

AGENDA SESSION 1-28-13

President Hyser called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and read the Open Public Meeting Statement:

The notice requirements provided for in the “Open Public Meetings Act” have been satisfied. Notice of this meeting was properly given in a notice which was transmitted to the Times of Trenton and the Trentonian, filed with the Clerk of the Township of Ewing and posted in the Ewing Township Municipal Complex, all on the 2nd day of January 2013.

THE PUBLIC WILL HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL DURING THE “STATEMENTS AND COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC” SEGMENT OF THE MEETING. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE REQUESTED TO SIGN IN ON SHEET PROVIDED IN THE FRONT OF THE ROOM. ALL QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC WILL BE DIRECTED TO THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT, WHEN ADDRESSING THE COUNCIL, PLEASE GIVE YOUR NAME AND YOUR ADDRESS. ANY MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC CAN LEAVE THEIR QUESTION AND CONTACT INFORMATION WITH THE CLERK REGARDING MATTERS THAT NEED RESPONSE BY ADMINISTRATION.

THE COUNCIL INVITES AND ENCOURAGES PARTICIPATION BY THE PUBLIC IN ITS MEETINGS, HOWEVER A MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC MAY UTILIZE FIVE MINUTES OF TIME FOR REMARKS AND QUESTIONS, UNLESS OTHERWISE ENGAGED IN A DIALOGUE WITH A MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL, ANY FURTHER REMARKS OR QUESTIONS BEYOND THE TIME LIMIT MUST BE AUTHORIZED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL.

ROLL CALL

- Mr. Baxter
- Ms. Keyes-Maloney
- Mr. Schroth
- Ms. Wollert
- President Hyser

PRESENTATION

1. Lt. Ronald Lunetta – Officer in Charge – Ewing Township Police Department Quarterly Report

President Hyser asked Lt. Lunetta to give an update on the staffing levels of the department before giving his quarterly report. Lt. Lunetta stated that presently we have 69 within the department and that will drop to 68 when Chief Coulton officially retires on Friday. Frank Masterson will retire at the end of February. They have interviewed two new officers and they are almost ready to start with a target date of February 11th. He also stated that we have four dogs and four handlers for the K-9 Unit. He also stated that there are 11 dispatchers and one is in the process of being hired.

Lt. Lunetta then gave his quarterly report for October, November and December, 2012. He said that crime is down in Ewing. There were 72 burglaries. He stated that there are no real trends, it is just all over the town as a whole. He will send unmarked cars out there and put some eyes on what is going on, but it is difficult because it is all over the town, not just one targeted area. He urged that it is important to get the community involved and if they see anything unusual any time of the day or night, to give them a call. With the partnership of the public, he feels the numbers can come down significantly. Motor vehicle thefts are pretty consistent with 46 in 2011 and 44 in 2012. The things they are most going to concentrate on are the burglaries and thefts. President Hyser asked about the motor vehicles thefts and if they concentrate on one area. Lt. Lunetta said it is all over the town, not in just one area. He spoke briefly on the Township Ordinance violations, more directly with underage drinking and possession of alcohol. He stated that the Mayor has made it a priority in the department and they have complied with that to crack down. They

are taking measures to absolutely curb it. He feels that the students at The College of New Jersey know that they are serious. President Hyser asked Lt. Lunetta if he thinks his more stringent approach is curbing the enthusiasm, to which he replied absolutely. Lt. Lunetta stated that the campus police cooperates with them and gives them what they need, but their manpower doesn't really allow them to help in the patrol aspect of it. President Hyser asked about trends they are seeing in Ewing versus what might be experienced in any of our adjacent communities that we are facing that might be different. Lt. Lunetta stated that he doesn't necessarily see a trend, but the biggest problem is probably our juveniles. If we lock them up, two weeks later they are back doing it again. President Hyser asked about the most problematic intersections in town. Lt. Lunetta commented that the ones that stand out are Route 31 and Ewingville, Parkway and Olden, Route 31 and Olden, Prospect and Olden and Princeton Avenue and Olden. President Hyser thanked Lt. Lunetta for presenting the quarterly report and said she looked forward to receiving his annual report.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Council President reviewed the Consent Agenda.

1. Authorization for the Chief Financial Officer to pay Township bills in the amount of \$2,136,862.85.
2. Approval of minutes of the meeting of January 1, 2013 (Reorganization Meeting), January 7, 2013 (Agenda) and January 8, 2013 (Regular).
3. A Resolution authorizing the conduct of a Casino Night sponsored The Sunshine Foundation on April 20, 2013.
4. A Resolution authorizing the conduct of a Bingo Night sponsored by Incarnation-St. James School Parent Teacher Association on March 9, 2013.
5. A Resolution authorizing the conduct of an On Premise 50/50 Cash Raffle sponsored by Incarnation- St. James School Parent Teacher Association
6. A Resolution authorizing The Township of Ewing to reduce the performance bond(s) of the Christina Seix Academy.

Councilman Baxter asked about #6 with regard to the performance bond and it being a reduction as opposed to a release. Administrator McManimon explained that there are some things that can't be done until the spring, but they have had their final inspection. President Hyser stated that seeing that we have not yet adopted an emergency temporary appropriation, are the bills being paid by the reserve from the 2012 budget. CFO Brewster explained that because we only had a meeting at the beginning of December there is considerable time between now and then for bills to be processed and ready for payment. President Hyser asked if we have had any difficulty with vendors or suppliers because of the length of time in payment. CFO Brewster said they have understood that the cycle of bills lists coincide with the meetings and they have been very patient. The Consent Agenda was approved for action.

ORDINANCE(S) FOR FIRST READING AND INTRODUCTION

ORDINANCE(S) FOR SECOND READING, PUBLIC HEARING AND FINAL ADOPTION

1. AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EWING, IN THE COUNTY OF MERCER, AMENDING TOWNSHIP CODE REGARDING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE EWING REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY (2013)

President Hyser expressed that Charles Latini of CWL Planning, Township Planner and Mr. Kevin McManimon of McManimon, Scotland & Baumann were present to discuss and answer questions regarding these Ordinances. Mr. McManimon gave a

brief overview for the public's edification. There were no questions from Council. This Ordinance was approved for action.

2. AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EWING, IN THE COUNTY OF MERCER, ADOPTING A REDEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE PARKWAY AVENUE REDEVELOPMENT AREA (2013)

President Hyser expressed that at the last meeting, Council and the public heard an hour long presentation from the Planner, Chuck Latini. Mr. McManimon pointed out that the Redevelopment Housing Law sets forth a pretty specific process by which a municipality designates a redevelopment area and adopts a redevelopment plan for that area. Mr. Latini provided a follow up to several questions that were asked the night before. Councilman Baxter asked Mr. Latini what the Rutgers study is saying about the number of kids. Mr. Latini said they use a formula that calculates the number of children per 100 units. He stated that there would be approximately 30 total school children, stretched out over 10-15 years. This Ordinance was approved for action.

NEW BUSINESS

1. A RESOLUTION OF EMERGENCY TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS.

CFO Brewster stated that this is a temporary budget. We are allowed by Statute to appropriate 26.25% of our prior years appropriations, exclusive of debt service, capital improvement and public assistance. This will provide funds in the temporary budget until the end of March, at which time the budget is normally adopted. This Resolution was approved for action.

2. A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TY2011 RESERVE BUDGET TRANSFERS.

CFO Brewster expressed that this is an accounting housecleaning allowed by Statute and we are allowed to transfer between departments the first three months of the succeeding budget year. These are for 2012 appropriations that may have need a little more funds than originally budgeted for. There were no questions from Council and the Resolution was approved for action.

3. A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP OF EWING TO ENTER INTO A PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH SHAREN CLUGSTON, MSN, RN, BC FOR THE PROVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING SERVICES TO THE EWING TOWNSHIP HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Administrator McManimon explained that the word director would be removed from the title of the Resolution and he emailed the Health Officer prior to the meeting to address same. We are required to have a nurse case supervisor in the town and Sharen Clugston used to do that when she worked at Hamilton Township and is retired from there and she also is an instructor for The College of New Jersey's nursing program. She will continue to do this for the township for \$8,000 annually until one of our staff is certified to be a nurse case supervisor. This Resolution was approved for action.

4. A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP OF EWING TO ENTER INTO A HEALTH EDUCATION SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH HEALTH EDUCATION SERVICES FOR THE PROVISION OF HEALTH EDUCATION SERVICES TO THE EWING TOWNSHIP HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Administrator McManimon stated that this is paid out of the Health Trust and she has done this for us before. She comes on an as needed basis to train the health staff and some in the police department for their certifications as is required by the State. This Resolution was approved for action.

~~5. A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUND OF REDEMPTION MONIES TO THIRD PARTY LIENHOLDER.~~

Attorney Cannon asked Council to remove this item from the Agenda. President Hyser asked the Clerk to strike this from the agenda. This item was stricken from the Agenda.

6. A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE MERCER COUNTY, NEW JERSEY MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN.

Administrator McManimon stated that this is a plan in order for us to be eligible for reimbursement of FEMA funds. We are qualified for reimbursement assuming this Resolution passes. President Hyser asked about the Ewing Township officials identified in the plan. Administrator McManimon stated that the officials are our Emergency Management Team made up of Police Chief, the EMS Director, Public Works Director, the Finance Director, the Mayor, the Administrator and our Fire officials. She also asked if it is possible for members of Council to receive the structure and the chain of command for that emergency management team. Administrator McManimon responded. President Hyser asked when Council should expect to see their first quarterly report brought before them. Administrator McManimon responded that it will end March 31, so sometime after that. This Resolution was approved for action.

7. A RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING RAY DIFRANCESCO AS A MEMBER OF THE EWING LAWRENCE SEWERAGE AUTHORITY.

Councilwoman Keyes-Maloney asked how long Mr. DiFrancesco has served on ELSA. Administrator McManimon stated that he was executive director before becoming a member and this will be his second full term. This Resolution was approved for action.

STATEMENTS AND COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Sharon Murray (288 Clamer Road) had questions in regard to the fire hydrants. Her house perished in the fire and she lost everything. She wanted to know what steps are being taken, or have been taken, to restore proper water pressure to the hydrants. President Hyser said that our administration has been in contact with Trenton Water Works. Administrator McManimon expressed his sympathy to Ms. Murray for her loss. He stated that we have been in touch with the Public Works Director of Trenton, the Trenton Water Works Director and the City Administrator. She asked how this information would be communicated to the township residents, i.e. - Facebook, website, etc. Administrator McManimon expressed that we have a township website, Twitter and Facebook. Mayor Steinmann commented that he sent a letter to the Mayor of the City of Trenton which was very abrupt and he also has instructed our attorney that if he doesn't get a satisfactory answer by the end of the week as to what their game plan is moving forward, we will again reintroduce a lawsuit against the City of Trenton. Paul Steward (277 Clamer Road) stated he was there the morning of the fire and watched the firemen's frustration due to the lack of water. He stated that every resident in the township should be afraid to go to sleep at night fearing they might not wake up in the morning. He expressed his frustration and said the neighbors are extremely nervous and upset. President Hyser said that we are all equally concerned and looking for answers expeditiously. Administrator McManimon expressed that we do have tanker trucks on standby that can be utilized that are housed at the Hopewell Public Works Department at the bottom of Scotch Road. President Hyser asked why the hydrants aren't being checked annually. Administrator McManimon stated that the question was posed to the public works director and he awaits their report. Councilwoman Keyes-Maloney commented that she feels for Ms. Murray as a homeowner and she knows we will stay abreast of the situation and expressed to Ms. Murray to please feel free to visit us anytime and we will do what we can as quickly as possible but know that Administration and Council will work together to resolve this issue. Councilman Baxter asked about the tanker truck in Hopewell covering West Trenton and what would happen if something happens in Pennington or Prospect areas. Administrator McManimon explained that Pennington Road gets Pennington Borough and Prospect gets Lawrence Road to back them up. Mayor Steinmann expressed that Hopewell has two tanker trucks because they have no hydrants to protect them. It doesn't make sense for us to purchase tanker trucks. George Steward (30 Gilmore Road) stated that he came to support the neighbors of Wynnewood Manor. His mother, mother-in-law and brother all live in this neighborhood and he is concerned. He asked Council to please not give up on this and please resolve in a proper fashion and find an answer. Trish Decello (10 Chelmsford Drive) commented that she is shocked that it takes this kind of fire to find out our hydrants aren't working. Administrator McManimon responded. She also asked about the housing coming to Parkway Avenue on the GM site and Chuck Latini responded. Ron Prykanowski (16 Thurston Avenue) also commented on the hydrants not being flushed regularly. President Hyser thanked everyone for their comments and stated that we are all Ewing residents and we all want to understand and move on from this as well. She asked Administration to please keep Council informed and on top of this so we can be aware of everything going on.

CLOSED SESSION – A Resolution to Enter into Closed Executive Session

At this time President Hyser asked for a motion to enter into closed executive session. Councilman Baxter moved to enter into closed session, seconded by Councilman Schroth. It was agreed by a unanimous voice vote. Attorney Cannon read the resolution to enter into closed executive session for the public's knowledge and for the purpose of being included in the minutes. Council entered closed executive session at 7:53 p.m. At 8:59 Councilwoman Wollert made a motion to reconvene the regular meeting, seconded by Councilman Schroth.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, President Wollert asked for a motion to adjourn. Councilwoman Keyes-Maloney so moved seconded by Councilwoman Wollert. The meeting was adjourned at 8:59 pm.

Hilary Hyser, President

Kim J. Macellaro, Municipal Clerk