

EASTAMPTON TOWNSHIP COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES
March 14, 2011
7:30 p.m.

Mayor Campbell called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Everyone participated in the flag salute.

Mayor Campbell asked for a moment of silence for the people affected by the tsunami that occurred in Japan.

Mayor Campbell certified that notice of this meeting was published in the Burlington County Times on January 7, 2011. Notice was posted on the Municipal Bulletin Board and sent to the Courier Post for information. All requirements of the "Open Public Meetings Act" were satisfied.

Present were: Mayor Louise Campbell, Deputy Mayor Keith Nagler, Council Member Rovenna Overton, Council Member Jay Springer and Council Member Ricardo Rodriguez. Also present were: Township Attorney Eileen Fahey, Municipal Clerk Kim-Marie White and Township Manager Scott Carew.

PROCLAMATION: Youth Art Month

Mayor Campbell presented a proclamation to Felicia Collins for Youth Art Month.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

TOWNSHIP MANAGER'S REPORT:

Township Manager Carew said he is saddened to report that Township Engineer Nancy Jamanow has resigned from Environmental Resolutions, Inc. She will be working in Evesham Township as the Director of Community Development. A meeting has been set up with Chris Knoll from ERI to discuss the next step.

Township Manager Carew said after the meeting with Westampton regarding Court, it was decided Eastampton would increase the monthly payment to them beginning in April of 2011. He said a contract amendment would need to be approved.

Township Manager Carew said Nixle would be at the next council meeting to give a presentation on the product.

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution R2011-46

Resolution of the Township Council of the Township of Eastampton Certifying the Amount Necessary to be appropriated for the 2011 Budget of the Eastampton Fire District

The Township Council and Chief Eugene Oberfrank, Secretary Mark Searfoss, and Treasurer John Robertshaw from the Board of Fire Commission discussed the possible cuts from the fire district budget.

They stated the following cuts would be made:

	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
Contingency Reduction	\$2,500.00	\$2,000.00
Solicitor	\$12,000.00	\$11,000.00
Advertising	\$2,300.00	\$2,000.00
Other Expenses	\$3,000.00	\$2,500.00
Expendables	\$4,100.00	\$3,600.00
Capital Budget	<u>\$59,000.00</u>	<u>\$55,500.00</u>
	\$82,900.00	\$76,600.00

The total decrease in fire budget is \$6,300.00 and the amount to be raised in the District by Taxation is \$303,750.00.

Mayor Campbell opened the public hearing, there being no comments she closed the public hearing.

It was MOVED by NAGLER and seconded by SPRINGER to approve Resolution 2011-46.

ROLL CALL: Ayes - Nagler, Overton, Rodriguez, Springer, Campbell
Nays - None

There being five (5) ayes and no nays, Resolution 2011-46 was adopted.

Resolution R2011-47 Introduction of 2011 Municipal Budget

Mayor Campbell said she was concerned over the gas prices. Chief Financial Officer Mingin stated they would do an amendment to the budget to increase the fuel line item.

It was MOVED by NAGLER and seconded by OVERTON to approve Resolution 2011-47.

ROLL CALL: Ayes - Nagler, Overton, Rodriguez, Springer, Campbell
Nays - None

There being five (5) ayes and no nays, Resolution 2011-47 was adopted.

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Resolution R2011-48

Resolution in Opposition to S-2664 A-3766 - "Market Competition and Consumer Choice Act"

Mayor Campbell said if this is approved it would remove benefits from municipalities such as: "the bill unduly restricts the obligation of a cable company to provide cable and internet connections to municipal and school buildings at no charge to a municipality; the bill does not require the cable companies to provide a return feed to allow cable-casting of live municipal events; the bill does not require cable companies to meet or surpass any existing line extension policy or to meet any applicable consumer protection requirements, all of which are required by the current law. Further, the Assembly bill as amended does not correct the following problems with the bill: The verification process set forth in Section 2 for determining whether a company is operating in a "competitive franchise area" is inadequate. (The cable company need only certify to the Secretary of State that there are at least two multi-channel video programming distributors offering programming in the area; this removes oversight from the BPU and provides no authority for the Secretary of State to verify the information provided by the cable company.) The process set forth in Section 4 for renewal of a system-wide franchise must be corrected to require that the renewal be under the same terms and conditions as the original franchise. It also must preserve authority for the BPU to establish rules governing the renewal when the company seeking renewal is in a competitive franchise area. The process set forth in Section 6 for conversion of a municipal consent-based franchise to a system-wide franchise must be corrected to automatically require the cable company to pay the 4% franchise fee. Under Section 6, the right of a municipality operating under a municipal-consent based franchise to petition the BPU for a higher franchise fee must be retained".

It was MOVED by SPRINGER and seconded by RODRIGUEZ to approve Resolution 2011-48.

ROLL CALL: Ayes - Nagler, Overton, Rodriguez, Springer, Campbell
Nays - None

There being five (5) ayes and no nays, Resolution 2011-48 was adopted.

ACCEPTANCE OF REPORTS:

- Construction
- Court
- Police
- Public Works
- Tax Assessor
- Tax Collector
- Township Clerk

It was MOVED by NAGLER and seconded by OVERTON to approve the Construction Office, Court, Police, Public Works, Tax Assessor, Tax Collector, and Township Clerk reports.

ROLL CALL: Ayes - Nagler, Overton, Rodriguez, Springer, Campbell

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Nays - None

There being five (5) ayes and no nays, the monthly reports for Construction Office, Court, Police, Public Works, Tax Assessor, Tax Collector, and Township Clerk were approved.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Kenneth Hofbauer – 3 year term expiring 12/31/2013

Mayor Campbell stated that Township Clerk White received a letter from the County indicating that Mr. Hofbauer should have been given a three year term. Mayor Campbell stated his term will now expire on December 31, 2013. He would need to complete the necessary courses.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Shared Service Update

Township Manager Carew said that Southampton Township would be discussing in closed session a possible shared service for trash pick-up.

- Codification

Township Attorney Fahey said General Code sent a letter indicating that they are moving forward with the codification and would include the recently adopted ordinances by Township Council.

Deputy Mayor Nagler said there are some last minute details for Volunteer Appreciation Night that he is working on.

STAFF AND PROFESSIONAL COMMENTS:

Township Manager Carew said thanks to the staff for watching what they are spending in the budget. He also said that Rich Parks has made a great effort to provide him with all the information he would need if trash were to be brought in house.

Mayor Campbell congratulated the Rancocas Valley cheerleaders on their championship win.

Mayor Campbell thanked the fire commissioners for working with the Township Council on the defeated fire budget.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

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Mayor Campbell said the next meeting will be Monday, March 28 at 7:30 p.m.

It was MOVED by SPRINGER and seconded by OVERTON to adjourn meeting at 9:10 P.M.

ROLL CALL: Ayes - Nagler, Overton, Rodriguez, Springer, Campbell

Nays - None

Kim-Marie White

Kim-Marie White

Municipal Clerk

Louise Campbell

Louise Campbell

Mayor

Approved: April 11, 2011