

EASTAMPTON TOWNSHIP COUNCIL

REGULAR SESSION MINUTES

Monday, August 18, 2014

7:00 pm Executive Session

7:30 pm regular session

Mayor Rodriguez called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Everyone participated in the flag salute.

Mayor Rodriguez certified that notice of this meeting was published in the Burlington County Times on January 12, 2014. 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 Ricardo Rodriguez, Deputy Mayor Anthony Zeno, Council Member Robert Apgar, Council Member Rovenna Overton, and Council Member Jay Springer. Also present were Township Attorney Eileen Fahey, Municipal Clerk Kim-Marie White, and Township Manager Tom Czerniecki.

Executive Session

Resolution R2014-76

Authorizing Executive Session (Matters Relating to the Employment Relationship Regarding the Township Manager Search; Matters Related to Litigation, Negotiation & Attorney Client Privilege in Reference to the Redevelopers Agreement with Fieldstone Associates, L.P.)

It was MOVED by OVERTON and seconded by SPRINGER to approve Resolution R2014-76.

ROLL CALL: Ayes - Apgar, Overton, Springer, Zeno, Rodriguez
Nays - None

There being five (5) ayes and no nays, the Resolution was approved.

Township Council proceeded into closed session at 7:02 p.m. and came out at 7:28 p.m. and took action on the following item.

It was MOVED by APGAR and seconded by ZENO to accept the resignation letter from Township Manager Tom Czerniecki.

ROLL CALL: Ayes - Apgar, Overton, Springer, Zeno, Rodriguez
Nays - None

There being five (5) ayes and no nays, the motion was approved.

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION:

- Summer Park Camp Staff

Mayor Rodriguez, Township Council and Township Manager Czerniecki recognized the Summer Park Camp Staff by giving each one a certificate of appreciation.

It was MOVED by SPRINGER and seconded by OVERTON to take a five-minute recess.

VOICE VOTE: Ayes - Apgar, Overton, Springer, Zeno, Rodriguez
Nays - None

August 18, 2014

Page 2

Motion carried.

(Estimated start time will be 7:30 pm)

PUBLIC COMMENT:

John Geary, 6 Knotty Oak Drive said that the timer for the traffic light at Student Drive needs to be readjusted because it is taking too long to change.

Mayor Rodriguez said he timed it and it takes approximately 45 seconds long to change when other lights take about 20 seconds.

John Geary also said that drivers are speeding down Student Drive at all hours and with school starting he is concerned about the children.

Township Manager Tom Czerniecki said he would speak with the Burlington County Engineer regarding the traffic light at Student Drive and the Chief of Police about the drivers speeding down Student Drive.

Joe Passalacqua, 10 Kensington Drive, said the taxes are too high, home values are too low. He doesn't want less services, he wants more cops and more shared services. He does not want luxury apartments in town. He wants Council to understand that he is just expressing his feelings. He loves the community and loves living here but he does not like his taxes.

Township Manager Czerniecki said he would be more than happy to sit down with him and go over the recent revaluation the township conducted and the proposed redevelopment plans.

Mayor Rodriguez said all of his concerns are valid and he appreciates him coming to a meeting to express his feelings.

MINUTES:

- July 21, 2014
- July 21, 2014 Closed Session

Councilman Apgar said on one of the votes it states that four members adjourned the meeting and it should say five members adjourned the meeting since they all were present.

It was MOVED by OVERTON and seconded by APGAR to approve the minutes with the changes.

ROLL CALL: Ayes - Apgar, Overton, Springer, Zeno, Rodriguez
Nays - None

There being five (5) ayes and no nays, the minutes were approved with the changes.

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution R2014-77 Declaration of Compliance with Regulations of Local Finance Board

It was MOVED by SPRINGER and seconded by ZENO to approve Resolution R2014-77.

ROLL CALL: Ayes - Apgar, Overton, Springer, Zeno, Rodriguez
Nays - None

There being five (5) ayes and no nays, the Resolution was approved.

Resolution R2014-78 Approval of Corrective Action Plan for 2013 Annual Audit

Township Manager Czerniecki said the new auditors were amazing and did such a thorough job and he commends Council for appointing them. There were only two audit comments, which are minor.

It was MOVED by ZENO and seconded by APGAR to approve Resolution R2014-78.

ROLL CALL: Ayes - Apgar, Overton, Springer, Zeno, Rodriguez
Nays - None

There being five (5) ayes and no nays, the Resolution was approved.

CONSENT AGENDA: *The items listed below are considered routine by the Township of Eastampton and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no formal discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, this item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.*

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution R2014-75 Declare Block 1500, Lot 2.01 as Tax Exempt and to Cancel Taxes due from June 13, 2014 (Disabled Vet)

Resolution R2014-79 A Resolution Requesting Permission for the Dedication by Rider for School Driveway Trust Fund Required By N.J.S.A. 40A:4-39

Resolution R2014-80 Approval of Items of Revenue and Appropriation N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 (Chapter 159-Police Donation)

Resolution R2014-81 Approval of Shared Service Agreement with Eastampton Board of Education for a School Resource Officer

Resolution R2014-82 Approval of Fireworks Display by First Baptist Church of Mount Holly on August 23, 2014

Resolution R2014-83 Authorize Public Auction of Abandoned Vehicles

Resolution R2014-84 Approval to Adopt Hazard Mitigation Plan

Resolution R2014-85 Authorize Engineering Services for Nottingham Way

Resolution R2014-86 Approval of Temporary Street Closure for Block Party (Christopher Lane)

August 18, 2014

Page 4

Resolution R2014-88 Authorize Amendment (Number 9) to Green Acres Project Agreement

It was MOVED by OVERTON and seconded by ZENO to approve Resolution R2014-75, Resolution R2014-79 to Resolution R2014-86 and Resolution R2014-88.

ROLL CALL: Ayes - Apgar, Overton, Springer, Zeno, Rodriguez
Nays - None

There being five (5) ayes and no nays, the Resolutions were approved.

ACCEPTANCE OF REPORTS:

- Clerk
- Construction
- Public Works
- Tax Assessor (June and July)
- Tax Collector

It was MOVED by APGAR and seconded by SPRINGER to approve the reports.

ROLL CALL: Ayes - Apgar, Overton, Springer, Zeno, Rodriguez
Nays - None

There being five (5) ayes and no nays, the reports were approved.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

It was MOVED by ZENO and seconded by SPRINGER to approve the bills.

ROLL CALL: Ayes - Apgar, Overton, Springer, Zeno, Rodriguez
Nays - None

There being five (5) ayes and no nays, the bills were approved.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

Township Manager Czerniecki said he asked Township Clerk White to track for a future agenda that he has received some complaints urging Council to do an ordinance when branches are allowed to be placed at the curb.

Township Manager Czerniecki said it is advertised for the first full week of each month, but seems like residents are just placing them out there and they are sitting until the next collection.

NEW BUSINESS:

- New Jersey League of Municipalities – November 18-20th

Deputy Mayor Zeno wants to know if the Township is paying the registration fee for them to attend the League of Municipalities.

August 18, 2014

Page 5

Mayor Rodriguez said he encourages them to attend because there is a lot to learn, it's not policy they go.

Township Manager Czerniecki said the Township would pay for the registration fee because they are the least expensive Council he has ever worked with. He encourages them to attend as many seminars as they can. He said they should be refunded for mileage and parking fees as well.

OLD BUSINESS: None

STAFF AND PROFESSIONAL COMMENTS:

Everyone wished Tom good luck and expressed that they enjoyed working with him and learned a lot.

Deputy Mayor Zeno reminded everyone about the blood drive at Fun Day on September 20th.

Councilwoman Overton reminded everyone about the community Fun Day on September 20th.

Mayor Rodriguez said he noticed skateboarders on the newly resurfaced tennis courts at Buttonwood Park. He asked if the tennis courts could be secured in anyway.

Township Manager Czerniecki said the surface could be monitored by Rich Parks because it's serving a purpose right now and there is no damage so far. Rich Parks is being trained on sealing cracks and repairing rips.

Deputy Mayor Zeno asked why there was a picnic table on the tennis courts.

Township Manager Czerniecki said he saw that and thought it was a great idea. It was not in the way of anything and residents were probably sitting there waiting their turn to play tennis.

Mayor Rodriguez said the picnic tables at the park could use some power washing, hopefully prior to fun day.

Councilman Apgar said the picnic tables at Cliver Park could be re-sanded.

Mayor Rodriguez wished Mr. Czerniecki good luck and nothing but the best.

Township Manager Czerniecki said the staff at the Manor House and Police Department are terrific and they have always been there for him. He said they would not have a hard time attracting a future Township Manager.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

Township Attorney Fahey said they need to proceed into closed session to discuss Matters Relating to the Employment Relationship Regarding the Acting Township Manager.

It was MOVED by OVERTON and seconded by SPRINGER to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:53 p.m. and proceed into closed session.

ROLL CALL : Ayes - Apgar, Overton, Springer, Zeno, Rodriguez
 Nays - None

August 18, 2014

Page 6

There being five (5) ayes and no nays, the motion was approved to go into closed session.

Resolution R2014-87 Appoint Acting Township Manager

It was MOVED by OVERTON and seconded by APGAR to approve Resolution R2014-87.

ROLL CALL: Ayes - Apgar, Overton, Springer, Zeno, Rodriguez
 Nays - None

There being five (5) ayes and no nays, the Resolution was approved.

It was MOVED by ZENO and seconded by APGAR to adjourn the meeting at 9:22 p.m.

VOICE VOTE: Ayes - Apgar, Overton, Springer, Zeno, Rodriguez
 Nays - None

There being five (5) ayes and no nays, the motion was approved.

Kim-Marie White

Ricardo Rodriguez

Kim-Marie White
Municipal Clerk

Ricardo Rodriguez
Mayor

Approved: October 14, 2014