

**MAURICE RIVER TOWNSHIP
BILL & AGENDA REVIEW MEETING
Monday, August 18, 2014– 7:30 P.M.**

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 Sarclette

Roll Call

A. Gordon Gross, OEM & HO/ZO Report

B. Discussion Items

1. Resolution No. 111-2014 A Resolution Supporting An Off-Road Motorcycle Event To Be Held By Northeast Off-Road Championship Series On Private Property, September 6, 2014 And September 7, 2014.
2. Signage Recommendation – MacDonald Ave & Cannon Range Rd.
3. Loader Bid Specs
4. Municipal Assessment against Block 296, Lot 25 – Valencia
5. Status of Property Maintenance Pending Issues

C. Misc. Report of Operations

D. Township Committee Concerns

E. Review of Agenda for August 21, 2014

F. Public Comment

G. Review of Bills

H. Adjournment

Monday, August 18, 2014, 7:30 P.M.
Bill & Agenda Review Meeting

PRESENT: Andrew Sarclette, Mayor
Patricia Gross, Deputy Mayor
Kathy Ireland, Committeewoman
Frank DiDomenico, Solicitor
Allen Foster, Finance Officer
Linda L. Costello, Acting Municipal Clerk

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

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

ROLL CALL: Mr. Sarclette, present
Mrs. Gross, present
Mrs. Ireland, present

Report of OEM Coordinator and Housing/Zoning Officer

Mr. Gross provided a status report on property maintenance violations. Mr. DiDomenico advised he is awaiting a return call from the lienholder of Port of Call Restaurant.

Mr. Sarclette asked if anyone has heard from the new owners of the former CD Mechanical property. Mr. Gross advised he will look into it.

Mr. Gross advised the Hazard Mitigation Working Group held a second meeting on July 30th. He advised the group did a great job recommending changes. Another meeting is scheduled for August 20th at 8:00 a.m. with the contractor writing the plan.

Mr. Gross advised the annual table top exercise will be held October 20th. He noted this drill qualifies the Township for EMA funding.

Mr. Gross advised he has to attend county meetings in September and November which conflict with the agenda meeting. It was determined the unsafe structure hearing for 53 Hands Mill Road will be held October 13th.

Public Comment

Mrs. Ireland made a motion to open the public comment session at 7:49 P.M., seconded by Mrs. Gross.

Roll Call: Ayes -- Ireland, Gross, Sarclette Nays --None

Robert Canup of Leesburg commented that the park behind the Municipal Hall has not been updated, noting it is a main part of the town and kids spend a lot of time using it during baseball season. He suggested moving the equipment over in the grove and

adding a volleyball net. He stated the monkey bars are falling apart. He commented that Delmont, Port Elizabeth and Heislerville playgrounds are maintained. Mrs. Ireland responded that arrangements have been made to fix the area in the picnic grove including tables, benches and a swing set. Mr. Canup also commented that bleachers were not provided at the yellow ball field and remain broken. Mr. Sarclette commented that over time additions are made to the playgrounds and he appreciates Mr. Canup's interest.

Ben Stowman of Delmont advised he attended the Hazard Mitigation meeting. He also commented on an upcoming meeting regarding FIRM maps. He asked if there has been any more interest by the federal government regarding East Point beach elevations. Mrs. Ireland advised conversation have been held between Laurie Pettigrew, Bill Dixon and Commissioner Garton. Mrs. Ireland advised the NJ Historical Trust funds may not be available for East Point grounds but perhaps qualify for archaeology studies. There is also concern regarding shared cost match.

Mrs. Ireland made a motion to close the public comment session at 8:10P.M., seconded by Mrs. Gross.

Roll Call: Ayes – Ireland, Gross, Sarclette Nays –None

Report of CMFO

Allen Foster provided a budget status report to the Township Committee.

Mr. Foster asked if the Township Committee is interested in proceeding with a change in the municipal website. Mrs. Ireland commented it needs to be dressed up. Mr. Gross asked if it can be more interactive. Mr. Sarclette asked what the initial cost will be. Mr. Foster responded the cost will be minimal but he needs to get additional quotes. Consensus was to move forward with changing the website design.

Mr. Foster advised he spoke with Steve Hagemann and requested more detailed information on the attachments for the loader bid specs.

Discussion Items

1. Resolution No. 111-2014 A Resolution Supporting An Off-Road Motorcycle Event To Be Held By Northeast Off-Road Championship Series On Private Property, September 6, 2014 And September 7, 2014.
Mrs. Costello advised the resolution is needed due to a scheduling change made by NEOC and confirmation of the change to the Pinelands Commission.
Mrs. Ireland made a motion to adopt Resolution #111-2014, seconded by Mrs. Gross.
Roll Call: Ayes – Ireland, Gross, Sarclette Nays – None
2. Signage Recommendation – MacDonald Ave & Cannon Range Rd.
Mr. DiDomenico advised he will review and provide a report for Thursday's meeting.
Mrs. Gross suggested putting shrubs in the area where people are cutting through.
3. Loader Bid Specs - It was noted information is being obtained.
4. Municipal Assessment against Block 296, Lot 25 – Valencia

Mr. DiDomenico advised he was contacted by the attorney for Luis Valencia who claims our lien against Bat Holdings is invalid against his client. They proposed to pay 1/3 of the lien amount which will leave the Township responsible to reimburse the lien holder 2/3rds of the lien amount. Mr. DiDomenico advised Mr. Valencia obtained a property in better condition. Consensus was to not accept the proposal to pay 1/3 of the lien.

5. Status of Property Maintenance Pending Issues

Mr. DiDomenico advised he is awaiting title searches and the unsafe structure hearing will be scheduled for the October meeting for 53 Hands Mill Road.

Misc. Report of Operations

Mr. Sarclette asked about progress on the street light survey. Mrs. Gross advised the list was submitted to Atlantic City Electric and she believes all have been fixed.

Mr. Sarclette asked if a survey has been done to determine street lights no longer needed. Mrs. Gross replied the cost to have the lights replaced in the future outweighs the monthly charges currently being paid.

Mrs. Costello advised a request to add Ken Whildin Jr. to the roster of the local relief association was submitted.

A brief discussion was held concerning the future maintenance of the East Point Light House and the possibility of a lease agreement between the Township and NJDEP.

Mr. Sarclette advised two of the five SEARCH grants were approved by USDA.

Mrs. Gross advised a Back to School Night was held on August 20th and six businesses participated. She also advised she attended the National Night Out event in Commercial Township which was held like a local festival. She thought the event was very nice.

Township Committee Concerns

Mr. Sarclette stated a motion was made in June for a new hire to the Road Department however no action has been taken. He would like to propose the option to hire a temporary seasonal person. A resolution will be prepared for adoption at the regular meeting amending the previous resolution.

Mr. Sarclette asked Mr. DiDomenico if he has heard from Council #18's attorney regarding a signed contract. Mr. DiDomenico advised he has not received a reply and he will make another call.

Mrs. Costello asked if the Township Committee is ready to consider initiating the process to hire an office clerk based on pending retirement of office staff. Consensus was to advertise for a Clerk 1 position.

Mrs. Costello asked if the Township Committee is interested in initiating a second round of In Rem foreclosures. She noted six more properties are recommended for foreclosure proceedings. Consensus was to prepare a resolution authorizing foreclosure proceedings for six more properties.

Public Comment

Mrs. Ireland made a motion to open the public comment session at 9:03 P.M., seconded by Mrs. Gross.

Roll Call: Ayes – Ireland, Gross, Sarclette Nays –None

Ben Stowman of Delmont advised the Bayshore Group may be rescheduling the Economic Summit for some time in November. The purpose of the summit will be to provide businesses an opportunity to learn about banking sources.

Mrs. Ireland made a motion to close the public comment session at 9:08 P.M., seconded by Mrs. Gross.

Roll Call: Ayes – Ireland, Gross, Sarclette Nays –None

Review of Agenda

The Acting Clerk next reviewed the draft agenda for the upcoming August 21, 2014 meeting.

Review of Bills

The remainder of the meeting was dedicated to the review of bills for approval at the August 21, 2014 meeting.

Adjournment

Mrs. Ireland made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mrs. Gross.

Linda L. Costello, Acting Municipal Clerk