

MEETING MINUTES

TOWNSHIP OF OCEAN COUNTY OF OCEAN BUSINESS MEETING

June 8, 2017

7:00 pm

Call to Order

ROLL CALL: LoParo X Collamer X Wetter X

Flag Salute

STATEMENT: Pursuant to the provisions of the New Jersey Open Public Meeting Act, adequate notice of this meeting was properly provided by sending a copy of the Notice of Meeting to two newspapers, The Asbury Park Press and the Press of Atlantic City. The Notice was posted at the office of the Township Clerk

Proclamation Presentation

Erik Hall – Waretown United Methodist Church

The Township Committee presented a proclamation honoring Reverend Erik Hall, Pastor for the Waretown United Methodist Church, who is leaving the church.

Mayor Wetter discussed the Township will miss Reverend Hall very much. Reverend Hall was not only a Pastor but volunteered with the Waretown First Aid as a driver and dedicated his time to be Chaplain of the Waretown Volunteer Fire Company. After Superstorm Sandy, Reverend Hall contacted the Township to ask what he can do to help. Reverend Hall and his wife also planned the first “Trunk or Treat” for the residents.

Reverend Hall is admired and respected by his family, friends and the residents of the Township of Ocean because of his generosity and overwhelming spirit of the Community.

Reverend Erik Hall thanked the Township Committee, friends and neighbors and discussed he sees his role as Pastor of the local church to be more than just doing ministry within its four walls, but to roll up his sleeves with so many friends and neighbors in the community and do good works that benefit the entire community together. Waretown, a small town filled with so many friends, community-spirited people and organizations, has been a wonderful place to live and work. It is very sad to have to leave but we leave with full hearts, lots of friendships, good work and hope for the future. Thank you very much.

Committee Reports

Mayor – Tina Wetter

Debris Removal Sandy - Reimbursement

The Township has been informed by Ocean County that the Township will be receiving a reimbursement of \$69,698.63. This money is from Superstorm Sandy. The Township of Ocean did a shared service agreement during the cleanup of the storm debris. Ocean County paid the cost of debris removal and handled the paperwork for each Township. The Township was responsible for paying 10% of the cost. FEMA has now reimbursed Ocean County for the original 10% and are reimbursing each town.

Resolution 2017-224 authorizes the purchase of a new telephone system for the Township of Ocean. The phone system in place now is 20 years old. They haven't made the equipment for many years and the Township is no longer able to purchase the phones or fix the equipment. The Township met with several companies and this system will work for all departments and can be purchased through the New Jersey state contract. When the project is complete the cost of the phone lines should also become less expensive.

Resolution 2017-234 authorizes the waiving of Township fees for the Waretown Volunteer Fire Company and Waretown Volunteer First Aid Squad with respect to the renovations and improvements that both departments are making to their buildings at this time.

Resolution 2017-236 The Township Committee has hired a part-time employee for the Ocean Township Police Department Detective Bureau. Every year the paperwork for this department seems to expand. Due to this fact, and to keep the Detective Bureau on the streets and working on cases, the Township has decided to hire a part-time employee for approximately 16 hours a week to start at \$10.00 per hour and no benefits.

Deputy Mayor – Dan Collamer

Tradewinds at Waretown

A pre-construction meeting was held on May 30, 2017. This project is on Route 9 across from Shop Rite and consists of a mixed use, 144 residential units, 26,600 square feet of retail, a clubhouse and recreation amenities. The project also includes the reconstruction and realignment of Birdsall Street and improvements to Route 9. The project completion is estimated to be 18 months, weather permitting. Units should be ready for rental within the year or sooner. The anticipated start date is approximately June 9, 2017.

Resolution 2017-230 grants preliminary and final water and sewer approvals for Tradewinds at Waretown.

Resolutions 2017-226 & 2017-227 appoints recreation aids and summer camp employees for the year 2016.

Ordinance 2017-7 regulates cats in the Township. The present ordinance lacks any mechanism to deal with feral cats and feral colonies. Animal Control needs this ordinance to maintain the feral colonies.

Committeeman – Ben LoParo

Update on Pebble Beach – Water & Sewer Main – NJEIT Project

Paving work on Teaneck and Maplewood is complete. Base paving work on Englewood Avenue and Dune Lane is complete. Road work on Stillwater Road and Harborage Place is expected to be complete in the next two weeks. We note that the contractor will be completing roadway improvements up to and including base paving on Englewood, Dune, Stillwater, and Harborage at this time. Final surface course paving will be completed in the Fall, after the busier summer months, allowing for any final settlement of trenches.

Update on 2017 NJDOT Municipal Aid Road Program

On February 1st, the Township submitted an application for roadway and drainage improvements to Illinois Avenue. The NJDOT has made an announcement that the Township's application is approved for \$263,000 in funding.

Utility Fee – Increase from Ocean County Utilities Authority

The Township has received the 2018 rate from the Ocean County Utilities Authority. They will be raising their rate in the schedule at 2% over the 2017 rates.

The Township is sampling the lagoons for dredging. The price came back too high. The soil testing was priced at \$45,000 and it should be \$15,000-\$20,000.

The Township had a meeting regarding the Volunteer Way extension to come up with a new plan to get the state to reduce the cost of the road. The project runs from the Fire Academy to west of Greenbriar on Route 532. It is a one mile road that costs \$5 million. The Township is trying to get the cost down to below \$2 million. The road has to be built 24 inches above grade with sheer sides, like a bulkhead, with 21 snake tunnels underneath. There have not been snakes there for more than eight years. If the County helps with the \$2 million figure, the Township may not have to bond to put the road in.

PUBLIC PORTION:

Motion to open Public Comment was moved by Deputy Mayor Collamer, seconded by Committeeman LoParo.

Roll Call: LoParo: Yes, Collamer: Yes, Wetter: Yes

Nancy Cairra, 103 Atlantic Avenue, requested help from the Township to do what is in their power to aid Mrs. Cairra with the Superstorm Sandy recovery. Mrs. Cairra had just under two feet of water in her house.

There are multiple programs, groups and agencies out there to assist, all with their own requirements, purpose and paperwork. As a result of the Department of Environmental Protection's determination, Mrs. Caira is required to move the new house 20 feet to the east, to ensure the proper buffer zone from an identified wetlands area on the property. The new home will sit within a couple feet of the existing garage in a very awkward layout on the property. The new home will butt-up against the garage so that it appears as one structure and does not look awkward.

Mrs. Caira's architect told her that because the new home is going to butt-up against the existing garage, it is now considered one structure. The garage is now three feet over the set back. The only option is to tear down the garage or apply for a variance. Mrs. Caira discussed the Borough of Belmar waives permit fees for Sandy victims. Mrs. Caira hopes the Township Committee will do the same.

Mrs. Caira discussed the Construction Office employees are so helpful and great. Mrs. Caira wanted to commend them tonight.

Mayor Wetter discussed the Township waived permit fees after Superstorm Sandy.

Township Administrator/Clerk Ambrosio discussed the water/sewer was waived as well.

Deputy Mayor Collamer discussed the bulk requirements were changed to allow for stairways, as well.

Township Administrator/Clerk Ambrosio inquired if Mrs. Caira made application or just met with the Construction Office.

Mrs. Caira discussed she is in the process of getting the variance. No resident, who had significant damage, would have been in the position to have any reconstruction done in the time period that the waiving of the permit fees was done.

Kevin Kennedy, 136 Bayville Way, discussed he is a neighbor of the Caira's and is supporting the waiver of the fees and a refund of the fees previously paid. Very few people are in a position to pay for repairs out-of-pocket during the short time period that the fees were waived.

Priscilla Robinson, NJ Organizing Project, an organization founded over two years ago by Sandy survivors struggling to get home and are frustrated about the red tape. Mr. & Mrs. Caira came to Ms. Robinson last week, distraught over the fees and variance. Ms. Robinson would like to see the process of getting home a lot easier and is requesting Ocean Township follow Belmar and waive any and all permit fees and variance filing requirements for pre-existing, non-conforming structures for all Sandy-impacted homeowners and to refund Sandy-related permit fees previously paid by Sandy-impacted homeowners. Ms. Robinson is also requesting the Township provide statistics on the number of Sandy-impacted homeowners who are still struggling with bills and getting home. Thank you for your time.

Committeeman LoParo inquired if Mrs. Caira submitted any applications or fees.

Mr. Caira discussed, no.

Committeeman LoParo discussed the Township of Ocean works with its residents and will hold your hand the whole way. It is not a problem.

Mrs. Caira discussed her request to waive fees also gives her the chance to not do the paperwork.

Committeeman LoParo discussed you have to do the paperwork. The Township will hold your hand with the paperwork. The Township is very accommodating.

Mayor Wetter discussed when Superstorm Sandy hit, it was horrendous. This Township really pulled together to help all the residents that were hurt by the storm.

Mrs. Caira requested the Township should waive the requirements.

Township Attorney Dasti discussed unfortunately there is a due process issue.

Mrs. Caira discussed she is just challenging how Mayor Doherty discussed it in Belmar.

Committeeman LoParo discussed that is a broad statement. Looking at any individualized situation, you can't do things without your neighbors knowing.

Deputy Mayor Collamer discussed the Zoning Board has no authority unless those notifications have been made.

Committeeman LoParo discussed the Township has to know what you are building. The Township is willing to work with you.

Mrs. Caira discussed she is asking the Township to waive the fees.

Township Attorney Dasti discussed if Mrs. Caira seeks a variance, showing hardship in her favor, the Zoning Board has the meat on the bones to grant that variance.

Mrs. Caira discussed the Zoning Officer believes the variance will be approved and that she should not have to pay for variance or go in front of the board.

Township Administrator/Clerk Ambrosio will do some research and contact Mrs. Caira.

Mrs. Caira discussed the additional fees associated with obtaining a variance and also discussed the possibility of waiving the fee. The information obtained from Belmar was submitted to Administrator/Clerk Ambrosio.

Committeeman LoParo discussed that is part of working with the Township on an individual case basis. The Township cannot just implement a blanket waiver.

Mayor Wetter discussed this letter is from 2012. Township Administrator/Clerk Ambrosio will get in touch with you.

Mrs. Caira discussed having a lovely experience with the Construction/Zoning office. That is not the issue. It is an issue of doing the right thing for people that have already struggled so much. Thank you for your time tonight.

Eileen Doyle, 243 11th Street, inquired if the only thing that changed in the cat ordinance is the feral cat section.

Township Administrator/Clerk Ambrosio discussed, yes.

Mrs. Doyle discussed feral cats are the most appropriate cats to vaccinate versus house cats and inquired who should she address that with. It is the Township's decision who gets vaccinated.

Township Administrator/Clerk Ambrosio discussed there is a financial burden, too. Residents can obtain a trap from the Township, trap the feral cat, then animal control retrieves the cat, vaccinates the cat and houses the cat.

Township Attorney Chris Dasti discussed the ordinance requires feral cats to be vaccinated.

Mrs. Doyle discussed having all the police baseball cards. Three people gave her a hassle because she was not a child and there was a business owner not in the main part of town. The full sheets should be brought to a Senior Advisory Meeting and sell them for \$5.00.

Township Administrator/Clerk Ambrosio discussed she will look into the sheet of Police cards and the business owner in Brookville left his cards at the Police Department to be distributed.

Mrs. Doyle inquired if the Longshots liquor license renewal means the new ownership is moving along.

Township Administrator/Clerk Ambrosio discussed it is in the final stages. The next thing you will see is the transfer of the liquor license.

Mrs. Doyle inquired if Waretown Memorial Park is the Waretown Lake.

Township Administrator/Clerk Ambrosio discussed yes, that is the official name.

Mrs. Doyle inquired if the lake is closed during the Poker Run.

Township Administrator/Clerk Ambrosio discussed, no. The Fire Company has had the Poker Run there for 8 years. The only time the lake is only closed is during the Town Wide Clean Up Weekend, which takes place prior to the lake opening for the season.

Mrs. Doyle inquired, in memory of Joe Lachawiec, how long is the NJ Natural Gas franchise renewal.

Township Administrator/Clerk Ambrosio discussed 5 years, just the way Joe would have wanted it.

Mrs. Doyle inquired if the Greenbriar and Grand Bay Harbor reimbursements are for snow removal and garbage.

Township Administrator/Clerk Ambrosio discussed, yes.

Stephanie Boyd, 37 Letts Landing Road, discussed Matt Ambrosio from the Department of Public Works has been out to her house and the surrounding area regarding flooding. The Township put storm drains and pipes on the property without an easement or documentation. Mrs. Boyd had no knowledge of pipes when the property was purchased until several years ago, as the pipes are not listed on the survey or deed. The pipes were covered with ivy. The pipes have not been maintained. The property is always wet. The drains on Poplar Street, which run perpendicular to Letts Landing, are also piped onto the property behind her house, which Bob Lange purchased and built on, which continues to make the property wet, as the water has nowhere to go. There is no drainage coming from "the swamp". Since the property was purchased, Mrs. Boyd paid almost \$2,000 to remove trees that would still be alive if not surrounded by standing water. There are two large pine trees that became uprooted after sitting in water and fell, luckily not on a house.

There are mosquito issues. The Mosquito Commission does treat alongside poplar and is now treating her property. There has been a tremendous amount of rain. Something happened with the drain immediately in front of her property. DPW turbo-jetted the drain. Water was coming halfway up her yard and several feet past her fence. Mrs. Boyd's house is above the street level. There is still a threat, as the water is continuously coming with nowhere to go.

Mayor Wetter discussed Mrs. Boyd sent an email regarding this matter.

Township Administrator/Clerk Ambrosio discussed Mrs. Boyd met with Public Works.

Mrs. Boyd discussed Public Works Superintendent Matt Ambrosio is wonderful. Mrs. Boyd discussed there are no drainage maps. There is no indication on her property survey that there is an easement. There should be an easement, as the Township is using her property for drainage. Mrs. Boyd does not want the drains on her property. It is causing a flooding situation with her neighbor's house and it could be a situation with her house, which is above the street level.

Township Administrator/Clerk Ambrosio discussed Jason Worth of T&M Associates, was at the property with the Superintendent of DPW. T&M Associates is going to shoot some grades to figure out how to get the drains off Mrs. Boyd's property. That is for Poplar Street as well. The map was located. The map did not show there were pipes on this property.

Mrs. Boyd discussed the Popcorn Park Zoo will not come out unless she gets Township cat traps. The Popcorn Park Zoo also did not come out for a loose dog, unless someone puts a leash on it.

Township Administrator/Clerk Ambrosio discussed call the Police Department the next time there is a loose dog. They will assist.

Motion to close Public Comment was moved by Deputy Mayor Collamer, seconded by Committeeman LoParo.

Roll Call: LoParo: Yes, Collamer: Yes, Wetter: Yes

Resolution 2017-221 Payment of Claims – as presented to the Township Committee for payment thereof in the amount of \$886,129.59

Motion to approve was moved by Deputy Mayor Collamer, seconded by Committeeman LoParo.

Roll Call: LoParo: Yes, Collamer: Yes, Wetter: Yes

Resolution 2017-222

Resolution authorizing the Self-Examination of Budget Resolution – Township of Ocean has been declared eligible to participate in the program by the Division of Local Government Services.

Motion to approve was moved by Deputy Mayor Collamer, seconded by Committeeman LoParo.

Roll Call: LoParo: Yes, Collamer: Yes, Wetter: Yes

Resolution 2017-203

Authorizing the Municipal Budget of the Township of Ocean, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey for fiscal year 2017. The Budget Summary will be published on May 17, 2017 in the Asbury Park Press Newspaper. The Public Hearing on the Budget Resolution will be held June 8, 2017 at the Municipal Building Meeting Room, 50 Railroad Avenue, Waretown NJ 08758 at 7:00 pm for final passage.

Motion to open Public Hearing was moved by Deputy Mayor Collamer, seconded by Committeeman LoParo.

LoParo: Yes, Collamer: Yes, Wetter: Yes

Michael Kane, 54 Willow Street, Captain of the Waretown First Aid Squad, inquired if the budget includes monies granted to the First Aid Squad at the installation dinner.

Township Administrator/Clerk Ambrosio discussed this is part of the First Aid's line item.

Mr. Kane inquired what would be the period of this budget.

Township Administrator/Clerk Ambrosio discussed it is from January 1st – December 31st.

Mr. Kane inquired if it would be a new line item in January 2018.

Township Administrator/Clerk Ambrosio discussed, correct. The Township is January 1st to December 31st, no matter when the budget is adopted.

Motion to close Public Hearing was moved by Deputy Mayor Collamer, seconded by Committeeman LoParo.

Roll Call: LoParo: Yes, Collamer: Yes, Wetter: Yes

Motion to approve Resolution 2017-203 was moved by Deputy Mayor Collamer, seconded by Committeeman LoParo.

Roll Call: LoParo: Yes, Collamer: Yes, Wetter: Yes

Resolution 2017-223

Resolution appointing Peter Van Dyke, Esquire as special conflict counsel for the Township of Ocean pursuant to the Non-Fair and Open Process

Motion to approve was moved by Deputy Mayor Collamer, seconded by Committeeman LoParo.

Roll Call: Collamer: Yes, LoParo: Yes, Wetter: Yes

Resolution 2017-224

Resolution authorizing the purchase of a telephone system for the Township of Ocean from Hunter Technologies under State Contract #A80802

Motion to approve was moved by Deputy Mayor Collamer, seconded by Committeeman LoParo.

Roll Call: Collamer: Yes, LoParo: Yes, Wetter: Yes

Ordinance 2017-7 – First Reading Title Only

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF OCEAN, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AMENDING CHAPTER 95, ARTICLE III OF THE TOWNSHIP CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF OCEAN WITH RESPECT TO CATS

Motion to approve Ordinance 2017-7 was moved by Deputy Mayor Collamer, seconded by Committeeman LoParo.

Roll Call: Collamer: Yes, LoParo: Yes, Wetter: Yes

Ordinance 2017-8 – First Reading Title Only

ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF OCEAN, OCEAN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, CONSENTING TO THE FRANCHISE RENEWAL RIGHTS FOR NEW JERSEY NATURAL GAS COMPANY TO LAY AND MAINTAIN GAS MAINS, PIPES, AND SERVICE PIPES, IN AND UNDER THE SURFACE OF ANY OR ALL OF THE ROADS, STREETS, AVENUES, HIGHWAYS, AND PUBLIC PLACES, FOR THE PURPOSE OF FURNISHING NATURAL GAS TO THE TOWNSHIP OF OCEAN

Motion to approve Ordinance 2017- 8 was moved by Deputy Mayor Collamer, seconded by Committeeman LoParo.

Roll Call: Collamer: Yes, LoParo: Yes, Wetter: Yes

AGENDA

The below listed items are considered to be routine by the Township Committee of the Township of Ocean and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no formal discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, this item will be removed from the consent agenda and will be considered separately.

- 2017-225 Resolution of the Township of Ocean, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, authorizing a lien be placed on 39 Chestnut Street in the amount of \$1,731.42 to abate the violation
- 2017-226 Resolution authorizing the hiring of Summer Recreation Program Employees
- 2017-227 Resolution authorizing the hiring of part-time Recreation Aides
- 2017-228 Resolution authorizing the renewal of Liquor Licenses for the year July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018
- 2017-229 Resolution of the Township of Ocean, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, recognizing June 15, 2017 as World Elder Abuse Day
- 2017-230 Resolutions granting preliminary and final water and sewer approvals, Tradewinds at Waretown Block 131, Lot 4
- 2017-231 Resolution Urging the State Legislature to Extend 2% Cap on Police and Fire Arbitration Contract Award
- 2017-232 Resolution of the Township Committee of the Township of Ocean, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, supporting legislative action requiring the State Public Defender's Office to represent Defendants in Superior Court Bail Hearing for those eligible Defendants charged with Disorderly Persons Offenses or Petty Disorderly Persons Offenses in Lieu of the Township Public Defender
- 2017-233 Resolution authorizing the Waretown Volunteer Fire Company to hold their Annual Poker Run Fundraiser at Waretown memorial Park and allow sale for alcoholic beverages
- 2017-234 Resolution authorizing the waiving of any Township Fees for the Waretown Volunteer Fire Company and the Waretown Volunteer First Aid Squad with respect to renovations and improvements at their respective facilities
- 2017-235 Resolution authorizing Lorraine Clune to be the Conservation Commissioner for the Township of Ocean
- 2017-236 Resolution appointing a part-time administrative employee for the Ocean Township Police Department Detective Bureau

Motion to approve Resolutions 2017-225 through 2017-236 was moved by Deputy Mayor Collamer, seconded by Committeeman LoParo.
Roll Call: LoParo: Yes, Collamer: Yes, Wetter: Yes

Resolution 2017-237

Resolution authorizing the Municipal Payment Reimbursement to Greenbriar Oceaniare for 2016 in the amount of \$257,381.48

Motion to approve Resolutions 2017-237 was moved by Deputy Mayor Collamer, seconded by Committeeman LoParo.

Roll Call: LoParo: Yes, Collamer: Yes, Wetter: Abstain

Resolution 2017-238

Resolution authorizing the Municipal Payment Reimbursement to Grand Bay Harbor Association for 2016 in the amount of \$9,887.21

Motion to approve Resolutions 2017- 238 was moved by Deputy Mayor Collamer, seconded by Committeeman LoParo.

Roll Call: LoParo: Yes, Collamer: Yes, Wetter: Yes

Motion to approve Social Affairs permit: Waretown Volunteer Fire Company, August 13, 2017 with a rain date of August 20, 2017 at the Waretown Memorial Park – Annual Poker Run Fundraiser

Motion to approve was moved by Deputy Mayor Collamer, seconded by Committeeman LoParo.

Roll Call: LoParo: Yes, Collamer: Yes, Wetter: Yes

Motion to approve the below listed dates in 2017 for the use of the Community Center and Waretown Memorial Recreation Park:

1. Cheryl Messina – July 23, 2017
2. Andre Teyssier – July 2, 2017
3. Waretown Girl Scout Brownie Troop 225 – July 7, 2017
4. Carolyn Schoeneberg – July 16, 2017
5. Donna Catlow – June 12, 2017 – Municipal Alliance
6. Ocean Township Adventure Program – June 22 – August 25, 2017

Motion to Approve was moved by Deputy Mayor Collamer, seconded by Committeeman LoParo.

Roll Call: LoParo: Yes, Collamer: Yes, Wetter: Yes

Next Scheduled Meeting
July 13, 2017 – 7:00 pm

Motion to Adjourn

Motion to adjourn was moved by Deputy Mayor Collamer, seconded by Committeeman LoParo.

Roll Call: LoParo: Yes, Collamer: Yes, Wetter: Yes

Signed and Submitted:

Diane B. Ambrosio, RMC
Municipal Clerk

Date