

**MINUTES OF THE WARREN TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
MARCH 24, 2016**

REGULAR MEETING

The Township Committee of the Township of Warren, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, convened in Public Session on Thursday, March 24, 2016 at 4:30 p.m. in the Susie B. Boyce Meeting Room, 44 Mountain Boulevard, Warren, New Jersey.

Mayor Lazo 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, 2016 and March 18, 2016 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. Marion
Mr. DiNardo
Mr. Sordillo
Mrs. Garafola
Mayor Lazo

Also Present: Mark M. Krane, Township Administrator
Patricia A. DiRocco, RMC, Township Clerk
Jeffrey Lehrer, Township Attorney

Mayor Lazo led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Township Clerk DiRocco read the following Executive Session Resolution No. 2016-70. The resolution was introduced by Mrs. Garafola, seconded by Mr. Sordillo and carried by unanimous voice vote.

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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:

Litigation: Affordable Housing
Contract Negotiations: Labor Contracts - PBA and Dispatchers
Personnel: Sgt. Cline and Officer Foley Leave of Absence;
Police Sergeant Promotion interviews

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 4:30 p.m.

The meeting reconvened to Public Session at 7:01 p.m.

A Certificate of Recognition was presented to Rachel Oberman for her accomplishments and awards in World Figure Skating competitions.

Mr. DiNardo introduced Ordinance No. 16-02 by title for second reading/adoption and read the following:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER III "GENERAL POLICE REGULATIONS" OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WARREN BY ADDING A NEW SECTION 3-29 ENTITLED "INVASIVE PLANT SPECIES"

Mayor Lazo opened the public hearing on this ordinance. No one wished to speak and the public hearing was closed.

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On motion of Mr. DiNardo, second of Mrs. Garafola, Ordinance No. 16-02 was adopted. The roll call vote was unanimous.

Mr. Marion introduced Ordinance No. 16-03 by title for second reading/adoption and read the following:

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE AMOUNT OF \$135,000 AS AN APPROPRIATION FROM CAPITAL FUND BALANCE TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR THE PURCHASE OF A 911 SYSTEM WITH TEXT TO 911 FEATURES FOR USE BY THE WARREN TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

Mayor Lazo opened the public hearing on this ordinance. No one wished to speak and the public hearing was closed.

On motion of Mr. Marion, second of Mr. Sordillo, Ordinance No. 16-03 was adopted. The roll call vote was unanimous.

Mrs. Garafola introduced Ordinance No. 16-04 by title for second reading/adoption and read the following:

AN ORDINANCE TO FIX AND DETERMINE SALARY AND WAGE RANGES AND OTHER COMPENSATION AND PERSONNEL BENEFITS TO BE PAID TO CERTAIN OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WARREN IN THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET AND AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 04-28, ORDINANCE NO. 05-17 AND ORDINANCE NO. 07-66

Mayor Lazo opened the public hearing on this ordinance. No one wished to speak and the public hearing was closed.

On motion of Mrs. Garafola, second of Mr. Sordillo, Ordinance No. 16-04 was adopted. The roll call vote was unanimous.

On motion of Mrs. Garafola, second of Mr. Marion, the Regular and Executive session meeting minutes of February 25, 2016 were approved. The roll call vote was unanimous.

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

Mr. Lakatos, 7 Horseshoe Road, stated that he compared last year's budget with this year. There was no increase. He commended the governing body.

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The Comments portion of the meeting was closed, as no one else wished to speak.

Mr. Marion introduced and read Resolution No. 2016-71 for the payment of bills, seconded by Mrs. Garafola. The roll call vote was unanimous.

Resolution No. 2016-71 is appended to the official minutes.

Mayor Lazo appointed David Pasi to the Planning Board to fill an unexpired term, said term to expire 12/31/16.

On motion of Mr. DiNardo, second of Mr. Marion, David Pasi was appointed to the Environmental Commission to fill an unexpired term, said term to expire on 12/31/16. The roll call was unanimous.

Mayor Lazo adjusted the term of Peter Villani, Planning Board Class IV member to add one year. Mr. Villani was the Planning Board Liaison to the Environmental Commission. It was originally a three year term to coincide with the Environmental Commission term. It will now revert back to a four year term. The term will now expire 12/31/17.

Mr. Sordillo introduced Ordinance No. 16-05 by title for first reading and read the following:

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE AMOUNT OF \$70,000 AS AN APPROPRIATION FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR THE PURCHASE OF A COMPACT EXCAVATOR WITH HYDRAULIC THUMB AND RELATED EQUIPMENT FOR USE BY THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

On motion of Mr. Sordillo, second of Mr. DiNardo, Ordinance No. 16-05 was passed on first reading. The roll call vote was unanimous.

Mr. DiNardo introduced Ordinance No. 16-06 by title for first reading and read the following:

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE AMOUNT OF \$15,000 AS AN APPROPRIATION FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR THE REPLACEMENT AND INSTALLATION OF CARPETING IN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

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On motion of Mr. DiNardo, second of Mrs. Garafola, Ordinance No. 16-06 was passed on first reading. The roll call vote was unanimous.

Mr. Marion introduced Ordinance No. 16-07 by title for first reading and read the following:

AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION AND SUBSEQUENT SALE TO A QUALIFIED BUYER OF AN AFFORDABLE HOUSING UNIT AT 127 TOWN CENTER DRIVE – BLOCK 74 LOT 5.23

On motion of Mr. Marion, second of Mr. Mr. Sordillo, Ordinance No. 16-07 was passed on first reading. The roll call vote was unanimous.

Mrs. Garafola introduced Ordinance No. 16-08 by title for first reading and read the following:

AN ORDINANCE SUPPLEMENTING AND AMENDING CHAPTER VII ENTITLED "TRAFFIC" OF THE *REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WARREN* TO ADD SECTION 7-66 TO BE ENTITLED "TRAFFIC REGULATIONS FOR THE PROMENADE" AT WARREN

On motion of Mrs. Garafola, second of Mr. DiNardo, Ordinance No. 16-08 was passed on first reading. The roll call vote was unanimous.

Mr. Marion introduced Ordinance No. 16-09 by title for first reading and read the following:

AN ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS IN ORDER TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14

On motion of Mr. Marion, second of Mr. Mr. Sordillo, Ordinance No. 16-09 was passed on first reading. The roll call vote was unanimous.

Mr. Sordillo introduced Ordinance No. 16-10 by title for first reading and read the following:

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING A UTILITY EASEMENT TO MARTINSVILLE ROAD REALTY II, LLC ACROSS A PORTION OF TOWNSHIP OWNED PROPERTY LOCATED AT BLOCK 11 LOT 2

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On motion of Mr. Sordillo, second of Mrs. Garafola, Ordinance No. 16-10 was passed on first reading. The roll call vote was as follows:

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

Mr. Marion introduced Resolution No. 2016-72 "INTRODUCTION OF 2016 MUNICIPAL BUDGET" and read the following:

Be It Resolved, that the statements of revenues and appropriations shall constitute the Municipal Budget for the year 2016;

Further Resolved, that the total general appropriations are \$18,816,651.49

Further Resolved, that the amount to be raised by taxes, for support of the Municipal Budget is \$13,465,570.53

Further Resolved, that said budget will be published in the Courier News, in the issue of April 8, 2016; and

Further Resolved, that a public hearing on the 2016 Municipal Budget will be held on May 12, 2016, at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Complex

Resolution No. 2016-72 was seconded by Mrs. Garafola. The roll call vote was unanimous.

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

2016-73 AUTHORIZING THE SPECIAL TAX APPEAL ATTORNEY TO ENTER INTO A STIPULATION OF SETTLEMENT RELATIVE TO THE TAX APPEALS CAPTIONED KIM KANG VS. TOWNSHIP OF WARREN, TAX COURT OF NEW JERSEY, DOCKET NOS. 006306-2014 AND 005896-2015

2016-74 AUTHORIZING SIGNING OF MUNICIPAL GROUNDS PERMIT FOR LIONS CLUB EXPO EVENT

2016-75 AUTHORIZING SIGNING OF MUNICIPAL FIELD USE APPLICATION FOR WARREN TOWNSHIP RESCUE SQUAD

- 2016-76 APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO THE WARREN TOWNSHIP VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT – G. TRUGLIO
- 2016-77 AWARD OF CONTRACT – DITSCHMAN FLEMINGTON FORD LINCOLN ONE (1) FORD F-350 PICK-UP TRUCK
- 2016-78 ENDORSING FILING OF RECYCLING TONNAGE GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE YEAR 2015
- 2016-79 AMENDING 2016 TEMPORARY BUDGET
- 2016-80 AUTHORIZING BUDGET TRANSFERS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$68,000
- 2016-81 AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A INDEMNIFICATION AND HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT WITH AMERICAN LITTORAL SOCIETY FOR SUMMER RECREATION CAMP FIELD TRIP TO SANDY HOOK
- 2016-82 RELEASE OF MAINTENANCE BOND - STONE CREEK REALTY, LLC.
- 2016-83 RELEASE OF PERFORMANCE BOND - JARED ESTATES, LLC
- 2016-84 EXTENSION OF PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION “HOTEL/MOTEL EXCEPTION” LIQUOR LICENSE #1802-36-014-005 TO VALOR HOSPITALITY PARTNERS, LLC (RECEIVER FOR NET HOSPITALITY MANAGEMENT LLC)

Resolutions No. 2016-73 through No. 2016-84 are appended to the official minutes.

On motion of Mr. Sordillo, seconded by Mr. DiNardo, Resolution No. 2016-85 entitled “APPROVING THE POLICE SERGEANT’S PROMOTION ELIGIBILITY LIST” was introduced and adopted. The roll call vote was unanimous.

Resolution No. 2016-85 is appended to the official minutes.

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Mr. Krane gave an update on the Krausche Road/Geiger Lane Sewer Project. There will be an adjustment in the plans. Required easement documents are being prepared and wetlands applications will be submitted to NJ DEP. Once DEP approvals are obtained, the bidding process can begin. A treatment works permit must be obtained as well.

Mr. Lehrer stated that he has been working with Township Clerk DiRocco regarding the Sign Ordinance. There are inconsistencies that need to be addressed. Banners are prohibited. There was a request by Temple Har Shalom to hang a large banner across Warrentville Road. Signs can be no more than 32 square feet. This does not apply to Township sponsored events. The governing body expressed concern over the frequency of the hanging of banners and the duration if the Ordinance were to be amended to allow banners. Mr. Lehrer will prepare an amendment for review. As a one-time exemption, the governing body will allow the Temple to hang the banner. On motion of Mr. DiNardo, second of Mrs. Garafola, the Temple may hang the banner for no more than two weeks before their event. The banner must be removed within 48 hours after the event. This is a one-time exemption. The roll call vote was unanimous.

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

Mr. Walton, JCP&L spoke of the trimming of trees that are hanging on utility wires. There is a new tree standard. In the past, the trimming would be done around a 15 foot radius. The new standard will be ground to sky. If it becomes unsightly, JCP&L will remove the entire tree. Mr. Krane noted that he would like to have someone from JCP&L tour the Township with him and Mr. Buro to assess areas that may be in need of trimming or removal of trees.

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 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. DiRocco, RMC
Township Clerk