

This to certify that adequate notice of this Regular Meeting of the Weymouth Township Committee has been provided stating the time, date, location, and to the extent known, the agenda. It has been advertised and/or posted as required by law.

Bonnie S. Yearsley, CMC
Township Clerk

Weymouth Township
Dorothy, New Jersey
May 18, 2016

This Regular Meeting of the Weymouth Township Committee was called to order by Chairman Kenneth R. Haeser who led the assembly in the Salute to our Nation's Flag and then asked for a Moment of Silence. The Township Clerk then read aloud the "Sunshine Law Statement" and called the roll.

Roll Call: Doyle-Present, Keiffenheim-Present, Haeser-Present.

Also present at this meeting were Michael Fralinger, Township Engineer, Ronald Carroll, Public Works Director, Michael Peacock, Township Solicitor, Dorothy-Jo Ayres, Deputy Township Clerk and Bonnie S. Yearsley, Weymouth Township Clerk.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Haeser began his report with kind words in regard to the retiring Township Clerk, Bonnie Yearsley. The Township Committee members and several members of the public added to his accolades. The Clerk thanked everyone for their best wishes.

Mayor Haeser updated everyone in regard to the Verizon law suit and said the Senator VanDrew would be postponing his meetings with Verizon until the current strike by Verizon workers is over. Mayor Haeser and Mayor Tezenfitz from Estell Manor City will be attending the eventual court proceedings with Verizon and will take several residents to testify in regard to the poor Verizon service.

Motion by Dolye, seconded by Keiffenheim, that the meeting be opened for Public Comment.

Roll Call: Doyle-Yes, Keiffenheim-Yes, Haeser-Yes.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

There was no Public input to the meeting at this time.

Motion by Doyle, seconded by Keiffenheim, that the meeting be closed to Public Comment.

Roll Call: Doyle-Yes, Keiffenheim-Yes, Haeser-Yes.

Motion by Doyle, seconded by Keiffenheim, that the Tax Collector's Report for the month of April, 2016 be accepted as read and filed.

Roll Call: Doyle-Yes, Keiffenheim-Yes, Haeser-Yes.

Motion by Doyle, seconded by Keiffenheim that Approval be Granted to Fralinger Engineering to hire the Architectural Firm of J.W. Pedersen to perform an inspection of the Floor in the Municipal Building Meeting Room to determine what repair action must be taken at an initial cost of \$600.00.

Roll Call: Doyle-Yes, Keiffenheim-Yes, Haeser-Yes.

Motion by Doyle, seconded by Keiffenheim, that the Engineer's Report be accepted as discussed and filed.

Roll Call: Doyle-Yes, Keiffenheim-Yes, Haeser-Yes.

Motion by Doyle, seconded by Keiffenheim, that approval be granted to install advertisement/sponsor signs on the fencing around the ball field to benefit the WACYL.

Roll Call: Doyle-Yes, Keiffenheim-Yes, Haeser-Yes.

Motion by Doyle, seconded by Keiffenheim, that Fralinger Engineering be directed to provide estimates, specifications and bid documents for the Rear Parking Lot at the Municipal Building and for the Public Works Garage Parking Lot.

Roll Call: Doyle-Yes, Keiffenheim-Yes, Haeser-Yes.

Motion by Doyle, seconded by Keiffenheim, that Fralinger Engineering also work up a cost proposal for the application of Epoxy treatment for 14th and 15th Avenues between Cape May Avenue and the Dead End of each street.

Roll Call: Doyle-Yes, Keiffenheim-Yes, Haeser-Yes.

Motion by Doyle, seconded by Keiffenheim, that the Public Works Director's Report for the month of, April, 2016 be approved as discussed and filed.

Roll Call: Doyle-Yes, Keiffenheim-Yes, Haeser-Yes.

Motion by Doyle, seconded by Keiffenheim, that the Code Enforcement Officials Report be accepted as discussed and filed.

Roll Call: Doyle-Yes, Keiffenheim-Yes, Haeser-Yes.

Motion by Doyle, seconded by Keiffenheim, that the Minutes for the Weymouth Township Committee Meeting of May 4, 2016 be approved and bound into the minute book.

Roll Call: Doyle-Yes, Keiffenheim-Yes, Haeser-Yes.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Atlantic County Executive Dennis Levinson - Invitation to Atlantic County Veterans Memorial Program
2. Brian London- Dannon/Play 60 Field Day

Motion by Doyle, seconded by Keiffenheim, that the Correspondence be approved as discussed and filed.

Roll Call: Doyle-Yes, Keiffenheim-Yes, Haeser-Yes.

VOUCHERS FOR PAYMENT:

Motion by Doyle, seconded by Keiffenheim, that the Bill List in the amount of \$ 23,101.68 and the Vouchers for Payment be approved and payment rendered.

Roll Call: Doyle-Yes, Keiffenheim-Yes, Haeser-Yes.

OLD BUSINESS:

The Ordinance on Peddling and Soliciting which was discussed at the previous meeting is still being reviewed by the Township Committee Members. This will be discussed again at a future meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion by Doyle, seconded by Keiffenheim, that Dorothy-Jo Ayres be appointed to serve as the **Acting Township Clerk and Registrar of Vital Statistics** for the term of 6/1/16 to 5/31/17 per State Statutes and that **Resolution No. 41-2016** setting forth same be adopted.

Roll Call: Doyle-Yes, Keiffenheim-Yes, Haeser-Yes.

Motion by Doyle, seconded by Keiffenheim, that Resolution No. 42-2016 Appointing Dorothy-Jo Ayres as Fund Commissioner be approved as read.

Roll Call: Doyle-Yes, Keiffenheim-Yes, Haeser-Yes.

Motion by Doyle, seconded by Keiffenheim, that Resolution No. 43-2016 Appointing Dorothy-Jo Ayres as Authorized Signer on the Weymouth Township Bank Accounts be approved and Bank Change Forms executed.

Roll Call: Doyle-Yes, Keiffenheim-Yes, Haeser-Yes.

Motion by Doyle, seconded by Keiffenheim, that Resolution No. 44-2016 Hire Appraiser for Tax Appeals be approved as read.

Roll Call: Doyle-Yes, Keiffenheim-Yes, Haeser-Yes.

Motion by Doyle, seconded by Keiffenheim, that Resolution No. 45-2016 Chapter 159 – Clean Communities be approved as read.

Roll Call: Doyle-Yes, Keiffenheim-Yes, Haeser-Yes.

Motion by Doyle, seconded by Keiffenheim, that Resolution No. 46-2016 Chapter 159 – Twelfth Avenue Grant be approved as read.

Roll Call: Doyle-Yes, Keiffenheim-Yes, Haeser-Yes.

Motion by Doyle, seconded by Keiffenheim, that Weymouth Township Resolution No. 47-2016 to close the Accumulated Absences Bank Account #2608149 and that total amount be placed in the Weymouth Township Current Bank Account #2608172 be adopted as read by the Township Clerk.

Roll Call: Doyle-Yes, Keiffenheim-Yes, Haeser-Yes.

Motion by Doyle, seconded by Keiffenheim, that the floor be opened to Public Comment.

Roll Call: Doyle-Yes, Keiffenheim-Yes, Haeser-Yes.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

The Mayor announced that Memorial Day Services would be provided by the local VFW Post which has joined with the Mays Landing Post. Services will be held at the Dorothy Memorial in front of the Municipal Building on Monday, May 30th at 9:00, Estell Manor City at the Elementary School at 9:45 AM and at the Belcoville Memorial in front of the Old Post Office at 10:30 AM.

Anthony Bannister and Eunice Hogan, both residents of The Oaks, gave kind comments to the retiring Township Clerk, Bonnie S. Yearsley.

Frank Craig commented on the ongoing State Tax Appeals as they relate to residents along Riverside Drive.

Motion by Doyle, seconded by Keiffenheim, that the Public portion of the meeting be closed.

Roll Call: Doyle-Yes, Keiffenheim-Yes, Haeser-Yes.

The Mayor recognized Michael Hogan who is the township representative to the Pinelands Municipal Council. Mr. Hogan provided a slide presentation in regard to ATV damage within the protected areas of the Warton Tract. He showed in vivid pictures, the damage caused to vernal ponds, endangered flora and fauna and the forest canopy caused by illegal trespassing by All Terrain Vehicles and Trucks. Mr. Hogan will present his talk again at a Pinelands Municipal Council Meeting to be held on May 24th in the Weymouth Township Municipal Building.

Mayor Haeser then recognized Weymouth Township Historian, Douglas Yearsley who was dressed as General Silas Newcomb. He asked that his comments in regard to the retiring Township Clerk be spread upon the record.

“Bonnie Yearsley, the Township Clerk of Weymouth Township going on Forty Years, will retire from her position on May 31st.

She has lived in Dorothy & Belcoville all her life. She married Douglas MacArthur Yearsley and had two sons, Michael St. Thomas More Yearsley and Andrew Winston Spencer Churchill Yearsley. She has three grandkids, Joseph, Douglas and Lillian. Her parents are Theodore Szigethy and Jeanette Ernst Szigethy.

Bonnie grew up and worked on the family chicken farm on South Jersey Avenue with her two brothers and two sisters. She attended both Dorothy and Belcoville Schools, graduating from Vineland Memorial Jr. High School and Vineland Senior High School. She then graduated as a Registered Nurse from Atlantic County Community College and worked at Newcomb Hospital in Vineland, NJ. With the advent of marriage and children, she owned and operated a small hotel in Ocean City, NJ, The Summer Palace, where she was able to stay home with her children and run a local daycare in the off-season.

She and her husband bought his mothers' home in Belcoville and cared for her in her final illness. The two volunteered for many community charities...Chicken Bar-B-Ques, Church Activities, Santa Visits, Halloween Parties and Parades, July 4th Celebrations (which started on her family's Camp Ground).

She was a founder of the Weymouth Township Civic Association, and the American Heritage Players. She volunteered at the school, was a Den Mother, a Scout Leader, took over the School Graduations, taught singing to the students, taught Sunday School at the Lutheran Church and played the organ at the Catholic Church. Being a registered Nurse, she was consulted by neighbors on such matters as a sore throat or how to inseminate a cow!

She was asked by the Township Committee in 1984 to step into the role of Township Clerk. It had become a habit of replacing the Clerk with every election and the State of New Jersey couldn't believe that every time they phoned Weymouth Township, they talked to a different person who hadn't been on the job long enough to learn it. Then laws were enforced requiring certification, continuing education credits, and protections from the Department of Community Affairs. The State did not want to hear about political parties or small town grudges or lost documents. They wanted every penny that was coming to them....taxes, dog license fees, uncooked books, spotless Liquor Licenses, Open Meeting Minutes locked up with consecutive pages, and the Municipal Clerks Handbook followed to the "T".

The bonus was that Bonnie knew the whole history of the township and a majority of its citizens and loved it anyhow! Her tenure has seen constant improvement in her dedication to serving the residents honestly, professionally, cheerfully, and, when necessary, forbearance. She has been cursed, insulted, harassed, accused of not telling the truth, favoritism, cheating the Township, and doing her job. She has been found guilty of cheerfulness, helpfulness, caring, patience, dedication, forgiveness, correctness, knowledge of the law, honesty, and Christianity.

Without her backbone and backing of the State, Bonnie would have been gone 30 years ago and I hope you cannot imagine how this village, masquerading as a Township, in the most populous State of the United States, would have turned out. Look at Egg Harbor Township (which oddly enough was once in Weymouth Township).

It is proper to question the government....It is prudent to keep an eye on its employees. It is cruel and unusual to badger, hector, malign, disrespect, embarrass, accuse, or sit back and enjoy the show when others attempt to drive an innocent, tenured employee from the job she has so faithfully discharged above and beyond all criticism." Douglas Yearsley, Citizen

Motion by Doyle, seconded by Keiffenheim, that the meeting stand adjourned at 8:35PM.
Roll Call: Doyle-Yes, Keiffenheim-Yes, Haeser-Yes.

Approved: June 1st, 2016 DJA