

**EASTAMPTON TOWNSHIP COUNCIL  
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES  
April 23, 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, Township CFO Gerald Mingin and Township Clerk Linda Lovins

**New Business**

Manager Carew's reaffirmation of appointment of Patrolman Daniel Snyder

Chief Mingin gave a brief biography on Patrolmen Snyder.

Motion by Councilman Hartman, seconded by Councilman Renzulli to appoint Scott Hamlet and Michael Sheppard as Class II Special Officers Upon Roll Call vote all voted in the Affirmative.

Chief Mingin gave a brief background of what Class II Special Officers do.

Administration of Oaths of Office for Officers Snyder, Hamlet and Sheppard by Clerk Lovins.

Motion by Councilman Renzulli seconded by Councilman Hartman to recess for five minutes. All voted in the affirmative.

Mayor Nagler read aloud Proclamation in honor of Lieutenant Durham's service to the community in honor of his retirement.

Appointment of Councilman Tafe to the Route206 Corridor Study by Mayor Nagler.

### **Township Manager's Report**

The flood event from last week was quite massive. Manager Carew advised that nine residents were evacuated three of whom found shelter. The fire department lead by Chief Polios, Police Department, Public Works Department and County Emergency Management were all on hand. Councilman Hartman and Mayor Nagler assisted with phone calls. Most residents that live along the creek have taken preparation for the flooding and they don't like to leave their homes. Manager Carew stated all of the emergency response team worked until around midnight on Sunday. Ed Kensler oversaw the whole event.

There were FEMA funds that were made available. The township had very little overtime and gas usage. The township is anticipating costs of waste removal and adding some dumpsters down in that flooded area for personal effects that were ruined. Individuals had called asking for the township to fill in the forms on their behalf. Ed Kensler, Steve Murray and Chief Polios reviewed the form which contained the damage at every single residence down there. The township does not have the manpower nor do we know what type of condition the property was in prior to the flood to fill in these forms.

The other event was the bank robbery at Farmer's and Mechanics and it is still an ongoing investigation by the FBI. Chief Mingin stated that one person is in custody and the accomplice has not yet been located.

Chief Mingin stated that the police department believed the school was free and clear because the police dog lost the scent of the robbers, and therefore believed he was not in the area.

If there is a lockdown the person could get into a classroom via a window. The police department does not have the man power. Chief Mingin called for an evacuation under direct police supervision.

Communication between the school and police department for emergencies will be put into place. Nextel phones for the police department were discussed for quicker communication.

Chief Mingin stated that the single biggest problem was communication. Chief Mingin stated that on-star program in the vehicle the criminal helped locate the robber.

Councilman Hartman asked if the worker's that were working on the school were subject to the lockdown. Chief Mingin stated he did not know about that. Chief Mingin explained that when you lock down a school you are trying to keep the kids in.

On June 14, 2007, Kris Combs would like to hold his eagle scout ASK SCOTT ABOUT THIS. He is already been in contact with the fire Marshall and is waiting for written approval from Scott. Council had no problem with this.

Eagle Scout project - the Township needs an updated phone list for the residents on both sides of the creek.

Councilman Renzulli asked about the emergency broadcast from the school. Mr. Krastek stated that the phone calls were not correct. Chief Mingin stated that there is a review of that process now underway.

Mayor Nagler stated that the people he talked to from the creek area were very happy with the procedures.

The Township will be opening trash bids this Thursday and will be able to discuss the options at the next meeting.

Manager Carew left Council with a bill list with a little more detail with it. Manager Carew stated that there is a 30-character limit on what Doris can enter. Manager Carew asked Council to look at it over the next few days and get back to him.

The paperwork is in for the township to receive their share of green acres fund this year. The woman that handles this from the State called Manager Carew to let him know that out of the township's estimated 3.7 million, we are expected to receive \$300,000 this year. Manager Carew stated that the township is eligible for an additional 1.2 million dollars. Councilman Renzulli believes that is wrong. Councilman Renzulli stated there are two parcels that can not be included on the Rossi. Councilman Renzulli cautioned Manager Carew to make sure those parcels which the township paid for do not end up on the ROSSI.

Mr. Brian Naulty came before Council regarding wanting to put up a fence and the township sign that sits on this resident's property that is completely within the buffer. Mr. Naulty has to obtain a variance to put up the fence he believes that he can charge the Township for back rent for the sign being placed on his property and has threatened to take the township to court. He then stated that if the township will pick up the cost of the variance he will not charge the township for having a sign on his property. This resident has only lived there since 2002 or 2003. Solicitor Fahey finds it hard to believe that this would be suable as the resident moved in when the sign was there.

Manager Carew asked what the Township is going to do for Judy's retirement. It wasn't nailed down at the last meeting. Manager Carew went over the fairness of the gun gift to police officers vs. non police. Especially someone that has served for 32 years. Councilman Hartman stated that if the township is doing for the police officer they should do for her especially after 32 years.

Mayor Nagler and Councilman Renzulli agree with Councilman Hartman and believe that she has earned it.

Councilman Tafe asked if council could spend tax payer money on recognition. Ms. Fahey and Chief Mingin do not know of any law that would preclude the township from giving a retirement gift.

Chief Mingin suggested that they place a call to the State to find out for sure. Manager Carew stated if it is legal the dollar amount is the next step. Councilman Hartman asked about a charm bracelet.

Councilman Tafe suggested that Manager Carew look into the law and council will do

something.

Motion by Councilman Hartman, seconded by Councilman Maroccia to place a spending limit of \$350 for 32 years of service including the price of the plaque. That is a fair number with depreciation. All voted in the affirmative.

It was noted that Lieutenant Durham is getting a plaque, proclamation, badge and gun.

### **Public Hearing and Final Adoption of Ordinance - Roll Call**

Mayor Nagler opened the hearing to the public. No one wished to speak. Mayor Nagler closed to the public.

Motion by Councilman Tafe , seconded by Councilman Renzulli to adopt the following Ordinance:

2007-03 An Ordinance to Supplement the Code of Eastampton Township to Provide a Amend Section 2-28 to Create the Office of Municipal Tax Assessor, Creating Such Office Jointly with The Township of Maple Shade, Providing for the Appointment of a Joint Municipal Tax Assessor, for the Operation and Cost Thereof, Authorizing Periodic Agreements with the Township of Maple Shade to Fix Further Conditions, and Abolishing the Existing Position of the Tax Assessor, All Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:48B-14, ET SEQ

Upon roll call vote, all voted in the affirmative.

### **Introduction of 2007 Budget and Set Public Hearing for May 29, 2007**

Manager Carew gave some general information on the budget that is being introduced this evening.

The following was noted: 082 cents decreased to .072 cents for open space tax reduction for this year. The budget offers a 1.4 cents net increase.

Councilman Renzulli and Mayor Nagler stated that Jerry and Manager Carew did a good job.

Motion by Councilman, seconded by Councilman to introduce the 2007 Township Budget and to set the Public Hearing for May 29, 2007 at 7:30 p.m at the school.

Motion by Rich and Tafe to rescind.

Motion by Councilman Renzulli seconded by Council man Hartman to introduce to change Sheet A to reflect the term change of Councilman Tafe and Maroccia, the township clerk's name, certification number of the township clerk, and to delete date of original appointment, delete acting and insert certificate number and to add donors Walt and Kim Tafe on page 9. Upon roll call vote all voted in the affirmative.

Councilman Tafe asked if it was okay to ask Jerry questions directly. Manager Carew stated that it was.

**Acceptance of Minutes**

Motion by Councilman Tafe, seconded by Councilman Maroccia to accept the February 1, 2007 and March 1, 2007 Minutes of the Recreation Advisory Committee with changes. All voted in the affirmative.

Motion by Councilman Hartman seconded by Mr. Maroccia to rescind the previous motion. All voted in the affirmative.

There is a motion and second to be revised on the March minutes.

Motion by Councilman Maroccia seconded by Mr. Tafe .

**Approval of Current Year Minutes**

Motion by Councilman Maroccia, seconded by Councilman Tafe to approve the April 9, 2007 Regular and Closed Session Minutes with the typographical errors noted. All voted in the affirmative.

**Acceptance of Reports**

Motion by Councilman Tafe, seconded by Councilman Renzulli to accept the following reports for March 2007:

- |                |                        |
|----------------|------------------------|
| Township Clerk | Tax Collector          |
| Treasurer      | Public Works           |
| Assessor       | Construction Official  |
| Court          | Police - Not Presented |
| CCO            |                        |

All voted in the affirmative.

**Resolutions - Roll Call**

Motion by Councilman Renzulli, seconded by Councilman Maroccia to adopt Resolution 2007-50 Issuance of Special Emergency Note in the Amount of Ninety Four Thousand Eight Hundred Dollars (\$94,800.00) with Respect to Financing the Township Internal Reassessment by the Township of Eastampton as Authorized by Bond Ordinance No. 2005-08. Upon roll call vote, all voted in the affirmative.

Motion by Councilman Hartman, seconded by Councilman Renzulli to adopt Resolution 2007-51 Authorize Presentation of Service Revolver to Lieutenant Thomas Durham. Upon roll call vote, all voted in the affirmative.

Motion by Councilman Renzulli, seconded by Councilman Maroccia to adopt Resolution

2007-52 Authorize Execution of Interlocal Services Agreement with Respect to Office of Joint Tax Assessor. Upon roll call vote, all voted in the affirmative.

### **Approval of Bill List**

Motion by Councilman Renzulli, seconded by Councilman Tafe to approve the April 2007 Bill List. Upon roll call vote, all voted in the affirmative.

### **Old Business**

Manager Carew was asked to find out information on doing a yearly assessment program. Chief Mingin stated that this does not generate income. It keeps the house value in line with market value so it doesn't jump every time there is a re-valuation of the town.

If the County would take the ball and run with this, it may be profitable.

### **Public Comments**

Peter Ulyette, 19 Chelsea Road stated that a resident advised Mr. Krastek that there were people running around with guns and that is when Mr. Krastek decided to lock down. Mr. Ulyette thinks that this individual should be commended.

Mr. Nagler and Mr. Tafe agreed, Mr. Renzulli stated that he is not sure that he wants civilians making that decision. Council agrees that Mr. La Pierre did a good thing. Councilman Hartman thinks it deserves recognition from the township. Mayor Nagler stated that council encourages residents to observe and report. Councilman Tafe suggested a letter from the Mayor on behalf of council in appreciation.

Mayor Nagler closed to the public.

### **Comments**

Manager Carew expressed his appreciation again to the Fire Department during the flood event.

Manager Carew noted that Linda Lovins created the idea of the new plastic totes for council packets.

Councilman Tafe asked about the safety of the condition of the parking lot in front of Russo's. Chief Mingin stated that it could be deemed unsafe and the township can fix it and place a lien if the property owner doesn't comply.

Solicitor Fahey suggested having Mr. Murray look at it and possibly assess daily fines or ask Chief Mingin to do that as well.

Councilman Hartman noted that May 3 is Volunteer Night. Mayor Nagler suggested that it be moved to the first week of June so that Councilman Hartman will be present.

Councilman Hartman reminded everyone that the Memorial Day May 26 celebration will

here at Cliver Park memorial.

Mayor Nagler commended the emergency management team on their efforts from the flood event.

Mayor Nagler wishes to commend the Manor House Staff. Mayor Nagler thanked Doris for her patience. Mayor Nagler complimented the police department on their professionalism when the governor was here. He also thanked Rich Parks and his team who set up and took down the gym. Mayor Nagler noted that the Board of education had no one helping them.

### **Adjournment**

Motion by Councilman Hartman, seconded by Councilman Maroccia to adjourn at 9:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda M. Lovins, RMC  
Township Clerk