

TOWNSHIP OF HARDWICK
WARREN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

Wednesday
July 1, 2009

The monthly meeting of the Hardwick Township Committee was held on this date at the Municipal Building, 40 Spring Valley Road, Hardwick Township. This meeting was called to order at 6:30PM by the Township Clerk Judith Fisher. Mrs. Fisher noted that this meeting was being held in accordance with the "Open Public Meeting Act". Mrs. Fisher then led the public in the flag salute. Present were Committeemen Kevin Duffy, Alfred Carrazzone and James Perry; also present were Engineer Ted Rodman, CPWM Thomas Campbell, CFO Gregory Della Pia and Attorney Michael Lavery, Esq.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION
RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P. L. 1975 permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting under circumstances; and
WHEREAS, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exists.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Hardwick, in the County of Warren and State of New Jersey as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from that portion of this meeting
2. The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows:

Contract Negotiation, TowerCo, Co-Locator River View Drive & Municipal Building Shared Services
Attorney Client Privilege, Spring Valley School House
Potential Litigation, Ward Road Damage

3. As nearly as can now be ascertained, the matter or matters to be discussed at this time will be disclosed to the public when such matters are resolved.

Motion was made by Mr. Perry and seconded by Mr. Carrazzone to go into closed session at 6:32PM. Motion carried and in a voice vote, all were in favor.

Time In: 6:32PM

Present: Committeemen Kevin Duffy, Alfred Carrazzone and James Perry

Also present: Engineer Ted Rodman, CPWM Thomas Campbell, Attorney Michael Lavery and Clerk Judith Fisher

Time Out: 7:03PM

Mr. Perry moved to come out of closed session at 7:03PM, seconded by Mr. Carrazzone. Motion carried and in a voice vote, all were in favor.

Mr. Lavery noted that he met in closed session with the Committee and discussed the following:

Contract negotiation, TowerCo, co-locators River View Drive and Municipal Building Shared Services
Attorney Client Privilege, Spring Valley School House
Potential Litigation, Ward Road Damage

No official action was taken by the Committee at this time. Copies of the minutes will be made available to the public at such time as the Committee determines that there is no harm to the public interest.

MAYOR'S AWARD

At this time, Mayor Duffy acknowledged the presence of two students from North Warren Regional High School Class of 2009, Derek Holyoak, Valedictorian and John Rivara, Salutatorian. Both students are residents of Hardwick Township and Mayor Duffy was honored to present the Mayor's Award to them. An excerpt from each of their resumes highlighting their various accomplishments was read by the Mayor. Derek Holyoak has served as the treasurer for the National Honor Society and student council in his junior and senior years. He was also the class treasurer for two years. Derek was a member of the science and math leagues, and the FBLA. He played basketball and baseball for four years. As an honor student throughout his four years, Derek also received numerous academic

awards. He will attend the University of Connecticut in the Fall. John Rivara was an honor student during his years at North Warren. He received numerous accolades and honors for his academics. He attended the NJ Governor's School of Public Issues and was the president of the National Honor Society. He was a member of the Science League Champions and also the math league. John received the Superintendent's Award in his freshman, sophomore and junior years of high school. He served as class president, was a member of the FBLA, the Student Council, and Leo Club. John was also the student representative to the North Warren Board of Education. He was named NW's Scholar Athlete having run Cross Country and playing both basketball and baseball for four years. John will attend the University of Richmond in the Fall. The presentation of the Mayor's award was done with the assistance of Dr. Brian Fogelson and Mayor Kevin Duffy. Pictures were taken and a thank you was given to Committee James Perry for putting this special moment together.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

June 3, 2009, Regular Meeting

Mr. Perry moved to approve these minutes as corrected, seconded by Mr. Carrazzone. Motion carried and in a voice vote, all were in favor.

The minutes for June 24, 2009 will be held to the August meeting for approval.

REPORTS

Mr. Rodman, Township Engineer spoke about the Millbrook-Stillwater Road - Phase II project. The specs have been sent to the DOT for their approval; as soon as they have been approved, a date for opening the bids will be set and then the project advertised. There was a report of a drainage problem on Sunset Lake Road caused by the heavy rains that we have been getting. This problem as reported by Mr. Rodman is mostly between the neighbors. Mr. Rodman's driveway report for June noted that there were no new applications and no approved applications. There was one installed driveway on Birch Ridge Road, Block 501, Lot 26 for Giosue Scarvaglione. The grant paperwork for Phase III Millbrook-Stillwater Road has been submitted. There is a resolution on the agenda tonight that the Committee will need to approve and be sent to the State by Mr. Rodman. As for the DEP Stormwater Grant, no one has heard any answer yet.

Mr. Thomas Campbell, CPWM spoke about the new truck that should be in hopefully by the end of July. He also talked about some drainage problems and that they borrowed a brush mower from Knowlton to do some work on Primrose Road.

Mr. Gregory Della Pia, CFO spoke about the budget reports that will be done for next month since the budget was adopted last month. A chapter 159 will be needed for the \$25,000 grant from the Wal-Mart Foundation (Sustainable Jersey). Mr. Perry discussed having a special meeting to discuss the salary ordinance for 2009. Mr. Della Pia noted that if the Committee wanted him present for this special meeting to let him know. Mr. Duffy felt that this could be done during the work session on the 22nd and not a special meeting. Mr. Della Pia asked that the Committee give him direction so that he could prepare the salary ordinance.

Mr. Michael Lavery, Township Attorney had nothing new to report on at this time.

Mrs. Judith Fisher, Township Clerk had nothing to report on at this time, but reminded the Committee to review the correspondence book.

Not present for tonight's meeting were Joseph Dunn, OEM and Bob Wolff, Fire Warden.

RESOLUTION

APPROVAL TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION AND EXECUTE A GRANT AGREEMENT WITH THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE OVERLAY OF MILLBROOK-STILLWATER ROAD, SECTION III PROJECT

This resolution was approved on a motion made by Mr. Perry and seconded by Mr. Carrazzone. Motion carried and in a voice vote, all were in favor.

ORDINANCE 2ND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING

SALARY ORDINANCE - PLUMBING SUB CODE OFFICIAL 2009/03

At this time, Mayor Duffy opened the meeting to the public for any questions on this ordinance. Seeing that there were none, this portion of the meeting was then closed to the public.

ADOPTION: Mr. Perry then moved to adopt ordinance 2009/03 as presented tonight, seconded by Mr. Carrazzone. Motion carried and a roll call vote followed:

ROLL CALL: Mr. Perry, yes, Mr. Carrazzone, yes, Mayor Duffy, yes.

OLD BUSINESS: HOLD

Planning Board/Environmental Commission Appointment
Term to expire December 31, 2010

NEW BUSINESS:

\$25,000 Wal-Mart Grant Awarded to Township of Hardwick & Hardwick Historical Society
Mr. Carrazzone reported that 108 Municipalities had applied for this grant. Out of this, Hardwick was one of 4 Municipalities that received the \$25,000. Recognized for their efforts on applying for this grant were Richard Ohl, President of the Historical Society, Alfred Carrazzone, Committeeman and Amy Hofnagel Grant Writer in conjunction with this was Michelle La Rocco, Stewart for White Lake. Members of the Green Team for the Sustainable Jersey are Richard Ohl, Amy Hofnagel, Alfred Carrazzone and Judith Fisher.

Hardwick Township Board of Education - The New Jersey State Legislation yesterday dissolved 23 sending school districts and Hardwick was one of them. There was no advanced notice to the Township's that the State Legislation was going to do this. The Township Committee does not have much information on this and there are many questions that need to be answered. They are wondering how this will impact the Township and the taxpayers. Mr. Perry reported that he had spoken with the County School Administrator and their thoughts were that the Blairstown Township Board of Education would absorb Hardwick's Board of Education budget, but this still needs to be looked into. Another concern was for the school elections. It was suggested to Mr. Perry that the County Superintendent might make this appointment so that Hardwick would have Representation; without this appointment, Hardwick would have no representation there. All this needs to be looked into, worked out and questions answered.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

At this time since there were many people here about the Power Lines, Mr. Duffy set some guide lines before this portion of the meeting was opened.

M. Perry then moved to open this portion of the meeting to the Public, seconded by Mr. Carrazzone. Motion carried and in a voice vote all were in favor.

Kathy Gaynor talked about the dissolution of the Board of Education, but noted that the Township does pay tuition to Blairstown Elementary. This could be a savings to the Township.

Mr. Lou Rossi, 80 Stillwater Road, spoke about the Representative and that the Township Committee should have a say as to who that person should be. Mr. Perry noted that it probably would be Margaret Mc Lain, but that this is not written in stone.

Mr. Walter Ribitzki, 5 Highlands Lane noted that down south, Lock Harbor property taxes increase 5 fold

Elaine Koplou, 21 Millbrook-Stillwater Road is a member of Hardwick Stop the Lines a group against PSEG. She asked the Committee about their involvement and what they are doing to get the word out to the residents/public on this issue. She asked if a copy of the resolution that the Committee adopted regarding Intervening could be placed on the Township web site also a link to the BPU and a newsletter sent to the residents for public awareness. As for the use of the web site, Mr. Perry noted that he is cautious as to what we put on the site. Next question was about the use of the building for the Group. The Township attorney suggested that they might want the Environmental Commission to sponsor the Group as a function of the HEC. Mrs. Koplou asked about eminent domain and if the Township is opposing this. It was noted that at this time, there has been no resolution passed and Attorney Lavery explained why.

Sylvia Ramos, 6 Sand Pond Road talked about getting everyone up to speed on this and ways to get them informed like sending out a flyer in the tax bills to placing a link on the web site for the BPU. There was talk about putting up signs on the County Roads. Mr. Perry suggested that they speak with County Road Department before doing this. Mayor Duffy spoke about the Highlands meeting that he attended. He noted that despite what happen there, the National Park Service has filed for an Environmental Impact Study and this will take about 2 years for PSEG to complete.

Edwin Fisher, 43 Sunset Lake Road asked about BPU/PSEG doing a field inspection. Mayor Duffy thanked Mr. Fisher for bringing this up. The field inspection was explained by the Mayor as to what these Organizations would have to do.

Kathy Gaynor, Millbrook Road noted that not many seniors citizens have the ability to access and/or use the internet. Various means of getting this information was discussed. Mayor Duffy suggested that the cost might be funded by private citizens.

Lou Rossi, Stillwater Road agreed with this suggestion of private funding.

Gary Grawal, 122 Millbrook Road also agreed with the private funding. Another suggestion was to place a link on the township web site for the BPU and/or PSEG so that those people who are interested in getting the information could get it there.

Elaine Koplow, 21 Millbrook-Stillwater Road again asked about the resolution.

Attorney Michael Lavery explained that the Township Committee needs to be very careful about spending taxpayer's money. Mayor Duffy responded to this.

John Satta, 176 Stillwater Road commented that the Committee needs to know that the people are behind them.

The Committee suggested that if anyone is considering placing signs up to first get the permission from the resident before posting and if signs are going to be placed on a County Road, to also be sure to get the County's permission.

Mr. Perry moved to close this portion of the meeting to the public, seconded by Mr. Carrazzone. Motion carried and in a voice vote, all were in favor.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Perry noted his condolence on the passing of the Building Inspectors father. HE then noted that Mr. Ribitzki, Planning Board Chairman has spoken with the Zoning Officer and noted that any new deeds a copy will be forwarded to his department.

Mr. Carrazzone noted that Movie Night at the Vass Farmstead will be July 18. This event is being sponsored by the Hardwick Township Historical Society.

Mr. Duffy urged those that are opposing the Lines to send their thoughts to the Highlands Council.

Being there was no further business to discuss; Mr. Perry moved to adjourn tonight meeting at 8:35PM, seconded by Mr. Carrazzone. Motion carried and in a voice vote, all were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith M. Fisher, RMC
Township Clerk