

SPECIAL WEST AMWELL TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING November 7, 2011 – 5:30 p.m.

The West Amwell Township Committee met on the above date at 5:35 p.m. Present: Mayor Molnar, Committeemen Fisher and Rich. Also in attendance were Chris Rose, John Dupuis, Joe Tull (5:45), Phil Langon (6:15), and Tom Carro

In compliance with the Public Meetings Act, Mayor Molnar announced that this Special Meeting was called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act with notices faxed to the Hunterdon County Democrat and the Trenton Times on November 1, 2011. A copy of this notice is and has been available to the public and is on file in the office of the Municipal Clerk.

The meeting was not recorded.

STORMWATER TRAINING FOR TOWNSHIP COMMITTEEMEN:

Cathy Urbanski, Chair of the Environmental Committee and a member of that body's citizen advisory sub-committee, spoke at length on the following topics as required by the training component: Tier B permitting, the reasons why the people should care about clean water, steps that West Amwell has taken to minimize stormwater pollution, such as the NJDEP 319 grant, ordinances for stream corridor, stormwater, soil removal, clustering and non contiguous clustering, woodlands protection and the Code's references to steep slopes and critical areas to limit development, prevent erosion, and mitigate the impact of stormwater runoff on slopes and impervious cover. Printed materials for stormwater guidance were provided as well as brochures on varied topics were provided. A CD with additional information was distributed for further reference.

Mrs. Urbanski then pointed out that there are several pages in the Stormwater ordinance that use the term 'suitable habitat.' As this doesn't align with State verbiage, she suggested that the word 'suitable' be removed from the sections identified. A question has also been raised about fees for stormwater review. The recommendation was that this be added to the proposed ordinance amendment.

FIREHOUSE ROOF UPDATE:

Only one quote was received with a price attached. Due to the quoted amount, the work is subject to a formal bid and cannot be awarded. Assistance is needed with preparing the specifications for the bid packet and Mr. Rose offered that the construction office can help with this. Mr. Rich requested that a notice of bid be provided to him.

POSSIBLE INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE 20, 2011 – Bond Ordinance for Mill Road Repair:

Mr. Rich relayed that the word he received from FEMA is that the Township only needs to get their paperwork submitted to move forward and to show bills for reimbursement. He also noted a conversation with Mr. Salvin concerning the bridge and that he needs to do the bridge before the Township does the road work, although there will be no construction until spring. CFO Carro was questioned about the status of the FEMA reporting and noted that the \$60,000 has been accounted for but that he is waiting for the ordinance for inclusion. A brief discussion ensued about whether the ordinance must precede the submission of numbers. This will be verified. If it is determined that the ordinance must come first, introduction will be scheduled for the November 23rd meeting.

John Dupuis spoke about bus routes and the need for communication between the school and the Township in this regard as well as bus policies in light of the recent incident.

Mr. Rich noted the complaint received from a resident of Rock Road West about the cutting of her phone and cable wires by DPW staff. It was relayed that Road Supervisor Hoagland was contacting and stated that this was necessary to clear the road for vehicular traffic. The resident was also apprised of this necessity. Additional questions should be directed to Mr. Hoagland.

CLOSED SESSION:

RESOLUTION #167-2011

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:
PERSONNEL (Interviews)
3. It is anticipated at this time that the above stated subject matter will be made public when the matter has been resolved.
4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

The Resolution was unanimously approved on motion by Fisher, seconded by Molnar.

The meeting returned to Open Session and the following action taken:

RESOLUTION #168-2011

WHEREAS, the Township of West Amwell advertised for the position of Fire Sub-Code Official/Inspector; and

WHEREAS, interviews were conducted with two applicants; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee has determined that Phillip J. Langon is best qualified for said position; and

WHEREAS, Phillip J. Langon has accepted the Township's offer for the position

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Phillip J. Langon be appointed Fire Sub-Code Official/Inspector, effective November 12, 2011

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this appointment is a 4-year term expiring on November 11, 2015

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Phillip J. Langon will receive a pro-rated salary of \$4,050 in line with the S & W ordinance adopted on February 4, 2011.

The Resolution was unanimously approved on motion by Fisher, seconded by Rich.

The Clerk has been notified that a correction is needed to the hiring resolution for Jeffrey S. Jones to satisfy the police training commission. A brief discussion ensued and the following presented for consideration:

RESOLUTION #169-2011
Amending Resolution #122-2011

WHEREAS, Jeffrey S. Jones was hired by West Amwell Township effective May 6, 2011; and

WHEREAS, his employment status was incorrectly stated in Resolution #122-2011

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the employment status of Jeffrey S. Jones be corrected to Class II Special Law Enforcement Officer

The Resolution was unanimously approved on motion by Fisher, seconded by Rich.

DISCUSSION OF EMPLOYEE 125 PLANS:

Paperwork has been received from ADP and certain determinations are required by the Township Committee so that the plan can be developed. These were reviewed and determined accordingly.

As the POP (Premium Only Plan) is also mandated, paperwork was signed by the mayor to get this under way.

Mr. Rich requested that the time-off policy in the policy manual be forwarded for discussion by the Finance committee.

CONTINUED DISCUSSION ON 2012 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES:

It was determined that an open and fair process be held for Auditor, Engineer, Township

Attorney, Township Prosecutor, Bond Counsel, and Open Space attorney. The Clerk was directed to advertise same on the League website as well as the Township's with current holders of these positions also notified.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

Mr. Rich relayed that he's been in touch with the Legion in Lambertville concerning a Veterans service. The Legion is content with keeping this in Lambertville and they hold a ceremony each year at the monument. Mr. Rich also noted that he's received a veterans list from Ruth Hall but that it does need updating.

Whether or not the Township should consider having a chief was raised by Mr. Rich, along with the team approach for 10-12 hours shifts that would include a sergeant for each. The numbers would have to be calculated before any decision could be considered further. A question about the number of 'special/part time' officers also needs to be researched.

Concern over the ability to complete a township-wide re-assessment this year was expressed. The assessor will be requested to provide more information and a meeting may also be needed.

The Clerk was requested to contact JCP&L representative John Anderson and get a list of dates for a possible meeting. Whether a complaint should be filed with the BPU was also mentioned as a possibility.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 9:12 p.m. on motion by Fisher, seconded by Rich.

Respectfully submitted,

Lora L. Olsen, RMC
Township Clerk