

STILLWATER TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
March 17, 2015
Regular Meeting

A REGULAR MEETING of the Stillwater Township Committee was called to order by Mayor Scott at 7 p.m. noting the meeting date, time and place were duly published in the New Jersey Herald and posted at the Town Hall and advised those present that this meeting was being held in compliance with provisions of P.L. 1975, Chapter 231, Sections 4 & 13.

Roll Call was taken and the flag was saluted.

PRESENT: Mayor Scott, Committeewoman Chamblings, Deputy Mayor Fisher, Committeeman Gross, Committeewoman Straway, Municipal Clerk Lynda Knott, Township Attorney Richard Stein.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

After the reading of the following Resolution to enter into Executive Session, a **motion** was made by Mrs. Straway, seconded by Mr. Gross and carried by roll call vote to adopt the resolution permitting the Committee to go into Executive Session at 6 p.m.

WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975 permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting under certain circumstances; and

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

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Stillwater, in the County of Sussex and State of New Jersey as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from that portion of this meeting.
2. The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows: Personnel; Attorney Client
3. As nearly as can now be ascertained, the matter or matters to be discussed at this time will be disclosed to the public when such matters are resolved.

There being no further business to attend to, a **motion** was made by Mr. Gross, seconded by Mrs. Straway to conclude the Executive Session at 6:45 p.m., unanimously carried by roll call vote.

Regular Session:

CONSENT AGENDA:

ALL MATTERS LISTED BELOW ARE CONSIDERED ROUTINE IN NATURE AND WILL BE ENACTED BY ONE MOTION. THERE WILL BE NO SEPARATE DISCUSSION OF THE ITEMS. IF ANY DISCUSSION IS DESIRED, THAT PARTICULAR ITEM WILL BE REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA AND WILL BE CONSIDERED SEPARATELY ON THE REGULAR AGENDA.

Resolutions: 2015-040 Approving Appointment to the Zoning Board of Adjustment
2015-041 Authorizing Payment of Redemption
2015-042 Acknowledging Municipal Alliance Grant Terms

Mr. Gross made a **motion** to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Mr. Fisher.

Roll Call Vote: Ms. Chamblings, yes, Mr. Fisher, yes, Mr. Gross, yes, Mrs. Straway, yes, Mayor Scott, yes

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA: None

Bills List #5: \$863,362.29

Resolution 2015-043: Payment of Bills

Ms. Chamblings made a **motion** to approve Bill List #5, Resolution 2015-043, seconded by Mr. Gross.

Roll Call Vote: Ms. Chamblings, yes, Mr. Fisher, yes, Mr. Gross, yes, Mrs. Straway, yes, Mayor Scott, yes

Open Public Session:

At this point, this portion of the meeting was opened to the public.

There being no members of the public wishing to speak, this portion of the meeting was closed.

Committee Reports:

ERI Update:

Ms. Chammings made a **motion** authorizing the Land Conservancy to update the ERI for threatened and endangered flora and fauna, seconded by Mrs. Straway.

Roll Call Vote: Ms. Chammings, yes, Mr. Fisher, yes, Mr. Gross, yes, Mrs. Straway, yes, Mayor Scott, yes

OLD BUSINESS:

The Committee will meet with the Stillwater Fire Department on Tuesday, March 31st at 7 p.m. at the Municipal Building. The meeting will be held to discuss the visions and goals of the fire department to assist the Committee in determining what would be beneficial for the township in the future. Dates will be set to meet with both the Swartswood Fire Department and the Rescue Squad in the near future for the same purpose. The active membership of the fire and EMS is invited to the discussion.

Safety Meeting: Thursday, April 16th at 7 p.m. at the Municipal Building

Free Seedlings: The application was submitted for the free seedlings.

Generator: Ms. Chammings spoke with Corporal Mark Vogel and a letter should be forthcoming regarding the generator within the next week.

NEW BUSINESS

9-1-1 Center:

Mayor Scott reported that Committee members visited the new Sussex County 9-1-1 Emergency Communications Center and it was very impressive.

OPEN PUBLIC SESSION

At this point, this portion of the meeting was opened to the public.

Kathy Draghi, 1016 Route 619 asked if the concerns expressed at a prior meeting regarding response times and other problems with the new 9-1-1 communication center are being dealt with. Mayor Scott indicated the issues are being addressed.

Stacey Michelman, 916 Possum Hill Road commended the DPW on plowing and salting on her road this year. She asked for the potholes to be addressed, noting it has caused problems when EMS and fire departments are responding.

Ms. Michelman asked if an information sign/community bulletin board could be placed at the Recycling Center to inform those without children in the schools of upcoming events and notices. Mrs. Straway stated there is funding available to do so through the Recycling Trust.

There being no further members of the public wishing to speak, this portion of the meeting was closed.

Attorney Report:

Mr. Stein reported on the recent New Jersey Supreme Court COAH order. The order included a provision that any municipality that received substantive certification from COAH, even though the rules were found to be invalid, could file a declaratory judgment action within 30 days (April 10th) to obtain the judicial equivalent of a substantive certification which means that your zoning ordinance and housing

plan would go into court with the presumption of validity, making it difficult for a developer interested in higher density housing to overcome.

Mrs. Straway made a **motion** authorizing Mr. Stein to file the declaratory action, seconded by Mr. Fisher.

Roll Call Vote: Ms. Chammings, yes, Mr. Fisher, yes, Mr. Gross, yes, Mrs. Straway, yes, Mayor Scott, yes

WORKSHOP MEETINGS: Beginning with the first Township Committee meeting on April 7, 2015, the Committee agreed to hold workshop meetings on the first Tuesday of each month, and regular meetings on the third Tuesday of each month. Agenda items must be in no later than the Thursday prior to the meeting. Action may or may not be taken at each meeting, regular or workshop.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

After the reading of the following Resolution to enter into Executive Session, a **motion** was made by Mr. Fisher, seconded by Ms. Chammings and carried by roll call vote to adopt the resolution permitting the Committee to go into Executive Session at 7:40 p.m.

WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975 permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting under certain circumstances; and

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

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Stillwater, in the County of Sussex and State of New Jersey as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from that portion of this meeting.
2. The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows: Personnel; Attorney Client
3. As nearly as can now be ascertained, the matter or matters to be discussed at this time will be disclosed to the public when such matters are resolved.

There being no further business to attend to, a **motion** was made by Mayor Scott, seconded by Mr. Gross to conclude the Executive Session at 9:15 p.m., unanimously carried by roll call vote.

There being no further business, Mrs. Straway made a **motion** to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Chammings. In a voice vote, all were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Wunder