

**TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
APRIL 8, 2014 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 7:30 PM, roll call held and a quorum established. Mayor Shaun Van Doren presided.

Other officials in attendance were Township Committee members Dana Desiderio, Louis DiMare, Peter Melick and William Voyce.

Jesse Landon, Township Administrator, Roberta Brassard, Municipal Clerk and Katrina Campbell, sitting in for the Township Attorney were in attendance.

There were approximately ten members of the public in attendance.

1. Open Public Meetings Statement

The Open Public Meetings Statement was read by Mayor Van Doren.

2. Flag Salute

Those present stood and pledged allegiance to the American flag.

3. Public Participation

There were no comments heard from the public.

4. Actions to be Taken

• 2013 Citizen of the Year

Mr. DiMare read the following Proclamation into the minutes.

Mr. DiMare made a motion to approve the Proclamation for the 2013 Citizen of the Year, seconded by Dr. Voyce. The motion was approved. Ayes: Desiderio, DiMare, Melick, Van Doren, Voyce. Nays: None.

**PROCLAMATION TO RECOGNIZE THE
2013 CITIZEN OF THE YEAR FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF TEWKSBURY**

WHEREAS, it is the annual custom for the Mayor of the Township of Tewksbury to proclaim the virtues of an outstanding citizen and to award the title Citizen of the Year through Proclamation; and

WHEREAS, this award is in recognition of the many contributions made by individuals and groups over the years which benefit all Township residents; and

WHEREAS, this individual has served the Township of Tewksbury since 2002 as a member of the Township Environmental Commission; and

WHEREAS, this individual has volunteered to assist with the annual Water Test program and has volunteered for the water chestnut Pascale pond cleanup; and

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WHEREAS, this individual has been a volunteer for the Little League and has participated in the Oldwick Fire Company 75th Anniversary Parade with his antique car.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that as the 2013 Mayor of the Township of Tewksbury, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, I do hereby proclaim the 2013 Tewksbury Citizen of the Year to be Mario Colitti.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this proclamation shall be presented in its entirety in the minutes of the Tewksbury Township Committee so that all may recognize the contributions that Mario Colitti has made to the quality of life in the Township of Tewksbury and so that we may honor his contributions now and in the future.

Louis DiMare
2013 Mayor

Mario Colitti thanked the Mayor and Committee for the honor of being named Citizen of the Year, adding that many people work to make Tewksbury the magical place to live that he is fortunate to call home.

- **Ordinance Introduction Ordinance #02-2014**

Mr. Melick moved to Introduce Ordinance #02-2014, seconded by Dr. Voyce. The motion was approved. Ayes: Desiderio, DiMare, Melick, Van Doren, Voyce. Nays: None.

**TOWNSHIP OF TEWKSBURY
COUNTY OF HUNTERDON
ORDINANCE # 02-2014**

**AN ORDINANCE TO FUND ADMINISTRATION AND POLICE COMPUTER MAIN
SERVERS, IMPROVEMENTS TO MUNICIPAL FACILITIES AND DPW EQUIPMENT**

The public hearing is scheduled for May 13, 2014 at 7:30 PM.

- **Consent Agenda**

Mr. DiMare requested that the amendments to the Personnel Policy be removed from the Consent Agenda and discussed separately.

Mayor Van Doren requested that the executive session minutes of 4/1/14 be removed from the Consent Agenda and approved separately.

Mr. Melick stated that he would like a copy of item "q" from the Correspondence List.

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

RESOLUTION #52-2014

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CANCELLATION OF TAXES

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Tewksbury, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey that the Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to make the following cancellation of taxes.

<u>Block</u>	<u>Lot</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount</u>
	10 2	2014	76.44
35	8.08	2014	46.90

Shaun Van Doren
Mayor

MISCELLANEOUS

- Claims as submitted by the CFO
- Regular and e/s minutes of 03-25-14
- Correspondence List
- To authorize Shana Goodchild to act on Zoning permits in an emergency situation (Zoning Officer's absence)

ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

Ms. Desiderio moved to approve the executive session minutes of 4/1/14, seconded by Mr. DiMare. The motion was approved. Ayes: Desiderio, DiMare, Voyce. Nays: None. Abstain: Melick, Van Doren.

- Executive Session minutes of 4-1-14

Mr. DiMare stated that minutes for the open portion of the 4-1-14 meeting need to be written.

- Amendments to Personnel Policy

Mr. DiMare stated that he had several questions regarding the amendments to the Personnel Policy and was not sure if the discussion should be held in closed session. He stated that he felt some of the proposed language was vague and incomplete, adding that it may be more appropriate to have Mr. Selvaggi meet with a subcommittee and Mr. Landon to review the "piecemeal" changes that have been ongoing since 2003.

It was the consensus of the Committee to defer adoption of the proposed changes and to convene a subcommittee consisting of Mr. DiMare, Dr. Voyce, Mr. Landon and Mr. Selvaggi to discuss a more thorough review of the Personnel Policy.

- Signing of Tewksbury Rescue Squad (TRS) Lease

Mr. Melick made a motion authorizing the signing of the TRS lease as the current lease expires

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4-30-14, seconded by Ms. Desiderio.

It was noted that the entire Committee had not received the lease nor had the TRS members been consulted regarding any changes they may wish. Mr. Landon noted that he had received no complaints from the Squad members.

Mayor Van Doren stated that the matter be held for the 04-22-14 meeting and that the document be forwarded to all Committee members.

Mr. Melick withdrew his motion authorizing the signing of the TRS lease, Ms. Desiderio withdrew her second to the motion.

5. Reports

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

Mr. Melick noted rough roads and wet fields.

Dr. Voyce noted a recent motor vehicle accident that required a helicopter. He added that a TRS member was involved in an accident during the line of duty.

Mayor Van Doren stated that he would like to adjourn the public hearing on the 2014 Budget scheduled for 04-22-14 as he hopes that FEMA funds will be forthcoming and the tax rate will not have to be raised. He suggested having a temporary budget prepared for the 4-22-14 meeting.

Mr. Landon noted that he was informed that the Township should be updated by FEMA by the end of May regarding receipt of funds.

Mayor Van Doren noted that he has been contacted by a Legislator regarding his letter pertaining to Home Rule specifically related to the substation and the helistop. A meeting is being organized.

Mayor Van Doren noted that he, Ms. Desiderio, Mr. Landon, Harold Wrede and John Anderson met recently to discuss landscaping on Fox Hill Road. Discussion followed regarding the landscaping plan, plants that were planted that had subsequently died, plants that were not planted and how to best shield the substation from the travelling public.

Ms. Desiderio noted an issue with bamboo being planted that could kill newly planted spruce trees.

➤ **Township Attorney**

Ms. Campbell had nothing to discuss in open session.

➤ **Township Administrator**

Mr. Landon noted the upcoming Township events, adding that Arbor Day is tentatively scheduled for April 29 at the Tewksbury Elementary School.

6. Executive Session

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At 8:02 PM Dr. Voyce moved adoption of the following Resolution, seconded by Mr. DiMare. The motion was approved. Ayes: Desiderio, DiMare, Melick, Van Doren, Voyce. Nays: None.

**RESOLUTION #53-2014
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, Advice of Attorney and Land Acquisition.

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

Shaun Van Doren
Mayor

7. Reconvened

The meeting reconvened at 8:42 PM.

Mr. Melick did not participate in the following discussion as he did not return to the meeting.

Ms. Desiderio made a motion to submit an application to Hunterdon County for the property as discussed in executive session on the condition that once the easement is in place, the remaining lands be merged into the original 65 acre adjacent farm, seconded by Dr. Voyce. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was approved. Ayes: Desiderio, DiMare, Van Doren, Voyce. Nays: None. Absent: Melick.

In response to a question from Mr. Landon, it was the consensus of the Committee that they agreed with Mayor Van Doren's proposal to adjourn the public hearing and adoption of the 2014 Budget in the hopes that FEMA funds would be forthcoming and the tax rate would remain unchanged.

Discussion followed regarding the implementation of summer hours for 2014. Mr. Landon stated that 60% of employees were in favor of reduced hours.

In response to a question from Ms. Desiderio, Mr. Landon stated that he had not heard of the request from the DPW related to a 6:00 am – 2:00 pm work day.

Ms. Desiderio questioned why summer hours needed to be for all departments, especially since most of the dissension was from the DPW.

Mayor Van Doren opined that it would be confusing to the residents for different departments to have different schedules.

Mr. DiMare noted that initially summer hours were implemented as an energy savings strategy, but it was a "nice thing" to do for the employees.

Ms. Desiderio made a motion that Township offices have summer hours in July and August for 2014 as has been done in the past, seconded by Dr. Voyce. A roll call vote was taken and the

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motion was approved. Ayes: Desiderio, DiMare, Van Doren, Voyce. Nays: None. Absent: Melick.

Mayor Van Doren noted a letter he received (and copied to the Committee) regarding the matter previously discussed related to matter of a resident seeking relief of a zoning matter. The property has an existing shed and the applicant wishes to install a generator. Application fees were waived based on advise of counsel, but the applicant now wants to install the generator and not remove the shed.

Both Mr. Landon and Mayor Van Doren spoke with the applicant and advised them to present the two matters together in one application to the Land Use Board. It was stated that both matters need to be adjudicated prior to moving forward.

Mayor Van Doren stated that the following be scheduled for the 4-22-14 meeting.

- Discussion of the solar and wind ordinances
- 2014 Budget
- 2014 school budget

Mayor Van Doren stated that the following be scheduled for the 5-13-14 meeting.

- Proclamations for two Eagle Scouts and seven Girl Scouts receiving their Gold Awards

8. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:54 PM.

Roberta A. Brassard
Municipal Clerk