

TABERNACLE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MINUTES OF OCTOBER 13, 2015

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Kimberly A. Brown at 8:00 p.m. followed by the Flag salute.

Sunshine Notice: This meeting is called pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act. This meeting of **October 13, 2015** was included in a list of notices sent to the Central Record, Burlington County Times and Courier Post. Posted on the bulletin board in Town Hall and has remained continuously posted as the required notices under the statute. In addition, a copy of this notice is and has been available to the public, and is on file in the office of the Municipal Clerk.

ROLL CALL PRESENT

Governing Body

Joseph W. Barton, Township Committee
Richard J. Franzen, Deputy Mayor
Stephen V. Lee, IV, Township Committee
Kimberly A. Brown, Mayor

Absent Members

Joseph Yates, IV, Township Committee

Professionals also present:

Douglas Cramer, CPWM, Township Administrator; Douglas Stuart, Environmental Consultant; Peter C. Lange, Jr. Esq. Township Solicitor and La Shawn R. Barber, Municipal Clerk

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

Mayor Brown opened the meeting to the public for comments on the agenda.

Stuart Brooks, 78 Moores Meadow Road, Tabernacle, advised the Township Committee to research how other Townships are handling emergency services.

Fran Brooks, 78 Moores Meadow Road, questioned the bill list item regarding Lyons Equipment. Mr. Cramer explained the equipment is for the CERT Team. Ms. Brooks questioned the bill list item for Ward Diesel. Mr. Cramer explained it is fire department related. Ms. Brooks questioned the bill list item for Zee Medical. Mr. Cramer explained the bill was applied for the administrative office and public works staff for training.

Seeing no other residents wishing to be heard, Mayor Brown closed public comment.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

A motion was offered by Committeeman Lee and seconded by Committeeman Barton the bills were ordered paid, approved unanimously as presented.

Roll Call: Barton, Franzen, Lee, Brown Ayes: 4 Absent: 1 Nays: 0 Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS DISCUSSION

Upcoming Strategic Planning Events: Tabernacle Township Public Schools, Superintendent of Schools George Rafferty invited members of the Township Committee and community members to participate in helping to identify Tabernacle School District Points of Pride: A Strategic Plan for Educating for a Lifetime

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| October 22, 2015 | - | Identifying Tabernacle's Points of Pride |
| November 12, 2015 | - | Setting Our Expectations for the Future |
| December 3, 2015 | - | Creating the Action Plan to Reach our Goals |
| January 28, 2016 | - | Reviewing School District Data for Charting the Course |

OLD BUSINESS DISCUSSION

Rental Property Regulations/Licensing Ordinance: Solicitor Lange spoke about the Township Ordinance to remedy issues which would require license and inspections where the property owners would be required to pay a fee for a residential registration. The Appellate Division has made its decision which indicates that our Ordinance is without account and recommends that it be repealed. There were further discussions regarding requiring property owners to submit to zoning inspections may be beneficial; however, we have not had a particular matter to refer to. The Timber Glen decision is clear and it affects many ordinances.

- A motion was offered by Deputy Mayor Franzen and seconded by Committeeman Barton to look into further options to amend this particular Ordinance.

Roll Call: Barton, Franzen, Lee, Brown Ayes: 4 Absent: 1 Nays: 0 Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS DISCUSSION

Burlington County Farmland Preservation Program: Administrator Cramer spoke about the County’s request for Municipal Review on the Acquisition Targeting List. The County Agriculture Development Board plans to evaluate the request for inclusion on the ATL and will approve a final list before the end of the year. Members of the Governing Body questioned parcels and asked Mr. Cramer for clarification.

- Committeeman Lee made a motion to approve the Acquisition Targeting List with the understanding of obtaining clarification on the one parcel. Deputy Mayor Franzen seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Barton, Franzen, Lee, Brown Ayes: 4 Absent: 1 Nays: 0 Motion carried.

Dog License Ordinance: Solicitor Lange spoke about the current Township’s local ordinance regarding dog licensing as a non-payable violation, requiring a court appearance. The municipal court would like to modify the ordinance violation to make it a payable violation in the amount of \$50.00, plus court costs. There were no objections by the Township Committee for this modification after recommendation.

Emergency Services: Mayor Brown advised this topic of discussion will be held off until the full members of the Governing Body are present. There were no objections from the present members.

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION 2015-138

AUTHORIZING PURCHASE 2016 CHEVROLET SILVERADO 3500 HD WORK TRUCK REGULAR CAB CHASSIS DRW 4WD VEHICLE WITH UTILITY BODY AND SNOW PLOW FOR PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT UNDER NEW JERSEY STATE COOPERATIVE PURCHASING SYSTEM

WHEREAS, the Township of Tabernacle, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-12a and N.J.A.C. 5:34-7.29(c), may by resolution and without advertising for bids, purchase any goods or services under the State of New Jersey Cooperative Purchasing Program for any State contracts entered into on behalf of the State by the Division of Purchase and Property in the Department of the Treasury; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Tabernacle has the need to purchase a Chevrolet Silverado Vehicle for the Public Works Department utilizing NJ State Cooperative Purchasing System (NJ Contract # A88759 (T2101), from Hertrich Fleet Services, Inc., 1427 Bay Road, Milford, DE 19963 in the amount of \$36,994.40; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified that sufficient funds are available.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Tabernacle authorizes the purchase of a Chevrolet Silverado Vehicle for the Public Works Department from Hertrich Fleet Services, Inc., 1427 Bay Road, Milford, DE 19963 in the amount of \$36,994.40.

ADOPTION: Motion made by Committeeman Lee, seconded by Deputy Mayor Franzen, **Resolution 2015-138** was offered for adoption.

Roll Call: Barton, Franzen, Lee, Brown Ayes: 4 Absent: 1 Nays: 0 Motion carried.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS: *Mayor Brown opened the meeting to the public for general comments.*

Fran Brooks, 78 Moores Meadow Road, questioned the Farmland Preservation map as to how an individual would become a bona fide candidate. Ms. Brooks spoke of wanting a correction concerning a resident’s interest

to receive draft unapproved minutes. Draft minutes under OPRA must be released, as there is case law that supports the release of redacted draft minutes; including minutes of executive session.

Thomas D. Hedden, 152 Powell Place Road, spoke about the Wharton Motorized Access Plan and does not feel confident. He would like the Township not to drop its “guard,” because this is not going to protect the farms at this time. It is presented that the farms will be protected; and really not what we want as a community.

John Cooper, 21 Woodside Drive, spoke about having a Public Safety Director would not be beneficial to the Township. He would rather see that a Committee Member be appointed as a liaison and spoke that it is not fair to have Mr. Cramer be “thrown under the bus” and take on all of the responsibility.

Keith Zane, 14 Richter Road, spoke about the great success of Tabernacle Fall Festival and thanked members of the Township Committee and Mr. Cramer for their support of all equipment supplied. A special thank you was given to our Tabernacle Tax Collector, Suzy Costales, for participating in the dunk tank to raise money for organizations. We are looking for this to be an annual event. There were approximately 3,000 people attended.

Jason Litowitz, 5 Horseshoe Court, spoke about the release of draft minutes is always wise to obtain legal advice from an attorney and not from residents. There are differences in Governmental Records Council (GRC) regarding the OPRA decisions which do not agree with the release.

REPORTS

Douglas Stuart, Environmental Consultant, provided an update report on the Potable Monitoring Wells Testing Act in the Township and spoke of the known contaminated sites specific study with The Pinelands Commission being inaccurate.

Col. William Lowe, Emergency Management Coordinator/Safety, spoke about Tabernacle Wellness Day held on September 11, 2015 was a success and looking to expand next year. The door prizes and drawings were also successful. Col. Lowe reported on the FEMA Reimbursement Storm Damage from June 23, 2015. In Category B – Emergency Protective Measures – assessment for damages; which the reimbursement will be 75%. In Category A– Recovery; removal of any and all debris; which the reimbursement will be 80%. All paperwork will be submitted to FEMA in the near future. Col. Lowe spoke about The Pinelands CERT Team deployed 15 members on Saturday, September 26 and Sunday, September 27, 2015 for the Papal visit. This is the first time that the Burlington County CERT Team deployed as a CERT organization completely run by Emergency Management. This deployment was much processed the same as the military deploys troops.

Doug Cramer, Township Administrator, spoke about having pre-construction meeting for “notice to proceed” with American Asphalt for the Municipal Aide Program and with Arawak Paving for the local road project for Lakeview Drive and Spring Drive paving to begin in the near future.

Mr. Cramer reported on the mulched playgrounds at Prickets Mill Park and Patty Bowker Fields as there were all hand weeded/no chemicals used. The community was thanked for its patience in realizing the playgrounds suffered as a result of Public Works cleaning up the Township from the results of the storm. The Public Works installed approximately 50 feet of drainage fields; off road inlet box; covered; packed and there is no standing water; remaining is to lay down top soil; rake; seed; to achieve the final grade.

Mr. Cramer spoke that the Department of Agriculture conducted a gypsy moth egg mass survey; the results were that there are no significant amounts of egg mass for future spraying.

Mr. Cramer spoke about a Coyote / Red Fox was seen in the Medford Farms area. The Township notified the Department of Fish and Game and the Burlington County Health Department.

Mr. Cramer spoke about the Radio Tower in which correspondence has been sent to the site plan engineer to forward to the Pinelands explaining the need and how they are an accessory use to bid for the towers.

Mr. Cramer indicated that crosswalk signs were replaced in front of the school.

Mr. Cramer advised that the Chief Finance Officer, Terry Henry, will be in attendance of the next meeting to review the Best Practices worksheet with the Township Committee.

Mr. Cramer spoke about the Pepper House Improvements will begin and received a quote for a shingle roof to look like cedar asphalt is approximately \$4,900.00. Additional quotes will be submitted. Cedar shake roof comes with no guarantees \$12,500.00; metal roof \$14,700.00. We are below the bid threshold and below the Public Work prevailing wage provision for the shingled roof. Recommendation would be the shingle roof.

Mr. Cramer spoke of moving forward with Phase II of park improvements pursuant to Resolution 2015-56 when the contract was awarded to Guzzi Engineering. We are going out to bid and hope to have bids returned before December 3, 2015, and have the work completed by April 2, 2016 for the dugout roofs; and additional 10 feet of netting above the backstop behind the new concession stand; providing we have funding; pavilions over top of the picnic tables at both playgrounds.

Mr. Cramer spoke about the Community Development Block Grant eligibility year for 2016 is anticipated to be in the neighborhood of \$65,000.00. We are running out of projects that meet ADA accessibility. The project for the elevator will be over the \$65,000.00. The initial estimate was approximately being \$200,000.00. Future meetings and research will need to be done. November 2015 meeting would be a good time to discuss other buildings.

Mr. Cramer reported that Dan Boris, an adult leader of the Boy Scout donated his time to paint Town Hall front and side doors (*Cranberry*). He will be moving to paint the doors on the annex building. Volunteerism and public spirit is one of the highlights of this community from all committees, from Tabernacle Township Athletic Association to the Tabernacle Township Parent Teach Association. Mr. Boris has epitomizes the luxury of the service of volunteerism and community spirit.

Mr. Cramer apologized for miscommunication and encouraged every Committee member to reach out and ask questions or concerns and not wait for meetings. He did not realize the line of communication was broken.

Township Solicitor spoke that he had no reports at this time; except for what was discussed earlier in the meeting.

Committeeman Barton thanked Mr. Cramer for taking responsibility and spoke about it being a two way street for communication; expressed Mr. Cramer is doing a wonderful job in the Town. The information was in the Friday packet and wished someone would have reached out to him rather than he having to reach out, which is why he waited to address the matter at a meeting. Committeeman Barton advised that he is available through Township email. Mr. Barton noted the Wharton Motorized Access Plan should be passable for fire service and be maintained. Enforcement should be prevalent.

Committeeman Lee spoke that he is not sure that a resolution should be passed by this Committee regarding the Wharton Motorized Access Plan. The DEP over the past ten years has dramatically reduced the amount of money in this particular area. As a result of the funding for maintenance it has become an unmanageable resource. Mr. Lee spoke of Tabernacle Fall Festival being a very nice event and thanked everyone who participated.

Deputy Mayor Franzen spoke about Tabernacle Fall Festival being a very nice event and thanked everyone who participated. Mr. Franzen spoke about the Wharton Motorized Access Plan. He would like to see some kind of resolution to have the Pines projected and spoke of the fire services behind the plan and having no problem going into the forest.

Committeeman Lee commented that Sam Moore is in support of the Wharton Motorized Access Plan because they are the guys on the ground.

Mayor Brown spoke of her regret of not able to attend Tabernacle Fall Festival; however, she heard it was a very nice event and thanked everyone who participated. Mayor Brown spoke that she would like the Committee members in the future to reach out to Mr. Cramer.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Mr. Lee, seconded by Mr. Barton, the meeting was adjourned at 9:22 p.m.

Roll Call: Barton, Franzen, Lee, Brown Ayes: 4 Absent: 1 Nays: 0 Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by,
La Shawn R. Barber, RMC
Municipal Clerk

Approved: 10/26/2015