

APRIL 26, 2007 MINUTES  
LIBERTY TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE WORKSHOP

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:10 P.M. by Mayor Inscho.

SUNSHINE LAW COMPLIANCE read by Mayor Inscho.

FLAG SALUTE

ROLL CALL: Mr. Tibak, Mr. Petersen, Mr. Bolzan, Mr. Fisher, Mr. Inscho, Mr. Lavery and Ms. Reilly.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Motion made by Mr. Inscho, seconded by Mr. Bolzan with roll call unanimous to enter into Executive Session to discuss one attorney client matter and one litigation matter.

REGULAR SESSION: Motion made by Mr. Inscho, seconded by Mr. Petersen with roll call unanimous to enter back into regular session. At 7:21 p.m. Mr. Lavery explained that during executive session one attorney client matter and one possible litigation matter was discussed but no official action taken.

REPORTS:

MS. REILLY – No report at this time.

MR. LAVERY – No report at this time but he has a matter for executive session.

MR. TIBAK – No report at this time.

MR. PETERSEN: He thanked Steve and the DPW and Eileen Greason for all their help during the Spring Clean Up. He also noted that he and Greg Sipple have been preparing the paperwork they will submit for the Highlands.

MR. BOLZAN: He noted that he met with the Warren County Mosquito Commission about the blockage on the Pequest River. They talked about methods to get into the river. Soil Conservation will be giving them some insight into this situation also. He also thanked Eileen Greason. He noted that a formal letter should be written to the Mosquito Commission in reference to this situation and copied to Soil Conservation.

MR. FISHER: He stated that the State said no to our petition to de-regionalize. We can appeal this decision and or mediate the situation with Independence and the School Board.

STEVE ROMANOWITCH: He noted that the Spring Clean Up was a success – 13 containers from Grey and 5 metal containers were filled. The feedback he received was

that many people had flood items to dispose of and also new residents stated that when they purchased their homes, the former owners left a lot of debris to dispose of.

He also noted that the DPW is working on getting Marble Hill Road ready for paving.

EILEEN GREASON: She noted that she gave a written report to the Mayor and Committee and this is incorporated into the Minutes. She did note that \$417.00 was collected from the clean up.

WILLIAM VANDER HAAR: He noted that the GMR School Budget passed even though it was voted down in Liberty Township.

MAYOR INSCHO: He noted that for the May meeting a Proclamation will be read noting that May is Senior Citizen Month.

He thanked Eileen, Beth and the DPW for the great job they did for the Clean Up.,

#### PUBLIC DISCUSSION:

Lynn Rutkoski – Cub Scout Leader presented Mayor Inscho with a New Charter for 2007-2008. She also presented Mayor Inscho with a new membership card. Mayor Inscho thanked her and the Cub Scouts for this.

Lynn also thanked the Committee for the award she received for recycling the telephone books. She was honored at a dinner of the Warren County Recycling for this. She noted that this year the cub scouts collected over 3,820 pounds of telephone books.

Jason Bing – Superintendent of Great Meadows Regional reminded the public of a Relay for Life on May 11, 2007. He noted that the Cancer Society is chairing this event.

He then read a letter he composed to send to Liberty and Independence Townships in reference to the school board hiring a mediator. He noted that the School Board will speak about this at their next meeting on April 30, 2007.

Anita Schmidt – Spring Hill Lane – She asked the current status of the water run off problem at the Wilson property and the status of the stop work order.

Mayor Inscho explained that the home owner is hiring an engineer and he has 30 days to comply with this. He also received notice from Soil Conservation that he is allowed to do specific things on this property to remedy violations.

Virginia Brady – Hillcrest Drive – She noted that at the end of this property there is an embankment with a large hole. All they are asking from Mr. Wilson is that the job be done right.

Mayor Inscho stated that the town is being protected due to the stop work order which was issued.

Mr. Lavery stated that Mr. Vollmer is up to par on this situation and that the County is taking the responsibility.

Mr. Phil Brady – Hillcrest Drive – read a letter he sent to the Warren County Board of Health.

Anita Schmidt then questioned the back taxes owed by Mr. Podlas on this property back to 1992.

Mr. Lavery explained that the former attorney never filed foreclosures for the township. He noted that there was a contested proceeding. Settlement of \$30,000 was paid to the township but default on the other. He noted that this situation is currently in litigation.

Steve Ciecwicz – Hillcrest – Noted that he would like paperwork on this situation. Mr. Lavery said he will give the paperwork to Willa to give to Mr. Ciecwicz.

Virginia Brady – She noted that there is \$483,000 in uncollected taxes – she noted that this is a lot of money and that she received these figures from Doris our Tax Collector.

Mr. Wilson – He said he was here to address concerns about the lot he is building on.

Septic System – He spoke to Mr. Tom DeAngello and Carol Schwar – this septic field was inspected and all was found to be in order.

Water on the Road Issue – He met with Kathy from Soil Conservation – again he said he was not in any violation. He noted that she made a site visit on April 4, 2007 and spoke with Ms. Brady that same day. He asked why Ms. Brady did not mention this conversation when speaking with the Township Committee at the meeting on April 5, 2007. He again asked why he received a stop work order when the county said he is not in any violation.

Mayor Inscho then stated to Mr. Wilson that back in the fall when the water was running we asked him to do something about this. Our township engineer cannot engineer this for him. Then cold weather came upon us thus causing icing on the roadway. Mr. Wilson responded by stating he did what he was told to do by Soil Conservation.

Mr. Petersen stated that the bottom line is for Mr. Wilson to hire an engineer and he has thirty days to do this.

Mayor Inscho stated that we will continue with the stop work order. If you satisfy our engineer the township can lift the stop work order. He noted that the County does not enforce our Ordinances.

SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE GRANT: Sylvia Kovacs was present this evening to discuss the grant procedure for this two year grant. A letter of recommendation from the Township will be submitted. There were no questions from the audience. Mr. Kovacs was thanked for attending this evenings meeting.

SCHOOL REAPPORTIONMENT ISSUE – Mr. Fisher informed the Committee that after the State Board of Education decision last Friday, he was immediately approached by Mr. Jason Bing from Great Meadows Regional who stated that the school board would hire a mediator to work with Independence and Liberty about this situation. Our attorney sent three names of retired NJ Judges who would be interested in being a mediator. Mr. Fisher noted that there was no one present this evening from Independence Township. He did state that the Independence Committee will have a meeting next Tuesday night and he hopes to attend. He noted that Liberty has thirty days to file an appeal.

Motion made by Mr. Fisher, seconded by Mr. Inscho with roll call unanimous to agree to work with a mediator in this matter.

Motion made by Mr. Inscho, seconded by Mr. Tibak with roll call unanimous to director our attorney to file an appeal in this matter.

MT. LAKE FIRE COMPANY SPECIAL PERMITS: Motion made by Mr. Petersen, seconded by Mr. Bolzan with roll call as follows to allow special permits for June 1, 2007 and June 9, 2007 (rain date June 10, 2007).

ROLL CALL

Tibak	yes
Petersen	yes
Bolzan	yes
Fisher	yes
Inscho	abstain

REVIEW AGENDA: Mayor Inscho asked the Committee to review their packets for the May 10, 2007 meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Motion made by Mr. Inscho, seconded by Mr. Tibak with roll call unanimous to enter into executive session to discuss one pending litigation matter with Russell.

REGULAR SESSION: Motion made by Mr. Inscho, seconded by Mr. Bolzan with roll call unanimous to enter back into regular session at 8:37 p.m.

Mr. Lavery noted that during executive session one pending litigation matter with Russell and one tax foreclosure matter was discussed but no action taken.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion made by Mr. Inscho, seconded by Mr. Bolzan with roll call unanimous to adjourn said meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Willa L. Reilly, RMC  
Municipal Clerk