

**CARNEYS POINT TOWNSHIP MEETING
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 18, 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, 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 asked for a motion to **approve all properly audited vouchers**. A motion was made by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Newton and all were in favor.

Under the **Consent Agenda**: Mr. Brown motioned, seconded by Mr. Newton to accept **Monthly Committee Reports from May 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 June 4, 2014 regular Committee meetings**, seconded by Mr. Newton and all were in favor except Mr. Dowe who abstained because he was not in attendance at that meeting.

The Mayor thanked everyone for attending and turned the meeting over to the Chief of Police.

RESOLUTION 2014-110

HONORING DEA SPECIAL AGENT CALVIN EVANS

The resolution was read by Chief Krivda recognizing Drug Enforcement Administration Special Agent Calvin Evans. Motion was made by Mr. Pelura, seconded by Mr. Dowe and a unanimous vote was taken.

Chief Krivda asked Lt. Michael Colletti to say a few words. Lt. Colletti said Mr. Evans has been responsible for the seizer of approximately 1.6 million dollars in Carneys Point as well as the purchase of 4 patrol vehicles. Mr. Colletti said Mr. Evans has been good for advice and leadership. He has been a mentor and a good friend to the Department. With a heavy heart he announced his retirement but will see him around.

Mayor introduced Lisa Specca of Lippincott/Jacobs Township Planners for a presentation on the Master Plan review. Mrs. Specca said she worked with the Planning Board to reexamination the Master Plan. She said a review must be done by law every ten years. She showed a slide presentation of the recommended changes to be made to the zoning in the Township. She said the zoning map and ordinances need to be amended to be in compliance with the Master Plan. She stressed they must be consistent with each other for the best defense of the Township. Mayor Gatanis said the Planning Board fully endorsed the changes made. Joe Racite of N. Pennsville-Auburn Rd. asked what the cost of this work was. Mrs. Stout said it was budgeted for over two years, last year was \$3,000 and this year was \$13,000, totaling \$16,000. Steve Lopes of Lafayette Rd. asked about farmland preservation. Mrs. Specca said the owner of the land can make application for farmland preservation. It is voluntary and not anything the Township mandates or pressures the land owners to do. Mayor Gatanis said for years the County would not allow preservation in Carneys Point. John Bibeau of Delaware Ave. asked if this corresponds with the State Planning map. Mrs. Specca said the State Planning map has not been adopted as

of yet. This is for strategic growth and will be in line with all Regional Planning. Mr. Brown asked Mrs. Specca to tell the people a little about herself. She reviewed her credentials with the Committee and residents attending. Before the resolution is read, Mrs. Stout asked if the work on the resolution is included with the contracted amount already paid. Mrs. Specca said it is all included. Mr. Pelura asked about an e-mail he received with a proposal for ordinance revisions. The e-mail said we do not have the money to do this at this time. Mrs. Stout said the resolution and a proposal came at the same time. There were two items going on at one time. Mrs. Specca said the time and materials are outside of the contract. This resolution is supporting the proposal. Mrs. Specca said this is a not to exceed, so it may not get that high. Mr. Pelura said there is not enough money in the line item to support this resolution. Mr. Pelura also mentioned he never received anything from the Planning Board about this resolution and the work that needs to be done. Mr. Pelura made a motion to table **resolution 2014-113**, Mr. Brown seconded and a unanimous vote was taken.

Under **Applications** Mayor Gatanis mentioned **Park Permits from #44-#46**. Motioned to approve was made by Mr. Dowe, seconded by Mr. Pelura and all were in favor. Mayor Gatanis mentioned an **Educational Enhancement for Kathleen Hill, Tax Assessor** to attend a seminar on State updates including new farmland regulation, solar, bill boards and cell towers at a cost of \$170. The seminar is on August 25th and 26th the office will be closed on the 25th. Motion was made by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Dowe to approve her attendance. Mr. Pelura asked when are the farmland assessments were due. Mrs. Stout said by August 1st so this will not interfere. All was in favor.

RESOLUTION 2014-108

CHAPTER 159, MUNICIPAL COURT GRANT

Motion was made by Mr. Pelura to authorize the insertion of an item of revenue into the 2014 Budget under the caption "Municipal Court Alcohol Education, Rehabilitation and Enforcement Fund" for \$2,540.45. Motion seconded by Mr. Brown and a unanimous vote was taken.

RESOLUITON 2014-109

REFUND FOR OVERPAID TAXES

Mr. Dowe motioned to approve the refund of \$125.00 to Block 67 Lot 4.03 for overpaid taxes, seconded by Mr. Dowe and a unanimous vote was taken.

RESOLUTION 2014-111

FINAL PAYMENT TO LANDBERG CONSTRUCTION

Motion was made by Mr. Dowe, seconded by Mr. Newton to approve the final payment to Landberg Construction for the reconstruction of Walker Ave. Mr. Pelura mentioned a letter from NJ American Water on doing some work on various roads in the Township and Walker Ave. is one of the roads. He wants to make sure this road is not torn up. Mr. Gilbert said Walker Ave. will have a moratorium for construction. Mr. Gilbert said he would like to have a copy of the letter for his files. A unanimous vote was taken.

RESOLUTION 2014-112

APPROVE CERTAIN ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSES

Mr. Dowe made a motion to approve the Alcoholic Beverage Licenses for the year of July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015, seconded by Mr. Pelura and a unanimous roll call vote was taken.

ORDINANCE 894

BOND ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF VARIOUS CAPITAL EQUIPMENT FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF CARNEYS POINT, COUNTY OF SALEM, NEW JERSEY; APPROPRIATION THE SUM OF \$116,800 THEREFOR: AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF

GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS OR BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CARNEYS, COUNTY OF SALEM, NEW JERSEY IN THE AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF UP TO \$110,800; MAKING CERTAIN DETERMINATIONS AND COVENANTS; AND AUTHORIZING CERTAIN RELATED ACTIONS IN CONNECTION WITH THE FOREGOING.

Mr. Brown made a motion to introduce, seconded by Mr. Newton. Mr. Pelura said for the third time, after the adoption of the budget the Mayor made the statement "the Township was not going to borrow money in this Budget". The very next meeting a bond ordinance was introduced and failed but is coming up again for the borrowing of money. Mr. Pelura said on March 5th as a recommendation of the Auditor we would have to borrow money to purchase these items. Mr. Pelura said he is not stating these items are not needed but if we knew we had to purchase them why was it stated we were not going to borrow money. Mayor Gatanis said it's a matter of need verse don't need. Mayor Gatanis stated the residents here do not deserve to hear us squabble all the time. We need to stop and do business. Mr. Pelura asked why the Mayor will not answer. Mr. Brown said the only argument is the borrowing of money. Whether the Mayor answers or not, we need to do business. Mr. Brown said he would like to have a yes vote on this much needed equipment. Mr. Pelura said he is not against the items being purchased. His question is why; an answer to his question could change his vote. This is the time to discuss this ordinance, said Mr. Pelura. Mr. Dowe said he wanted to go on record by stating a few meeting ago he voted no for a lack of understanding of what was needed. He said he is all for moving the Township forward. For that reason he is changing his vote to yes. The Mayor asked for a roll call vote. Mr. Pelura voted no and Mr. Brown, Mr. Dowe, Mr. Newton and Mr. Gatanis voted yes.

Ordinance 895

AN ORDINANCE FIXING SALARY RANGES FOR CERTAIN OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CARNEYS POINT IN THE COUNTY OF SALEM, NOT RECOGNIZED BY THE CARNEYS POINT POLICE ASSOCIATION OR THE TERMSTERS LOCAL 676.

Motion was made by Mr. Pelura to introduce ordinance, seconded by Mr. Brown and a unanimous roll call vote was taken.

Under **Correspondence** Mrs. Stout spoke of a proposal from Triad Associates regarding a Small Cities Rehab Grant. This would be a joint application with Penns Gove. Penns Grove would be the lead agency. Mr. Pelura mentioned the cost of \$4,350 to the Township. Mrs. Stout said we only put \$2,000 in the budget for Grant Consultant. Mr. Brown made a motion to not accept the proposal, seconded by Mr. Dowe and all were in favor.

Old Business: Mr. Gilbert requested to have the Solicitor prepare bid specifications for the trash truck. Mrs. Stout said this was done by ordinance and there is no borrowing. Mr. Brown motioned to have the Solicitor prepare the bids, seconded by Mr. Pelura and all were in favor. Mr. Gilbert said he would also like to have the Solicitor start reviewing the bid specifications for Vehicle Maintenance. He said the current contract is up September 1st. Mr. Brown motioned, seconded by Mr. Pelura and all were in favor.

Under **New business:** Mayor Gatanis mentioned that the Census Bureau is doing American Community Surveys. Residents are randomly selected to participate. They do not have to answer all the questions if they feel uncomfortable but they do have to fill out the forms.

Mayor Gatanis said Brian Ferguson the School Business Administrator sent a letter for his signature. The letter is for the Township's support of grant funding to construct a sidewalk along Gary Ave. Mr. Brown asked why the school needs our approval. Mr. Pelura said it is part of the grant application process. The Committee all agreed to allow for the signature.

Mr. Pelura said he would like to mention some of the accomplishments at the High School. This group had a 2014 undefeated season. They were West Deptford Relay Champs, Woodbury Relay Champs, Salem County Champs, Tri County Classic Division Champs, South Jersey Group I Champs for three (3) years and New Jersey State Champs for two (2) years. This group is the Girls Track and Field team. Mr. Pelura also congratulated Mr. Dowe the Track & Field Coach and Girls Track & Field Coach of the Year.

Personally Mr. Pelura said thank you for all the work you have done with the kids. You give them a place to go and something to do.

Mr. Dowe said it is not all about the athletes but about academics. Four of the seven senior girls are going to college, one to West Point, one to Delaware State, one to Rutgers and one to University of Illinois. He said he is proud to bring pride to Carneys Point-Penns Grove area. Despite the negative headlines there is something good coming from the school system. He thanked everyone for the love and support.

Public Participation: Mayor opened the meeting up to the public for question or comments.

Alex Cooker of N. DuPont Rd. said 6 months ago he attended a meeting because of the flooding on his road. Again he is attended to complain about the flooding. He said the ditches need to be maintained in order for the water to flow. He also mentioned the ditches are not being mowed. Mayor Gatani said he has been to the site and feels the pipes need to be jetted out. Mr. Gilbert said it is on the list of areas he needs to assess. As far as the mowing he said we did one side but not the other yet.

Joe Racite of N. PV-Auburn Rd. mentioned the \$16,000 for the Master Plan review. Mrs. Stout said the first proposal was for a partial review of the Master Plan in order to be in compliance with the State. The second proposal was for \$9,750 for the work on the ordinances and zoning maps. She said this amount was not budgeted for in this budget.

Steve Lopes of Lafayette Rd. first congratulated Mr. Dowe for his accomplishments than told him he was at a previous meeting to commend him on voting no on the Bond Ordinance. The team you are now playing for is the residents Carneys Point Township. He said should be consistent in voting. Not knowing what you are voting for, to me, is not an explanation. Mr. Dowe explained his reasoning for changing his vote.

John Bibeau of Delaware Ave. asked a question about the bond ordinance to Mrs. Stout. On March 5th was there more money in surplus than now. Mrs. Stout said part of the surplus was used to balance the budget. Back then you knew these items were needed so why did you not just take money from the surplus to purchase these items. Is there not enough money in the surplus? He asked why the Budget was approved without the purchase of the equipment included, now being bought with borrowed money. It should have been put in the budget.

Anthony Michael of Sandy Ridge Apartments asked if there is any update on the squirrel problem. Mayor Gatani contacted Atlantic Electric and the person who handles this is on vacation. Mr. Pelura said a letter was supposed to be going out from the Solicitor. Ms. Rhea said she dictated a letter and is not sure if it has gone out yet.

Steve Lopes asked what the current surplus amount is. He said he runs businesses and that is always know. Mr. Pelura said we do get monthly reports. With no more questions or comments this portion was closed.

**RESOLUTION 2014-114
EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mr. Brown motioned to convene into Executive Session, seconded by Mr. Dowe and unanimous vote was taken. The regular meeting ended at 7:35 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 8:29 pm. With the following action being taken:

Motion was made by Mr. Pelura to hire Justin Spinelli as a part-time Police Officer, seconded by Mr. Dowe and a unanimous vote was taken.

Mr. Newton made the motion to hire Wayne Maiden as a part-time Police Officer, seconded by Mr. Pelura and all were in favor except Mr. Dowe who abstained.

Both Mr. Spinelli and Mr. Maiden will be sworn in at the next meeting with resolutions to outline their hiring.

With no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Mr. Brown to adjourn and seconded by Mr. Dowe. Motion passed with five affirmative votes. Meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Approved: 7-16-2014


June Proffitt, Municipal Clerk