

CARNEYS POINT TOWNSHIP MEETING
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 20, 2017

The Regular Meeting of the Township Committee was held on the above date at the time of 6:00 p.m. Committeemen Dowe, Brown, Dennis, Pelura, and Racite were present. Also present at this meeting were M. Stout-CMFO/Administrator, J. Proffitt-Clerk, J. Santogrossi Public Works, G. Krivda Police Chief and D. Avedissian- Solicitor.

Mayor Racite 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 Racite mentioned the "L.O.V.E. Salem County" presentation with the Salem County Economic Development Committee. Salem College President Dr. Gorman spoke to the Committee said the College is part of the community and any time they are here for the Township. Dr. Gorman said "L" is location and Salem County is in a great location in proximity to Delaware and Philadelphia. "O" Opportunity, there are places here that are move in ready for manufacturing, or any other type of business. "V" is values; We are a friendly community with a Country value. Great place to raise a family or grow a business. "E" energized; by expansion from warehousing to wineries. With that said Dr. Gorman turned the presentation over to Ron Burkhardt. Mr. Burkhardt expanded on the topics of L,O,V,E. Mr. Burkhardt said there are roadways, airports, cargo rail and the port of Salem. He mentioned a diverse economic base and space that is available. Mr. Burkhardt mentioned support, guidance and assistance from the Freeholders, Economic Development Council, Improvement Authority, Municipalities and the Chamber of Commerce to name a few. Mr. Burkhardt mentioned ample affordable housing, good schools and parks and recreation for families looking to relocate. Finishing up he spoke on what is happening now in the County. He said they are here on behalf of the Salem County Economic Development Council and for the Good of the County. Mr. Pelura mentioned Bob Brayerton along with Pat Bomba was in the audience who are on the Townships Industrial Commission.

Departmental Report: Mayor Racite started with Public Works-Streets and Roads, he said they are in the process of cleaning all the catch basins. The broken storm pipe on Applewood Lane is scheduled for repair on September 25th. Mr. Brown reminded Public Works to let the neighbors know what is going on and a time frame. Mayor Racite mentioned the Best Practice Inventory which has to be done every year. The Township has to review the viability of any Authority in the Township. We have a Sewerage Authority which functions well on a sound fascial term. This should be reviewed but should stay a separate Authority.

Mr. Pelura started; after a two-year process; a letter has been received that the cells in the Police Department are in compliance with the State. This is good for five years. The Tax Collector received a letter stating the Homestead Rebates will be mailed out the week of September 26th. The Recreation will be holding their Community Yard Sale on September 30th and October 1st. There are flyers in the Clerk's Office on how to get signed up. There is no fee and the Rec. will advertise.

Mr. Dennis said our new fire truck took second place in the Fireman's parade at the convention. The week of October 9th is Fire Prevention Week. He mentioned he, Mrs. Stout, Mayor Racite and Wayne Cheeseman President of the Fire/Rescue met to discuss AMR (American Medical Response). Mr. Dennis said he, Mrs. Stout also had a conference call with Mike Jedziniak of

Surenian and Associates on COAH. He said they spoke of a settlement agreement that will be sent and presented to the Planning Board to review.

Mr. Brown said he was supposed to attend a Wellness Coordinators meeting today with Mrs. Jones and Miss Mitchell from the Finance Office but he did not make the meeting. He mentioned sending out various e-mails on training classes. Safety bulletins are being sent out, if you don't receive one call Mrs. Proffitt or Mrs. Jones. Mr. Brown said he will be attending both the Claims Review Committee and the Executive monthly meeting being held on Monday, September 25th.

Mr. Dowe mentioned he has no updates for Animal Control. Courts moved from Wednesdays to Fridays and he said all must have gone smooth because he did not hear anything. Mr. Dowe said the Industrial Commission has a new developer for their website. They are in communication with Developers. They are doing a fine job. Mr. Dowe mentioned the bookbag give a way. He said it was Saturday and all went well. Many bags now have new owners. The Chief and an Officer attended.

Mayor Racite asked for a motion to approve **all properly audited vouchers in the amount of \$398,977.06**. Motion was made by Mr. Pelura, seconded by Mr. Dennis and all were in favor.

Under **Consent Agenda** a motion was made by Mr. Dennis, seconded by Mr. Pelura to accept **Monthly Committee Reports from August 2017** and all were in favor. Mr. Dennis motioned to approve the **Minutes from the regular Committee meeting held on September 6, 2017** seconded by Mr. Dowe and all were in favor.

RESOLUTION 2017-151

REFUND TAXES DUE TO OVERBILLING

Mr. Pelura motioned to authorize the Tax Collector to refund taxes paid due to overbilling, seconded by Mr. Dennis. Mayor Racite said the bulk of the refund is due to a tax abatement for the Senior Day Care facility. A unanimous vote was taken.

RESOLUTION 2017-152

100% TOTALLY DISABLED VETERAN

Motioned was made by Mr. Brown to authorize the Tax Collector to refund 2,682.84 to Block 215, Lot 10 due to 100% Totally Disabled Veteran Exemption. Seconded by Mr. Dowe and a unanimous roll vote was taken.

RESOLUTION 2017-153

CANCEL 2018 PRELIMINARY BILLED TAXES

Mr. Pelura motioned to authorize the cancelation of taxes to Verizon NJ as per the Tax Assessor due to the number of houses without land line phones, seconded by Mr. Dennis and a unanimous vote was taken.

RESOLUTION 2017-154

AMENDING RESOLUTION 2017-110, SALARY AND WAGES

Motioned by Mr. Dennis to approve the addition in salary and wages under Substitute Inspectors to pay \$25.00 per hour, seconded by Mr. Dowe. Mr. Brown asked if this is in line with the State rates. Mrs. Stout said this is salaries for the inspectors. A unanimous vote was taken.

RESOLUTION 2017-155

EXPRESS OPPOSITION TO CHANGES IN OPRA AND OPMA

Mr. Brown made a motion expressing opposition to legislature proposals regarding the OPRA and OPMA Acts. Seconded by Mr. Dowe and a unanimous vote was taken.

RESOLUTION 2017-156

PURCHASE LIGHT DUTY TRUCK THROUGH STATE CONTRACT

Motion was made by Mr. Pelura to consent to the purchase of a light duty truck through NJ State Contract, seconded by Mr. Dennis and a unanimous vote was taken.

RESOLUTION 2017-157

APPOINT JOHN HOLROYD AS TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION CODE OFFICIAL

Motion was made by Mr. Dennis to authorize the appointment of John Holroyd for a period of April 1st to April 30, 2017. Seconded by Mr. Dowe and a unanimous vote was taken.

RESOLUTION 2017-158

APPOINT RICHARD SANDERS AS TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION OFFICIAL

Motion was made by Mr. Dennis to authorize the appointment of Richard Sanders for a period of June 1st to June 30th, 2017. Seconded by Mr. Dowe and a unanimous vote was taken.

RESOLUTION 2017-159

CONTRACT WITH CIVIL SOLUTIONS ENGINEERS, LLC

Mr. Pelura made a motion to approve the contract with Civil Solutions Engineers, LLC for tax map maintenance, seconded by Mr. Dennis and a unanimous vote was taken.

ORDINANCE 926

An ordinance appropriating the sum of \$151,317.00 to be used for the reconstruction of Gary Avenue within the Township of Carneys Point, County of Salem, State of New Jersey.

Mayor Racite opened the Ordinance up for Public comments or questions. With none this portion was closed and a motion to adopt was made by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Dowe and a unanimous roll call vote was taken.

ORDINANCE 929

An ordinance amending the Carneys Point Township Code, Chapter 37, fixing salaries and compensation for officers and employees of the Township of Carneys Point.

Mr. Dowe made a motion to introduce the ordinance, seconded by Mr. Dennis and a unanimous vote was taken.

Mayor Racite said we received **correspondence** from Bonnie Warren requesting to be paid for unused vacation time on her last day of September 30th. Mr. Dowe motioned to approve the payment, seconded by Mr. Pelura and all were in favor. Mayor Racite mentioned Kevin Watsey with NJ American Water sent an email informing the Township of a rate increase affective October 1st. Lastly, there was a letter from Penns Grove High School on celebrating the Homecoming on Saturday, October 28th. There will be a parade in the morning at 10 am and they would like to know if the Committee would like to join. All members said they will participate in the parade. Mayor Racite said he will correspond back to them.

With no **Old Business** to discuss Mayor Racite moved on to **New Business**. Mrs. Stout spoke on the Best Practice Inventory Worksheets. She said this use to be 50 questing but has been scaled down to 25 questions. The answers determine if Carneys Point receives State Aid. So, Mrs. Stout said she has gone through the questions and unless anyone has a questing on any she will just discuss the ones with a no answers. Number 20 is about overtime pay and when it is taken. Mrs. Stout said we offer compensation time and it is used within the year it is earned. Also, number 21 is in reference to collective bargaining agreements. This does not apply to us. Mrs. Stout said our overall score is 92% which will allow for 100% of our State Aid.

Public Participation: Patty Bomba of Hawks Bridge Rd. mentioned the Township should be proud with one of the first handicapped playgrounds in New Jersey. It could use some sprucing up but has been there for 15 years. She mentioned at the Freeholders meeting they will be honoring any person or organization who donated to Habitat for Humanity when they were robbed of their equipment.

Bill Hornsberry and Christina Willis President of the Soccer Club addressed the Committee about the condition of the soccer fields. Mr. Hornsberry said he has been involved with soccer

for 15 years and coaching for 10 years. He said they use to play on the fields on Route 130 but was persuaded to move to the Rec. Complex. Was told we would not have to maintain the fields. The Soccer Club has done a lot of work to the fields themselves. He said he is not sure of the Soccer Clubs responsibilities and what their payment to the Township goes to. He said the fields are almost unplayable, they are unkept.

Jeff Fredo of Delaware Ave. said over two years he asked about a fence being removed. He said they finally took the fence down themselves due to safety issues. He mentioned the bathrooms have not been opened and children are going in the woods. He said they received a key to the bathrooms in August. They do not feel this is their responsibility. He said if we are paying we should not have to do this. He suggested a new application to make things clearer. There are about 230 children in soccer and it keeps getting bigger. He said he has ideas and would like to speak to someone.

Mr. Dowe said the grass is unacceptable, a soccer ball cannot be kicked on the field. He has been out there Monday/Wednesday and Fridays and the bathrooms are not always open. He said there is a lack of trash cans also.

Mr. Pelura commented the key was given to Soccer as a convenience. He said the Rec. Committee would love to sit down and discuss ideas to make things better. He said the 20 dollars is a maintenance fee and you are not getting your money's worth. Things will be better.

With no public questions or comments this portion was closed. Mr. Brown left the meeting at 6:45 pm.

RESOLUTION 2017-160
EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Pelura motioned to convene into Executive Session, seconded by Mr. Dowe and a unanimous vote was taken. The regular meeting ended at 6:45 pm.

Mr. Brown returned to the meeting at 7:30 pm.

A motion was made by Mr. Dowe to reconvene in regular session, seconded by Mr. Dennis and all was in favor. The regular meeting reconvened at 7:45 pm with the following actions being taken.

The Committee discussed Rice Notices. Mayor Racite said he met with AMR about one of the volunteers. This person was seen on video taking supplies from the firehouse. The Ambulance Captain said he was allowed to take the supplies. The Captain is the liaison between the Fire Dept. and AMR. He has been removed from this position due to other issues. Mr. Pelura said the Chief of the Fire Dept. needs to know along with the President. This needs to be brought before their discipline committee. The Committee discussed bid specifications from AMR for a new ambulance, but our volunteers want a rescue vehicle not just an ambulance. Mr. Brown said we need to review their bylaws. Mr. Dennis said he will discuss this with the President.

Mr. Dowe left the meeting at 8:00 pm. Mr. Dennis will follow up for the next meeting.

With no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Mr. Dennis to adjourn and seconded by Mr. Pelura. Motion passed with four affirmative votes. Meeting adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

Approved: 10-4-2017


June Proffitt, Municipal Clerk