

WALPACK MAYOR AND COMMITTEE
MINUTES
March 26, 2024

Opening Statement: Mayor Maglio stated, "This remote meeting is being held in compliance with the Open Public Meeting Act, having been duly advertised."

Roll Call: Present: Mayor Victor J. Maglio, Deputy Mayor James Heigis, Committeewoman Kelly Happe, CFO Ashley Kannaley, Attorney Glenn Kienz, Clerk Christine M. Von Oesen

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: Mayor Victor Maglio, Deputy Mayor James Heigis, Committeewoman Kelly Happe, Attorney Glenn Kienz, MCFO Ashley Kannaley, Clerk Christine M. Von Oesen

Approval of Minutes:

Mayor Maglio requested a Motion to approve the January 30, 2024 Mayor and Committee Meeting Minutes. Motion by Committeewoman Happe. Second by Deputy Mayor Heigis. All in Favor.

New Business:

The agreement between the Township of Walpack and the Sussex County Municipal Utilities Authority for certified recycling professional (CRP) to certify the 2023 annual recycling tonnage report was accepted.

The Shared Services agreement for shared municipal court between the Township of Blirstown and the Municipal Court of Frankford, Lafayette, Sandyston, Montague and Walpack was accepted.

The Countywide Mutual Aid and Assistance Agreement between participated units was accepted.

Resolutions:

Mayor Maglio requested a Motion to approve R-16-24 the Resolution of the Walpack Township Committee endorsing the submission of the 2023 recycling tonnage grant application. Motion by Deputy Mayor Heigis. Second by Committeewoman Happe. All in Favor.

Mayor Maglio requested a Motion to approve R-17-24 the Bills List Resolution. Motion by Deputy Mayor Heigis. Second by Committeewoman Happe. All in Favor.

Mayor Maglio requested a Motion to approve R-18-24 the Transfer Resolution. Motion by Deputy Mayor Heigis. Second by Committeewoman Happe. All in Favor.

Mayor Maglio requested a Motion to approve R-19-24 the Resolution for Blairstown Shared Court Agreement. Motion by Deputy Mayor Heigis. Second by Committeewoman Happe. All in Favor.

Mayor Maglio requested a Motion to approve R-20-24 the Resolution to enter into a form of mutual aid and assistance agreement with the County of Sussex to expire December 31, 2008.

Public Comment:

Mayor Maglio opened the meeting for Public Comment.

Ken Bechtold is researching insurers for the Walpack Municipal Building.

Attorney Kienz suggested the search remain as local as possible.

Mr. Bechtold advises that Taylor Van Campen, descendant of Stephen Van Campen, and affiliated with Grand Rental Station in Hackettstown NJ, has offered to clean up the Walpack Cemetery, bringing up to eight workers and machinery. They will provide this service free of charge, and will also supply the LOI. Mr. Bechtold advises that Walpack Historical Society members will volunteer their efforts for this project. The work is planned for July. Grand Rental Station will apply for a grant, which requires township approval.

Mayor Maglio added that the list of work to be done includes the removal of a large fallen pine tree, as well as other tree trimming at the site.

Mayor Maglio has requested information from the NJ Cemetery Board specific to their receipt of a letter from past CFO Michelle LaStarza, and if they are in receipt of that letter, confirmation that the Walpack Cemetery is maintained by the Walpack Cemetery Association. If the NJ Cemetery Board is the overseer of the Walpack Cemetery, Walpack Township would like to have the management of the Walpack Cemetery transferred to Walpack Township. An official transfer is required. Mr. Bechtold will confirm that this transfer to the Township must occur before Grand Rental Station can begin the clean up project. Attorneys Kienz and Karp will research further.

CMFO Kannaley explained that the grant must be applied for through _____(?), which effects how monies will be filtered through the grant.

Attorney Kienz added that the goal is to have the cemetery kept up, and we are exploring the best way to do that.

Deputy Mayor Heigis supports this project. He receives call about the availability of graves, and shares those inquiries with Mayor Maglio, who is also the Walpack Cemetery Association President.

Committeewoman Happe is also in favor of this project.

Mr. Bechtold, at the Walpack Historical Society meeting, learned that the bridge at Walpack Center falls inter the jurisdiction of the Federal Highway Administration, not NJP. Mr. Bechtold requested of Mayor Maglio that Mayor Maglio contact Congressman Josh Gottheimer

for repairs to that bridge. Mayor Maglio advised that due to border line changes, Walpack has a new Congressman, Congressman Thomas Kean, Jr. Mayor Maglio, acknowledging that Deputy Mayor Heigis and Committeewoman Happe are in agreement, said that he would draft a letter to Congressman Kean.

Deputy Mayor Heigis advises that the electricity was out last week for approximately 24 hours. He feels that since the road is in disrepair, it took longer to get the electricity up and running again.

Mayor Maglio added that due to the reval, the First Reading of the Budget will be heard at the next meeting.

Hearing no further comment, Mayor Maglio closed the meeting to Public Comment.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Christine M. Von Oesen
Clerk
Walpack Township