

INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
Meeting held at the Municipal Building, 286 B Route 46, Great Meadows, NJ,
April 7, 2015 7:00 PM

The Workshop Meeting of the Township Committee of Independence Township, Warren County, New Jersey was called to order by Mayor Robert Giordano at 7:00pm. Mayor Giordano made the following announcement: meeting starting early due to weather conditions, “Adequate notice of this meeting was given in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act by providing a schedule of regular meetings to the Star Gazette and The Express –Times, posting a copy thereof on the Township bulletin board and filing a copy thereof in the office of the Municipal Clerk.” The Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag was led by Mayor Giordano.

Roll Call:

The following members of the Committee were in attendance: Mr. Feula, Mr. Cogle, Mr. Williams, Mayor Giordano.

Absent: Mrs. Kelsey

Minute Approval: 7.08.14

A motion was made by Mayor Giordano to approve minutes of 7.08.14 as written. Mr. Williams seconded the motion with roll call as follows:

Ayes: Williams, Giordano
Nays: None recorded
Absent: Cogle, Kelsey
Abstain: None recorded

Minute Approval: 8.12.14

A motion was made by Mr. Cogle to approve minutes of 8.12.14 as written. Mayor Giordano seconded the motion with roll call as follows:

Ayes: Cogle, Mayor Giordano
Nays: None recorded
Absent: Kelsey, Williams
Abstain: None recorded

Minute Approval: 9.09.14

A motion was made by Mr. Cogle to approve minutes of 9.09.14 as written. Mayor Giordano seconded the motion with roll call as follows:

Ayes: Williams, Cogle, Mayor Giordano
Nays: None recorded
Absent: Kelsey
Abstain: None recorded

Minute Approval: 12.09.14

A motion was made by Mr. Cogle to approve minutes of 12.09.14 as written. Mayor Giordano seconded the motion with roll call as follows:

Ayes: Williams, Cogle, Mayor Giordano
Nays: None recorded
Absent: Kelsey
Abstain: None recorded

Minute Approval: 1.13.15

A motion was made by Mr. Feula to approve minutes of 1.13.15 as written. Mr. Cogle seconded the motion with roll call as follows:

Ayes: Feula, Williams, Cogle, Mayor Giordano
Nays: None recorded
Absent: Kelsey
Abstain: None recorded

Minute Approval: 2.10.15

A motion was made by Mr. Feula to approve minutes of 2.10.15 as written. Mr. Cogle seconded the motion with roll call as follows:

Ayes: Feula, Williams, Cogle, Mayor Giordano
Nays: None recorded
Absent: Kelsey
Abstain: None recorded

Consent Agenda:

Resolution 15-29: SS Peter & Paul RC Church Tricky Tray

WHEREAS, SS. Peter & Paul R. C. Church is registered by the State of New Jersey to operate legalized games of chance, (253-1-2709) and,

WHEREAS, they have submitted an application for a Tricky Tray Raffle to be held on April 25, 2015 and all fees have been paid,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Independence, that RA# 406 be issued to SS. Peter & Paul R.C. Church.

Resolution 15-30: SS Peter & Paul RC Church 50/50 Raffle

WHEREAS, SS. Peter & Paul R. C. Church is registered by the State of New Jersey to operate legalized games of chance, (253-1-2709) and,

WHEREAS, they have submitted an application for a Tricky Tray Raffle to be held on April 25, 2015 and all fees have been paid,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Independence, that RA# 407 be issued to SS. Peter & Paul R.C. Church.

A motion was made by Mr. Cogle to adopt Resolution 15-29 and 30 as written. Mr. Feula seconded the motion with roll call as follows:

Ayes: Mr. Feula, Mr. Williams, Mr. Cogle
Nays: None recorded
Abstain: Mayor Giordano
Motion carries with three (3) affirmative votes.

Resolution 15-31: Tricky Tray

WHEREAS, Independence First Aid Squad is registered by the State of New Jersey to operate legalized games of chance, (253-10-20060) and,

WHEREAS, they have submitted an application for a Tricky Tray to be held on December 5, 2015 and all fees have been paid,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Independence, that RA#408 be issued to Independence First Aid Squad.

Resolution 15-31: 50/50 Raffle

WHEREAS, Independence First Aid Squad is registered by the State of New Jersey to operate legalized games of chance, (253-10-20060) and,

WHEREAS, they have submitted an application for a 50/50 Raffle to be held on December 5, 2015 and all fees have been paid,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Independence, that RA# 409 be issued to Independence First Aid Squad.

Resolution 15-33: Raffle

WHEREAS, Domestic Abuse & Sex Assault Crisis is registered by the State of New Jersey to operate legalized games of chance, (31-4-29993) and,

WHEREAS, they have submitted an application for a Raffle to be held on April 17, 2015, and all fees have been paid,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Independence, that RA# 410 is issued to Domestic Abuse & Sex Assault Crisis Center.

A motion was made by Mr. Cogle to adopt Resolution 15-31 thru 33 as written. Mr. Feula seconded the motion with roll call as follows:

Ayes: Mr. Feula, Mr. Williams, Mr. Cogle, Mayor Giordano

Nays: None recorded

Abstain: None recorded

Motion carries with four (4) affirmative votes.

Public Comment:

Mrs. Cullen asked the status of 89 Russling Road, on April 1, 2015 dispatch reported five (5) loose pigs at 12 Springdale Road, Animal Control Officer Tim Norton responded to the call, he along with the PD brought the pigs back to 89 Russling Road, upon arrival they found over seventy-five (75) dead animals and fifty (50) live animals. Per Chief Riley multiple agencies are involved with this situation along with Township Zoning Official and Construction Official, he verified that charges have been filed against the renters and the homeowner has also been notified to rectify the situation. Mrs. Cullen wanted to know also if this property has farmland assessment for 2015, per Tax Assessor, Donna Re no farmland assessment for this property. Chief Riley will oversee this case.

Mayor Giordano and Township Committee discussed the following:

JCP&L Road list for tree trimming

Resurfacing Project - Rt. # 46

Tax Rates-GMRSD and County

Bridge Project on Rt. # 46-repair moving forward

Barn on corner of Rt. # 46 and Cemetery Road-sight problem

Executive Session Resolution:

The following Resolution was approved at 7:50 p.m. to enter into Executive Session with a motion by Mr. Cogle, seconded by Mr. Feula and followed by a unanimous roll call.

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 Independence, County of Warren and State of New Jersey, as follows:

The public shall be excluded from discussion of and action upon the hereinafter specified matter.

The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows:

Personnel

It is anticipated at this time that the above-stated matter will be made public at such time as deemed appropriate.

This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Members of the governing body returned after closed session at 8:30pm. Mayor Giordano stated no action taken during executive session.

Adjournment:

Motion made by Mr. Cogle seconded by Mr. Feula the meeting adjourned at 8:35pm, with no further business before them and followed by a unanimous roll call.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah M. Hrebenak, RMC
Clerk/Administrator