

**TOWNSHIP OF WATERFORD  
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE  
MINUTES**

OCTOBER 12, 2017

SPECIAL TOWN HALL MEETING

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THE OCTOBER 12, 2017 SPECIAL TOWN HALL MEETING OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WATERFORD WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:02 PM BY THE MAYOR, WILLIAM A. RICHARDSON, JR.

MAYOR RICHARDSON NOTED THAT NOTICE OF TIME AND DATE FOR THIS MEETING WAS SENT TO THE COURIER-POST, CENTRAL RECORD AND HAMMONTON GAZETTE NEWSPAPERS AS A SUNSHINE NOTICE IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE "OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS LAW" AND APPEARED AS A LEGAL NOTICE IN THE COURIER-POST ON SEPTEMBER 29, 2017, THE CENTRAL RECORD ON OCTOBER 5, 2017 AND IN THE HAMMONTON GAZETTE ON OCTOBER 4, 2017. IT WAS ALSO POSTED ON THE BULLETIN BOARD IN THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING.

MAYOR RICHARDSON REQUESTED THAT ALL CELL PHONES BE SILENCED TO ALLEVIATE DISRUPTION OF THE MEETING.

**SALUTE TO THE FLAG:**

The flag salute was led by members of Girl Scout Troop #30904.

**ROLL CALL:**

Committeeman Campbell	- Present
Committeeman Ferguson	- Present
Committeeman Giangiulio	- Present
Committeewoman Sura	- Present
Mayor Richardson	- Present

**PROFESSIONALS:**

Susan E. Danson, Township Administrator	- Present
David C. Patterson, Township Solicitor	- Present
Lori Friddell, Township Clerk	- Present
Dawn Liedtka, Deputy Township Clerk	- Present

**SPECIAL GUEST:**

Camden County Freeholder Jonathan L. Young, Sr.	-Present
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**WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION**

Township Administrator Susan Danson welcomed the public to the first Town Hall Meeting. She encouraged the public to participate with questions and noted that the meeting was being live streamed. Ms. Danson highlighted the passion, spirit and commitment of the Township Officials and Staff in promoting transparency and in offering the meeting to keep the community correctly informed of the progress and activity of the municipal government. Ms. Danson stated that this evening's meeting would recognize the youth, dedicated residents and business organizations in Waterford Township and celebrate the Community and the future of Waterford Township.

**PRESENTATION OF PROCLAMATION:**

Mayor Richardson presented Camden County Freeholder Jonathan L. Young, Sr. with a proclamation in recognition of the excellent partnership between Waterford Township and the County of Camden.

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**REMARKS**

Freeholder Young thanked Committee members and outlined some of the ongoing partnership projects within the County.

**PRESENTATION OF PROCLAMATION**

Committeeman Ferguson presented proclamations to the following Waterford Township Teams, commending them on their successful season and the dedication of each member.

WTAA Girls Softball 14U District Champions

WTAA Girls Softball 10U District Champions

WTAA Boys 10U District & Sectional Champions and State Championship Runner Up

**PRESENTATION OF PROCLAMATION**

Committeewoman Sura presented proclamations to the participants and advisors of the Waterford Township Elementary School Student Spaceflight Experiment Program. Committeewoman Sura read details of the project and congratulated them on having been chosen from hundreds of proposals to have their experiment sent to and conducted at the International Space Station.

**WHAT HAS YOUR TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE BEEN UP TO?**

Mayor Richardson addressed the public regarding the current activity of the Township Committee, the success and goals of each Township department and the future plans and new initiatives of the municipality.

**PRESENTATION – Business of the Year**

Committeewoman Sura presented an award to Joe Occhiuzzo, owner of Reel Plumbing, recognizing him as Business of the Year and commending his many contributions to the Waterford Township Community and his ongoing support of local organizations and programs.

**WHAT IS YOUR TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE CURRENTLY DOING?**

**Haines Boulevard Redevelopment Update**

Mayor Richardson provided the current status and progress of redevelopment including the recent appointment of the Camden County Improvement Authority as the redevelopment entity for the Haines Boulevard redevelopment area. He explained that the Township, after having gone out for proposals, is meeting with potential developers and that the mixed-use plan is both exciting and encouraging.

**Community Champions/Vacant & Abandoned Properties**

Mayor Richardson provided information on the new vacant and abandoned property registration system and partnership with Community Champions in addressing concerns regarding abandoned and vacant property maintenance and the prevention of blight.

**Public Safety**

Committeeman Giangiulio introduced Police Chief Cormaney, Fire Chief Ciona and EMS Chief Gardner and acknowledged their tremendous efforts in meeting and exceeding the public safety needs of the Township. He further provided an update on service improvements including new equipment, grants, outreach programs and the progress of the new Public Safety building construction. Mr. Giangiulio thanked the Office of Emergency Management and Dave Chiddenton for his service.

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Recreation

Committeeman Ferguson detailed plans to expand recreational opportunities to residents of all ages through grant funding. He explained current projects and improvements including field lighting at the Ritter complex, repairs and upgrades to the courts at Thomas Richards park and the planned replacement of play equipment with ADA compliant and accessible activities.

Mr. Ferguson remarked on the intention of the WTAA to expand their hockey program and the Township's interest in providing a new hockey rink.

He reviewed non-athletic opportunities within the Township and the ongoing events and community activities offered throughout Waterford and concluded with an update on the future Atco Lake revitalization project in conjunction with the County.

Senior Citizens Center Upgrades

Committeewoman Sura informed the public that the Township was awarded \$150,000 in Community Development Block Grant money which allows for upgrades and improvements to the Atco Senior Center.

FireWise Program

Deputy Mayor Campbell presented information on the wildfire preparedness program, "FireWise", and its benefits to the residents of Waterford. He explained that volunteers are working closely with the NJ Forest Fire service to educate residents and that once this program is underway, Waterford will be the first municipality in the State to have implemented the program.

**PRESENTATION – Organization of the Year**

Committeeman Campbell presented an award to the Waterford Township War Memorial Committee for their accomplishments as an organization in honoring and paying tribute to Veterans and supporting their families. He provided history on the organization and congratulated them on their achievements.

**THE FUTURE OF WATERFORD TOWNSHIP**

Mayor Richardson remarked on the strength of the community, the energy and interest of current businesses and leaders in helping to shape the Waterford of tomorrow and spoke with regard to the future projects proposed and the tremendous impact on the future of the Township.

**PRESENTATION – Youth Resident of the Year**

Committeeman Giangiulio presented an award to Alexa Gardner, outlining her incredible achievements academically, athletically and in community service. Mr. Giangiulio stated that she is a role model and represents the positive future of Waterford Township.

**PRESENTATION – Resident of the Year**

Mayor Richardson stated that while she was unable to attend this evening, Donna Brimfield, a 65-year resident of Waterford Township, has earned the award of Resident of the Year for her extraordinary contribution to the township by picking up trash, pulling weeds and without hesitation continuing to improve the appearance of the township without seeking anything in return.

**QUESTION & ANSWER**

Township Administrator Danson explained that the question cards returned from the audience would all be addressed by email and posted online. She presented some of those questions to Committee members. *(Full list of questions and answers attached)*

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Camden County Freeholder Jonathan L. Young, Sr., presented additional information regarding Camden County progress, including efforts in sustainability and energy resource projects including trash to steam.

**OPEN MEETING TO THE PUBLIC:**

THE MAYOR OPENED THE MEETING TO THE PUBLIC FOR COMMENTS.

Ian Dorgan addressed Township Committee regarding the potential of creating a skate park facility. He presented facts regarding youth involvement in recreational activity and informed Committee that he has begun a petition to support the addition of a skate facility.

Mayor Richardson responded that the topic has been previously discussed and is being looked at with regard to insurance and liability concerns.

John Howarth thanked Township Committee and the residents for the Town Hall format for the meeting.

Dave Chiddenton thanked Township Committee members and acknowledged their successful working relationship with the Environmental Commission and Office of Emergency Management and commended Susan Danson, Township Administrator, for her dedication and hard work.

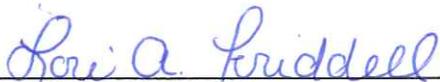
William Cekala stated that the meeting had a great turnout and that the future improvements, redevelopment and recreation plans were exciting for the Township.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER PUBLIC COMMENT, MAYOR RICHARDSON CLOSED THE MEETING TO THE PUBLIC FOR COMMENTS.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Moved by Committeeman Giangiulio, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Committeeman Ferguson to adjourn meeting at 9:02 PM  
Voice Vote: All in Favor, No Objections, Motion Carried 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted By:



Lori A. Friddell, RMC  
Township Clerk

Approval Date: 11/20/17