

**EASTAMPTON TOWNSHIP COUNCIL  
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES  
February 25, 2008  
7:30 p.m.**

**Call to Order.** Mayor Renzulli 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, 2008. Notice was posted on the Municipal Bulletin Board and sent to the Courier Post for information.

**Roll Call**

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

ALSO PRESENT: Township Solicitor Eileen Fahey, Township Clerk Linda Lovins and Township Manager Carew.

**Public Comments**

Victoria Kratzer, 52 Manchester Road asked if there were any updates or information regarding the bus route that Rancocas Valley cancelled. Mayor Renzulli stated that he is in the process of putting together a committee. She asked to be put on the committee. Mayor Renzulli stated that he can submit her name for nomination.

Manager Carew has a meeting next week regarding the safety of the route that was dropped. The State is doing a full pedestrian safety study for the Township. Manager Carew does not know if the study results will change anyone's mind. Mayor Renzulli stated that Ms. Kratzer needs to attend all of RV's School Board meetings. She stated that she attends all the meetings and the situation is a joke to that Board.

Ms. Kratzer was told by the RV School Board that the Township will be paying for the bus. She, in turn, comes to the Township meetings and is told that she has to go to the School Board. Mayor Renzulli advised that the Township has never paid for a bus for any school. RV has changed their rules and RV has to be addressed regarding the issue. The Township is taking on the expense of putting together the committee.

Manager Carew advised that RV has not changed their policy, what they changed was the designation of routes that have been unsafe for years. They are now deeming them safe. No one knows what has changed to make these routes now safe.

Carol Brown asked if RV wanted to put in sidewalks don't they need Township approval? Mayor Renzulli advised that RV cannot put sidewalks on property that they

do not own.

Manager Carew stated that if the Township found that the routes RV deemed safe unsafe, it would be the Township's responsibility to make the route safe.

Victoria Kratzer found it unfair that she did not see any advertising for deadlines for filing papers to run for school board and when she approached Bob Sapp she was told that she did not meet the deadline for filing the required papers.

Marge O'Dell, 2 Birch Lane has recently retired. She is asking if there is a senior citizen group in the Township. Mayor Renzulli stated that there was not because there was no place for them to meet during the day.

Ms. Kratzer asked if there was a senior citizen community coming to Town. Mayor Renzulli stated that there is an option on private property for a developer to build a community, but at this point they have not come before the Township Planning Board. Manager Carew reminded everyone that this was private property and not owned by the Township.

Jan Brown asked if the recreation center at Penrose was an option. Mayor Renzulli stated that is also private property. Mayor Renzulli suggested going to the Hainesport group. Mayor Renzulli advised that there is a recreation building going up in the park that will be available for use and a joint program with Hainesport may be an option.

Manager Carew pointed out that Marge O'Dell is the retired Tax Collector from Hainesport. Manager Carew has been talking to her about helping out in our tax office and will continue those talks.

Mr. Hartman encouraged Ms. O'Dell to move forward in getting a senior group together even if it is in her kitchen.

Mr. Tafe asked when the recreation building will be ready for use. Manager Carew stated that they are still a couple of months out. Mr. Hartman asked what the problem is. Manager Carew stated that getting utilities in there have been a problem. Mr. Tafe feels like this is perfect timing for Ms. O'Dell to organize something and then have the building available for the group to use.

Mayor Renzulli closed to the public at 7: 49 p.m.

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

Manager Carew advised that the new laborer began today. He was a former fire chief.

The Township received compliments on the snow removal.

Scott will be attending the JIF meeting this Wednesday at which time he will be lobbying for them to defend the Township in a lawsuit that has previously been discussed in closed session. He will keep Council advised.

Jerry is caught up with the financial bookkeeping. Packets are ready to be sent to the insurance companies to inquire about private insurance costs.

Jerry is looking at about three weeks to have a budget workshop. Mayor Renzulli suggested discussing an actual date on the 10<sup>th</sup>.

A resident from Sherwood Village requested help regarding the new management company that purchased the property. They are raising the rent about \$300 a month. Manager Carew, after discussing with Eileen, advised that the Township has no authority over this issue.

The zero tolerance policy on Student Drive went into effect today. There was one ticket issued.

Scott will be attending a redevelopment forum this week. The gentleman deciding the re-designation that was introduced will be there.

Manager Carew got into a debate with a resident regarding the use of the Township's allotted RV TV slides that are set aside for Township business and Emergency Management. Council felt that the Township is not in the advertising business and any entity wishing to advertise on RV TV should contact RV TV directly.

### **Approval of Current Year Minutes**

Motion by Councilman Nagler, seconded by Councilman Maroccia to table the February 11, 2008 Regular Session and Closed Session Minutes.

Mr. Maroccia aye, Mr. Nagler aye, Mr. Hartman abstain, Mr. Tafe no and Mr. Renzulli no. Motion defeated.

Motion by Councilman Tafe, seconded by Councilman Hartman to accept the February 11, 2008 Regular Session and Closed Session Minutes.

Mr. Maroccia NO, Mr. Nagler no, Mr. Hartman aye, Mr. Tafe aye, Mr. Renzulli aye. Motion approved.

### **Resolutions**

Motion by Councilman Hartman, seconded by Councilman Nagler to adopt the following Resolution:

2008-35      Transfer of Appropriation Reserves to Insufficient Appropriation Reserves

Discussion ensued relative to the bill that was received by the MEWS for plowing.

Upon roll call vote all voted in the affirmative.

Motion by Councilman Nagler, seconded by Councilman Maroccia to adopt the

following Resolution:

2008-36 Authorize Public Auction of Abandoned Vehicles

All voted in the affirmative.

### **Acceptance of Reports (January)**

Motion by Councilman Renzulli, seconded by Councilman Nagler to table the following reports for January:

Public Works, Tax Assessor, Clerk, Court and Police

All voted in the affirmative.

### **Approval of February 2008 Bill List**

Mayor Renzulli pointed out the bill list was just prepared this afternoon at 4:00 p.m. and would not have been in the packet on Friday. Mr. Nagler is not comfortable approving the bill list this evening since he just received it. Mayor Renzulli asked why Council needs to authorize the bill list if they are not involved in the procedure. Eileen advised that finance does the review and preparation and the bill list is Council's recommendation to approve. Manager Carew asked if the bill list is not accepted is there a way to approve it prior to the next meeting.

Mr. Tafe asked to table now and review it at the end of the meeting. The bill list was moved to later in the meeting.

### **New Business**

Vinyl Fences – Construction Official Gene Blair – Roz Bosserdet has been appointed Technical Assistant of the Year in the State of New Jersey and he is very proud to work with Roz. Kathy Newcomb has taken the opportunity to review ordinances for shortcomings.

A resident came to install a vinyl fence and the ordinance is silent. When an ordinance is silent, it is prohibited. The resident would have to go before the Land Use Board for a variance. Vinyl Fencing has been permitted in the past.

Kathy Newcomb's job is to abide by what the ordinances dictate. Unfortunately she has had to refuse the application. Her job is to go through the ordinances to see what is not beneficial on a weekly or monthly basis. She feels that the ordinance needs to change. She is requesting, in the interim, Council's okay, through a letter, to move forward while the ordinance is being revised. This will allow her to issue permits on vinyl fences and then the ordinance can be introduced.

Mayor Renzulli advised that this ordinance was not updated since 1989 and vinyl was not an option at that time.

Kathy advised that it is her obligation to tweek things as they come about. She is also the Zoning Official for Hainesport and felt that the Township needs to be proactive.

Mr. Blair suggested taking a look at the guidelines and the intent of the Township as the Township grows.

Mr. Blair outlined changes he would like to see. He asked for direction from Council and asked for a method for allowing Kathy to proceed with the intent that the Code is to be changed.

Mr. Tafe noticed that there are many vinyl fences in the Township. He asked what good workman material means as stated in the Code.

Mr. Tafe and Mr. Renzulli do not want to see the Township writing a new ordinance every time something changes at Home Depot to update the material. Mr. Tafe feels good workman materials should mean -- at the discretion of the Zoning Official.

Ms. Newcomb needs the definition from Council on what the good material definition is and it needs to be in the ordinance.

Mr. Hartman agrees and says that it has been a big headache forever.

Ms. Fahey suggests that it be referred to the Land Use Board for next month.

Mr. Blair asked if they accept a letter from Council at this time if that would suffice until such time that the ordinance is changed.

Mr. Nagler would like to see Kathy authorize fences ongoing. The Construction Office will also need authorization to get the planner involved.

Ms. Fahey suggested that the ordinance be prepared and introduced by Council on March 10, referred to planning board for their March meeting and then back to Council for final adoption at the March 24.

Motion by Councilman Tafe, seconded by Councilman Nagler to authorize the issuance of a letter permitting the Zoning Officer to issue permits for fences with materials other than those currently listed in the Township Code. All voted in the affirmative.

Manager Carew will work with Gene and Kathy in drafting the letter and will have it delivered to the Mayor for signature.

### **Joint Discussion with the School Board**

Mayor Renzulli advised the residents that the two bodies do this periodically to stay in touch. Mayor Renzulli would like to talk about Erickson and the proposed COAH regulations. He asked Ms. Fahey to elaborate. She stated it has doubled the amount and doubled the cost of the contractor to contributes. As the Township increases its

commercial ratable base it triggers COAH housing obligations which is detrimental to the tax rate and the burden on the school.

Ms. Taylor asked if the regs stand what is the number that would have to be built should this Erickson Community go forward. Mr. Renzulli said a best guess would be 300 units. Ms. Fahey stated that can include rehabilitation. It is not just new units. Ms. Fahey stated that it is difficult to have discussions right now because the regs are not realistic.

Mayor Renzulli stated that the developer will have to put in 350 more units to meet COAH requirements and has brought this matter up this evening because that could greatly impact the community school.

Ken Beam, 23 Woodhurst Drive asked where the proposed development would be. Mayor Renzulli advised him behind Misha's between the school and the bakery.

Glenn Forney School Board asked how much land is out there that can be developed that could take up the credits. He is not sure where the blow is at this time. It appears that this will be challenged in Court. He understands that it is out there. There is nothing that can be done at this point. If they build it and the children show up at the door they certainly can't turn them away.

Mayor Renzulli stated that he is just concerned with the health and welfare of the community.

Mr. Forney from a School Board perspective cannot think of anything that can be done to avoid, deal with or anticipate what is going to happen.

Mr. Hartman asked what the community school capacity is at this point. Bob Krastic advised that they are at 751 and they can go up to 900.

Mayor Renzulli asked the School Board to go to their association to voice their opinion on this matter. Mr. Forney is sure that the School Board Association will be on top of it.

Mayor Renzulli stated that things have been going very smoothly with the basketball program and he appreciates it. The new facility was the best thing that they ever did and told them to keep up the good work.

Mr. Tafe asked for comment from the School Board. Mr. Forney would like to invite Council to their budget meeting on March 19 at 7:00 p.m. Information will be presented at the PTA meeting on March 3. Mr. Krastek advised that there will be a District Advisory Committee meeting early in April which the same information will be given out if you cannot attend. Mr. Forney advised that everyone should come to the budget meeting and believes everyone will enjoy it.

Mayor Renzulli advised that the Township is moving forward with Student Drive. There is a barrier which will be installed between the road and sidewalk. Mr. Krastek is concerned about the water under the road with a potential barrier. Manager Carew stated that all things are being taken into consideration.

The Engineer is trying to determine whether the Township can use the balance of the grant money to pay for this additional expenditure. Manager Carew stated that the third option is the concrete barriers such as what you may see in parking lots.

Mr. Hartman asked if the Board was okay with the zero tolerance policy on Student Drive. The Board has alerted parents about two or three times this year.

Mr. Krastek advised that a parent was concerned about Knightsbridge Road and Nottingham Way and there should be a crosswalk at that intersection. She would like the walkers outline to be put back on the road. Mayor Renzulli advised that it will be done with the second round of grant funds.

Mr. Krastek thinks that Scott made an important point with regard to the dropped bus route in that this is not new policy it is old policy that they are enforcing now. Mayor Renzulli stated that two years ago the route was deemed unsafe and a bus was needed and now it is safe and no one can figure out what now makes it safe.

Ms. Kratzer stated that she asked the question and they advised that they were previously providing that bus route as a courtesy. Mayor Renzulli stated that is not what the documentation says.

Mr. Krastek advised that his Board has been very aggressive to try to make their views heard as well.

June 13 is the Dinner Dance in the new cafetorium. The 8<sup>th</sup> grade officers have asked if they could use the Manor House Area for taking pictures. No one had an issue with that.

The Governor had a task force on safety. The School Board has been working with the police department. The school has been practicing Code C's. They have been asked to look at them more regularly. He is suggesting working on different scenarios. He asked Council to pass that along to the police department.

March 7 will be community basketball game.

Mr. Hartman advised that Veteran's Park will be decorated as a result of Memorial Day.

Mayor Renzulli thanked the Board for coming out and keeping in touch.

### **Old Business**

RV Safe Routes to School Committee – At the prior meeting Mayor Renzulli had suggested this new committee which was inspired by Ms. Kratzer. Mr. Renzulli had suggested six names at the previous meeting. Mayor Renzulli has a concern and does not want to politicize this committee by nominating Ms. Kratzer if she is, in fact, going to run for school board.

Sue Taylor advised Ms. Kratzer that she did not miss the deadline for filing a petition. Ms. Taylor advised that it is the 29<sup>th</sup> and Ms. Kratzer only needs 10 signatures so she has

time. Ms. Kratzer advised that RV told her it was too late. Council encouraged her to continue her trek with running for school board.

Mayor Renzulli asked if Council wants to create this committee and if the names are sufficient. Mr. Hartman asked how many of the nominees have kids attending RV. Mayor Renzulli advised about 1/2 .

Motion by Councilman Nagler, seconded by Councilman Hartman to form the RV Safe Routes to School Committee.

Councilman Tafe is not sure it should be the Township Council forming this committee and that he believes it thinks it should be citizens of the community forming this committee.

Councilman Nagler advised that we are looking for public input. Councilman Tafe is concerned with Council being involved. Mayor Renzulli stated he does not feel Council should sit on that committee that the committee should report directly to Scott.

All voted in the affirmative with Mr. Tafe stating aye with the conditions above.

Mr. Renzulli advised that Vicki can be added with his concerns being so noted.

Mr. Renzulli is nominating the following:

George Grand, Buckingham concerned about kids walking along Powell.

Brian Fortner Manchester

Shirley Graves Kensington

Dawn Carrington will have kids at RV in the future and has expressed concerns Darby

Jeff Lingo on Butternut.

Chris Azizes, Wyndham.

Mr. Hartman nominates Vicki Kratzer.

Upon roll call vote, all voted in the affirmative.

Sue Taylor asked if anyone asked RV if they budgeted for the bus. Ms. Kratzer advised she was told by RV that it was Eastampton Township's responsibility to pay for the bus.

Student Dr sidewalk barrier –already discussed above. Mr. Tafe would like to explore the option of the concrete barrier. Mr. Tafe believes Student Drive has been all errors since the project began. Mr. Tafe asked how much the original estimate has changed.

Mr. Geary stated that there are three or four children that are walking that road to school.

Manager Carew will price out metal railing, wood railing and concrete barrier.

Mr. Geary asked how much the sidewalk cost. Manager Carew stated \$28,000. Mr. Geary suggested putting more concrete with holes for drainage.

COAH regulations - Mayor Renzulli asked if there is anything Council needs to do to voice their opinion. Ms. Fahey stated that they are waiting on the league for their input.

Capital budget report - Mayor Renzulli asked Manager Carew at the last meeting to put together a memorandum outlining the discussions taken place thus far regarding the capital budget. Manager Carew advised that the Chief really wants to put his arms around what he is putting out there. Manager Carew will get it to Council.

Mayor Renzulli stated that the Township needs to make it clear to Ms. O'Dell that the building will not be open for public use in two months.

Motion by Mr. Nagler, seconded by Mr. Hartman to take a five minute recess. All voted in the affirmative.

Motion by Mr. Hartman, seconded by Mr. Tafe to enter back into regular session. All voted in the affirmative.

Motion by Councilman Hartman, seconded by Councilman Nagler to approve the February 2008 Bill List. All voted in the affirmative.

### **Comments**

Clerk Lovins asked for Council to adopt Closed Session Resolution 2008-37 to enter into closed session to discuss employment relationships.

Motion by Mr. Hartman, seconded by Mr. Nagler to adopt Closed Session Resolution 2008-37. All voted in the affirmative.

### **Adjournment**

Motion by Mr. Hartman, seconded by Mr. Nagler to adjourn at 10:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda M. Lovins, RMC  
Township Clerk

CLOSED SESSION MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 25, 2008

Clerk Lovins tearfully advised Council that she will be moving back to New York State to be with her family for reasons beyond her control. She thanked them for allowing her to be a part of such a wonderful community and a great group of people.

Council wished Ms. Lovins good luck. Mayor Renzulli advised that he would accept this announcement as her two-week notice. Clerk Lovins agreed to do anything possible to help Council with the transition through the telephone or computer.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda M. Lovins, RMC  
Township Clerk