WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP REGULAR MEETING MINUTES October 5, 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 September 30, 2021.

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

Approval of Minutes

September 7, 2021 – Regular Meeting

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

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

BRIDGE REPORT

Committeeman Gadd – Last week we asked Atlantic County to come to the meeting tonight. They agreed to come and today at 2:32 PM, they stated that they couldn't come, because of a conflict.

STATE POLICE REPORT

Mayor James introduced Trooper Hart.

Trooper Hart stated that we have increased patrols.

Mayor James – Our main concern if Route 563, Route 542 and Route 652 the whole length.

Trooper Hart – We are roving all through the Township.

Mike Peranteau – Charles Avenue – We have been using the speed limit signs, are there any information from them that would be helpful?

Committeeman Gadd – We are going to compile this information.

Sarah Camillo - River Road, Lower Bank - Are you (State Police) around at certain time?

Trooper Hart – When is the most speeders?

Sarah Camillo – I would say early morning, late afternoon and weekends.

Trooper Hart – Thank you for your input.

PROCLAMATIONS

Mayor James presented a Proclamation to Former Mayor Dudley Lewis for his service to the community.

Dudley Lewis – Thanked all the residents for their support throughout the years.

Mayor James presented a Proclamation to Former Committeeman Barry Cavileer for his service to the community.

Barry Cavileer – I always liked helping people and I certainly appreciate all the help from my family and community for their support.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution # 2021-51 - Revising Tax Sale Date from 10/12/2021 to 10/26/2021 at 3:00 PM

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Seybold, seconded by Committeeman Gadd the above Resolution was adopted:

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

Parade Permits

Pine Barrens Adventure Camp – October 15-16, 2021 - # 2021-3

Motion made by Committeeman Gadd, seconded by Deputy Mayor Seybold the above Parade Permit was approved:

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

Trailer/Mobile Home Renewal

Vincent Marzarella - 2208C River Road, Lower Bank

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Seybold, seconded by Committeeman Gadd the above Resolution was adopted: (Later in the Meeting, the motion of rescinded and tabled until the next meeting)

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

Approval of Bills

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

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

Reports

Engineer – Close outs to various road improvements and will be going out for bids for Old Church Road shortly.

Solicitor – Worked on the Senior Citizen Building, we were being ignored, but we should be hearing something from them soon.

CFO – Day to Day operations and starting to work on the 2022 Budget.

Township Clerk – Day to Day operations of the Clerk's Office and worked on the ID cards and working on the Employee Handbook.

Code Enforcement Officer – Trailer Inspections

OEM – Attended a Search & Rescue class; LEPC Meeting with the County; Booster & testing for COVID.

Committeeman Gadd – Work in process with the Senior Center. Animal Control will be working on the feral cats when it gets cooler; and working on getting lower speed limits.

Deputy Mayor Seybold – Public Works Report – August - September 2021 – Checking Roads from remnant of Tropical Storm Henri; Tropical Storm Ida & Tornado Warning – Checking Roads for trees and Limbs; Cutting Vines & Branches off street signs; cutting grass – Wading River, Lower Bank & Bulltown Roads; Picked up roadside trash. Doing good with the recycling dumpster.

Mayor James – I noticed that the Trailer Permit that was adopted, says House Boat.

On motion of Committeeman Gadd, seconded by Deputy Mayor Seybold and carried to rescind the motion of approval and table the motion to clarify the working:

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

Mayor James – The end is near on the update of the Tax Maps and they will be certified by the State. Atlantic County didn't show up tonight. We thank the State Police for coming tonight and please thank the Commander.

Public Comments

Mike Achey – River Road, Lower Bank – The Lower Bank Fire Company is looking into a cell tower behind the fire house, which is right at our door step; was any other locations looked at?

Deputy Mayor Seybold – The lease is not sighed yet by the Fire Company; they will have to go through Pinelands; Building Department, etc. There is still a lot of steps before it's even started.

Solicitor Coleman – The FCC controls this, and will need their approval.

Mike Peranteau – Charles Avenue – The brush needs to be cut on Charles Avenue to allow two vehicle to go through.

John Laverack - River Road, Green Bank – I live across from the Senior Center and I'd like to see something done.

Mayor James - We are waiting on the State.

John Laverack – My wife, Joe and myself went over to clean it up. There are holes in the yard; could use some fill.

Mayor James – We will get in touch with Larry.

Mike Iles – owner of Jersey Devil Marine and Sweetwater Casino Riverdeck - We have a problem with the bridge for not being left up.

Mayor James – We don't own the bridge and we also don't have a say how the bridge is open or closed.

Mike Iles – Leave it open during the weekends.

Committeeman Gadd – I don't think leaving it open will help.

David Simpson – River Road, Lower Bank – Atlantic County made that decision. The Bridge has been open over 700 times in the month of July; in years pasted it was only opened about 1000 times the whole year.

Gary Franklin – Pleasant Mills Road, Mullica Township – I'm the Fire Chief of Sweetwater Fire Company. I would like permission for Patsy Bauer to read a statement.

Patsy Bauer read a statement from the Sweetwater Fire Company.

Gary Franklin - We would like on demand openings of the bridge. This isn't coupled with the issues on Ski Beach. Mullica & Washington should work together on Ski Beach.

Mayor Kristi Hanselmann – from Mullica Township – We need to sit down and talk about a boat on the river for policing Ski Beach. I have spoken with Gerry from the County with regards to the bridge opening. Mullica Township is going to adopt a resolution to address the bridge opening at their next meeting. (Mayor Hanselmann read the proposed resolution)

Mayor James – I would more than be happy to meet with you; I don't know how our budget can handle buying a boat.

Joe Toriello – River Road, Green Bank – I'm the Director of the Senior Center – We are all volunteers. We need more policing on the river.

Sarah Camillo – River Road, Lower Bank – Thank you for looking into lowering the speed limit and can we get the information from the speed limit signs?

Committeeman Gadd – Yes, when the report is complied.

Sarah Camillo – The Spotted Lantern Flies are really bad.

<u>Adjournment</u>

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Seybold, seconded by Committeeman Gadd to adjourn at 8:08 pm.

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

Respectfully submitted, Lisa H. Hand Township Clerk