

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, May 3, 2022
Town Hall – 7:00 PM

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

The 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. 1) 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 6, 2022. All the above posting, filing & mailing have taken place on April 28, 2022.

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 A. Bacon and CFO Kristen Manning, Absent,

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

April 5, 2022 – Regular Minutes

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

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

PROCLAMATION – MUNICIPAL CLERKS’ WEEK – MAY 1 – 7, 2022

Mayor James proclaimed the week of May 1 – 7, 2022 as Municipal Clerks’ Week in Washington Township.

LETTER TO WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL BOARD

Mayor James was notified by the School Board that their funding was cut and we are going to find the money to offset an increase in taxes.

ORDINANCE – PUBLIC HEARING/ADOPTION

Ordinance #2022-01 – Short Term Rental Property Prohibition

Mayor James tabled the above ordinance.

Motion made by Committeeman Gadd, seconded by Deputy Mayor Seybold the above Ordinance was TABLED.

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

PARADE PERMIT

OEM Simpson stated that everything was in order with this application.

Beast Coast Productions, LLC – Batona Trail Races – November 5, 2022 - #2022-03

Motion made by Committeeman Gadd, seconded by Deputy Mayor Seybold to approve the above Parade Permit:

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

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Seybold, seconded by Committeeman Gadd to pay the bills:

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

REPORTS

- a) **Engineer** – The Parking Lot plan has been submitted to the County. We will have a resolution on the next meeting for a Road Improvement grant. Committee will have make a decision on which road.
- b) **Solicitor** – Nothing to add
- c) **CFO** – Absent
- d) **Township Clerk** – Day to Day operations; Karen has been working on the Gypsy Moth spraying.
- e) **Code Enforcement** – Committeeman Gadd gave the following report: 2 inspections of campgrounds, but they failed.
- f) **OEM** – I received an email from John Janice. I went to inspect the tide, but it wasn't high enough for them to be triggered. Received a letter that our Emergency Plan was approved and good until 2026.
- g) **Township Committee** –
Committeeman Gadd – Bulk Day is May 12th; the Senior Center is moving along, we are working on options; The Food Pantry is closed as people are stealing, they even stole the books.

Mayor James - I'll ask Terry how she did it; but maybe we could get help for the seniors.

Deputy Mayor Seybold – Public Works – March/April 2022 – Worked on Kubota Tractor to fix the bucket pin; tree fell on Bulltown Road again; Met with Locksmith & replaced side marker lights on 2014 Ford; rebuilt steel plate on 2014 Ford that held container for Hydric fluid; gravel Lance Run & Smith & Bell's Lane; Picked up Roadside trash; brought gravel to Township Landing & spread it, will be bringing more gravel to finish.

Working on the landing with Public Works; I took care of the wires on the rock cage on Henderson Avenue. The trash in the creek on Old Church Road, I spoke with Captain Brian Scott to go look at it, but mysteriously everything was clean up. Thank you everyone with working on the Township dumpster and breaking down the boxes.

Mayor James – Working on updating ordinances, May 12th is Bulky Day and I workin with the School Board on their funding..

PUBLIC COMMENT (Please state your name & address for the record)

Mayor James opened the meeting for Public Comments.

Joe Toriello – River Road, Green Bank – Thank you for working on the Senior Center. We sold the school and we don't have anywhere for an emergency. We need to keep this in mind.

Lisa Downs – Route 542 – How are you telling the residents of the Gypsy Moth?

Deputy Township Clerk Bacon explained. If you didn't get a letter, you are not getting sprayed.

Grove Conrad – River Road, Lower Bank – I sent an email to Mayor and Paul, what was the genesis of the short term rental ordinance?

Mayor James – I don't think we should wait for a complaint.

Mr. Conrad – What about property values; are you talking about B & B's?

Mayor James – Did you buy for a B & B?

Mr. Conrad – We would market it as such. What about property rights for the property owners?

Solicitor Coleman – This ordinance has been help up in court and very similar to Medford Lakes.

Mr. Conrad – This ordinance pits neighbors against neighbors.

Mayor James – We are not a shore community.

Mr. Conrad – We don't need this ordinance. What are your thinking's on Ski Beach?

Mayor James – Mullica hasn't responded and we have contacted the park Police, Marine Police and the Coast Guard.

Mr. Conrad – We should write to the property owner; we need some creative suggestions.

Mayor James – If you want me to this, I will.

Mr. Conrad – Maybe we should hire an off duty Marine Police.

Sue Dunphey – River Road, Green Bank – I agree with Mr. Conrad on the short term rental, nothing has happened here yet. I wrote to Pam & John Leek about Ski Beach and didn't receive any response. Maybe we should look at yearly rentals also.

Brendan McBride – River Road, Lower Bank – I bought the home 10 years ago and we have turned it around. We couldn't afford this house if we can't do the short-term rental. We check out all renters. Our neighbor hasn't complained about this. If there are complaints, I want to hear them. I would like to be in on the process of the tweaking of the ordinance.

Deputy Mayor Seybold – We didn't discuss anything about complaints.

Mayor James – I remember when Ski Beach wasn't a problem.

Sarah Camillo – River Road, Lower Bank – Thank you Paul with the clean up on Old Church Road. Thank you for the Gypsy Moth spraying, but I guess I'm not getting sprayed. What about speeding on River Road?

The Trooper present stated that he was here tonight to take back any complaints that the Mayor, Committee and residents had.

Committeeman Gadd – We are trying to get the speed reduced.

Kathy Conrad – River Road, Lower Bank – I heard that in August they will be working on the Green Bank Bridge and all traffic will be diverted.

Mayor James – We have not heard anything about this, but we will contact Atlantic County.

Tammy Perger – Bel Haven – Are you excluding campgrounds? We own a house on South Bend Road and we purchased it for short term rental. Maybe adding limits on the number of cars or people in the ordinance would help.

Barry Cavileer – River Road, Lower Bank – There is no problem with Brendan’s property; there was trouble with the long term rentals, but not the short term.

Barbara Cavileer – River Road, Lower Bank – There should be a line item on the Committee reports for the Planning Board.

Mayor James – I’ll add it to my list. The Fire Company is trying to get a cell tower that will help with communications for the State Police.

Mr. Conrad – What about a noise ordinance?

Solicitor Coleman – We don’t have a noise ordinance, you have to follow the DEP ordinance.

Mr. Conrad – I’m concerned about the children in the Township also.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Seybold, seconded by Committeeman Gadd to adjourn at 8:13 PM.

Roll Call: Gadd, Seybold, James

Ayes: 3

Nays: 0

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa H. Hand, Township Clerk