by Committeewoman Minhas to approve a consent agenda for resolutions R-2023-170 through and including R-2023-184. All were in favor.

Motion was made by Deputy Mayor Callahan and seconded by Committeewoman Minhas to adopt resolution R-2023-170 through and including R-2023-184.

**R-2023-170 Resolution Authorizing the Cancellation of Taxes-Totally Disabled Veteran**

**R-2023-171 Resolution Authorizing Totally Disabled Veteran Deduction**

**R-2023-172 Resolution Authorizing the Tax Collector to Extend the Due Date for 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Taxes 2023**

**R-2023-173 Resolution of the Township of Woolwich Making Elevations within the Woolwich Township Police Department**

**R-2023-174 Resolution of the Township of Woolwich Authorizing the Endorsement of a "Statement of Consent" Form-U.S. Rt. 322/Kings Hwy. Northeast Force Main**

**R-2023-175 Resolution Authorizing Reduction No. 1 on Letter of Credit #22-08 as Posted for the Development Known as Villages II, Section 2.4 Bond Reduction #1 Villages II Section 2.4**

**R-2023-176 Resolution of the Township of Woolwich Authorizing Release of Cash Bond Posted for Weatherby Four Seasons, 3 and 4**

**R-2023-177 Resolution of the Township of Woolwich Authorizing Substitute Electrical Inspector**

**R-2023-178 Resolution of the Township of Woolwich, County of Gloucester, Authorizing the Execution of a Commodity Resale Agreement with the County of Gloucester**

**R-2023-179 Resolution Authorizing a Shared Service Agreement Between the Township of Woolwich and the Kingsway Regional School District for the Provision of Class III Officers and School Resource Officer During the 2023-24 School Year**

**R-2023-180 Resolution Authorizing a Shared Service Agreement Between the Township of Woolwich and the Swedesboro-Woolwich School District for the Provision of Special Officers During the 2023-24 School Year**

**R-2023-181 Resolution Authorizing the Tax Collector to Transfer or Refund Overpayment of Taxes**

**R-2023-182 Resolution Authorizing Totally Disabled Veteran Deduction**

**R-2023-183 Resolution Endorsing the Findings and Determination Statement and Authorizing the Clerk to Issue a Bingo License on the Behalf of Four Seasons Weatherby Games Association**

**R-2023-184 Resolution Authorizing Placement of Municipal Liens-Property Maintenance**

Mayor Frederick advised that resolutions R-2023-179 and R-2023-180 are to continue police presence within the schools.

Roll Call on Resolutions R-2023-170 through R-2023-184

**Roll Call: Minhas: YES, Callahan: YES, Frederick: YES**

Motion Carried

The following reports were submitted for the month of July:

Tax Collector: \$717,291.73 remitted

Woolwich Fire Company: Monthly Report

Chief Valichka advised that the department has been very busy, including a few serious motor vehicle crashes, including one at Center Square and Auburn Road that had a fatality. He thanked those that celebrated the Woolwich Fire Company's birthday for cake and ice cream.

Police: Monthly Report

Chief Morgan thanked all for their support of the Youth Camp, noting that it was a great experience.

Township Engineer: Monthly Report

Mr. Schwartz noted that the Swedesboro Avenue paving is complete and guardrail installation is pending. Discussed the status of the High Hill Trail extension and the possibility of creating a crossing from either side of the street. Advised that the street map has been completed, but minor corrections are needed. In process of mapping all storm water structures towards MS4 requirements. Will meet with developer as to veteran memorial plans. Working on concept to vacate Mill Road due to the dam failure.

Precision Land: Monthly Sewer Project Update

No report was provided.

Administrator's Report: Monthly Report

The Administrator provided her report as self-explanatory.

Municipal Services: Monthly Report-Self-explanatory

The following Committee liaison reports were provided:

Deputy Mayor Callahan provided the report of Vernon Marino who resigned from Committee: Solid Waste/Recycling; month of July had 42 extra cardboard, 121 metal and 295 bulk collections. 34 zoning permits were issued and 6 zoning violations issued. P/W is grooming and laying out fields for soccer. Cracks in basketball court have been repaired. Repairs made to irrigation lines and heads. Special Projects; Signage has been placed I speed hump locations on Fredrick Blvd.

Committeewoman Minhas:

Municipal Alliance; No Report. Recreation: P&R on summer break.

Committeeman Nocentino (provided by Mayor Frederick):

Municipal Services; No report. Env. Commission; Ann Dorsett, long time member of the EC will be honored by the Committee at their next meeting. Andrew George was sworn in as a member of the EC. Social Media/IT: No report.

Deputy Mayor Callahan:

Educational Partners (SWSD/KRSD); Renewal of School Security Agreements show ongoing partnership with our school systems. Resident Communications; No report. Park Utilization: No report.

Mayor Frederick:

Administration; No Report. Public Safety: Police report provided.

Also, in the absence of former Committeeman Marino, Mayor Frederick provided the JLUB report, noting that approval was issued to NVR Ryan Homes for residential development north of Kingsway High School. Auburn Road warehouse application is still pending. The applicant got through engineering and began public comment. To be continued potentially on October 5<sup>th</sup>.

The Committee discussed the In-Rem foreclosure list. Due to changes in potential cost, the Committee decided to only pursue the Payne property at 155 Rulon Road and Oberfrank at 120 Moravian Church Road.

Also under old business, Mayor Frederick advised as to status of the truck route mapping. He stated that a meeting was held with professionals at which time it was recommended that trucks be prohibited on all township roads. The process will continue under review and consultation with NJDOT.

In addition, Mayor Frederick noted that the Township intends to meet with the county regarding certain intersections that have hard turns, specifically intersections along Oldmans Creek Road. More to follow.

The Committee reviewed the recommendation of the Administrator/Clerk and Director of Community Services to award MuniReg the contract for vacant property registration due to the bankruptcy of the former company ProChamps through which the Township had a shared service agreement with the county. Formal award to MuniReg will occur at the 9-5 meeting.

Under new business, the August 3<sup>rd</sup> resignation of Committeeman Vernon Marino was discussed, along with the process to fill a vacancy within the Governing Body. He advised that in accordance with the vacancy law, the Democratic Party submitted the names of Natalie Matthias, Adam Taliaferro and Francis McGovern from which the Committee is to appoint.

Deputy Mayor Callahan nominated Adam Taliaferro. Committeewoman Minhas seconded. All were in favor.

Committeewoman Minhas then moved to adopt resolution **R-2023-185 Resolution Accepting the Resignation of Vernon Marino and Authorizing an Appointment to Fill the Vacancy in the Membership of the Woolwich Township Committee** naming Adam Taliaferro. Deputy Mayor Callahan seconded.  
**Roll Call: Minhas: YES, Callahan: YES, Frederick: YES** Motion Carried

Deputy Mayor Callahan moved to open the meeting to public comment. Committeewoman Minhas seconded. All were in favor.

Jordan Schlump, 10 Wilshire Blvd. asked the purpose of installing speed bumps on Frederick Blvd. The Mayor responded that due to the width of roadway, proximity to the Stratton School and analysis, the speed humps were determined to be needed for safety reasons.

Mr. Schlump noted that speeding occurs on straight road ways as opposed to winding roads. The Mayor

replied that there are issues under both scenarios.

Mr. Schlump then inquired about the status of the dams. He was informed that the Mill Road Dam was lowered to a safe operating level, but the Township is still discussing options, one of which is to close the road. The Mayor further noted that permitting applications for the Oliphants Mill Dam have been submitted to NJDEP Dam Safety.

Hearing no further comment, motion was made by Deputy Mayor Callahan and seconded by Committeewoman Minhas to close the public portion. All were in favor.

Motion was made by Committeewoman Minhas and seconded by Deputy Mayor Callahan to approve resolution **R-2023-186 Resolution for Closed Session**. All were in favor.

The Committee entered closed session at 7:24 p.m. for the purpose of discussing contractual matters regarding Rt. 322 development and personnel matters regarding interviews for the positions of Administrator and Deputy Clerk.

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

Motion was made by Committeewoman Minhas and seconded by Deputy Mayor Callahan to approve the minutes of July 17, 2023 regular and closed session and August 3, 2023 special meeting. All were in favor.

Mayor Frederick advised that resolution **R-2023-169** will remain tabled.

Motion was made by Committeewoman Minhas and seconded by Deputy Mayor Callahan to approve the bill list and purchase orders.

**Roll Call: Minhas: YES, Callahan: YES, Frederick: YES (abstain from Verizon)**

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

The meeting adjourned at 9:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane DiBella  
Administrator/Clerk

Minutes not verbatim  
Audio recording on file