

**WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES
TOWNSHIP COUNCIL – TOWNSHIP OF OCEAN**

MAY 3, 2010

OAKHURST, NEW JERSEY

The Workshop Meeting was held in the Council Conference Room, Town Hall, 399 Monmouth Road, Oakhurst, NJ 07755 beginning at 5:30 p.m.

Present: Mayor Larkin
Deputy Mayor Hiers, Councilmember(s) Garofalo, Schepiga, Siciliano

Others: Martin Arbus, Esq., Township Attorney
Andrew Brannen, Township Manager
Vincent Buttiglieri, Township Clerk

Mayor Larkin announced that the notice requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act for this meeting have been satisfied; a copy of the Annual Notice was sent to the Asbury Park Press and The Coaster, posted in Town Hall and filed in the Office of the Township Clerk on December 9, 2009.

Mayor Larkin announced that the 2010 Community Development Block Grant Public Hearing has commenced. He turned it over to Andrew Brannen, Township Manager.

Mr. Brannen explained that in order to qualify for funding through this program, the project must be located within the target area, which is between Route 18 and Route 35. However, if you should select a project that is outside the target area but it must be geared towards the senior and/or handicapped population.

Mr. Brannen gave a brief synopsis on the different project options that the Township explored. They were:

1. The Active Transit Network
2. The Relocation of certain Poplar Village Buildings
3. Internal and External Improvements including the parking lot at the Senior Center located on West Park Avenue
4. Construction of sidewalks in the industrial section of the Township

Councilmember Siciliano inquired about constructing sidewalks in certain sections of the Township as a possible project. Mr. Brannen stated that it would not fit the criteria for award.

Deputy Mayor Hiers supported all the projects mentioned but wishes that the Township could use funds from this Grant to be able to continue the sidewalks along Monmouth Road between Roosevelt Avenue and the park.

Mr. Brannen concluded by reporting that after consideration for all the project mentioned previously, it was the determination that the Township would be submitting the following project:

Internal and External Improvements including the parking lot at the Senior Center located on West Park Avenue.

Mayor Larkin opened up this hearing for Public Comments.

Seeing that there were no public comments, Mayor Larkin closed the Public Hearing on the 2010 Community Development Block Grant.

Record of Vote	Deputy Mayor Hiers	Councilman Garofalo	Council-woman Schepiga	Councilman Siciliano	Mayor Larkin
Motion To Approve	X				
Motion to Second		X			
Approved	X	X	X	X	X
Opposed					
Not Voting/Recuse					
Absent/Excused					

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

Subject: *Automated Garbage Update*

Andrew Brannen, Township Manager, inquired if the Council had any questions, comments, or concerns with regard to proceeding as planned with the implementation of this program.

Mr. Brannen also reiterated that rear yard pickup will still be available for those residents that need assistance, providing they complete the required form and return it to the Public Works Department.

Action: *The Council concurred moving forward with the implementation new program.*

Subject: *2010/2011 School Budget*

Mr. Brannen reported that a meeting between the Township, Loch Arbour and the Board of Education was held the previous week. A subsequent meeting between the Board of Education and Loch Arbour is being conducted on May 3, 2010. Both Loch Arbour and Ocean Township will make recommendations for budget adjustments.

Mayor Larkin reminded everyone that the 2009/2010 budget was reduced by \$300,000 after it was defeated by the voters.

Action: *Mr. Brannen stated that any action needs to be done prior to May 19, 2010, therefore, action will need to be taken at the may 18, 2010 Council Meeting.*

Subject: *Request for Proposals for 2010 Professional Appointments*

Mr. Brannen inquired whether the Council wished to follow the same procedure for the appointments of the Township Attorney, Bond Counsel, Prosecutor and Township Engineer as they have utilized in the past.

Action: *After discussion, it was agreed upon to follow the same procedure as in past years.*

COMMENTS:

The following individuals did not issue a report at this meeting:
Councilmember(s) Garofalo, Hiers, Schepiga, Siciliano
Andrew Brannen, Township Manager
Martin Arbus, Esq., Township Attorney

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Don Geiger, inquired as follows:

1. When was the Public Hearing on the Municipal Budget being held?

Mr. Brannen reported that it is scheduled for May 18, 2010.

2. Feels that better education of the residents is critical for the successful implementation of the automated garbage collection program, especially as it concerns brush and recycling.
3. With regard to the Board of Education budget, he feels the schools are too top heavy and can certainly do without some administrative positions.

Mayor Larkin responded that if the Township and Loch Arbour cannot agree on a budget reduction, then it goes to the County Superintendent to decide.

4. Expressed his concern regarding the large number of potholes on the Township roads.

Mr. Brannen asked him to compile a list of the roads and he'll have Public Works look into the issue.

Tim Siciliano was concerned with the way the recent reassessment was conducted on his property. Mr. Siciliano explained that he had received a favorable tax appeal judgment a few years ago but the appraisal company used the old, higher, value when determining the value of his home this time. He felt that he was being penalized and will be spending more money to file another tax appeal.

Mr. Siciliano feels that there are two distinct issues: are there mistakes in the value that was listed on the property card and why the lower value was not being used to calculate the new value?

Mr. Brannen will look into this and contact Mr. Siciliano.

Bob Ades discussed the date and time of the next Council Meeting. He was concerned with holding it on May 18, 2010 as sundown begins the observance of Shavout.

There were no further comments.

RESOLUTION
DECLARING CLOSED 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 Council of the Township of Ocean, County of Monmouth as follows:

1. The Public shall be excluded from discussion of and action upon the hereinafter specified subject matters.

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

Litigation – COAH Update

Contract – Police services

Contract – PBA/SOA/Local 701/ Local 77

Personnel – Employee Benefits/Reorganization

Litigation – Development of Block 33.16, Lot 3

Litigation – Recreation Facilities

3. It is anticipated at this time that the Municipal Clerk shall on a six (6) month basis, review the minutes of closed sessions of the Township of Ocean and make a recommendation to the Governing Body which minutes should be considered for public record. The minutes which are made public shall not thereafter be treated as confidential but may be seen and copied by any person(s) in the same manner as any meeting minutes of the Township of Ocean.

4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Record of Vote	Deputy Mayor Hiers	Councilman Garofalo	Council-woman Schepiga	Councilman Siciliano	Mayor Larkin
Motion To Approve				X	
Motion to Second			X		
Approved	X	X	X	X	X
Opposed					
Not Voting/Recuse					
Absent/Excused					

Seeing that there were no additional comments, the meeting was adjourned.

Record of Vote	Deputy Mayor Hiers	Councilman Garofalo	Council-woman Schepiga	Councilman Siciliano	Mayor Larkin
Motion To Approve		X			
Motion to Second				X	
Approved	X	X	X	X	X
Opposed					
Not Voting/Recuse					
Absent/Excused					

Respectfully submitted,

Vincent Buttiglieri, RMC/CMC
Township Clerk