

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE ALLAMUCHY TOWNSHIP COUNCIL HELD JULY 27, 2017
AT 6:00 P.M.

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 P.M. by Mayor DeTombeur.
2. At this time, the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence was held.
3. Mayor DeTombeur advised that this meeting was held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act as prescribed by State Statute.
4. **PRESENT:** Mayor DeTombeur, Councilman Koppel, Councilman Lomonaco, Councilman Ochwat and Councilman Quinoa;

5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

- a. Regular Meeting – 06/22/2017 as submitted.

Motion by Councilman Lomonaco, seconded by Councilman Quinoa, and approved on roll call vote: **AYES** - Councilpersons Lomonaco, Ochwat and Quinoa;
ABSTAIN – Mayor DeTombeur and Councilman Koppel.

6. Mayor DeTombeur stated that Mr. Stan Prater, representative from JCP&L, was present to address any issues that there may be within Allamuchy Township.

Mr. Prater advised that JCP&L is offering LED street lights. The lights have been approved by the BPU and if the municipality is interested in the details of the lights he would be more than happy to review this matter. JCP&L will be responsible for street lights on wooden poles with an 8' arm. Street lights for developments are more expensive as they are more decorative and JCP&L does not cover the costs of these lights.

Councilman Ochwat questioned if there were programs for Homeowner's Associations as most of the lights in the municipality are in a development.

Mr. Prater advised that there may be programs for Homeowners Associations and that the Associations would need to explore through JCP&L.

Mayor DeTombeur advised that the tax Bills are scheduled to be mailed the first week of August.

Councilman Ochwat stated that a resolution is usually passed to extend the tax quarter since the tax bills are being mailed late.

Mayor DeTombeur advised that a resolution could be passed to extend the 3rd quarter tax due date. The Tax Collector will provide the due date based upon the date the tax bills are mailed.

Councilman Ochwat also requested that the date extension be printed on the tax bill and posted on the website.

Mayor DeTombeur stated that he would like to thank everyone for their kindness and support that was expressed to him and his family as a result of a June 17th accident that he had. He stated that he had broken his femur. He thanked the Fire Department, First Aid Squad and residents who had brought food to his house during his recovery.

Mayor DeTombeur stated that he publicly wanted to thank everyone.

7. TOWNSHIP COUNCIL REPORTS:

- a. Councilman Koppel stated that Matt Begley, General Manager for PVPOA, was nice enough to do a comparison of the Allamuchy Water and Sewer Department. The audit figures were for the years 2014-2016. In 2014 the water/sewer company was operated by a private company. In April, 2015 the Township began operating the system. There has been an increase in income of approximately \$56,000, cost of operations decreased by \$97,000 and the capital fund went from \$50,000 to \$250,000 - \$200,000 being reinvested into the structure and facilities at the plant.

Councilman Koppel stated that the value of the assets went from \$959,500 to \$1,235,800.00. The trend is moving in a positive direction.

Councilman Koppel advised that a violation was received by the Water and Sewer Department for pollutants discharged into the system. The school was having their floors stripped by an outside contractor who was using a chemical that got into the sewer system. A formal notice was sent to the school and the situation has been controlled and is being further investigated.

Councilman Quinoa questioned if it was confirmed that the chemicals came from the school and if the chemicals were discharged into the storm sewer system.

Mayor DeTombeur stated that confirmation was done through a lab analysis and the school admitted to the discharge of the chemicals into the system.

Councilman Koppel advised that the Fire Department has one new applicant and one individual who graduated from fire school. Furthermore, the golf outing is on July 28th at the PVG&CC.

- b. Councilman Quinoa advised that he has a recusal issue that was brought to his attention by the PVPOA Trustees. There is a demand for payment by the municipality from PVPOA regarding work done on Bald Eagle. He stated that he placed on the record at a PVPOA meeting that he recused himself and will also recuse himself on the municipal level as there may be potential litigation involving this matter.

Councilman Quinoa stated that his issue with the Water/Sewer Department is that when events occur such as the one with the School and PVPOA pressure washing the units in Panther Valley he wishes to be notified. He added that he should not find out about events through PVPOA.

Mayor DeTombeur stated that he was not quite sure what exactly Councilman Quinoa was referring to. There is a Water/Sewer Committee that is involved with various processes and he is having a hard time determining what issues should be brought to the Council's attention.

Councilman Quinoa stated that he does not need to know immediately when an event occurs but within a reasonable time - not within minutes. Township Council should be made aware of a situation and should be notified of issues involving the Township within a reasonable amount of time. If a member of the public approaches a member of the Township Council then that Councilmember should be aware of what is going on.

Councilman Quinoa stated that he had attended a Board of Education meeting and Superintendent Flynn was very complimentary on the relationship between the Township and the Board of Education. The Board of Education did bring up the issue of money for the signage in the Village area and the school wants to know how much the Township will commit first. He advised that he did not comment on this issue at their meeting.

Councilman Quinoa stated that the Recreation Commission may be submitting a name for consideration to serve on the Recreation Commission. This individual would serve as the 7th member on the commission. Councilman Quinoa also advised that he will get volunteers to paint the storage container and wooden shed.

The Municipal clerk advised that since the storage unit leaks it may be best to replace the unit.

8. MUNICIPAL CLERK'S REPORT:

The Municipal Clerk advised that the annual report was distributed to the Township Council from the Pet Adoption League.

The Municipal Clerk advised that she will be sending in the Gypsy Moth Aerial Survey form so the State of New Jersey could survey for gypsy moth damage. There is no cost to the Township for the survey.

9. ATTORNEY'S REPORT:

Attorney McBriar advised that he will address items on the agenda as they are presented.

10. Mayor DeTombeur stated that he would like to have the Superintendent of the Water/Sewer Department, Wayne Buller, update the Township Council of the work done at the Plant.

Mr. Buller advised that plant 2 - from the aeration basin to settling tank C has been completely redone. It has been rebuilt and if adjusted properly should last another 30 years. With regard to Plant 1, upgrades are being done and settling tank A needs to be addressed this year. The hydro-clear unit also needs to be upgraded this year. Mr. Buller advised that things are looking good at the plant and the employees are doing a great job.

Mayor DeTombeur advised that the Water/Sewer Employees will be doing a presentation at the Senior Citizens meeting in August.

Mr. Buller stated that he would like to do a power point presentation. The presentation would do a comparison of what the system was and what it is now.

11. **PUBLIC SESSION:**

Motion by Mayor DeTombeur, seconded by Councilman Ochwat, carried to open the meeting to the public. Roll call vote: **AYES** – Councilman Koppel, Councilpersons Lomonaco, Ochwat, Quinoa and Mayor DeTombeur.

- a. Abby Christmann, 2 Mourning Dove Terrace, was present and stated that she feels Allamuchy Township is one of the most beautiful areas in Warren County. She stated though that she noticed that there were no signs for Shades of Death Road.

The Municipal Clerk advised that the signs keep getting stolen.

Ms. Christmann questioned if anyone has considered marketing Shades of Death Road to possibly help offset the costs of sign replacement, etc. The marketing idea would include selling of T-Shirts and other memorabilia.

Mayor DeTombeur stated that he thought that was a great idea and something to consider.

- b. Gary Whyte, Mountainside, N.J. , was present to bring awareness to the disease FIBRODYSPLASIA OSSIFICANS PROGRESSIVA (“FOP”). Mr. Whyte advised that his friend’s daughter has this disease and he is helping to raise money towards this awareness initiative. Fibrodysplasia Ossificans Progressiva (“FOP”) is a rare genetic condition in which the body makes additional bone in locations where bone should not form, such as within muscles, tendons, ligaments, and other connective tissues, which in time produces a “second skeleton” that immobilizes the joints of the body.

Mr. Whyte stated that money is being raised towards the purchase of equipment. Currently, the University of Pennsylvania is doing the research on this disease. He advised that he has received the 500th proclamation a few weeks ago from Hope Township and is concentrating on Warren County.

Mr. Whyte stated that he was one of 21 people invited by Governor Christie to the Newark Museum. He was presented the Jefferson Award for obtaining 500 Proclamations from the Mayors throughout the State of New Jersey.

Mr. Whyte stated that he would like Allamuchy Township to do a Proclamation which would be included in the book of Proclamations from all the municipalities in the State of New Jersey. The book will be turned over to the New Jersey Historical Society.

Councilman Ochwat congratulated Mr. Whyte on his award and the efforts leading up to the award.

Attorney McBriar stated that he would be willing to work with Mr. Whyte to prepare a Proclamation for the August meeting.

There being no further comments from the public the public session was closed.

Motion by Councilman Quinoa, seconded by Councilman Koppel, carried to close the public session. Roll call vote: **AYES** – Councilpersons Koppel, Lomonaco, Ochwat, Quinoa and Mayor DeTombeur.

12. ORDINANCES – FIRST READING:

- a. **# 2017-12 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ALLAMUCHY, COUNTY OF WARREN, AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY AMENDING CHAPTER 72 OF THE TOWNSHIP CODE ENTITLED “AFFORDABLE HOUSING” TO IMPLEMENT SUBSTANTIVE RULES PROMULGATED BY THE NEW JERSEY COUNCIL ON AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND AGREEMENT WITH FAIR SHARE HOUSING CENTER, INC. DATED NOVEMBER 29, 2016.**

Motion by Mayor DeTombeur, seconded by Councilman Koppel, carried to introduce Ordinance # 2017-12 on first reading.

Roll call vote: **AYES** – Councilpersons Koppel, Lomonaco, Ochwat, Quinoa and Mayor DeTombeur.

Second reading to take place on August 24, 2017.

13. ORDINANCES - SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING:

- a. **# 2017-11 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ALLAMUCHY, COUNTY OF**

**WARREN, AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY AMENDING CHAPTER 85 OF
THE TOWNSHIP CODE ENTITLED "ANIMALS" TO PROVIDE FOR
ANIMAL CRUELTY INVESTIGATOR AND DEPUTY OFFICER/INVESTIGATOR.**

Motion by Mayor DeTombeur, seconded by Councilman Koppel, carried to adopt Ordinance # 2017-11 on second reading.

At this time, the meeting was opened to the public.

There were no comments or objections and the public hearing was closed.

Roll call vote: **AYES** – Councilpersons Koppel, Lomonaco, Ochwat, Quinoa and Mayor DeTombeur.

14. RESOLUTIONS:

- a. Resolution authorizing the acceptance of bids and signing of contracts (9) - Village of Old Farm Units **(ATTACHMENT 1)**.

Motion by Mayor DeTombeur, seconded by Councilman Koppel, and approved on roll call vote: **AYES** – Councilpersons Koppel, Lomonaco, Ochwat, Quinoa and Mayor DeTombeur.

- b. Resolution approving additional costs required as per garbage/recycling contract **(ATTACHMENT 2)**.

Motion by Councilman Ochwat, seconded by Councilman Quinoa, and approved on roll call vote: **AYES** – Councilpersons Koppel, Lomonaco, Ochwat, Quinoa and Mayor DeTombeur.

- c. Resolution endorsing Housing Element and Fair Share Plan **(ATTACHMENT 3)**.

Motion by Mayor DeTombeur, seconded by Councilman Ochwat, and approved on roll call vote: **AYES** – Councilpersons Koppel, Lomonaco, Ochwat, Quinoa and Mayor DeTombeur.

- d. Resolution hiring Keyboard Clerk I (Water/Sewer Department) **(ATTACHMENT 4)**.

Motion by Councilman Koppel, seconded by Mayor DeTombeur, and approved on roll call vote: **AYES** – Councilpersons Koppel, Lomonaco, Ochwat, Quinoa and Mayor DeTombeur.

- e. Tax Refund - Block 701.05 Lot 2 - \$885.60 (Disable Veteran Status) **(ATTACHMENT 5)**.

- f. Redemption of Tax Sale Certificate - # 2015-04 - Block 718 Lot 59 - 58 Duck Hawk Court - \$6,200.91 **(ATTACHMENT 6)**.

- g. Refund of Tax Overpayments - 2nd Quarter (**ATTACHMENT 7**).

Motion by Councilman Ochwat, seconded by Councilman Koppel, carried to approve items e., f. and g. as a consent agenda. Roll call vote: **AYES** – Councilpersons Koppel, Lomonaco, Ochwat, Quinoa and Mayor DeTombeur.

- h. Resolution authorizing the Right-of-Way of Agreement with the County of Warren for the Allamuchy Township Welcome Signs (**ATTACHMENT 8**).

- i. "**BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Township Council of the Township of Allamuchy, County of Warren, State of New Jersey, that the annual Pet Adoption League Contract is hereby approved for the period July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018.

Motion by Mayor DeTombeur, seconded by Councilman Lomonaco and approved on roll call vote: **AYES** - Councilpersons Koppel, Lomonaco, Ochwat, Quinoa and Mayor DeTombeur.

- j. Resolution to Extend Third Quarter Tax Collection to August 29, 2017 (**ATTACHMENT 9**).

Motion by Councilman Ochwat, seconded by Councilman Koppel, and approved on roll call vote: **AYES** – Councilpersons Koppel, Lomonaco, Ochwat, Quinoa and Mayor DeTombeur.

15. **OTHER/NEW BUSINESS:**

There was no new business requiring action.

16. **APPROVAL OF BILL LIST AND ADD-ON LIST (ATTACHMENT 10).**

Motion by Councilman Koppel, seconded by Councilman Quinoa, and approved on roll call vote: **AYES** - Councilpersons Koppel, Lomonaco, Ochwat, Quinoa and Mayor DeTombeur.

17. **ADJOURNMENT - 7:06 P.M.**

Motion by Mayor DeTombeur, seconded by Councilman Koppel, carried to adjourn at 7:06 P.M. Roll call vote: **AYES** - Councilpersons Koppel, Lomonaco, Ochwat Quinoa and Mayor DeTombeur.

Respectfully Submitted,

Anne Marie Tracy, Municipal Clerk

Keith DeTombeur, Mayor