

**TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
OCTOBER 12, 2010 MINUTES**

The Tewksbury Township Committee met in a regular/work session on the above date at the Municipal Building, Mountainville, NJ.
The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM, roll call held and a quorum established.
Mayor Robert Hoffman Jr. presided.

Other officials in attendance were Township Committee members Dana Desiderio, Peter Melick, Shaun Van Doren and William Voyce.

Jesse Landon, Township Administrator, Roberta Brassard, Municipal Clerk and Michael Selvaggi, Township Attorney were in attendance.

There were approximately six members of the public in attendance.

1. Open Public Meetings Statement

The Open Public Meetings Statement was read by Mayor Hoffman.

2. Executive Session

At 7:00 PM Ms. Desiderio moved adoption of the following Resolution, seconded by Dr. Voyce. The motion was approved. Ayes: Desiderio, Hoffman, Voyce. Nays: None. Absent: Melick, Van Doren.

**RESOLUTION #93-2010
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN EXECUTIVE SESSION OF THE TEWKSBURY
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE**

BE IT RESOLVED, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-13 and 10:4-12 that the Tewksbury Township Committee hold a closed session to discuss Personnel.

It is expected that the discussion undertaken in closed session can be made public at the time official action is taken.

Robert M. Hoffman, Jr.
Mayor

Mr. Melick arrived at 7:05 PM.

3. Flag Salute

Those present stood and pledged allegiance to the American flag.

4. Presentation

Bill Petrick, Superintendent of Schools was present to discuss the upcoming school budget for 2011, noting that the cap was reduced from 4% to 2% by the Governor. It was noted that the school budget has not increased for 2-3 years and Tewksbury did not utilize the maximum allowable cap amount. Mr. Petrick stressed that the previous budgets did not affect tax payers, and did not adversely affect students. In actuality, the sports program at Tewksbury schools increased, class sizes remained the same and new special education programs were introduced: .the best interests of the students was also maintained.

Mr. Petrick noted that he advised that Committee that the budget would not be able to remain flat forever and that within 2-3 years, the budget would have to grow. The loss of \$600,000 in

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State aid forced the school to look at their spending habits. Mr. Petrick assured the Committee that the school can work with the 2% cap and the staff will continue to “teach to the whole student.”

In closing, Mr. Petrick stated that the Board will draft two budgets: one with the 2% increase which he feels will pass and one with no increase that would negatively affect the students. He cautioned that another flat budget could mean outsourcing with regard to transportation and custodian services, less extra-curricular events, pay to play and the possibility of posting billboards on buses. He noted that he “does not like professionals who are caught by surprise.” He reiterated that he thinks the budget with the 2% increase will pass, but he wants to be prepared for its failure.

He thanked the Committee for allowing him to speak directly with them and requested additional discussions in the future.

In response to a question from Mr. Melick, Mr. Petrick stated that the student population at OTS is currently at a peak. Further discussion followed regarding class size and available space at the two Township schools.

5. Public Participation

There was no public discussion.

6. Actions to be taken

➤ **Consent Agenda**

Mr. Selvaggi read and explained Resolution #94-2010 into the minutes.

Ms. Desiderio requested that the minutes of 10-04-10 be removed from the Consent Agenda.

Mr. Melick requested that the authorization to have the Mayor sign a Blue Light Permit for Webster Todd/OFC be removed from the Consent Agenda.

Dr. Voyce moved adoption of the Consent Agenda as amended, seconded by Mr. Desiderio. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was approved. Ayes: Desiderio, Hoffman, Melick, Van Doren, Voyce. Nays: None.

**RESOLUTION # 94-2010
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RELEASE OF CASH BOND
FOR TEWKSBURY ASSOCIATES, INC.**

WHEREAS, the Developer, Tewksbury Associates, Inc., a New Jersey corporation having a business address at P.O. Box 300, Pottersville, New Jersey 07979, entered into a Developer’s Agreement with the Township of Tewksbury to develop a certain tract of land designated as Block 6 in Lot 23; and

WHEREAS, said Developer’s Agreement obligated the Developer to, among other things, contribute the sum of \$19,257.60 towards the total cost estimate for certain drainage improvements on Hollow Brook Road; and

WHEREAS, the Developer’s Agreement provided that if the Township had not commenced with the construction of the drainage improvements within five (5) years from the date of the agreement, or if the Township has not completed construction of same within six (6) years from

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the date of the agreement, the Township shall release from escrow the contribution and refund same to the Developer; and

WHEREAS, five (5) years have elapsed from the date of the Developer's Agreement and the Township has not commenced with the construction of the drainage improvements; and

WHEREAS, the Developer has further elected to preserve the property for farmland in accordance with the State Agricultural Development Committee, Hunterdon County, Tewksbury Township; and

WHEREAS, the Developer by way of a letter dated September 15, 2010, requested the refund and return of the contribution; and

WHEREAS, the Township is prepared to do so, subject to the payment of any outstanding fees.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Tewksbury, in the County of Hunterdon, and State of New Jersey, that the Contribution of \$20,482.58 be released, except for any amounts due and owing to the Township for professional services expended in connection herewith.

Robert M. Hoffman, Jr.
Mayor

MISCELLANEOUS

- Claims as submitted by the CFO
- Correspondence List

ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

Dr. Voyce made a motion to adopt the minutes of 10/04/10, seconded by Mr. Melick. The motion was approved. Ayes: Hoffman, Melick, Van Doren, Voyce. Nays: None. Abstain: Desiderio.

- Regular minutes of 10/04/10

Dr. Voyce made a motion to authorize the Mayor sign a Blue Light Permit for Webster Todd/OFC, seconded by Ms. Desiderio. The motion was approved. Ayes: Desiderio, Hoffman, Van Doren, Voyce. Nays: None. Abstain: Melick.

- Authorization to have the Mayor sign a Blue Light Permit for Webster Todd/OFC

The Committee requested that a copy of item "e" be made available.

Mr. Van Doren arrived at 8:00 PM.

7. Reports

- **Township Committee Sub Committees & Township Committee Comments**

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Mr. Melick noted that there is a new member on the Tewksbury Board of Education. Mr. Melick questioned if Resolutions and Ordinances could be posted on the Township website prior to their adoption. Mr. Selvaggi noted that Ordinances could not be posted until after introduction, but Resolutions could be posted as long as a disclaimer was included that the Resolution was subject to change until adopted.

Mr. Landon stated that he would check with the Police Chief regarding the status of the proposed Towing Ordinance.

Dr. Voyce noted that Clean Up Day is scheduled for 10/16/10 from 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM.

Ms. Desiderio noted that the Land Use Board is in the process of the Master Plan re-examination.

Ms. Desiderio noted that the Hunterdon County Planning Board is still looking for nominations for facilities to submit for planning awards.

Mr. Van Doren thanked everyone for their support of and participation in the events hosted by the reconstituted 2005 Committee. The group raised over \$4000.00 to help defray the cost of the festivities held last month following the Harvest Festival.

He noted a 08/27/10 letter from the Highlands Council and the need to meet their deadline. It was noted that the Land Use Administrator has already asked for an extension.

He added that he will have draft amendments to the DRO for discussion and introduction at an upcoming meeting.

Mayor Hoffman stated that the recent Harvest Festival went very well and he thanked all groups that were involved in the event.

He noted a change to the Engineer's report regarding comments made by him pertaining to Bissell Road improvements.

He questioned the letter received from Erik Peterson regarding a property in Mountainville. Mr. Selvaggi suggested that Mr. Peterson and his client come to an upcoming Township Committee meeting to discuss the request.

He questioned a bill on the bill list for lawn mowers purchased by DPW. Mr. Landon stated that he would look further into the matter to determine if the purchase should be under capital expenses.

➤ **Township Attorney**

Mr. Selvaggi commented on the Wood/O'Neill matter and the Saloman matter.

➤ **Township Administrator**

Mr. Landon noted his memo dated 10/05/10 regarding rescue squad coverage for 20+ residences on Califon-Cokesbury Road. The recommendation is to have Tewksbury Rescue Squad (TRS) take over coverage on Califon-Cokesbury Road from Route 639 to Mount Grove Road and Califon Rescue as primary coverage from Mount Grove Road to Philhower Road.

Paul Zanelli, Chief of the TRS stated that Lebanon First Aid Squad (LFAS) was the primary squad being alerted for six specific residences on Califon-Cokesbury Road. The LFAS no

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longer is operative and the Lebanon Fire Department is now covering the area. He noted that Whitehouse Rescue has been an excellent partner with the TRS.

Mr. Van Doren made a motion to approve the changes in rescue squad coverage for Califon Cokesbury Road as outlined in the 10/05/10 memo from the Township Administrator, seconded by Ms. Desiderio. The motion was approved. Ayes: Desiderio, Hoffman, Melick, Van Doren. Nays: None. Abstain: Voyce.

8. Executive Session

At 8:40 PM Mr. Melick moved adoption of the following Resolution, seconded by Dr. Voyce. The motion was approved. Ayes: Desiderio, Hoffman, Melick, Van Doren, Voyce. Nays: None.

**RESOLUTION #95-2010
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN EXECUTIVE SESSION OF THE TEWKSBURY
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE**

BE IT RESOLVED, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-13 and 10:4-12 that the Tewksbury Township Committee hold a closed session to discuss Contract Negotiations and Personnel.

It is expected that the discussion undertaken in closed session can be made public at the time official action is taken.

Robert M. Hoffman, Jr.
Mayor

9. Reconvened

The meeting reconvened at 8:45 PM.

10. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Roberta A. Brassard
Municipal Clerk