

**CARNEYS POINT TOWNSHIP MEETING
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 18, 2013**

The Regular Meeting of the Township Committee was held on the above date at the time of 6:00 p.m. Committeemen Dennis, Pelura, Brown Newton, and Gatani were present. Also present at this meeting were M. Stout-CMFO/Administrator, J. Proffitt-Clerk, G. Gilbert-Public Works, Police Chief R. DiGregorio, and A. Rhea Solicitor.

Mayor Gatani called the meeting to order and read the **Open Public Meeting Act**. He led the **Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**. Roll call was taken.

Mayor Gatani asked for a motion to approve **all properly audited vouchers to be paid**. Mr. Newton motioned, Mr. Dennis seconded and all were in favor.

Under **Consent Agenda** a motion was made by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Dennis to accept **Monthly Committee Reports from August 2013**. All were in favor.

Mr. Newton motioned to approve the **Compensation Report**, Mr. Brown seconded and all were in favor.

Mr. Brown motioned to approve the **Regular Committee meeting minutes from the meeting held on September 4, 2013**, seconded by Mr. Dennis and all were in favor.

Under **Applications** Mayor Gatani mentioned **Park Permits #65 and #66** being for activates at the Rec. Complex. Mr. Pelura motioned to approve, seconded by Mr. Brown and all were in favor. Mayor Gatani mentioned a Coin Toss on the corner of Route 48 and Golfwood Ave. The dates were into next year. Mr. Pelura questioned the dates next year and feels they should be placed for approval next year. Mr. Brown said he wanted to ask the JIF if this is allowable for liability insurance by the Township. The Committee said they would agree to the date this year if it is ok with the insurance. Motion was made by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Dennis and all were in favor. **Bryan Master and Ryan Morris** both applied for **membership to the Carneys Point Fire and Rescue Dept**. Motion was made by Mr. Pelura, seconded by Mr. Brown to approve their applications. An **Educational Enhancement** for Marie Stout to attend Budget Updates from the DLGS on October 25th at a cost of \$99.00. Mayor Gatani said Alloway Township will cover the cost. Motion was made by Mr. Newton, seconded by Mr. Dennis and all were in favor.

RESOLUTION 2013-154

APPROVE THE CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN

Motion was made by Mr. Dennis to approve the Corrective Action Plan for the 2012 Annual Municipal Audit, seconded by Mr. Brown and a unanimous vote was taken.

RESOLUTION 2013-155

SUBMISSION OF GRANT AND EXECUTE CONTRACT FOR ROAD RESURFACING

Mr. Pelura motioned to authorize the submission of a grant application and execute a contract by the Mayor for the 2014 Jefferson Street project. Seconded by Mr. Brown and a unanimous vote was taken.

ORDINANCE 882

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 92 OF THE CARNEYS POINT TOWNSHIP CODE, TO AMEND THE FEE FOR RETURNED CHECKS.

Mr. Brown motioned to introduce, seconded by Mr. Dennis and a unanimous vote was taken.

ORDINANCE 880

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 56 OF THE ORDINANCES OF CARNEYS POINT TOWNSHIP ENTITLED BRUSH, GRASS AND WEEDS TO ADD A SECTION TO ADDRESS PROPERTY MAINTENANCE REGULATIONS AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR VACANT AND ABANDONED PROPERTIES.

Ordinance was opened up for public question or comments. Martin Cleary of Broad St. asked if this will clean up all the abandoned buildings around town such as Clemente on Rt. 130. Mayor Gatanis said this will help with the abandoned houses around town. Mr. Brown said the Township has a Housing Officer who sends letters to home owners when the property becomes un-kept. Sometimes the banks are notified. It is often hard to locate home owners. Hopefully this will help. With no more questions or comments this portion was closed and a motion to adopt was made by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Newton. Roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Dennis and Mr. Pelura voted no, while Mr. Brown, Mr. Newton and Mayor Gatanis voting yes.

ORDINANCE 881

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CARNEYS POINT TOWNSHIP CODE, CHAPTER 37, AND FIXING SALARIES AND COMPENSATION FOR OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CARNEYS POINT.

Mayor Gatanis opened this ordinance up for public questions or comments. With none this portion was closed and a motion to adopt was made by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Dennis and a unanimous roll call vote was taken.

Under **correspondence** Mayor Gatanis mentioned a letter of resignation from Stephen Gaddy who worked in Public Works. Mr. Gilbert mentioned he got another job and he wished him well. Motion to accept the resignation was made by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Newton and all were in favor. Mayor Gatanis mentioned a resignation from Anne McCarthy Tax Collector with regret. Motion was made by Mr. Newton, seconded by Mr. Dennis and all were in favor.

Old Business; Mr. Dennis asked if the Solicitor could be ordered to send a letter to DuPonts asking for an independent audit of the hazardous waste receipts for Carneys Point Township. Mayor Gatanis said this can be moved to the next agenda because it was not included on this agenda.

Mr. Newton spoke about a meeting with the Lafayette School about parking and dropping off children. The original plans from the planning board said parents were going to be allowed to enter the fenced yard, drop off their children and leave. The school said they do not have enough space for this and wants parents to park across the street in the church parking lot and have the children walk across Shell Road. Mr. Newton said the Solicitor needs to write a letter to the school for the safety of the children. Mayor Gatanis asked Mr. Dennis is this is ok to address since it also was not on the agenda. Mr. Dennis was fine with the safety issue. Mr. Brown made a motion to request the Solicitor to send a letter to the school requesting a meeting, seconded by Mr. Newton and all were in favor. Mr. Brown asked for a time limit. Mr. Newton said no more than two weeks. Mr. Pelura did mention that there are crossing guards and they are trained.

Under **New Business**, Mayor Gatanis spoke of salary increased for non-contractual employees. Mr. Pelura said the Committee should not be included in this increase. They all agreed. Mr. Dennis offered 1.5% increase starting from January 1, 2013, but no one seconded his motion. Mr. Newton said 1% from January 1st. Mr. Dennis seconded. Mrs. Stout asked for some clarification on new hires. The Committee agreed if anyone was hired this year will not get an increase. The whole Committee was in favor.

Mrs. Stout said she was going to address an Insurance Agreement that deals with diabetic care but has asked the Solicitor to review the agreement first. She asked for this to be put in the next meeting. Mrs. Stout moved on to address the "Best Practice Check List". She with the help of Mr. Dennis the Check List has been completed. She handed out a copy for all the Committee to review and ask questions. Mrs. Stout said there are a few items she is interested in having the Committee look into for changes in policy. She will obtain sample ordinances for the Committee to review.

Public Participation: Martin Cleary of Broad St. asked if the Sewerage plant could be cleaned up. Such as the fence with all the vines. Mr. Cleary asked about the ditch by E Street being cleaned up also. Mr. Gilbert said they are working on the ditches around Hollywood and moving towards Boutown Creek. Mr. Cleary had a question on the interest rate for late tax payments. He feels they are too high at 18%. Mr. Pelura said there have been people who also want services shut off and the fees raised.

Karen Evens and Brother Chris of Courses Landing Rd. are asking for a change to the Solicitors ordinance. She said they are local farmers on a road which is not heavily traveled. According to the Ordinance to move to a more traveled location they will have to pay \$1,000. They pay taxes and feel there should be a prevision for local farmers. Also, in order for them to keep their farmland assessment they need to be able to sell their produce. Mayor Gatanis said the will look into what can be done. The Ordinance will have to be amended and that all takes time.

With no more question or comments this portion was closed.

RESOLUTION 2013-156

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Mr. Brown to convene into Executive Session, seconded by Mr. Dennis Motioned passed with five affirmative votes. Regular session ended at 7:00 pm.

A motion was made by Mr. Brown to reconvene in regular session, seconded by Mr. Dennis and all was in favor. The regular meeting reconvened at 8:10 pm with the following action taking place: Mr. Brown motioned to allow for Mr. Gilbert to advertise for a part-time public works employee, seconded by Mr. Dennis and all were in favor.

RESOLUTION 2013-157

APPOINT OF A TAX COLLECTOR

Mr. Newton motioned to appoint Marie Stout to fill the unexpired term of Anne McCathy ending December 31, 2013. Motion was seconded by Mr. Dennis and a unanimous vote was taken.

Mr. Newton made a motion to authorize Solicitor Rhea to contact the Attorney involved in the OPRA lawsuit, seconded by Mr. Brown and all were in favor except Mr. Pelura who voted no.

Mr. Brown made a motion to authorize Mrs. Stout to send a letter to the YMCA in response to the proposal they forwarded to the Township. Motion seconded by Mr. Dennis and all were in favor.

With no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Mr. Brown to adjourn and seconded by Mr. Newton. Motion passed with five affirmative votes. Meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Approved: 10-2-2013


June Proffitt, Municipal Clerk