

STILLWATER TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
November 1, 2011
Regular Meeting

A REGULAR MEETING of the Stillwater Township Committee was called to order by Mayor Scott at 6 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, Deputy Mayor Fisher, Committeeman Morrison, Committeeman Gross, Committeewoman Straway, Acting Municipal Clerk Lynda Knott, Attorney Lawrence Cohen and Attorney Howard Vex

Mr. Fisher arrived at 6:05 p.m.

Executive Session:

After the reading of the following Resolution to enter into Executive Session, a **motion** was made by Mr. Gross, seconded by Mrs. Straway and unanimously carried by roll call vote to adopt the resolution permitting the Committee to go into Executive Session at 6:03 p.m.

WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975 permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting under certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Stillwater, in the County of Sussex and State of New Jersey as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from that portion of this meeting.
2. The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows: Personnel - CFO; Contract – Dispatching Services
3. As nearly as can now be ascertained, the matter or matters to be discussed at this time will be disclosed to the public when such matters are resolved.

There being no further business to attend to, a **motion** was made by Mr. Gross, seconded by Mrs. Straway to conclude the Executive Session at 6:58 p.m., unanimously carried by roll call vote.

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 SEPERATELY ON THE REGULAR AGENDA.

Department Reports:

Building Department: October 2011

Tax Collector: October 2011

Resolutions:

2011-72 Authorizing Execution of a Contract for the Town of Newton to Provide Radio Communication Services to the Township of Stillwater

2011-73 Mayor's Appointment of Anthony Ashley as Deputy OEM Coordinator Attendant with Committee Concurrence

2011-74 Authorizing the Appointment of Josh Raff as Full-Time DPW Laborer

2011-75 Authorizing the Appointment of Daniel Hogan as Part-Time Recycling Attendant

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

Roll Call Vote: Deputy Mayor Fisher, yes, Mr. Gross, yes, Mr. Morrison, yes, Mrs. Straway, yes, Mayor Scott, yes

Amendments to the Agenda: None

Committeeperson Reports:

Mr. Morrison provided an update on the Middleville Road project reporting the road should be paved by the end of next week. Mayor Scott expressed concern with the contractor having multiple projects simultaneously.

Mrs. Straway reported the Stillwater Board of Education held an Executive Session meeting last Thursday and have hired Renee Solar as the new Business Administrator (BA). Ms. Solar was the Assistant BA at Green and is currently the Assistant BA at Hackettstown. Her contract must be approved by the County Department of Education and she will be officially hired at the November 14, 2011 Board of Education meeting.

Mayor Scott reported the CFO has been placed on administrative leave and temporary coverage will be provided for that position. Mayor Scott discussed the issues related to JCP&L, and stated he has spoken to the President of JCP&L who informed him that additional crews would be dispatched. Mayor Scott stated there are numerous trees, poles and wires down, many are without power and the DPW is working hard cleaning up fallen trees and debris where possible. Middleville Road, Millbrook Road, West Shore Drive in Crandon Lakes, and Cedar Ridge Road have all been hit hard. There was some confusion with JCP&L finding locations due to the multiple zip codes in Stillwater. The Stillwater Firehouse was opened as a warming and shower center, and Swartswood Firehouse has water available for those in need.

Open Public Session:

Carol Fredericks, 1060 Middleville Road asked about the grading of her driveway entrance where it meets Middleville Road.

Mrs. Fredericks commended the Stillwater Rescue Squad on their response to an emergency at her home. She also commended Doug Losey and two other squad members for saving her husband's life. Mayor Scott suggested writing a letter to the Rescue Squad.

Peter Massardo, 1060 Owassa Road stated the information on the website has improved and included road closings and the availability of the firehouse following the recent storm. Mr. Massardo asked for the Old Tannery Road closing to be posted on the website. He stated the NJ Herald included information on area shelters and did not include Stillwater. Mayor Scott indicated the township was not contacted. Mr. Massardo asked if the Committee has researched the outreach reverse 911 system. Mayor Scott indicated the Committee will be entering into contract with Newton for dispatch services and will be inquiring about instituting such a system. Mrs. Straway stated a new website is currently in progress and will be up and running in the next few weeks. She stated Kittatinny did a reverse 911 informing residents that the school was open as a temporary shelter.

Ed Szabo, 978 Route 521 stated he provided information to Mr. Gross at the last Environmental Commission (EC) meeting regarding Agenda 21 which is currently being discussed before the EC. Mr. Szabo stated it is controversial but an issue the Committee should take seriously. He offered to arrange a speaker to provide a presentation on the matter at a future Committee meeting. Mr. Szabo stated he has been in contact with the offices of Senator Oroho, Assemblyman Chiusano and Assemblywoman McHose and was informed by Chief of Staff Jeff Spatola that the legislators are opposed to Agenda 21. Mayor Scott stated the presentation should be coordinated through the Municipal Clerk. Mr. Szabo also suggested having a speaker provide information on the sustainable side of the issue. Mr. Gross indicated he never heard of Agenda 21 prior to attending the EC meeting and after obtaining the information felt strongly that a presentation should be provided.

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

Old Business:

Renovation of the Bays:

Mr. Fisher asked for an advertisement to be placed in the newspaper seeking contractors for the garage bay renovation project. All agreed.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Middleville Road Project Update: Mr. Morrison provided an update during his Committee report.

911 Radio Dispatch Contract: Mayor Scott reported the township advertised for dispatching services and the current service, Sparta, did not submit a bid. Newton provided the following proposal: Three year period 2012-2014 paid as follows: First Year - \$55,000; Second Year - \$56,100; Third Year - \$57,222; paid quarterly each year. Mr. Gross noted the increase over the three years meets the two percent cap and he felt Newton will better service Stillwater due to its close proximity. Mayor Scott noted the proposal from Newton is less than the current agreement with Sparta.

Mrs. Straway made a **motion** to enter into an agreement with Newton for dispatching services for 2012, 2013, and 2014, seconded by Mr. Fisher.

Roll Call Vote: Deputy Mayor Fisher, yes, Mr. Gross, yes, Mr. Morrison, yes, Mrs. Straway, yes, Mayor Scott, yes

Snow Storm Power Restoration: Mayor Scott provided an update during his Committee report. He asked that anyone that knows of a problem resulting from the storm that is not being addressed to please contact town hall.

Open Public Session:

Several members of the public spoke on the recent storm and their experiences with JCP&L.

Bill Steckowich, 907 Hardwick Road stated he had spoken with JCP&L and they provided an hour by hour report on when power would be restored. Mr. Steckowich asked if a generator was obtained for the Municipal Building. Mayor Scott stated it is being discussed and will be addressed during budget review. Mr. Steckowich expressed concern with children being left standing at bus stops. Mayor Scott stated the schools were notified the night before that certain roads would be closed, but with the lack of power communication to all residents was difficult.

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

Attorney Report: Attorney Cohen reported on a construction issue at Camp Nejedra, stating it can be resolved meeting all required codes.

Correspondence:

•Mayor's Advisory Correspondence is available for review in the Correspondence Binder.

Executive Session:

After the reading of the following Resolution to enter into Executive Session, a **motion** was made by Mrs. Straway, seconded by Mr. Gross and unanimously carried by roll call vote to adopt the resolution permitting the Committee to go into Executive Session at 8 p.m.

WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975 permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting under certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Stillwater, in the County of Sussex and State of New Jersey as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from that portion of this meeting.
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There being no further business to attend to, a **motion** was made by Mrs. Straway, seconded by Mr. Gross to conclude the Executive Session at 8:20 p.m., unanimously carried by roll call vote.

Mr. Morrison made a **motion** to hire Dana Mooney on a temporary basis as the Chief Financial Officer at a rate of \$50.00 per hour, seconded by Mr. Fisher.

A letter will be drafted by the Clerk outlining the terms of the agreement, to be signed and returned by Ms. Mooney accepting said terms.

Roll Call Vote: Deputy Mayor Fisher, yes, Mr. Gross, yes, Mr. Morrison, yes, Mrs. Straway, yes, Mayor Scott, yes

There being no further business, Mr. Morrison made a **motion** to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m., seconded Mr. Gross. In a voice vote, all were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Wunder