

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
August 3, 2021

Mayor Daniel James called the meeting to order, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Township Clerk, Lisa H. Hand read the Sunshine Notice Statement as follows:

Sunshine Notice: This meeting is called pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Law. Posting a copy of the Annual Meeting Schedule on the bulletin board in the Municipal Complex and emailing a copy to the Atlantic City Press and Burlington County Times and all those requesting copies on January 7, 2021. All the above posting, filing & mailing have taken place on July 27, 2021.

Roll Call: Present: Mayor James, Deputy Mayor Seybold and Committeeman Gadd.
Professionals: Thomas Coleman, Esq.; Engineer Kevin Dixon; Township Clerk Lisa H. Hand; Deputy Township Clerk Karen Bacon and CFO Kristen Manning.

DISCUSSION – TRAFFIC CONCERNS

Mayor James – At the last meeting there was discussion on the traffic control and I call the State Police and they have sent down Trooper Cotta to voice our concerns.

Trooper Cotta, Badge #8571 introduced himself. I'm here to take care of your issues.

Sarah Camillo – River Road, Lower Bank – People are speeding; passing on double lines and harassment of drivers. I think between 11 am – 5 pm are the worse. There is even a dune buggy driving around, not licensed. (Mrs. Camillo handed a petition to Trooper Cotta with regards to the speeding)

Lisa Downs – Route 542 – Speeding issues along Route 542; do you work along with the Park Police?

Trooper Cotta – Yes.

Lisa Downs – More Police presence on these roads and needed and weekends are worse.

Teresa Krout – River Road, Lower Bank – They are speeding and we really need police presence.

Karen Melita – River Road, Lower Bank - They are passing on double lines.

Karl Heffley – Bulltown Road – Can we lower the speed limit on Route 542, they must be going 85-95 MPH?

Gary Lubaczewski – River Road, Lower Bank – Something must be done.

Trooper Cotta – There is a Traffic Unit being put together and you will see a heavy presence.

Jeanette DePiero – River Road, Green Bank – There is also speeding on River Road in Green Bank.

Committeeman Gadd – There are no shoulders; speeding is out of control; you can walk; pull out of your driveways, racing on River Road toward BelHaven. We have speed signs, but they ignore them.

SOLICIT OF CONTRIBUTIONS IN PUBLIC ROADWAYS

Lower Bank Vol. Fire Company – September 4, 2021 at the intersection of Route 542 & 652
Motion made by Committeeman Gadd, seconded by Deputy Mayor Seybold and carried to approve the permit.

Roll Call: Gadd, Seybold, James Ayes: 3 Nays: 0

Green Bank Vol. Ambulance Squad – October 17, 2021 at the intersection of Route 542 & 563
Motion made by Deputy Mayor Seybold, seconded by Committeeman Gadd and carried to approve the permit.

Roll Call: Gadd, Seybold, James Ayes: 3 Nays: 0

Approval of Bills

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Seybold, seconded by Committeeman Gadd the Bills were approved:

Roll Call: Gadd, Seybold, James Ayes: 3 Nays: 0

Reports

Engineer – I have nothing to report.

Solicitor – I have nothing to add.

CFO – The day to day operations and we should have the Audit by the next week.

Township Clerk – Day to Day operations of the Clerk's office.

Code Enforcement Officer – I'm back in business.

OEM – I made phone calls with regards to the boat traffic. The Green Bank Bridge will be opening only at certain times until it can get fixed. The bridge has been open over 700 times in the month of July. The Parade Permit that came in today, it calls for the local emergency services to be used; this isn't going to happen.

Committeeman Gadd – The Senior Center is coming along. We have re-opened the claim and we still have a little bit of work to do and we received more money. We have to work on getting the lease taken care of and I'd like to thank Lisa and Karen for all their work. There are non-residents using and mooring a boat the Township Landing. August 12th is Bulky Day. I have not heard back from anyone with regards to Ski Beach. The traffic on River Road is out of control. There was no trash issues that I know of.

Deputy Mayor Seybold – Public Works Report – June-July – 2021 – Gravel Patten Lane & Washington Maxwell Road; Picked up road side trash; cutting grass – Wading River & Lower Bank; made arrangements for mower repairs; several storms, including T/S Elsa cleaning road of limbs; meeting with insurance company for safety class; marked new traffic cones; cutting brush at Township Landing.

Lance Run Road will be put up by the end of the week. The recycling dumpster is still at the Municipal Yard. There was a gallon of oil there (which it shouldn't have been) I took care of it. You can take your oil to the part store in Egg Harbor City. Recycling is back on schedule.

Mayor James – Worked with Law Enforcement in the Township – called the State Police. I invited them down and they sent someone. Spoke with the Marine Police, they know of our problem on the River and they are going to try to step up patrols. Spoke with Park Police and voiced our concerns on speeding and asked for more patrols and even asked for river traffic patrols.

Public Comments

Horace Somes – Turtle Creek Road – gave notes to Engineer on culverts on Turtle Creek Road, need to find map where the culverts are. Sides of Turtle Creek Road are not stable; ditches need to be cleaned.

Deputy Mayor Seybold – I'll get together with you.

Horace Somes – Gypsy Moths have hit in my area. With regards to traffic safety – bicycle traffic is awful with these parade permits and large groups.

Mayor James – You should have brought this up to the Trooper that was here.

Committeeman Gadd – I'll bring that up with them, when they call.

Mayor James – I signed for the Gypsy Moth Survey tonight.

Brian Detrick – Turtle Creek Road – Just a follow up with the Gypsy Moth and the Lower Bank Cemetery has been hit hard.

Sarah Camillo – Thank you for having the Trooper here tonight. I have notice the speed signs and where is the date being kept.

Committeeman Gadd – I took the signs down and they are being charged; they may be put up on River Road in Green Bank. I'll comply the data and give it to the State Police.

Sarah Camillo - At 2072 River Road, there is a lot of speeders there and there is a speed limit sign.

Lisa Downs – Route 542 – Who determines the opening of the bridge?

David Simpson – OEM – The openings will be 7 am, 11 am, 3 pm and 7 pm. This was on the Atlantic County website as the bridge is taken care of by Atlantic County.

Lisa Downs – I heard that the Mullica Boat Basin was expanding?

Mayor James – If they are the Planning Board would get it.

Adjournment

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Seybold, seconded by Committeeman Gadd to adjourn at 8:27 pm.

Roll Call: Gadd, Seybold, James

Ayes: 3

Nays: 0

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa H. Hand
Township Clerk