

**EASTAMPTON TOWNSHIP COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES
July 10, 2006, 7:30 p.m.**

Call to Order

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

Pledge to the Flag

Everyone participated.

Opening Statement

Notice of this meeting was published in the Burlington County Times on January 6, 2006. Notice was posted on the Municipal Bulletin Board and sent to the Courier Post for information.

Roll Call

Present: Mr. Renzulli, Mr. Nagler, Mr. Hartman, Ms. Russomanno and Mr. Paneque.

Also Present: Scott Carew, Manager, Linda Peryer, Clerk and Eileen Fahey, Solicitor

Township Manager's Report

The Resolution regarding Sharbell's Developer Agreement will not be able to be passed this evening because Sharbell could not address all of the issues in Nancy Jamanow's letter. Namely, the exact level of work that needed to be done on Student Drive and also the changes that were made by the Township with respect to the recreation building that was to go in Buttonwood Park. Jim Kyle was to get a letter to Manager Carew by this evening, however, this letter has not yet been received. Hopefully in August all of that will be prepared and someone from Sharbell will be at that meeting to go over different issues that may need to be addressed.

There was a minor problem with the summer camp where there was rain on the week of fourth of July. Had it ever happened before, the Township would have been aware that the school was closed that week. The Recreation Commission was never advised that the school would be closed for that week and it caused a lot of confusion. Ms. Howell and Terry Montgomery are working on a plan to avoid this problem in the future. The emergency squad building was able to be used for that particular situation.

Dave Latini from ERI will be going out this week to get quotes for the crosswalk on Woodlane Road by Peppes. There is still one outstanding issue with the County relative to the curb on Peppes side of the road. The Township is waiting to see how much curb the County is expecting the Township to install. The Township should have quotes in by Wednesday or Thursday.

Unfortunately, there is not great news from the State with regard to the \$800,000 that the Township was supposed to have received from Green Acres by last week; it did not happen due to the shutdown of the State. There is additional funding possible for \$300,000. The bad news is that the money may run out before they have fulfilled all of their commitments.

Green Acres will probably not go out for referendum for more money until the Fall of 2007.

Councilman Nagler asked if the summer program could utilize the front page of the website for inclimate weather information. Manager Carew thanked Councilman Nagler for that suggestion and thinks it is a wonderful idea.

Councilman Nagler asked for an additional prompt on the phone system as well for that information. Manager Carew stated that there was absolutely a way to do that and Mary can even do it from her home. Manager Carew stated that both angles will be visited.

Public Comments

Mayor Hartman opened to the public at 7:41 p.m.

Peter Ulyette, 19 Chelsea Road. Peter asked for clarification on the EMS building.

It was clarified that the Township is the Guarantor on the EMS building. Ordinance 2006-06 is to be used for acquisition of the EMS building as well as other capital items and cannot be paid off early.

Mr. Ulyette stated that the fire department is going to have a referendum to ask the taxpayers to buy that building again.

It was explained that the Township gave \$15,000 towards operating expenses and \$17,000 for the mortgage annually. At the beginning of 2006 the Township only paid 1/4 of the yearly donation.

Mr. Ulyette asked why the Township would buy the building a few short months before a referendum. Councilman Nagler stated that it takes approximately 18 months for a referendum to be finalized. Councilman Renzulli further stated that the money received from the fire department will be set aside and be used to pay down the bond. The Township can get a lower interest rate than the fire department, hence saving the taxpayers money.

Mr. Ulyette thanked Council.

Richard Hibbard, 29 Northumberland. Mr. Hibbard researched the emergency squad calls and reported that Eastampton's squad only responded to approximately 28% of the calls. Mr. Hibbard stated that he believes that the money should be given to Mount Holly and donate the equipment as well since they cover the majority of the Township calls anyway. Mayor Hartman suggested that he go to the next fire department meeting to let them know his thoughts.

John Geary, 6 Knotty Oak Drive. Wanted to ask that he be included in the evaluation of the road for the school project so that he can show them where the sewer lines are. Mr. Carew will talk to the engineer tomorrow to make sure that they are aware of where the lines are. Councilman Renzulli stated that the location should be on the plans.

Mr. Geary asked if Council was going to find out why the Township is losing 50% of the fire department. Councilman Nagler stated that a lot of them live in different Townships and are therefore volunteering in those communities. Manager Carew believes that it is a case of consolidation. Fire Company 341 and 342 were discussed.

Richard Hibbard stated his concerns on the taxes that the tax payers vote down the school

budget and the fire budget and the Township passes it. The process was explained.

Councilman Nagler explained the difference between Fire Departments and the Fire District Commissioners.

Mr. Geary doesn't understand why the Township doesn't look into the issues of the Fire Department. It was explained that the Township does not govern the Fire Department or the School they are separate taxing authorities.

Mr. Hibbard asked if any police officers are EMTs. Councilman Nagler stated that he believes that there are three or four of them that are.

Councilman Nagler believes that the merger will provide a sense of community.

Mr. Hibbard stated that he thinks that there needs to be checkpoints. Council agreed.

Mr. Ulyette stated he heard that Mount Holly said that they would service Eastampton free of charge. Councilman Renzulli stated that was true that they would service Eastampton, however, it was at a cost of \$200.00 per call.

Councilman Renzulli understands that there are three public bodies for the public to understand and it is frustrating.

Mr. Ulyette stated that Councilman Renzulli's comment that selling the building and putting it in a kitty to pay down the bond makes sense. However, at the last meeting it was stated that the money would go for tax relief.

Mr. Hibbard asked why there was the Mount Holly-Vincentown Kiwanis Resolution for the raffle. He was advised that when a raffle takes place in the Township it needs to be approved by the Township.

Mayor Hartman closed to the public at 8:12 p.m.

Acceptance of Current Year Minutes

Motion by Councilwoman Russomanno, seconded by Councilman Nagler to accept the following Minutes:

- May 13, 2006 Environmental Commission

All voted in the affirmative.

Approval of Current Year Minutes

Motion by Councilman Nagler, seconded by Councilman Paneque to approve the following Minutes:

- June 12, 2006 Regular Session
- June 12, 2006 Closed Session

All voted in the affirmative with Councilman Renzulli abstaining.

Resolutions (Consent)

Mayor Hartman read the titles of the Resolutions to be considered for adoption and Manager Carew briefly explained each Resolution.

Motion by Councilman Renzulli, seconded by Councilman Nagler to adopt the following Resolutions:

- 2006-88 Approval of Application for Raffle License for Mt. Holly-Vincentown Kiwanis
- 2006-89 Declaration of Compliance with Regulations of Local Finance Board
- 2006-90 Insertion of Special Item of Revenue
- 2006-91 Resolution approving contract for consulting services
- 2006-92 Issuance of Bond Anticipation Note in the Amount of Eight Hundred Eight Thousand Four Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$808,450.00) with Respect to Capital Improvements by the Township of Eastampton as Authorized by Bond Ordinance 2006-06

Upon roll call vote all voted in the affirmative

- 2006-93 Resolution approving Developer's Agreement with Sharbell. This Resolution was removed and not presented. Therefore, number 2006-93 will be re-used.

Bill List

Motion by Councilman Nagler, seconded by Councilman Paneque to approve the June 2006 Bill List. All voted in the affirmative.

Old Business

The potential re-zoning of Block 700, Lots 1-7 was discussed. Manager Carew stated that Council has three letters before them this evening. Manager Carew gave residents a background on the property that the elementary school sits on now. The School Board will be selling that property and it was investigated and determined that the Township should rezone it to BP-LD for marketability as well as ratables. The school board was initially unsure about rezoning but then thought that it would be a good idea. The School Board has asked to have a stipulation stating that a school be a conforming use. There are supporting letters from Harry Renwick and Environmental Resolutions stating that would not be in the best interest of the Township. Mr. Carew has spoken to a few people who would be interested in bringing in commercial business.

Ms. Fahey stated that allowing a school as a conforming use would be considered spot zoning and in order to re-zone this matter must be referred to the Planning Board. Ms. Fahey stated that it will be sent to the Planning Board and the Planning Board would make their comments and then Council can act.

Councilman Renzulli suggested that we send it down to the Planning Board as BP-LD

noting that the school has requested amending the zone to permit private schools. However, based on the input from the Township's professionals, Council is recommending rezoning it without the amendment to allow private schools.

Motion by Councilman Nagler, seconded by Councilwoman Russomanno to refer this matter to the Planning Board to rezone block 700 lots 1-7 to be concurrent with the bp-ld zone without the recommendation from the school to include schools. All voted in the affirmative.

Mr. Ulyette would like to see the school sell the building for as much as they can. Councilman Renzulli stated that that is exactly why the Township is recommending the rezoning of this property.

Mr. Klaus stated the options that CAC discussed for subsequent uses of the elementary school one of which was to donate building to the Township for "recreational purposes." Mr. Renzulli brought up that School Board noted that there were Department of Education related obstacles that made this not a feasible option.

It was explained that there are a lot of regulations that the school has to follow with regard to disposition of school property. However, they are not such limitations that will scare away any buyers.

Christopher Votta, 2 Juniper regarding the school property. Mr. Votta stated that the tax benefit to the Township for a commercial building will be much greater than what the school will realize in profit.

New Business

None.

Committee Reports

Land Use Planning Board - Mayor Hartman. Mayor Hartman reminded the residents that next Wednesday is the Land Use Planning Board Meeting.

Environmental Commission - Councilman Paneque noted that the Minutes are in the packets and they are currently planning Fun Day.

Route 206 Committee. This committee is resurfacing. Mr. Paneque attended a meeting and discussed visions for the corridor. They discussed cluster developments versus sprawling. There is a meeting next Monday and Mr. Paneque is hoping to attend that meeting as well.

Economic Development Advisory Committee - Councilwoman Russomanno advised that there are no meetings until fall.

Parks and Recreation Committee - Councilman Renzulli. This Thursday is the movie Hoodwinked in the park - showtime is 8:30 p.m or 8:45 p.m. The calendar says 8:00 p.m. and, therefore, please make a note of that change. It is part two of Little Red Riding Hood. It is rated G and animated.

Comments

Councilman Paneque welcomed the public to the meeting. He is happy to see the

participation.

Councilwoman Russomanno re-iterated Mr. Paneque's thoughts.

Councilman Nagler asked everyone to continue to come to the meetings.

Councilman Renzulli also asked everyone and asked them to please continue to come.

Mayor Hartman re-iterated the sentiments of Council and called additional correspondence to Council's attention regarding recycling and fighting gang violence.

Closed Session

Motion by Councilwoman Russomanno seconded by Councilman Paneque to adopt Closed Session Resolution 2006-93 to Discuss Contract Negotiations and employment relationships at 8:53 p.m. All voted in the affirmative.

Motion by Councilman Renzulli, seconded by Councilman Paneque to come out of closed session at 9:15 p.m. All voted in the affirmative.

Adjournment

Motion by Deputy Mayor Nagler, seconded by Councilman Renzulli to adjourn at 9:15 p.m. All voted in the affirmative.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda M. Peryer, RMC
Township Clerk

CLOSED SESSION
JULY 10, 2006

Manager Carew stated that the Contract with Waste Management has expired and the three month extension period has also expired.

He advised that the Township will be paying a little bit more from July through August. Terms of the new contract were discussed with regard with length of the contract. Manager Carew asked Council how they felt about cutting back the number of days trash was collected. Manager Carew also advised that private roads are costing the Township a lot of money. The companies are sending in special trucks to collect on those roads.

Using Township Employees to collect trash to a central location where it would then be picked up by Waste Management was also discussed. Mr. Carew will do the research and in the meantime obtain a 90 day extension from Waste Management.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda M. Peryer, RMC
Township Clerk