

STILLWATER TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
January 7, 2014
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 was taken and the flag was saluted.

PRESENT: Mayor Scott, Committeewoman Chamings, Deputy Mayor Fisher, Committeeman Gross, Committeewoman Straway, Acting Municipal Clerk Lynda Knott, and Attorney Mike Garofalo.

ABSENT:

Regular Session:

Presentation: Justin Catando for Passaic County Electrical Cooperative

Mr. Catando gave a presentation for residents about the Government Energy Aggregation Program authorizing municipalities and/or counties of New Jersey to establish Government Energy Aggregation (GEA) programs after passing an ordinance or a resolution. The GEA is a realistic means for counties and municipalities to provide their residents and local businesses with a lower-cost utility option. All residents currently have a third party provider, whether chosen or by default. Mr. Catando used a JCP&L bill as an example to illustrate this fact. If the town chooses to participate, there will be a 30 day outreach program with two town hall meetings, letters and phone calls for questions and discussions. Residents are NOT required to participate and can opt out at any time. Mr. Catando will be getting back to the Committee about whether or not the fire departments can participate.

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:

- 2014-020 Authorizing the Sustainable Jersey Grant Application in the Amount of \$2,000.00
- 2014-021 Authorizing the Sustainable Jersey Grant Application in the Amount of \$10,000.00
- 2014-022 Mayor's Appointment of Michele Hess as Recreation Commission Secretary with Committee Concurrence
- 2014-023 Authorizing Payment of Redemption Block 2101 Lot 13

Reports:

- Stillwater Emergency Rescue Squad Day Calls and Monthly Calls November 2013
- Stillwater Emergency Rescue Squad Day Calls and Monthly Calls December 2013
- Stillwater Emergency Rescue Squad Day Calls and Monthly Calls Year of 2013
- Tax Collector December 2013
- Stillwater Volunteer Fire Department 2013
- Swartswood Volunteer Fire Department 2013

Mr. Gross asked to have Resolution 2014-021 moved to New Business.

Mrs. Straway made a **motion** to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by **Ms. Chammings**.

Roll Call Vote: Ms. Chammings, yes, Mr. Fisher, yes, Mr. Gross, yes, Mrs. Straway, yes, Mayor Scott, yes

Amendments to the Agenda:

Resolution 2014-021 was added under New Business

Discussion about Grant Writers was added under New Business

Personnel Policy was added under Discussion

Open Public Session:

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

Michele Hess, Captain-Stillwater Emergency Rescue Squad, announced the new ambulance has arrived on December 27. It can pull into the garage but not back into the garage. They are getting quotes for the cost of moving the heater to the middle of the garage to alleviate this problem. All equipment has been transferred over and it will be in service very soon.

Jim Pavone, Chief-Stillwater Fire Department, at the request of the Township Committee the fire department submitted a letter of interest in acquiring the old ambulance. He asked if any decisions have been made. The letter was received and discussion will be added to the January 21, 2014 meeting agenda. Chief Pavone also asked if there will be consideration of the department's request to purchase a new tanker. Mrs. Knott will send an email telling him when the fire department's budget meeting is being held. It can be discussed at that time.

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

NEW BUSINESS:

Grant Writers: Mrs. Straway asked if the Township could invite a professional grant writing firm from Clifton to make a presentation before the Committee. They will be added to the agenda at the first meeting they are available to attend.

Resolution 2014-021: Authorizing the Sustainable Jersey Grant Application in the Amount of \$10,000.00: Mr. Gross stated if the resolution is passed, there is nothing outlining how the money will be spent. The Environmental Commission had stated they would be hiring people to help with the project. Mr. Gross has insurance concerns. **Ian Blanchard, 908 Wall Street, Environmental Commission**, stated a portion of the money would be used to pay people stipend, not a salary. Mr. Gross stated the attorney didn't like the money being used to pay volunteers, and would rather the money go toward insurance. Mrs. Knott stated there is a Hold Harmless agreement coming from George Morville. It would be like Clean-Up Day where the volunteering organizations receive stipends. Mr. Blanchard stated the project was reviewed with the Wallkill Watershed Alliance and it would be a joint project. Mrs. Straway stated it would be run very much like Clean-Up Day with stipends being given to the volunteering organizations, and supplies and other needs also being paid out of the grant. Mr. Gross is concerned that people working along the river could be hurt. He would like proof that the project will not open the Township up to any liabilities. There was further discussion and description of the project. It was stated the resolution is simply giving authorization to apply for the grant.

Mr. Fisher made a **motion** to pass Resolution 2014-021 allowing the Environmental Commission to apply for the grant, seconded by **Ms. Chammings**.

Roll Call Vote: Ms. Chammings, yes, Mr. Fisher, yes, Mr. Gross, yes, Mrs. Straway, yes, Mayor Scott, yes

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Personnel Policy: Ms. Chammings stated she would like to move on the policy. Some of the wording needs to be changed due to the fact that the DPW is a union. Mr. Gross has some concerns and will be compiling a list to be reviewed by the Committee.

Passaic County Electric Cooperative: Ms. Chammings asked if the Committee should discuss an ordinance and have it on the agenda for the next meeting. Mrs. Knott has information she was given and will distribute it to the members. It will be added to the agenda for the January 21 meeting.

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

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

Mayor Scott thanked the Swartswood Fire Department for their help with the tree lighting.

There was discussion about a new meeting room door. **Mr. Fisher** made a **motion** to authorize Dan Rivera to change the front meeting room door to include panic hardware, seconded by **Ms. Chammings**.

Roll Call Vote: Ms. Chammings, yes, Mr. Fisher, yes, Mr. Gross, yes, Mrs. Straway, yes, Mayor Scott, yes

The door will be paid for out of Building and Grounds maintenance line of the budget.

Attorney Report: None

Correspondence: Mayors' Advisory Correspondence is available in the Correspondence Binder at the Municipal Building.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy Leonard