

**TOWNSHIP OF GALLOWAY
REGULAR MEETING OF THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL
MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 12, 2014**

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Purdy.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Coppola, Gargione, Gorman, Maldonado, Meadows and Purdy
Absent: Tyrrell

On January 26, 2014 notice of the meeting was advertised to the Mainland Journal, The Press & the Current & duly posted in Council Chambers and township website.

In lieu of Invocation, Deputy Mayor Coppola offered a Moment of Silence in honor of Veteran's Day.

Councilman Maldonado led the flag salute.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- A. Regular Meeting Minutes – October 14, 2014
- B. Closed Session Minutes – October 14, 2014 as to content only - **TABLED**
- C. Regular Meeting Minutes – October 28, 2014
- D. Closed Session Minutes – October 28, 2014 as to content only

Motions: Maldonado/Coppola

Roll Call: Coppola – Y, Gargione – Y, Gorman – Y, Maldonado – Y, Meadows – Y, and Purdy – Y

Absent: Tyrrell

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilman Meadows: The Veterans' Day ceremony was held on November 11, 2014 and was very well attended. Deputy Mayor Coppola served as Master of Ceremonies. Councilman Meadows added that it was good to see numerous older veterans, who attended in their uniforms.

ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION (First Reading):

None

ORDINANCES FOR PUBLIC HEARING (Second Reading):

1895-2014 – Authorizing Adoption of Redevelopment Plan-Pomona Road

Tiffany CuvIELLO and Jim Maley addressed Mayor & Council and then introduced representatives of the project: Nicholas Talvachio, Attorney; Anthony Sembella, Developer; and Jon Barnhardt, Project Engineer. They gave a brief presentation on the Wawa project and then addressed questions and concerns from Council and residents. It was stressed that the project still must go through full Planning Board review, where issues raised will be examined and addressed.

**TOWNSHIP OF GALLOWAY
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MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 12, 2014**

Motions: Gorman/Gargione

Roll Call: Coppola – Y, Gargione – Y, Gorman – Y, Maldonado – Y, Meadows – Y, and Purdy – Y

Absent: Tyrrell

1899-2014 – Rescinding Ord #1896-2014 & Authorizing Amendment of Redevelopment Plan

Tiffany CuvIELLO and Jim Maley addressed Mayor & Council regarding “Lenox” Plan. This plan addresses a reuse of the current building and the existing rail spur by Barrette Outdoor Living. Any future expansion would have to go through the Planning Board, as well as Council. Several residents had questions/concerns. It was stressed that all concerns can be addressed during the site plan approval process at the Planning Board.

Motions: Gorman/Maldonado

Roll Call: Coppola – Y, Gargione – Y, Gorman – Y, Maldonado – Y, Meadows – Y, and Purdy – Y

Absent: Tyrrell

Township Manager Jacobucci addressed an Ordinance that will be on the next meeting’s agenda for discussion. The Ordinance establishes a 1% set aside program for Veterans. It has been emailed to Mayor & Council for review.

1897-2014 – Bond Ordinance Providing for Various Capital Improvements

1898-2014 - Bond Ordinance Providing for Various Sewer Capital Improvements

Leon Costello, Township Auditor, addressed the meeting regarding details of financing the Bond Ordinances, as well as the impact on the budget. Capt. Chris Doyle and Emergency Manager Mike Brandenberger discussed public safety items in the Ordinance. Public Works Director, Kevin McDowell, and Deputy Public Works Director, Matt Ayers, answered questions regarding expenditures for their department. Additionally, Skip Portale, Fire Chief; Tim McKenna, Facilities Superintendent; and Vince Polistina, Township Engineer, addressed the meeting and answered questions. Several residents (Lisa Tilton, Tom Mitchell, Anna Jezycki, Nick Russo) raised concerns and asked questions, which were addressed.

Motions: Coppola/Gorman

Roll Call: Coppola – Y, Gargione – Y, Gorman – Y, Maldonado – Y, Meadows – Y, and Purdy – Y

Absent: Tyrrell

RESOLUTIONS:

273 -14 - Authorize Payment of Bills in the Amount of \$8,196,991.29

**TOWNSHIP OF GALLOWAY
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Public Comment

Tom Mitchell (ClarksLanding Rd) – Had several questions regarding the bill list and all were answered.

Mayor Purdy noted for the record that Councilman Maldonado had to leave the meeting due to a prior commitment.

Motions: Gorman/Meadows

Roll Call: Coppola - Y, Gargione - Y, Gorman - Y, Meadows - Y, and Purdy – Y

Absent: Maldonado, Tyrrell

274 - 14 - Authorize Council to go into Closed Session – NO CLOSED SESSION

CONSENT AGENDA:

Consent Agenda includes items of business which are not controversial & do not require individual discussion. A Motion approving the Consent Agenda is moved, seconded & voted upon as one item by the Township Council. If any discussion is requested on a Consent Agenda item, it is removed from the Consent Agenda to the Regular Agenda

Resolutions

275-14 – Authorizing a Shared Services Agreement

276-14 – Authorize to Lien Properties for Lawn Maintenance

277-14 – Authorizing the Cancellation and/or Refund of Taxes

278-14 – Authorizing Award of Bid to Woodruff Energy Us, LLC

279-14 – Authorizing Award of Bid to Riggins, Inc.

280-14 – Authorizing Assignment of Lien

281-14 – Authorizing the Cancellation and/or Refund of Taxes

282-14 – Authorizing the Cancellation of 2014 Taxes

283-14 – Authorizing the Refund of 2014 Taxes

284-14 – Authorizing the Acceptance of Property in Lieu of Enforcement of Tax Liens

285-14 – Authorize the Refund of Overpaid Taxes

286-14 – Approving Settlement & Authorizing General Release Agreement

287-14 – Recognizing Certification of the Qualified Participants in the LOSAP Program

Public Hearing and Discussion on Consent Agenda

A. Application to petition to extend licensed premises/Galloway Liquors LLC

B. Absegami Crew Parents Association – Bingo License.

Motion: Gargione/Gorman

Roll Call: Coppola – Y (Abstain from #11A), Gargione – Y, Meadows – Y, and Purdy – Y
(Abstain from #286-14)

Absent: Maldonado, Tyrrell

**TOWNSHIP OF GALLOWAY
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MANAGER'S REPORT:

Manager is in the process of setting up a meeting with NJ American Water to discuss maintenance records/hydrant placement. Tax collection rate through the 4th quarter is 95.96%, compared with 88% last year. Tax Office has done a great job. Galloway will be participating in a pilot program for electronic tax sale this year. Tree lighting is December 8, 2014, at 6:30 pm. Working on getting more community funded events. District 9 Representatives will be in Galloway for a Town Hall meeting following Council Meeting on November 25, 2014.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Councilman Gorman: Thanks to all Veterans and volunteer firemen for jobs well done.

Councilman Gargione: Thanks to all department heads, fire chief and engineer for their presentations tonight.

Councilman Meadows: I have confidence in department heads and Township Manager that the budget being presented is "bare bone". Items presented in regard to public safety, utilities and roads are requirements and represent quality of life issues.

Deputy Mayor Coppola: I ask for thoughts and prayers for Acting Township Clerk Kelli Danieli in the passing of her father. I have confidence in the bond ordinances and the state of the Township budget. Thank you to all department heads for their presentations.

Mayor Purdy: I am very sorry to have missed the Veteran's Day event. I am also very confident in the state of the budget. I want to thank all department heads for presenting their "needs". Council is here to insure the safety of the community and must be diligent in approving items that are required.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Tom Morrow (Upland Avenue) – Atlantic City Electric is coming into Galloway and erecting giant poles on my street. How do they get away with this? This was a fight eight years ago that the Township was involved in.

Mayor Purdy - This is a project using the same voltage – not an increase in voltage, as the prior plan.

Mike Fitzgerald - The details of the project are still under review. The poles originally planned are being downsized, and the Township is waiting on the final plan. A map is to be provided showing the exact locations of the poles. Placement will depend upon easements.

Tom Morrow – I never agreed to any easement, and I don't know how they can put this on my property. This pole will negatively affect my property value, and will not benefit "us".

Deputy Mayor Coppola – Poles are in staging area on Sixth Avenue, and they are monsters.

Mike Fitzgerald – Details on locations and placements have not been provided to the Township. It is not possible for the Township to deny public utility replacing existing poles.

Councilman Meadows – Requirements for poles have been increased post-Sandy. Upgrades must be made, and the Township cannot refuse them.

Tom Morrow – Well, I guess there's nothing that can be done.

Mayor Purdy – We tried. They didn't even come to us for approval – we found out through a resident. We did get AC Electric to downsize on 5' diameter poles with an approximately 7'

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concrete casement at four intersections. Now they will be, I believe, 28" inch poles with guide wires. There was no way we were going to let them put 5' poles. They are going to change that.

Nick Russo (6 Northampton Road) – First, a remark to Deputy Mayor Coppola. Is the new Lenox project going in a manufacturing facility or a warehouse?

Deputy Mayor Coppola – It's still not firm. The initial proposition was for a manufacturing facility, but upon further discussion, it may change. They are not making plastic there – they are assembling.

Nick Russo – Based on my experience, manufacturing facilities generate more jobs. A warehouse does not generate that many jobs.

Deputy Mayor Coppola – It is in our redevelopment area, so we may be able to offer incentives for job creation.

Nick Russo – I just want to mention that with the Wawa project, I hope that ample consideration is being given to the negative impact of increased traffic in that area.

Deputy Mayor Coppola – All of these things will be taken into consideration through the Planning Board approval process. We are hopeful that this project will bring business traffic to the area, which will be beneficial to the area. I am hopeful that it will be a positive addition, and I am taking it with open arms.

Nick Russo – My concern is with a disregard to traffic impact just to get a ratable in place.

Deputy Mayor Coppola – I am not in favor of unbridled growth in the Township, but I do believe Route 30 is an appropriate place for any kind of commercial development.

Nick Russo – My concern is with the intersection and how notorious it is for accidents. I also want to address the issue of tax appeals. I believe there are going to be many appeals this year, particularly from Four Seasons. There are many discrepancies with the assessments. We need to be sharper with how these assessments are done in order to avoid these appeals. I will be in to meet with the Manager. My other concern is with Atlanticare and how much they give back to the community. They use Township equipment and do not pay taxes. They are buying up buildings and turning them into non-profits. As these non-profits keep getting bigger, I feel the taxpayers are losing.

Manager – With many of these issues, it takes State legislation to make changes.

Anna Jezycki (Gail Lane) – Is it true that Family Dollar is going into Smithville and is it true that we will get another ratable in there?

Mayor Purdy – I believe there is an application pending to one of the Boards. There will be a few ratables.

Anna Jezycki – I heard that when the new Police Barracks opens that all the ticketing will go to Port Republic – is that true?

Mayor Purdy – I believe that if a ticket is written in Galloway, it comes to Galloway. If it is written in Port Republic it is heard in Port Republic.

Anna Jezycki – I do have big concerns about Stockton buying up properties. Perhaps a private developer should come forward to build student housing, and then there would be taxes paid.

Mayor Purdy – We are working on that—possibly 250 units. We have had meetings with Stockton College. I talked with them a few weeks ago about putting a meeting together with individuals. Stockton is willing to provide transportation to these units. The Deputy Mayor is working on

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this, and we are very hopeful. Also, there is an application from McDonald's, and we are working on that.

A motion was made by Councilman Meadows to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Accepted:

Kelli Danieli /s/_____

Kelli Danieli
Acting Township Clerk

Don Purdy /s/_____

Mayor Don Purdy