

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 10, 2014

The Regular meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Bordentown was held in the Main Meeting Room in the Municipal Building.

PRESENT: Mayor Stephen Benowitz
Committeeman Richard Carson
Committeeman John Moynihan
Committeewoman Jill Popko
Township Clerk Colleen Eckert
Attorney William J. Kearns, Jr.
Chief Financial Officer David Kocian
Chief of Police Frank M. Nucera, Jr.

ABSENT: Deputy Mayor James Cann
Public Works Director Dean Buhner

Mayor Benowitz called the meeting to order at approximately 7:05 p.m. and led a salute to the flag and a moment of silence.

Township Clerk Eckert read the following Open Public Meeting Announcement:

In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, adequate notice of this meeting was provided in the following manner:

On January 6, 2014, advance written notice of this meeting was posted on the bulletin board opposite the main entrance to the meeting room in the Municipal Building; was FAXED to the REGISTER NEWS, BURLINGTON COUNTY TIMES and THE TIMES; was filed with the Clerk of Bordentown Township; and was mailed to all persons who requested and paid for such notice.

The proceedings of this meeting, which are open to the public, are being electronically recorded. Requisite minutes are kept for all meetings, whether open or closed to the public.

ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW

Mayor Benowitz announced that Number 21 and Number 22 are being pulled from the Regular Agenda, and Public Works Expansion Contract Matter is being pulled from the Closed Session Agenda.

Number 21 – The Environmental Commission will review prior to discussion.

Number 22 – The dog park has been relocated in Northern Community Park.

Public Works Expansion Contract Matter will be discussed when Deputy Mayor Cann is present.

CONSENT AGENDA

Resolution #2014-041-6 entitled APPROVING THE TRANSACTION OF ITEMS OF ROUTINE BUSINESS: PAYMENT OF BILLS.

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Resolution #2014-041-7 entitled APPROVING THE TRANSACTION OF ITEMS OF ROUTINE BUSINESS: MINUTES OF MEETINGS.

Resolution #2014-041-8 entitled AUTHORIZING REFUND OF TAX SALE PREMIUM.

Resolution #2014-041-9 entitled RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE PROPOSAL FROM CME ASSOCIATES FOR THE DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS TO MUNICIPAL DRIVE AND GERMANTOWN ROAD FOR CONSTRUCTION PHASE SERVICES.

Resolution #2014-041-10 entitled RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SPONSORSHIP FOR GIRLS STATE.

Resolution #2014-041-11 entitled RESOLUTION TO RENEW INTERLOCAL SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH THE COUNTY OF BURLINGTON FOR THE NEW WORLD SYSTEM.

Resolution #2014-041-12 entitled RESOLUTION APPROVING STIPENDS TO MARY PICARIELLO AND ANGEL SAURO FOR CERTAIN ASSIGNED FINANCIAL DUTIES WITHIN THE FINANCE OFFICE.

Resolution #2014-041-13 entitled RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN ADJUSTMENT IN THE WORK HOURS AND HOURLY RATES FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OFFICIAL AND ELECTRICAL SUBCODE OFFICIAL.

Township Committee reviewed and discussed Consent Agenda Items #2014-041-6 through #2014-041-13. Committeewoman Popko and Mayor Benowitz commented/asked questions.

Resolution #2014-041-7. Committeewoman Popko and Mayor Benowitz cited typographical changes to the January 13, 2014 and January 27, 2014 regular minutes. Township Clerk Eckert will amend the minutes.

At this time, Committeeman Carson made a motion to open to the public the consent agenda items; seconded by Committeewoman Popko.

AYE: Committeeman Carson, Committeeman Moynihan, Committeewoman Popko, Mayor Benowitz

NAY: None

ABSENT: Deputy Mayor Cann

SID MORGINSTIN, 849 East Drive: Mr. Morginstin asked for more information on Resolution #2014-041-11. Police Chief Nucera responded that this is the County dispatch system.

Seeing no further comment, Committeewoman Popko made a motion to close to the public; seconded by Committeeman Moynihan.

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AYE: Committeeman Carson, Committeeman Moynihan, Committeewoman Popko, Mayor Benowitz

NAY: None

ABSENT: Deputy Mayor Cann

At this time, Committeeman Carson made a motion to adopt the consent agenda; seconded by Committeeman Moynihan.

AYE: Committeeman Carson, Committeeman Moynihan, Committeewoman Popko, Mayor Benowitz

NAY: None

ABSENT: Deputy Mayor Cann

Public Hearing on Ordinance #2014-1 entitled ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BORDENTOWN APPROVING REDEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR BLOCK 120, LOTS 1-14; BLOCK 121, LOTS 1-5; BLOCK 122, LOTS 1-10; BLOCK 127, LOTS 2-3; AND BLOCK 128.01, LOTS 1-12, 14-16, 29-32.02 AND 35-38.

At this time, Committeewoman Popko made a motion to open the public hearing on Ordinance #2014-1; seconded by Committeeman Moynihan.

AYE: Committeeman Carson, Committeeman Moynihan, Committeewoman Popko, Mayor Benowitz

NAY: None

ABSENT: Deputy Mayor Cann

LEN de GROOT, 8 Arlington Road: Mr. de Groot asked what this ordinance was for. Attorney Kearns responded this ordinance will give the Township the tools available to proceed with developer negotiations, etc.

WALT KOSUL, 539 Route 206: Mr. Kosul asked if the Planning Board reviewed this. Mayor Benowitz responded they have.

Seeing no further public comment, Committeewoman Popko made a motion to close the public hearing on Ordinance #2014-1; seconded by Committeeman Moynihan.

AYE: Committeeman Carson, Committeeman Moynihan, Committeewoman Popko, Mayor Benowitz

NAY: None

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ABSENT: Deputy Mayor Cann

Consideration of Adoption of Ordinance #2014-1 entitled ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BORDENTOWN APPROVING REDEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR BLOCK 120, LOTS 1-14; BLOCK 121, LOTS 1-5; BLOCK 122, LOTS 1-10; BLOCK 127, LOTS 2-3; AND BLOCK 128.01, LOTS 1-12, 14-16, 29-32.02 AND 35-38.

At this time, Committeewoman Popko made a motion to adopt Ordinance #2014-1; seconded by Committeeman Moynihan.

AYE: Committeeman Carson, Committeeman Moynihan, Committeewoman Popko, Mayor Benowitz

NAY: None

ABSENT: Deputy Mayor Cann

Public Hearing on Ordinance #2014-5 entitled AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BORDENTOWN PROVIDING FOR A SYSTEM OF HOUSE AND BUILDING NUMBERING FOR ALL STRUCTURES AND REQUIRING THE PLACEMENT OF THE NUMBERS ON EACH STRUCTURE IN ORDER TO PROVIDE FOR PUBLIC SAFETY.

At this time, Committeewoman Popko made a motion to open the public hearing on Ordinance #2014-5; seconded by Committeeman Moynihan.

AYE: Committeeman Carson, Committeeman Moynihan, Committeewoman Popko, Mayor Benowitz

NAY: None

ABSENT: Deputy Mayor Cann

SID MORGINSTIN, 849 East Drive: Mr. Morginstin asked if the house numbering on East Drive will be rectified. Attorney Kearns responded that this doesn't happen with the ordinance. Police Chief Nucera said he hasn't been made aware of any issues at this location.

Seeing no further public comment, Committeeman Moynihan made a motion to close the public hearing on Ordinance #2014-5; seconded by Committeewoman Popko.

AYE: Committeeman Carson, Committeeman Moynihan, Committeewoman Popko, Mayor Benowitz

NAY: None

ABSENT: Deputy Mayor Cann

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COMMITTEEMAN CARSON: Committeeman Carson stated that notification has to be made to the residents to display Arabic style house numbers. Notification will be made through the Township website and in the tax bills.

Consideration of Adoption of Ordinance #2014-5 entitled AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BORDENTOWN PROVIDING FOR A SYSTEM OF HOUSE AND BUILDING NUMBERING FOR ALL STRUCTURES AND REQUIRING THE PLACEMENT OF THE NUMBERS ON EACH STRUCTURE IN ORDER TO PROVIDE FOR PUBLIC SAFETY.

At this time, Committeewoman Popko made a motion to adopt Ordinance #2014-5; seconded by Committeeman Moynihan.

AYE: Committeeman Carson, Committeeman Moynihan, Committeewoman Popko, Mayor Benowitz

NAY: None

ABSENT: Deputy Mayor Cann

Public Hearing on Ordinance #2014-6 entitled AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BORDENTOWN, IN THE COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, NEW JERSEY, PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS AND RELATED EXPENSES IN AND FOR THE TOWNSHIP, APPROPRIATING \$2,088,181 THEREFOR, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$1,516,000 IN GENERAL IMPROVEMENT BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP TO FINANCE THE SAME.

At this time, Committeeman Carson made a motion to open the public hearing on Ordinance #2014-6; seconded by Committeeman Moynihan.

AYE: Committeeman Carson, Committeeman Moynihan, Committeewoman Popko, Mayor Benowitz

NAY: None

ABSENT: Deputy Mayor Cann

SID MORGINSTIN, 849 East Drive: Mr. Morginstin asked that as part of the Environmental Commission's Green Team, markings be placed on the streets when resurfaced.

Seeing no further public comment, Committeeman Moynihan made a motion to close the public hearing on Ordinance #2014-6; seconded by Committeewoman Popko.

AYE: Committeeman Carson, Committeeman Moynihan, Committeewoman Popko, Mayor Benowitz

NAY: None

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ABSENT: Deputy Mayor Cann

Consideration of Adoption of Ordinance #2014-6 entitled AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BORDENTOWN, IN THE COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, NEW JERSEY, PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS AND RELATED EXPENSES IN AND FOR THE TOWNSHIP, APPROPRIATING \$2,088,181 THEREFOR, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$1,516,000 IN GENERAL IMPROVEMENT BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP TO FINANCE THE SAME.

COMMITTEEMAN MOYNIHAN: Committeeman Moynihan read into the record a statement saying that he was not in favor of this ordinance at this time. He thinks that it should be discussed as part of the 2014 budget process and the ordinance considered after adoption.

COMMITTEEMAN CARSON: Committeeman Carson said he had the same concerns not knowing what the 2014 budget will be.

CFO KOCIAN: CFO Kocian stated that part of the funding is through the FEMA Grants, and funds cannot be certified until the ordinance is adopted. Township Clerk Eckert stated that the contract was awarded at the last meeting. She added that a bond ordinance requires 4 affirmative votes and that the ordinance will not take effect until after the 20-day estoppel period.

At this time, Committeewoman Popko made a motion to table Ordinance #2014-6 to be listed for adoption only at the February 24, 2014 Township Committee Meeting when the Committee has more information. The Public Hearing is complete; seconded by Committeeman Moynihan.

AYE: Committeeman Carson, Committeeman Moynihan, Committeewoman Popko

NAY: Mayor Benowitz

ABSENT: Deputy Mayor Cann

Township Committee discussion with Andy Law, Emergency Management Coordinator, regarding the "Code Red" Update.

Andy Law explained that the County has adopted a Code Red Communications Global Contact to its residents. The Township is now activated and is connected to receive emergency notifications and instructions. Landlines are currently on the system, cell phones are not yet. Residents can now connect to the Code Red website and sign up their cell phone numbers. He submitted to the Township Committee a letter of notification that could be sent to the residents to post to the Township's website. The School District already has a system, and Fieldsboro and Bordentown City do not have this program at this time.

POLICE CHIEF NUCERA: Police Chief Nucera and CFO Kocian continued with discussion regarding appropriation and FEMA monies for roads.

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TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS

COMMITTEEMAN CARSON: Committeeman Carson said he met with school officials. The search for a new Superintendent has started, and he/she will begin July 1, 2014. The District is in the process of re-doing all the Board policies.

Committeeman Carson discussed receiving the entire agenda via e-mail. Township Clerk Eckert and Police Chief Nucera explained that a new server is in the capital budget this year so Administration can send out large documents electronically.

He commented/asked about the Township's website and Facebook page. He also said that when he connected to the link to the Waterfront Project, it asked for too much personal information.

Committeeman Carson inquired about what would be discussed at the February 15, 2014 budget meeting.

COMMITTEEMAN MOYNIHAN: Committeeman Moynihan said the Veteran's Advisory Committee met on February 4, 2014. There was no quorum, but a Welcome Home Program for Vietnam Vets was discussed.

The Sewer Authority has not had a meeting since the last Township Committee Meeting.

The Police Department is currently interviewing a former Trenton Police Officer. One of the Canine Durango trucks blew an engine and the Chrysler Corporation will replace it for \$2,300.

COMMITTEEWOMAN POPKO: Committeewoman Popko said the Public Works Department has been busy with snow removal and salting. Police Chief Nucera said it is difficult in this weather to patch the potholes. Salt supplies are running low, but the Township is in good shape right now. The snow removal budget for January was discussed.

Committeewoman Popko is currently working on a Grant for Public Works for new recycling garbage cans for all the parks.

The Senior Citizens have not had a meeting since the last Township Committee Meeting.

She said she missed the Environmental Commission Meeting, but presented information on what was discussed. Resident and Environmental Commission Member, Sid Morginstin, discussed the presentation on Complete Streets. The Green Day and Health Fair will be held on at Joseph Lawrence Park on April 26, 2014. Other upcoming events were discussed.

Committeewoman Popko said that residents should be made aware that there are scams on computers asking for ransom. The Police Department is currently assisting one resident.

MAYOR BENOWITZ: Mayor Benowitz said there was a Special Planning Board Meeting on February 5, 2014. PSE&G was granted preliminary and final major site plan approvals with conditions to construct a solar field on the Parklands Landfill property.

He said he attended the two Fire District meetings on February 6, 2014. There is an election for officers and operating budget scheduled for February 15, 2014. A title search for building ownership is being performed on District #2 Derby Firehouse; this must be completed before construction on sleeping quarters can continue. He gave a summary of other items discussed. Mission Firehouse said their operating budget has only increased one cent.

He said he met with Volunteers of America; this group has sources of funding outside New Jersey. They are scheduled to make a presentation at the next Township Committee Meeting about developing COAH housing in the Township.

He attended the Waterfront Committee Meeting and development is progressing.

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Mayor Benowitz attended the Bordentown Regional High School Athletic Hall of Fame dinner.

There are several events scheduled: a Black History Program held at the Senior Community Center on February 22, 2014, an Easter Egg Hunt will be held on April 19, 2014, the Health and Wellness Fair will be April 26, 2014, Community Day is September 20, 2014, the Veteran's Day Ceremony is tentatively scheduled for November 1, 2014, and the Tree Lighting is scheduled for December 1, 2014.

He attended a meeting on January 30, 2014 on the proposed Bristol Township Incinerator. The meeting was closed to the public. It is an item to be discussed in Closed Session.

The IDI-Rock Warehouse Project is progressing.

The first budget meeting is Saturday, February 15, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. The final budget meeting is scheduled for March 1, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. The budget should be introduced at the March 10, 2014 Township Committee Meeting.

COMMITTEEMAN CARSON: Committeeman Carson said a resident had inquired if there is preferential treatment for snow removal for the home for handicapped individuals with medical needs on Independence Drive. Mayor Benowitz responded that he did not know.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: At this time, Committeeman Moynihan made a motion to open the meeting for public participation; seconded by Committeeman Carson.

AYE: Committeeman Carson, Committeeman Moynihan, Committeewoman Popko, Mayor Benowitz

NAY: None

ABSENT: Deputy Mayor Cann

CAROL de GROOT, 8 Arlington Road: Ms. de Groot stated that there are two Facebook pages for Bordentown Township. The Facebook pages were discussed, and it was suggested one page should state "Official Page of the Township". Committeewoman Popko stated that Kim Wolverton, Public Works employee, has been responding on her own time to Public Works questions from residents on Facebook and should be rewarded for her time.

Ms. de Groot also asked about the (proposed) full-time Administrator position. Mayor Benowitz said he was waiting until the budget was firmed-up and it is a priority of his.

She commented on the disarray of files in the old Administrator's office, and offered the township white file boxes. It was also suggested that file cabinets be purchased. Police Chief Nucera responded that these files will eventually go into permanent filing in the basement.

SID MORGINSTIN, 849 East Drive: Mr. Morginstin inquired about the Fire Districts election on February 15, 2014. He said he did not see it advertised.

LEN de GROOT, 8 Arlington Road: Mr. de Groot cited statements from the Open Public Meetings Law, and inquired about the release of the Closed Session Minutes. Attorney Kearns said he would meet with Township Clerk Eckert regarding his concern.

Mr. de Groot said the Public Works Department is doing a very good job plowing in the Township, and it is impossible not to block the driveway aprons.

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WALT KOSUL, 539 Route 206: Mr. Kosul asked what the format is for Saturday's budget meeting. Police Chief Nucera responded that budget worksheets will be reviewed by the Township Committee and department heads will be available for questions. Attorney Kearns said the budget worksheets are not a public document. Township Clerk said there will be public participation for Mr. Kosul to ask his questions.

Seeing no further comments, Committeeman Carson made a motion to close the public portion of the meeting; seconded by Committeeman Moynihan.

AYE: Committeeman Carson, Committeeman Moynihan, Committeewoman Popko, Mayor Benowitz

NAY: None

ABSENT: Deputy Mayor Cann

At this time, Committeeman Carson made the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Bordentown that it does hereby recess this Regular Meeting to meet in Closed Session for the purpose of discussing the Professional Shared Services Contract Matter (Bristol Incinerator) and K. Johnson Redevelopment Contract Matter (PILOT Agreement); seconded by Committeeman Moynihan.

AYE: Committeeman Carson, Committeeman Moynihan, Committeewoman Popko, Mayor Benowitz

NAY: None

ABSENT: Deputy Mayor Cann

The Township Committee of the Township of Bordentown recessed their regular meeting at approximately 9:16 pm and reconvened the regular meeting at 9:55 pm.

At this time, Committeewoman Popko made the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Bordentown that it does hereby adjourn the regular meeting; seconded by Committeeman Moynihan

AYE: Committeeman Carson, Committeeman Moynihan, Committeewoman Popko, Mayor Benowitz

NAY: None

ABSENT: Deputy Mayor Cann

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The regular meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Bordentown was adjourned at approximately 9:56 p.m.

STEPHEN BENOWITZ, MAYOR

COLLEEN M. ECKERT, TOWNSHIP CLERK