

CARNEYS POINT TOWNSHIP MEETING
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 15, 2014

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

Mayor Gatanis 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 Gatanis introduced Officer Joseph Racite Jr. to perform the invocation.

RESOLUTION 2014-166
APPOINT A CHIEF OF POLICE

Motion was made by Mr. Pelura to appoint Gerald A. Krivda as Chief of Police to the Carneys Point Police Department. Seconded by Mr. Brown and a unanimous roll call vote was taken.

Chief Krivda was sworn in by David Mayer, Mayor of Gloucester Township and the cousin to the Chief. Upon completion of the swearing in Mayor Gatanis said he wanted to introduce some of the current and former Chief of Police in the area. Chief Gary Doubledee of Penns Grove, Al Cummings of Pennsville, former Carneys Point Chiefs Bob DiGregorio and Chief Bill Luzzo. He mentioned Salem County Prosecutor's Officer John Lenahan. Mr. Lenahan was asked to say a few words; he said congratulations to both the Township and to Chief Krivda and his family. He said the Township made a good choice. Carneys Point is a top notch Police Department and the choice the Township made in Chief Krivda will make it an even better Police Dept. He offered any help needed from the Prosecutor's Office.

Mayor Gatanis made a statement of thanks to all who attended to see the official swearing in of Chief Krivda. The Mayor said he has about 9 years in office and has had the privilege of working with four Chiefs. Eight months ago Chief Krivda was made an interim Chief with a unanimous vote of the Committee. This has been one of the best decisions the Committee has made to fill the shoes of those who walked before him. Mayor Gatanis said Chief Krivda is very proactive and stands behind his word. He is a family man who wants the best for the families in Carneys Point. He said to Chief Krivda you will make Carneys Point proud.

Chief Krivda said he appreciates everyone attending. He thanked the Committee for having faith in him to lead the Police Department. He thanked J. Lenahan, B. Facemayer Prosecutors Office and Chief Cummings and Chief Pelura for their help. He thanked the offers of Carneys Point Township for rallying around him during the transition. He said he wanted a Dept. which was less me and more we with an atmosphere of team work. He said he is honored and proud to be your next Chief. Must always have transparency and be a good role model. With more power comes greater responsibility. He said he is a Police Chief not a Corporate Executive, just a cop with more shiny things on his uniform. Be human, try your best, work hard and not be a big shot that is above the mundane tasks. Everything He does is or will be in the best interest of the Department. He wants to work with the Committee in turn wants them to work with him. Doors will always be open. He thanked his wife, family and friends for encouragement and support. He said he will continue to live up to your expectations for a safe and peaceful community – Thank You and God Bless You.

Mayor Gatanis asked for a ten minute recess. After the ten minute recess ended the Committee meeting reconvened.

Mr. Pelura made a motion to **approve all properly audited vouchers**, seconded by Mr. Dowe and all were in favor. Under the **Consent Agenda**: Mr. Newton motioned, seconded by Mr. Brown to accept **Monthly Committee Reports from September 2014** and all were in favor. Mr. Newton motioned to approve the Compensation Report, seconded by Mr. Brown and all were in favor. Mr. Brown made a motion to approve the **Minutes from the October 1, 2014 regular Committee meetings**, seconded by Mr. Newton and all were in favor.

Under **Applications** Mayor Gatani mentioned an **Educational Enhancement** for Mrs. Stout to attend a seminar on Ethics Law on Nov. 13th at no cost to the Township. Mr. Pelura motioned, seconded by Mr. Newton and all were in favor. There were **two Raffle Applications** for The Church of Our Merciful Savior to hold a Chinese Auction and a 50/50 on Nov. 7th at the Sakima Country Club. Motioned by Mr. Dowe, seconded by Mr. Pelura and all were in favor. There were **two Raffle Applications** for Penns Grove Project Graduation to hold 50/50's on Nov. 1st and 7th at the High School. Motioned by Mr. Dowe, seconded by Mr. Newton and all were in favor. There was a **Raffle Application** for the Habitat for Humanity of Salem County on December 20th at their office. Motioned by Mr. Dowe, seconded by Mr. Brown and all were in favor. Lastly, there was a **Raffle Application** for St. Gabriel the Archangel to hold raffles from October to December at their site on Georgetown Rd. and an **Amendment** for a raffle they currently hold. Motion to approve both was moved on by Mr. Newton, seconded by Mr. Dowe and all were in favor except Mr. Brown who abstained from voting.

RESOLUTION 2014-167

CHAPTER 159, MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE GRANT

Motion was made by Mr. Pelura to authorize the insertion of an item of revenue into the 2014 Budget under the caption "FY 2015 Carneys Point & Penns Grove Municipal Alliance Grant" in the amount of \$17,182.04. Seconded by Mr. Brown and a unanimous vote was taken.

RESOLUTION 2014-168

AMEND CAPITAL BUDGET

Mr. Brown motioned to approve the amendment of the 2014 Budget to add the following; reconstruction of Jefferson St. in the amount of \$153,000.00. Seconded by Mr. Dowe and a unanimous vote was taken.

RESOLUTION 2014-169

REJECTION OF MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR BIDS FOR THE FIRE TRUCKS

Mr. Brown motioned to approve the rejection of all bids received for the maintenance and repair of Township Fire Trucks and to authorize the bid process again, seconded by Mr. Dowe. Mr. Gilbert said the bids need to be updated to include more specifications on the pumps. Mr. Pelura asked why? Ms. Rhea said the bid specs only ask for an hourly rate and parts markup rate. She said the bids for vehicle maintenance was broken into three sections, light duty, heavy duty and fire trucks. The cars and light duty vehicles was awarded at the last meeting. Heavy duty still needs to be reviewed. She said after reviewing the fire truck bids they decided to reject. and a unanimous vote was taken.

ORDINANCE 898

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF \$153,000.00 TO BE USED FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF JEFFERSON STREET WITHIN THE TOWNSHIP OF CARNEYS POINT, COUNTY OF SALEM AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY. Motion to introduce was made by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Dowe and a unanimous roll call vote was taken.

There being no **Correspondence** Mayor Gatani moved on to **Old Business**. Mayor Gatani mentioned the YMCA contract for repairs has been awarded to Gwenco & Sons at the last meeting. Ms. Rhea said she reviewed the Bond and everything is in order and work can begin.

Mr. Gilbert said the YMCA has asked for us to postpone the work until after their Halloween event on October 18th. Work will begin on Thursday, October 23rd.

Mrs. Stout said in order to receive the 5% State Aid the Township is required to fill out the Best Practice Check List. She went on to review the Best Practice Check List with the Committee. She went over all the questions that had no answers and explained the reason. Some of the answers she said can be addressed next year during budget time. After the review Mrs. Stout said the final score is 90% which is enough to give the Township the full 5% State Aid amount.

Under **New business** Mrs. Stout asked on behalf of the Chief to place an ad in the paper for part-time/casual dispatchers. She was told that two of the dispatchers are in class and one is leaving. She said with the dispatching not going to the County until sometime next year there is a need for workers to fill in shifts. Mr. Brown motioned to authorize the notice in the paper, seconded by Mr. Newton and all were in favor.

Ms. Rhea mentioned a few meeting ago the Township enacted an ordinance dealing with abandoned and vacant homes. Since then the State has put forth Statutes and regulations for dealing with vacant and abandoned homes. She said the penalties are higher than ours. This will give the Township a little more authority if we adopt the changes.

Mayor Gatanis mentioned that Halloween Trick or Treating will be held on Friday, October 31st from 4 to 8 pm.

Mr. Dowe mentioned the Family Campout is at the Recreation Complex on Friday, October 17th, 18th and 19th. He also mentioned Halloween in the Park (Recreation Complex) sponsored by the Rec. Commission will be on Wednesday, October 29th at 5 pm.

Public Participation: Joe Racite of Pennsville Auburn Rd. asked the resolution for fire truck repair, what is that for. Mr. Gilbert said it is standard maintenance and repair of the fire trucks. Mr. Gilbert said quarterly maintenance. Mr. Racite said we may want to do the pumps and maintenance separately.

Don Redfield of Erie Ave. asked Mr. Gilbert about a branch hanging down onto the roadway that needs to be taken down. Mr. Redfield said it is by the corner of Bianca Ave and Erie Ave. Mr. Gilbert said he will take a look at it tomorrow. Mr. Redfield also mentioned a flyer circulating from NJ American Water on ownership of water and sewerage lines and paying additional fees for maintenance. He asked where the lines begin for residents, in the road or at the yard line? After some discussion Mr. Redfield said he will check with the Sewerage Authority.

Martin Cleary of Broad St. mentioned a dirt pile that is still being built up and now children are playing on it. Neither the Committee nor Mr. Gilbert could positively say where the dirt is coming from and will look into this. Mr. Cleary mentioned a few trees which should be taken down around 246 D. Street. The trees are blocking the view of traffic.

Brittany Wehner of the SJ Times asked when the construction will begin on Jefferson St. Mr. Gilbert said the preconstruction meeting has not been set yet, but thinks sometime in November.

Steve Lopes of Lafayette Rd. asked the Mayor if he received a demolition permit when the gazebo was taken down. Mayor Gatanis said no, it was a safety hazard. Mr. Pelura said if not a safe structure then was a letter gotten from the Construction Official stating that. Mayor Gatanis said no one said he needed a permit and no letter was gotten.

Joseph Wright of Grandview Court asked if anything is being done on the flooding behind his house. Mr. Gilbert said no so far. Mr. Wright said because of the elevation of the new homes his sump pump runs 24/7.

David Wright of S. Golfwood said he farmed that land in the past and the elevation was changed in the corner so it would drain off their property. Mr. Gilbert said he will speak to the Construction Official.

Martin Cleary asked who approves the change of elevation. He was told the Planning Board. Then this is their fault, state law says you cannot change the flow of water.

Steve Lopes commented again the demolition of the gazebo was illegal. He said there was a photo opt at the demolition site. He said it is hard to believe someone did not walk over to get a permit.

Mr. Pelura had a comment to make but was passes by, he stood and left the dais went to the podium to speak as a resident. Wayne Pelura of Johnson Ave. commented to the Mayor "You were in charge of this whole thing". Two meetings ago every person on the Committee said they did not have any information on this, no plans, no specs nothing. That is why you do things wrong, you did not get help. Mr. Newton said Ms. Rhea and Mrs. Stout had the specs. Mrs. Stout remarked that she had them so she could get quotes. Not having a demolition permit you put every person at risk that was there to tear the gazebo down. He said he would like to have a copy of the specs and quotes tomorrow. Mr. Newton said the Committee voted on having the gazebo torn down because it was unsafe and no one mentioned a permit nor knew a permit was needed. Mr. Pelura said he did agree with tearing it down but wanted it done properly.

Mr. Cleary said it was taken down for safety concerns and it is not right to throw rocks at each other.

Mayor Gatanis said he wanted to apologize for what just happened at the meeting. Putting up the gazebo has not been a hurry job. The money to fix up Dunns Park is being raised through donations and not tax payer's dollars. This has not been a rush job. He said he was never informed he needed a permit and he apologies for it being missed. The gazebo was torn down for safety concerns only. With no questions or comments this portion was closed.

RESOLUTION 2014-170

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Brown motioned to convene into Executive Session, seconded by Mr. Dowe and unanimous vote was taken. The regular meeting ended at 7:23 pm.

A motion was made by Mr. Brown to reconvene in regular session, seconded by Mr. Dowe and all was in favor. The regular meeting reconvened at 8:03 pm. With the following action being taken:

Motion was made by Mr. Dowe, seconded by Mr. Brown to authorize Mr. Gilbert to take action in regards to an employee in Public Works. The entire Committee was in favor.

RESOLUTION 2014-171

APPOINT FULL TIME TAX CLERK

Motion was made by Mr. Pelura, seconded by Mr. Brown to hire Jennifer Koeturius as the full time Tax Clerk starting November 3rd. A unanimous vote was taken.

Mr. Pelura mentioned receiving a letter in the mail for a Boy Scout achieving Eagle Scout. His Honor Court will be in January 2015. Mr. Pelura suggested doing a resolution in his honor at the last meeting in December.

With no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Mr. Dowe to adjourn and seconded by Mr. Newton. Motion passed with five affirmative votes. Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Approved: 11-5-2014



June Proffitt, Municipal Clerk