

WHITE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING DECEMBER 10, 2015

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Holly Mackey called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and stated 'Adequate Notice of this meeting of December 10, 2015 has been given in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act by forwarding a notice of the date, time, and location of the meeting to the Express-Times and Star-Gazette; and by posting a copy thereof on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building and the township website. Formal action may be taken at this meeting. Public participation is encouraged. This agenda is subject to last minute additions and deletions by the White Township Committee'.

FLAG SALUTE

The Mayor asked everyone to stand for the flag salute.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Mackey, Committeemen Herb and Race, Attorney Katherine Fina and Clerk Kathleen Reinalda.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

RESOLUTIONS

Res. 2015-61: Motion made by Mr. Race, seconded by Mr. Herb and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote to approve the following resolution. Herb – yes, Mackey – yes, Race – yes. Resolution adopted.

WHEREAS, the White Township Tax Assessor received certification from the Department of Veterans Affairs confirming the status of a permanent and totally disabled veteran for the owner of Block 13 Lot 29, at 15 Buckhorn Drive; and

WHEREAS, the property owner, Edward E. Dowdell, applied for this exemption with the Tax Assessor on 11/30/15; and

WHEREAS, this property will remain exempt from property tax while it remains the principal residence of the permanent and totally disabled veteran; and

WHEREAS, the property owner paid \$5,600.64 for 2015 taxes and is requesting a refund of \$491.02 which represents taxes overpaid from the date he became eligible for this tax exemption, 11/30/15.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of White, County of Warren, and the State of New Jersey that the overpayment of 2015 taxes be refunded and the records of the Tax Collector be adjusted to reflect the exempt status of the property.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this Resolution be provided to the Tax Collector and Chief Financial Officer.

Res. 2015-62: Motion made by Mr. Race, seconded by Mr. Herb and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote to approve the following resolution. Herb – yes, Mackey – yes, Race – yes. Resolution adopted.

WHEREAS, the White Township Tax Assessor received certification from the Department of Veterans Affairs confirming the status of a permanent and totally disabled veteran for the owner of Block 69 Lot 24.17, at 29 Tamarack Road; and

WHEREAS, the property owner, Merrill W. Trabold, applied for this exemption with the Tax Assessor on 11/23/15; and

WHEREAS, this property will remain exempt from property tax while it remains the principal residence of the permanent and totally disabled veteran; and

WHEREAS, the property owner paid \$7,795.15 for 2015 taxes and is requesting a refund of \$832.91 which represents taxes overpaid from the date he became eligible for this tax exemption, 11/23/15.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of White, County of Warren, and the State of New Jersey that the overpayment of 2015 taxes be refunded and the records of the Tax Collector be adjusted to reflect the exempt status of the property.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this Resolution be provided to the Tax Collector and Chief Financial Officer.

OLD BUSINESS

Mayor and Committee discussed open space preservation application procedures. The township's land preservation professional group, The Land Conservancy of NJ, will be asked to put a timeline of procedures together to help the township and applicants better understand the process from start to finish.

NEW BUSINESS

The Open Space Committee prepared the PIG Grant renewal application and presented it for governing body approval. Motion made by Mr. Race, seconded by Mr. Herb and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote to authorize the clerk to process the application by the December 15th deadline. Herb – yes, Mackey – yes, Race – yes. Motion carried.

The Rothman preservation application has received a certified market value. It is \$4000/acre. The Land Conservancy of NJ is seeking permission to notify the landowners. This was approved on motion by Mr. Race, seconded by Mayor Mackey with Mr. Herb abstaining. Herb – abstain, Mackey – yes, Race – yes. Motion carried.

The request from the Goodwill Fire Company to adopt an ordinance enabling the fire company to bill insurance companies for their time and equipment was tabled for further review.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

CORRESPONDENCE

The NJ Department of Agriculture completed a review of the gypsy moth damage in White Township. It was determined that the only significant damage occurred in the area of Winding Way. However, several complaints were received from the Buckhorn/Summerfield section of the township. The clerk was asked to gather additional information prior to committing to the spraying of the Winding Way area.

PRESENTATION OF MINUTES

The approval of the November 12, 2015 Regular Meeting minutes was tabled.

PRESENTATION OF VOUCHERS

On motion by Mr. Herb, seconded by Mr. Race and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Committee approved the following list of bills:

<u>Check No.</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Payee</u>
14220	35.00	Andy Sillett
14221	1,000.00	Arae Network Solutions
14222	4,507.26	Belvidere Sand & Gravel
14223	58.12	Centurylink
14224	185.80	Comcast
14225	50.00	Discovery Benefits Inc.

14226	99.80	Elizabethtown Gas
14227	61.39	Elizabethtown Gas
14228	125.00	Fragrant Designs Florist
14229	784.00	Gebhardt & Kiefer
14230	36.97	Hope Township
14231	99.00	Institute for Professional Development
14232	299.76	JCP&L
14233	180.76	Kathleen Reinalda
14234	4,241.70	Maser Consulting P.A.
14235	494.30	Montague Tool & Supply Co.
14236	280.00	Mr. John Inc.
14237	97.48	Napa Belvidere
14238	42.72	Nestle Pure Life
14239	4,512.50	Newport Landscaping LLC
14240	1,037.30	NJ American Water Company
14241	388.44	NJN Publishing
14242	46.21	Rigo's General Hardware
14243	162.00	Riverbend Advertiser
14244	604.00	Robert Blease DVM
14245	221.26	Sanico, Inc.
14246	1,591.90	Smith Motor Company
14247	50.00	State Treasurer
14248	80.00	Swift Print Solutions LLC
14249	54.20	Verizon Wireless
14250	1,431.55	Vital Communications
14251	573,011.00	White Township Board of Education
14252	547.63	Xerox Corporation

Total Paid.....\$596,417.05

On motion by Mr. Herb, seconded by Mr. Race and carried by unanimous favorable vote, the following Resolution was adopted:

RESOLUTION - EXECUTIVE SESSION

WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of White, as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from discussion, and action upon the hereinafter

specified subject matter, December 10, 2015, 8:05pm:

Personnel Matters
(2016 Appointments)

2. It is anticipated at this time, the above-stated subjects will be made public at such time when the matters discussed are no longer sensitive. Motion passed.

On motion by Mr. Herb, seconded by Mr. Race, the meeting was re-opened to the public at 8:19p.m. Motion passed. No action was taken in Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 8:21pm on motion by Mr. Herb, seconded by Mr. Race and carried by unanimous favorable vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathleen R. Reinalda, RMC
Township Clerk