

EASTAMPTON TOWNSHIP COUNCIL

REGULAR SESSION MINUTES

January 26, 2009

7:30 p.m.

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

Mayor Nagler certified that the meeting was noticed in the Annual Meeting Notice. Notice was published in the Burlington County Times, sent to the Courier Post, filed with the Municipal Clerk and posted in the Eastampton Township Municipal Building, all on January 10, 2009. All requirements of the "Open Public Meetings Act" were satisfied.

Everyone participated in the flag salute.

Present were: Mayor Keith Nagler, Deputy Mayor Jay Springer, Council Members Louise Campbell, Joseph Maroccia, and Walter Tafe. Also present were: Township Attorney Eileen Fahey, Municipal Clerk Kim-Marie White and Township Manager Scott Carew.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

SWEARING IN CEREMONY:

Municipal Clerk White swore in Lieutenant Ronald F. Coppola, Sergeant Joseph U. Iacovitti and Class II Special Officer Scott Hamlet.

TOWNSHIP MANAGER'S REPORT:

Township Manager Carew said Officer Markart's recovery and therapy are going well and he will be back on full duty on February 9, 2009.

Township Manager Carew created an outline for a five town construction department. He met with Henry Riccobene who oversees construction offices for DCA and he liked the outline. Donna Ryan from Westampton agrees with the plan and will be presenting the plan to her governing body. He gave a detailed report on how the five town construction office would operate. Eastampton has agreed to be the lead agency for the services.

Township Manager Carew said he met with Gregory Fehrenbach of GMA regarding the finance department. As soon as he receives the final report he would forward it to Council. Based on discussions he has had, he is convinced that they can fix the department this year and potentially save some money in the process.

Township Manager Carew said he received a letter from Girl Scout Troop 26106 asking about the Township's involvement with the recycling bank. He would like to investigate this and pursue this option. It would be a savings and residents would get rewards for recycling.

Mayor Nagler asked what the amount of the return would be. Manager Carew said he would look into that.

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Township Manager Carew said he met with Keane Tell and they are reviewing the telecommunications billing. They are a broker who, through power of volume, may be able to get a cheaper phone service. They did not think they could beat Comcast's internet pricing.

Township Manager Carew said he is meeting with Councilwoman Campbell, Donald Hartman and Marge O'Dell tomorrow to brainstorm on creating recreation programs for the senior citizens.

Township Manager Carew said he took Council's advice from the last meeting about running the septic management system through the Municipal Utilities Authority. Gina Berg met with Scott and told him that the Burlington County Health Department has no interest in running the project.

Township Engineer Nancy Jamanow said she has a letter from one of the attorneys in another town in which she works, stating that the septic system management plan falls on the County and is not the responsibility of the Townships. Nancy said she would forward the letter to Eileen in the morning.

Township Manager Carew said he can send a letter to other Burlington County municipalities and see how many towns they can recruit to demand the County has to take it over.

Township Manager Carew said he spoke with Township Planner Barbara Fegley today regarding COAH and he wants to share with Council that there is a list of things the State wants the Township to raise money to help fund low income housing in the township.

ORDINANCE – INTRODUCTION:

Ordinance 2009-01

An Ordinance to Amend Chapter A128 of the Township Code to Establish a Fee for Marriage and Civil Union Ceremonies and Amend Certain Other Municipal Fess

Township Clerk White asked that the food handler's permits be increased from \$35.00 to \$45.00. She also asked that the fees be increased for certified copies of marriage licenses, death certificates and birth certificates.

It was MOVED by CAMPBELL and seconded by SPRINGER to introduce Ordinance 2009-01 and set public hearing for March 23, 2009.

ROLL CALL: Ayes - Campbell, Springer, Tafe, Nagler

Abstain - Maroccia

Nays - None

There being four (4) ayes and one (1) abstention, Ordinance 2009-01 was approved on introduction.

Mayor Nagler said the publication date on the ordinance would be January 30, 2009.

Ordinance 2009-02

An Ordinance of the Township of Eastampton to Amend the Township Code at Section 103 – “Zoning” in Particular, the Provisions of Section 103-90 Addressing the Town Center District

Township Engineer Nancy Jamanow and Marc Cannuli explained the changes in the Ordinance that is before Council tonight.

It was MOVED by SPRINGER and seconded by MAROCCIA to introduce Ordinance 2009-01 and set public hearing for March 23, 2009.

ROLL CALL: Ayes - Campbell, Maroccia, Springer, Tafe, Nagler
Nays - None

There being five (5) ayes and no nays, Ordinance 2009-01 was approved on introduction.

Mayor Nagler said the publication date on the ordinance would be January 30, 2009.

It was MOVED by CAMPBELL and seconded by TAFE to send Ordinance 2009-01 to the Landuse Planning Board for review.

ROLL CALL: Ayes - Campbell, Maroccia, Springer, Tafe, Nagler
Nays - None

There being five (5) ayes and no nays, Ordinance 2009-01 will be sent to the Landuse Planning Board for review.

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution R2009-20

Appointment of Municipal Solicitor

It was MOVED by CAMPBELL and seconded by SPRINGER that Resolution R2009-20 be approved.

ROLL CALL: Ayes - Campbell, Springer, Nagler
Nays - Maroccia, Tafe

There being three (3) ayes and two (2) nays, Resolution R2009-20 was approved.

Resolution R2009-27

Award of Professional Services Contracts

It was MOVED by TAFE and seconded by MAROCCIA that Resolution R2009-27 be approved.

ROLL CALL: Ayes - Campbell, Maroccia, Springer, Tafe, Nagler
Nays - None

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There being five (5) ayes and no nays, Resolution R2009-27 was approved.

Resolution R2009-28 Issuance of Bond Anticipation Note in the Amount of Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00) with Respect to Acquisition of Land by the Township of Eastampton as Authorized by Bond Ordinance No. 2002-14

It was MOVED by TAFE and seconded by CAMPBELL that Resolution R2009-28 be approved.

ROLL CALL: Ayes - Campbell, Maroccia, Springer, Tafe, Nagler
Nays - None

There being five (5) ayes and no nays, Resolution R2009-28 was approved.

Resolution R2009-29 Requesting Funding from the Burlington County Bridge Commission

Mayor Nagler said there is money available from them so they can make application for the grants.

It was MOVED by CAMPBELL and seconded by SPRINGER that Resolution R2009-29 be approved.

Councilman Maroccia asked if it was just for grant money.

Township Attorney Fahey said that the bridge commission would inform the township where to secure grant funding.

Councilman Tafe said they have not even discussed what type of funding would be applied for or what the funding would be used for.

Mayor Nagler said they have a substantial amount of money for the municipalities to use. They are looking for a resolution so the Burlington County Bridge commission can proceed.

Councilman Tafe asked why the Bridge commission would be looking for a resolution from them if this was never discussed before.

Mayor Nagler said it would need to be done to show them that we are interested in grant funding.

Councilman Tafe asked where the five million dollars came from.

Mayor Nagler said that amount came from the estimated cost to build a new police station that was discussed in the past.

Councilman Tafe said they discussed the architectural plans to build a new police station not funding it. He said they do not know what they want to build and they are going to ask for five

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million dollars. He does not understand why no discussion for the police building has taken place and they are going to ask for that kind of money. He said they discussed architectural plans for a new police station/municipal building and public works building. He said the last time he remembered them discussing the plans they also discussed that when they were going to move forward, it would go to referendum to the residents.

Mayor Nagler said he would not put the burden of the cost of the tax payers if it was fully funded.

Councilman Tafe said they never voted on, or even came to an agreement indicating that a new police building is needed. He thinks it is haphazard to have a resolution tonight to vote on when a discussion never took place.

Mayor Nagler said they are discussing it right now and a grant opportunity came from the bridge commission.

Councilman Tafe asked Mayor Nagler how he heard about this grant opportunity.

Township Attorney Fahey said this resolution would be given to them so when the money is available they have a list of municipalities to work with.

Township Manager Carew said there are parameters on what is available and who would be eligible. He put a call into Gary Lavenia from the bridge commission and he has not heard back yet. He recommended tabling the resolution until he can speak with Gary and report back to Council.

Councilman Tafe said he would have liked to discuss the need for a new police building before they vote on a grant opportunity they might have. He asked why they have a resolution for five million dollars to vote on when they have not agreed on the type of building or construction.

Mayor Nagler said as of right now they do not have the funding needs and they need to look at all funding sources and they owe it to the taxpayers to look at everything that would not burden their pockets. The building is over 100 years old and is falling apart.

Deputy Mayor Springer said prior to him sitting on Council he remembers discussions taking place to go to the bridge commission for funding. There have been discussions on improving the police building, public works and a new municipal building. He thinks they should go to the bridge commission and at least make contact.

Councilman Tafe asked if the bridge commission approached them, who did they approach and when did they approach them.

Mayor Nagler said they approached him last week.

It was MOVED by CAMPBELL and seconded by SPRINGER to withdraw the previous motion on Resolution R2009-29.

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It was MOVED by TAFE and seconded by MAROCCIA to table Resolution R2009-29 until they receive more information.

ROLL CALL: Ayes - Campbell, Maroccia, Springer, Tafe, Nagler

Nays - None

There being five (5) ayes and no nays, Resolution R2009-29 was tabled to the February 9, 2009 Council meeting pending more information.

Resolution R2009-30 Closed Session

ACCEPTANCE OF REPORTS:

- Tax Collector/Treasurer
- Police
- Township Engineer

It was MOVED by TAFE and seconded by MAROCCIA to approve the reports for Tax Collector, Police and Township Engineer.

ROLL CALL: Ayes - Campbell, Maroccia, Springer, Tafe, Nagler

Nays - None

There being five (5) ayes and no nays, the monthly reports for Tax Collector, Police and Township Engineer were approved.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

It was MOVED by NAGLER and seconded by TAFE that the January 22, 2009 bill list be approved.

ROLL CALL: Ayes - Campbell, Maroccia, Springer, Tafe, Nagler

Nays - None

There being five (5) ayes and no nays, the bills were approved dated January 22, 2009.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Electronic Packets

Township Clerk White asked if the Council would like to have their packets emailed to them rather than being dropped off at their homes. This would save a lot of paper. The packets would be sent in a secure format so no changes could be made. She checked with the Burlington County Clerks Association and there are no requirements indicating you can't email packets.

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Township Attorney Fahey has checked with the New Jersey League of Municipalities and there is nothing saying it can't be done.

It was MOVED by MAROCCIA and seconded by SPRINGER to receive the packets by email.

ROLL CALL: Ayes - Campbell, Maroccia, Springer, Tafe, Nagler

Nays - None

There being five (5) ayes and no nays, the motion passed to start doing electronic packets.

- Potential Increase of Fees

Township Clerk White said this was discussed earlier in the meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Follow-up on Mr. Arbocus' letter regarding Zoning (has been referred to LUPB)

Mayor Nagler said this has been referred to the Land Use Planning Board for their February 18 meeting.

- COAH Trust Fund

Township Attorney Fahey said since the Township is eligible to keep any fees collected an Escrow Agreement needs to be adopted. Mayor Nagler asked that the materials be listed on the agenda for February 9, 2009.

- Volunteer Night March 25, 2009

Township Manager Carew said the school has been booked for that night. Materials have been sent out to the First Aid Squad, Fire and Police asking for their members of the year. He has picked his employee of the year.

Mayor Nagler said the cub scouts have asked the Council to judge the cake decorating contest, and they would serve the refreshments for the evening. Terry Yates, Donald Hartman and Richard Renzulli would be receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award.

- Monmouth Road Truck Ban Ordinance

Township Manager Carew said that Mount Holly has reached out to him regarding the Monmouth Road Truck Ban Ordinance since we have new Council Members. They would like Council to revisit the truck ban ordinance. Recently the decision has been not to adopt the ordinance. If they adopt an ordinance then the truck traffic would be on Woodlane Road. He is recommending not adopting an ordinance.

It was MOVED by CAMPBELL and seconded by SPRINGER to reject the adoption of an ordinance restricting truck traffic on Monmouth Road.

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ROLL CALL: Ayes - Campbell, Maroccia, Springer, Tafe, Nagler
Nays - None

There being five (5) ayes and no nays, the motion passed to reject the ordinance.

COMMENTS: None

Closed Session: Resolution R2009-30 Matters Relating to the Purchase, Lease or
Acquisition of Real Property or the
Investment of Public Funds with respect to
Village Center Property

It was MOVED by CAMPBELL and seconded by MAROCCIA that Resolution R2009-30 be approved.

ROLL CALL: Ayes - Campbell, Maroccia, Springer, Tafe, Nagler
Nays - None

There being five (5) ayes and no nays, Resolution R2009-30 was approved.

It was MOVED by SPRINGER and seconded by TAFE to come out of closed session and back into open session.

ROLL CALL: Ayes - Campbell, Maroccia, Springer, Tafe, Nagler
Nays - None

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

It was MOVED by CAMPBELL and seconded by MAROCCIA to direct Township Manager Carew and the Township Engineer to proceed with the investigation of subdividing Block 600, Lot 2.07 be approved.

ROLL CALL: Ayes - Campbell, Maroccia, Springer, Tafe, Nagler
Nays - None

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

It was MOVED by SPRINGER and seconded by MAROCCIA to adjourn the open session meeting at 10:35 P.M.

ROLL CALL: Ayes - Campbell, Maroccia, Springer, Tafe, Nagler
Nays - None

There being five (5) ayes and no nays, the motion passed to adjourn the meeting.

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Kim-Marie White
Kim-Marie White
Municipal Clerk

Keith Nagler
Keith Nagler
Mayor

Approved: March 23, 2009