

PRINCETON TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING
March 26, 2007

A meeting of Township Committee was held on this date at 7:00 p.m. in the main meeting room of the Princeton Township Municipal Complex, 400 Witherspoon Street.

NOTICE OF MEETING

The Clerk read the following statement.

The following is an accurate statement concerning the providing of notice of this meeting and said statement shall be entered in the minutes of this meeting.

Notice of this meeting as required by Sections 4a, 3d, 13 and 14 of the Open Public Meetings Act has been provided to the public in the form of the 2007 Schedule of Regular Meetings. On January 4, 2007 at 7:00 p.m., said schedule was posted on the official bulletin board in the Municipal Building, transmitted to the Princeton Packet, the Trenton Times, the Trentonian, and the Town Topics, and filed with the Township Clerk.

ROLL CALL

The Township Clerk then called the roll.

Present: Mayor Marchand and Mrs. Bergman and Messrs. Goerner, and Liverman .

Absent: Mr. Miller.

Also Present: Mrs. Monzo, and Messrs Kiser, Pascale, Schmierer and Chief Emann

Present for Princeton Borough: Mayor Trotman and Mrs. Karcher and Trelstad and Messrs. Goldfarb, Koontz and Martindell.

Absent: Mrs. Benchley.

Also Present Ms. Webb, Messrs Bruschi and Marsch.

Joint Meeting with Princeton Borough: SOC Lands Study

Mayor Marchand began by saying that this is the start of the process of a Sewer Operating Committee (SOC) lands study.

Mayor Trotman said that she thought that the purpose of the meeting was to form a committee to discuss the best use of the SOC lands. She said that a recommendation would be provided by the subcommittee at least two weeks prior to a second meeting. At that second meeting ownership of the property will be determined.

Mr. Martindell said that he was not in support of that process.

Mayor Marchand said that the content of the report had no bearing on the deed. She said that she was not aware of a two week time frame. Mr. Goerner said that he was not either. Mayor Trotman thought that the proposed time frame could be a hardship for Lee Solow, who is spear heading the process.

Mr. Solow said that he would need six weeks to prepare a proposal. He suggested that the governing bodies pick a date sometime in the future prior to summer.

Mrs. Bergman said that the goal was to give staff enough time to prepare a report and for the governing bodies to digest it.

Mrs. Trelstad said that she was alright with the proposed timeframe but thought that there would be time for input by the governing bodies. Mayor Trotman said that the governing bodies do not have to accept the report. Mr. Martindell said that he was voting at this time that the governing bodies receive the report.

Mr. Solow referred to his memorandum dated February 21, 2007. He said that he viewed the report as a starting point not an end product. He felt that the final report worked on be the committee would take approximately six weeks to prepare .

Mrs. Karcher said that not every member of Borough Council will agree with what she was about to say. She said that a joint agreement was already in place, that it was not sufficient to leave things as they were and that a stewardship committee should be formed. She said that it was more important that the committee was operational and looking at what is in the best interest of all.

Mr. Goerner thanked Mrs. Karcher for her comments, noting that this was the first step that benefits both municipalities.

Mr. Martindell said that he agreed that the matter should not be left where it is now and that they were headed in a good direction. He said that the land is worth millions of dollars and that the study does not go far enough. He felt that the lack of a vote by Borough Council was troubling and that responsibilities must not be delegated to staff members.. Mr. Martindell said that he shares Mrs. Karchers spirit and that it was time to force a commitment. He said that he could not however support retitling of the deed based on Mr. Solow's report, which is a general commitment of consolidation of services at the SOC lands.

Mr. Goldfarb said that there was no confusion on the part of the Borough, and that it was clear that they had the same ownership of the land. He said that he agreed on consolidated services but that it was not the charge for this committee to decide. He agreed that before the Borough conveyed the deed, that the report had to be approved.

Mr. Martindell said that he did not agree with Mr. Goldfarb and thought that they would be missing an important opportunity.

Mr. Koontz said that he disagreed with Mr. Martindell's final comments, noting that what they were trying to do was specific, not vague. He said that he was looking for assurances that the two governing bodies could work together.

Mayor Trotman said that Borough Council has discussed this issue at length for many months.

Mayor Marchand said that Township Committee has endorsed the report that is before them.

On behalf of the Township, Mrs. Bergman offered a motion to endorse Mr. Solow's proposal and move ahead. Mr. Goerner seconded the motion which was carried unanimously by those present.

On behalf of the Borough, Mr. Koontz offered a motion Mr. Solow's proposal, with three weeks to review. Mr. Goldfarb seconded the motion which was carried by four votes. Mr. Martindell voted in the negative and Mrs. Benchley was absent.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: ASSESSMENT CONFIRMATIONS

Newlin Road Sidewalks

Mayor Marchand opened the public hearing for the Newlin Road sidewalks assessment. There being no public comment the public hearing was closed. Mrs. Bergman offered a motion approving the Newlin Road sidewalk assessments as presented. The motion was seconded Mr. Mr. Liverman and carried unanimously by those present.

Walnut Lane Sidewalks

Mayor Marchand opened the public hearing for the Walnut Lane sidewalk assessments. There being no public comment, the public hearing was closed. Mr. Liverman offered a motion approving the Walnut Lane sidewalk assessments as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Goerner and carried unanimously by those present.

Walnut Lane Curbing

Mayor Marchand opened the public hearing for the Walnut Lane curbing assessments. There being no public comment, the public hearing was closed. Mrs. Bergman offered a motion to approving the Walnut Lane curbing assessments as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Liverman and carried unanimously by those present.

CONSENT AGENDA – Contains items of a routine nature, which are approved by a single vote.

- a. Bills & Claims
- b. Maintenance/Performance Guarantees
 - Jim Britt - Princeton University- Butler Track-Outdoor Equipment Cabinets
Release Cash Performance Guaranty in the amount of \$250. No Maintenance Guaranty is required.
 - George Comfort & Sons, Inc., Princeton Shopping Center, 301 North Harrison Street
Prototype of Awning #1 - Release Cash Performance Guaranty in the amount of \$2,500. No Maintenance Guaranty is required.
 - Pulte Homes Corporation, Fieldwood Development, All Phases – Release landscape replacement responsibility in exchange for \$14,392. payment from applicant.
- c. Music Amplification Request:
 - Princeton University Reunions, May 31, June 1, 2, 2007, 9:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m.
 - *55th Reunion Class of 1952 – Palmer Pavilion, Princeton Stadium
 - *50th Reunion Class of 1957 – Scully Courtyard
 - *60th and 65th Reunion Classes of 1947 & 1942 – Forbes College Tent
 - *30th Reunion Class of 1977 – Lourie-Love Courtyard
- d. Raffle License: Parent Association of the American Boychoir School, June 8, 2007 to benefit the school and all its programs
- e. Professional Services Agreements:
 - Melick-Tully & Assoc., P.C., Geotechnical Engineer, for Subsurface Soil Investigations and Evaluations for the Skate Park at Hilltop Park, Not to Exceed \$2,200.00
 - SITE Design Group, Inc., Carlsbad, CA, Design Services for Hilltop Skateboard Park, Not to Exceed \$29,200.00
- f. Bid Award: Metro Energy Solutions, West Caldwell, NJ, To Undertake and Complete an Energy Audit of Various Township, Borough and School Board facilities, Not to Exceed \$35,000.
- g. Resolution: Princeton Joint Environmental Commission for the Retention of the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC) to Apply for an Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions (ANJEC) Smart Growth Planning Grant to Conduct an Environmental Resources Inventory.
- h. Bid Rejection: DPW 2007 or Newer Ford F-550 4x4 with Reading Body or Equal
- i. Resolution: Increase in the Temporary Budget, \$2,271,440.
- j. Resolution: In Support of Click It or Ticket Safety Belt Mobilization of May 21- June 3, 2007

Mr. Liverman offered a motion to approve to consent agenda without item “i”. Mr. Goerner seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously by those present.

Mr. Liverman offered a motion to approve item “i” of the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Mr. Goerner and carried unanimously by those present.

(Bills & Claims and Resolutions appended to this set of minutes.)

ORDINANCE PUBLIC HEARINGS

Bond Ordinance, Various Road Improvements, \$891,000.00

Mayor Marchand read by title an ordinance entitled BOND ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AS A GENERAL IMPROVEMENT VARIOUS ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS BY THE TOWNSHIP OF PRINCETON, APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF \$891,000.00 THEREFOR, PROVIDING FOR THE FINANCING OF SAID APPROPRIATION BY THE MAKING OF A DOWN PAYMENT AND THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS AND NOTES OF SAID TOWNSHIP.

The Mayor opened the public hearing.

There being no public comment, the Mayor closed the public hearing.

Mr. Miller offered a motion to defeat the original proposed ordinance on second reading. The motion was seconded by Mr. Goerner and carried unanimously.

Bond Ordinance, Various Road Improvements, \$2,800,000.

Mayor Marchand read by title an ordinance entitled BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS ROAD IMPROVEMENTS IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF PRINCETON, IN THE COUNTY OF MERCER, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$2,800,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$2,510,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF.

The Mayor opened the public hearing.

There being no public comment, the Mayor closed the public hearing.

Mr. Miller offered a motion to defeat the original proposed ordinance on second reading. The motion was seconded by Mr. Goerner and carried unanimously.

G-1 Overlay

Mayor Marchand read by title an ordinance entitled AN ORDINANCE AMENDING PROVISIONS OF THE G-1 OVERLAY DISTRICT AND FURTHER AMENDING THE "CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY, 1968"

The Mayor opened the public hearing.

There being no public comment, the Mayor closed the public hearing.

Mr. Miller offered a motion to defeat the original proposed ordinance on second reading. The motion was seconded by Mr. Goerner and carried unanimously.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE

Henry Frank, 126 Valley Road expressed concern to Township Committee regarding the zoning ordinance about putting things in the right of way.

**ORDINANCE INTRODUCTIONS
Handicapped Parking, Washington Oaks**

Mayor Marchand read by title on first reading a proposed ordinance entitled AN ORDINANCE DESIGNATING A HANDICAPPED PARKING SPACE WITHIN THE WASHINGTON OAKS AT PRINCETON DEVELOPMENT AND AMENDING THE "CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY, 1968"

Mr. Goerner offered a motion to approve the proposed ordinance on first reading. Mr. Liverman seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously by those present. The public hearing was set for May 21, 2007.

25 MPH Speed Zone, The Great Road

Mayor Marchand read by title on first reading a proposed ordinance entitled AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A TWENTY-FIVE (25) MILE PER HOUR SPEED ZONE ON THE GREAT ROAD IN THE VICINITY OF THE PRINCETON ACADEMY SCHOOL AND AMENDING THE "CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY, 1968"

Mrs. Bergman offered a motion to approve the proposed ordinance on first reading. Mr. Goerner seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously by those present. The public hearing was set for May 21, 2007.

CAP Bank

Mayor Marchand read by title on first reading a proposed ordinance entitled TOWNSHIP OF PRINCETON CALENDAR YEAR 2007 ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK

Mr. Liverman offered a motion to approve the proposed ordinance on first reading. Mr. Goerner seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously by those present. The public hearing was set for May 21, 2007.

2007 MUNICIPAL BUDGET INTRODUCTION

Resolution: To Introduce the 2007 Municipal Budget

Mr. Pascale and Mrs. Monzo made a power point presentation concerning the 2007 municipal budget with a 6 cent increase.

In summary, the total budget for 2007 is \$30,241,272.24. The proposed 2007 tax rate is \$0.080, the average homeowner increase is \$290.97 and one tax point is \$241,061.

Mrs. Monzo said that the major increases are seen in reserve for future years obligations, capital investments, pensions, the Library, reserve for uncollected taxes and utilities.

Mr. Liverman commended Mr. Pascale and Mrs. Monzo for an excellent presentation, and said that the budget was still a work in progress.

Mrs. Bergman offered a motion to approve the resolution authorizing the introduction of the 2007 municipal budget. The motion was seconded by Mr. Liverman and carried unanimously by those present. The public hearing was set for May 21, 2007.

REPORTS

Chief Emann, Buracker Study, Status Report

Chief Emann said that since the Buracker study, the Township Police force has been reduced to 31 officers, with a savings in salary of \$398,776., not including benefits.

He said that the department is working to phase more fuel efficient vehicles into the fleet.

Captain Robert Buchanan said that the department is seeking to gain State accreditation. He said that it is a two year process and that it is recognized by the Joint Insurance Fund. The accreditation is good for three years and must be maintained. Captain Buchanan said that the department hopes to have the accreditation by the end of 2008.

WORK SESSION

Discussion: Citizen's Finance Committee

Mr. Goerner offered a power point presentation to Township Committee regarding the formation of a Citizen's Finance Committee. He said that the benefits of such a committee include public outreach, state legislature communication, long term planning and establishing service priorities.

Mr. Goerner said that he proposal is to form a study group to determine the structure and charge of such a commission, and to report back to Township Committee on April 23rd with a draft resolution. There would be a one year pilot period for the commission.

Mrs. Bergman said that she would like Mr. Miller's input, and that she would be interested in what a study group might do.

Mr. Liverman said that he would need more information, to see how such a commission would work in a town the size of Princeton.

Mayor Marchand said that so many ideas had been presented and that she was not sure she would be ready to vote on April 23rd.

Mr. Goerner said that it was a process to evolve over the next fiscal year and that perhaps another work session should be scheduled for April 23rd.

Gordon Bryant, 43 ettl Circle said that he thought that the idea was great and that it should be put on the Township website in a way that the information could be understood.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:45 p.m.

Linda S. McDermott
Township Clerk