

**MINUTES OF THE WARREN TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
OCTOBER 15, 2015**

REGULAR MEETING

The Township Committee of the Township of Warren, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, convened in Public Session on Thursday, October 15, 2015 at 7:00 a.m. in the Susie B. Boyce Meeting Room, 44 Mountain Boulevard, Warren, New Jersey.

Mayor Marion read the following notice:

“In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act of New Jersey, adequate notice of this meeting was provided on January 7, 2015 and September 9, 2015 and September 21, 2015 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. DiNardo
Mr. Sordillo
Mrs. Garafola
Mayor Marion

Also Present: Mark M. Krane, Township Administrator
Patricia A. DiRocco, RMC, Township Clerk
Jeffrey B. Lehrer, Township Attorney
Anthony Digirolamo, Special Counsel

Mr. Sordillo introduced and read Resolution No. 2015-206, seconded by Mr. Lazo 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

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

WHEREAS, the Governing Body wishes to discuss:

Contract Negotiations: Labor Contract – PBA and Dispatchers
Litigation: Affordable Housing Plan
Personnel: Health Benefits Cafeteria Plan

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 7:00 a.m.

The meeting reconvened to Public Session at 7:40 a.m.

Mayor Marion led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Marion announced that there have been requests for morning meetings by residents.

Chief William Keane, presented recognition and accomplishment awards to officers and Samaritans.

Mr. Sordillo introduced Ordinance No. 15-19 by title for second reading/adoption and read the following:

AUTHORIZING ACCEPTING DONATION OF LAND BLOCK 82 LOT 20.07 (7 SAW MILL ROAD) FROM FRANK GALLO, THOMAS G. GALLO AND ANNETTE MANI TO THE TOWNSHIP OF WARREN

Mayor Marion opened the Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 15-19. No one wished to speak and the hearing was closed.

On motion of Mr. Sordillo, second of Mr. Lazo, Ordinance No. 15-19 was adopted. The roll call vote was unanimous.

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Mr. Lazo introduced Ordinance No. 15-20 by title for second reading/adoption and read the following:

BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$260,000 FOR ACQUISITION OF VARIOUS CAPITAL EQUIPMENT FOR AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF WARREN IN THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET, NEW JERSEY AND, AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$218,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP FOR FINANCING PART OF THE APPROPRIATION.

Mayor Marion opened the Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 15-20.

Mr. Lakatos, 7 Horseshoe Road commented that it seems that Bonds are getting around the budget cap and questioned the purpose of this Ordinance. Mr. Krane informed him that it is for two pieces of equipment for DPW. No one else wished to be heard and the Public Hearing was closed.

On motion of Mr. Lazo, second of Mrs. Garafola, Ordinance No. 15-20 was adopted. The roll call vote was unanimous.

Mayor Marion stated that there have been many queries regarding COAH. Mr. Sordillo informed the public that the Township is not negotiating with any developers. The strategy is a planned municipal project. The governing body will continue to keep residents informed on this important issue.

On motion of Mr. Sordillo, second of Mrs. Garafola, the Special and Executive session meeting minutes of September 3, 2015 and the Regular Session minutes of September 10, 2015 were approved. The roll call vote was unanimous.

Mayor Marion opened the Comments on Agenda Items portion of the meeting.

Mr. Lakatos questioned Bond Ordinance No.15-21 regarding improvements to Round Top Road and asked why this particular road would be improved. Mr. Krane informed him that the Township received a grant in the amount of \$175,000. Round Top Road is very wide and needs drainage improvements as well. No one else wished to speak and this portion of the meeting was closed.

Mrs. Garafola introduced and read Resolution No. 2015-207 for the payment of bills, seconded by Mr. Lazo. The roll call vote was unanimous.

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Resolution No. 2015-207 is appended to the official minutes.

Mr. DiNardo introduced Ordinance No. 15-21 by title for first reading and read the following:

BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$535,000 FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO ROUND TOP ROAD FOR AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF WARREN IN THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET, NEW JERSEY AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$508,00 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP FOR FINANCING PARTY OF THE APPROPRIATION

Ms. DiRocco stated that the Supplemental Debt Statement for Ordinance No. 15-21 was received in the Township Clerk's office and forwarded electronically to the Division of Local Government Services as of this date.

On motion of Mr. DiNardo, second of Mrs. Garafola, Ordinance No. 15-21 was passed on first reading. The roll call vote was unanimous.

Mrs. Garafola introduced Ordinance No. 15-22 by title for first reading and read the following:

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE VACATION OF A DRAINAGE EASEMENT BETWEEN THE "THE HOLLOWS AT WARREN" KNOWN AS BLOCK 86.01, LOT 28.04 AND WARREN TOWNSHIP

On motion of Mrs. Garafola, second of Mr. DiNardo, Ordinance No. 15-22 was passed on first reading. The roll call vote was unanimous.

On motion of Mr. Lazo, second of Mrs. Garafola, the following Consent Agenda Resolutions were approved, carried by unanimous roll call vote:

2015-208 AWARD OF CONTRACT – ROUTE 23 AUTOMALL, LLC
ONE (1) 2015 FORD F250 FULL SIZE PICK-UP TRUCK

2015-209 AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AGREEMENT WITH
NEW JERSEY OFFICE OF EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT REGARDING HAZARD MITIGATION
GRANT PROGRAM FOR A NATURAL GAS
GENERATOR

- 2015-210 AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AGREEMENT WITH NEW JERSEY OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REGARDING EMERGENCY ADVISORY ALERT AM TRANSMISSION SYSTEM
- 2015-211 AUTHORIZING LEASE AGREEMENT WITH MOUNT BETHEL VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY FOR PLACEMENT OF RADIO SYSTEM ON ITS PROPERTY
- 2015-212 AUTHORIZING PUBLIC AUCTION OF TOWNSHIP VEHICLES
- 2015-213 AUTHORIZING AMENDMENT TO THE MUNICIPAL SHARED SERVICES DEFENSE AGREEMENT
- 2015-214 AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION AND EXECUTION OF GRANT AGREEMENT WITH NJDOT – BROOKSIDE ROAD
- 2015-215 AWARD OF CONTRACT THROUGH STATE CONTRACT #A80902 TO RICH TREE SERVICE INC. FOR TREE TRIMMING & REMOVAL SERVICES
- 2015-216 AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT WITH SOMERSET COUNTY PERTAINING TO BORROWED EQUIPMENT
- 2015-217 CANCELLATION OF TAX SALE CERTIFICATE 20021 ON COUNTY OWNED PROPERTY - BLOCK 163, LOT 3.01
- 2015-218 AUTHORIZING REFUNDS OF DUPLICATE TAX PAYMENTS RECEIVED
- 2015-219 RENEWAL OF PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION LIQUOR LICENSE #1820-33-002-005 – ROLF'S INC.
- 2015-220 RELEASE OF PERFORMANCE BOND – STREET OPENING PERMIT #2015-07

- 2015-221 APPROVAL OF THE INSERTION OF A SPECIAL ITEM OF REVENUE IN THE BUDGET RECEIVED FROM STATE OF NEW JERSEY – DRIVE SOBER OR GET PULLED OVER
- 2015-222 APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO THE WARREN TOWNSHIP VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT – M. D'ANTICO III
- 2015-223 AUTHORIZING APPOINTMENT TO THE FIRE POLICE – KENNETH LARSON
- 2015-224 CANCELING UNEXPENDED AND UNENCUMBERED BALANCE IN FIRE DEPARTMENT OE TO CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNT ENTITLED PURCHASE OF FIRE EQUIPMENT
- 2015-225 CANCELING UNEXPENDED AND UNENCUMBERED BALANCE IN ADMINISTRATION OE TO CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNT ENTITLED RESERVE FOR PURCHASE OF PURCHASE OF OFFICE EQUIPMENT AND OFFICE EQUIPMENT
- 2015-226 CANCELING UNEXPENDED AND UNENCUMBERED BALANCE IN HISTORIC SITES OE TO CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNT ENTITLED RESERVE FOR HISTORIC BUILDINGS
- 2015-227 CANCELING UNEXPENDED AND UNENCUMBERED BALANCE IN EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OE TO CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNT ENTITLED RESERVE FOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
- 2015-228 CANCELING UNEXPENDED AND UNENCUMBERED BALANCE IN ROADS OE TO CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNT ENTITLED RESERVE FOR PUBLIC WORKS EQUIPMENT
- 2015-229 CANCELING UNEXPENDED AND UNENCUMBERED BALANCE

IN THE FIRE TRUCK MAINTENANCE OE TO CAPITAL
RESERVE ACCOUNT ENTITLED RESERVE FOR
PURCHASE OF FIRE EQUIPMENT

2015-230 CANCELING UNEXPENDED AND UNENCUMBERED
BALANCE
IN THE MAINTENANCE OF WAGNER FARM OE TO
CAPITAL
RESERVE ACCOUNT ENTITLED RESERVE FOR
IMPROVEMENTS TO MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS

2015-231 CANCELING UNEXPENDED AND UNENCUMBERED
BALANCE
IN THE PURCHASE OF OFFICE EQUIPMENT OE TO
CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNT ENTITLED RESERVE
FOR PURCHASE OF OFFICE EQUIPMENT

2015-232 CANCELING UNEXPENDED AND UNENCUMBERED
BALANCE
IN PURCHASE OF POLICE EQUIPMENT OE TO
CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNT ENTITLED RESERVE
FOR
PURCHASE OF POLICE EQUIPMENT

2015-233 CANCELING UNEXPENDED AND UNENCUMBERED
BALANCE
IN IMPROVEMENTS TO PURCHASE PUBLIC WORKS
EQUIPMENT OE TO
CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNT ENTITLED RESERVE
FOR
PURCHASE PUBLIC WORKS EQUIPMENT

Resolutions No. 2015-208 through No. 2015-233 are appended to the
official minutes.

On motion of Mr. Sordillo, seconded by Mr. DiNardo, Resolution No.
2015-234 entitled "AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF
NON-DISCLOSURE AGREEMENT WITH MARMIC ASSOCIATES, INC." was introduced and adopted. The roll call vote was unanimous.

Resolution No. 2015-234 is appended to the official minutes.

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Mayor Marion stated that the Township spends money on improvements to beautify the downtown. Utility companies need to cut down unsightly trees. Only half of these trees are being cut and it looks terrible.

Chief Keane spoke of the resignation of a Police Officer this past summer. There are staffing issues. He proposed hiring two Officers to replace this attrition. He stated that between the hours of 3:00 am and 7:00 am, there are only two Officers on call. This is a safety issue. Hiring two Officers would alleviate this problem. It would also allow for additional training. The governing body was in favor of the hiring.

Mr. Krane informed the governing body that the Best Practices Survey will be submitted to the Division of Local Government Services.

Mr. Krane stated that the Salary Range Ordinance has not been amended since 2011. Mr. Lehrer will prepare the amendment.

Mr. Krane spoke of the planned Phase II of the East County Park and the proposed building of a path that would tie into the Duderstadt Turf Field. The estimated cost is \$780,000 and would also include a gazebo, a bridge and benches. The Freeholders wanted to award a contract. Mr. Krane told them to hold off so that the governing body could discuss. Mayor Marion stated that Phase I went very well. He outlined the original Contract with the County and the fact that the total obligation committed by the Township was \$750,000 and no more. These funds were allocated from the Open Space Trust Fund. The funds were to be spent over five years. The Mayor and Mr. Krane will work on this issue.

Mr. Krane spoke of a proposal from Verizon to install a Distributed Antenna System as they need additional signal strength. The Industry is moving in this direction. Mr. DiNardo stated that private property needs to be protected and not obstructed. Mr. Sordillo said that he and Mr. Lazo are liaisons to the Cell Tower Advisory group led by resident Alan Davidson. Mr. Lehrer said that companies can make deals with businesses and residents. The Telecommunications Ordinance needs to be amended so that certain protections are in place.

Mr. Sordillo left the meeting at 8:44 a.m.

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On motion of Mrs. Garafola, second of Mr. DiNardo, Kim Foley was appointed to the Library Advisory Board to 12/31/15. The roll call was unanimous.

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

Mr. Lakatos, Horseshoe Road asked why there is a morning meeting. Mayor Marion replied that there were resident requests.

The Privilege portion was closed, as no one else wished to speak.

On motion of Mrs. Garafola, second of Mr. DiNardo, and unanimous voice vote, the meeting adjourned at 8:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. DiRocco, RMC
Township Clerk