

APPROVED: January 7, 2013

WEST WINDSOR TOWNSHIP COUNCIL
BUSINESS SESSION
November 20, 2012

CALL TO ORDER: President Khanna called the meeting to order at 7:00 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 November 15, 2012.

ATTENDEES: President: Khanna; Vice President: Geevers; Council Members: Borek, Maher, Samonte; Mayor: Hsueh; Business Administrator: Schmid; Township Attorney: Herbert Jr.; Chief Pica, Lieutenant Garofalo; Township Clerk: Young

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Ms. Young led the salute to the flag.

President Khanna asked to amend the agenda to add resolution 2012-R260.

Motion to approve adding 2012-R260 to the agenda: Geevers

Second: Samonte

RCV: aye Borek

aye Geevers

aye Maher

aye Samonte

aye Khanna

CEREMONIAL MATTERS AND/OR TOPIC FOR PRIORITY CONSIDERATION

HURRICANE SANDY UPDATE

President Khanna listed all the key personnel and volunteers that played an important role in assisting the Township through Hurricane Sandy. He advised that everyone helped out at a very difficult time.

Chief Pica affirmed that it was a team approach working through the hurricane and its aftermath. He reported that there were heavy winds which caused a lot of fallen trees resulting in an initial 80% power outage within the Township. Chief Pica noted that there was not as much flooding as anticipated. He applauded the Fire, Police, both volunteer Fire Companies, and Public Works who were out before, during and after the storm. Chief Pica advised that there was no loss of life and currently the Township is in the clean-up stage.

Ms. Schmid extended her gratitude to all the Department and Division Heads, and all the Managers and employees who assisted with the immediate concerns of the Township. She advised that the Senior Center was the focal point for gathering after the storm. Ms. Schmid thanked all the volunteers for their help and especially the Health Division that worked with all the food establishments.

Ms. Schmid reported that 25,000 calls came in to the Police Division after the storm. She acknowledged Mr. Yates' efforts in coordinating storm and post storm response, and for compiling data for the 75% reimbursement claim to FEMA.

Chief Pica commented that the dispatchers worked nonstop 24 hours for days and advised that the Mayor, Business Administrator, and Council were always available.

Mayor Hsueh thanked everyone and expressed his gratitude. He noted that the Senior Center was and will be the place to go in the event of an emergency. Mayor Hsueh asked the Department and Division heads for their recommendations for improvement.

Mr. Maher appreciated the management meetings which kept everyone informed. He applauded the outstanding job that was done. Mr. Maher advised that the main roads should be the focus for debris pickup and suggested a contingency plan to assist Public Works in the cleanup.

Ms. Samonte applauded the professionalism of the staff and how the community pulled together in a time of emergency. She acknowledged the good communications between everyone and especially the information the Police Division was able to provide to the public.

Mr. Borek spoke of the daunting tasks involved with a storm of this magnitude. He advised that the Township was able to provide the needed services. Mr. Borek suggested building on the existing preparation plans that will help strengthen the community.

Ms. Geevers thanked the volunteers, staff, department heads, Police, and the fire companies for a job well done. She noted her disappointment that the Library was not open and accessible to the community especially because the building had electricity. Ms. Geevers suggested writing a letter to the County about this issue.

Chief Pica acknowledged the dedication of Lt. Garofalo and his outstanding efforts.

Lieutenant Garofalo spoke about the technology used to keep residents informed during the storm and the aftermath. He suggested that all residents sign up for Nixle because it allows the Police to get out as much information to the community as possible.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Jim Solloway, 5 Monroe Drive, extended his gratitude to everyone and recommended that residents sign up for Nixle. He spoke about the upcoming tax increases and the burden on the residents.

Mr. John Church, 11 Princeton Place, thanked everyone and applauded the work done by Public Works. He spoke about the Grovers Farmstead Reconstruction Committee and utilization of the Snow Trust Fund.

Mr. Alvin Lerner, 67 Rainflower Lane, spoke about citizens' coalitions that were formed to resolve community issues.

Ms. Janet Lerner, 67 Rainflower Lane, acknowledged the various supermarkets that were open in the aftermath of the storm.

Mr. Pete Weale, 144 Fisher Place, thanked the volunteers and professionals for the hard work during and after the storm. He also spoke about meeting notifications, the shared services agreement for animal control services, and the taping of the Council meetings.

Ms. Debbie Hepler, 10 Dean Court, noted that the roads have not been properly cleared of debris. She accused Administration of mismanagement.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Maher asked Ms. Schmid for a ballpark amount which would be submitted to FEMA.

Ms. Schmid estimated between \$500,000 and \$750,000 will be submitted, but Administration is still compiling the figures.

Ms. Geevers inquired if Administration was going to use the Snow Trust Fund for storm cleanup as recommended by the State.

Ms. Schmid advised that the Division of Local Government Services is allowing municipalities to use the funds for specific storm-related costs. She outlined a few items including overtime that will be considered.

CONSENT AGENDA

RESOLUTIONS

2012-R249 Refund of Overpaid Property Tax

2012-R250 Refund of Construction Permit No. 20111794 for
17 Highpoint Place

2012-R251 Refund of Construction Permit No. 20100303 for 64
Renfield Drive

2012-R252 Refund of Construction Permit No. 20121588 for 59
Ellsworth Drive

2012-R253 Refund of Construction Permit No. 20081840 for 9
Auburn Place

2012-R254 Refund of Overpayment Construction Permit No. 20121489
for 551 Meadow Road

2012-R255 Granting Release of Street Opening Permit No. 2011-06-
to Metropolitan Communications Group, Inc. for Roszel
Road

MINUTES

October 1, 2012 - Business Session as amended
October 15, 2012 - Closed Session

Motion to approve consent agenda as amended: Samonte

Second: Borek

RCV: aye Borek

aye Geevers

aye Maher

aye Samonte

aye Khanna

ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

BILLS & CLAIMS

Mr. Maher noted his concerns with the late release of the agenda information and the delay in getting the bills and claims to Council. He reviewed several bills and asked for explanations about their costs.

Ms. Geevers also inquired about an invoice for Mr. Muller.

Ms. Schmid asked that the bills and claims be approved without the invoice in question for Mr. Muller.

Motion to approve: Borek

Second: Geevers

RCV: aye Borek

aye Geevers

aye Maher

aye Samonte

aye Khanna

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM ADMINISTRATION AND COUNCIL/CLERK

2012-R256 Authorizing the Reimbursement of Trash and Recycling Collection and Disposal, and Snow Removal Costs for 2011 to Various Condominium and Homeowner Associations-\$40,551.28

2012-R260 Supporting the Mayor's Letter of November 14, 2012 to Governor Christie Requesting the Township have One Electric Service Provider PSE&G and Requesting More Substantial Fines Against JCP&L for its Failure to Provide Electric Service and Information During and After the Hurricane Sandy

Motion to approve resolutions 2012-R256 & 2012-R260: Borek

Second: Samonte

RCV: aye Borek

aye Geevers

aye Maher

aye Samonte

aye Khanna

2012-R257 Authorizing the Business Administrator to Execute Change Order No. 1 with Pelka Construction Co. LLC for Final Quantities Adjustment for the Project known as Schenck Farm Restrooms-\$4,260.00

Ms. Geevers inquired about the additional costs for the roof and other expenses.

Ms. Schmid advised that itemized expenses are routine in a change order for a construction project.

President Khanna asked for clarification regarding the supplementary costs.

Mr. Maher asked whether some of the items listed are regular expenses that are ordinarily listed on a change order. He spoke of his concerns about accepting the lowest bidder who may not be familiar with the nuances of the job. Mr. Maher asked to see other examples of change orders that went into as much detail.

Council agreed to pull the resolution for further clarification. The resolution will be deferred until the December 10th Business Session.

2012-R258 Authorizing the Business Administrator to Execute Change Order No. 1 with Anderson Construction Services, Inc. for Supplemental Work for the Project known as Concrete Apron and Spillway Repairs at Grovers Mill Dam -\$23,900.00

Mr. Maher noted his concerns with a sixty percent increase of this change order. He inquired if the vendor "specced out" the work properly or if this was an unforeseen circumstance.

Ms. Schmid advised that the work will not be able to be rebid without additional expenses. She explained that the DEP permit will need to be re-issued which will postpone project completion for another year.

Mr. Maher asked that in the future the Township Engineer be available at the meetings to provide an explanation for such increases.

Mr. Herbert explained that the Engineer did not foresee the water deepening further down the spillway. He noted that the Township would like to have the work completed before more erosion is caused by significant storm events.

Ms. Geever also requested the professionals to be present for an explanation, especially for a change order of this amount.

Motion to approve: Geevers

Second: Borek

RCV: aye Borek
aye Geevers
NAY Maher
aye Samonte
aye Khanna

2012-R259 Authorizing the Mayor and Clerk to Execute a Shared Services Agreement with East Windsor Township for Animal Control Services from January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2014-\$18,000.00 (2013); \$18,000.00 (2014)

Mr. Maher asked for the resolution to be deferred until the next Business Session to allow the residents an opportunity to make their case before a vote is taken.

Chief Pica made comments in favor of renewing the shared services agreement.

The resolution was deferred until the December 10th Business Session.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

2012-19 AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH A SALARY AND WAGE PLAN FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST WINDSOR AND PROVIDE FOR THE ADMINISTRATION THEREOF-Emergency Shelter Monitor and Emergency Shelter Coordinator

Motion to introduce: Borek

Second: Samonte

RCV: aye Borek
aye Geevers
aye Maher
aye Samonte
aye Khanna

The public hearing will be held on December 10, 2012.

2012-20 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF LEASE AMENDMENT
WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE WITH RESPECT TO
331 NORTH POST ROAD

Motion to introduce: Borek

Second: Samonte

RCV: aye Borek

aye Geevers

aye Maher

aye Samonte

aye Khanna

The public hearing will be held on December 10, 2012.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Mr. Borek advised that the Parking Authority approved new timeline for construction of the parking lot.

Ms. Geevers spoke about the service JCP&L provides is unacceptable. She noted that the School Board provided a presentation on the annual audit.

Mr. Maher suggested the Township invest in a portable generator and funds for the cost of the generator should be incorporated into the capital budget.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Alvin Lerner, 67 Rainflower Lane, addressed concerns with road striping in various areas of town.

Mr. John Church, 11 Princeton Place, spoke about FEMA and the Township's ability to get reimbursed for the storm-related costs.

Ms. Janet Lerner, 67 Rainflower Lane, inquired about alternative vendors for their electricity supply.

Ms. Debbie Hepler, 10 Dean Court, thanked Council for deferring the agreement for animal control services and asked for a list of responsibilities for the current animal control officer.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn: Borek

Second: Samonte

VV: All approved

The meeting was adjourned at 9:23 p.m.

Sharon L. Young
Township Clerk
West Windsor Township