

BOROUGH OF WENONAH
www.boroughofwenonah.com
COUNCIL MINUTES
ANNUAL REORGANIZATION MEETING
January 7, 2015

Wenonah Municipal Building
7:00 PM

Mayor Elect John R. Dominy called the meeting to order and welcomed guests and officials.

Pledge of Allegiance

Clerk Sweeney then called forward John R. Dominy and was sworn in by Judge Bumb. Then Mayor Dominy calls incumbent Paul Lader to be sworn in, then Carl Hausman all sworn in by Judge Bumb separately.

Roll Call: Present: Dominy, Hausman, Howard, Kaeflerle, Lader, Sheppard
 Absent: Norris

Open Public Meetings Act

The Reverend Edmund Zelle, Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, offered the invocation.

Councilman Sheppard motioned to do a consent agenda approving the confirmation of Employees/Appointments/Boards & Commissions, Resolution 1- 20 and Salary Ordinance O-2015-1 Councilman Lader seconds

Roll Call:

Ayes: Hausman, Howard, Kaeflerle, Lader, Norris, Sheppard

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Motion Approved

Mayor welcomes Assemblyman Fuentes and Gilbert "Whip" Wilson Senator Nilsa Cruz-Perez could not attend.

Presentation of the Wenonah Fire Company Line Officers:

- Chief Drew Sole introduced the Line Officers in attendance.
- Fire Chief Drew Sole and the Fire Company Line Officers were sworn in by Mayor Dominy.

Volunteer of the Year Award:

- Mayor Dominy spoke about Jack Sheppard, Sr. The mayor read a proclamation honoring Jack Sheppard, Sr and acknowledging his volunteer service to the community and presented to Jack Sheppard, Jr. to accept on his behalf.

Reorganization Meeting Minutes – January 4, 2013 (cont'd)

Presentation of Reports by Various Boards & Commissions:

Mayor Dominy asked if there were any attendees with End-of-Year Reports covering various organization activities in 2014.

- Anne Zuber, Wenonah Library, gave her report (see attached)
- Scott Barns, Chair of the Environmental Commission gave his report (see attached)
- Gary Odenbrett, Chair of the Shade Tree Commission gave his report (see attached)

- Fire Chief Drew Sole gave his report (see attached) and thanked everyone for their support.
- Officer in Charge Bill Rogers gave a brief report. He also thanked everyone for their support.

Mayor Dominy thanked everyone for their reports and acknowledged them for their good work in our community.

Open to Public JH/JS All in Favor

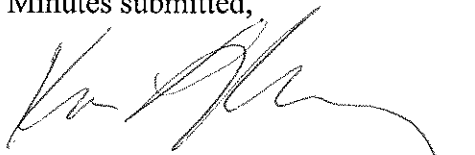
No comments

Close to Public CH/PL All in Favor

Mayor Dominy closed the meeting by thanking all in attendance and our volunteers. He acknowledged they were the backbone of the community. The Mayor then invited everyone to stay for refreshments.

Adjourn PL/JH All in Favor 7:35 pm

Minutes submitted,



Karen L. Sweeney, RMC/Treasurer

Approved: Jan. 22, 2015

Report to Borough Council January 7, 2015

The library board holds an open public meeting on the first Wednesday of each month, excluding July and December, at the library. All are welcome to join us, become involved and express any suggestions to improve our library. We are primarily funded through a state mandated formula, using Wenonah tax dollars. In 2014, the board of trustees of the Wenonah Free Public Library continued to work toward improving your library services and facility by accomplishing a number of projects identified on our Strategic Plan.

As part of LOGIN, the shared borrowing group, our online catalogue now has links to full text periodicals and journals. Thousands of research articles can be accessed through the link on our webpage.

Through donations, the board arranged to have the front sign refurbished and lighting improved in the vestibule area. We have installed a beautiful bronze bench in the back garden area where programs can be offered during good weather. Speaking of donations, it's always tough to part with books, but the library can benefit from your generosity. We accept book donations for our semi-annual Used Book Sales in April on Community Yard Sale Day and in September to coincide with Fall Festival Day.

During July, an especially fun, science-based summer reading program, "Fizz, Boom, Read" was presented. The library staff provided the children of Wenonah with enrichment in the areas of biology, chemistry, physics and most of all, reading. Another enriching program is our SAT Math Grade Builder class offered on select Wednesday evenings throughout the school year. It was started last spring and will continue in 2015. We hope to expand the class to help students improve their verbal skills as well. These classes are offered at no cost to the teens of Wenonah.

Thursday evenings at 7:00pm we have a volunteer providing training in basic computer usage for individuals and small groups. Please call ahead for more information.

Spooky Story Night, held on Mischief Night, at the park was a smashing success. Kids and their parents heard spooky stories, played games, won prizes and enjoyed apple cider and donuts. Picture it, over 80 people in the park in the dark!

We had field trips from the elementary school and Santa's helpers answered dozens of letters sent to Santa through the Santa's Mailbox found at Wenonah Public Library.

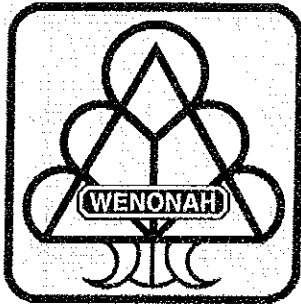
During 2015, we hope to expand programing to include some musical entertainment, some Girl Scout Service Projects, and a Reading Paws program. Of course, preschool story time continues with stories and crafts, on Wednesdays at 10:00am and 1:00pm.

In spite of the current trend toward the use of technology, Wenonah Library lent close to 10,000 items and had over 9300 visits from patrons during 2014. In addition, we had a 25% increase in digital library lending of Audiobooks and eBooks through our agreement with the South Jersey Audio and eBook Download Center. Patrons downloaded 1037 items to their eReaders and other mobile devices by using their library card # and the link on our webpage, www.wenonahlibrary.com. The site has information to help you start the process or stop by the library for help.

Don't forget you can get your newsletters and tax forms at the library. Use our wireless internet, and printer (25 cents per page); plus we have the only copier in town available to the public. (Copies 10 cents per page.)

Thanks to Ken Trovarelli and our public works department for helping with the tough jobs, the sign and bench installation and for keeping our walkways clear of snow.

The newest thing...our Ellen O'Laughlin puts the most entertaining posts on our Facebook page. They include notices about popular author events, interesting book lists, and fun quotes. To get these notifications, open FACEBOOK, search *Wenonah Free Public Library* and "Like" us.



WENONAH ENVIRONMENTAL
COMMISSION

1 SOUTH WEST AVENUE

WENONAH, NJ 08090

WEB: www.WenonahEnvironmentalCommission.org

E-MAIL: inbox@WenonahEnvironmentalCommission.org

January 7, 2015

Mayor and Council of the Borough of Wenonah
1 South West Avenue
Wenonah, NJ 08090

Dear Mayor and Members of Council:

This letter will serve to summarize the accomplishments of the Environmental Commission during calendar year 2014:

- For the second year in a row, we engaged a professional firm to chemically treat local ponds against duckweed and algae plants during the summer months. We are pleased to report that Comey's Lake and Dilks Pond stayed clear of these unsightly and unhealthy obstructions this year.
 - We spent a good deal of time at the former Synnott's Pond site, where clean-up efforts continue following the dam breach in August, 2013. The rubble from the dam has now been removed. We have put the main walking bridge back into place, and we are working hard to secure the other two walking bridges against erosion from storm water.
 - We also continued to fight storm water erosion along Eldridge Trail through installation of coir logs and the raising of a foot bridge.
 - In cooperation with the local watershed ambassador, we held a work party to remove invasive wisteria plants from the vicinity of the Japanese Tea House.
 - We planted 200 tree seedlings throughout our conservation area.
 - For canoers and kayakers: Eagle Scout candidate Jack Lerner designed and helped install a new dock at Hanisey's Landing next to the Mantua Avenue bridge. Also, the Commission cleared trees from the creek which impeded boat navigation.
 - We continued some perennial activities, such as: patrolling for trash and vandalism, addressing various fallen trees and trail erosion, sponsoring a local bird-watching event called Bird Quest, and awarding environmental scholarships to two graduating 6th graders.
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Wenonah Shade Tree Commission
C/o 20 N. West Ave
Wenonah, NJ 08090

To: Mayor and Borough Council
From: Wenonah Shade Tree Commission

January 1, 2015

Re: 2014 YEAR END STC REPORT TO COUNCIL
The activities of the Shade Tree Commission in 2014:

Tree Planting: a contract was awarded to Bailey Nursery, Charles City, Iowa for 70 bare root trees at a cost of \$1776. Shade Tree members planted these trees over the course of several weekends and weekday nights during March and April.

Tree Removal: 22 trees removed thru a contract with Stanch's Tree Service and Timber Cut. Public works removed 18 smaller trees during the year as well as assisted with storm related takedowns and clearing.

Tree Trimming Projects : 32 hours of contracted work to eliminate dead branches and hazards to homes, pedestrians and vehicles. Clearing of hazards on the east side of the train trestle leading to Wenonah school was also undertaken.

Resident issues and reports of tree problems: The Commission logged 52 formal contacts with residents or boro staff concerning trees during 2014.

The STC meets under the provisions of the "Open Public Meetings Act. Seven meetings were scheduled with public notice and conducted at the Wenonah School. In 2015 all meetings will be held in the Wenonah Community Center 300 volunteer hours were contributed in all for STC activities during 2014. We also celebrated our 18th year as a Tree City USA award winner.

Increased public awareness was achieved by publishing articles in the Borough Newsletter and student celebration of Arbor Day including a tree planting at the Wenonah School.

We wish to thank the Public Works Department, Borough staff, Wenonah Police Department and the Wenonah Fire Company for assisting the Commission with resident concerns and STC issues in service to the community.

Respectfully submitted:

Gary Odenbrett, Chair	Ted Astorga	Greg Hack
Patrick Ream, Secretary	Colleen Moran	Larry Bacon
Lesia DeCarlo	Tommy Lombardo	Dan Cox

To: Mayor Dominy and Members of Borough Council
 From: Drew Sole, Fire Chief
 Subject: Fire Chief's Report for the Year 2014
 Date: January 7, 2015

During the year 2014, the Wenonah Fire Company responded to 116 calls for fire or rescue assistance, conducted 48 drills, and performed 16 extra service assignments for a year- end total of 180 times in service. A detailed summary of the alarms follows.

FIRE

Alarm System Investigations	9
Assist Gloucester County EMS	4
Assist Police	1
Brush Fire	3
Carbon Monoxide Alarm Investigation	7
Cover Station Assignment	5
Dwelling	2
Investigate Fumes	5
Motor Vehicle Crash	2
Request for Mutual Aid	63
RIC Assignment	3
Tree Removal	4
Water Removal	1
Wires Investigations	7

During the year 2014 the Wenonah Fire Company responded to 116 calls for fire or rescue assistance to our community and our surrounding communities and trained on 48 separate occasions for a year- end total of 2,809 staff hours.

In 2014 our call volume was down from 122 in 2013 to 116 in 2014. Much of that was attributed to a decrease in the amount of alarm system investigations in the borough being down from fifteen in 2013 to just nine in 2014. The highest month for call volume was July with eighteen for that month followed by fourteen in the months of September and October. In 2013 we had no fumes dispatches however in 2014 we had five all in a short period of time. Most of these dispatches were attributed to curbing and street resurfacing as contractors would hit the natural gas lines while excavating. With every town feeling staffing shortages requests for mutual aid continues to be the highest number for dispatches in the year. In 2013 we were dispatched to assist other communities 65 times and in 2014 that number remained almost the same at 63.

In addition to protecting our residents and weekly training the fire company participated in the following extra service assignments.

1. Assisted with the spring Athletic Association parade.
2. Provided generator power for the Memorial Day service at Wenonah Cemetery.
3. Provided fire truck rides on the fourth of July.
4. Assisted with the Lion's Club annual fun run on July 4th.
5. Assisted with the fall Athletic Association parade.
5. Provided fire prevention education to the students at the Wenonah School.
6. Provided a fire truck escort for Santa to visit our residents.

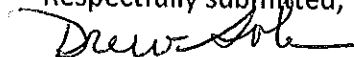
In 2014 the fire company was dispatched to two dwelling fires within the borough. The first one just as the new year began and the second as the year was starting to come to an end. Both small fires in nature required intense investigation to uncover. I am proud to report that both were handled with both excellence and professionalism by our firefighters containing the most damage to just the affected area with each fire.

The success of every organization relies on assistance from others. That being said I would like to thank the Wenonah Police Department under OIC Sgt. Rodgers for their assistance as well as Karen, Laurie and Kathy in the municipal office for their help as well. A special thank you to the Wenonah Public Works Department under Superintendent Ken Troverelli for all the help they provide us throughout the year. I would also like to commend our fire marshal Joe Buono for ensuring that all our facilities and apartments are properly inspected each year as required by State law.

The residents of Wenonah can continue to be both comforted and proud knowing that they have one of the most respected, highly trained professional all volunteer fire companies in Gloucester County. Although our members must maintain the exact same yearly training requirements as career firefighters the Wenonah Fire Company from the Chief down to its newest member continue to provide this service for no salary.


I look forward to working with Mayor Dominy and all members of Borough Council as I begin my 22nd year as the Chief of what I consider to be the greatest fire company. On behalf of the officers and members of the Wenonah Fire Company I would like to wish everyone a safe, healthy and happy New Year.

Respectfully submitted,



Drew Sole, Fire Chief

The Borough of Wenonah Police Department in 2014 answered 4,276 calls for service. The Officers assisted the Wenonah fire Department and the Gloucester Co EMS. In the upcoming year of 2015 the Borough of Wenonah Police Department will continue to provide the residents with a professional Police Department with high standards that the resident's expect from us . The Officers in this borough are committed to providing community policing to its residents. We will continue to strive for excellence and the police department door is always open for questions or concerns that the residents may have. Thank You for your continuing support in 2015.


Sergeant / A.P.C. of Police