

DOWNE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 1, 2014
7:00 P.M.

The Downe Township Committee met in the Meeting Room of the Municipal Complex on Monday, December 1, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. Mayor Robert G. Campbell presided. Committee members present were Larry Jordan, Sr., Christine Wilford, Dennis Cook (Deputy Mayor) and Edward Bart. Municipal Solicitor, John Carr was also present.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE / STATEMENT
REGARDING COMPLIANCE WITH OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT

Mayor Campbell called the meeting to order; led the Pledge of Allegiance and read the Open Public Meetings Act Statement.

ROLL CALL

Present – Jordan, Wilford, Cook, Bart, Campbell

Absent – 0

MUNICIPAL SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Solicitor Carr mentioned the following topics as contained in his report: Joint Court change, JIF Arbitration dates, Beachfront Easement execution, reminder that 9-1-1 sample ordinances were provided and outcome of 11/26 Meeting with County Health Department about Beach Community issues.

Committeeman Bart asked if title searches are being done in connection with the easements being obtained for beachfront lots. Solicitor Carr concurred that the same will be considered before the Township relies on the easements.

Charles Lupton, Emergency Management Coordinator, stated that he is glad the Township Committee is considering the matter of 9-1-1 Building Numbers. Mayor Campbell suggested that grant funding may be available to fund or defray the costs thereof.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON RESOLUTIONS

A motion was made by Cook and seconded by Wilford to open the meeting for comments on the following Resolutions No. R-122-2014 through R-131-2014.

Vote: All in favor

R-122-2014 *Authorizing The Payment Of Bills*

R-123-2014 *Authorizing The Refund Of Property Taxes*

R-124-2014 *Authorizing Transfers Between Budget Appropriations*

- R-125-2014 *Authorizing The Correction Of Budget Appropriations Made In 2014*
 R-126-2014 *Granting Final Approval Of The Casper Application To Sell Development Easement*
 R-127-2014 *Approving The Shared Services Agreement Between The Township Of Downe And The Cumberland County Improvement Authority*
 R-128-2014 *Authorizing The Agreement Between The County of Cumberland And The Township Of Downe Regarding The Alliance For Substance Abuse Prevention*
 R-129-2014 *Authorizing The Rescission Of Declaration Of General State Of Emergency Downe Township, County Of Cumberland And State Of New Jersey*
 R-130-2014 *Authorizing Declaration Of General State Of Emergency, Downe Township, County of Cumberland And State Of New Jersey For Winter Storm Season 2014-2015, Effective Through May 1, 2015*
 R-131-2014 *Awarding The Gandy's Beach Bulkhead Project Pursuant To N.J.S.A. 40A:11-4.*

Sheldon Pepper, Dividing Creek, asked if R-126-2014 has anything to do with the easement mentioned by the Municipal Solicitor. Mayor Campbell responded no, R-126-2014 its granting final approval of an application to sell a development easement as pertains to farmland preservation.

There being no further comments from the public, the segment was closed on a motion by Cook and seconded by Wilford.

Vote: All in favor

RESOLUTIONS

A motion was made by Jordan and seconded by Cook to adopt R-122-2014 *Authorizing The Payment Of Bills* in the amount of \$388,838.31.

Roll Call: Aye - Jordan, Wilford, Cook, Bart, Campbell
 Nay - 0

A motion was made by Wilford and seconded by Cook to adopt Resolutions Nos. R-123-2014 through R-128-2014. Deputy Mayor Cook commented about R-127-2014; he said that another increase is simply not right and notice was not given. He does not favor execution of the Agreement without input and said that more and more restrictions are being placed upon the users. Other options should be investigated and he feels there should be some pushback. Resolution R-127-2014 was held from the consent group and will be voted upon separately.

Vote: All in favor

A motion was made by Jordan and seconded by Wilford to adopt Resolution R-127-2014.

Roll Call: Aye - Jordan, Wilford, Bart, Campbell
 Nay - Cook

A motion was made by Cook and seconded by Wilford to adopt Resolutions R-129-2014 through R-131-2014.

Roll Call: Aye - Jordan, Wilford, Cook, Bart, Campbell
Nay - 0

ORDINANCE

A motion was made by Cook and seconded by Wilford to introduce Ordinance No. 8-2014 entitled "*Bond Ordinance Providing For Capital Improvements By the Township Of Downe, In The County Of Cumberland, New Jersey, Necessitated By Hurricane Sandy, And Appropriating One Million One Hundred Seventy-Seven Thousand Dollars (\$1,177,000) Therefore And Authorizing The Issuance Of Eight Hundred Sixteen Thousand Five Hundred Ten Dollars (\$816,510) Bonds Or Notes Of The Township For Financing The Cost Thereof*". The second reading and public hearing will be held during a Special Meeting being planned for Wednesday, December 17, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the Meeting Room of the Municipal Complex, 288 Main Street, Newport, NJ 08345.

Roll Call: Aye – Jordan, Wilford, Cook, Bart, Campbell
Nay – 0

COMMITTEE REPORTS & CORRESPONDENCE

Mayor Campbell reported that correspondence was received from Bob and Monica Howell about vacating a portion of a paper street in Fortescue known as Surf Avenue. The Township Committee acknowledged the receipt of correspondence and was receptive to the request.

Deputy Mayor Cook recognized the administration for efforts extended in connection with the Bond Ordinance issues. He reported that the Magic Show was successful at the School and thanked Doug Cook for his participation on the Recreation Committee. He mentioned that the Senior Christmas Luncheon will be held at the Charlesworth.

Committeewoman Wilford had no report.

Committeeman Bart had no report.

Committeeman Jordan thanked Committeewoman Wilford for her service as a member of the Township Committee for the past three (3) years. He reported proudly that grant funding was received to purchase a new Emergency Management vehicle which the Coordinator just took possession of.

Mayor Campbell congratulated Committeeman Bart on his re-election to the Township Committee and he congratulated Stephen Byrne on his election to the Township Committee; both three (3) year terms will commence in January. He also reported that a FEMA reimbursement of approximately \$600,000 was received by the Township.

PUBLIC COMMENT

A motion was made by Wilford and seconded by Cook to open the meeting to the public for comment.

Vote: All in favor

Charles Lupton, Fortescue, Emergency Management Coordinator, thanked the Township Committee for pursuing and receiving a grant for the purchase of a new vehicle; it's a black Chevy Tahoe.

Karen Smith, Raybins Beach, suggested that the Township Committee think big in terms of investigating waste disposal options and consider trash to steam at our location and charge users. Perhaps there is a grant available.

Bernie Sayers, Newport, asked if the Township would be paying \$816,510 to borrow \$1,177,000 in connection with proposed Bond Ordinance No. 8-2014. Solicitor Carr read the description as reflected in the ordinance which was prepared by Bond Counsel. Mr. Sayers asked for confirmation that the Township Committee essentially has the ability to borrow \$2¼ million dollars and asked when the bids would be going out for the Gandy's Beach project. Mayor Campbell informed him that bids were already received and an award was made earlier – Resolution No. R-131-2014.

There being no further comments, a motion was made by Jordan and seconded by Wilford to close the public comment segment.

Vote: All in favor

NEXT MEETING

A Special Meeting of the Downe Township Committee will be held on Monday, December 17, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the Meeting Room of the Municipal Complex.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Cook and seconded by Wilford.

Vote: All in favor



Constance S. Garton
Municipal Clerk