

Monday, September 16, 2019, 6:30 P.M.
Bill Review & Agenda Meeting

PRESENT: J. Roy Oliver, Mayor
Ken Whildin, Deputy Mayor
Bill Ashton, Committeeman
Frank DiDomenico, Solicitor
Allen Foster, Chief Financial Officer
Denise L. Peterson, Municipal Clerk

This meeting has been advertised in accordance with the statutes of the State of New Jersey.

Mayor Oliver called the meeting to order; the Pledge of Allegiance followed.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Oliver, present
Mr. Whildin, present
Mr. Ashton, present

Municipal Finance Officer Report

Allen Foster, CMFO

Mr. Foster provided the budget report to the Township Committee. Mr. Foster stated the budget is in good shape. Mr. Foster explained he will be starting to work on the Best Practices and believes the township will be okay. Mr. Oliver inquired about the recent legislation on shared services meetings. Mr. Foster stated this is similar to other Best Practices points.

Public Comment Session

Mr. Whildin made a motion to open the public comment session noting the time at 6:33 pm; seconded by Mr. Ashton.

Roll Call: Ayes – Whildin, Ashton, Oliver Nays - None

Local Girl Scouts representatives explained they are working toward their Bronze Award. They are looking to improve the community and have seen that it does not appear that there are sufficient recycle cans or trash cans in the recreation areas. They explained that they will be decorating the containers in a creative and fun way to attract attention to the public to recycle and properly dispose of trash. They explained they will also be making signs to explain to residents the importance of proper disposal and recycling. The girls asked for the Township's support for this project.

Mr. Oliver asked that supervisors be with the girls at all times.

Mr. Whildin made a motion to support the Girl Scouts project and authorized them to move forward with their litter campaign; seconded by Mr. Ashton.

Roll Call: Ayes – Whildin, Ashton, Oliver Nays - None

Mr. Whildin made a motion to close the public comment session noting the time at 6:37 pm; seconded by Mr. Ashton.

Roll Call: Ayes – Whildin, Ashton, Oliver Nays - None

Discussion Items

1. Discuss the 'draft' ordinance for 5G.

Mr. Oliver thanked Mr. DiDomenico for the 'draft' of the ordinance and stated this is a work in progress. Mr. DiDomenico stated that Cormac Morrissey, Township Engineer, had supplied suggestions on the ordinance. Mr. DiDomenico offered that this is a mandatory ordinance. Mr. Whildin questioned if an annual fee could be charged for the small cell facilities. Mr. DiDomenico stated he would check into this. Mr. DiDomenico stated the application fees listed in the ordinance are inline with other municipal ordinances.

Mr. Oliver expressed concern on 'marking' of ground level cabinets for safety reasons. Mr. DiDomenico agreed and stated he would add 'reflectors' to the requirements.

Mr. Oliver questioned the Township Engineer involvement. Mr. DiDomenico verified that the Township Engineer will be reviewing the applications for completeness and verifying completed projects.

Mr. Oliver confirmed the fees of \$500 for the first collocation and \$200 for each additional. Mr. DiDomenico confirmed. Mr. Oliver confirmed posting of escrow in the amount of \$2,000 for approval of the application and asked if confirmation of ownership of the poles would be needed. Mr. DiDomenico stated he does not believe determining ownership is needed.

Mr. Guenther, Dorchester, questioned the clean up of abandoned facilities. Mr. Ashton pointed out that this is addressed on page 13. Mr. Guenther expressed that the township will have a certain responsibility to monitor the systems.

Mr. Stowman expressed concern over microwave emissions and responsibility of the contractors to inspect and report on their facilities. Mr. DiDomenico pointed out that FCC regulates the airwaves. Mr. Stowman questioned health issues. Mr. DiDomenico stated the frequency is similar to televisions and radios.

Mr. Ashton questioned the township authority to determine spacing between the systems. Mr. Stowman noted the ordinance specifies 500 feet. Mr. Whildin stated that 'cumulative' f-waves' are something that must be taken into consideration.

Mr. DiDomenico explained that a provision will be added to require annual fees and reporting on each system installed in the township; this report will require confirmation that the facility is still operational.

Mr. DiDomenico stated that the township has jurisdiction over municipal right of ways only. Presently the county has not confirmed 'who' will have jurisdiction of these facilities in county right of ways but the state is maintaining control over state roadways.

Mr. DiDomenico stated that this ordinance must be in place by the end of December. Mr. Oliver further explained that franchises will be issued in December by the federal government.

2. Discuss completing Whibco Redevelopment Plan process

Mr. Whildin suggested the Township Committee review the questions presented by the Township Planner and also get input from the Land Use Board.

It was determined that this would be tabled to Thursday, September 19th for further discussion.

3. Discuss placing the Bricksboro Bulkhead project on the Township website under "Projects in Maurice River Township"

Mr. Whildin stated the project is complete and looks great. Mr. Whildin explained that both private property owners have given permission to place pictures of their portion of the bulkhead on the website.

The Township Committee consensus was for the clerk to place the pictures of the project on the Township website.

4. Discuss approving a budget transfer under the Ackley USEPA grant. Transfer request is from the 'Personnel' category in the amount of \$20,000 to the 'Contractual' category.

Mr. Whildin explained this is a procedural.

Mr. Whildin made a motion to transfer the amount of \$20,000 under 'personnel' to 'contractual' for the Ackley USEPA grant; seconded by Mr. Ashton.

Roll Call: Ayes – Whildin, Ashton, Oliver Nays - None

5. Thompson's Beach Cleanup.
Mr. Whildin explained the request received from Return the Favor. They are looking to cleanup debris at Thompsons Beach but 'who' will provide them with guidance on 'what' should be removed. Mr. Ashton stated it appears the general reasoning behind the request is horseshoe crabs and he is not in favor. Mr. Oliver stated he does not believe this is a good idea.

The clerk was directed to send a denial letter to Return the Favor.

6. Community Forestry Management Plan expired at the end of 2018.
Mr. Whildin explained that the original CFMP was done under the Green Team and there was a lot of work involved. Mr. Stowman pointed out that he attended the Core Training for this program. Mr. Whildin explained that he is awaiting further information about the CFMP.
7. Discuss use of the Leechester Hall.
Mr. Whildin expressed that he believed the hall is underutilized. Mr. Whildin proposed charging a nominal fee for use of the hall for after funeral affairs and provide approval on short notice. Authority to approve could be given to the clerk.

Tabled for discussion on Thursday, September 19, 2019

8. Discuss possible locations for solar fields on Township owned properties.
Mr. Whildin explained that a vendor approached the township regarding solar field installation. This has been done in Lawrence and it provided residents an opportunity to reduce their electric bills. Mr. Whildin explained that a minimum of 5 acres is needed. Mr. Oliver suggested using the list already done for the offset of the compost facility onto Sapello as there are lots over 5 acres listed there. Mr. Whildin offered that he believes Pinelands supports solar.

Tabled to Thursday, September 19th, 2019 for further discussion. Mr. Foster asked to be kept in the loop on this subject. Mr. Whildin explained there is the potential to save residents money. Mr. Oliver stated that landfill #1 could be considered when it is officially closed.

9. Discuss the extension of the Trash/Recycle Contract by 1 year to Gold Medal Environmental.
Mr. Whildin explained that state statute permits extending a contract for 1 year under the current contract terms and conditions. The current contract contains fines for non-compliance. Mr. Oliver confirmed that the rates of payment would remain the same as 2019.

Mr. Whildin made a motion to extend the contract to Gold Medal Environmental by 1 year under the 2019 terms and conditions; seconded by Mr. Ashton.

Roll Call: Ayes – Whildin, Ashton, Oliver Nays – None

10. Predatory Towing Prevention Act (Ordinance).
Mr. DiDomenico explained this act prevents unscrupulous towing practices. The ordinance will set fees permitted for different aspects of towing. Mr. DiDomenico explained it as a dual purpose ordinance in that it protects the residents and the towing companies.

Mr. DiDomenico explained the NJSP rates for towing were supplied and suggested that the township obtain the towing rates of a few local contractors prior to moving forward with the ordinance.

The clerk will obtain towing rates from local contractors.

11. Discuss Community Cat Ordinance

Questions presented were addressed by Bill Tomlin, Volunteer.

Mr. Tomlin addressed the following:

1. A list of cat colonies & caregivers is being maintained.
2. The maximum number of cats per colony is unknown; he maintains a colony of 12.
3. Enforcement issues will be presented to the clerk and she will relay to the Township Committee.
4. Carol Hickman has a list of her responsibilities toward the program and will relay the information to the township.
5. Logbooks & documentation is maintained on each cat. A copy can be supplied to the clerk.

Mr. Oliver explained that the intention of the ordinance is so that grant funds can be applied for to continue and expand the program.

Mr. Ashton asked if volunteers were confirmed for the program. Mr. Tomlin stated they have a few volunteers and hopes to get more.

Ms. Hughes, Girl Scout parent, asked the age requirements to help with the program. Mr. Tomlin stated that under the age of 18 will require parental permission.

12. Discuss removal of tree at 9 Quaker Street.

Mr. DiDomenico explained that the Public Works Supervisor has indicated that the tree is in the township ROW but a survey confirmation was not done. Mr. DiDomenico asked the reason for the tree removal request. Mr. Whildin stated that the homeowner has stated the tree is not in good shape. Mr. Whildin added that the tree appears okay from the street view but on the backside has what appears to be rotting at the base; tree condition is subject to determination. Mr. DiDomenico offered that tree removal should be done only if there is a safety concern.

Mr. Whildin stated that Rutgers offers a one-day course to determine hazardous trees at a cost of \$245 per attendee and there is a class scheduled on November 6th. Mr. DiDomenico stated that it would not hurt to send someone to the class. Mr. Whildin stated he would like to send two public works employees to the class. It was further discussed that ‘topping’ trees is much less expensive than cutting down the entire tree. Mr. DiDomenico offered that is ‘safety’ is a definite concern and it is in the township ROW then it must be removed.

Mr. Whildin made a motion to send two public works employees to the Rutgers course at a cost of \$245 each; seconded by Mr. Ashton.

Roll Call: Ayes – Whildin, Ashton, Oliver Nays – None

13. Set the date and time for the 2020 Reorganization Meeting.

The Township set the following dates and times for 2020 Reorganization and Prep-Reorganization.

1. Thursday, January 2, 2020 at Noon for 2020 Reorganization
2. Monday, December 16th 2019 at 5:30 pm for Prep-Reorganization
- 3.

14. A letter was received from Michael Broadway dated August 23, 2019 making notice that the Pine Barrens Adventure Camp Riding School will be holding a small educational motorcycle school and ecology course on September 21st and 22nd. The event will be held on private property located on Weatherby Road and Franckle Lane. Permits have been filed from Pinelands and the State Forestry.

The Township Committee discussed and advised the clerk to send a letter of support to the Pine Barrens Adventure Camp Riding School.

Township Committee Discussion

Ken Whildin

Mr. Whildin reported the East Point geotube is on target for start around October 1st.

Bill Ashton

Mr. Ashton stated he had nothing to report.

J. Roy Oliver

Mr. Oliver reported the following:

1. Mr. Oliver stated Patrick Phillips has been certified by CSC for the Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator position and suggested appointment October 1st, 2019 with a 90-day probation; permanent appointment January 2020.

Mr. Whildin made a motion to appoint Mr. Phillips to the Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator position with 90-day probation starting October 1st; seconded by Mr. Ashton.

Roll Call: Ayes – Whildin, Ashton, Oliver Nays – None

* A resolution will be presented for adoption on Thursday, September 19, 2019.

2. Maurice River Township received a recycling award. Mr. Oliver thanked Louann Karrer and Lisa Fisher for their efforts. Mr. Oliver stated that a luncheon is being held by ANJR and one free ticket is supplied. Mr. Oliver suggested that the township pay for an additional ticket so that both Ms. Karrer and Ms. Fisher can attend.

Mr. Whildin made a motion to pay for one additional ticket to the ANJR luncheon; seconded by Mr. Ashton.

Roll Call: Ayes – Whildin, Ashton, Oliver Nays – None

3. Mr. Oliver asked the status of the survey for the easement of the vacated portion of Stable Street. Mr. DiDomenico will follow up with the Township Surveyor.
4. Mr. Oliver stated that NJDEP is looking for input regarding public access to waterways. Mr. Whildin stated he believes more access to waterways is needed and should the township acquire the PSE&G properties it would help. Mr. DiDomenico stated he has spoken with PSE&G and is okay with what they are proposing.

Mr. Whildin offered that Mr. Risko is also proposing an access point through his property. Mr. Stowman stated that access points were previously determined. The clerk will forward to the committee what information is available regarding the previously determined waterways access points.

Mr. Oliver stated that Allison Mcleon from Kerry Pflugh's office is asking for input prior to October 4th.

Mr. DiDomenico stated he believes this inquiry relates to 'beach' access. Mr. Oliver asked that if NJDEP promulgates these rules could there be eminent domain instituted. Mr. DiDomenico stated that he believes the Governor wants to institute eminent domain for access to beaches.

5. Mr. Oliver asked the clerk to send an email to Mr. Morrissey asking him to render an opinion on the Bricksboro Bulkhead completeness on Thursday, September 19, 2019. KG Marine has submitted their final bill and the engineer opinion will determine the authorization of the payment.

Second Public Comment Session

Mr. Whildin motioned to open the second public comment session noting the time at 8:06 pm; seconded by Mr. Ashton.

Roll Call: Ayes – Whildin, Ashton, Oliver Nays – None

Penny Wells, MRTES BOE President, stated there is push by the state to regionalize school districts. Ms. Wells acknowledged that the Township previously submitted an opposing resolution to Senator Sweeney but asked the Township Committee to do what they can to oppose the regionalization. Mr. Oliver suggested a letter to the county freeholders.

Mr. Oliver made a motion to work with Ms. Wells to draft a letter opposing regionalization to be sent to Mr. Derella, Freeholder Director; seconded by Mr. Whildin.

Roll Call: Ayes – Whildin, Ashton, Oliver Nays – None

Ms. Wells stated that her neighbors have been burning leaves and brush and is concerned that it will start a fire from the flying embers. Mr. Whildin offered that campfires require permits to be obtained and believes these permits are valid for 30 days. Ms. Wells asked if the township can do something about the campfires. Mr. Whildin stated he does not believe the township can do anything as this is under Forest Fire jurisdiction. Mr. DiDomenico offered that Ms. Wells could report the incidents. Mr. Guenther asked if 'risk' signs could be posted regarding burning. Mr. Whildin stated that Smokey the Bear signs (two) are being placed within the township to alert of

'high risk' days. Ms. Wells asked that information be placed in the next township flyer. Mr. Foster offered that this information could also be placed on the website.

Jane Ashton, Dorchester, stated she has seen public works vehicles with brush and questioned if brush pick up was being conducted. Mr. Whildin stated that public works is cleaning up around street signs.

Mr. Stowman, Delmont, questioned 'if' a resident plants a tree in the township ROW, does the Township have the right to remove the tree(s). Mr. DiDomenico stated the Township does have the right to remove if planted in the ROW.

Mr. Whildin motioned to close the second public comment session noting the time at 8:21 pm; second by Mr. Ashton.

Roll Call: Ayes – Whildin, Ashton, Oliver Nays - None

Review of Agenda for Thursday, September 19, 2019 at 7:30 pm.

The Township Committee reviewed the agenda for the Thursday, September 19, 2019 meeting and accepted as presented.

Review of Bills for approval on Thursday, September 19, 2019 at 7:30 pm.

The remainder of the meeting was dedicated to review of the bills to be presented for approval on Thursday, September 19, 2019.

Adjournment

Mr. Whildin called for adjournment; seconded by Mr. Ashton.

Denise L. Peterson, Municipal Clerk