

WHITE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING

DECEMBER 8, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Herb called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and stated ‘Adequate Notice of this meeting of December 8, 2021 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 Warren County Zone and The Star- Ledger; 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 Herb, Committeewoman Skoog, Clerk Kathleen Reinalda, Deputy Clerk Brielle Whitmore and Attorney Tipton. Deputy Mayor Collom was absent.

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER UPDATE

ACO, Robert Lagonera provided a brief update on the status of the cat nuisance complaint at Buttzville Court. Ms. Rogers pled guilty to the nuisance violations. Fines were imposed. If the nuisance behavior continues, the neighbors can file further complaints with the court.

OLD BUSINESS

Tim Matthews, resident and local forester, offered to provide preliminary information on the foresting of trees on Block 18, Lot 93. The adjoining property owner is interested in purchasing the township owned parcel. The township continues to gather information on the value of the land.

Attorney Tipton continues to work on the policy manual in order to comply with the township’s insurance carrier. The documents will be prepared for the December 29th Year End Meeting.

Attorney Tipton updated the committee on the research he's done regarding a letter that was received from the Law Offices of John W. Thatcher, LLC. Attorney Thatcher questioned the use of township property, BK 30 Lot 10.02 as the deed states 'for public purposes only' and the township is leasing a portion of the property for farming. It appears that a previous committee wanted to be sure the property was never developed, hence the 'for public purposes only' language. Attorney Tipton will respond to Attorney Thatcher's letter stating the township disagrees with his position that leasing the land for farming is not compliant with the language of the deed.

The committee reviewed a memo from the tax collector regarding Tax Sale Certificate 20-00014. Per state statute, the township has a right to assign a Municipal Lien to a third party at a private sale. This comes as a result of a resident who has an interest in purchasing the property. Attorney Tipton suggested he verify the process as the collector noted in her memo. Motion made by Mrs. Skoog, seconded by Mayor Herb and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote to authorize the collector and Attorney Tipton to take action according to NJSA 54:5-113 regarding the assignment of Tax Sale Certificate 20-00014. Collom – absent, Skoog – yes, Herb – yes. Motion carried.

Concerns were raised regarding the activity at the Bullock shooting range as the property is adjacent to the township recreation fields. Attorney Tipton suggested he contact the property owner to further discuss the situation.

NEW BUSINESS

The clerk reviewed the 2021 Best Practices Inventory with the Mayor and Committee. The township received a positive score, thus no state aid will be withheld in 2022.

Mayor and Committee reviewed the 2020 audit recommendations. It was noted that the DPW petty cash did not prove out, therefore, it was suggested the clerk monitor the activity on a monthly basis.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

APPROVAL OF PURCHASE ORDERS

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

<u>CHECK NUMBER</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>PAYEE</u>
17352	139.91	CenturyLink
17353	2,085.83	Colliers Engineering & Design
17354	689.73	Comcast
17355	5,625.00	Delaware Valley Septic
17356	94.00	J.C. Ehrlich Inc.
17357	76.22	Elizabethtown Gas
17358	2,900.00	Florio, Perrucci, Steinhardt & Fader
17359	363.00	Gebhardt & Kiefer
17360	1,605.62	Gibbons P.C.
17361	3,395.00	GTM Turf Management
17362	1,542.41	JCP&L
17363	85.45	ReadyRefresh by Nestle
17364	577.00	NJ League of Municipalities
17365	36.00	NJ Division of ABC
17366	1,190.48	NJ American Water Co.
17367	281.95	NJ Advance Media
17368	295.00	NJCM
17369	20.97	Rigo's General Hardware
17370	420.00	ROK Industries Inc.
17371	157.66	Sanico Inc.
17372	4,648.00	S&L Equipment Rental Inc.
17373	252.21	Staples Credit Plan
17374	7,386.75	Tilcon New York Inc.
17375	1,100.00	Township of Randolph
17377	1,275.00	Warren County DPW Road Division

17378	642,315.00	White Twsp. Board of Education
17379	572.59	Xerox Corp.
TOTAL.....		\$679,233.34

Developer Escrow Account

1353	Colliers Engineering	347.26
1354	Suburban Consulting	725.00
1355	Suburban Consulting	232.50
1356	Suburban Consulting	167.40
1357	Gebhardt & Kiefer	346.50
1358	Gebhardt & Kiefer	77.50
1359	Gebhardt & Kiefer	132.00
1360	Gebhardt & Kiefer	247.50
1361	Gebhardt & Kiefer	132.00
1362	Steven P. Gruenberg	231.00
1363	Colliers Engineering	3599.41
1364	Gebhardt & Kiefer	792.00
1365	Colliers Engineering	77.50

Current Fund – Manual

2399	Payroll Account	25,491.29
2400	Payroll Account	20,536.39

TOTAL ALL FUNDS.....\$732,368.59

PRESENTATION OF MINUTES

Motion to approve the November 10, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes and the November 10, 2021 Executive Session Meeting Minutes as presented made by Mrs. Skoog, seconded by Mayor Herb and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote. Collom – absent, Skoog- yes, Herb – yes. Motion carried.

On motion by Mrs. Skoog, seconded by Mayor Herb and carried by unanimous favorable roll call 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 8, 2021, 6:39 pm:

Personnel Matters

(DPW Position)

(Deputy Clerk position)

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 Mrs. Skoog, seconded by Mayor Herb, the meeting was re-opened to the public at 7:02 p.m. Motion passed. No action was taken in Executive Session.

OTHER MATTERS

Motion made by Mrs. Skoog, seconded by Mayor Herb and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote to authorize the clerk to advertise on the township website for a full-time DPW Laborer position. Collom – absent, Skoog – yes, Herb – yes. Motion carried.

Motion made by Mrs. Skoog, seconded by Mayor Herb and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote to increase the hours for Brielle Whitmore from twenty-four hours per week to thirty-two hours per week to accommodate her workload as Deputy Clerk, Construction Secretary and training as the Land Use Secretary in anticipation of a retirement in the near future. Collom – absent, Skoog – yes, Herb – yes. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 7:07 p.m. on motion by Mrs. Skoog, seconded by Mayor Herb and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathleen R. Reinalda, RMC Township Clerk