

APPROVED: October 15, 2012

WEST WINDSOR TOWNSHIP COUNCIL
BUSINESS SESSION
September 4, 2012

CALL TO ORDER: President Khanna called the meeting to order at 6:37 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 6, 2012. Closed Session for the discussion of potential litigation was noticed on August 27, 2012 to the Princeton Packet and The Times.

ATTENDEES: President: Khanna; Vice President: Geevers; Council Members: Borek, Maher, Samonte; Township Attorney: Herbert; Business Administrator: Schmid; Township Clerk: Young

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

CLOSED SESSION

Motion to go into closed session at 6:37 p.m.: Borek

Second: Samonte

RCV: aye Borek

aye Geevers

aye Maher

aye Samonte

aye Khanna

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 potential litigation.

MEETING RECONVENED

Meeting reconvened at 7:00 p.m.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Ms. Young led the salute to the flag.

CEREMONIAL MATTERS AND/OR TOPIC FOR PRIORITY CONSIDERATION

Rt. 1 Pilot Project - Impact on Penns Neck

Mr. Anthony Attanasio, Assistant Commissioner, Government & Community Relations for DOT, advised that the Route 1 Pilot Project was to assist in identifying a solution to impact traffic flow on Route 1. He was informed about the illegal U-turns, and K-turns that are being made in the area and is making adjustments to the Pilot Project. Mr. Attanasio noted that NJDOT is monitoring the project daily. He spoke about the increased signage and enforcement by the State Police.

Mr. Maher informed Mr. Attanasio that NJDOT should have anticipated motorists making illegal turns. He inquired about the possibility of reconsidering the Millstone Bypass.

Mr. Attanasio noted that he would take that consideration back to the Commissioner of DOT.

Mr. Borek spoke of the additional costs incurred by the Township for monitoring the traffic during the Pilot Project.

Ms. Geevers also stated that the traffic problems should have been better thought out. She asked if the State would reimburse the Township for the Township police manpower that went into patrolling the intersection.

Ms. Tamerra Moeller, 201 Varsity Avenue, reviewed her traffic concerns and provided a diagram of where the illegal turns are being made and where traffic is detouring through the Penns Neck neighborhood.

Chief Pica attested to the residents' concerns. He advised that Police officers have been patrolling the area. Chief Pica informed Council that he had met with DOT to ask for assistance in this matter.

Mr. David Parris, 207 Washington Road, spoke about trucks backing up on his road and making illegal turns. He noted that some motorists are from out of the area and not familiar with the alternate roads. Mr. Parris cited that all the problems had been previously predicted.

Ms. Alison Miller, 41 Windsor Drive, spoke about the Penns Neck neighborhood losing its quality of life. She noted that NJDOT was advised at their meeting that these issues were going to occur.

Ms. Paula McGuire, 219 Washington Road, commented that she does not understand why funds cannot be allocated to fix the traffic congestion permanently.

Mr. Guy Pierson, 241 Fisher Place, offered alternative suggestions to the NJDOT representatives.

Mr. Eric Payne, 237 Washington Road, advised of damage being done to his property because of the illegal U-turns and spoke about accidents that have occurred because of the Pilot Program. He noted that these traffic changes would not be reflected on GPS that is being used by a motorist.

Mr. Peter Hodge, 218 Varsity Avenue, explained that U-turns are being made in front of his house. He spoke about public safety concerns especially along Varsity Avenue concerning pedestrians and bicyclists.

Mr. James Moeller, 201 Varsity Avenue, offered suggestions including having Google update their maps for GPS users. He noted concerns with the safety of school children.

Ms. Lori Pantaleo, 230 Varsity Avenue, addressed safety issues and advised of school bus stops in the area.

Ms. Sanja Dimic, 210 Washington Road, voiced concerns with her children's safety because of the vehicles making U-turns in her driveway. She noted that the Pilot Project is affecting her quality of life.

Ms. Sharon Sibilia, 217 Washington Road, explained that most of the motorists are lost and suggested that NJDOT have better signage to advise motorists how to get into Princeton.

Mr. Attanasio replied that NJDOT is working on providing signage to guide motorists into Princeton.

Mr. Curtis Hoberman, 175 Washington Road, spoke about the traffic noise and congestion on Washington Road.

Ms. Nancy Bennett, 29 Fieldston Road, spoke about enforcement of traffic laws and illegal turns being made by motorists.

Mr. John Church, 11 Princeton Place, advised that local businesses depend on the east/west traffic on Route One. He recommended that the Pilot Program be cancelled.

Mr. Attanasio informed Council that he would be taking the residents' concerns very seriously. He explained that the traffic issues were studied at length and traffic models were made before implementing the changes. Mr. Attanasio confirmed that he would continue working with Administration, the local Police, and the State Police.

Ms. Samonte noted that the focus should be on safety.

Ms. Schmid advised that safety is a priority. She explained that overtime is necessary, and she will be working directly with Chief Pica. Ms. Schmid emphasized the importance of getting the traffic signage up on Route One. She inquired about the accident data being collected and how it would be used for the final report.

Mr. Attanasio noted that the accident data will be incorporated into the overall analysis.

Mr. Maher asked to review the financial numbers used to create the Pilot Program.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Wesley Mostello, 168 Penn Lyle Road, spoke about Green Acres versus Farmland Preservation regarding the Grover Farmstead. He asked how the land was purchased for the Grover Farmstead.

Mr. Maher explained that Grover Farm was purchased with Township funds and asked Mr. Mostello to wait for the findings of the Grover Farm Restoration Committee to get all his questions answered.

Mr. Herbert advised that the Township purchased the farm for open space and the land can be farmed. He explained that the buildings have restricted uses because the Township participates in the Green Acres program although the parcel was not bought with Green Acres funding.

Mr. Russell Kelemen, 25 Old Bear Brook Road, spoke about the plans to have Project Freedom built on the Maneely tract. He noted that the project is going to be built fifty feet from his property.

Ms. Holly Kelemen, 25 Old Bear Brook Road, reviewed the project with Council and advised that the building will be too close to her property. She noted that there is a lack of berming on the plan between the two properties.

Mr. Herbert noted that the amended Project Freedom plan will come before the Planning Board which will allow the Kelemens to express their concerns.

Ms. Debbie Hepler, 10 Dean Court, advised that the Grover Farm Restoration Committee has no plans to create a parking lot on the site and a community garden is also not being considered.

Mr. John Church, 11 Princeton Place, explained the purchase of the Grover Farm.

MAYOR/ADMINISTRATOR COMMENTS

Ms. Schmid informed Council that a letter was sent to the Director of Transportation and Infrastructure to ask them to review the DVRPC recommendations for Clarksville Road and North Post. She noted that Public Works was completing the removal of brush from the storm in July.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Ms. Samonte affirmed that the Penns Neck residents provided good action items which need to be reviewed by NJDOT for their full impact on the community.

Mr. Maher suggested that Public Works follow the same process for debris cleanup in the future. He asked for an update to the Mercer County Community College solar farm project. Mr. Maher recommended that a GPS be installed into all Township vehicles, and noted that other townships are using this technology.

Ms. Schmid advised that Administration was looking into that option for the 2013 Municipal Budget.

Mr. Borek announced the 9/11 Memorial Service to be held at the Ron Rogers Arboretum.

Ms. Geevers suggested that a press release be posted on the Township website regarding mosquito borne West Nile virus.

CHAIR/CLERK COMMENTS

President Khanna commended Chief Pica and the Police Division for monitoring the Route One Project because safety is the number one concern.

PUBLIC HEARING

2012-13 TOWNSHIP OF WEST WINDSOR ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE
ACQUISITION OF A ROAD WIDENING AND UTILITY EASEMENT
FROM PATRICK AND JILL O'BRIEN LOCATED ON BLOCK 16.01,
LOT 13 - 27 Penn Lyle Road

President Khanna opened public hearing.

Ms. Alison Miller, 41 Windsor Drive, asked why the Township was acquiring the property.

Mr. Maher commented that the acquisition was for the installation of sidewalks.

Motion to close public hearing: Borek

Second: Geevers

RCV: aye Borek

aye Geevers

aye Maher

aye Samonte

aye Khanna

Mr. Maher asked if additional acquisitions would be required in the future.

Ms. Schmid indicated that the Township previously acquired property for the sidewalks from West Windsor-Plainsboro School District for the cost of \$1.00.

Motion to adopt: Borek

Second: Geevers

RCV: aye Borek

aye Geevers

aye Maher

aye Samonte

aye Khanna

CONSENT AGENDA

RESOLUTIONS

2012-R207 Refund of Overpaid Property Taxes

MINUTES

July 23, 2012 - Business Session as amended

BILLS & CLAIMS

Motion to approve consent agenda: Borek

Second: Samonte

RCV: aye Borek

aye Geevers

aye Maher

aye Samonte

aye Khanna

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM ADMINISTRATION AND COUNCIL/CLERK

2012-R208 Agreeing to the Cancellation of the Refund of the
Municipal Portion of Property Taxes for 2012 to PSE&G
per License Agreement-\$5,553.77

Ms. Schmid provided details involving the initiation of the agreement with PSE&G.

Mr. Maher addressed questions about the bike path and wanted to know why the path did not continue to Village Road on to Conover Road.

Motion to approve: Borek

Second: Geevers

RCV: aye Borek

aye Geevers

aye Maher

aye Samonte

aye Khanna

2012-R209 Authorizing the Interlocal Agreement with the County
of Mercer for Fire Dispatch Assistance

Ms. Schmid explained that the agreement was good through December 2017 and there was no cost to the Township.

Motion to approve: Maher

Second: Borek

RCV: aye Borek

aye Geevers

aye Maher

aye Samonte

aye Khanna

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

2012-14 TOWNSHIP OF WEST WINDSOR ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE
ACQUISITION OF TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION EASEMENTS FROM
CREATIVE MARKETING ALLIANCE, INC. LOCATED ON BLOCK 10,
LOT 15.01 - 191 Clarksville Road

Ms. Schmid summarized that the easement was required for the Duck Pond Run Sewer Interceptor.

Motion to introduce: Borek

Second: Samonte

RCV: aye Borek

aye Geevers

aye Maher

aye Samonte

aye Khanna

The public hearing will be held on September 18, 2012.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. John Church, 11 Princeton Place, inquired about the construction on Penn Lyle Road, and asked for schedule of completion for the project.

Ms. Schmid pointed out that there was a utility conflict that needed to be resolved before the project could continue. She reported that the paving should be done soon, weather permitting.

Ms. Debbie Hepler, 10 Dean Court, spoke about some serious issues being discussed this evening and the Mayor was not in attendance.

Mr. Guy Pierson, 241 Fisher Place, addressed several issues with Council.

Ms. Alison Miller, 41 Windsor Drive, provided a short history about the Millstone Bypass.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Sharon L. Young
Township Clerk
West Windsor Township