

# Stow Creek Township Meeting April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Present: Mayor Cruzan, Committeemen; Tom Burton, Dave Shivers, Asst Clerk; Bruce Porter, Clerk / Treasurer; Ron Campbell, Adam Telsey; Solicitor, Donna Harris; Tax assessor

Residents; Sevilla DeBose, Theresa DeBose

Guests; Carol Russ, CMA Ford-Scott

**Mayor Cruzan** Lead the Flag salute.

**Mr. Burton** prayed for guidance and wisdom

**Minutes** approved (Burton, Shivers) as sent out.

**Ms. DuBose** spoke about her property located on Block 33 Lot 20 28 Ayers Lane. She was concerned about signs that had been put up on her property. Mr. Shivers said her would contact Fish and Game regarding the signage. She also filed an appeal for her property taxes, claiming she should be eligible for Farmland assessment. The Solicitor explained that the tax board had heard her case and the assessment is locked in until 2025.

**Mr. Burton** reported that Convenience sticker enforcement needs to be stepped up. He also mentioned that the tree on Columbia Highway had been cleaned up.

**Mr. Shivers** spoke about the new protocol for calling the State Police for animal abuse complaints.

**Mr. Campbell** spoke about the State wanting housing officers not use the term Certificate of Occupancy, but some other term reflecting what is being certified. He also mentioned that the Storm Water ordinance needs to be incorporated into the Land Use ordinance.

**Mr. Campbell** introduced a resolution (35-2024) supporting dedication by rider for storm coverage.

A roll call vote was taken;

**Mayor Cruzan**                      **Aye**

**Committeeman Burton**        **Aye**

**Committeeman Shivers**       **Aye**

**Mr. Campbell** introduced a resolution to read the budget by title only. A motion was made (Shivers, Burton) to pass this resolution. (3-0)

The 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of the Cap Ordinance was introduced. A motion was made (Burton, Shivers) to open up the meeting for public comment. No one spoke for or against the Ordinance and a motion was made (Burton, Shivers) to close the public portion of the meeting. A motion was made (Shivers, Burton) to introduce the budget. (3-0). A motion was made (Shivers, Burton) for a public hearing on the budget. No one spoke for or against the budget and a motion to close the public hearing (Shivers, Burton) was made. A motion was made (Shivers, Burton) to adopt the 2024 budget.

**The Committee** discussed a collapsing house on Jericho Road. The Solicitor said he would research the proper avenue to pursue this attractive nuisance.

A resolution was made (Shivers, Burton) to go into closed session.

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Stow Creek that a portion of the meeting of the Township Committee be closed to the public to enable the Township Committee to discuss, and where appropriate, take action concerning the following matter(s) as permitted by N.J.S.A. 10:4-12:

\_\_\_\_ 3. Any material the disclosure of which constitutes an unwarranted invasion of individual privacy such as records, data, reports, recommendations, or other personal material of any educational, training, social service, medical, health, custodial, child protection, rehabilitation, legal defense, welfare, housing, relocation, insurance and similar program or institution operated by a public body pertaining to any individual admitted to or served by such institution or program, including but not limited to information relative to the individual's personal and family circumstances, and any material pertaining to admission, discharge, treatment, progress or condition of any individual, unless the individual concerned (or, in the case of a minor or incompetent, his guardian) shall request in writing that the same be disclosed publicly.

\_\_\_\_ 4. Any collective bargaining agreement, or the terms and conditions which are proposed for inclusion in any collective bargaining agreement, including the negotiation of the terms and conditions thereof with employees or representatives of employees of the public body.

\_\_\_\_ 7. Any pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiation other than in (4) above in which the public body is, or may become a party. Any matter falling within the attorney-client privilege, to the extent that confidentiality is required in order for the attorney to exercise his ethical duties as a lawyer.

More specifically, the matter to be discussed involves the following:

A. Personnel

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the matters discussed will be available for public inspection

A. At such time the matter is concluded

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this Closed Session is expected to continue for 20 Minutes and that further business by the Committee may take place at its conclusion.

A motion was made (Shivers, Burton) to come out of closed session.

A motion was made (Burton, Shivers) to introduce the Storm Water Ordinance. (3-0)

The treasurers Report was issued, a motion was made (Shivers, Burton) to pay the bills and adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Ron Campbell Sr. RMC