

WALPACK MAYOR AND COMMITTEE

MINUTES

March 29, 2022

Mayor Maglio called the meeting of the Walpack Mayor and Committee to order at 7:00 PM and state that the meeting was being held in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, having been duly advertised.

NOTE: The system employed by the Township of Walpack for conducting its remote public meetings affords the public the opportunity to both listen to, and participate in, the meeting by means of a simple dial-in process which has been made known to the public via an announcement on the Township website since the first remote meeting was announced.

Roll Call: Present: Mayor Victor J. Maglio, Deputy Mayor James Heigis, Committeewoman Janina Wycalek, CFO/Treasurer Ashley Wilson, Attorney Glenn Kienz, Clerk Christine M. Von Oesen
Absent: None

Approval of Minutes:

Mayor Maglio requested a Motion to approve the minutes of the February 22, 2022 Mayor and Committee Meeting. Mayor Maglio requested a Motion to approve the minutes. During discussion, Committeewoman Wycalek requested several corrections, and those corrections were confirmed. Committeewoman Wycalek made a Motion to accept the minutes. Second by Deputy Mayor Heigis. The Committee voted with All in Favor.

New Business:

The Agreement between the Township of Walpack and Sussex County Municipal Utilities Authority for Certified Recycling Professional (CRP) to Certify the 2021 Annual Recycling Tonnage Report was heard. Mayor Maglio requested a Motion to accept the Agreement. Motion by Committeewoman Wycalek. Second by Deputy Mayor Heigis. All in Favor.

Sandyston Resolutions R-19-2015 and R-26-2022 opposing the idea of the area becoming a National Park were included in discussion regarding interest shown by John Donahue and the Sierra Club promoting the current National Recreation Area to National Park status. Committeewoman Wycalek stated that the New Jersey Herald, just today, had run an article in opposition of this promotion. Mayor Maglio will be meeting with Congressman Josh Gottheimer to learn more about the process and status of the promotion.

Clerk Von Oesen reminded those present that Financial Disclosure Statements must be submitted soon. Additional information is expected from the State shortly. The State will begin accepting FDS submissions on April 4, 2022. Submissions must be completed by April 30, 2022. The clerk shall send a reminder to all Walpack employees required to submit Financial Disclosure Statements.

Ordinances:

Ordinance 2202 #1 – An Ordinance to exceed the municipal budget appropriation limits and to establish a cap bank for calendar year 2022 (NJSA 40:45.14).

Mayor Maglio opened the meeting to the Public for comment prior to the second and final reading of Ordinance 2022 #1. Hearing no Public comment, Mayor Maglio closed the meeting to the Public.

Mayor Maglio requested a Motion to approve Ordinance 2022 #1. Motion by Committeewoman Wycalek. Second by Deputy Mayor Heigis. All in Favor.

Resolutions:

R-19-22 RESOLUTION approving bills and vouchers for payment. Bill list attached. Mayor Maglio requested a Motion to approve R-19-22. Motion by Committeewoman Wycalek. Second by Deputy Mayor Heigis. All in Favor.

R-20-22 RESOLUTION endorsing the submission of the 2021 Recycling Tonnage Grant. Mayor Maglio requested a Motion to approve R-20-22. Motion by Committeewoman Wycalek. Second by Deputy Mayor Heigis. All in Favor.

R-21-22 RESOLUTION Introduction of the Budget. First Reading. Walpack CFO/Treasurer Wilson explained that there is an increase of \$715, which comes out of the fund balance. Other than that, the budget is mostly the same as last year. Emergency shared service was slightly higher, as anticipated. Heating oil expense is very high, so hopes are for milder weather. Mayor Maglio requested a Motion to approve R-21-22. Motion by Committeewoman Wycalek. Second by Deputy Mayor Heigis. All in Favor.

Public Comment:

Mayor Maglio opened the meeting for Public Comment.

New Walpack property owners, Ken and Julia Bechtold, were in attendance. Mr. Bechtold said that he and wife had concerns regarding the potential National Park status being promoted by John Donahue and the Sierra Club. He was pleased that the issue was in discussion among the Mayor and Committee during New Business, and that the Mayor and Committee appeared well aware and active concerning same. Mr. Bechtold added that Congressman Gottheimer is in favor of National Park Status. Mayor Maglio indicated that the purpose of the meeting will be to obtain information and to learn about the process and current status of the plan. Ken and Julia Bechtold graciously offered to volunteer in any capacity for the benefit of Walpack Township.

Addressing a Public Comment question from a previous meeting, Clerk Von Oesen, herself a Registrar, spoke with the Walpack Township Registrar Amy Lobban. Both Registrars are in agreement that by law,

birth documents are not searchable by the public, and that Walpack Historical Society member Sharon Spangenburg's request to search said records is therefore denied.

The tree near or at the municipal/federal property line was discussed. Deputy Mayor Heigis made a few calls and the branches of said tree have been trimmed back. It may be that the branches need further trimming, in order to minimize the potential for branches to fall and damage the Walpack Municipal Building.

Clerk Von Oesen stated that the Walpack Polling venue for the Primary Elections will again be held at the Sandyston Municipal Building.

Mayor Maglio closed the meeting to the Public.

Mayor Maglio requested a Motion to adjourn. Motion by Committeewoman Wycalek. Second by Deputy Mayor Heigis. All in Favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christine M. Von Oesen, RMC
Walpack Township Clerk