

**EASTAMPTON TOWNSHIP COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES
March 10, 2008
7:30PM**

CALL TO ORDER. Mayor Renzulli called the meeting to order at 7:30pm.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT [N.J.S.A. 10:4-6] *In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, this is to announce that adequate notice of this meeting was provided in the following manner: On January 9, 2008 advance written notice of this meeting was posted on the Municipal Bulletin Board; was mailed to THE BURLINGTON COUNTY TIMES and to the CAMDEN COURIER POST; was filed with the Township Clerk and was mailed to all persons who requested and paid for such notice. The proceedings of this meeting are being electronically recorded and the tape will be on file in the office of the Township Clerk.*

ROLL CALL.

PRESENT: Mr. Maroccia, Mr. Nagler, Mr. Hartman, Mr. Tafe and Mayor Renzulli.

STAFF PRESENT: Scott Carew, Township Manager, Eileen Fahey, Township Solicitor and Barbara Sheipe RMC, filing in as municipal clerk.

ABSENT: None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS.

No one from the public wished to comment at this time.

TOWNSHIP MANAGER'S REPROT. Manager Carew discussed that the Governor has cut the CMPTRA aid to the township and other small municipalities. The aid for towns with less than 5,000 populations was cut in 100% and aid for towns with populations of 5,000 to 10,000 was 50%. The actual presentation for the township was 24% due to the energy tax receipt. The CMPTRA for the township for the year was reduced by \$99,442, but the energy tax receipt was increase by \$24,201. Manager Carew discussed that he and the Mayor attend a meeting sponsored by the New Jersey League of Municipalities on Thursday in Trenton with other towns with less than 10,000 populations. Manager Carew discussed that aid to the school increased.

Mr. Nagler inquired about shared services with the RV sending districts? Manager Carew explained that he had talked with Donna Ryan of Westampton Township and that they are attempting to set up a meeting with the administrators of the sending districts to see what services are needed and available. Mr. Nagler discussed that the tax assessors is already shared with Maple Shade and that the construction office is a logical choice.

Mayor Renzulli discussed the possibility of shared services for land use administrator with Maple Shade.

Mr. Hartman discussed that with the aid cut more people will be willing to discuss shared services.

Mayor Renzulli discussed that the majority of the offices are part time employees now.

Mr. Tafe inquired about doing training with other towns? Manager Carew explained that Mount Laurel is willing to do some training with the public works department.

Mayor Renzulli discussed that shared services should start with the departments that can succeed first and work on the long range departments later.

Manager Carew reported that the JIF will defend the township upto the \$10,000 cap.

Manager Carew discussed that he had talked with Detective Beaver about involving the officers with the project of a new police station for their input, not as FOP members but as employees of the township. Mayor Renzulli discussed that the FOP would have outside special interests and that the officers as employees would be just giving their input and opinion.

Mr. Nagler inquired if it would be officers under the direction of the chief? Manager Carew explained that the group would only be for advisory for areas outside of a normal architectural building, such as the cell area, security, lock rooms, etc. Mr. Hartman explained that there has been informal discussion in the past with the Chief and the FOP. Mr. Nagler would like to see the members give a wish list.

Manager Carew will review the issue with the Chief.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

Motion by Mr. Hartman, second by Mr. Nagler to approve the minutes for February 25, 2008. All members present voted in the affirmative.

have → INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES. Manager Carew discussed that this should not ~~of~~ appeared on the agenda and is not ready for discussion at this time. Solicitor Fahey agreed that the item should be removed from the agenda until a future date. Mr. Nagler inquired about the updating and the approval for vinyl and wrought iron fences. Manager Carew explained that a memo was sent to Kathy Newcomb about giving approval for the fences.

RESOLUTIONS.

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-37, Resolution of the Township of Eastampton for Approval of Application For Raffle License For Burlington Rotary Club. The resolution was read by title. Mr. Nagler made a motion to approve the resolution, Mr. Hartman second the motion. All members present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-38, Resolution of the Township of Eastampton To Cancel Taxes On County Properties. The resolution was read by title. Mr. Hartman made a motion to approve the resolution, Mr. Nagler second the motion. All members present voted in the affirmative.

APPROVAL OF REPORTS.

Mr. Hartman made a motion to approve the public works, tax assessor, township clerk and court report for the month of January. Mr. Nagler second the motion. All members present voted in the affirmative. The police report approval will be held until the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS.

Solicitor Fahey discussed that council should consider an ordinance to increase their penalties for fines up to the state maximum of \$2,000. In reviewing the code book, there are individual fines listed for some offense that are outdated. The Municipal Judge would be able to impose fines easier if the code book just listed up to a maximum of the state fine of \$2,000. The housing fines would be separate. Mr. Nagler inquired if it would help enforce the ordinances. Manager Carew discussed that some of the ordinances still need to be tighten up, but the large fines will make it more severe to violate. Solicitor Fahey explained that the large fine will help with repeated offenders.

Mr. Maroccia inquired if the wording could be just up to the state maximum so that it does not have to be amend every time, the amount is increased.

Solicitor Fahey will prepare an ordinance for the next meeting.

Mayor Renzulli discussed that Solicitor Fahey had discussed that the council could do an ordinance to allow the township clerk to approve the raffle license. This would save time and expense. Mayor Renzulli explained that he can not remember the council denies a raffle license that had all of the paperwork handed in. Solicitor Fahey will prepare an ordinance for the next meeting. *last time*

denied
Mayor Renzulli discussed that he had received a request for an update for the Route 206 corridor study and who was going to represent the township. Mr. Tafe and Mr. Maroccia were previously appointed to the steering committee.

Mayor Renzulli explained the procedure for the hiring of a new township clerk. All council members will receive a copy of all resumes and submit their priorities to a subcommittee of two. If three members agree that a particular candidate should be interviewed, then that person is placed on the list for the subcommittee to interview. The subcommittee will recommend the three top candidates to council for interviews by the full council. Mr. Nagler requested that all resumes be scanned and emailed to members of council. Solicitor Fahey explained that the interviews would be done at a closed session of council as it is personnel issues. Mr. Tafe inquired as to whom should the names of the candidates recommended for interview be sent to. Manager Carew will collect the list of names from all council members and create a list for the subcommittee. Mr. Nagler inquired if 10 was a reasonable number to interview by the subcommittee. Mayor Renzulli explained that the number would depend on the amount of replies to the ad for the clerk position and also that each candidate had to be recommended by three members of council to be interviewed. Mayor Renzulli discussed that he would like the ad to run on the league of

municipalities' webpage and the newspaper as well, the resumes will be due by April 4th to allow time for all qualified candidates to respond. Mr. Tafe and Mr. Nagler will be on the subcommittee for the interviewing.

OLD BUSINESS.

Manager Carew explained that he will meet with Nancy of Environmental Resolutions on Tuesday to discuss the options and cost for the sidewalk barrier.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

DRIGGERS

Gary (R) Butternut Court inquired if council was going to have accommodations with the new barrier for resident to access their backyards? Mr. Nagler explained that they are looking at concrete barriers. Gary inquired if they would be similar to curb cuts and if the back yards would still be accessible. Solicitor Fahey inquired if he was talking about vehicle access to his back yard and that it is not a requirement by the township to provide access to a back yard. Gary explained that he has been doing it for 10 years and that some of his neighbors only bought their homes because they could access their back yards.

Gary Phillips.-Butternut Court discussed that the sidewalk is not aesthically pleasing and that students from Carriage Park cut through and use the sidewalk. If a guardrail or permanent structure is placed, the student will not have access to the sidewalk. Manager Carew discussed the possibly of concrete barriers that could be removed by public works when the residents needed access to their yards.

GERRY Driggers
Solicitor Fahey discussed that the township is looking for ways to protect the children walking to school. Gary (R) discussed that safety comes first with the children, but there also needs to be a comprise to residents to be able to access their back yards.

John-Butternut Court discussed that there should be barrier that resident can move to gain access to their back yards. Mr. Tafe explained that they are leaning towards something the size of a curb, but that the matter needs to be reviewed.

GERRY
Manager Carew will discuss with Nancy of ERI at the meeting about the need for safety and access to the yards.

GERRY
John-Butternut Court inquired about where the township was looking to build a new police station? Mayor Renzulli explained that there are five areas of land along Monmouth Road that was acquired in 2002 for the new station. John inquired as to why the old school could not be used. Mayor Renzulli explained that the price for the purchase and to make it ADA was too high.

LAYOU - LAURELWOOD
Carol ~~Laver-Laurel~~ Lane discussed that the township needs a new municipal building also. Mayor Renzulli discussed that the building is not as outdate as it looks and that they did not want to move the police and court to the center of the town.

ACRES

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COMMENTS.

Mr. Hartman congratulated RV on being State Champs and that the coach and team are ~~too~~ to be congratulated for an excellent season.

Mr. Nagler discussed that the state is playing a shell game with the cuts and that everyone should contact the Governors office. The small cities are efficient and that the residents still receive the level of service expected.

Mr. Tafe discussed that he echoes Mr. Nagler comments on the cuts by the state and that it is an unfair process. Mr. Tafe thanked the public who attend the meeting.

Mayor Renzulli discussed that it is easier to change a decision before it is made final. Also that hearing the public's perspective on issues in the township helps council make a decision. Mayor Renzulli explained William Dressel called and requested that he write an article of the league magazine.

Solicitor Fahey discussed that the Mayor was not required to sign the memo regarding the fence from Manager Carew since it was under the direction of the council. Solicitor Fahey will address the issue with Kathy about the Mayor's signature not being needed on the memo.

ADJURNMENT.

Mr. Nagler made a motion to adjourn, Mr. Hartman second the motion.