

APPROVED: April 4, 2011

WEST WINDSOR TOWNSHIP COUNCIL
AGENDA SESSION
February 14, 2011

CALL TO ORDER: President Khanna called the meeting to order at 7:04 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 January 7, 2011.

ATTENDEES: President: Khanna; Vice President: Ciccone; Council: Borek (arrived 7:05 p.m.), Geevers; Mayor: Hsueh; Business Administrator: Hary; Township Attorney: Herbert; Township Clerk: Young

ABSENT: Morgan

Ms. Geevers requested that the discussion on the West Windsor-Plainsboro Board of Education Exterior Lighting Project for West Windsor-Plainsboro High School South be moved forward on the agenda, before the Burkholder Performance Comparison Study.

Motion to amend the order of the agenda: Geevers
Second: Ciccone
VV: All approved, Morgan-absent

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Sara Spengler-Campanella, 16 Canoe Brook Drive, voiced her view on how the installation of exterior lights at High School South will have negative effects on the surrounding neighborhoods. She again requested support from the Township Council on this matter.

Mr. Patrick Boyle, 1252 Windsor Road, noted that this project has been in negotiation with the West Windsor-Plainsboro Board of Education for the past two years and that an agreement has been approved and signed by the Board of Education for installation of the field lights. He advised that this topic was

discussed at several Board of Education meetings over the past two years and that many of the concerns posed by residents were addressed at that time. Mr. Boyle noted that this is a Board of Education Project sponsored by private funding and has the support of the principals and coaching staff.

Mr. Joe Joseph, 5 Putnam Court, voiced his support for the project.

Mr. John Church, 11 Princeton Place, advised that the Township did a good job in removing the snow, but noted several locations where large piles of snow were left at intersections and should be removed.

Mr. Pete Weale, 144 Fisher Place, gave his opinion on the safety standpoint of lights and spillover to the neighborhoods. He inquired about the protocol for public comment; when a summary of expenses for the redevelopment project will be available; and requested solutions to the transit village if the project is not tax neutral.

Mr. Tom O'Connor, 60 Lillie Street, voiced his support for the installation of the athletic field lights.

Ms. Suifen Lyu, 6 Bradford Court (previously 13 Canoe Brook Drive), noted that she is not in support of the athletic field lights being installed.

Ms. Karen Carlen, 29 Barrington Drive, noted her support for the field lights.

Mr. Manny Efstathios, 15 Dickens Drive, voiced his support for the light project.

Mr. Hemant Marathe, President of Board of Education, reviewed the process conducted by the Board of Education for the past two years.

Mr. Leonard Hayduchok, 12 Cartwright Drive, noted that in his opinion the majority of the community is in favor of this project.

Mr. Ted Phelan, 4 Ellsworth Drive, voiced his support of the project.

ORDER OF THE AGENDA AMENDED

West Windsor-Plainsboro Board of Education Exterior Lighting Project - West Windsor-Plainsboro High School South

Mr. Herbert advised that Council does not control what the Board of Education does. He noted that the issue this evening is not whether the project goes forward, but whether the project should go through a process under one of the Township's Boards. Mr. Herbert noted that he has reviewed Court decisions and this matter should go to the appropriate land use board. He advised that the School Board should contact the Department of Community Development for guidance on how to proceed with the installation of these exterior lights.

Ms. Geevers suggested that Mr. Herbert forward his comments to the Board of Education and that the Board should contact the Department of Community Development on how to proceed.

Ms. Ciccone thanked all the residents who have reached out to the Council on both sides of the issue, but advised that this is not a decision to be made by the Township Council but by the School Board.

Mr. Borek thanked the residents who worked on and succeeded in obtaining the funding for this project. He noted that the School Board has to be a good neighbor with area residents and help resolve some of the concerns raised.

President Khanna thanked everyone for reaching out on this subject.

ORDER OF AGENDA RESUMED

FOR ACTION

FOR DISCUSSION

Mayor/Administrator

Burkholder Performance Comparison Study

Mr. Hary advised that the Study before Council does not include Engineering or the Health and Human Services Divisions. He noted that he has passed out this evening an appendix to the report regarding comparison of salaries, which was not included in the initial draft report. Mr. Hary advised that Division and Department Heads have reviewed the report.

Mr. Burkholder noted that the purpose of this Study was to compare West Windsor with other townships, which will give the Township a way to see where improvements may be needed. He advised that he has made 35 recommendations within the report for review by the Township.

Ms. Geever noted that she was not surprised by the recommendations. She inquired if Administration is going to incorporate any of the recommendations in the 2011 Budget. Ms. Geever suggested that the Mayor and Council set goals and meet quarterly to review the progress.

Mr. Borek inquired why the report did not address possible relocation of the Public Works facility.

Mr. Hary noted he is reviewing the possible relocation of the Public Works Facility.

Ms. Ciccone noted she would also be interested in hearing how Administration is going to utilize some of the 35 recommendations in the 2011 Budget. She inquired about the process moving forward and suggested that the Council President set a schedule for budget meetings.

Mr. Burkholder advised that he can facilitate goal-setting sessions with the Council and Mayor, and suggested that the sessions include the Administrator, and Division and Department

Heads. He noted that in order for these sessions to be successful they should be scheduled on a quarterly basis.

President Khanna noted that this report provides departments a tool for setting goals for future budgets.

Mr. Hary advised that he is already working with Department and Division Managers on some of the recommendations in the report, and departments that have not been addressed in this report will have to be reviewed in the near future.

President Khanna noted that by the time Council receives the Municipal Budget the Administration goals are already set. He advised that this process needs to change.

Ms. Ciccone suggested that policy discussions be scheduled quarterly at agenda sessions.

Mayor Hsueh suggested having a facilitator to assist Council, Administrator, and Department and Division Managers to set long-term goals. He advised that this was previously done once before.

President Khanna advised that there are 35 recommendations made in the report which Administration needs to review and a report presented to Council.

Mr. Hary noted that the report has validated some of his own concerns and findings. He advised that one of the first things he suggested to the Mayor was to do a one-year contract for refuse collection because of the changing regulations and technology. Mr. Hary also advised that he is working on the concerns of Council regarding the various Union contracts and is taking a serious approach to each of the recommendations within the report.

COUNCIL MEMBER/CLERK

Sidewalk and Snow Removal Provisions

Mr. Hary advised that the current snow removal ordinance is appropriate and that the Township has advised residents to clear their sidewalks as complaints are received. He noted that if

the homeowner, after being notified, has not cleared the sidewalk the homeowner is issued a summons. Mr. Hary reported that the Public Works Department is working on removing the excess snow from intersections.

Ms. Ciccone suggested placing public service announcements on Channel 27.

Mr. Borek noted that there are still individuals who have not shoveled their sidewalks since the January 27th snowstorm.

MAYOR/ADMINISTRATOR COMMENTS

Mr. Hary advised that the Snow Trust Fund is currently at \$300,000 and costs for the January 26th & 27th, 2011 snowstorm have not been deducted from this account. He advised that Mr. Secare, the Attorney representing the Township in the Morgan vs Hsueh lawsuit, is scheduled to attend a closed session at 6:30 p.m. on February 22, 2011.

Mr. Hary advised that he plans to submit the 2011 Budget to the Township Council on or before Tuesday, February 22.

He reviewed the agenda items for the upcoming February 22nd Business Session.

COUNCIL COMMENTS & REPORTS

Ms. Geevers requested that Administration provide Council with the exemptions to the two percent cap on the budget.

Ms. Geevers reported that the Planning Board has hired professional staff to review InterCap Ordinances 2011-04 and 2011-05 for their February 23rd meeting.

Mr. Borek thanked Mr. Hary and the County for taking care of the graffiti signs along Clarksville Road.

Ms. Ciccone reported that the Environmental Commission met last Thursday and they are reviewing different areas to pursue in 2011. She requested that the redevelopment expense report be added to an upcoming meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. John Church, 11 Princeton Place, commented on ordinances 2011-04 and 2011-05 and that he has a problem with the pressure the Courts have put on the Township to adopt them.

Mr. Herbert addressed Mr. Church's concerns regarding the ordinances and settlement agreement.

Mr. Al Lerner, 67 Rainflower Lane, spoke in support of the agreement with InterCap.

Mrs. Jennifer Stiefel, 44 Nassau Place, voiced her concern regarding the piles of snow left behind at intersections and that homeowners do not have the capabilities to remove these large amounts of snow.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn: Ciccone
Second: Geever
VV: All eyes Morgan - absent

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40p.m.

Sharon L. Young
Township Clerk
West Windsor Township