

**TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE  
JANUARY 10, 2012 MINUTES**

The Tewksbury Township Committee met in a regular session on the above date at the Municipal Building, Mountainville, NJ.

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 PM, roll call held and a quorum established. Mayor Dana Desiderio presided.

Other officials in attendance were Township Committee members Louis DiMare, 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 four members of the public in attendance.

**1. Open Public Meetings Statement**

The Open Public Meetings Statement was read by Mayor Desiderio.

**2. Executive Session**

At 7:15 PM Mr. Melick moved adoption of the following Resolution, seconded by Dr. Voyce. The motion was approved. Ayes: Desiderio, DiMare, Melick, Van Doren, Voyce. Nays: None.

**RESOLUTION #28-2011  
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.

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Dana Desiderio  
Mayor

**3. Reconvened**

The Meeting reconvened at 7:30 PM.

**4. Flag Salute**

Those present stood and pledged allegiance to the American flag.

**5. Public Participation**

Nicholas Nacamuli, vice president of the North Hunterdon Voorhees (NHV) Board of Education presented information on the five year strategic plan for the school which will be presented to the Board for approval on 02-07-12.

Mr. Nacamuli noted that the enrollment projection for the coming years is steady and most of the schools are currently at capacity. He added that 20.5 staff positions have been eliminated in

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the past three years. It was added that School Board elections may be moved to the general election in November and if the budget remains below the 2% cap, it would eliminate the need to vote on a school budget.

Mr. Nacamuli noted that the main challenge facing the Board is keeping programs in place, as the increase in fixed costs make it difficult to maintain many of the programs offered by the schools.

Discussion followed regarding the special education offered at the schools and how more autism services are being offered at Voorhees High School.

Robert Becker NHV representative for Tewksbury and Califon stated that the out of district special education students have been brought in to NHV program and the economic savings have been substantial

In response to a question from Mr. DiMare, Mr. Becker stated that there is a large learning curve for him as he is new to the Board. He noted that there is a need for better governance and a transfer of continuity between Board members. He added that he would like to see small work groups help in the day to day function of the Board and would appreciate working with the Township Committee through coordination with the district office.

**6. Actions to be taken**

• **Proclamation**

Mr. Melick made a motion to accept the following Proclamation, seconded by Dr. Voyce. The motion was approved. Ayes: Desiderio, DiMare, Melick, Van Doren, Voyce. Nays: None.

**PROCLAMATION  
TO HONOR BENJAMIN WILLIAM GASSLER**

**WHEREAS**, Benjamin William Gassler, Boy Scouts of America, Troop 199, has attained the designation of Eagle Scout, Scouting's highest award; and

**WHEREAS**, Benjamin William Gassler has been an active Scout demonstrating outstanding leadership and has contributed many service hours during his years of Scouting; and

**WHEREAS**, Benjamin William Gassler's Eagle Scout project consisted of three separate parts that in total contributed to the beautification of Saint Luke's Parish in Washington Township; and

**WHEREAS**, Benjamin William Gassler installed nine Memorial Plaques using concrete forms and non rotting lumber, remounted the engraved brass plates and produced three additional Memorial Plaques for future use by the Parish; and

**WHEREAS**, Benjamin William Gassler removed excessive overgrowth in the Parish Courtyard area and replaced with hydrangea and a Japanese Maple Tree in the center of Courtyard; and

**WHEREAS**, Benjamin William Gassler weeded and re-mulched the 110' x 35' area known as Daffodil Hill and fixed the rubber edging around the area; and

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**WHEREAS**, Benjamin William Gassler's project involved over 228.5 volunteer hours and was completed for the cost of \$1,391.17.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Township Committee of the Township of Tewksbury, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey hereby extends to Benjamin William Gassler individually, collectively and with great pride, sincere congratulations for achieving this highest of Scouting awards which symbolizes the American ideal of good citizenship and service to community; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Township Committee wishes Benjamin William Gassler much success in all his future endeavors.

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Dana Desiderio  
Mayor

- **Ordinance Introduction**

Dr. Voyce made a motion to introduce Ordinance #01-2012, seconded by Mr. DiMare.

In response to a question from Mr. Van Doren, Mr. Landon and Mr. Selvaggi explained that the 2.5% and 3.5% cap referred to in the Ordinance is not the same cap amount that affects the municipal budget.

There being no additional comments, the above noted motion was approved. Ayes: Desiderio, DiMare, Melick, Van Doren, Voyce. Nays: None.

The Public Hearing will be held on 02/14/12 at 7:30 PM.

**ORDINANCE #01-2012  
CALENDAR YEAR 2012  
ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO  
ESTABLISH A CAP BANK  
(N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)**

- **Consent Agenda**

Mr. Melick requested that the authorization to have the Clerk sign the OFC junior membership for David Sulpy and the Executive Session minutes of 12/13/12 be removed from the Consent Agenda.

Mr. Van Doren requested that the minutes of 01-02-12 be removed from the Consent Agenda.

Mayor Desiderio stated that she would like to discuss items "j", "k" and "q" as listed on the Correspondence List.

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

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**MISCELLANEOUS**

- Correspondence List
- Claims of 12/27/11 and 01/10/12 as submitted by the CFO
- Regular minutes of 12/13/11

**ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA**

Dr. Voyce made a motion authorizing the Clerk to sign OFC junior membership for David Sulpy, seconded by Mr. Van Doren. The motion was approved. Ayes: Desiderio, DiMare, Van Doren, Voyce. Nays: None. Abstain: Melick.

- Authorization to have Clerk sign OFC junior membership for David Sulpy

Mr. Van Doren made a motion to adopt the minutes of 01-02-12, stating that he would submit corrections to the Clerk, seconded by Dr. Voyce. The motion was approved. Ayes: Desiderio, DiMare, Melick, Van Doren, Voyce. Nays: None.

- Minutes of 01-02-12

The following discussion dealt with item “j” from the Correspondence List.

Mayor Desiderio stated that she would like to respond to the letter submitted by Mr. Sipos. It was noted that the letter was forwarded to the Police as many of the raised issues are Police matters.

Discussion followed regarding the history of the problems between neighbors and the need to respond to the letter.

The following discussion dealt with item “q” from the Correspondence List.

Mayor Desiderio noted that the Board of Health is interested in attending an upcoming Township Committee meeting to discuss concerns related to septic issues in the Township. It was the consensus of the Committee that the members of the Board of Health be invited to the 02-28-12 meeting.

The following discussion dealt with item “k” from the Correspondence List.

Mayor Desiderio stated that she would like to have the Township participate in the upcoming Louis Bay 2<sup>nd</sup> Future Municipal Leaders Scholarship Competition.

**7. Reports**

➤ **Township Committee Sub Committees & Township Committee Comments**

Mr. Van Doren stated that he and Mr. Melick need to meet with Mr. Landon and Ms. McGrorey to discuss financial issues, the 2011 audit and the 2012 budget. Further comments were made regarding the ongoing fuel oil matter.

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Mr. Van Doren stated his disappointment with the letter received from the BPU regarding power problems on Hell Mountain. He stated that the "political hacks" do not want to take any responsibility for the problems that cause brown outs, power surges, loss of power and damage to appliances. He surmised that the substation will not solve these problems.

Mr. Van Doren stated that another letter needs to be written to the BPU authorizing JCP&L to conduct testing on the underground wires in order to determine the cause of the problems.

Mr. Melick stated that he spoke with John Anderson from JCP&L who advised that when the substation is active, the problems in the area will cease to occur.

In response to a question from Mr. DiMare, Mr. Selvaggi stated that politically it could be beneficial to write to the BPU although the response might be the same. Mr. Selvaggi added that having documentation regarding the Hell Mountain issues would be beneficial in the event the outages continued after the activation of the substation.

Mr. Van Doren agreed to draft a letter to the BPU, adding that Mr. Anderson should be invited to an upcoming Committee meeting to hear the issues of the constituents and Committee.

Mr. Landon stated that he has been working with the Mayor of Califon Borough to coordinate a meeting with a representative from JCP&L for the 02-28-12 meeting.

Mr. Melick noted that there will be additional tree clearing in the Dinner Pot area of the Township on Route 517.

Mr. DiMare noted that there has been tree cutting in the right of way on Salter's Farm Road prior to 2012 road work and there may be calls from unhappy residents.

He noted that he spoke with William Carver and William Clark regarding drainage issues on their properties. Mr. Carver claims that the erosion on his property is directly related to the construction of the Police Administration Building. Mr. Clark claims that his property is being affected because of the accumulated run off of soil and debris from Mr. Carver's property onto his property. Mr. Dimare stated that he walked both properties and it is evident that there is a problem.

Discussion followed regarding a possible pending lawsuit.

Mayor Desiderio added that the Hunterdon County Roads Department did some work on Mr. Carver's property to alleviate the problem. She suggested that Mr. DiMare get that information prior to having Mr. Carver and Mr. Clark come to a Committee meeting.

Dr. Voyce noted that there has recently been a case of meningitis and pertussis in Hunterdon County.

Mayor Desiderio noted items recently discussed at the Land Use Board meeting. She added that she has attended the reorganization meetings of the Board of Health and Environmental Commission and they were appreciative of her attendance. She added that she has been named Chair of the County Planning Board.

Mayor Desiderio would like the Pledge of Allegiance recited at all Township meetings.

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**8. Appointments**

Mr. Melick made a motion to appoint Greg Davidson as the Alternate #2 to the Parks Committee to complete an unexpired term through 12/31/12, seconded by Dr. Voyce. The motion was approved. Ayes: Desiderio, DiMare, Melick, Van Doren, Voyce. Nays: None.

Mr. Melick made a motion to appoint Ann Rotunno as the Alternate #2 to the Equestrian Committee through 12/31/13, seconded by Mr. Van Doren. The motion was approved. Ayes: Desiderio, DiMare, Melick, Van Doren, Voyce. Nays: None.

**9. Reports (continued)**

➤ **Township Attorney**

Mr. Van Doren stated that he would like to have additional language added to the Township Ethics Policy regarding recusal. Discussion followed regarding the policy and the possibility of amending the language. Mr. Selvaggi stated that he would submit the proposed language to Mr. Landon for dissemination to the Committee.

➤ **Township Administrator**

Mr. Landon noted the following items from his report.

- Mayor Desiderio and Mr. Melick will be the liaisons to the Hunter's Glen Homeowner's Association with regard to repairs of the wastewater treatment plant.
- The Town Hall meeting is scheduled for 01-17-12 at 7:00 PM.
- The Auditors finished their preliminary review and the results are favorable.
- The upcoming Township Committee meeting will be to discuss the Highlands issues. The Township Planner will be in attendance.
- Ordinance review is ongoing.
- JCP&L will be invited to attend the 02-24-12 meeting along with representatives from Califon Borough.

**10. Executive Session**

At 8:30 PM Mr. Melick moved adoption of the following Resolution, seconded by Dr. Voyce. The motion was approved. Ayes: Desiderio, DiMare, Melick, Van Doren, Voyce. Nays: None.

**RESOLUTION #30-2011  
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.

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

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Dana Desiderio  
Mayor

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**11. Reconvened**

The meeting reconvened at 9:05 PM.

Mr. Van Doren made a motion to adopt the Executive Session minutes of 12/13/11 as amended, seconded by Mr. Melick. The motion was approved. Ayes: Desiderio, DiMare, Melick, Van Doren, Voyce. Nays: None.

- Executive Session minutes of 12/13/11

**12. Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:05 PM.

Roberta A. Brassard  
Municipal Clerk