

**EASTAMPTON TOWNSHIP COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES
October 9, 2007
7:30 p.m.**

Call to Order

Mayor Nagler 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 9, 2007. Notice was posted on the Municipal Bulletin Board and sent to the Courier Post for information.

Roll Call

Present: Mr. Maroccia, Mr. Renzulli, Mr. Hartman Mr. Tafe and Mr. Nagler

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

Township Manager's Report

Ken Hauffbauer is the new Emergency Management Coordinator. Mr. Hauffbauer gave a brief history of his affiliations and education.

Manager Carew met with John Paxia at his motocross track on Route 206 and he spoke with Green Acres as well. John is looking to lease Township property to build the complex. He is looking to build an alternate sports complex.

Manager Carew explained that each weekend could potentially draw over 20,000 people which would be a stress on the Township police, fire and EMS. Green Acres had no problem with this type of venture so long as they follow the same Green Acres rules and regulations that the Township has to follow. Manager Carew believes that there could be a problem with the sponsorship signs as it relates to those rules. He asked if Council would like him to investigate this further. He could have John meet with Green Acres at his track.

The flip side is that in talking with the JIF, the people's jaws dropped at the thought of such a liability. Manager Carew asked Council to weigh the possibility of fatality in that the age groups go down as young as four. There is also a great potential for a lot of income for the Township. Mr. Paxia is looking for 30 or 35 acres. There are economic benefits but also increased liability with this venture. Councilman Renzulli asked if the income would pay for the increase.

Ms. Fahey believes that any income generated has to go into a fund to outweigh the costs used in conjunction with the Township owned property.

Council suggested that Scott move forward with setting up the meeting with Mr. Paxia and Green Acres. Manager Carew stated that Mr. Paxia will pay for all expenses incurred.

Councilman Renzulli asked if Mr. Paxia would have to come before the LUPB. Eileen stated that they do not. It is Township property, however, they would have to come before Council at a public hearing.

Manager Carew has been speaking with the Municipal Manager's Association regarding using private health insurance vs. the State Benefits Program through their email group. There were tremendous savings indicated from the people that did respond to his inquiry. This is a perfect opportunity for a shared service to get a lower rate. Scott is going to speak with the JIF to see if the BGIA component would like to set something like this up.

Councilman Tafe asked how the Township would solicit health insurance. Ms. Fahey stated that it can be done through an RFP. There also could be costs involved with selecting private insurance. Councilman Renzulli asked if any of the other townships stated how they got the unions to agree to this change.

There was a delay with the recreation building and fence while Scott was away. The fence will be installed on Thursday and the foundation will be started tomorrow. There was an issue with regard to the cost. The Township required a foundation. Sharbell took it upon themselves to upgrade the foundation. Manager Carew stated that if that is something that they did on their own than they should pay for the cost.

Chief Mingin spoke with Springfield and Hainesport with regard to the county truck ordinance. Springfield is against the ordinance and Hainesport was for the ordinance. Mount Holly has not gotten back to him. Jerry has concerns of his own regarding this ordinance.

Manager Carew asked if Council wanted to table the introduction again until Manager Carew gets more information.

Councilman Renzulli asked about a rule that was put in place a few years ago regarding what roads big trucks could travel and which ones they cannot and cannot understand if the State has a law in place why does the Township have to duplicate efforts. Council suggested tabling the ordinance.

Councilman Hartman wanted to know why the County is supporting this. Scott will check with them to find out and put it on his weekly manager's report.

Clerk Lovins updated Council with regard to the update of the code book. She needs to meet with one more Department Head and then will have suggested changes for Eileen to review and then bring it to Council for implementation.

The Chief met with the electric company and it will be \$30.00 per month for a flood light in the MEWS.

The Township received a \$300,000 Green Acres check while Scott was away.

Scott will be meeting with Jeff Lucas next week to make sure he is moving forward with his position as coordinator in the economic development zone.

The County Engineer meeting will be rescheduled due to Scott's foot surgery, probably next week some time.

Manager Carew asked for feedback on the weekly manager's update. Council stated it was a very good addition.

Dan Paolini got back to Scott with regard to selling the car the Township donated to them for \$1.00. Scott then read the email response into the record. See attached email response.

Mayor Nagler stated that the Fire Commissioners traded for a piece of equipment that they are not even using.

Manager Carew stated that last year the Township received anywhere between \$500 - \$1,200 for a vehicle similar to that.

Councilman Maroccia asked if the fire district is in desperate need of another vehicle. Scott stated the car the inspector is using is in bad shape. This car is not an emergency response vehicle and the Township needs the money that they can get out of auctioning it off.

Motion by Councilman Renzulli, seconded by Councilman Maroccia, due to financial constraints within the township and under economic standards more beneficial to township, to sell the vehicle at public auction. All voted in the affirmative with Mr. Hartman abstaining.

Councilman Hartman asked what the CDBG was used for. Manager Carew advised it was used for Oxmead Road repaving and another road as well. The Township will be eligible again in 2009.

Approval of Current Year Minutes

Motion by Councilman Hartman, seconded by Councilman Tafe to approve the September 24, 2007 Regular Session and Closed Session Minutes with changes. All voted in the affirmative.

Change page nine to Mary Lynn Piccone instead of she.

At this point Council skipped to old business to address which capital ordinance should be introduced this evening. Mayor Nagler advised that he doesn't know at this point. 2007-13 will be tabled at this time as well as the resolution to amend the capital budget until the next meeting.

Mayor Nagler advised the public that the Township is asking for discretionary funding for additional sidewalks on Student Drive.

Scott then advised the public of the conversations that were had at the last meeting regarding the tactical gear on the flip side of paying for the sidewalks. It was stated that this is yet another unfunded state mandate.

Resolutions

CONSENT:

Motion by Councilman Hartman, seconded by Councilman Tafe to adopt the following resolutions:

2007-89 REFUND TAXES PAID FROM JANUARY 1, 2007 TO CURRENT DATE AND CANCEL TAXES DUE FOR THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 2007 AND THE FIRST HALF OF 2008 FOR BLOCK 1000.17, LOT 21

Councilman Renzulli asked how the Township makes up that refund. Solicitor Fahey stated that some Townships refund back as far as two years. Councilman Renzulli stated then next year the Township must raise taxes on everyone else or cut spending. Ms. Fahey stated that is correct. Councilman Renzulli asked if the property comes off the tax rolls. Ms. Fahey stated that it does. Ms. Fahey stated that the Township can refund all taxes paid or only the Township portion back to January 1. She stated that is a policy set by the Township. Councilman Renzulli stated that he felt the veterans should get the most benefit. Councilman Hartman stated this veteran is deserving. Mayor Nagler asked if this was in perpetuity. Ms. Fahey advised that it is.

2007-90 APPROVAL OF APPLICATION FOR RAFFLE LICENSE FOR TEMPLE HAR ZION

All voted in the affirmative.

ROLL CALL:

Motion by Councilman Hartman, seconded by Councilman Renzulli to adopt the following resolution:

2007-91 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CANCELLATION OF VARIOUS IMPROVEMENT AUTHORIZATIONS TOTALING \$255,779.00.

Upon roll call vote, all voted in the affirmative.

Motion by Councilman Hartman, seconded by Councilman Renzulli adopt the following resolution:

2007-92 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CANCELLATION OF VARIOUS IMPROVEMENT AUTHORIZATIONS TOTALING \$92,253.00.

Upon roll call voted in the affirmative.

Motion by Councilman Hartman, seconded by Councilman Renzulli to table the following resolution until October 22, 2007:

2007-93 RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE 2007 CAPITAL BUDGET

All voted in the affirmative.

Motion by Councilman Maroccia, seconded by Councilman Renzulli to adopt the following Resolution:

2007-94 ISSUANCE OF BOND ANTICIPATION NOTE IN THE AMOUNT OF THIRTEEN THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$13,000.00) WITH RESPECT TO FINANCING MUNICIPAL FACILITIES IMPROVEMENTS AND INFRASTRUCTURE REPAIRS BY THE TOWNSHIP OF EASTAMPTON AS AUTHORIZED BY BOND ORDINANCE NO 2003-09.

Upon roll call vote, all voted in the affirmative.

Introduction and set Public Hearings for October 22, 2007 on Ordinances

Motion by Councilman Hartman, seconded by Councilman Tafe to table the following ordinance until the October 22, 2007 meeting.

2007-11 AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EASTAMPTON AMENDING CHAPTER 96- "VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC" OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EASTAMPTON TO EXCLUDE TRUCK TRAFFIC FROM MONMOUTH ROAD (CR537)

All voted in the affirmative.

Motion by Councilman Hartman, seconded by Councilman Tafe to adopt the following ordinance

Councilman Renzulli asked why this tenure is being granted by Ordinance and not Resolution. Ms. Fahey explained that this is the only position that you do it by Ordinance.

2007-12 AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EASTAMPTON AWARING TENURE TO RICHARD L. PARKS PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A 40A:9-154.6

Upon roll call vote, all voted in the affirmative.

Motion by Councilman Renzulli, seconded by Councilman Maroccia to table Ordinance 2007 -13 until October 22, 2007.

2007-13 AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EASTAMPTON IN THE COUNTY OF BURLINGTON AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO UTILIZE NINETY-THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$90,000.00) FROM THE CAPITAL SURPLUS FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE INSTALLATION OF A SIDEWALK ON STUDENT DRIVE.

2007-13 AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EASTAMPTON IN THE COUNTY OF BURLINGTON AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO UTILITZE SEVENTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$75,000.00) FROM THE CAPITAL SURPLUS FOR THE PURPOSE OF POLICE WEAPONS, BODY ARMOR AND RELATED MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSE.

All voted in the affirmative.

Old Business

- \$90,000.00 for the sidewalk or 75,000.00 for the Tactical Police gear - Mayor Nagler - This matter was addressed above.
- Recommendation of additional street lighting from Chief Mingin for the MEWS - The level of darkness is a safety issue. Council agrees with the \$30.00 per month.

New Business

Councilman Renzulli would like to know if the Township can use Jeff Lucas to introduce him to the school to see if he could help them sell the elementary school.

Walt doesn't see what is wrong with introducing him to the school board and if they decide to use him, that is their determination.

Motion by Councilman Renzulli, seconded by Councilman Hartman to have the Township Manager do a formal letter to the school board and ask the school to respond to the Township in writing. All voted in the affirmative.

Councilman Renzulli asked Scott to specify a reasonable response date in the letter.

Mayor Nagler stated that a resident wants to know why the school dumpster is not enclosed and why does commercial businesses in Eastampton by ordinance have to be enclosed. One of the school's board's members stated it is a fire hazard to enclose it. Ms. Fahey suggested the Township write a letter that the Township believes it is a safety hazard. Scott will write a letter to the school to address that issue.

2008 Request for Proposals for professional services - Mayor Nagler. Ms. Fahey stated

that is something that the Township started to do last year under pay-to-play. It was decided that the proposals should be back by November 20 for discussion on the 26th. Ms. Fahey said that the Township will need to do an RFP for appraisal services.

Public Comments

Peter Ulyette, Chelsea Road, questioned the cancellation of debt regarding the installation of the sidewalk. This was clarified that it was for the roadway. Mr. Ulyette asked why the Township needs \$150,000 for a recreation building when the Township now has a community school with a lot of room. Councilman Renzulli stated there are programs that the building will be needed for. Manager Carew stated that it will be used for storage as well. It is for seniors and consolidation of equipment as well as the summer camp program. Councilman Renzulli stated that this building will have a small refrigerator for ice, etc. It will cut down on public works bringing equipment back and forth.

Councilman Renzulli further explained that the school can cancel functions up to the last hour of the date of the event. Mr. Ulyette believes it is a lot of duplication and more money.

John Geary, 6 Knotty Oak. He asked when a sign will go up on Student Drive because people are still driving through Knotty Oak Drive. Mr. Carew stated he will find out from the Chief. He also asked if the police are going to start ticketing people on Student Drive.

John also read that the County is buying up property along the creek and asked where that will leave the Township with regard to taxes. It was explained that the County is buying outstanding tax liens from the Township which pays off the tax liens and lowers the uncollected tax reserve. Mr. Geary asked if the Township takes them off the tax rolls, who is going to make up the difference.

Councilman Renzulli stated that one flood down there would take away any tax payment that is made by the homeowner in any given year. Manager Carew reminded the public that those are private roads subject to Township trash pickup, vehicle maintenance, etc.

Mayor Nagler closed to the public at 9:03 p.m.

Comments

There were no comments

Adjournment

Motion by Councilman Renzulli, seconded by Councilman Hartman to adjourn at 9:04 p.m. All voted in the affirmative.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda M. Lovins, RMC
Township Clerk