

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING – MAY 22, 2014

Committeeman Houghtaling called the meeting to order and requested the Clerk to call the roll. The following members were present: J. Randy Bishop, Eric J. Houghtaling, and Mary Beth Jahn (via speaker phone). Absent: Kevin B. McMillan and Mayor Michael Brantley.

Also present at the dais were Richard J. Cuttrell, Municipal Clerk; Vito D. Gadaleta, Township Administrator; Michael J. Bascom, Chief Financial Officer; and Gene Anthony, Township Attorney.

After a moment of Silent Prayer and the Flag Salute, Mr. Houghtaling asked the Clerk to indicate the fire exits.

The Clerk stated, "Fire exits are located in the rear of the room and to my right. In case of fire you will be notified by bell and or public address system, then proceed to the nearest smoke-free exit"

Mr. Houghtaling announced that the notice requirements of R.S. 10:4-18 for an "Annual Notice" have been satisfied by the publication of the required advertisement in the Asbury Park Press on January 2, 2014 and The Coaster on January 3, 2014, posting the notice on the Board in the Municipal Complex, and filing a copy of said notice with the Municipal Clerk. In addition, the meeting agenda, resolutions and ordinances are posted online at www.neptunetownship.org.

Mr. Houghtaling announced that due to the unavailability of Township Committee members, this will be an abbreviated meeting. He stated that there will be a Privilege of the Floor, a public hearing on a budget amendment, consideration of a resolution to adopt the municipal budget, public hearing on Ordinance No. 14-20 and a vote on adoption of Ordinance No. 14-20.

Mr. Bishop offered a motion, seconded by Ms. Jahn, to table all agenda items until June 9, 2014, with the exception of the resolution to adopt the municipal budget and Ordinance No. 14-20. All were in favor.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Kennedy Buckley, 65 Broadway, stated that it was a pleasure to see a plaque presented to retired Police Officer Michael Dugan. Fourteen years ago, Officer Dugan saw him in the paper store in Ocean Grove and told him that he did not look well and should see a doctor. Mr. Buckley went to the hospital the next day and had internal bleeding. He credited Officer Dugan with saving his life. Mr. Buckley stated that parking meters should be installed on the east side of Ocean Avenue. It would be a great source of income. He referenced the Rutgers University tool kit for abandoned properties. He suggested that the Township pass an ordinance to designate a public official to create a list of abandoned properties. Mr. Houghtaling and Mr. Bishop expressed interest in accompanying Mr. Buckley and others on a planned tour of abandoned properties in Ocean Grove.

Peter Wagar, 109 Seaview Court, expressed thanks fro the Department of Public Works for their work this past winter and for their efforts to clean the dead fish from the Shark River following the recent fish kill. He added that everyday, Public Works employees were cleaning and providing information on the progress of the clean-up. He also expressed thanks to Mr. Cuttrell for the weather forecasts sent via e-mail this past winter.

Diana Harris, MURC, asked if there are COAH requirements for the new apartments being constructed on Jumping Brook Road and Route 66. Mr. Anthony responded that all municipalities are waiting on new rules from COAH so the Township cannot impose any COAH requirements on this development. COAH just completed new rules and regulations which are progressing through the comment period.

Dorothy Argyros, 2100 Rutherford Ave., stated that there is a proposed resolution that was tabled which authorizes a performance bond reduction for the new Wawa. They should be required to clean the soil from prior contamination before the bond is released. She added that taxpayers continue to pay for bad police actions. The Township hired an independent investigator earlier in the year and was told this was for police accreditation; however, the resolution stated that the investigation was to look at internal complaints in the Police Department. She asked who pays for insurance settlements. Mr. Houghtaling stated that ultimately everyone pays, but it is the insurance company that actually makes payment. She asked if the Township's insurance premium will increase due to settlements. Mr. Gadaleta stated that the Statewide Insurance Fund reviews the pool of claims annually throughout the fund and then establishes premiums for each of its members.

Mr. Bishop offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Houghtaling, to close the Privilege of the Floor. All were in favor.

PUBLIC HEARING – AMENDMENT TO APPROVED 2014 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

Mr. Houghtaling requested public comments regarding a resolution adopted May 12, 2014 to amend the 2014 approved municipal budget. There were no comments.

ADOPTION OF 2014 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

Mr. Bishop offered the following resolution, moved and seconded by Ms. Jahn, that it be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune, County of Monmouth, that the budget hereinbefore set forth is hereby adopted and shall constitute an appropriation for the purposes stated of the sums therein set forth as appropriations, and authorization of the amount of \$25,502,480.47 for municipal purposes; and, \$1,171,979.00 for the minimum library levy:

General Revenues	
Surplus Anticipated	2,762,000.00
Miscellaneous Revenues Anticipated	9,752,607.54
Receipts from Delinquent Taxes	1,118,496.81
Local Tax for Municipal Purposes	25,502,480.47
Local Tax for Minimum Library Levy	1,171,979.00
Total Revenues	40,307,563.82
General Appropriations	
Within "CAPS"	
Operations including contingent	27,890,900.00
Deferred Charges and Statutory Expenditures	3,091,670.00
Excluded from "CAPS"	
Operations	2,628,255.33
Capital Improvements	100,000.00
Municipal Debt Service	3,897,881.49
Deferred Charges	793,000.00
Reserve for Uncollected Taxes	1,905,857.00
Total General Appropriations	40,307,563.82

The resolution was adopted on the following vote: Bishop, aye; Houghtaling, aye; and Jahn, aye.

The Committee members took a brief recess while attempts were made to initiate phone communication with Mayor Brantley. The Dais was unable to establish phone contact with Mayor Brantley.

ORDINANCE NO. 14-20 – TABLED

Mr. Bishop offered the following ordinance, moved and seconded by Mr. Houghtaling, that it be tabled, and the public hearing adjourned until June 9, 2014.

ORDINANCE NO. 14-20

BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ACQUISITION AND INSTALLATION OF VARIOUS PUBLIC SAFETY TECHNOLOGY AND EQUIPMENT ITEMS, BY AND IN THE TOWNSHIP OF NEPTUNE, IN THE COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, STATE OF NEW JERSEY; APPROPRIATING \$400,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$380,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF

Ms. Argyros raised a Point of Order stating that a public hearing was advertised on this ordinance and is now not being provided. Mr. Anthony stated that four votes are required to adopt a bond ordinance and only three Committee members are present; therefore, the ordinance cannot be considered this evening. The hearing will be adjourned until June 9, 2014

All were in favor of the motion to table the ordinance.

Mr. Houghtaling stated that the Memorial Day Parade will begin at 10:00 a.m. on May 26th. Tickets are still available for the Mayor's Ball on June 13th. He added that the Township employees worked tirelessly to clean up 600,000 dead fish from the Shark River. The Township received assistance from the State and Monmouth County. He commended the efforts of the Office of Emergency Management, Mr. Bascom, Mr. Gadaleta and the employees of the Department of Public Works.

Mr. Bishop offered a motion, seconded by Ms. Jahn, to adjourn. All were in favor.

Richard J. Cuttrell,
Municipal Clerk