

WEST AMWELL TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING

April 1, 2015 - 7:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER AND STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT

The regular meeting of the West Amwell Township Committee was called to order at 7:33 p.m. Present were Mayor George A. Fisher, Committeeman John Dale, Clerk Lora Olsen and Attorney Philip J. Faherty III. Deputy Mayor Zach Rich was absent. Also in attendance were Dave Beaumont, Stephen Bergenfeld, Hal Shute, John DuPuis, John Cronic, Lolly Hoagland CFO Tom Carro and Ryan Rollero.

Mayor Fisher announced that this meeting is called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act. Notice of this meeting was included in the Resolution faxed to the Hunterdon County Democrat and Trenton Times on January 6, 2015, was posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building on said date and has remained continuously posted as required under the Statute. A copy of this notice is and has been available to the public and is on file in the office of the Municipal Clerk.

The meeting was recorded via digital recording system.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE AMERICAN FLAG

The mayor led the assembled group in the pledge of the nation's flag.

AGENDA REVIEW BY TOWNSHIP CLERK

The following item was unanimously added on motion by Dale, seconded by Fisher. 10.E. Unfinished Business: Kari Drive Change Order & Payment Authorization

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Municipal Offices Closed – April 3rd, Good Friday
- Roast Beef Dinner – April 11th, West Amwell Firehouse
- Please Come to the Table if You Wish to Address the Committee
- Kindly Turn Cell Phones Off During Meeting

PRESENTATION OF MINUTES

The following Regular, Special and Closed Session minutes were unanimously approved on motion from Dale, seconded by Fisher.

March 18, 2015 Special
March 18, 2015 Closed Session (Interviews)
March 18, 2015 Regular
March 25, 2015 Special (Budget Workshop)

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC/TOPIC NOT ON THE AGENDA

John DuPuis gave a brief update on the Municipal Alliance, noting that there have been two recent meetings and a fund raising event will be held in July. The group is attempting to get caught up but has encountered difficulty with meeting dates due to the PARCC testing. The next scheduled meeting is April 27. The mayor expressed appreciation to Mr. DuPuis for taking on this assignment.

Dave Beaumont inquired about the five-person committee effort. Attorney Faherty relayed that municipalities are covered under a different statute than was recently circulated and not as complicated.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION(S) - None

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE AND/OR PUBLIC HEARING

Introduction: Ordinance 3, 2015

The following ordinance was read by title and introduced on first reading:

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE 10, 2014 TO PROVIDE FOR AND DETERMINE THE RATE OF COMPENSATION OF OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST AMWELL, COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, NEW JERSEY

SECTION 1

The following shall be the rate and ranges of compensation for officials and employees of the township

Road Supervisor	\$24.00 - \$40.00/hr
DPW Coordinator	\$24.00 - \$40.00/hr

SECTION III

All Ordinances and parts of Ordinances inconsistent with this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

SECTION IV

This Ordinance shall take effect after final adoption and publication according to the laws of the State of New Jersey.

Dale motion to introduce the Ordinance on first reading and Fisher seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Publication will be in the Trenton Times. The public hearing will be held on April 15th.

The Agenda order was modified with Standing Committee Reports moved prior to the introduction of the 2015 Budget due to earlier expressed concerns.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Open Space

- *Project Status Updates:* John Cronce relayed that **Toll** continues to move along slowly and that **Lambert** is moving smoothly. A Green Acres payment for the **Block 28 Lot 35** was executed by the mayor. Hal Shute advised that the Township will get their money from Green Acres before that goes away. He also indicated that there may be some money left over from the County portion of the grant. A good use for that may be to expand the parking at Hewitt. He and Ms. Kampf will meet with the County to explore this possibility.

Mr. Shute also relayed that ultimatums have now been received from the SADC as well as Green Acres concerning re-allocation of unused funds currently allotted to the Township. If the money goes away from the former program, it will not be easy to recover. The Township's 10 year performance record was cited and it's push forward on projects or lose the money. Since the last meeting, and the \$450,000 allocation from the Open Space Trust to the budget, concern was raised over the effect on the Fulper project. Mr. Shute seeks a decision on the project so that he knows how to allocate his time. The other projects are covered. Mr. Fisher offered that the Fulper's do not seem to be in a hurry and noted borrowing has been done before. A discussion ensued with the CFO about what would be required in order to bond. Mr. Carro advised that not everything can be paid for in cash. Bonding would also allow for spreading out the cost over several years.

Finance Advisory

- *Authorization to Post February 19, 2015 Minutes to Website:* Approved

The meeting returned to its original order and continued with the Introduction of Ordinance and/or Public Hearing.

Introduction: 2015 Budget

Mayor Fisher read the budget resolution as follows:

RESOLUTION #63-2015 MUNICIPAL BUDGET NOTICE

Municipal Budget of the Township of West Amwell, County of Hunterdon for the Fiscal Year 2015

Be It Resolved, that the following statements of revenues and appropriations shall constitute the Municipal Budget for the year 2015;

Be It Further Resolved, that said Budget be published in the Hunterdon County Democrat in the issue of April 9, 2015

The Governing Body of the Township of West Amwell does hereby approve the following as the Budget for the year 2015:

A Hearing on the Budget and Tax Resolution will be held at the Municipal Building, on the May 6, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. at which time and place objections to said Budget and Tax Resolution for 2015 may be presented by taxpayers or other interested persons.

SUMMARY OF CURRENT FUND SECTION OF APPROVED BUDGET

General Appropriations For:

1. Appropriations within "CAPS"	
(a) Municipal Purposes	\$2,628,600.00
2. Appropriations excluded from "CAPS"	
(a) Operations	18,541.00
(b) Capital Improvements	25,000.00
(c) Debt Service	603,408.00
(d) Deferred Charges	<u>22,800.00</u>
Total General Appropriations excluded from "CAPS"	669,749.00
3. Reserve for Uncollected Taxes	<u>200,000.00</u>
4. Total General Appropriations	3,498,349.00
5. Less: Anticipated Revenues Other Than Current Property Tax	<u>2,218,262.00</u>
6. Difference: Amount to be Raised by Taxes for Support of Municipal Budget	
(a) Local Tax for Municipal Purposes Including Reserve for Uncollected Taxes	<u>\$1,280,087.00</u>

Fisher motioned to adopt the Budget Resolution as presented and Dale seconded. Roll Call: Dale-aye, Fisher-aye, Rich-absent

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Possible Appointments – none

Updates: 1) More damage has surfaced and another adjuster was dispatched for the ***Insurance Claim***. 2) There was less than 1% savings on the ***Energy Aggregation*** bid so an award was not made. The consultant recommended holding for the market to clear.

Donated Sick Leave Policy/Recommendation by Committeeman Dale - Held

Current Sick Leave Agreement/Payoff - Held

Kari Drive Change Order & Payment Authorization – The change order brought the cost of the project up an additional \$11,000 plus due to the need for a lot more material. The overage was not approved by the governing body. The item was held pending the mayor's review of the project with Township Engineer Bill Burr.

Attorney Faherty relayed that the maintenance bond submitted is acceptable and in compliance with the specifications. The Resolution to accept was held.

NEW BUSINESS

Hazard Mitigation Plan & Required Participation of Various Employees/Professionals – Mayor Fisher relayed that a meeting was held at the County with their consultant concerning the need for a revised plan for FEMA eligibility. Work is required of each municipality and involves various staff and professionals, including Planning, OEM, Floodplain administrator, Building code official, Engineer, Police, Fire, Public works, CFO, Clerk, and Mayor to complete and submit forms provided. The use of the Planning Board Planner was approved by the governing body, who will provide payment for her time.

Appointment of Mechanical 1 & 2 Family Dwelling Subcode Official/Inspector per State Requirement – The State has mandated an actual appointment for this position per an e-mail received from the Construction Office Coordinator. Chris Rose has been serving in this position and is the only one in the office holding this license.

RESOLUTION #64-2015

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey has mandated that each municipality appoint a Mechanical 1 & 2 Family Dwelling Subcode Official/Inspector; and

WHEREAS, Chris Rose currently serves in this capacity and holds the required license

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the governing body of West Amwell Township hereby formally appoints Chris Rose as its Mechanical 1 & 2 Family Dwelling Subcode Official/Inspector effective immediately

The Resolution was unanimously approved on motion from Dale, seconded by Fisher.

Resolution Appointing New Road Supervisor – Ryan Rollero was in attendance and was introduced by the mayor. Mr. Rollero has experience in road work through his employment at Renda Roads. Due to Mr. Rollero's lack of municipal experience, John Cronce will be advising and mentoring concerning the town and procedures.

RESOLUTION #65-2015

WHEREAS, the Township of West Amwell advertised for the position of Road Supervisor; and

WHEREAS, interviews were conducted with several applicants; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee has determined that Ryan Rollero is best qualified for said position; and

WHEREAS, Ryan Rollero has accepted the Township's offer for the position

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Ryan Rollero be appointed Road Supervisor effective April 6, 2015.

The Resolution was unanimously approved on motion from Dale, seconded by Fisher.

Resolution Appointing a DPW Coordinator –

RESOLUTION #66-2015

WHEREAS, the Township Committee has determined that a new part-time position of DPW Coordinator be established in the Roads department; and,

WHEREAS, as a good candidate has been identified to fill this newly created position; and,

WHEREAS, John Cronce was offered and has accepted the Township's offer

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that John Cronce be appointed DPW Coordinator in the Roads department effective April 6, 2015.

The Resolution was unanimously approved on motion from Dale, seconded by Fisher.

Salary & Wage Amendment –

RESOLUTION #67-2015
Amending Resolution #95-2014

BE IT RESOLVED by the Committee of the Township of West Amwell that the 2014 Salary and Wage Resolution, adopted June 9, 2014 be amended as follows:

Position	Salary/Compensation
<u>Add:</u> Road Supervisor Rollero	\$25.00/hr
<u>Add:</u> DPW Coordinator Cronce	\$30.00/hr

The Resolution was unanimously approved on motion from Dale, seconded by Fisher.

Resolution Appointing a Recycling Coordinator – There is currently no one on staff who holds the certification required by the State to submit the annual tonnage grant. Mr. Dilley has again agreed to assist.

RESOLUTION #68-2015

WHEREAS, the submission of the annual recycling tonnage report requires that this be accomplished by a Certified Recycling Coordinator; and

WHEREAS, Alan Dilley of Franklin Township is a licensed CRC and is willing to submit the tonnage report on behalf of West Amwell Township, at no charge

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the West Amwell Township Committee that Alan Dilley be authorized to submit the 2014 tonnage report

The Resolution was unanimously approved on motion from Dale, seconded by Fisher.

Request from Karen Atwood for Car Wash – This event would benefit Saint Baldrick's Foundation for childhood cancer and would be held on May 16th during Saturday depot hours. The police are expected to participate. A flyer for distribution at the depot will be submitted later. The risk manager was contacted and has advised that Statewide will extend coverage for this fund raiser.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

No one came forward.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS - None

CORRESPONDENCE

The correspondence as listed on the Agenda was ordered filed.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 8:16 p.m. on motion from Fisher.

Respectfully submitted,

Lora Olsen, RMC
Township Clerk

APPROVED: April 15, 2015