

EASTAMPTON TOWNSHIP COUNCIL

Monday, April 28, 2008

The meeting of the Eastampton Township Council was called to order by Mayor Richard Renzulli at 7:30 p.m. on April 28, 2008.

Mayor Renzulli certified that the meeting was noticed in the Annual Meeting Notice. Notice was published in the Burlington County Times, sent to the Courier Post, filed with the Municipal Clerk and posted in the Eastampton Township Municipal Building, all on January 9, 2008. All requirements of the "Open Public Meetings Act" were satisfied.

Everyone participated in the flag salute.

Present were: Mayor Richard Renzulli, Deputy Mayor Donald Hartman, Council Members Keith Nagler, Joseph Maroccia and Walter Tafe. Also present were: Scott Carew, Township Manager, Township Attorney Eileen Fahey and Interim Municipal Clerk Barbara Sheipe.

PUBLIC FORUM:

Mr. and Mrs. Simone, 1 Wellington Court, had a shed application recently denied and would like Council to revisit the Ordinance and amend the Ordinance so they could have a shed.

Mayor Renzulli said he thought the Ordinance had an exception because there are twelve to fifteen houses that fit the description and this had been brought to their attention before.

Mayor Renzulli said they would refer this to the Planning Board and before they refer it they would like to investigate it.

It was MOVED by NAGLER and seconded by HARTMAN to send a memo to the Planning Board asking what the definition of a rear yard is.

Mayor Renzulli asked Township Manager Carew to please keep them informed on this process.

ROLL CALL: Ayes - Hartman, Maroccia, Nagler, Tafe, Renzulli
Nays - None

There being five (5) ayes and no nays, the motion passed to send a memo to the Planning Board asking what the definition of a rear yard is.

TOWNSHIP MANAGER'S REPORT:

Mr. Carew said he had a meeting with a Telecommunications company and received quotes for a new carrier.

Mr. Nagler suggested going fiber optic using modem lines which changes it into a voice and calls are unlimited and you pay a flat rate.

Mr. Carew mentioned that he and Chief Financial Officer Mingin have been working on the 2008 Municipal Budget.

MINUTES:

March 26, 2008 (Environmental Commission)

It was MOVED by HARTMAN and seconded by NAGLER that the minutes of March 26, 2008 from the Environmental Commission be approved.

ROLL CALL: Ayes - Hartman, Maroccia, Nagler, Tafe, Renzulli
Nays - None

There being five (5) ayes and no nays, the March 26, 2008 minutes from the Environmental Commission were approved.

March 10, 2008 (Closed Session)

It was MOVED by NAGLER and seconded by MAROCCIA that the minutes of March 10, 2008 closed session be approved.

ROLL CALL: Ayes - Hartman, Maroccia, Nagler, Tafe, Renzulli
Nays - None

There being five (5) ayes and no nays, the March 10, 2008 closed session minutes were approved.

April 14, 2008 (Regular Session)

It was MOVED by NAGLER and seconded by MAROCCIA that the minutes of April 14, 2008 regular session be approved.

ROLL CALL: Ayes - Hartman, Maroccia, Nagler, Renzulli
Abstain - Tafe

There being four (4) ayes and one (1) abstention, the April 14, 2008 regular session minutes were approved.

April 14, 2008 (Closed Session)

It was MOVED by NAGLER and seconded by MAROCCIA that the minutes of April 14, 2008 closed session be approved.

ROLL CALL: Ayes - Hartman, Maroccia, Nagler, Renzulli
Abstain - Tafe

There being four (4) ayes and one (1) abstention, the April 14, 2008 closed session minutes were approved.

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST:

It was MOVED by HARTMAN and seconded by MAROCCIA that the 2008 bill list dated April 25, 2008 be approved.

ROLL CALL: Ayes - Hartman, Maroccia, Nagler, Tafe, Renzulli
Nays - None

There being five (5) ayes and no nays, the bills were approved.

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution R2008-66 Introduction of the 2008 Municipal Budget

Mayor Renzulli said the public hearing on the budget would be held on May 27, 2008.

Chief Financial Officer Mingin said the tax rate stands at 5.6 cents. He is recommending an accelerated tax sale this year. He said the pension costs were increased and the state aid was reduced significantly.

Mr. Mingin went over the budget in detail with the Township Council.

Mayor Renzulli praised Township Manager Carew and Chief Financial Officer Mingin for doing a fantastic job in cutting over \$140,000 in expenditures. It is unfortunate that taxes have to go up due to the state mandate on the pension and the reduction in state aid. They would not be adopting the budget until they have a final figure in state aid. They are also sending out estimated tax bills.

It was MOVED by NAGLER and seconded by HARTMAN that Resolution R2008-66 be adopted and schedule public hearing for May 27, 2008.

ROLL CALL: Ayes - Hartman, Maroccia, Nagler, Tafe, Renzulli
Nays - None

There being five (5) ayes and no nays, Resolution R2008-66 was adopted.

Resolution R2008-49 Approval of Application for Raffle License for Robert L. Thompson Scholarship Fund, Inc.,

Resolution R2008-50 Authorize Sale of Unused Personal Property

It was MOVED by TAFE and seconded by NAGLER that Resolution R2008-49 and Resolution R2008-50 be adopted.

ROLL CALL: Ayes - Hartman, Maroccia, Nagler, Tafe, Renzulli
Nays - None

There being five (5) ayes and no nays, Resolution R2008-49 and Resolution R2008-50 were adopted.

Resolution R2008-51 Establishing a Tax Sale Date of December 18, 2008 in Eastampton Township, County of Burlington

It was MOVED by NAGLER and seconded by HARTMAN that Resolution R2008-51 be adopted.

ROLL CALL: Ayes - Hartman, Maroccia, Nagler, Tafe, Renzulli
Nays - None

There being five (5) ayes and no nays, Resolution R2008-51 was adopted.

ORDINANCE – PUBLIC HEARING:

Ordinance No. 2008-6 A Bond Ordinance of the Township of Eastampton Providing for Capital Improvements by the Township of Eastampton and Appropriating Three Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$350,000) Therefore and Authorizing the Issuance of Bonds and Notes in the Amount of \$332,500.00

Mayor Renzulli opened the public hearing on Ordinance 2008-6.

Peter Ulyett, 19 Chelsea Road, asked what the bond ordinance was for.

Township Manager Carew stated that was for road improvements and engineering costs relating to the road projects. He stated they received a State grant and a County grant for the road improvements. The contractor needs to be paid by September or they risk losing the funding. They do not get reimbursed from the State grant until all work is performed and completed.

There being no further comments Mayor Renzulli closed the public hearing.

It was MOVED by HARTMAN and seconded by MAROCCIA to approve Ordinance 2008-6

ROLL CALL: Ayes - Hartman, Maroccia, Nagler, Tafe, Renzulli
Nays - None

There being five (5) ayes and no nays, Ordinance 2008-6 was adopted.

ACCEPTANCE OF REPORTS:

It was MOVED by HARTMAN and seconded by TAFE to approve the March report for the Municipal Court.

ROLL CALL: Ayes - Hartman, Maroccia, Nagler, Tafe, Renzulli
Nays - None

There being five (5) ayes and no nays, the March report for the Municipal Court was adopted.

OLD BUSINESS:

Township Manager Carew said that he was in the process of discussing shared services with Public Works. The Public Works Director Richard Parks was in the process of discussing man power, equipment and training that they all could offer one another.

Township Manager Carew discussed the possibility of working with consultants to obtain grants for a feasibility study for tax collection and tax assessment.

Township Manager Carew said he has had a discussion with the Township Manager in Westampton about working together for Court services.

Township Manager Carew clarified that there are no proposals on the table for shared services of our police department.

Chief Mingin gave his opinion on consolidated and shared services for the police department.

Mr. Tafe said he would not support a consolidated police department with any other police department unless Eastampton was the lead agency. However, there are certain services that could be shared to reduce expenditures and the one that comes to mind immediately is a special task force for schools.

Mr. Nagler stated that a merger of the police department is wrong for the residents of the community.

It was MOVED by TAFE and seconded by NAGLER that the Township Council does not wish to consolidate or enter into shared services for police services at this time.

ROLL CALL: Ayes - Hartman, Maroccia, Nagler, Tafe, Renzulli
Nays - None

There being five (5) ayes and no nays, the motion passed that the Township Council does not wish to consolidate or enter into shared services for police services at this time.

Mr. Hartman said he has been looking into a Memorial Day celebration. Presentation of colors would be first and then the choir would sing the National Anthem. There is a cost that would be associated with the event.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Hartman said he has been discussing with Chief of Police Mingin a program that would provide free education for police in return for their service as security police on campus for the people. They would be undercover policemen and they would get schooling for free. He intends to contact the Burlington County College to see if they would be interested in the service.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

It was MOVED by NAGLER and seconded by HARTMAN to go into closed session to discuss personnel and contract negotiations.

ROLL CALL: Ayes - Hartman, Maroccia, Nagler, Tafe, Renzulli
Nays - None

There being five (5) ayes and no nays, the motion passed to go into closed session to discuss personnel and contract negotiations.

It was MOVED by HARTMAN and seconded by NAGLER to adjourn the meeting

ROLL CALL: Ayes - Hartman, Maroccia, Nagler, Tafe, Renzulli
Nays - None

There being five (5) ayes and no nays, the motion passed to adjourn the meeting

D. Scott Carew
Acting Municipal Clerk

Richard Renzulli
Mayor