

STILLWATER TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
June 25, 2013
Regular Meeting

A REGULAR MEETING of the Stillwater Township Committee was called to order by Mayor Gross at 6:00 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 Gross, Committeewoman Chammings, Committeeman Fisher, Deputy Mayor Scott, Committeewoman Straway, Acting Municipal Clerk Lynda Knott, and Attorney Ursula Leo.

ABSENT:

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:

2013-073 Authorizing Payment of Lien Redemption

2013-074 Approving Loan to B Vionito-Paino

Reports:

SC Board of Health - May 2013

Stillwater First Aid Squad Monthly and Monthly Day Calls – May 2013

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

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

Bill List Cycle #12: \$840,132.95

Mr. Scott made a **motion** to approve Bill List Cycle #12, seconded by **Mrs. Straway**.

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

Amendments to the Agenda: none

Open Public Session:

Due to the brief nature of the meeting, the first open public session was suspended. The public may speak to any matters during the second open public session.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Mr. Scott: no report

Mrs. Straway: The Green Team has a meeting on June 26 to discuss Green Fest being held on August 18th. She attended the School Board meeting on June 24th. Upgrading of security and technology were discussed. There will be a golf fundraiser on August 19th to help offset the cost of the 6th Grade Washington DC trip. Information will be posted on the Town's website and will be available at the Municipal Building.

Mr. Fisher: Stillwater Day was a success.

Ms. Chammings: It was brought to her attention, as well as other Committee members, that signs should be posted stating “No Swimming in the Creek” at Veterans during the Stillwater Day festivities. There was some discussion about whether that would be possible. It will be considered for next year. Due to illness Ms. Chammings was unable to attend the PAC meeting.

Mayor Gross: Zoning Board of Adjustment held their meeting on June 24th. Variances for a deck and an outdoor furnace were discussed. The deck was passed, but the furnace needed more information and will appear again next month. According to the attorney, everything is in order to move ahead with the Nextel cell tower. Nextel does however still owe the Township money from the court decision.

Discussion was held concerning road improvements. Surveying has begun for the second phase of the Middleville Road project. The county is also surveying and painting lines on the road assessing bridges in the area. The bridge on 521 which was damaged in an accident will be repaired soon. The bridge is expected to be closed for several days following the July 4th holiday to complete the repairs.

OLD BUSINESS:

Samaritan Inn – Request for waiver of fees: A zoning permit has been issued to the Samaritan Inn, which was paid by a Township resident. The Samaritan Inn then paid the building permit fees of \$754.00. The work is being completed by Habitat for Humanity at no charge. Mayor Gross stated that in the past there was an ordinance which waived \$500.00 in fees for non-profit agencies. He would like to discuss reinstating this ordinance in the future. The matter was then opened for discussion. Mrs. Straway stated, in the interest of full disclosure, the resident that paid the zoning permit fee was the Gross family. Mrs. Straway also expressed concern about reinstating the ordinance waiving fees due to the fact that the building department has not been operating in the black. Some discussion followed about the waiving of fees. Mrs. Straway stated planning board fees have been waived in the past, but not building fees. Mayor Gross stated people who work for non-profit organizations donate their time freely and should be offered help when possible. Discussion continued about the payment of the zoning permit fee. The attorney stated she didn’t see any reason for concern and discussion should end.

NEW BUSINESS:

ORDINANCE #2013-005 Introduction 1st Reading [Public Hearing July 16, 2013]

Bond Ordinance providing for renovations to the municipal building in and by the Township of Stillwater, Appropriating \$250,000 Therefore and Authorizing the Issuance of \$238,000 Bonds or Notes of the Township to Finance Part of the Cost Thereof.

Mr. Scott made a **motion** to introduce Ordinance #2013-005, seconded by **Mr. Fisher**.

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

ORDINANCE #2013-006 Introduction 1st Reading [Public Hearing July 16, 2013]

Capital Ordinance appropriating \$32,500 for the purchase of a 4x4 pick-up truck for Public Works Department to be undertaken by the Township of Stillwater.

Mr. Scott made a **motion** to introduce Ordinance #2013-006, seconded by **Ms. Chammings**.

Mr. Scott has spoken to Mr. Hendershot concerning the old DPW truck. They will be salvaging the truck as much as possible for snow-plowing purposes. It is a state contract bid. Mrs. Straway wanted to discuss the amount of the ordinance. Following discussion and due to some safety issues, the amount of the ordinance was raised to \$33,650.00.

Mr. Scott amended the **motion** to read \$33,650.00, seconded by **Mr. Fisher**.

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

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Crandon 5K Fun Run – September 28, 2013: The Crandon Lakes Association would like approval to hold a 5K race on September 28, 2013. The main road in Crandon Lakes is a township road. They have provided a certificate of insurance. Ms. Chamblings would like to be sure the amount listed is sufficient for a road race. Mrs. Knott will confirm the necessary amount with the town's risk manager.

Mr. Scott made a **motion** to approve the running of the race pending sufficient insurance, seconded by **Mr. Fisher**.

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

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

Carol Drace, 937 West End Drive, would like to know if anything is being done about drainage due to water rising behind her house. Mrs. Straway stated that a survey has been completed and it would cost approximately \$53,000 to fix. There are DEP issues and, other than a small right of way, it is not Township property. There is also no guarantee that the problem would be solved. The engineer doesn't believe that the problem will be solved without putting in a pumping station which the Township cannot do. Mrs. Drace realizes the groundwater problem cannot be solved but could perhaps be helped. There was some discussion about what would need to be done and the possible effects changes could have. Mrs. Drace stated the Committee had told her they would look into fixing the drainage problem and she has been waiting a year and a half. She has not made any repairs to her basement because she has been waiting to hear from the Township about where they stand on this issue. Mrs. Straway stated she became liaison to engineering in January and was unaware that she had not been informed of the findings. Mr. Fisher stated he, as previous engineering liaison, and Mr. Scott along with the engineer walked the property and came up with a plan. They have yet to hear from the other homeowner involved about the plan, which is preventing any progress.

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

Ms. Chamblings informed the Committee that Kittatinny Regional High School has appointed a new School Board representative to Stillwater. Dave GaNung will be finishing the remainder of Anthony Norod's term. He will be running unopposed in the November election. The other appointee, Mr. Cooper, will be running opposed by Danielle LoCascio.

Mayor Gross began a discussion about a countywide 911 system. Anthony Ashley, Swartswood Fire Chief, added some information to the discussion. The County is hoping to have the involvement of fire departments and EMS services from municipalities that do not have a police department to do dispatching. No protocols or procedures have been written yet and the cost will be determined by the number of participating departments.

Attorney Report: None

Correspondence: Mayors' Advisory Correspondence is available in the Correspondence Binder at the Municipal Building.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy Leonard

