

MINUTES
LIBERTY TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING
AUGUST 5, 2010

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER by Deputy Mayor Inscho at 6:36 p.m.

SUNSHINE LAW COMPLAINT read by Deputy Mayor Inscho.

FLAG SALUTE

ROLL CALL: Mr. Tibak, Mr. Petersen, M. Grover, Mr. Inscho, Mr. Skoog and Ms. Reilly. Mayor Fisher absent this evening.

COMCAST – Mr. Smith from Comcast noted that the construction on Jenny Jump is being completed. They budgeted for Kenco Lane in the 2011 budget. He then went over things to be negotiated in the proposed contract – Buildouts in area, access channels, how township will go about opening new roads, grants available, etc. He noted that Comcast pays 2% of what they get back to the township. This is for basic service fees only.

Opened for public discussion. No public discussion. Closed to public.

Motion then made by Mr. Inscho, seconded by Mr. Grover with roll call unanimous to enter into executive session with Comcast to discuss negotiations.

REGULAR SESSION: Motion made by Mr. Inscho, seconded by Mr. Grover with roll call unanimous to enter back into regular session at 7:28 p.m.

Mr. Inscho noted that during executive session one contractual matter with Comcast was discussed but no official action taken.

REPORTS:

ENGINEER FAIRFIELD– He reported that he approved one drive way permit for Mr. Chesney.

He noted that he received a copy of a letter written to Burke Bennett from DEP giving him a Notice of Violation and Offer of Settlement for the Liberty Lake Dam. Bennett must accept the settlement offer which includes a fine or a much higher penalty fine will be initiated. He noted that there are safety issues involved. Mr. Skoog noted that the township can not take any action on this situation.

The Committee then asked Mr. Fairfield to write a letter to Mr. Moyle of Dam Safety stating that the township committee supports their actions in this matter.

Ms. Reilly was directed to send a copy of Mr. Moyle's letter and a copy of Mr. Fairfield's letter to Warren County Soil Conservation.

MUNICIPAL CLERK REILLY – She reported that NJ DEP will be conducting a mercury level test at Mt. Lake this evening after 7:30 p.m. They will use a generator and wear bio-hazard suits to keep the samples from contamination – and assured there is no danger. Ms. Reilly had a blurb placed on the township website and also sent a notice to the Washington Barracks of the NJ State Police.

She also reported that she is receiving many calls from residents out side of Liberty Township who utilize our beach at the lake and love it. They are very happy that this is available.

COMMITTEEMAN TIBAK – He noted that soccer and basketball sign ups are being done.

He also noted that the Committee received a thank you card from Ms. Liz Rossi thanking them for keeping property taxes down!

Committeeman Petersen – He reported that he attended a meeting at the Department of Environmental Protection last evening and how poorly this meeting was conducted. He suggested writing a letter to the Governor about it.

He noted that even though no one attended the auction of The Lodge today it must be put up for auction again since this is state law. Mr. Skoog agreed.

He then noted that Mr. Romanowitch is on vacation but he read a report prepared by him.

Danville Mt. Road paving has been completed and the total cost came in at \$108,000 which was under what was in budget.

Fence on Lakeside Drive East has been completed.

Salt prices came down in price.

He attended at meeting with the County DPW about work they are going to be doing on Mt. Lake Road. It should begin sometime in September, 2010.

COMMITTEEMAN GROVER

He reported that he has been working on the design drawings for the restrooms at the old Casino beach area and they are about 95% complete.

He checked out the light situation down at the Casino and all is resolved and working.

He also noted that there is going to be a meeting held here at the Municipal Building on August 19, 2010 at 11:00 a.m. for the Pequest Fish Hatchery application to divert water issues. He encouraged the public to please attend.

He also reported that the meeting last evening at the DEP was disappointing. He does not feel much came out of it. He too feels that a letter be drafted from the township committee.

NJ STATE POLICE MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT: Please see attached.

DEPUTY MAYOR INSCHO:

He also noted that the meeting at the DEP last evening was disappointing.

He reported that a letter was sent the NJ Highlands asking that a representative from their department attend the Pequest Fish Hatchery Hearing to be held here on August 19, 2010. A response was sent back to us that they are not sending anyone from their office.

He reported that a recent graduate of Hackettstown High School, Shawn Gilmore will be receiving the Eagle Scout Award on August 15, 2010. Since Mayor Fisher will be out of town at that time, Deputy Mayor Inscho will be attending this ceremony and giving him a certificate from the Township of Liberty.

He also noted that the Mt. Lake Fire Company is having a Wet Down for the new fire truck on Saturday, August 6, 2010 and everyone is invited to attend.

He reported that the Liberty Cares Fund gave Mr. John Fisher a donation of \$7,500 and it was really appreciated by the Fisher family.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

Eileen Heydeck – Lakeside Drive West – asked when Lakeside Drive North was going to be paved because it is a terrible mess. Mr. Petersen noted that it is on the DPW list to do in the near future.

Lisa Thomas – Lakeside Drive – She noted that she fell into one of the holes on Lakeside Drive North but fortunately was not hurt. She said that there are many folks riding bikes, walking, etc around the lake and this area should be taken care of. She said she hopes it is done before the cancer walk in October.

The asked how many liquor licenses were available for use at The Lodge. Mr. Inscho stated that there are four available. She asked where and he said, Ricco's, Villa Venice, Casimero (Lisbon Capri) and Pio Costa. He said that they are available for sale. He also noted that the township does not control the actual sale of a liquor license. It is between the buyer and the seller.

She also felt the minimum bid of \$250,000 for The Lodge was too high.

End of public discussion.

At this time Mr. Inscho thanked the entire staff for their input in keeping the tax rate down. He commended Mr. Grover and Mr. Fisher for all of their help and that they too deserved a lot of credit.

RESOLUTIONS:

10-36 Resolution to Establish Municipal Court – Motion made by Mr. Grover, seconded by Mr. Tibak with roll call unanimous to adopt said Resolution.

10-37 Resolution to Bid Out for Pick Up Truck for DPW – Motion made by Mr. Grover, seconded by Mr. Tibak with roll call unanimous to adopt said resolution and change the bid opening date to September 23, 2010.

10-38 Resolution to Auction off Equipment at County – Motion made by Mr. Grover, seconded by Mr. Tibak with roll call unanimous to adopt said Resolution.

10-39 Resolution Authorizing an Interlocal Service Agreement for a Joint Municipal Court. Motion made by Mr. Petersen, seconded by Mr. Grover with roll call unanimous to adopt said Resolution.

ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE APPROPRIATION OF \$111,000.00 FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LIBERTY, COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JESSEY. Motion made by Mr. Tibak, seconded by Mr. Grover – Open for public discussion – no public discussion – closed public discussion roll call unanimous to adopt on second reading.

PAYMENT OF BILLS: Motion made by Mr. Tibak, seconded by Mr. Grover, with roll call unanimous to pay all bills on Bills List.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Motion made by Mr. Inscho, seconded by Mr. Grover with roll call unanimous to enter into executive session to discuss a contractual matter.

REGULAR SESSION: Motion made by Mr. Inscho, seconded by Mr. Grover with roll call unanimous to enter back into regular session at 8:28 p.m.

Discussed two contractual matters but no official action taken.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Willa L. Reilly, RMC
Municipal Clerk/Administrator