

WEST AMWELL TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING
September 2, 2020
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 Deputy Mayor Stephen Bergenfeld, Committeemen John Dale, Gary Hoyer and Lucas Lyons along with Township Clerk Maria Andrews.

Township Clerk Andrews 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, 2020, 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.

AGENDA REVIEW BY TOWNSHIP CLERK

Township Clerk Andrews noted there were no changes to the posted agenda.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The following announcements were made:

- Bulk Clean-Up Day 9/19/20 – Permits are on Sale Now!
- The Municipal Offices will be CLOSED Monday 9/7/20: Labor Day Holiday
- Kindly Turn Cell Phones off During the Meeting

PRESENTATION OF MINUTES

A motion by Dale, seconded by Lyons to approve the Committee's 8/19/20 regular session minutes with no revisions noted was approved by voice vote with Committeeman Hoyer abstaining.

A motion by Dale, seconded by Lyons to approve the Committee's 8/19/20 executive session minutes with no revisions noted was approved by voice vote with Committeeman Hoyer abstaining.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC/TOPICS NOT ON THE AGENDA

It was noted for the record that there were no members of the public present at the meeting at this time.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Reports by Department Heads

Clerk Andrews noted that Tax Collector Brewi had provided a brief memo regarding Tax Office and highlighted that the tax bills have been received and verified and the 2020/Preliminary 2021, 1st and 2nd quarter billing information has been uploaded and is available for residents to look up on the Township website under the "property tax look up" link.

INTRODUCTION/PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCES

It was noted for the record that there were no ordinances listed on the agenda for introduction or public hearing.

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 was given

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

PennEast Status Update

No update was provided.

Minutes: 9/2/20

Website Status Update

No update was provided.

NEW BUSINESS/OTHER

Resolution #74-2020: Special Assessment on Block 7 Lots 13 and 23

Resolution #74-2020

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST AMWELL, COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
AUTHORIZING THE TAX ASSESSOR TO PLACE A SPECIAL ASSESSMENT ON BLOCK 7, LOTS 13 AND 23.**

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection provided a loan pursuant to the Dam, Lake, Stream, Flood Control, Water Resources and Wastewater Treatment Project Bond Act of 2003 to, among others, the owner of Block 7, Lot 13 and 23 which was owned by Henry and Jacqueline Nelson (“the Nelsons”); and

WHEREAS, the Loan to the Nelsons benefiting Block 7, Lots 13 and 23 is known and designated as “2003 Dam, Lake and Stream Restoration Loan, EC11-010, Lower Lake Steering Group”; and

WHEREAS, the outstanding balance due and owing on the Loan is \$111,380.32 plus interest and costs; and

WHEREAS, the Nelsons, the owner of Block 7, Lot 13 and 23, are solely obligated to pay the remaining balance of this loan plus interest and costs; and

WHEREAS, the Township was notified by the NJDEP, via letter dated June 18, 2020, that the Nelsons are now in default of their obligations under the loan; and

WHEREAS, State Law authorizes the “Township” to assess the amount of the principal, interest and costs for the loan against the real property benefitted thereby the loan of any member of the Group who may be in default or obligated for outstanding indebtedness, together with interest and penalties; and

WHEREAS, the Township adopted Ordinance 3, 2019 and Ordinance 2, 2020 which authorized a special assessment for the Amwell Dam #1 Restoration; and

WHEREAS, any and all other individuals and properties that may have been received funds or otherwise benefitted from the loan have no past or future liability or obligations of any kind or any nature.

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

1. The Nelsons, the owner of Block 7, Lots 13 and 23, have defaulted on their repayment obligation to the State of New Jersey with respect to the 2003 Dam, Lake and Stream Restoration Loan, EC11-010, Lower Lake Steering Group.
2. The Township Tax Assessor is hereby authorized and directed to make and record a special assessment against Block 7, Lots 13 and 23 in the amount of \$111,380.32 plus interest and costs.
3. The assessment shall constitute a first and paramount lien as provided for by N.J.S.A. 40:56-33.
4. A copy of this Resolution shall be recorded in the Hunterdon County Clerk’s Office and a copy sent to the owners of Block 7, Lots 13 and 23.

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify the above is a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the Township Committee of the Township of West Amwell at a meeting of said Township Committee conducted on September 2, 2020.

Maria Andrews, Township Clerk, RMC

Minutes: 9/2/20

A motion by Hoyer, seconded by Dale to approve Resolution #74-2020 was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

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

Resolution #75-2020: Authorizing E-Waste Recommending Contract with Newtech Recycling, Inc.

**Resolution #75-2020
Authorizing E-Waste Recycling Contract**

WHEREAS, the collection of e-waste recycling has been requested by the Township residents; and

WHEREAS, SWAC Coordinator Ryan Rollero has recommended Newtech Recycling, Inc. as the provider for the E-waste container; and

WHEREAS, Newtech Recycling, Inc. has provided a 1 year contract which has been reviewed by the SWAC Coordinator and the Township Attorney; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the contract with Newtech Recycling, Inc. be signed for E-waste collection for a contract term of 9/1/20 – 8/31/21 and subject to annual renewals.

I hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the West Amwell Township Committee at their meeting held September 1, 2020.

Maria Andrews, Township Clerk, RMC

A motion by Dale, seconded by Lyons to approve Resolution #75-2020 was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

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

Discussion: County's Request to Review 2020 Census Operations Timeline

It was noted for the record that there were no comments made on this matter.

Endorsement: Amended Housing Element and Fair Share Plan

Clerk Andrews noted the amended Housing Element and Fair Share Plan was discussed at the Planning Board's 8/18/20 meeting with the Board recommending that the document be sent to the Township Committee for their review and approval.

A motion by Dale, seconded by Hoyer endorsing the amended Housing Element and Fair Share Plan was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

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

Acknowledgment: Letter of Resignation from Prosecutor T. Howes

It was noted for the record that the Committee acknowledged Mr. Howes' letter of resignation and extended their congratulations to him on his position as the new Somerset County Republican Party Chairman.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

It was noted for the record that there were no members of the public present at the meeting at this time.

OTHER – Closed Session

It was noted for the record that the Committee did not enter into Closed Session.

Minutes: 9/2/20

ADMINISTRATIVE

It was noted for the record that the Committee did not make any comments on any of the administrative reports listed on the agenda.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Committee ordered the correspondence listed on the agenda, filed.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion by Dale, seconded by Hoyer to adjourn the meeting was unanimously approved by voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 PM.

Maria Andrews, Township Clerk, RMC

Approved: 9/16/20