

**EASTAMPTON TOWNSHIP COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES
September 11, 2006, 7:30 p.m.**

Call to Order. Mayor Hartman called the regular session 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. Nagler, Ms. Russomanno and Mr. Hartman

ABSENT: Mr. Paneque and Mr. Renzulli

ALSO PRESENT: Township Manager Scott Carew, Township Clerk Linda Peryer and Township Solicitor Eileen Fahey

Township Manager's Report

Mr. Carew stated that Sharbell has broken ground.

Construction is under way on 206 where Acquatic Gardens will be relocating. They hope to be done by the end of November.

The construction at the school is moving along quite nicely.

Mr. Carew met with Nancy Jamanow to discuss this year's phase of the road improvements and hopes to go out to bid by the end of the month. There will be multiple roads on the list. Mr. Carew will announce exactly which roads will be done by the end of the year at the first meeting in October.

Two public works laborers have submitted their resignation papers. Bob Goodwin is working through this week and Matt Augustino will be leaving at the end of next week. Both Bob and Matt are also Eastampton fireman.

The light is up and blinking at Student Drive and Woodlane Road. It will be in full operation by next week. The curb cutouts are done for the cross-walks. The Township will have to pass an ordinance to enforce the signs on Woodlane.

Mr. Carew officially appointed Ed Kensler as the Office of Emergency Management Coordinator. Mr. Kensler has been an Eastampton resident for the past 14 years and Fire Chief of Florence Township. He has been fully endorsed by Phil Polios, the Eastampton Fire Chief, as well as Burlington County Emergency Management. Ed also has expertise in writing grants which will be an asset to the Township as well.

No evacuations had to be made in the creek area during the last large rainfall. Credit should be given to the County for staying on top of the situation and monitoring the water level.

Mr. Carew will be leaving on vacation on Wednesday but will be back for the next meeting. Mary Howell will be in charge while he is away. He will request a report from her as to what transpires while he is away.

Public Comments

Mayor Hartman opened to the public at 7:34 p.m.

Peter Ulyette, 19 Chelsea Drive asked if the land that Sharbell is building on was owned by the Township. Mayor Hartman stated that it was not.

Mayor Hartman commented that Sharbell had their ground breaking a couple of weeks ago.

John Geary, 6 Knotty Oak Drive asked about the dump truck and why it was being offered for sale when it only has 21,000 miles on it. Mr. Carew will ask Mr. Parks and get back to him with an answer tomorrow.

Mr. Geary asked for clarification regarding the Ordinance for the trash compactor. Mr. Carew explained the cost-savings to the Township by taking over trash removal on private roads.

Mr. Geary asked about placing dumpsters at the entrance and exits for those residents. Mr. Carew stated that it is a service that the Township covers for all of the residents and it wouldn't be fair to take it away from the 100 or so residents that live by the creek.

Mr. Geary stated that the taxes are going up too high and he just doesn't understand why the Township keeps spending. Mayor Hartman stated that Council pays taxes as well and services need to be offered to all residents. Mr. Geary asked if the Township could buy a used truck. Mr. Carew stated that the bid specs will state that the truck could be up to two years old however a 13-yard trash truck is not that popular.

Mayor Hartman closed to public at 7:45 p.m.

Acceptance of Current Year Minutes

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

- Eastampton Township Environmental Commission Minutes of June 28, 2006
- Eastampton Recreation Committee Meeting of June 1, 2006

All voted in the affirmative.

Approval of Current Year Minutes

Motion by Deputy Mayor Nagler, seconded by Councilwoman Russomanno to approve the following Minutes:

- August 14, 2006 Regular Session
- August 14, 2006 Closed Session
- September 7, 2006 Emergency Session

Deputy Mayor Nagler explained why there was an emergency session meeting relating to the block party. He further explained that the resident submitted his request back in July and the request bypassed the Clerk's Office and went directly to the Police Department.

All voted in the affirmative.

Resolutions (Consent)

Motion by Deputy Mayor Nagler, seconded by Councilwoman Russomanno to adopt the following Resolutions:

2006-107 Insertion of Special Item of Revenue; and
2006-108 Accept and Approve Letter of Credit for Sharbell Development Corp.
All voted in the affirmative.

Manager Carew gave a brief description of both resolutions.

All voted in the affirmative.

Final Reading of Ordinances and Public Hearings

At 7:50 p.m. Mayor Hartman opened the public hearing on 2006-07 An Ordinance of the Township of Eastampton to Rezone Block 700, Lots 1 through 7.

Christine Gilbert, 1384 Monmouth Road asked what it was being rezoned from and what the new zone will be. Mr. Carew explained that it is being rezoned from R-A to BP/LD so that the school building can be marketed to be purchased by a commercial entity. Mr. Carew further explained that the goal is to increase the commercial and industrial tax base to help elevate the high taxes.

Solicitor Fahey advised that the planner reviewed the plan as it relates to Plan the Land and that the homeowners located within the new zone would be able to sell their homes as commercial pieces of property.

Ms. Gilbert asked if they wanted to sell their homes as homes could they. Mr. Carew stated that they would be able to sell it as a residence but they would not be able to tear it down and rebuild a new residence.

Mr. Carew showed the residents the zoning map. Ms. Gilbert asked what the status of the vacant lots are. Deputy Mayor Nagler stated that those lots would be rezoned as well.

Warehousing was discussed as well as the access road and easements.

Solicitor Fahey explained that the easements that are being referred to are not easements; they are part of the school property.

Peter Ulyette, 19 Chelsea Road stated that the school asked for additional zoning conditions. Mr. Carew stated that they asked to allow a private school which was not recommended.

Ms. Gilbert asked how the zone change would affect their taxes. Ms. Fahey stated that they are assessed based on their use.

Christopher Votta, 2 Juniper Street was wondering if the people on the lots affected would

be more apt to approve of this Ordinance if they were assured that Council would in the future adopt ordinances to control curfews, noise, etc.

Mayor Hartman suggested that concerned property owners attend any Land Use Planning Board Meeting which may result from the purchase of the property.

Manager Carew stated that he will keep the residents in the loop.

Mayor Hartman closed to the public at 8:06 p.m.

Motion by Deputy Mayor Nagler, seconded by Councilwoman Russomanno to table 2006-07 until September 25, 2006. Upon roll call vote all voted in the affirmative.

2006-08 A Bond Ordinance of the Township of Eastampton Providing for The Purchase of a 13 Yard Trash Compactor by the Township of Eastampton and Appropriating One Hundred Ten Thousand Dollars (\$110,000.00) Therefor and Authorizing the Issuance of Bonds and Notes in the amount of \$104,500.00

Motion by Councilwoman Russomanno, seconded by Deputy Mayor Nagler to table 2006-08 until September 25, 2006. All voted in the affirmative.

Old Business

Fun day will be September 23 in the afternoon.

New Business

- 2007 Meeting Schedule - Deputy Mayor Nagler asked that the December 24 meeting be deleted from the schedule
- Mayor Hartman read the Proclamation proclaiming September 17 - September 23, 2006 Constitution Week

Comments

Mr. Carew attended a one-day seminar with Officer Townsend regarding the Joint Insurance Fund. It was helpful in that they gave tips regarding things that can be done to lower the insurance rate from putting on handcuffs to search and seizure.

Clerk Peryer will begin taking the state mandated courses to become a certified registrar of vital statistics. This is new this year and the State has given everyone until December 31 to become certified. She also advised Council that she will be married on October 7.

Mayor Hartman asked that flowers be sent to Councilman Paneque due to the death of his brother-in-law.

Mayor Hartman spent the day in Bayone. The people of Russia have given the U.S. a monument. It is approximately 15 stories and it is a beautiful reminder of the fight against terrorism. Mayor Hartman gave a brief rundown of the day's event. President Clinton spoke, Governor Corzine spoke, Leann Rimes sang the National Anthem. Mayor Hartman encouraged all to visit this monument at some point in time.

Adjournment

Motion by Deputy Mayor Nagler, seconded by Councilwoman Russomanno to adjourn at 8:20 p.m., All voted in the affirmative.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda M. Peryer, RMC
Township Clerk