

Minutes of Agenda/Workshop Meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Commercial, held on April 13, 2015 at 6:00 P.M., at the Township Hall, 1768 Main Street, Port Norris, NJ

Those present:

Judson Moore	Mayor
Fletcher Jamison	Committeeman
Ronald L. Sutton Sr.	Committeeman
Thomas Seeley	Solicitor
Hannah E. Nichols	Township Clerk
Kenneth McGill	Environmental Commission

Mayor Moore presided and called the meeting to order with the announcement that the meeting had been advertised, that it was being electronically recorded and being held in full compliance of the Open Public Meeting Act.

Mayor Moore said we do not have state police present this evening but I would like to call upon Keven Young and his wife Pamela Young.

Committeeman Jamison said that Mr. Young and he had spoken sometime in the past regarding recreation for the kids. He said Mr. Young is a social worker in the Commercial Township System and not only get involved with the kids in recreational activities but is a mentor in trying to get the kids on the right path socially and mentally. He said he and Mr. Young sat down a couple of weeks ago and he asked him to put down on paper what he would like to propose and now I would like to call on Mr. Young to explain what he would like to accomplish.

Mr. Young said he and his wife, Pamela, put this proposal together after talking with Committeeman Jamison and Mayor Moore and it is a program not only for recreational activities but a program that will assist with the reduction of negative behaviors occurring in our youths. He said his program is called the Youth Enrichment Program, known hereafter as (Y.E.P) which will address the need for healthier lifestyle choices among our youth, activities and workshops will be implemented throughout the summer to encourage positive social interaction, foster healthy eating habits, and incorporate regular exercise. Mr. Young feels that the Y.E.P. will provide a safe, structured environment will allow participants to improve overall physical and mental well being. Mr. Young said not all of the kinks have been worked out yet, and Y.E.P requests the use of commercial townships Recreational facilities and sports equipment, Port Norris Middle School's gym, and all equipment needed to assist with facilitating a successful program. He said he will be meeting with the Board of Education members and express that his program will incorporate sports and social skill programs, focusing on problem solving and teamwork. It will help educate its participants on the benefits of physical and mental wellness as well as social interactions skills. He said Y.E.P facilitators and community volunteers will conduct all structured activities and supervision of the camp. He said the program will run from June 28th 2015 and end August 28, 2015, hours from 1:00 to 6:00 P.M., with a one week break July 27 through July 31th. Mr. Young said there are a lot of issues that still need to be resolved, transportation of the Laurel Lake youth, food and snacks, equipment, uniforms, volunteers, etc., but he feels that there is nothing so surmountable that can't be resolved.

Mayor Moore asked Mr. Young if he would want him to appear before the board of education regarding the program. He said this year the township will sponsor the program, I have checked into the insurance and we can get a one million dollar liability policy for 385.00

Mr. Young said he is scheduled to meet with the board tomorrow evening.

Mayor and Committee thanked Mr. and Mrs. Young and felt that this will be a very worthwhile program, they asked the cost.

Mr. Young said \$4,000 for salary, he was not sure of what additional expenses might be involved at this time. He thanked the committee for their indulgence.

Mayor Moore said we'll have to find out if this can be billed by voucher and a 1099 given at the end of the year or whether we will have to amend the salary ordinance scale to reflect a salary line item and he would be hired as a part time employee. Mayor said he would like to see a resolution to hire if possible.

Mayor Moore said Ed Dennis, Engineer, is unable to attend the meeting this evening but sent us his report. Mayor said Ed will be here Wednesday. He called on Mr. Seeley for his report.

Mr. Seeley said he will continue to represent the township against JP Morgan Chase to dismiss their action against us for failure to file subordination agreement. Mr. Seeley said he will continue to try and get the Bayshore Housing Funds. He stated on the 220 Olive Road house donation that Wells Fargo has been very cooperative and they have agreed to pay title search and deed recording. Mr. Seeley said our In Rem complaint was received and filed from the Superior Court, it has been forwarded to the county clerk for filing and recording. Mr. Seeley said title searches have been received and notices have been completed, there is a resolution for the regular meeting so the complaints can be sent to State Capital and filed with Superior Court on CC Tax Liens. He said he recommends that Block 231, Lots 8 and 8.01 be pulled for In Rem list due to fact that property had a trucking company located on it and there might be soil contamination and DEP complaints. He said Eric Bowler would like to do a presentation on our tower, that he had a conversation with Downe Township's attorney regarding the agreement to the dissolution of Commercial Joint Court. He drafted a sign ordinance and Bamboo Ordinance for the committee's consideration and review. Mr. Seeley said he is trying to finalize a closing date for the Catholic Church property on Battle Lane.

Mayor Moore thanked Mr. Seeley and said we have several items for discussion.

1. To consider becoming a member of the Cumberland Development Corporation from April to December at \$4,600. Decision: Committee's decision was not to join.
2. Committee received notice that County has adopted a road opening ordinance and fee schedule that will be charged. Decision: said to remove from agenda but to see that proper officials received copies of ordinance and copies of application and fees to be charged so people filing applications are aware.
3. Bayshore Chamber of Commercial is soliciting funding for fireworks on Bay Day June 6th, they asked committee if the clerk could file the application for them Decision: Committee approved.
4. Committee received notification that a Bill is being considered called Transparent Tax Act of 2015 and if they would support. Decision: Committee said remove from agenda, that the bill would create a lot of additional work for tax collector's office.
5. Letter from DCA regarding Best Practices Report and clarification of two questions. Decision: Chief financial officer responded and no reduction in state aid, remove.
6. Committee notified Assetworks, subcontractor for JIF will be doing an onsite inspection of all municipal facilities, playgrounds, public wharf on April 21st 8:00 a.m. Decision: Remove, Mel Neayan will meet with Clint Miller for inspections.
7. Township has received request from Mike Hickman to farm small portion of township owned property in order to keep undergrowth down and Mr. Hickman did

- this for the past several years, will sign hold harmless agreement. Decision
Committee approved and same will be placed on regular meeting agenda.
8. Committee received a letter from Lisa Morrison regarding litter and trash on county and township roads. Committee discussed issue and informed Mrs. Morrison that Township has scheduled several cleanups of township road and forwarded a copy of her letter to the county. Decision: Removed from agenda.
 9. E-Mail from Jerry Velazquez, Executive Director of CIA and he stated that Mrs. Morrison has a valid point but that the county has a staff out on a daily basis to pickup roadside debris. Decision: Remove from agenda.
 10. Committee received an e-mail from Petsmart that Commercial Townships grant application has been received. Decision: Mayor said Petsmart has confirmed that grant application has been received, remove from the agenda.
 11. Letter to committee from County Mosquito requesting permission to aerial spray and upon request from resident, yard spray by truck. Decision: On regular authorizing mayor to sign.
 12. Mayor discussed the issue of installing LED street lights with committee, he would like to meet with Atlantic City Electric to get full details and then provide that information to committee. Decision: On agenda authorizing mayor to meet with Atlantic City Electric for full details of LED street lights.
 13. Committee received a Loss Control Survey Report from Inspector Lou Carey and he had no suggestions for improvements at this time. Decision: Committee was impressed and removed item from agenda.
 14. Authorizing the mayor to do a letter of support for Baysshore Project in meeting with Army Corp of Engineers. Decision: On agenda for approval.
 15. Authorizing the mayor to sign contract with CIA. Decision: On agenda for approval.
 16. Discussion regarding accrued vacation, personal days for employees. Mayor stated Several employees had vacation and personal days carried over from 2014. He would like to see them used as soon as possible and that letter should be sent. Decision: This will be discussed at later date.
 17. Mayor Moore said there are no speed limit signs on the By-pass and he would like permission to discuss the issue with the county road department. Decision: On the agenda regular meeting for approval.
 18. Mayor Moore said he has discussed with the committee the Open Space Tax Money that the township has paid to the county and he would like permission to setup a meeting with the freeholders to discuss including historic sites and land for recreation along with farmland to consideration in funding. Decision: On agenda for approval.
 19. A discussion was held regarding changing municipal financial institution. Committeeman Jamison and Sutton said this is something that needs investigation and said to leave this off of the agenda until we have a change to speak with CFO and possibly get proposals. Decision: To remove from agenda until later date.

20. Discussion was held regarding complaints from residents about truck traffic in Haleyville. There is a no truck traffic in Mauricetown ordinance and could there be one in Haleyville on county road 676. Mayor said from the Bypass to the blinker light there isn't an ordinance but I have an agreement with the company and talked with truck supervisor and he said that he would talk to the drivers, these drivers get paid by the load and if they can cut time then they will do that. Committeeman Jamison said without an ordinance they are not in violation, and if they can get 15 loads compared to 7 loads in a day, they will get the 15. Now a sign will be needed, no truck traffic and it will have to be a legitimate ruling not just because these people don't want it, I bet that none of them has ever had a truck driver in their family. Mayor said we have an agreement with the company, but the decision will have to come from the county because it is a county road. Decision: Put on agenda to discuss at regular meeting and mayor will discuss with freeholders at April 21st meeting the open space program to include recreation and historic sites, speed limit signs on By-pass road and no truck traffic up to blinker light at corner of North Avenue and Highland Street, all are county roads.

21. Discussion and review of ordinance to establish regulations regarding the placement of political signs and temporary advertisement signs along county and township roads, in people's yards, etc. Comments were made by solicitor and committeemen that regulating political signs needs to be investigated, are there state, county, and municipal regulations already in place, what about realtor signs, property for sale, new business letting public know they can now get such and such from such and such. Decision: Remove from the agenda until the solicitor has opportunity to research and prepare draft.

22. Discussion of an ordinance to regulate Prohibit Bamboo Planting, the containment of it and the removal. Committeeman Sutton said this is one plant that once it gets started it can't be contained, and the removal of it will cost and arm and a leg. He said most people do not plant bamboo, it just comes up, it is very strong, can be dangerous to small children and we have a place in the lake were a man has it in his yard and now it has come under the fence into the neighbor's yard, they have small grandchildren and they want to know what they can do because it is spreading very rapidly. He said and the county said the only way to get rid of it is to dig the entire plant up, and to keep it out of other people's yards you have to install a metal rail buried in the ground so many inches deep and so many inches above ground. Mr. Sutton said there is a lot of bamboo on state property, how are we going to control that, he added that the state property is several acres and not threatening the neighbors. Decision was to remove from the agenda until the solicitor and member of the environmental commission can investigate and see if a bamboo ordinance would be enforceable.

Mayor Moore said the following items are scheduled for the regular township committee meeting which will be on Wednesday, April 15th, instead of the regular meeting day of Thursday, April 16th.

- A. Second Reading and Public Hearing On Salary Scale Ordinance
- B. Amending Salary Scale Ordinance Recreation Coordinator, 3,000-6000
- C. Resolution: Read 2015 Municipal Budget By Title Only, it was introduced March 19th.
 - D. Public Hearing on Budget
 - E. Approving Bill List for month of April, 2015.
 - F. Resolution: In Rem Foreclosure List
 - G. Resolution: Township Committee Endorsing Bay Day Fireworks
 - H. Resolution: Extending Temporary Budget if Budget Not Adopted
 - I. Resolution: Resolution: No Longevity Payments For Non Union Employees
 - J. Resolution: Authoring Engineer To Prepare Stormwater Report for \$1200

- K. Resolution: Authorizing Transfer of Overpayment To Other Tax Years Or Refund to Owner, Payer or Their Representative
- L. Resolution: Awarding Contract To Schaefer Pyrotechnics, Inc., Fireworks
- M. Resolution: Hiring Recreation Coordinator

Mayor Moore asked if there were any additional items and being none asked committee's reports.

Committeeman Jamison and Sutton said they didn't have anything to add.

Mayor Moore said he heard that there is not going to be a bay day parade this year.

Mayor asked for motion to open meeting to the public.

Mr. Kenneth McGill, Member of the Environmental Commission said that back in President Eisenhower's day that there was a program called Sister Cities and he was wondering if the township might be interested in getting involved or if a committee could be set up to investigate just how the program works. He said in schools they have exchange students from other countries, he said but this can be for businesses, fishing industry, clergy, citizens, he said this is to learn of different cultural, education, government, all aspects of exchange. He said it is just a thought, it does not have to be foreign country, different towns in different states.

Mayor Moore said he thinks the Millville Fire Department is involved with another fire company in Millville, Delaware and they get together and do something.

Committeeman Jamison said that this might be something that the school board would have to get involved in if there was an exchange student program.

Committeeman Jamison and Sutton said they didn't have a problem with it if Mr. McGill wanted to setup a committee or if the environmental commission wanted to look into it. Once they put all the facts together they could present it to the committee for their consideration.

Mr. McGill said possibly we could put it on our website to see what type of feedback we might get.

Mayor Moore said we can do that.

Mrs. Carol Hickman said she had received a note regarding a property on Samuel Drive with a cat problem and that the mayor was going to go out there, she asked if he did.

Mayor Moore said he did go out and the man was not home, he left his card and the gentleman called him back that evening and we had a decent conversation he said he had a problem with his neighbor across the street. I went out and the man said that he takes care of, mayor said I'll say maybe a dozen cats, there were six on the porch and I told him, there has only been one complaint, take care of your cats, don't get anymore and try to work it out with the neighbor.

Mrs. Hickman asked mayor for a copy of the Petsmart Grant Application.

Mayor said yes, he would try to print it out, because it had to be done on line. If not he would try to e-mail it to her or forward, somehow he would get it to her. He said he used a lot of the information her daughter had given him, cut and paste. Mayor said the guy did tell me, he's from Arizona, I'll get back to you and mayor said he asked him to notify him if he had missed submitting something in the grant application. Mayor said he spoke with Bev Greco from SPCA and she said she is doing a different type of grant where cats could get spayed, neutered, shots plus medical attention and she said she was going to include the Laurel Lake area.

Mrs. Hickman asked in the grant was the town listed or the zip code.

Mayor Moore said it was put in as both with explanation.

Mayor Moore asked for additional comments and being none asked for motion to adjourn, which was motioned by Committeemen Sutton and Jamison.

Hannah E. Nichols, Township Clerk