



**TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
TOWNSHIP OF MENDHAM
MARCH 24, 2015 - 7:30 p.m.**

Mayor Baumann called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM, Township Hall, Brookside, New Jersey.

ROLL CALL:

Mr. Cioppettini	Present
Mrs. Orban Brown	Present
Mrs. Thomas	Present
Mr. Tolley	Present
Mayor Baumann	Present

Also Present: John M. Mills, III, Esq., Township Attorney
Amey Upchurch, Township Administrator

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

STATEMENT OF 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 6, 2015. Notice was posted on the Bulletin Board in the Township Offices and Notice was filed with the Township Clerk. Official action may be taken.

RECAP ON POST EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Baumann stated nothing was discussed at the last Executive Session; therefore there is nothing to report.

RECOGNIZING NEW JUNIOR FIREFIGHTER

Mayor Baumann invited Fire Chief Dwyer to introduce Nick Simio, the newest member of the Brookside Engine Company.

DISCUSSION

Mr. Hansen, Township Engineer presented two concept plans regarding the Pitney Project. Report is attached.
Concept Plan A which would be 7 single family lots with separate septic systems.
Concept Plan B would be an age restricted housing development.

PRESENTATION

Police Chief Crawford and Lieutenant Johnson presented to the Township Committee their plans for a new Police Department building. Chief explained they considered other buildings to renovate, but for various reasons the existing property appears to be the best. The most cost effective and efficient building would be a modular building of 3100 square feet. The total estimated cost is under \$450,000 with a 90 day turnaround. Due to the proposed building being in a flood zone, the PD can apply for a FEMA Grant in the amount of \$150-200,000. The PD would have a fundraiser and would like to be able to ask the Township Committee for \$150,000. After discussion, Mr. Cioppettini stated he thought the plan and cost was a good idea and should start applying for the Grant.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance

Mr. Tolley stated they are hard at work to have a budget finalized by mid-May that makes sense for operations and the taxpayers.

Regional High School Study Status

Ms. Thomas stated the final report from the Regional High School Study status was not complete and she would report when it was complete.

Police report

Mr. Cioppettini said everything was covered during the presentation earlier.

Recreation

Ms. Upchurch informed the Committee that a records check was being done and the hiring committee wants to meet with the governing body concerning structure of job before a hire is decided on.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mendes TV is conducting workshops and the information is on our website.

Patriots Path Jamboree at Liberty State Park on Oct. 2nd

5k Patriot Race will be on Saturday, June 6th

Mendham town wide garage sale will take place on Sat Oct 13th

HEARING PERSONS PRESENT

David Zimmerman of 48 Cold Hill Rd, asked Mr. Hansen about property access off of Ballantine Road and if the houses can be clustered on less than 5 acres.

Robert Zimmerman of 3 West Main St., thanked the Township Committee for fixing the stantions around Post Office parking lot and wanted to know what happened to them. It was determined that they were moved for ease of plowing purposes.

Jane MacNeil of 31 East Main St., asked Mr. Hansen what would be destroyed on the Pitney property and hoped that some buildings could be saved.

Ms. Zimmerman of 3 West Main St. asked for clarification of age restricted properties.

Susan Brouse of 13 Cooper Rd., is concerned about access to the gardens once the Pitney land is developed. Mr. Mills stated that adequate provision would be applied to protect that access. Also, she asked that the gate on Cold Hill Rd remains closed.

Glen Essert of Mountainside Rd., expressed his support on preserving the property and is concerned about traffic patterns and rush hour.

Ms. Ryan of 11 Glen Gary Drive, asked the committee if costs and length of time have been considered. Mr. Mills estimated 1 – 2 years.

John Danebaum of 104 Talmedge Rd., signed petition to preserve Pitney Farm as is. He hopes the committee is putting as much time and money into preserving as well as developing.

Robert Chicobus of 150 Mendham Rd., would like the engineer to give us a plan with costs to preserve the Pitney buildings.

Mr. Konidavis of 6 Ballantine Rd., commended the Township Committee for considering many different options.

Carol Ann Jacobus of 150 Mendham Rd East, sees the need to reach community needs such as meeting space and not be so concerned with the dollar value.

Clare Carr of Mendham Borough resident, representing a local theatre group. She would like to see a historic site preserved and developed into a multi-use arts building and appreciates all the thought the committee has put into this process.

Russ McCabe of 16 Carriage Hill Drive, feels if Pitney was brought up to standards for public purpose there would be an exorbitant cost and liability. His suggestion is to sell to a developer to recoup some of the cost of the purchase.

Seeing that there was no one else wishing to make a public comment the Mayor closed that portion of meeting.

DISCUSSION

Maribeth Thomas expressed her concern over residents thinking there is lack of meeting space and told the residents that our meeting room is free most days and many nights. She also asked that the water trucks parked in the Ralston parking lot should be removed and the Water Company asked to repair the damage they did.

Diane Orban Brown commended everyone willing to work together on the Pitney project.

Sam Tolley also expressed his desire to form a committee to work on Open Space and follow up on the next meeting.

Mayor Baumann asked for a motion to table Discussion for Goals and Objectives.

Mr. Cioppettini moved to table the discussion, seconded by Mrs. Thomas.

A roll call vote was taken:

Ayes: Orban Brown, Cioppettini, Thomas, Tolley, Baumann

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: none

NEW BUSINESS

Resolutions

RESOLUTION 2015-44 - AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS

Mr. Cioppettini moved to adopt Resolution #2015-44, seconded by Mrs. Orban Brown

A roll call vote was taken:

Ayes: Orban Brown, Cioppettini, Thomas, Tolley, Baumann

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: none

RESOLUTION 2015-45 – TRANSFERS-2014 APPROPRIATION RESERVES

Mrs. Thomas moved to adopt Resolution #2015-45, seconded by Mr. Tolley

A roll call vote was taken:

Ayes: Orban Brown, Cioppettini, Thomas, Tolley, Baumann

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: none

OPEN ITEMS

Mendham East Sewer Utility will be discussed at the next meeting.

Ralston Playground project is waiting for recreation director to deal with this.

Raciticus Water Co. is for sale and Mr. Cioppettini stated it was important to make sure interests of the users are being represented.

New Police Building – Mr. Cioppettini proposed to give the Chief the green light to apply for grant and give Mr. Hansen our ok to go ahead and check feasibility.

Frank asked what the grant people need.

Mr. Cioppettini made a motion for the Chief to apply for a FEMA Grant with copy to Township Administrator.

Ms. Orban Brown suggested a timeframe and asked if there was a flowchart to be done.

Mr. Cioppettini accepted the amendment to the motion, Ms. Orban Brown seconded

A roll call vote was taken:

Ayes: Orban Brown, Cioppettini, Thomas, Tolley, Baumann

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: none

HEARING PERSONS PRESENT

Peter Denovic of 3 Shelton Rd. spoke regarding budget. He is pleased to see the Township Committee and volunteers taking job seriously and would like reasons for increases or decreases given when the budget is presented.

RESOLUTION 2015-46

AUTHORIZING DISCUSSION WITHOUT THE PRESENCE OF THE PUBLIC

Mr. Tolley moved to adopt Resolution #2015-46, seconded by Mr. Cioppettini

A roll call vote was taken:

Ayes: Orban Brown, Cioppettini, Thomas, Tolley, Baumann

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: none

ADJOURNMENT

The Township Committee meeting went into Executive Session at 8:45, which then recessed back to open session at 9:15, whereupon a motion to adjourn was passed

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Beth Zichelli
Township Clerk