

Monday, August 13, 2018, 6:30 P.M.
Bill Review & Agenda Meeting

PRESENT: Patricia Gross, Mayor
J. Roy Oliver, Deputy Mayor
Ken Whildin, Committeeman
Allen Foster, CMFO
Frank DiDomenico, Solicitor
Denise L. Peterson, Municipal Clerk

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

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor Gross

Roll Call Patricia Gross – present
J. Roy Oliver – present
Ken Whildin – present

Presentation

Allen Foster, CMFO

Mr. Foster explained that there are no major budget concerns at this time and that transfers will be made later in the year due to unexpected expenses.

Mr. Foster stated he is looking into a ‘purchase card’ for the township; there will be fees associated with the card and it would be through a bank that funds the card. Mr. Foster further explained that quotes and/or bids will still be required with use of the card. Mrs. Gross questioned increasing the Petty Cash fund amount. Mr. Foster will look further into the purchase card to see what the costs will be.

Mr. Oliver stated that Mr. Morrissey is projecting to possibly go out for bid for the Bricksboro bulkhead around November 1st; the estimated cost is around \$65,000. Mr. Oliver questioned how the project would be funded. Mr. Foster advised a capital project for this project as the useful life will be over 15 years and capital funds are available.

Ms. Gross suggested having Mr. Morrissey involved in the basketball court project because knowledge of the materials and layout would be required to request competitive quotes or bids. The consensus was to have Mr. Morrissey involved. Ms. Gross stated that preliminarily it appears to have the basketball court made of concrete would cost over \$20,000.

Mr. Foster suggested a ‘multipurpose’ ordinance for a capital project covering both the Bricksboro bulkhead and the basketball court.

Mr. Foster questioned the playground equipment. Mrs. Gross stated the original estimate was around \$100,000 for just a few pieces of equipment. It was discussed that each piece of playground equipment comes with specifications on placement and that public works could install the equipment. Mr. Foster suggested having vendors supply quotes, then doing a capital ordinance and going out for bid. The township must supply the specifications with the bid request documents.

Public Comment Session

Mr. Oliver made a motion to open the public comment session noting the time at 6:57 pm; seconded by Mr. Whildin.

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

There being no public comment, Mr. Oliver made a motion to close the public comment session noting the time at 6:57 pm; seconded by Mr. Whildin.

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

Discussion Items

1. **8/2/16 Request from Paul Hontscharik to purchase part of Stable Street adjoining his property**

Mr. Whildin provided a description of the property. Mr. Whildin further explained that he does not believe the township will need the property in the future. Mr. DiDomenico stated the roadway would first need to be vacated prior to offering for sale to the public. It was further discussed that determination of whether this is a 'dedicated' roadway needs to be determined; if it is not dedicated then after vacating by ordinance it could be offered to any/all contiguous property owners. It was discussed that only the portion of the roadway in questions could be vacated; a survey will be required with the fees associated with the survey passed on in the purchase price.

2. **Disabled Vet Exemption**

Mr. Oliver explained the past practice associated with granting of this exemption. It was discussed that a veteran is requesting a refund of taxes paid from prior years. The Tax Assessor is supporting granting the disabled veteran as of the application date of September 20, 2017. The veteran is requesting a refund of taxes back to the application date of September 20, 2017. The Tax Assessor as sole discretion when granting exemptions for disabled veterans.

The Township Committee and Solicitor had a detailed discussion regarding adopting a firm standard on Disabled Vet Exemptions. Mr. DiDomenico suggested an ordinance and will look into the statutes.

3. **Township Calendar – allowing businesses outside of Maurice River Township to advertise.**

Mrs. Gross explained that a business outside of Maurice River Township would like to advertise their florist business on the township calendar. The Township Committee discussed the pros and cons of allowing outside businesses to advertise on the township calendar. This topic was tabled for discussion possibly at a later date.

4. **Can Request for Proposals for the 2019 Township Professionals be made so that award is made in December versus January 1, 2019? Proposed dates: Ad – September 24, 2018, receipt date October 25, 2018, review by Township Committee –November 12th A&BR meeting and resolution of award December 20th.**

It was discussed and determined to follow past practice for advertising of the Request For Proposals for the township professionals.

5. **Streets needing clarification on name: Cannon Range, Front (Bricksboro) and Harriet.**

The Clerk will search for Dedication by Deed for all of these streets. The name provided in the deed is the name that should be used.

6. **Scarecrows for Municipal Building Lane.**

Mr. Whildin questioned 'who' sponsored this event last year. Mrs. Gross stated the event was through the Municipal Alliance. The clerk will make notice to all groups who participated last year, all churches and all fire departments. Flyers can be placed in the post offices. A note about wreaths being displayed and information will be sent out later will be included.

Township Committee Discussion

1. When and if the conservation easement is received consideration to subdivide the property to accommodate school access.

Mr. Oliver asked that should NJDEP grant the release of the conservation easement would the Township Committee entertain subdividing the property so that the school can have access to Fox Street to leave the building. Mr. DiDomenico stated that assuming NJDEP releases the easement then a driveway could be installed; a subdivision would not be needed. It was further discussed that possibly the school also wants to put in a soccer field.

Mr. Oliver announced that there was a Senior Dance this Saturday, August 18, 2018 from 1 PM to 4 PM at the Leechester Hall.

Mr. Whildin stated the used leaf vac recently purchased was delivered and that it started right up and appears to be in better shape than the one the township owns.

Mr. Whildin stated the sign trailer has been purchased for the portable bulletin board sign.

Mr. Whildin stated that a plan in in the works to obtain a grant to work on the "Basket Flats" area.

Mr. Whildin stated that he and Mrs. Gross attended a seminar "Piece of the Pie". During the meeting it was discussed that Bridgeton has not received funding for the South Woods prison since the one time initial payment and that the contract cannot be found anywhere which set the terms between the City of Bridgeton and the NJ Department of Corrections. The topic of legalization of marijuana was discussed with Senator Van Drew being opposed to legalizing recreational use, Freeholder Barbour being for legalizing recreational use. Almost everyone in attendance was for medical marijuana use.

Mr. Whildin explained that per Mr. Foster CMPTRA is discretionary funding and when the energy tax goes up the CMPTRA goes down. Additionally during the seminar it was stated that 'south' of Camden does not get its 'fair share'. There are a lot of politics involved in how the allocations are calculated.

Mr. Whildin stated that the safety training program has been brought up to date. Manuals are being created for the PEOSH and OSHA 'standard' safety trainings needed by both the Public Works and Office employees. The manuals will need Township Committee approval once they are complete.

Mrs. Gross stated money is being raised for the NJ Dogs of Honor program. The fire companies had a dunk tank and sold Wawa hoagies for the benefit.

Mrs. Gross provided an update on the PSE&G properties that might be donated to the township. Appraisal are pending and bonds from the work done previously need to be cleared. Once these are done they will know if they will donate the property(ies) to the township.

Mrs. Gross announced that the Family Night Out was a good event with good weather. The number of attendees is not known but 600 hot dog tickets were used and 100 children purchased bracelets for the bouncy house, etc. There were many agencies & vendors at the event with a fireworks display that lasted around 15 minutes.

Review of Agenda for Thursday, August 16, 2018 at 7:30 pm.

The Township Committee reviewed the agenda for the Thursday, August 16, 2018 meeting and changes were made as needed.

Review of Bills for approval on Thursday, August 16, 2018 at 7:30 pm.

The remainder of the meeting was dedicated to review of the bills to be presented for approval on Thursday, August 16, 2018.

Adjournment

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

Denise L. Peterson, Municipal Clerk