

WEST AMWELL TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING
July 20, 2022
Regular Meeting – 7:30 PM

CALL TO ORDER AND STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT

The regularly scheduled meeting of the West Amwell Township Committee was called to order at 7:30 PM. Present were Mayor James Cally, Deputy Mayor Gary Hoyer, Committeemen Stephen Bergenfeld, John Dale and Lucas Lyons along with Township Clerk Maria Andrews and Township Attorney William Pandos.

Mayor Cally announced that this meeting is called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act. Notice of this meeting was faxed to the Hunterdon County Democrat and Trenton Times on January 13, 2022, was posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building on that date and has remained continuously posted as required under the Statute. A copy of this notice is and has been available to the public and is on file in the office of the Township Clerk.

FLAG SALUTE

Mayor Cally led those in attendance in the pledge to the nation's flag.

AGENDA REVIEW BY TOWNSHIP CLERK

Clerk Andrews noted Resolution #78-2022, authorizing the Rocktown-Lambertville Phase IV Grant Application will be added to the list of resolutions below for approval. Additionally, Lieutenant Skillman submitted his June monthly report which will be added under Administrative reports.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The following announcements were made:

- Kindly Turn Cell Phones Off During the Meeting
- Summer Hours are in Effect: Municipal Hours are Mon. – Thurs. 8 AM – 5 PM: CLOSED
Fridays in July and August
- There is Only 1 Township Committee Meeting in August: 8/17/22

PROCLAMATION

Mayor Cally read the following Proclamation into the record:

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Catherine Reischman attended the 2022 USA Special Olympics Games in Orlando, Florida from June 5 – 12, 2022 as a member of the “Team New Jersey” swim team where she competed at the Rosen Aquatic Center; and

WHEREAS, Catherine was one of 6 women on the swim team; and

WHEREAS, the full “Team New Jersey” consisted of 175 athletes from across the State; and

WHEREAS, Catherine received the Silver Medal in the 200 Individual Medley (IM), placed fourth in the 4 x 50 Medley Relay and placed fifth in the 100 Breaststroke; and

WHEREAS, in order to get to the USA Games, Catherine had to compete and win at various levels of local and State competitions; and

WHEREAS, Catherine is a lifelong resident of West Amwell Township where she attended West Amwell Elementary School, South Hunterdon Regional High School for Junior High and then graduated from Delaware Valley Regional High School; and

WHEREAS, at age 3 Catherine started taking horseback riding and swimming lessons, later competing in Special Olympics in these sports when she turned 9 and 10, respectively; and

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WHEREAS, Catherine then took an interest in golf with her Dad as her partner and then began Cross Country Skiing about 5 years ago; and

WHEREAS, Catherine is a lifetime Girl Scout earning her Gold Award and a world traveler who has visited 20 foreign countries; and

WHEREAS, Catherine currently works at Hunterdon Medical Center in Flemington and PALS on Main in Pennington; and

WHEREAS, when not competing or working, Catherine enjoys listening to music; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the West Amwell Township Committee extends to Catherine Reischman individually, collectively, and with great pride, their sincere congratulations for achieving a silver medal and for all of her accomplishments which symbolize dedication and good citizenship.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Governing Body wishes Catherine Reischman much success in all her future endeavors.

By Order of the Township Committee

James Cally, Mayor

Mayor Cally presented Ms. Reischman with the Proclamation and congratulated her on her achievement.

PRESENTATION OF MINUTES

It was noted for the record that the Committee's 6/15/22 minutes will be listed on the 8/17/22 agenda for approval.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC/TOPICS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Mayor Cally opened the floor to public comment.

Bob Petrus of 10 Wilson Road came forward and asked if there will be any consideration given to revise the cannabis ordinances based on all of the push back over the GMNJ application. Mayor Cally suggested that anyone who wished to provide possible amendments to the ordinances should forward the information to the Township Clerk who will give it to the Committee for review.

Holly Abitz of 201 Rock Road West came forward and asked why GMNJ wasn't asked to secure a bond in the event resident's wells go dry. Mayor Cally stated that the Board considered a bond but ultimately decided upon draw down/stress testing for surrounding wells. Ms. Abitz commented that she is concerned West Amwell is going to turn into a "Flint Michigan" or "Dupont" situation. Mayor Cally noted that GMNJ will be regulated by the State and remarked there should be nothing going into the ground. Deputy Mayor Hoyer added that corporations have liability insurance for these reasons.

Dan Longhi of 14 Mountainview Road came forward and remarked he believes a lot of things were not considered for a facility such as GMNJ's and noted the multiple mini blackouts in the Township over the past 24 hours.

Meghan Hudson of 328 Rocktown-Lambertville Road stated there is no data on water output regarding the GMNJ site, specifically what will be trucked off site. She asked if it is possible to get time on the agenda for next month's meeting to discuss amending the cannabis ordinances. Mayor Cally again suggested that anyone who wished to provide possible amendments to the ordinances should forward the information to the Township Clerk who will give it to the Committee for review.

Emily Deadwyler of 107 Snyderstown Road came forward and commented that the back-up generator on the GMNJ site will be very noisy.

Mayor Cally noted that JCP&L is investigating the brown outs occurring in the Township.

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Holly Abitz of 201 Rock Road West came forward again and expressed that she is trying to understand the financial impact of GMNJ and asked how the Township will know they are getting the right numbers/financials from them. Mayor Cally explained the Township will have the opportunity to review the figures every two years. Ms. Abitz asked if taxes will go down. Mayor Cally said the Committee is trying to “hold” taxes.

Seeing no other members of the public come forward, Mayor Cally closed the floor to public comment.

RESOLUTIONS

A motion by Hoyer, seconded by Dale to approve resolutions #68-2022, #69-2022, #70-2022, #71-2022, #72-2022, #73-2022, #74-2022, #75-2022, #76-2022 and #78-2022 by consent agenda was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

Bergenfeld: Yes, Dale: Yes, Hoyer: Yes, Lyons: Yes, Cally: Yes

Resolution #68-2022: Approval of Items of Revenue and Appropriation

Resolution #68-2022
RESOLUTION REQUESTING APPROVAL OF
ITEMS OF REVENUE AND APPROPRIATION
NJSA 40A:4-87

WHEREAS, NJSA 40A:4-87 provides that the Director of the Division of Local Government Services may approve the insertion of any special items of revenue in the budget of any county or municipality when such items shall have been made available by law and the amount was not determined at the time of the adoption of the budget; and

WHEREAS, the Director may also approve the insertion of an item of appropriation for equal amount,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of West Amwell in the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, hereby requests the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to approve the insertion of items of revenue in the budget of the year CY2022 in the sums of:

Recycling Tonnage Grant FY20 \$9,300.80
Clean Communities Grant FY2022 \$12,936.84

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the like sums of:

Clean Communities FY2022 - \$12,936.84
Recycling Tonnage Grant FY20 - \$9,300.80

Appropriated under the caption *Public and Private Programs offset by Revenues*;

Certification

I hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the West Amwell Township Committee at a meeting held on July 20, 2022.

Maria Andrews, Township Clerk, RMC

Resolution #69-2022: Authorizing the Purchase of 2023 HV507 Dump Truck

RESOLUTION #69-2022
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF 2023 HV507 DUMP TRUCK FROM BUCKS COUNTY
INTERNATIONAL STATE CONTRACT T2787 EXP 10-14-2022 AND BUILT BY TRIUS INC STATE CONTRACT 21-
FLEET-01453 (T1495) EXP 4-30-2024 AND ESCNJ

WHEREAS, the Township of West Amwell wishes to purchase a 2023 HV507 Dump Truck from Bucks County International NJ State Contract T2787 in the amount of \$100,575.47 and built by Trius Inc state contract 21-Fleet-01453 in the amount of \$74,998.00 for a total amount of \$175,573.47; and

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WHEREAS, said equipment was approved for purchase through the Capital Fund and Bond Ordinance 05, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified that funds are available for said purpose in the Capital Fund and Bond Ordinance 05, 2022; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of West Amwell hereby authorizes the purchase of the above mentioned 2023 Dump Truck from Bucks County Intl, 134 Old Oxford Valley Rd, Langhorne PA 19047 in the amount of \$100,575.47 and Trius Inc., 5049 Industrial Road, Farmingdale NJ 07727 in the amount of \$74,998.00 for a total amount of \$175,573.47.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Chief Financial Officer and the QPA.

Certification

I, Maria Andrews, Municipal Clerk of the Township of West Amwell, hereby certify that the above is a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the Governing Body of the Township of West Amwell at a Regularly Scheduled Meeting of the West Amwell Township Committee held on the 20th of July, 2022.

Maria Andrews, Township Clerk, RMC

Resolution #70-2022: Supporting Stigma Free Communities

Stigma Free Communities
Resolution #70-2022

WHEREAS, it is widely recognized that mental health issues are at the core of the numerous violent events around the nation, where so many have been randomly killed, wounded, or traumatized and that one of the key factors in preventing violent actions from occurring in the first place is to provide greater access to mental health services that includes breaching the barrier of the stigma associated with mental illness, and

WHEREAS, while a very small percentage of those in need of mental health care will ever turn violent, the stigma associated with the disease of mental illness is identified as the primary reason individuals fail to seek the help they need to recover from the disease, and

WHEREAS, Stigma-Free Communities aim to inspire public interest and open dialogues about stigma, raise awareness of the disease of mental illness, and create a culture wherein residents who have the disease of mental illness feel supported by their community and neighbors, and feel free to seek treatment for the disease without fear of feelings of shame or disgrace, being stigmatized, and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of West Amwell Township wishes to lead our community in recognizing the need to eliminate the stigmatization of mental illness by designating West Amwell Township as a Stigma Free community, promoting awareness that there can be no "health" without mental health, breaking down barriers, and encouraging residents of all ages to be mindful of their mental health and to ask for help when needed, so recovery can begin, hope is inspired, and tragedies are avoided,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the West Amwell Township Committee hereby designates West Amwell as a Stigma-Free Community, raising awareness of the resources available and encouraging those who may have need for mental health services to engage in care, as soon as the need is identified, and for all residents to demonstrate compassion, understanding, and support through the elimination of the stigma towards those living with mental illness,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that West Amwell Township joins with Hunterdon County and many of the communities in the county in becoming Stigma Free By '23.

Certification

I, Maria Andrews, Municipal Clerk of the Township of West Amwell, hereby certify that the above is a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the Governing Body of the Township of West Amwell at a Regularly Scheduled Meeting of the West Amwell Township Committee held on the 20th of July, 2022.

Maria Andrews, Township Clerk, RMC

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Resolution #71-2022: Authorizing Temporary Cell Tower on Block 17 Lot 15

Resolution #71-2022
TOWNSHIP OF WEST AMWELL
HUNTERDON COUNTY

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CONSTRUCTION OF A TEMPORARY WIRELESS
COMMUNICATION FACILITY ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT BLOCK 17, LOT 15, COMMONLY
KNOWN AS 99 ROCKTOWN-LAMBERTVILLE ROAD

WHEREAS, the Township of West Amwell ("Township") is desirous of promoting the establishment of robust and uninterrupted telecommunication services within the Township to protect the public safety, health, and general welfare of the community, such that emergency and other essential services may be readily accessible; and

WHEREAS, Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless ("Verizon Wireless") currently operates a wireless communication facility on an existing Public Service and Gas ("PSE&G") electric transmission tower located at 1469 Route 179 and designated as Block 3, Lot 16 on the official Tax Maps of the Township of West Amwell; and

WHEREAS, PSE&G has provided notice to Verizon Wireless that it is decommissioning the electric transmission tower upon which the Verizon Wireless communication facility is located, and that Verizon Wireless must accordingly decommission its wireless communication facility prior to approximately August 26, 2022; and

WHEREAS, it is the intention of Verizon Wireless to relocate its wireless communication facility back onto the electric transmission tower at such time as PSE&G completes construction of a new replacement electric transmission tower; and

WHEREAS, Verizon Wireless also operates a wireless communication facility on an existing PSE&G electric transmission tower on property located off Old Route 518 West and designated as Block 28, Lot 1.01; and

WHEREAS, PSE&G has provided notice to Verizon Wireless that it is also decommissioning this electric transmission tower upon which Verizon Wireless currently operates its wireless communication facility, and that Verizon Wireless must accordingly decommission its wireless communication facility on this electric transmission tower prior to January, 2023; and

WHEREAS, it is the intention of Verizon Wireless to relocate its wireless communication facility back onto this electric transmission tower when PSE&G completes construction of a new replacement electric transmission tower; and

WHEREAS, during the time period for each of the above noted sites that Verizon Wireless is being required to decommission its wireless communication facility pending relocation back onto the completed reconstructed electric transmission towers, Verizon Wireless is required to provide continued reliable wireless communication services to the Township of West Amwell and surrounding geographic areas; and

WHEREAS, the Township of West Amwell Police Department and other responding agencies utilize Verizon Wireless service in furtherance of their duties to provide vital emergency services to the community; and

WHEREAS, the federal government has declared a public need for wireless communication services as a means to protect public safety and property through the use of wireless services; and

WHEREAS, Verizon Wireless has identified certain property located at 99 Rocktown-Lambertville Road and designated as Block 17, Lot 15 on the official Tax Maps of the Township of West Amwell ("Subject Property") as certain property upon which it wishes to construct a temporary wireless communication facility ("Temporary Facility") in accordance with the attached "Exhibit A" for a period of one (1) year from the date of commencement of its operation; and

WHEREAS, it is critical as a matter of public health, safety, and welfare to provide continued reliable wireless communication service during such time as Verizon Wireless cannot utilize each of the above-referenced PSE&G electric transmission towers; and

WHEREAS, the construction of a Temporary Facility at the subject property will critically obviate the need for two temporary wireless communication facilities by virtue of its location centrally located between the two existing PSE&G current sites; and

WHEREAS, in order to provide the critical continued wireless communication services, the Township finds that a waiver of formal zoning approval is essential as a matter of public health, safety, and general welfare; and

WHEREAS, the Township, by virtue of all of the foregoing, and in accordance with the powers vested in the Mayor and Township Committee pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:63-5, 6, authorizes the installation of the Temporary Facility on an emergent basis.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of West Amwell, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey as follows:

1. Verizon Wireless is hereby granted on an emergent authorization basis the right to obtain all required zoning permits and building permits from the Township Zoning Official and Construction Code Official without the requirements for formal land use Planning or Zoning Board approval, subject to the obligation of Verizon Wireless to comply with all other applicable building code provisions and the approval of such other governmental agencies as may be required.

2. The right to maintain the temporary wireless communication facility at the subject property shall be for a period of one (1) year, subject to the right of Verizon Wireless to obtain a reasonable extension of said time, if it proves to the reasonable satisfaction of the Township Committee that it has been delayed in relocating to the PSE&G electric transmission tower based on delays in completion of the electric transmission tower. The one (1) year time period shall run from the date that the temporary wireless communication facility is deemed operational.

3. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of a Resolution approved by the West Amwell Township Committee at their regular meeting on July 20, 2022.

Maria Andrews, Township Clerk, RMC

Resolution #72-2022: Authorizing Cancellation of Tax Billing for Disabled Veteran

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CANCELLATION OF BILLING DUE TO APPROVAL OF DISABLED VETERAN TAX
EXEMPTION
Resolution #72-2022

WHEREAS, Raymond Killough, made application on January 3, 2022 for a claim of property tax exemption on the dwelling house of a disabled veteran, with the Assessor's Office in the Township of West Amwell, in the County of Hunterdon; and,

WHEREAS, Approval was granted on January 3, 2022, by the Assessor's Office in the Township of West Amwell, in the County of Hunterdon; and,

WHEREAS, the property will retain tax exempt status as long as it continues to be Raymond Killough's "domiciliary" residence as defined by the Department of Veteran affairs; and,

WHEREAS, certain adjustments are necessary to the records of the Tax Collector.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Governing Body of the Township of West Amwell, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, hereby authorize the following adjustments be approved:

<u>TAX-CANCEL</u>			
<u>OWNER</u>	<u>BLOCK/LOT</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>REASON</u>
Killough, Raymond	Block 14 Lot 1.02	\$4,970.25	Class 15F

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Tax Collector and Finance Officer.

By Order of the Township Committee,

James Cally, Mayor

Resolution #73-2022: Authorizing Refund of Taxes Paid by Disabled Veteran

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUND OF TAXES PAID BY OWNER DUE TO DISABLED VETERAN TAX EXEMPTION
Resolution #73-2022

WHEREAS, Raymond Killough, owner of Block 14 Lot 1.02, known as 54 Gulick Road, in West Amwell Township, in the County of Hunterdon, is entitled to an exemption from real estate tax due to classification by the Department of Veteran Affairs; and,

WHEREAS, Raymond Killough, owner is entitled to exemption from real estate tax from the classification date of disability, date of title, date of domiciliary residency in New Jersey, or January 1 of the year in which a completed application is made, whichever is later; and,

WHEREAS, Raymond Killough, owner, has paid property taxes in the amount of \$4,015.65.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Treasurer be authorized to issue check(s), and the Mayor, Clerk, and Treasurer be authorized to sign check(s) in the amount of \$2,735.13 payable to Raymond & Anastasia Killough, 54 Gulick Road, Ringoes, NJ 0511 and \$1,280.52 payable to United Wholesale Mortgage, Attention Research Department, PO Box 77404, Ewing, NJ 08628.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Tax Collector and Finance Officer.

By Order of the Township Committee,

James Cally, Mayor

Resolution #74-2022: Corrective Action Plan for CY2021 Audit

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST AMWELL, COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
APPROVING A CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN FOR CY2021 AUDIT
Resolution #74-2022

WHEREAS, the Township of West Amwell, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey received its CY2021 Audit, dated April 29th, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the Township will implement the CY2021 Corrective Action Plan for the findings therein as follows:

Finding 2021-01 – Segregation of Duties.

Action – The Township is aware of that there are limited segregation of duties relating to the receipt and deposit of funds due to the small number of staff in the Administrative Offices. Deposits are sent to the bank by the Department Heads with the CFO entering the receipts into the general fund accounting system and reconciling same to the bank statements.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of West Amwell, implement the Corrective Action Plan as outlined above by the Chief Financial Officer; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Township Clerk of the Township of West Amwell, be directed to forward certified copies of this resolution to the New Jersey Division of Local Government Affairs, in compliance with State statute.

Certification

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of a Resolution approved by the West Amwell Township Committee at their regular meeting on July 20, 2022.

Maria Andrews, Township Clerk, RMC

Resolution #75-2022: Certified List of LOSAP Members

WEST AMWELL TOWNSHIP
RESOLUTION #75-2022

WHEREAS the LOSAP program requires that a certified list of eligible volunteers from an emergency service organization be submitted for review by the sponsoring agency; and,

WHEREAS said required list of members eligible to receive LOSAP awards for 2021 was received from the West Amwell Fire Company; and,

WHEREAS the sponsoring agency has 30 days to review the submitted list and request any records deemed necessary to ensure that the list is accurate; and,

WHEREAS the sponsoring agency has accepted the list as submitted; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the West Amwell Township Committee that the list is hereby approved; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of the eligible member list, together with a copy of this Resolution, be returned to the West Amwell Fire Company for the 30-day required posting.

Certification

I hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the West Amwell Township Committee at their meeting of July 20, 2022.

Maria Andrews, Township Clerk, RMC

Resolution #76-2022: Hiring of General Office Assistant P. Bahrt

RESOLUTION #76-2022

WHEREAS, the Township of West Amwell advertised for the position of Office Assistant; and

WHEREAS, interviews were conducted; and

WHEREAS, the Township Clerk has recommended that Pauline Bahrt is best qualified for said position; and

WHEREAS, an employment offer has been accepted by Ms. Bahrt to work approximately 25 hours per week earning an hourly wage of \$21.00 which will be re-evaluated for a possible adjustment after 6 months; and

WHEREAS, the position will require full coverage of the office in the Clerk's absence; and

WHEREAS, this position is not subject to health and pension benefits but does include enrollment in the State's Defined Contribution Retirement Plan (DCRP); and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Pauline Bahrt be hired as the Office Assistant, effective July 26, 2022.

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Certification

I, Maria Andrews, Township Clerk of the Township of West Amwell, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, hereby certify this to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Township Committee on July 20, 2022.

Maria Andrews, Township Clerk, RMC

Resolution #78-2022: Authorizing Rocktown-Lambertville Phase IV Grant Application

Township of West Amwell
Resolution #78-2022

WHEREAS, Resolution #78-2022 approves the submission of a grant application and execution of a grant contract with the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the Rocktown-Lambertville Road Improvement Project – Section VI; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Governing Body of the Township of West Amwell formally approves the grant application for the above stated project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to submit an electronic grant application identified as MA-2023- Rocktown-Lambertville Road Improvement Project – Section VI -00504 to the New Jersey Department of Transportation on behalf of the Township of West Amwell; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to sign the grant agreement on behalf of the Township of West Amwell and that their signature constitutes acceptance of the terms and conditions of the grant agreement and approves the execution of the grant agreement.

Certification

I hereby certify the foregoing is a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the West Amwell Township Committee at their regular meeting held on July 20, 2022.

Maria Andrews, Township Clerk, RMC

My signature and the Clerk's seal serve to acknowledge the above resolution and constitute acceptance of the terms and conditions of the grant agreement and approve the execution of the grant agreement as authorized by the resolution above.

ATTEST and AFFIX SEAL

Maria Andrews, Township Clerk, RMC

James Cally, Mayor

INTRODUCTION/PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCES

It was noted for the record that there were no ordinances listed on the agenda for action.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Status of Resolution Requesting County Superintendent to Investigate the Advisability of the Municipality Withdrawing from the all Purpose SHRS

Attorney Pandos noted the following process regarding potential de-regionalization:

1. A resolution petitioning the County Superintendent to commission a feasibility study
2. The Township Committee then decides how they wish to proceed
3. The State must approve the de-regionalization
4. The de-regionalization question goes on the ballot for the voters to decide

Mayor Cally commented that he would like input from the County Superintendent on both possibilities: "Full" and/or "Partial" de-regionalization.

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Meghan Hudson of 328 Rocktown-Lambertville Road spoke up from the public and asked if parents would be able to select their children's school. Mayor Cally stated he did not know how enrollment would be determined.

Dave Beaumont of 205 Rock Road West spoke up from the public and clarified that the proper term is "withdrawal" not "de-regionalization" and he remarked that only West Amwell would withdrawal in some form, not Lambertville and Stockton.

NEW BUSINESS/OTHER

Authorization: Police Department E-Ticket System

Lieutenant Skillman referenced the quote that was provided by GTBM and stated many municipalities are moving toward E-Tickets because it is more efficient. A motion by Bergenfeld, seconded by Dale to authorize the Police Department to implement E-Tickets was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

Bergenfeld: Yes, Dale: Yes, Hoyer: Yes, Lyons: Yes, Cally: Yes

Authorization: Shared Equipment Agreement with Lambertville, re: Jetter Truck, Mower & Skid Steer

Attorney Pandos noted some minor language revisions based on comments received by the Insurance Company. A motion was made by Bergenfeld and seconded by Cally to approve the revised Memo of Understanding (MOU). The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

Bergenfeld: Yes, Dale: Yes, Hoyer: Yes, Lyons: Yes, Cally: Yes

Discussion: Email dated 6/29/22 from J. Flora, re: School Board Budgets and Elections

Mayor Cally noted the email addresses changing the date of the school board elections in an effort to regain control over the school budgets. It was noted for the record that the Committee took no action on this matter.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION(S)

Reports by Department Heads

OEM Director Harry Heller provided an update on the USDA storm recovery funding saying the Township was approved for \$134,268.75.

DPW Director Ryan Rollero provided a road update highlighting the following details:

1. Mountain View Development, Woodens Lane, Barry Road and Rocktown-Hill Road will all have portions of the roadways resurfaced
2. The Mt. Airy Village Road Improvement Project will be going out to BID soon and the Rocktown-Lambertville Road Phase IV Project is pending
3. This year 328 garbage permits have been sold = \$65,600 in revenue

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Open Space: No report was given.
- B. Environmental: No report was given.
- C. Ag Advisory: No report was given.
- D. Finance Committee: No report given.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

A motion by Hoyer, seconded by Dale to open the floor to public comment was unanimously approved by voice vote.

Tayab Ansari of 32 Barry Road came forward and asked why the chip sealing on his road can't be extended. Director Rollero explained the chip seal process cannot be applied to stone roads, only paved ones. Committeeman Bergenfeld added that the Committee has no intention of paving all of Barry Road.

Dave Beaumont of 205 Rock Road West came forward and referred to the email he sent the Planning Board expressing concern over potential traffic from the GMNJ property. Mayor Cally noted the Board requested directional signage be put up preventing people from making a left out of the facility.

Emily Deadwyler of 107 Snyderstown Road, Hopewell came forward and inquired about the Cannabis Advisory Committee. Mayor Cally noted it has not been formed yet but explained it will consist of 2 Township Committee members, up to 2 residents and the Zoning Officer.

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Ms. Deadwyler then asked if any cannabis applicants have requested a letter of support in the past 2 months. Mayor Cally said no.

Dan Longhi of 14 Mountainview clarified that the Cannabis Review Committee will provide input to the Township Committee regarding potential cannabis applications. Mayor Cally said yes.

Mike Gural of 1748 Linvale-Harbourton Road came forward and asked what the process is for being considered to serve on the Cannabis Review Committee. Mayor Cally suggested he submit a Citizens Leadership Form. Mr. Gural asked that the Township consider what other municipalities have done regarding cannabis.

Emily Deadwyler of 107 Snyderstown Road came forward again and asked if there will be more latitude from the Township when it comes to deciding on another cannabis applicant. Mayor Cally remarked that the Committee would like potential applicants to be a “good fit” but noted they cannot discriminate. Ms. Deadwyler stated she believes the Committee has created a lot of unintended risks by allowing cannabis in the community.

Seeing no other members of the public come forward, Mayor Cally closed the floor to public comment.

ADMINISTRATIVE

A motion by Hoyer, seconded by Bergenfeld to approve the 7/5/22 and the 7/15/22 bill lists was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

Bergenfeld: Yes, Dale: Yes, Hoyer: Yes, Lyons: Yes, Cally: Yes

OTHER

Resolution #77-2022: Closed Session – Personnel/Contracts – Litigation/Affordable Housing

Resolution #77-2022

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

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

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Committee of West Amwell Township, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from discussion of and action upon the hereinafter specified subject matter.
2. The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows: Mt. Laurel Litigation, personnel, contracts and subjects falling under Attorney-Client privilege.
3. It is anticipated at this time that the above stated subject matter will be made public when the matter has been resolved.

This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Maria Andrews, Township Clerk, RMC

A motion by Bergenfeld, seconded by Dale to approve Resolution #77-2022 and enter into Closed Session was unanimously approved by voice vote.

A motion by Hoyer, seconded by Lyons to return to Open Session was unanimously approved by voice vote.

Upon returning to Open Session, a motion was made by Hoyer and seconded by Bergenfeld authorizing Attorney Pandos to send a letter to NJDEP regarding the reclassification of the Township to Tier A. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

Bergenfeld: Yes, Dale: Yes, Hoyer: Yes, Lyons: Yes, Cally: Yes

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It was noted for the record that the Committee was in Closed Session from 9:17 PM – 10:01 PM.

CORRESPONDENCE

It was noted for the record that the Committee ordered the correspondence listed on the agenda to be filed.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Cally adjourned the meeting at 10:02 PM.

Maria Andrews, Township Clerk, RMC

Approved: 8/17/22