

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE - TOWNSHIP OF MENDHAM
REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 10, 2014

Mayor Thomas called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m., Township Hall, Brookside, New Jersey.

ROLL CALL:	Mr. Baumann	Present
	Mr. Merkt	Present
	Mr. Strobel	Present
	Mr. Tolley	Present
	Mayor Thomas	Present

Also Present: John M. Mills, III, Esq., Township Attorney
Stephen Mountain, Township Administrator
Kathleen Potter, Township Clerk

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

ADEQUATE NOTICE: Adequate notice of this meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Mendham was given as required by the Open Public Meetings Act as follows: Notice was given to the Daily Record, Observer Tribune and the Star Ledger on January 7, 2014. Notice was posted on the Bulletin Board in the Township Offices and Notice was filed with the Township Clerk.

RECAP ON POST EXECUTIVE SESSION ACTIONS

Mayor Thomas stated that two resolutions were adopted after executive session. Resolution 2017-47 appointed Stanley T. Omland as the conflict engineer and 2014-48 awarded a contract for the Mendham East Wastewater Treatment Conversion Study/ Design.

PROCLAMATION

Mayor Thomas read the proclamation honoring Bob Pierson.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Thomas called for a motion to move the regular meeting minutes from February 25, 2014. Mr. Baumann so moved and Mr. Merkt seconded. All members voted to approve.

Mayor Thomas called for a motion to move the executive session meeting minutes from February 25, 2014. Mr. Merkt so moved and Mr. Strobel seconded. All members voted to approve.

DISCUSSION

Main Street Bridge Replacement Project – Morris County Engineering
County Engineer Christopher Vitz, Senior Engineer Brian Caruso and Supervising Engineer Roslyn Khurdan were present to discuss changes to the construction schedule. Bridge replacement will

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begin July 2015. The bridge design has been submitted to the DEP and the County is currently working on utility relocation. Work completed offsite will help shorten closure time and it is estimated that construction will be completed before the start of the school year. There was discussion regarding the price of underground utilities. Since the project is County funded, the County would incur the large costs of placing the wires underground. The utility companies also encourage overhead wires because they are easily accessible and maintained.

The County will monitor the bridge monthly for further deterioration and place steel plates, if necessary. There was discussion regarding the installation of a sidewalk. The walk can either be maintained by the Township or removed after construction. The layout of the overhead lines was reviewed. The change will make the area over the bridge free of wires.

Mr. Tolley questioned why the lines must be moved and it was noted that the machinery cannot access the bridge with overhead wires present. It is also currently unsafe for trucks due to low clearance. There was discussion on an aerial easement. The County will approach the residents again to discuss the easement. Mr. Baumann asked if the changes would increase or decrease the amount of line and the County agreed to provide the information. Mr. Strobel asked for a cost evaluation comparing the cost for adding all new lines versus running the cables underground. There was discussion regarding replacement of bushes and fences. Mr. Vitz reviewed the recent meeting with the Brookside Community Club.

Ms. Khurdan estimated that the permit will be received from DEP by May. Mr. Baumann reiterated that the wires should be as unintrusive as possible. Mr. Caruso suggested hanging the wires from the bridge in ducts, but warned that it may make the bridge less attractive.

There was discussion about the water and gas lines. Construction will be completed in stages to keep one lane open to traffic. It was noted that the disturbed roadway will be resurfaced.

The bridge on Route 24 is in the final stages of construction and should be completed in April.

There were no comments from the public.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Tolley reported on the status of the budget. The next meeting is scheduled for March 12, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. There was a brief discussion of the impact of the weather on the budget.

Mayor Thomas noted that the Mendies was held this past Friday and was a very enjoyable event.

HEARING PERSONS PRESENT

There being no comments, hearing persons present was closed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Baumann announced that the Mendham Ice Hockey team had a great year and competed in the finals.

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OLD BUSINESS

Ordinance Public Hearing

ORDINANCE 1-2014

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MENDHAM DELETING EXISTING
CHAPTER 7 SECTION 8 AND ADDING A NEW CHAPTER 7 SECTION 8
"TRAFFIC CONTROLS DURING CONSTRUCTION"

Mayor Thomas read the ordinance by title and called for a motion. Mr. Merkt so moved. Mr. Baumann seconded. The meeting was opened to the public. There being no comment public hearing was closed. All members voted to approve.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolutions

RESOLUTION 2014-49

AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS

Mayor Thomas read the resolution by title and called for a motion. Mr. Strobel so moved. Mr. Baumann seconded. All members voted to approve.

RESOLUTION 2014-50

AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A STATEMENT OF CONSENT
MENDHAM GOLF AND TENNIS

Mayor Thomas read the resolution by title and called for a motion. Mr. Baumann so moved. Mr. Merkt seconded. All members voted to approve.

RESOLUTION 2014-51

APPROVING RAFFLE LICENSE –
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF MENDHAM

Mayor Thomas read the resolution by title and called for a motion. Mr. Merkt so moved. Mr. Strobel seconded. All members voted to approve.

RESOLUTION 2014-52

AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF RECYCLING TONNAGE GRANT APPLICATION
TO THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Mayor Thomas read the resolution by title and called for a motion. Mr. Baumann so moved. Mr. Merkt seconded. All members voted to approve.

RESOLUTION 2014-53

APPOINTING MEMBERS TO TOWNSHIP COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS

Mayor Thomas read the resolution by title and called for a motion. Mr. Strobel so moved. Mr. Merkt seconded. All members voted to approve.

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RESOLUTION 2014-54

AUTHORIZING DISCUSSION WITHOUT THE PRESENCE OF THE PUBLIC

Matters pertaining to:

- Contract – Board of Health
Potential Shared Services
- Litigation – 5 Thackery Lane Update
Tax Appeal Settlement
- Personnel - Administration
Pitney Farm Access

Mayor Thomas read the resolution by title and called for a motion. Mr. Tolley so moved. Mr. Baumann seconded. All members voted to approve.

DISCUSSION

No further discussion.

HEARING PERSONS PRESENT

There being no comments, hearing persons present was closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Committee entered executive session at 8:35 p.m.

The Committee returned from executive session at 9:45 p.m.

ADJOURN

Upon a motion made and seconded the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Potter, Township Clerk