

**MINUTES OF THE WARREN TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
OCTOBER 9, 2014**

REGULAR MEETING

The Township Committee of the Township of Warren, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, convened in Public Session on Thursday, October 9, 2014 at 6:33 p.m. in the Susie B. Boyce Meeting Room, 44 Mountain Boulevard, Warren, New Jersey.

Mayor DiNardo read the following notice:

“In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act of New Jersey, adequate notice of this meeting was provided on January 9, 2014 and September 30, 2014 by sending written notices to the Echoes Sentinel and Courier News, posting on the Bulletin Board in the Municipal Building and filing with the Township Clerk”.

“This meeting is to be taped for broadcast on the Access Channel and everyone is required to comply with the policies and procedures governing access programming for the Access Channel. No mention of political affiliation or political advertising shall take place at this meeting or it will be deleted from any rebroadcast of the meeting.”

On call of the roll, the following Committee members were present:

Mr. Lazo
Mr. Marion
Mr. Sordillo
Mrs. Garafola
Mayor DiNardo

Also Present: Mark M. Krane, Township Administrator
Patricia A. DiRocco, Township Clerk
William Willard, Acting Township Attorney

Mr. Lazo introduced and read resolution No. 2014-204, seconded by Mr. Marion and carried by unanimous voice vote.

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act, P.L.1975 Chapter 231 permits the exclusion of the public from meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body wishes to discuss:

Contract Negotiations: CWA Labor Contract

Potential Property Development Rights: Block 96, Lots 35, 43, 44 and
Block 213, Lot 50

Property – Acquisition of Easement: Block 89.01, Lot 3.02

WHEREAS, when and if the matters discussed become public record, this will be made known to the public at that time;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Warren, that the public is excluded from this Meeting;

FURTHER RESOLVED, that formal action may be taken upon reconvening to Public Session.

The meeting convened in Executive Session at 6:33 p.m.

The meeting reconvened to Public Session at 7:04 p.m.

Mayor DiNardo led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. DiRocco administered the Oath of Allegiance to Sergeant Gleeson, Sergeant Gallagher, Lieutenant Yaccarino and Chief Keane.

A Proclamation regarding Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month was presented to Todd Cohen.

Mr. Rogut, Sewerage Authority Bond Counsel, spoke of the approval request to the governing body to issue bonds for improvements to the Sewer infrastructure which includes Stage 4, replacing and repairing Pump Stations. Mrs. Garafola stated that the Authority is ahead of the curve and very proactive. The governing body agreed.

On motion of Mrs. Garafola, second of Mr. Sordillo, Resolution No. 2014-223 entitled "SEWER AUTHORITY BONDING – CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS TO WARREN SEWER SYSTEM" was introduced and adopted. The roll call vote was unanimous.

Resolution No. 2014-223 is appended to the official minutes.

Mr. Lazo introduced Ordinance No. 14-24 by title for second reading/adoption and read the following:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING *THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WARREN*, TO AMEND SECTION 4-15 ENTITLED "MASSAGE AND BODYWORK THERAPY ESTABLISHMENTS."

Mayor DiNardo opened the Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 14-24. No one wished to speak and the hearing was closed.

On motion of Mr. Lazo, second of Mr. Sordillo, Ordinance No. 14-24 was adopted. The roll call vote was unanimous.

On motion of Mrs. Garafola, second of Mr. Lazo, the Regular Session meeting minutes of September 18, 2014 were approved. The roll call vote was unanimous.

Mr. Sordillo spoke of the Ebola issue. He stated that there must be preparation and obtain hazmat suits. He recommended supporting OEM Coordinator Jane Asch to arrange for hazmat suits and other necessary equipment. Police should have bio hazard suits. He also suggested that a letter be sent to Senators for support. Mr. Krane suggested Health Officer Kevin Sumner's participation. Mr. Sordillo and Mr. Lazo will work on this issue.

Mayor DiNardo opened the Comments on Agenda Items portion of the meeting. No one wished to speak and this portion was closed.

Mrs. Garafola introduced and read Resolution No. 2014-205 for the payment of bills, seconded by Mr. Marion.. The roll call vote was unanimous.

Resolution No. 2014-205 is appended to the official minutes.

Mr. Marion introduced Ordinance No. 14-25 by title for first reading and read the following:

AN ORDINANCE SUPPLEMENTING AND AMENDING CHAPTER III-A ENTITLED "EMERGENCY ALARM SYSTEMS" OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WARREN

On motion of Mr. Marion, second of Mr. Sordillo, Ordinance No. 14-25 was passed on first reading. The roll call vote was unanimous.

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Mr. Sordillo introduced Ordinance No. 14-26 by title for first reading and read the following:

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION AND PERMANENT 10 FOOT WIDE UTILITY EASEMENT ACROSS A PORTION OF LOT 73, BLOCK 71 AND A TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION AND PERMANENT 10 FOOT WIDE UTILITY EASEMENT ACROSS A PORTION OF LOT 22.05, BLOCK 71 FOR THE BENEFIT OF PROPERTY IDENTIFIED AS 4 WHISPERING WAY, WARREN TOWNSHIP, SOMERSET COUNTY, NEW JERSEY.

On motion of Mr. Sordillo, second of Mrs. Garafola, Ordinance No. 14-26 was passed on first reading. The roll call vote was unanimous.

Mr. Lazo introduced Ordinance No. 14-27 by title for first reading and read the following:

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A UTILITY EASEMENT TO ALLOW JCP&L TO INSTALL UTILITIES ALONG THE RIGHT-OF-WAY OF TECHNOLOGY DRIVE NORTH , WARREN TOWNSHIP, SOMERSET COUNTY, NEW JERSEY.

On motion of Mr. Lazo, second of Mrs. Garafola, Ordinance No. 14-27 was passed on first reading. The roll call vote was unanimous.

On motion of Mrs. Garafola, second of Mr. Marion, the following Consent Agenda Resolutions, with the exception of 2014-223 which was previously approved earlier in this meeting, were approved, carried by unanimous roll call vote:

- 2014-206 APPOINTMENT OF JUNIOR MEMBERS TO MT. BETHEL VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT
- 2014-207 APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO THE WASHINGTON VALLEY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT – TIMOTHY W. VELAZQUEZ
- 2014-208 CANCELING UNEXPENDED AND UNENCUMBERED BALANCE IN FIRE DEPARTMENT OE TO CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNT ENTITLED PURCHASE OF FIRE EQUIPMENT

- 2014-209 CANCELING UNEXPENDED AND UNENCUMBERED BALANCE IN TAX COLLECTOR OE TO CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNT ENTITLED RESERVE FOR PURCHASE OF TELEPHONE AND OFFICE EQUIPMENT
- 2014-210 CANCELING UNEXPENDED AND UNENCUMBERED BALANCE IN THE LEGAL OE TO CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNT ENTITLED RESERVE FOR PURCHASE OF TELEPHONE AND OFFICE EQUIPMENT
- 2014-211 CANCELING UNEXPENDED AND UNENCUMBERED BALANCE IN HISTORIC SITES OE TO CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNT ENTITLED RESERVE FOR HISTORIC BUILDINGS
- 2014-212 CANCELING UNEXPENDED AND UNENCUMBERED BALANCE IN EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OE TO CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNT ENTITLED RESERVE FOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
- 2014-213 CANCELING UNEXPENDED AND UNENCUMBERED BALANCE IN ROADS OE TO CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNT ENTITLED RESERVE FOR PUBLIC WORKS EQUIPMENT
- 2014-214 CANCELING UNEXPENDED AND UNENCUMBERED BALANCE IN THE VEHICLE MAINTENANCE OE TO CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNT ENTITLED RESERVE FOR PURCHASE OF PUBLIC WORKS EQUIPMENT
- 2014-215 CANCELING UNEXPENDED AND UNENCUMBERED BALANCE IN THE BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS OE TO CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNT ENTITLED RESERVE FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS
- 2014-216 CANCELING UNEXPENDED AND UNENCUMBERED BALANCE IN BOARD OF HEALTH OE TO CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNT ENTITLED RESERVE FOR PURCHASE OF OFFICE & TELEPHONE EQUIPMENT

- 2014-217 CANCELING UNEXPENDED AND UNENCUMBERED BALANCE IN THE TELEPHONE OE TO CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNT ENTITLED RESERVE FOR PURCHASE OF TELEPHONE & OFFICE EQUIPMENT
- 2014-218 CANCELING UNEXPENDED AND UNENCUMBERED BALANCE IN THE OVERLAY AND DRAINAGE VARIOUS ROADS OE TO CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNT ENTITLED RESERVE FOR OVERLAY AND DRAINAGE
- 2014-219 CANCELING UNEXPENDED AND UNENCUMBERED BALANCE IN IMPROVEMENTS TO MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS OE TO CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNT ENTITLED RESERVE FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS
- 2014-220 CANCELING UNEXPENDED AND UNENCUMBERED BALANCE IN IMPROVEMENTS TO RECREATIONAL FACILITIES OE TO CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNT ENTITLED RESERVE FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO PARK AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES
- 2014-221 AWARD OF CONTRACT – DENVILLE LINE PAINTING INC. THROUGH MORRIS COUNTY CO-OP
- 2014-222 AWARD OF CONTRACT - S. E. ROSE TRUCKING – EXCAVATION SERVICES AND ROAD RECONSTRUCTION MATERIALS
- 2014-223 SEWER AUTHORITY BONDING – CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS TO WARREN SEWER SYSTEM
- 2014-224 AUTHORIZING PUBLIC AUCTION OF TOWNSHIP VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT
- 2014-225 AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION AND EXECUTION OF GRANT AGREEMENT WITH NJDOT – ROUND TOP ROAD

Resolutions No. 2014-206 through 2014-225 are appended to the official minutes.

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Mr. Krane spoke of the Best Practices Survey for 2014 and discussed with same with the governing body. He explained that by discussing and going on record will gain credits from the State. Answers to specific practices included that it is not required to solicit competitive quotes for legal contracts so the Township can continue this practice. Annual instructions courses will be done by the Township Attorney relative to Land Use and Ethics. The Township will conduct an assessment of created Authorities to determine if their existence is appropriate. The Finance Committee should meet more regularly. Procurement cards for Township purchases are not appropriate, as the current system of purchase orders is sufficient. The Township will do its best to introduce the budget on the required statutory date. The medical waiver monetary benefit to employees who opt out was discussed. Mr. Marion questioned the waiver benefit and stated that this should be reconsidered in the future. Mr. Sordillo stated that his wife received this benefit while working at the Board of Education and it is a substantial savings to an entity if an employee opts out of coverage. Mr. Krane agreed that it does save the Township; however, if an employee obtains the coverage, there is a Chapter 78 employee contribution payment that is required.

Mr. Krane referenced Assembly bill No. 366 which is pending legislation. Verizon is taxed for providing lines in towns and there is a monetary amount municipalities receive. Verizon is now challenging the definition and interpretation of the percentage set forth in 1997 and has informed 65 municipalities it will no longer pay the tax. The pending bill will restore the intended property tax status quo that was determined in 1997. The governing body agreed to support the legislation.

The governing body discussed the Somerset County Energy Aggregation program. Mayor DiNardo stated that when alternative energy companies are contracted due to low initial rates, eventually these rates go up and therefore there may not be a savings at all.

Mayor DiNardo opened the Privilege of the Floor portion of the meeting.

Mr. Lakatos, Horseshoe Road brought up the issue of "no idling signs" at the Library.

On motion of Mr. Sordillo, second of Mr. Marion, and unanimous voice vote, the meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. DiRocco, RMC
Township Clerk