

STILLWATER TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
September 6, 2016
Regular Meeting

A REGULAR MEETING of the Stillwater Township Committee was called to order by Mayor Fisher at 7 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 was taken and the flag was saluted.

PRESENT: Committeeman Gross, Committeewoman Chamblings, Mayor Fisher, Municipal Clerk Lynda Knott, Township Attorney Richard Stein.

ABSENT: Committeeman Morrison, Deputy Mayor Scott

Regular Session:

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.

MINUTES:

Regular Minutes of July 19, 2016

RESOLUTIONS:

2016-100 Mayor's Acceptance of Michele Hess' resignation as Recreation Commission Secretary and Member with Committee Concurrence

2016-101 Authorization to purchase two recycling containers for Stillwater Township's Recycling and Convenience Center

2016-102 Mayor's Appointment of Andrew Michelman as a Member of the Stillwater Volunteer Fire Department with Committee Concurrence

2016-103 Mayor's Appointment of Elizabeth Diorio as Crossing Guard with Committee Concurrence

2016-104 Authorizing Professional Engineering Service with Guerin & Vreeland Engineering, Inc.

REPORTS:

Convenience Center – June 2016

Mr. Gross made a **motion** to approve the Consent Agenda, removing the minutes of 7/19/16 for future consideration, seconded by Ms. Chamblings.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Gross, yes, Ms. Chamblings, yes, Mayor Fisher, yes

BILLS LIST #13 \$884,648.31

RESOLUTION 2016-105 PAYMENT OF BILLS

Ms. Chamblings made a **motion** to adopt Resolution 2016-105, removing PO#5820 for separate consideration, seconded by Mr. Gross.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Gross, yes, Ms. Chamblings, yes, Mayor Fisher, yes

Mr. Gross made a **motion** to pay PO #5820, seconded by Mr. Fisher.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Gross, yes, Ms. Chamblings, abstain, Mayor Fisher, yes

PRESENTATION: Dave Glueck – Alternative Energy Associates – Solar Audit for Town Hall
Mr. Glueck did not appear before the Committee at this time.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

Add: Closing of Old Schoolhouse Road in Hardwick under New Business

Open Public Session:

At this point, this portion of the meeting was opened to the public.

Jerome Mandel, 928 Duck Pond Road read a prepared *statement regarding the bear hunt. He asked the Committee to adopt a resolution banning bear hunting on all public lands in Stillwater and to place this item on the next agenda.

***STATEMENT ATTACHED**

There being no further members of the public wishing to speak, this portion of the meeting was closed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: None

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Closing of Old Schoolhouse Road in Hardwick:

Ms. Knott explained the road was closed in Hardwick to avoid individuals from having to travel a distance down Old Schoolhouse Road and then ultimately having to turn around due to the road work. Unfortunately, several complaints have been received from Hardwick residents as the road closure interfered with their garbage pick-up as well as guests visiting. The DPW has moved the closure sign back into Stillwater and Ms. Knott asked for authorization for the DPW to pick up the trash from the residents that were affected.

Mr. Fisher made a **motion** authorizing trash pick-up by the DPW for those Hardwick residents impacted by the road closure, to be disposed of at SCMUA, seconded by Mr. Gross.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Gross, yes, Ms. Chamblings, yes, Mayor Fisher, yes

Bike to Beat Epilepsy – October 30, 2016:

7th Annual ride around Swartwood Lake, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. State Police will be directing traffic and the fire department and EMS have been notified.

Ms. Chamblings made a **motion** authorizing the Bike to Beat Epilepsy ride, seconded by Mr. Gross.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Gross, yes, Ms. Chamblings, yes, Mayor Fisher, yes

Water District #1 Request for Township Owned Property for New Wells:

Ms. Knott explained the Water District is in need of property to locate two new wells. They have submitted a request to purchase township lots that would work well with the water system locations. Ms. Knott will obtain the assessed value from the Tax Assessor and the item will be added to the next agenda. She will also inform the Water District should they be interested in attending.

Pavilion Location at Veteran's Memorial Park:

Ms. Chamblings met with Dave Manser at VMP to look at a new location for the pavilion. The new location will take the pavilion out of a fireworks hazard area and will place it next to an existing walkway, eliminating the need to extend the path. Mr. Fisher expressed concern with the Recreation Commission not being contacted regarding moving the pavilion. Ms. Chamblings stated she was contacted by Mr. Manser because she had already met with him and Ms. Hess with Pioneer Pole Buildings to determine the original location. Ms. Hess has since resigned from the Recreation Commission. Ms. Chamblings indicated she emailed Ms. Knott to keep everyone informed but it was a holiday weekend. She asked Mr. Fisher to view the new site and provide his input. The location is easier for electric and public access. Mr. Fisher had the email forwarded to the Recreation Commission. Mr. Gross stated the location is ultimately the decision of the Committee and he would like to be involved.

DPW Tractor Purchase:

Following a discussion, Mr. Fisher asked the Clerk to obtain the tractor specifications for Committee review at the next meeting.

September 11th Memorial Service:

A memorial service will be held on September 11th at VMP. The service will be provided by Pastor Tim and Pastor Todd at 1 p.m. If it rains the service will be held at the fire department.

Mileage Reimbursement for Finance Clerk and Tax Collector:

The Finance Clerk and Tax Collector have submitted a request to be reimbursed for the mileage incurred when they conduct town business to the bank. This item will be added to the next agenda for further discussion.

Ms. Chamblings asked if it would be possible to take back the vehicle donated to the Swartswood Fire Department. Tammy Richardson indicated the vehicle is registered and insured and is parked at the firehouse. Ms. Chamblings asked if it could be returned to the township.

Mr. Stein stated that generally it is less expensive to pay the mileage rather than providing a vehicle. He felt an analysis would have to be done to determine if it would be cost effective. Ms. Chamblings noted the building and zoning departments could also use the vehicle.

Attorney Report:

Mr. Stein reported on the status of the COAH litigation which is coming to a conclusion. A settlement proposal has been issued to the Fair Share Housing Center concerning Stillwater. Mr. Stein will keep Ms. Knott up to date on the matter to keep the Committee informed.

Open Public Session:

At this point, this portion of the meeting was opened to the public.

Diane Apostola, 916 Five Points Lane felt no decision should be made regarding the pavilion without Township Committee approval. She asked why the Swartswood Fire Department still has the vehicle and it should be returned to the township. She would like more information on the status of the Swartswood Fire Department and would like to see it added to a future agenda.

Kathy Draghi, 1016 Route 619 asked about the possibility of implementing the online payment of taxes, eliminating the need to go to the bank and the mileage reimbursement. Ms. Knott indicated the CFO has researched the matter extensively and there would be set up and security costs incurred on the township. Many residents also want to obtain a receipt in person when they make payment.

Mrs. Draghi questioned the outcome of the bill from the Labor Attorney that was discussed at a prior meeting. No report has been provided by Mr. Scott who was looking into the matter. Ms. Knott would ask Mr. Scott for an update.

Mrs. Draghi felt there are many topics discussed at meetings that are never resolved or carried as Old Business. She expressed frustration that matters are never brought up again and the public is not kept informed.

Ms. Chamblings asked Mr. Fisher to place Old Business on the next agenda. Following discussion, it was determined the following items will be added:

- Labor Attorney bill – report from Deputy Mayor Scott
- Swartswood Fire Department status
- DPW Tractor
- Letters from the Recreation Commission members

She noted the Committee has tried to set up a meeting with the fire department with no response.

Ms. Chamblings asked the public to advise the Municipal Clerk if they feel there is old business that has not been discussed and needs to be addressed.

There being no further members of the public wishing to speak, this portion of the meeting was closed.

Mr. Gross asked if all Recreation Commission members have signed the memo issued by Mr. Stein. Ms. Knott indicated two members have and others will attend a Committee meeting to do so. Some of the members would like further clarification. Ms. Chamings explained the memo is regarding procedure and is confidential.

There being no further business, Mr. Gross made a **motion** to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Fisher. In a voice vote, all were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Wunder

Here's the initial script:

You are speaking as a resident

Name :

Address

Dear Mayor and Council

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak.

As a local resident, I am here today to briefly speak about the drastic expansion of the trophy bear hunt and to respectfully ask that the town of Stillwater do what Pequannock, Butler, Oakland, Riverdale, Budd Lake, Sparta Township and Passaic county Freeholders have done and make its borders off limit to bear hunting.

DOVER +
BLOOMINGDALE
MOUNT ARLINGTON
+
ROXBURY

Last year, the Division of Fish and Wildlife drastically expanded the trophy bear hunt to include killing more than one bear, raised the number of bear hunting permits to 11,000, added more regions throughout New Jersey, added a week which includes bow hunting and muzzleloaders in October, and increased the hunt to 10 days in December.

When the overwhelming amount of comments received (92.4%) was opposed to bear hunting, the Division of Fish and Wildlife went ahead with the entire policy without making one single change that reflects public opinion.

In 2000, the Division wanted a 37-day bear hunt and as a result, 31 towns and environmental commissions passed resolutions against the bear hunt. This allowed then Governor Whitman to cancel the bear hunt. In fact, three governors have stopped 8 bear hunts because the public is overwhelmingly against them. It is well established that bear hunting does nothing to reduce conflicts. There are simple and effective solutions that not only keep bears away, but also reduce their population. By simply keeping bears away from unnatural food sources, the number one solution, we can do that.

I am asking you to please introduce and pass a resolution or ordinance that closes all public lands in Stillwater to bear hunting. Please consider putting this topic on the agenda for next month. Thank you.

MEETING
SEPT 20TH