

ANDOVER TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MINUTES

**THOMAS D. WALSH, MAYOR
CHARLES GROTYOHANN, DEPUTY MAYOR
GAIL PHOEBUS
ALEX GILSENAN
BOB SMITH**

SPECIAL MEETING

JULY 16, 2007

3:30 P.M.

ROLL CALL

Present: Ms. Phoebus, Mr. Smith
Mr. Grotyohann, Mayor Walsh
Also present: Administrator Padula, Attorney Semrau

CALL TO ORDER The special meeting of the Andover Township Committee was called to order at 3:46 P.M. by Mayor Walsh, followed by a salute to the flag.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT Statement of compliance with Chapter 231, P. L. 1975 was made by Mayor Walsh.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA Mr. Smith moved to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Mr. Gilsenan and carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION On a motion by Mr. Gilsenan, seconded by Ms. Phoebus, the resolution to go into executive session to discuss

PERSONNEL MATTERS – Investigation was carried unanimously.
(See Insert Attached to These Minutes)

The Committee went into executive session at 3:48 P.M. Mr. Grotyohann moved to adjourn executive session at 6:00 P.M., seconded by Mr. Gilsenan and carried unanimously.

REGULAR MEETING RESUMED

**DISCUSSION - Notice of Intent/Renewal of Aeronautical Facility License
Newton Airport**

Attorney Semrau asked that this be placed on the agenda because a letter was received that the NJ Division of Aeronautics intends to renew the Facility License for Newton Airport and if there are any comments that the Township Committee wishes to send in regarding this renewal, it must be done by July 18th.

Following a short discussion it was decided that no comment be made at this time.

Attorney Semrau added that due to the length of time between meetings, he prepared and distributed an interim report. He then asked that following review of this report, if the Township Committee requests any of these items be placed on the next regular meeting agenda to let him know.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mayor Walsh opened the meeting to the public.

Lois de Vries of Lawrence Road stated she is distressed over the issue discussed this afternoon adding her opinion on how she feels the Township treats their volunteers. Mayor Walsh replied that he is sorry she feels as she does but believes this meeting was necessary in order to assure that all i's are dotted and t's are crossed. He added that this Township Committee will do what they need to make sure they have all the information when an issue is brought to their attention.

Fred Gillespie of Andover –Mohawk Road remarked about a resident on Ballantine Road who for months has been making allegations regarding dust on the road which is creating unhealthy air conditions. He asked why the Township Committee is not taking action on this matter. Mayor Walsh explained that the resident came before the Township Committee to notify them of this matter and he was asked to provide a written report of the outlining the findings. Mr. Smith added that he feels the two issues are totally different, adding this matter was addressed publicly and was immediately dropped. There is no reason at this time to pursue it. Mayor Walsh added that he has yet to produce the report and if he does, the Township Committee will pursue it. There was a miscommunication and the discussion held was regarding the weight of a vehicle and not the air quality report.

Ms. Phoebus added that it is not that the Township Committee is not supporting a volunteer, but rather we are trying to do just that.

Attorney Semrau stated that the Township Committee is not at liberty to discuss Executive Session matters until the issue is concluded. He asked then added that regarding the vehicle there is a court date scheduled. Mayor Walsh asked that no one assume what transpired in Executive Session. Mr. Gillespie stated that this matter has been pending for about two years. Attorney Semrau stated he also asked why it has taken so long to schedule a date and he understands that there were a number of requests for postponements due to personal reasons and a motion was filed to consolidate that action with a pending Superior Court matter. He also stated that the Township Committee has no control over court matters and the scheduling procedures. He wanted everyone to know that it is not that the matter was scheduled and nothing ever happened.

Diane Gillespie asked everyone to be aware that the Federal Government removed the bald eagle from the list of endangered species. She stated she spoke to someone from the NJ Northern Region District Office and asked how this ruling affects the standing in NJ and she said it doesn't. It is still on the threatened and endangered list in NJ, the only difference is, when it was removed from the Federal list it took away some of the powers when going to Court.

Hearing nothing more from the public, Mayor Walsh closed this portion of the meeting.

Mr. Smith asked the Township Committee to consider the purchase of the overhead projector for the meeting room. He stated that in speaking with CFO Day, funds in the amount of \$1,900. are available. Mr. Grotyohann voiced his opinion that each applicant should provide a media when addressing their presentation, rather than the municipality purchasing the equipment. Mr. Smith argued that some applicants do not have the means and Mayor Walsh stated that when sitting on the Planning Board and trying to view plans on an easel, it can be quite difficult to get the full impact of the plans.

Following a short discussion, Ms. Phoebus moved to authorize the purchase of an overhead projector for the meeting room, seconded by Mr. Smith. Roll call vote:

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| Mr. Gilsean – yes | Mr. Grotyohann – no |
| Ms. Phoebus – yes | Mr. Smith – yes |
| Mayor Walsh – yes | |

ADJOURNMENT No further business appearing before the Committee at this time, Mr. Gilsean moved the meeting be adjourned at 6:20 P.M., seconded by Ms. Phoebus and carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Walsh, Mayor

Vita Thompson, R.M.C.,
Municipal Clerk