DOWNE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 7, 2015
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING 7:00 P.M. REORGANIZATION MEETING

The Downe Township Committee met in the Meeting Room of the Municipal Complex on Wednesday, January 7, 2015 at 7:15 p.m. immediately following the Reorganization Meeting. Mayor Robert G. Campbell presided. Committee members present were Larry Jordan, Sr., Stephen Byrne, 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, Byrne, Cook, Bart, Campbell
Absent - 0

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

A motion was made by Cook and seconded by Bart to approve the following minutes: Executive Session of July 7, 2014, November 10, 2014 Regular, December 1, 2014 Regular and December 17, 2014 Regular/Executive.

Roll Call: Aye – Jordan, Cook, Bart, Campbell
Nay – 0
Abstain – Byrne
(Absent – Bart, November 10, 2014 Regular only)

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

The Township Committee acknowledged the receipt of the following reports:

- Housing/Zoning Officer — November 2014
- Tax Collector — October / November / December 2014
- Chief Financial Officer — October / November 2014

MUNICIPAL SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Solicitor Carr presented his report which consisted of information and updates on the following matters: various correspondence, State Tax Appeal case and waterfront properties.

MULTI JURISDICTIONAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

Charles Lupton, Emergency Management Coordinator was in attendance for the discussion and comment segment on the Plan. The Plan is an update and expansion of the South Delaware Valley Region Multi-jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plans that were adopted by Camden, Cumberland, Gloucester and Salem Counties and approved by the Federal Emergency Management Agency in 2010 and 2011. Mayor Campbell stated that this segment will serve as the public hearing. Mr. Lupton was asked to comment on the Plan. Mr. Lupton talked about the placement of generators and Mayor Campbell asked about the status of having a generator put here in Downe Township. Mr. Lupton responded that is pending, maybe this year. Copies of the Plan were posted on the Township Website in advance and were on hand for any member of the public interested. Kary Wilson, Newport, asked if monthly meetings were held at the local level. Mr. Lupton informed her that meetings are held at the County level on the third Thursday each month. Meetings are held twice a year with area businesses, the fire departments, etc. and more information is forthcoming. She thought it would help to have contact people for different areas of the Township when emergencies occur. It would also be helpful to have such information on the Township Website or to send it out with the tax bills. Mr. Lupton stated that the School is considered a Red Cross Shelter. There being no further comments, the segment was closed on a motion by Cook and seconded by Bryne.
Vote: All in favor

PUBLIC COMMENT ON RESOLUTIONS

A motion was made by Cook and seconded by Byrne to open the meeting for public comment on the following resolutions.
Vote: All in favor

R-23-2015 *Authorizing The Payment Of Bills*
R-24-2015 *Authorizing The Cancellation Of Small Tax Balances Of $10.00 Or Less For The Year 2014*
R-25-2015 *Approving The TWA-1 Form For The State Of New Jersey, Department Of Environmental Protection, Division Of Water Quality Relative To Heritage Hill Estates, LLC At 232 New Jersey Avenue, Fortescue, Downe Township Known As B – 74, L – 42*

Bill Miller, Fortescue, asked what 232 New Jersey Avenue was as pertains to R-25-2015. Mayor Campbell responded the campground.

There being no further comments from the public, a motion was made by Cook and seconded by Byrne to close the segment.
Vote: All in favor

RESOLUTIONS

A motion was made by Cook and seconded by Byrne to adopt Resolution No. R-23-2015 *Authorizing The Payment Of Bills* in the total amount of $685,015.93.
Roll Call: Aye – Jordan, Byrne, Cook, Bart, Campbell
Nay – 0

A motion was made by Jordan and seconded by Cook to adopt the aforementioned Resolution Nos. R-24-2015 and R-25-2015 on condition that approval is received from the Municipal Engineer.
Vote: All in favor

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mayor Campbell provided an update on the beaches: Money Island has received all approvals including the Army Corp. of Engineers, the project will be put out to bid and awarded, a pre-construction meeting will be held and the project will finally move forward; the Gandy's Beach Project was awarded for the North Cove Road Bulkhead and we're dealing with electric issues because power needs to be turned off for about eight (8) hours each day; Fortescue is preparing to stage the beach replenishment project that is being done by National Fish & Wildlife putting sand along the berm for a 50' beach. Committeeman Bart asked why that is being done now. Mayor Campbell responded so that the project will be complete by April for the horseshoe crabs and red knots. Mayor Campbell stated that work will resume once the weather breaks on the other side of the street, the south end and more projects are opening up. The grant for the Tourist Information Center (the old train station and caboose) is in the running.

Committeeman Cook reported that he attended the Cumberland County Freeholder's Reorganization Meeting last night representing Downe Township. He spoke with Freeholder Dorella about Downe projects who conveyed support. Interactions at the meeting were productive. Deputy Mayor Cook thanked Doug and Karen Cook for their attendance at Freeholders Meetings. Downe Township is often dependent upon and at the mercy of the County and State and attendance at meetings is critical. He stated that the Recreation Committee had another great year and thanked Kary Wilson, Chairperson for her leadership as well as Karen and Doug Cook, Reenie Harris, Wayne Harris, Nancy Campbell, Sharon Knipe and Annette Perry who is everywhere quietly and effectively helping out. Our rapport with the School, teachers, parents and students has improved and has strengthened; the Christmas Fun Night was a visual expression of caring. He read a lovely letter from the School Principal about the shared activities sponsored by the Township Recreation Committee and School.

Committeeman Bart – No report

Committeeman Jordan stated that very little was done in the way of snow removal; salt applicator is ready and salt was purchased.

Committeeman Byrne stated that he was happy to be here and pledged to do his best.

CORRESPONDENCE – Nothing mentioned.

PUBLIC COMMENT

On a motion by Cook and seconded by Byrne, the meeting was opened to the public for comment.
Vote: All in favor

Bill Miller, Fortescue, conveyed kudos to Committeeman Jordan and his crew for the Christmas tree. Mr. Miller informed the Township Committee about a dip in the road at 280 New Jersey Avenue where the road has settled due to repair of the drain. Mayor Campbell suggested that the Township have a company repair it as part of the FEMA Project because it was caused by that.

Kary Wilson, Newport, commented about the volume of loads of sand anticipated and asked if the trucks could drive slower. In the past, such activity has caused her plaster walls to crack. Deputy Mayor Cook and Mayor Campbell have received other calls complaining about the same thing. Deputy Mayor Cook suggested that the trucking companies be asked to slow down and that the New Jersey State Police become involved with enforcement. Mayor Campbell assured her that the road will be looked at regarding vibration.

Annette Perry asked who was bringing the sand in. Mayor Campbell informed her it was the American Littoral Society, Larry Niles is involved and National Fish and Wildlife is funding the project for horseshoe crab and red knot habitat restoration. She asked about the surveying being done at Money Island and no one knew what it was being done in relation to.

There being no further comments, the public segment was closed on a motion by Cook and seconded by Byrne.
Vote: All in favor

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Downe Township Committee will be held on Monday, February 2, 2015 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 Bart.
Vote: All in favor

Constance S. Garton
Municipal Clerk