

PRINCETON TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING
January 11, 2010

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 2010 Schedule of Regular Meetings. On January 3, 2010 at 1:25 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, the Town Topics, and filed with the Township Clerk.

ROLL CALL

The Township Clerk then called the roll.

Present: Mayor Miller and Mesdames Lempert and Nemeth and Messrs. Goerner, and Liverman.

Absent: None.

Also Present: Mrs. Monzo, and Messrs Kiser, Pascale, Schmierer and Lt. Henderson

MINUTES

Mr. Liverman offered a motion to approve the minutes of October 26, 2009. The motion was seconded by Mr. Goerner and carried unanimously.

Mr. Goerner offered a motion to approve the minutes of November 9, 2009. The motion was seconded by Mr. Liverman and carried unanimously

Ms. Nemeth offered a motion to approve the minutes of November 23, 2009. The motion was seconded by Mr. Goerner and carried by four affirmative votes. Mr. Liverman was absent from that meeting.

Mr. Goerner offered a motion to approve the minutes of December 7, 2009. The motion was seconded by Ms. Nemeth and carried unanimously

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- a. Maintenance/Performance Guarantee
 - Stony Brook Regional Sewerage Authority – Installation of Trees
 - Release of performance guaranty subject to the receipt of an acceptable two year maintenance guaranty in the amount of \$590.00, which is 10% of the original amount.
- b. Resolution: Cash Management Plan
- c. Resolution: Stony Brook Bicycle & Pedestrian Pathway and Bridge Project, Approval of Federal Aid Agreement
- c. Resolution Concerning Affordable Housing Fees

Mr. Liverman offered a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Ms. Nemeth seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

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

WORK SESSION

Resolution to request a meeting with the President of Princeton University to initiate a dialogue with the goal of achieving fairness and equality with Princeton University and the taxpaying residents and businesses of Princeton Township.

Mayor Miller read aloud the proposed resolution and expresses his thanks to Township Committee and the Citizens Finance Advisory Committee for their work on the resolution.

Ms. Nemeth thanked Mayor Miller noting that the resolution was very clear.

Mr. Liverman said that the Township and the University have always worked well together and said that the Township was not trying to go after the University in a negative way.

Mr. Goerner said that Princeton University has been a tremendous partner and that the goal; was to be able to create a dialogue about our concept of fairness.

Mayor Miller opened the meeting for comment.

Allen Hegedus, School Board, said that he welcomed the resolution and commended Township Committee for bringing it to the floor. He said that at the next school board meeting on January 26, 2010, a companion resolution will be introduced.

Kristen Appleget, Princeton University said that she appreciated how tonight's discussion began and was prefaced. She said that we have benefited over the years by working together. She said that Princeton University is having the same sort of problems as the Township and that President Tilgman would be pleased to meet at a convenient time.

Jane Sheehan, 30 year resident, said that the discussion was a long time in coming and that it was time to renegotiate.

Alice Artz said that she grew up in Princeton and that she was exhausted by paying high taxes. She said that it was not time to be conciliatory and that the resolution is long over due.

Ms. Lempert said that she planned to reclude herself from the vote on the proposed resolution as her husband works for the University.

Mayor Miller said that he wanted to emphasize that Princeton Township is approaching this non adversarial manner. He said that contributions have been made by both sides and the Town and the University have a responsibility to each other.

Mr. Liverman offered a motion to approve the proposed resolution as written. The motion was seconded by Ms. Nemeth and carried by four affirmative votes. Ms. Lempert abstained as her husband is employed by the University.

(Resolution appended to this set of minutes)

Solicitors Ordinance

Mr. Schmierer explained the Townships solicitors ordinance as currently written.

James Kilgore, President and publisher of The Princeton Packet, explains their position and why they are looking for an exemption of the Township's current ordinance, noting that there is a certain amount of freedom of the press. He said that only Princeton Township has been actively enforcing their solicitor's ordinance and that other towns are not enforcing theirs due to a body of case law. The Packet noted that market for their paper is declining. They asked that the ordinance be updated and that The Packet be exempted from the bureaucratic process.

Mr. Goerner asked if it could force the Township to exempt other types of media?

Mr. Schmierer said that it certainly could but that we could start by narrowing it only to print media.

Ms. Nemeth said that she did not like the idea of looking the other way, but would be in favor of a compromise.

Mr. Schmierer said that we could move forward with an ordinance revision for the next Township Committee meeting.

It was the consensus of Township Committee to reexamine a proposed ordinance at the meeting of January 25, 2010.

CLOSED SESSION

RESOLUTION

**TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION
(Open Public Meetings Act Sec.3)**

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Princeton:

1. This body will now convene into a closed session that will be limited only to consideration of an item or items with respect to which the public may be excluded pursuant to section 7B of the Open Public Meetings Act.
2. The general nature of the subject or subjects to be discussed in said session is as follows:

Litigation/Negotiations

3. Stated as precisely as presently possible, the following are the time when and the circumstances under which the discussion conducted at said session can be disclosed to the public:

Within 90 days or upon settlement of litigation, if applicable

- Consolidation and Joint Services – Citizen Appointments**
- Lowe Litigation**

The above referenced issues were discussed by Township Committee

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Linda S. McDermott
Township Clerk