

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Township of Liberty was held in the Municipal Building, 349 Mountain Lake Road, Great Meadows on 4 September 2014. The meeting was opened by Mayor John Inscho with Adequate Notice of Meeting and the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:08 p.m.

Present: Mayor John Inscho; Deputy Mayor Dan Grover; Carl Cummins; Ronald Petersen, and Peter Karcher

Also, Present: Roger Skoog, Municipal Attorney; and, Diane M Pflugfelder, Municipal Clerk/Administrator

REPORTS

COMMITTEEPERSON PETERSEN

Committeeperson Petersen reported that the lakefront web-cam is operational.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Steve Romanowitch, CPWM, presented the following verbal report:

- ✓ Hillcrest Road has been resurfaced with a 2-inch overlay, backfilled and striped
- ✓ Crack-fill work will begin on Marble Hill and Free Union Roads
- ✓ Latex line stripping has been scheduled for Pequest, Lake Just-It and Marble Hill Roads
- ✓ Work for the part-time summer employee has concluded for the season

MAYOR INSCHO

Mayor Inscho reported that the dilapidated General Store structure on Lakeside Drive West has been removed and the site cleaned up. He asked that a letter of appreciation be forwarded to the DCA thanking them for addressing this issue.

BEACHFRONT PAVILION

Mayor Inscho stated that amended plans had been prepared for the beachfront pavilion structure identifying the location of outlets. A motion by Dan Grover to adopt the amendments carried.

MUNICIPAL ZONING

A pre-printed report was received from the Municipal Zoning Official for January 2014 and presented to members of the Township Committee for review

MUNICIPAL CLERK/ADMINISTRATOR

A pre-printed report was received from the Municipal Clerk/Administrator for January 2014 and presented to members of the Township Committee for review.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion by Ron Petersen to adopt the public and executive session minutes of 7 August 2014 carried. Pete Karcher abstained.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

ORD. #2014.009 - PUBLIC HEARING - A motion by Ron Petersen to open public hearing and adopt the following resolution carried.

Resolution #2014.063
Adoption of ORD. # 2014.009

WHEREAS, said Ordinance entitled ‘An Ordinance of the Township of Liberty, County of Warren, State of New Jersey, Deleting and Replacing Chapter §8 of the Code of the Township of Liberty, Court, Joint Municipal, in Order to Create a New Joint Municipal Court ’ was passed on first reading on 7 August and

WHEREAS, the public hearing of said Ordinance has been held as advertised and is now closed,

BE IT RESOLVED By the Township Committee of the Township of Liberty, County of Warren and State of New Jersey that the Ordinance entitled ‘An Ordinance of the Township of Liberty, County of Warren, State of New Jersey, Deleting and Replacing Chapter §8 of the Code of the Township of Liberty, Court, Joint Municipal, in Order to Create a New Joint Municipal Court’ be passed on second reading and final adoption.

Vote: aye - Karcher
aye - Petersen
aye - Grover
aye - Cummins
aye - Inscho

John Inscho,
Mayor

DISCUSSION: ROAD OPENING ORDINANCE

Discussion ensued on various sample road opening Ordinances and the items specific to Liberty Township. The Municipal Attorney and Municipal Engineer were directed to review the samples and prepare a draft for Liberty Township.

ORDINANCE #2014.008 – In response to a letter of 14 August 2014, from Robert Hilzer, DCA Office of Regulatory Affairs, Attorney Skoog was directed to investigate Ordinance #2104.008.

NEW BUSINESS

HALLOWEEN 2014

Following brief discussion and review of past adopted Halloween hours, a motion by John Inscho to establish Halloween 2014 on Friday, 31 October between the hours of 4:30 pm and 7:30 pm carried.

MOUNTAIN LAKE FIRE COMPANY

A letter of request was received from Chief Matuszek for municipal funding to refurbishing the 1995 Pierce Pumper. Chief Matuszek attended this meeting to present equipment specifics. Following review of the proposal, a motion by Dan Grover authorizing the maintenance of the 1995 Pierce Pumper at the cost of \$31,152.00 carried. John Inscho abstained.

NJ STATE FIREMEN’S ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP

An application was received from Joseph Thomas, Secretary of Mountain Lake Fire Company Relief Association for the membership of Michael S Mercurio. A motion by Dan Grover to approve the membership of this individual carried. John Inscho abstained.

POLAR PLUNGE

A request was received from the Warren Hills Regional High School Boys Swim Team to conduct a Polar Plunge at Mountain Lake in November 2014. The Township Committee requested that a representative of the event attend the next Township meeting with documentation for legal review and Township Committee consideration.

ANIMAL LICENSE FEES

A request was received from Alan DeCarolis, Animal Control Official, requesting the consideration of the Township Committee to increase the current annual animal license fees. Fees of neighboring municipalities were presented. In conclusion, the Municipal Attorney was directed to prepare an Ordinance for introduction at the next meeting increasing the fees of a neutered/spayed animal from \$6.00 to \$8.00 annually and the fee of a non-neutered/non-spayed animals from \$9.00 to \$11.00 annually.

NJDOT FY 2015 STATE AID PROGRAM

A letter of 11 August 2014 was received announcing the New Jersey Department of Transportation FY 2015 State Aid Program for funding local transportation projects. A motion by Dan Grover to authorize the Municipal Engineer to prepare an application for a one-mile section of Pequest Road carried.

RESOLUTIONS

A motion by Ron Petersen to adopt the following Resolution carried.

Resolution #2014.064
Application for Special Permit for Social Affair
Mountain Lake Fire Company

WHEREAS, An “Application for Special Permit for Social Affair” has been filed by the Mountain Lake Fire Company, 99 Tamarack Road, Belvidere, New Jersey 07823 for said social affair to be held on 25 October 2014 between the hours of 11:00 am and 26 October 2014, 2:00 am; and

WHEREAS, The submitted application form is complete in all respects, and the State fees have been paid.

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Liberty Township Committee does hereby approve a social affair for the Mountain Lake Fire Company located at 99 Tamarack Road, Belvidere, New Jersey to be held on 25 October 2014 between the hours of 11:00 am and 26 October 2014, 2:00 am, to be held in the area delineated on the application form.

Vote: aye - Karcher
aye - Petersen
aye - Grover
aye - Cummins
abstain - Inscho

John Inscho,
Mayor

PAYMENT OF BILLS

A motion by Pete Karcher to adopt the following Resolution carried.

Resolution #2014.065
Payment of Bills

RESOLVED, That the township committee of the Township of Liberty, does hereby authorize the Finance Department to pay all vouchers when properly endorsed and approved by at least 3/5 majority of the township committee in the amount of \$565,369.06.

Vote: aye - Karcher
aye - Petersen
aye - Grover

John Inscho,
Mayor

aye - Cummins
aye - Inscho

PUBLIC COMMENT was opened at 7:36 pm.

Vincent Miller – Mr. Miller presented concerns of speeding and vegetative overgrowth, obstructing road visibly along Pequest Road. A Trooper of the Washington Township Barracks, attending the meeting, would present this speeding concern to his Superiors.

Lisa Thomas – Ms. Thomas inquired into the status of the Lodge.

Alice Bechok - Ms Bechok questioned security cameras coverage.

At 7:56 pm a motion by John Inscho to adopt the following Resolution carried.

Resolution #2014.066

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act P.L. 1975, Chapter 231 permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exists; and

WHEREAS, the governing body may wish to discuss any of the following conditions; confidential provisions of Federal Law or State Statute; information that may impair receipt of federal funding; invasion of individual privacy; collective bargaining agreement; real property negotiations; litigation; and, personnel and personnel policy. Minutes will be kept and once the matter involving the confidentiality of the above no longer requires that confidentiality, then the minutes can be made public.

- ✓ Collective Bargaining Agreement , White Glove Cleaning
- ✓ Policy & Procedure Manual, Security Policy

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the public be excluded from this meeting.

Vote: aye - Karcher
aye - Petersen
aye - Grover
aye - Cummins
aye - Inscho

John Inscho,
Mayor

At 8:28 pm, a motion by Mayor Inscho to reconvene the public meeting carried. No action to follow.

ADJOURNMENT - There being no further business, a motion by Mayor Inscho to adjourn the meeting carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:29 p.m.

Diane M Pflugfelder RMC/MMC
Municipal Clerk/Administrator
Minutes Approved 2 October 2014