Oldmans Township Committee

Meeting Minutes

September 11, 2024

The regular meeting of the Oldmans Township Committee was held on September 11, 2024. Meeting was called to order by Mayor Murphy at 7:00 pm. This meeting was held in compliance with the Sunshine Law. All joined in the Pledge of Allegiance. A moment of silence was given to remember the Gaudreau Brothers, Johnny and Matthew, and 9/11.

Members Present: David Murphy, Dean Sparks and William Ferrell

Approval of Minutes: August 14, 2024 Regular Meeting

August 14, 2024 Executive Meeting

Mr. Ferrell made a motion to approve, Mr. Sparks seconded and all agreed.

FINANCE:

**Resolution 2024-110** Closing Camp Pedricktown Trust Account

The Township no longer has an ownership interest in Camp Pedricktown. There is $151,108.03 left in the trust account which will be transferred to the general surplus account.

Mr. Sparks made a motion to approve, Mr. Ferrell seconded and both agreed.

PAYMENT OF BILLS Mr. Sparks made a motion to approve, Mr. Ferrell seconded and all agreed.

ADMINISTRATIVE

**Resolution 2024-111** Property Maintenance Lien – Block 35/Lot 2 in the Amount of $307.47

Mr. Ferrell made a motion to approve, Mr. Sparks seconded and both agreed. Mr. Murphy abstained.

**Resolution 2024-112** Temporary Road Closure of S. Railroad Avenue for Pedricktown Day

Mr. Sparks made a motion to approve, Mr. Ferrell seconded and all agreed.

NJ Dept. of Transportation Accessibility and Mobility Pilot Program – if the Township would like to pursue a grant, the deadline is November 14, 2024.

Community Solution Plan – Wastewater Management – A regional wastewater treatment system could be considered in the future. Grants are available through HUD and USDA.

TAX COLLECTOR:

**Resolution 2024-113** Cancellation of Property Tax for Block 13.01/Lot 3.15 – Totally Disabled Veteran

Mr. Ferrel made a motion to approve, Mr. Sparks seconded and all agreed.

**Resolution 2024-114** Cancellation of Property Tax for Block 29.04/Lot 3 – Totally Disabled Veteran

Mr. Ferrell made a motion to approve, Mr. Sparks seconded and all agreed.

**Resolution 2024-115** Cancellation of Property Tax for Block 13/Lot 8.06 & Q-farm – Totally Disabled Veteran

Mr. Ferrell made a motion to approve, Mr. Sparks seconded and all agreed.

CONSTRUCTION DEPT:

**Resolution 2024-116** Refund Permit Fee to Power Energy Solutions i/a/o $268.00

Homeowner changed their mind and cancelled the project.

Mr. Ferrell made a motion to approve, Mr. Sparks seconded and all agreed.

AUBURN WATER:

**Resolution 2024-117** Award of Engineering Contract to Natural Systems Utilities for the Design of a Chlorine Analyzer System for Auburn Water

A proposal not to exceed $4,400 was submitted to engineer the chlorine analyzer system. NSU will assist in preparing the bid package and oversee the installation.

Mr. Ferrell made a motion to approve, Mr. Sparks seconded and all agreed.

EMERGENCY SERVICES:

Logan Volunteer Fire Company Membership – Kyle Ritter. Mr. Sparks made a motion to approve, Mr. Murphy seconded and both agreed. Mr. Ferrell abstained.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Commissioner Cordy Taylor There was a meeting between Salem and Gloucester counties to discuss the closure a trucks on the E. Mill Street bridge. Gloucester County was amendable to the closure. Need to seek approval from Logan Township.

Since the windport has not come to fruition yet, there is the possibility that a data center might be interested in the stie. Artificial Island would be able to provide sufficient power to support the data center.

Keith Walton Wanted to know if the data center was for bit coin.

Cordy Taylor Not, Bitcoin; probably Cloud and/or AI.

Keith Walton Noise level could be a problem since the data machines are very noisy. Also could be a loss of power to the community if the project draws too much electricity.

Dean Sparks A resident has requested that the speed limit coming into the village of Auburn be reduced. One sign reads 45 mph and another reads 50 mph.

Cordy Taylor May be able to use the previous traffic study to support a reduction in the speed limit. Would also need a resolution sent to the Commissioners making the request.

CLOSED TO PUBLIC

Tom Tedesco The repaving of New Road will be going out to bid shortly.

He and Melinda Taylor participated in a call with the NJ Turnpike Authority regarding the widening of the turnpike in Oldmans. The Authority is working on designing a turnaround for emergency vehicles to use. There will be a public meeting the week of November 18th. Both fire chiefs were encouraged to attend the meeting.

Dean Sparks The SADC is still holding meetings for farmland preservation valuation. Should be done early 2025. More funding has been approved for funding farmland preservation.

The State is considering redefining the farmland qualifications.

Mentioned the recent passing of Ralph Tighe.

David Murphy The repaving of Straughns Mill Road (from Route 295 to Pennsville-Auburn Road) has been postponed due to lack of funding. The County will include Straughns Mill in the next round of road improvements, possibly two years from now.

Joe DiNicola Court is scheduled for September 20th to hear the case regarding 191 N. Railroad Avenue. The municipality is seeking to condemn the one side of the duplex.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

**Resolution 2024-118**  Contract Negotiations – Municipal Insurance (7:30 pm)

Contract Negotiations – NJ DEP Service Line Replacement

Contract Negotiations – Affordable Housing Unit

Litigation – Clara Barton Rest Stop

Personnel – Emergency Services

Mr. Ferrell made a motion to approve, Mr. Sparks seconded and all agreed.

SUMMARY: 9:20 pm

Contract Negotiations: Municipal Insurance – Township is considering two companies.

Contract Negotiations: NJ DEP Service Line Replacement – An RFP for engineering services will be sought.

Contract Negotiations: Affordable Housing Unit – Township considering the purchase and rehab of a potential affordable housing unit.

Litigation – Clara Barton Rest Stop

Personnel – Emergency Services

EMERGENCY SERVICES:

Logan Fire was awarded a grant to purchase a brush truck. The issuer of the grant needs an answer as to whether the fire company wishes to accept the grant.

Grant Award: $285,714

5% Match 14,285

Funding: $300,000 (approximate)

Total required to purchase truck is $585,000. It was suggested that funds from the fire truck line item be used toward the purchase of the brush truck; there is $518,000 currently available. There will be future discussion on the budgeting of any future fire trucks and timelines. Mr. Sparks made a motion to approve the additional funding for the purchase of the brush truck, Mr. Murphy seconded and both agreed. Mr. Ferrell abstained.

Mr. Fritz sent a letter requesting a reduction in the speed limit on Pennsville-Pedricktown Road. He recently lost his dog to a fast driver. Mr. Ferrell will talk with Mr. Fritz. A traffic study would be required.

There being no further business, with a motion from Mr. Sparks and seconded by Mr. Ferrrell, all agreed to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Melinda Taylor

Municipal Clerk