

APPROVED AS AMENDED: August 4, 2014

WEST WINDSOR TOWNSHIP COUNCIL
WORK SESSION
June 9, 2014

CALL TO ORDER: President Maher called the meeting to order at 9:32 p.m.

STATEMENT OF ADEQUATE NOTICE

This is to advise that the notice requirement provided for in the "Open Public Meetings Act" has been satisfied. Notice of this meeting was properly given and transmitted to The Times and Princeton Packet; filed with the Clerk of the Municipality; and posted in the West Windsor Township Municipal Building at North Post and Clarksville Roads on May 30, 2014.

ATTENDEES: President: Maher; Vice President: Geevers; Council: Borek; Mendonez; Samonte; Mayor: Hsueh; Business Administrator: Schmid; Township Attorney: Herbert; Township Engineer: Guzik; Director of Community Development: Ward; Director of Public Works: Drummond (left at 10:10 p.m.); Township Clerk: Young

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

FOR DISCUSSION:

COUNCIL MEMBER/CLERK

Update from Brush Task Force

Mr. Borek discussed the reasons that the brush pickup must be addressed. He explained that he met with Mr. Drummond, Director of Public Works, to create a list of recommendations which he reviewed. Mr. Borek suggested that these instructions should be a separate paragraph in the code book because they are meant only for brush related issues. He also spoke of the need for better enforcement.

Ms. Samonte noted that some of the same recommendations were also made by residents. She urged Administration to get the word out to educate the residents. Ms. Samonte spoke about the summons process and the issuance of fines.

Council Members addressed questions.

President Maher noted that these recommendations are a good first start, and if additional issues arise the ordinance can be amended. He made suggestions to the pickup schedule for yard debris.

Ms. Schmid noted that the discarding of tree trunks is addressed in the ordinance.

Mr. Drummond advised that the pickup of tree trunks is usually not an issue unless there is a storm.

President Maher suggested leaving behind the tree trunks and to issue the homeowner a summons. He asked Mr. Drummond how this situation would be handled by Public Works.

Mr. Drummond explained that as complaint calls come in they are handled.

President Maher suggested that the employee on the brush pickup crew call in the issue to the office and then a letter should be sent out. He urged Public Works to be proactive in letting the residents know when they are in violation. President Maher proposed capping the fine at \$500.00.

Mr. Borek suggested Administration place the ordinance on the website, have it printed in the local newspapers, and send it out with the tax bills.

Ms. Geevers noted concerns with the size of the brush piles listed in the recommendations.

Discussion ensued over the size of the brush piles, the yard debris pickup schedule, notification to the residents, enforcement of the ordinance, and the fines to be issued.

Mr. Borek suggested not allowing yard debris to be placed at the curb during the months of November through February.

President Maher proposed a fine structure whereby a fee is charged per day after ten days of the notice, and after twenty days the fine continues and at this time Public Works will clean-up the debris and send a bill to the homeowner for the services performed.

Ms. Schmid referenced the nuisance provision in the Township Code for situations requiring large clean-up after a certain period of time.

Mr. Herbert noted that he will begin to craft the ordinance based on tonight's recommendations.

Discussion with Engineer on Capital Bonding Projects

Mr. Herbert noted that due to potential litigation and contract negotiations pertaining to the bidding process, the bonding discussion specifics will need to be done in closed session.

Mr. Guzik provided Council with an update of the Cranbury Road project, and noted that there is a two-week delay. He advised that the second public meeting will be held in mid-July.

President Maher asked to have the deliverables from the engineering firm posted on the website prior to the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. John Church, 11 Princeton Place, noted the importance of communicating to residents the new brush ordinance and the pickup schedule.

CLOSED SESSION

Motion to go into closed session at 10:23 p.m.: Borek

Second: Samonte

RCV: aye Borek

aye Geevers

aye Mendonez

aye Samonte

aye Maher

Ms. Young read the closed session resolution into the record:

Whereas, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 allows for a Public Body to go into closed session during a Public Meeting, and

Whereas, the Township Council of West Windsor Township has deemed it necessary to go into closed session to discuss certain matters which are exempted from the public; and

Whereas, the regular meeting of this Township Council will reconvene; and

Whereas, the below stated subject matter shall be made available at such time as the issues discussed therein are resolved and its disclosure would not subvert any particular exception for convening a closed session.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Township Council of the Township of West Windsor will go into closed session for the following reason(s) as outlined in N.J.S.A. 10:4-12: For the discussion of capital bonding projects that will be going out to bid and the litigation related to several projects.

Meeting reconvened at 10:59 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn: Borek
Second: Geevers
VV: All approved

The meeting was adjourned at 10:59 p.m.

Sharon L. Young
Township Clerk
West Windsor Township