

TOWNSHIP OF WARREN
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
April 19, 2017

EXECUTIVE SESSION – RESOLUTION NO. 2017-104

Pending Litigation: Affordable Housing
Contract Negotiations: Warren Township Sewerage Authority Shared Services Agreement

Motion: Committeeman Marion Seconded by Committeeman Lazo. Voice Vote: All in favor

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING

Clerk Reese read the following statement:

In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act of New Jersey, adequate notice of this meeting was provided on January 5, 2017 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.

At 7:12 PM Mayor Garafola opened the Public Meeting.

All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Mayor Garafola, Deputy Mayor Sordillo, Committeeman Lazo, Committeeman Marion and Committeeman DiNardo were all present.

Also present was Administrator Mark Krane, Township Attorney Substitute Bill Robertson and Township Clerk Cathy Reese.

13th Anniversary CERTIFICATE of RECOGNITION presented to The Learning Experience by Mayor Garafola.

SOMERSET COUNTY FIRE MARSHALS ASSOCIATION

FIRE PREVENTION POSTER CONTEST PRESENTATION BY Fire Marshall Al Sharback to Inica Kotasthane.

WATCHUNG HILLS REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

2017/2018 BUDGET PRESENTATION by Elizabeth Jewett, Superintendent

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

ORDINANCE NO. 17-02 (second reading/adoption)

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER VII ENTITLED "TRAFFIC" OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WARREN ADDING NEW SUBSECTION CHANGING WEIGHT LIMIT ON MORNING GLORY ROAD

Mayor Garafola opened the PUBLIC HEARING, as there were no comments, Mayor Garafola closed the PUBLIC HEARING.

Deputy Mayor Sordillo made a Motion to adopt Ordinance No. 17-02, seconded by Committeeman Marion. There was no discussion. Roll call: All in favor

ORDINANCE NO. 17-03 (second reading/adoption)

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER VII ENTITLED "TRAFFIC" OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WARREN TO REDUCE THE SPEED LIMIT ON CHRISTY DRIVE AND HUNTERS TRAIL

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Mayor Garafola opened the PUBLIC HEARING, as there were no comments, Mayor Garafola closed the PUBLIC HEARING.

Deputy Mayor Sordillo made a Motion to adopt Ordinance No. 17-03, seconded by Committeeman Marion. There was no discussion. Roll call: Committeeman Lazo, abstain; Committeeman Marion, yes; Committeeman DiNardo, yes; Deputy Mayor Sordillo, yes; and Mayor Garafola, yes.

ORDINANCE NO. 17-04 (second reading/adoption)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WARREN, COUNTY OF SOMERSET, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO AMEND SECTION 16-3 ENTITLED "OFFICIAL ZONING MAP AND INTERPRETATION" OF CHAPTER XVI, ENTITLED "ZONING" OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WARREN

Mayor Garafola opened the PUBLIC HEARING, as there were no comments, Mayor Garafola closed the PUBLIC HEARING.

Deputy Mayor Sordillo made a Motion to adopt Ordinance No. 17-04, seconded by Committeeman Committeeman DiNardo made a Motion to APPROVE the TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MINUTES for the Regular Session – March 16, 2017, Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Sordillo, Voice vote; All in favor.

REPORTS OF TOWNSHIP OFFICERS OR OFFICIALS – None at this time.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Committeeman Lazo noted that First Pitch Saturday was this coming Saturday, the 22nd at 8:45 AM and that May 20th was the Fishing Derby.

Deputy Mayor Sordillo reminded the public about the Green Fair on April 22nd at the Municipal Complex and noted that the Elks will be hosting a Comic Relief on June 7th.

COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

Bill Lakatos, 7 Horseshoe Lane questioned resolution #2017-109 on the Consent Agenda. Police Chief Keane noted that it was for a Police Dept. bench for repairing guns, and the item is free.

BILLS

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-105

Committeeman Marion made a Motion to adopt. Seconded by Committeeman Lazo. Roll call: All in favor.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS – None at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCE NO. 17-05 (by title for introduction)

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

Committeeman Lazo made a Motion to pass Ordinance No. 17-05 on first reading. Seconded by Committeeman DiNardo. There was no discussion. Roll call: All in favor. The Public Hearing is scheduled for May 18th.

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ORDINANCE NO. 17-06 (by title for introduction)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE AMOUNT OF \$40,000 AS AN APPROPRIATION FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR THE PURCHASE OF A PICKUP TRUCK WITH PLOW AND RELATED EQUIPMENT FOR USE BY THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Committeeman Lazo made a motion to pass Ordinance No. 17-06 on first reading. Seconded by Committeeman Marion. There was no discussion. Roll call: All in Favor. The Public Hearing is scheduled for May 18th.

ORDINANCE NO. 17-07 (by title for introduction)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WARREN, COUNTY OF SOMERSET, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO AMEND SECTION 4-13 ENTITLED "LICENSING OF TOWING" OF CHAPTER IV ENTITLED "LICENSING-GENERAL" OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WARREN

Explanation: This Ordinance amends Section 4-13 entitled "Licensing of Towing" by increasing the license fee and revising certain requirements for tow operators.

Committeeman Lazo made a motion to pass Ordinance No. 17-07 on first reading. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Sordillo, There was no discussion. Roll call: Committeeman Lazo, yes; Committeeman Marion, yes; Committeeman DiNardo, abstain; Deputy Mayor Sordillo, yes; and Mayor Garafola, yes. The Public Hearing is scheduled for May 18th.

ORDINANCE NO. 17-08 (by title for introduction)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WARREN, COUNTY OF SOMERSET, and STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO AMEND SECTION 15.6-11 ENTITLED "POST-APPROVAL COMPLIANCE" OF CHAPTER XV ENTITLED "LAND USE PROCEDURES AND DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WARREN"

Explanation: This Ordinance amends Chapter XV entitled "Land Use Procedures and Development Ordinance of the Township of Warren" by amending Section 15.6-11 entitled "Post-Approval Compliance".

Deputy Mayor Sordillo made a motion to pass Ordinance No. 17-08 on first reading. Seconded by Committeeman DiNardo. Discussion – Committeeman Lazo explained that this was to make the process for Land Uses procedures more efficient and reduce redundancy in the process. Roll call: All in favor. The Public Hearing is scheduled for May 18th.

ORDINANCE NO. 17-09 (by title for introduction)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE AMOUNT OF \$20,000 AS AN APPROPRIATION FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR THE PURCHASE OF FIRE HOSE FOR USE BY THE WARREN TOWNSHIP VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Deputy Mayor Sordillo made a motion to pass Ordinance No. 17-09 on first reading. Seconded by Committeeman DiNardo. Discussion – Deputy Mayor Sordillo explained that fire hoses have a short shelf life for safety reasons and this is the 2nd replacement year of a 5 year plan. Roll call: All in favor. The Public Hearing is scheduled for May 18th.

ORDINANCE NO. 17-10 (by title for introduction)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE AMOUNT OF \$51,000 AS AN APPROPRIATION FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR THE

PURCHASE OF LIVE SCAN FINGERPRINTING EQUIPMENT AND TOUGH BOOK COMPUTERS FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Deputy Mayor Sordillo made a motion to pass Ordinance No. 17-10 on first reading. Seconded by Committeeman Lazo, Discussion – Administrator Krane noted that this is the third and final year for this project. Roll call: All in favor. The Public Hearing is scheduled for May 18th.

ORDINANCE NO. 17-11 (by title for introduction)
AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE AMOUNT OF \$35,000 AS AN APPROPRIATION FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR THE PURCHASE OF NEW CARPETING AND FLOORING IN THE SUSIE B. BOYCE MEETING ROOM, ADJACENT CONFERENCE ROOM, JUDGES CHAMBER AND RELATED OFFICES AT THE POLICE AND COURT BUILDING AT 44 MOUNTAIN BOULEVARD

Committeeman DiNardo made a motion to pass Ordinance No. 17-11 on first reading. Seconded by Committeeman Lazo. There was no discussion. Roll call: All in favor. The Public Hearing is scheduled for May 18th.

ORDINANCE NO. 17-12 (by title for introduction)
AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE AMOUNT OF \$30,000 AS AN APPROPRIATION FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR THE PURCHASE OF A FORK LIFT FOR USE BY THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Committeeman DiNardo made a motion to pass Ordinance No. 17-12 on first reading. Seconded by Committeeman Marion. There was no discussion. Roll call: All in favor. The Public Hearing is scheduled for May 18th.

INTRODUCTION – 2017 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-106

Be It Resolved, that the statements of revenues and appropriations shall constitute the Municipal Budget for the year 2017;

Further Resolved, that the total general appropriations are \$18,895,411.91

Further Resolved, that the amount to be raised by taxes, for support of the Municipal Budget is \$13,365,569.69

Further Resolved, that said budget will be published in the Echo Sentinel, in the issue of May 4, 2017; and

Further Resolved, that a public hearing on the 2017 Municipal Budget will be held on May 18, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Complex

Committeeman Marion made a motion to approve the 2017 Municipal Budget. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Sordillo.

Discussion: Committeeman Marion noted that the average home price in Warren Township is now \$738,753.00 which is a 3% increase in value from last year and for that average home there was only a \$13.00 increase in property taxes for the Township Operating Budget and that our Tax Collection rate is at 99.3%. Mayor Garafola noted that the housing inventory in Warren is low and the average turnover is 68 days. Committeeman Marion also noted that included in this year's budget was \$900,000 in street overlays, \$1.5 Million in debt service, \$450,000 for fire hydrants.

Committeeman Lazo noted that the Township Committee and Administration only manages sixteen cents of every tax dollar for the Municipal Budget

Roll call: All in favor.

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-107 – FILING OF 2017 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

Committeeman Marion made a motion to adopt. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Sordillo.
There was no discussion. Roll call: All in favor

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS

Resolutions No. 2017-108 through No. 2017-120 were submitted to the Township Committee for review and may be adopted by one motion. These resolutions are listed on the agenda for review and a complete copy made available in the Township Clerk's Office.

Committeeman DiNardo made a motion to adopt Resolutions No. 2017-108 through 2017-120. Seconded by Committeeman Marion. Roll call:

- 2017-108 ENDORSING FILING OF RECYCLING TONNAGE GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE YEAR 2016
- 2017-109 AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION BY THE WARREN TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT IN THE 1033 MILITARY SURPLUS PROGRAM
- 2017-110 AUTHORIZING TOLLING AGREEMENT WITH SOMERSET ASSOCIATES L.P. REGARDING BLOCK 8 LOT 2 AND BLOCK 9 LOT 1.09
- 2017-111 AWARD OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICE CONTRACT WESTFIELD ARCHITECTS & PRESERVATION CONSULTANTS PREPARE APPLICATION FOR SOMERSET COUNTY 2017 HISTORIC PRESERVATION GRANT PROGRAM FOR MT BETHEL BAPTIST MEETING HOUSE
- 2017-112 AUTHORIZE APPLICATION FOR 2017 SOMERSET COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION GRANT PROGRAM FOR PRESERVATION AND STRUCTURAL STABILIZATION OF THE MOUNT BETHEL MEETING HOUSE
- 2017-113 AUTHORIZING RENEWAL OF CONTRACT WITH COUNTY OF SOMERSET TRANSPORTATION SERVICES FOR SENIOR CITIZENS
- 2017-114 AUTHORIZING SIGNING OF MUNICIPAL GROUNDS PERMIT AND SIGN PERMIT - LIONS CLUB
- 2017-115 AUTHORIZING 7th CHANGE ORDER - NEW MUNICIPAL BUILDING BISMARCK CONSTRUCTION
- 2017-116 AWARD OF CONTRACT TO RICH TREE SERVICE INC FOR TREE TRIMMING AND REMOVAL
- 2017-117 APPROVING UPDATED BLOOD-BORNE PATHOGENS EXPOSURE CONTROL PLAN AND RESPIRATORY PROTECTION PLAN
- 2017-118 AUTHORIZES GOVDEALS TO SELL TOWNSHIP'S SURPLUS PROPERTY
- 2017-119 AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT WITH SOMERSET COUNTY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE COUNTY'S "12th ANNUAL WEEKEND JOURNEY THROUGH THE PAST YEAR"

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2017-120 AWARD OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICE CONTRACT FERRIERO ENGINEERING,
INC. TO PREPARED AN ENHANCED CONCEPTUAL SITE PLAN FOR BLOCK
114 LOTS 17, 22.03, A PORTION OF 22.04, 26, 27, 28, & 29

DEFERRED BUSINESS – There was none at this time

DISCUSSION

- a. Recreation Commission Proposed - Sport Recognition Policy – The Committee made one minor change and this will be on the May 18th Agenda for approval.
- b. Recreation Commission Proposed – Public Announcement Policy – The Committee made no changes, this will also be on the May 18th Agenda for approval.
- c. NJDEP Permit Amendments

Review of Memorandum issued by Christian Kastrud, Township Engineer.

d. Sale of Liquor License (Package Goods Store) Placement Conditions -
A discussion ensued based on the analysis from Clerk Reese. Mayor Garafola suggested and opening bid of \$380,000.00, and all agreed. The area on the township map which was reviewed by the Committee and discussed will have a wider area of options than the first bid and the Clerk was instructed to meet with Committeeman DiNardo for the legal descriptions to be included in the resolution for the May 18th meeting and the subsequent bid package.

e. Park and Ride Survey –
This could possibly be off I-78, exit 36, 1 mile east, due to a bus route change by the DOT. Mayor Garafola asked Chief Keane to research if having a Park and Ride would increase crime. Committeeman Lazo encouraged everyone to take the survey, the opportunity to provide public transportation to NYC would increase property values.

- f. Open Space Appointments – rescheduled for the May 18th meeting

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

There was no comments from the public

ADJOURN 7:53 PM

Committeeman Marion made a motion, seconded by Committeeman Lazo to return to Executive Session, to discuss Contract Negotiations: Warren Township Sewerage Authority Shared Services Agreement. No formal action will be taken, and the Committee will not return to Open Session.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Reese, RMC
Township Clerk

Approved May 18, 2017