

**STILLWATER TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES OF AUGUST 18, 2015
REGULAR MEETING**

A REGULAR MEETING of the Stillwater Township Committee was called to order by Mayor Scott at 7:00 p.m. noting the meeting date, time and place were duly published in the New Jersey Herald and posted at the Town Hall and advised those present that this meeting was being held in compliance with provisions of P.L. 1975, Chapter 231, Sections 4 & 13.

Roll Call: PRESENT: Mayor Scott, Committeewoman Chammings (7:06 p.m.), Deputy Mayor Fisher, Committeewoman Straway, Municipal Clerk Lynda Knott, and Attorney Richard Stein ABSENT: Committeeman Gross

Regular Session:

Mayor Scott invited all present to join him in saluting the flag

CONSENT AGENDA: All matters listed below are considered routine in nature and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of the items. If any discussion is desired, that particular item will be removed from the consent agenda and will be considered separately on the regular agenda.

RESOLUTIONS:	2015-090	Designating Municipal Officials to Enforce Ordinance 2015-008
	2015-091	Lien Redemption Block 3511 Lot 1
	2015-093	Liquor License Renewal for Mountain Brook Inn LLC

MINUTES: July 7, 2015 Regular Meeting

REPORTS: Building Report of July 2015
Tax Collector's Report of July 2015

Mr. Fisher made a **motion** to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by **Mrs. Straway**.

Roll Call Vote: Ms. Chammings, yes, Mr. Fisher, yes, Mrs. Straway, yes and Mayor Scott, yes – the Consent Agenda was approved.

Bills List #13: \$775,817.15

Resolution 2015-092: Payment of Bills

Mr. Fisher made a **motion** to approve Bill List #13, Resolution 2015-092, seconded by Mrs. Straway.

Roll Call Vote: Ms. Chammings, yes, Mr. Fisher, yes, Mrs. Straway, yes, Mayor Scott, yes
The Motion to approved Bill List #13 was approved.

Open Public Session: Mayor Scott invited members of the public to speak.

Mrs. Catherina Feenstra, 920 West End Drive, questioned if any decision had been made to alleviate the water issue that plagues their driveway. The Feenstras would like to have their driveway repaved and would appreciate a cure so the driveway would not buckle after repaving. Mr. Fisher stated he was waiting for Brian Hendershot to put together the plan and cost to install a catch basin on the side of the driveway and the Feenstras would have their answer by the September 1, 2015 meeting.

Seeing no one else wishing to speak Mayor Scott closed this portion of the meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Mrs. Straway had no report.

Mr. Fisher had no report.

Ms. Chammings noted the Environmental Commission had discussed septic care and will possibly recommend that septic tanks be pumped every two or three years.

Mayor Scott reported for Mr. Gross that the Stillwater Volunteer Fire Department sent their pumper to the warehouse fire in North Brunswick in July.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mr. Fisher stated he would like to bring back for discussion changing the insurance policy for retirees.

Mr. Stein said he will look into the Township's current policy and make recommendations to the Township Committee

**ORDINANCE 2015-009 AN ORDINANCE TO REPEAL AND REPLACE CHAPTER
123 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF
STILLWATER ENTITLED "BRUSH, GRASS AND WEEDS"
WITH A NEW CHAPTER BEARING THE SAME TITLE
Public Hearing and Adoption**

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Stillwater, Sussex County, New Jersey, as follows:

SECTION 1. Chapter 123 of the Code of the Township of Stillwater is hereby repealed and is replaced with the following:

§ 123-1. Duties of owners, tenants or person in possession

It shall be the duty of the owner, tenant or person in possession of any lands in the Township:

- A. To keep all brush or hedges within 25 feet of the intersection of two roadways abutting the property cut to a height of not more than three feet where it is necessary and expedient for the preservation of public safety.
- B. To keep the lands free of brush, weeds, dead and dying trees, stumps, roots, obnoxious growths, filth, garbage, trash and debris, where the same are inimical to the preservation of public health, safety or general welfare of the Township, or which may constitute a fire hazard.

§ 123-2. Owner or tenant to be notified of hazard.

In all cases where it shall be necessary and expedient for the preservation of the public health, safety or general welfare or to eliminate a fire hazard, the owners, the tenants or the person in possession of lands within the Township of Stillwater upon which there are brush, weeds, dead and dying trees, stumps, roots, obnoxious growths, filth, garbage, trash and debris shall be notified in writing by the Zoning Officer of the Township of Stillwater to remove the same.

§ 123-3. Delivery of notice.

Said notice may be delivered to the owner, tenant or person in possession personally or mailed to him at his last known place of address by certified mail, return receipt requested and first class mail.

§ 123-4. Contents of notice

Said notice shall inform the person, firm or corporation to whom it is directed that the presence on said lands (specifying the location of the same) of such brush, weeds, dead and dying trees, stumps, roots, obnoxious growths, filth, garbage, trash and debris constitutes a menace to the public health, safety or general welfare or constitutes a fire hazard; specify the items to be removed; direct that their removal be completed within ten (10) days following delivery of said notice; and advise that if removal is not completed within the time specified, the removal will be done under the direction of the Zoning Officer of the Township of Stillwater and the cost thereof shall be charged as taxes and constitute a lien against said lands, to bear interest at the same rate as taxes and to be collected and enforced by the same officers and in the same manner as taxes.

§ 123-5. Failure to comply with notice

Upon the failure, neglect or refusal of any owner, tenant or person in possession of lands upon whom such notice has been served, as aforesaid, to remove from said lands the items specified in such notice within the time fixed therefor, the Zoning Officer of the Township of Stillwater shall either remove the same or cause the same to be removed under his direction to a suitable place, either within or outside the limits of the Township, and shall certify the cost thereof to the Township Committee, who shall examine said certificate and, if found correct, shall cause the cost as shown to be charged against said lands, and the amount so charged shall forthwith become a lien upon said lands and shall be added to and become and form part of the taxes next to be assessed and levied upon said lands, the same to bear interest at the same rate as taxes, and shall be collected and enforced by the same officers and in the same manner as taxes.

§ 123-6. Failure to serve notice; removal by Township

If, after diligent effort by the Zoning Officer of the Township of Stillwater, neither the owner, the tenant or person in possession of lands upon which such menace to public health, safety or general welfare or fire hazard exists can be served with notice as herein above prescribed, then said Zoning Officer of the Township of Stillwater shall proceed to remove or cause to be removed said items, or any of them, from said lands and shall certify the cost thereof to the Township Committee, who shall examine said certificate and, if found correct, shall cause the cost thereof to be charged against said lands, with the same effect and to be collected in the same manner as provided in § 123.5 hereof.

§ 123-7. Enforcement

This chapter shall be enforced by the Township Zoning Officer or by such other Municipal Official as the Township Committee shall from time to time so designate.

SECTION 2 - WHEN EFFECTIVE

This ordinance shall become effective immediately upon passage and publication as required by law.

Upon Motion by Mr. Fisher, seconded by Mrs. Straway and Roll Call Vote: Ms. Chamblings, yes, Mr. Fisher, yes, Mrs. Straway, yes and Mayor Scott, yes – Ordinance 2015-009 was adopted.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Stillwater Fire Department Coin Toss (August 21st and 22, 2015) – Mr. Fisher made a **motion** to approve Stillwater Fire Department’s coin toss scheduled for August 21 and 22, 2015, seconded by **Mrs. Straway**. **Roll Call Vote:** Ms. Chamblings, yes, Mr. Fisher, yes, Mrs. Straway, yes and Mayor Scott, yes – Stillwater Fire Department’s coin toss was approved.

Bike to Beat Epilepsy 2015 – Event scheduled for October 4, 2015. After a discussion **Mr. Fisher** made a **motion** to approve the Bike to Beat Epilepsy fund raiser scheduled for October 4, 2015, seconded by **Mrs. Straway**. **Roll Call Vote:** Ms. Chamblings, yes, Mr. Fisher, yes, Mrs. Straway, yes and Mayor Scott, yes – the Bike to Beat Epilepsy fund raiser was approved.

Brook Falls Farm LLC – Event scheduled for October 3 and 4, 2015 – Tabled until 9/1/15

No Parking – Stillwater Road/Middleville Road. After a party where guests parked on Middleville and Stillwater Roads the Township Engineer and DPW Superintendent surveyed the area and the Township Engineer issued a memorandum stating “the conditions in the area do not meet the minimum requirements outlined in Title 39 (NJ Motor Vehicle and Traffic Laws) Article 16 – Parking.” And “event parking may be hazardous to the proper flow of traffic in the area.” This memo initiated a discussion for adopting an ordinance that will prohibit parking in the area. **Mr. Fisher** made a **motion** asking the Township Attorney to draft an ordinance prohibiting parking 1000’ from the intersection of Stillwater Road and Middleville Road, seconded by Mrs. Straway. **Roll Call Vote:** Ms. Chamblings, yes, Mr. Fisher, yes, Mrs. Straway, yes and Mayor Scott, yes – the Township Attorney will draft the no-parking ordinance for the next meeting.

OPEN PUBLIC SECTION

Open Public Session: Mayor Scott opened the meeting to the public to speak on any matter.

Justin Francomacaro, Chief of Stillwater Area Volunteer Fire Department, stated the truck committee will have the specifications and cost for the new pumper for the Township Committee to review at the September 1st Township Committee meeting.

Mr. Louis Sylvester, 945 Old School House Road, discussed the parking area of Veterans Park. Mr. Sylvester noted there would be more parking spaces if the parking lot was paved/oiled and stoned and lined. Mr. Sylvester said he had been attending the Recreation Commission meetings but has not had any feedback from the Township Committee. Mr. Sylvester presented two different options for completing the parking lot to the Township Committee. The Township Committee agreed to discuss the options at the September 15, 2015 meeting after they have had time to review Mr. Sylvester’s suggestions.

Mr. Sylvester also questioned when the street repairs on Hardwick and Old School House roads were to be completed from the damage done by the PSEG project contractors' trucks. Mrs. Straway said that although the DPW Superintendent had hoped to have the repairs completed this fall depending on the weather the repairs may be done in the Spring of 2016.

Seeing no one else wishing to speak Mayor Scott closed this portion of the meeting.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT: Mr. Stein discussed that the State Supreme Court has taken the job (from COAH) and has begun the judicial process for Substantial Certification of affordable housing. Ms. Leo of Laddy, Clark & Ryan, LLC will be handling all of Laddy, Clark & Ryan's clients.

There being no further business a Motion was made by Mr. Fisher to attend to adjourn the meeting, seconded by **Mrs. Straway**. In a voice vote at 7:50 p.m., all were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynda Knott, Municipal Clerk