

**READINGTON TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
MEETING – April 4, 2011**

Mayor Gatti *calls the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.* announcing that all laws governing the Open Public Meetings Act have been met and that this meeting has been duly advertised.

PRESENT: Mayor F. Gatti, Deputy Mayor T. Auriemma, Mrs. J. Allen, Mrs. B. Muir
Mrs. D. Simon

ALSO PRESENT: Administrator Mekovetz, Attorney S. Dragan, Engineer O'Brien

ABSENT: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Clerk read the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION
EXECUTIVE SESSION

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 *et seq.*, the Open Public Meetings Act, permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist and desires to authorize the exclusion of the public from the portion of the meeting in accordance with the act;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from discussion of and action upon the specified subject matter as set forth in the following Exhibit "A."

EXHIBIT A

<u>Subject Matter</u>	<u>Basis Of Public Exclusion</u>	<u>Date Anticipated When Disclosed to Public</u>
Police Department.....	Personnel.....	Certain information at the discretion of Township Committee tonight...other information will be confidential
709 Well Sweep Road / Block 21.04, Lot 507.01	Contract Negotiations.....	“ “ “
Peters / Block 40, Lot 2.....	Contract Negotiations.....	“ “ “
Executive Session Minutes..... •March 22, 2011	Attorney-Client Privilege.....	“ “ “
Theresa & Bruce Waage.....	Potential Litigation.....	“ “ “
Block 48, Lot 23; Block 55, Lot 33; Block 56, Lots 1, 3, 6 & 8; Block 39, Lot 24 & Block 67, Lot 2 (Solberg Aviation).....	Litigation.....	“ “ “

It is anticipated at this time that the stated subject matter will be made public on or about the time set forth in Exhibit "A."

2. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Muir to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Auriemma with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

The meeting reconvened at 7:30 p.m.

Mayor Gatti led those present in the *Salute to the Flag*.

Executive Session:

Personnel / Police Department

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Allen to promote Sergeant Christopher DeWire to the rank of Sergeant First Class, seconded by Mr. Auriemma and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mrs. Allen	- Aye
Mr. Auriemma	- Aye
Mrs. Muir	- Aye
Mrs. Simon	- Aye
Mayor Gatti	- Aye

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Muir to promote Sergeant William duFosse to the rank of Sergeant First Class, seconded by Mr. Auriemma and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mrs. Allen	- Aye
Mr. Auriemma	- Aye
Mrs. Muir	- Aye
Mrs. Simon	- Aye
Mayor Gatti	- Aye

Contract Negotiations / 709 Well Sweep Road / Block 21.04, Lot 507.01

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Muir to approve the amendment to the Affordable Housing Agreement Section IV, Paragraph “C1,” changing “90” days to “45” days, seconded by Mrs. Allen and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mrs. Allen	- Aye
Mr. Auriemma	- Aye
Mrs. Muir	- Aye
Mrs. Simon	- Aye
Mayor Gatti	- Aye

Contract Negotiations / Peters / Block 40, Lot 2

Mrs. Allen stated that this is a 60 acre farm on County Line Road that should be paid for in full at the time of the closing through the Farmland Preservation Planning Incentive Grant, Hunterdon County Open Space Trust Fund and possibly federal funding.

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2011-44

***TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON
RESOLUTION***

Resolution #R-2011-44 cont'd:

WHEREAS, the State Agriculture Development Committee (SADC) certified the Fair Market Value (FMV) of \$19,000 per acre for the development easement on the Peters (Block 39, Lot 40 and Block 40, Lot 2- 61 acres) farm, which is contained in Readington Township's 2007 Round Planning Incentive Grant list of farms; and

WHEREAS, the SADC approved the allocation of \$695,400 to be appropriated from the Garden State Preservation Trust, Farmland Preservation Fund, for Readington Township's Planning Incentive Grant application, conditioned upon Garden State Preservation Trust, legislative and gubernatorial appropriation; and

WHEREAS, based on Readington Township's application, the County of Hunterdon will provide a cost share for the purchase of the development easements, holding title to the development easements.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey:

1. Approves the purchase of the development easement on Block 39, Lot 40 and Block 40, Lot 2 (Peters Farm).
2. Commits to funding of the purchase of the development easement on Block 39, Lot 40 Block 40, Lot 2 (Peters Farm).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Municipal Clerk is directed to forward certified copies of this Resolution to the County Agricultural Development Board and the State Agricultural Development Committee as requested and required.

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Allen to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mrs. Muir and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mrs. Allen	- Aye
Mr. Auriemma	- Aye
Mrs. Muir	- Aye
Mrs. Simon	- Aye
Mayor Gatti	- Aye

Attorney –Client Privilege/Executive Session Minutes (March 21, 2011))

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Auriemma to approve the Executive Session Minutes of March 21, 2011 as amended for content only, seconded by Mrs. Allen with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

Potential Litigation / Theresa & Bruce Waage

Mayor Gatti stated that this matter remains in Executive Session.

Litigation/Solberg Aviation / Block 48, Lot 23; Block 55, Lot 33; Block 56, Lot 1, 3, 6 & 8; Block 39, Lot 24 and Block 67, Lot 2

Mayor Gatti stated that this matter remains in Executive Session.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Mayor Gatti read the following statement:

All items listed with an asterisk “*” are considered to be routine by the Township Committee and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a committee member or citizen requests, in which event the item will be removed from the General Order of Business and considered in its normal sequence on the agenda.

- * 1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** of meeting of March 21, 2011
- * 2. ***Social Affair Permit*** – St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church – May 14, 2011
- * 3. ***Designation of May as Older Americans Month*** - resolution

#R-2011-45

**TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON
RESOLUTION TO DESIGNATE MAY AS OLDER AMERICANS MONTH**

WHEREAS, the month of May is traditionally designated and observed throughout the nation as ***Older Americans Month***; and

WHEREAS, the 2011 theme is, “***Older Americans: Connecting the Community***” in honor of older Americans; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Readington recognizes the contributions older Americans have made to our families, our communities, and our nation; and

WHEREAS, older Americans remain active and productive, volunteering their time, talents and expertise, thereby enriching all our lives;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township of Readington does hereby proclaim the month of May as Older Americans Month and call upon individuals and entities to honor and celebrate the outstanding contributions of this Municipality’s older residents.

- * 4. ***Release of Security Deposit on Leased Hunting Properties***
 - Cranford Rod & Gun Club / Block 57, Lot 2 (\$255.00)
- * 5. ***Release of Security Deposit on Leased Hunting Properties***
 - Kodiak Rod & Gun Club / Block 52.01, Lot 14.06 (\$558.00)
- * 6. ***Release of Security Deposit on Leased Hunting Properties***
 - Pine Bank Hunting Association / Block 66, Lot 2 & 3 (\$520.00)
 - Pine Bank Hunting Association / Block 66, Lot 13
- * 7. ***Tax Lien Redemption*** (Block 67, Lot 8)

READINGTON TOWNSHIP

HUNTERDON COUNTY, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, an interested party has paid to the Tax Collector the amount necessary to redeem the lien on Block 67, Lot 8 and,

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Tax Collector to refund to the lienholder the redemption amount.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee that the Treasurer be authorized to refund the redemption amount of \$70,699.55, plus a premium paid in the amount of \$10,100.00, known as Tax Sale Certificate #520, to the lienholder, Crusader Servicing Corporation.

* 8. **Tax Exemption** (Block 57, Lot 11.32)

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

READINGTON TOWNSHIP

HUNTERDON COUNTY, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs has determined that the property owner of Block 57, Lot 11.32 is a 100% permanently disabled veteran (date of determination – February 23, 2010) and,

WHEREAS, the property owner purchased the property on April 30, 1978.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee that the Tax Collector be authorized to cancel the 2011 property taxes and refund the owner \$10,521.74, the pro-rated amount of property taxes paid for February 23, 2010 – December 31, 2010.

* 9. **Payment of Bills** – (Complete bill list is on file in Clerk’s Office)

<u>Fund Description</u>	<u>Fund No.</u>	<u>Received Total</u>
CURRENT FUND	1-01	\$ 566,098.09
SEWER APPROPRIATIONS	1-02	\$ 104,338.28
TRUST FUNDS	X-03	\$ 11,284.24
MISC REFUND, COUNTY TAX, LIENS	X-05	\$ 998,578.14
PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS	X-06	\$ 152,807.44
REG. & LOCAL SCHOOL TAX	X-07	\$2,417,944.00
2010 CAPITAL	X-10	\$ 3,242.60
2006 CAPITAL	X-66	\$ <u>908.60</u>
TOTAL OF ALL FUNDS		\$ 4,255,201.39

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Allen to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Mr. Auriemma and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

- Mrs. Allen - Aye
- Mr. Auriemma - Aye
- Mrs. Muir - Aye
- Mrs. Simon - Aye
- Mayor Gatti - Aye

PUBLIC HEARINGS

As it was after 8:00 p.m., ***A MOTION*** was made by Mrs. Allen to adjourn the regular meeting to hold a Public Hearing, seconded by Mr. Auriemma with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

Clerk read by Title:

AN ORDINANCE SUPPLEMENTING AND AMENDING CHAPTER 148 OF THE LAND USE ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON, COUNTY OF HUNTERDON AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY PERTAINING TO AGE-RESTRICTED HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS

ORDINANCE #06 -2011

Mayor Gatti asked if there were any comments from the Governing Body.

Mrs. Allen stated that it is important that these projects are occupied and sold because senior housing is a valuable ratable for the Township.

Mayor Gatti asked if there were any comments from the public.

There were none.

A MOTION was made by Mrs. Muir to close the Public Hearing and open the regular meeting, seconded by Mrs. Allen with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

Clerk read by Title:

AN ORDINANCE SUPPLEMENTING AND AMENDING CHAPTER 148 OF THE LAND USE ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON, COUNTY OF HUNTERDON AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY PERTAINING TO AGE-RESTRICTED HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS

ORDINANCE #06 -2011

A MOTION was made by Mrs. Muir to adopt this ordinance, seconded by Mrs. Simon and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mrs. Allen	- Aye
Mr. Auriemma	- Aye
Mrs. Muir	- Aye
Mrs. Simon	- Aye
Mayor Gatti	- Aye

A MOTION was made by Mr. Auriemma to adjourn the regular meeting to open the Public Hearing, seconded by Mrs. Allen with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

Clerk read by Title:

AN ORDINANCE SUPPLEMENTING AND AMENDING VOLUME II CHAPTER 148 ENTITLED "LAND DEVELOPMENT" OF THE ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON, 2000, AS HERETOFORE SUPPLEMENTED AND AMENDED, TO AMEND REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO SIGNS (CHAPTER 148-112-116)

ORDINANCE #08-2011

Mayor Gatti asked if there were any comments from the Governing Body.

Mrs. Muir stated that there is a minor correction on page 22 under permanent agricultural signs that should read *shall not be located closer than 10 feet from a property line or street right-of-way*.

Mayor Gatti asked if there were any comments from the public.

Charles Gyescek, Somerset Street, asked if there was anything in the ordinance that covers historic signs. Mrs. Allen stated that although it doesn't mention anything specific to historic, it does allow residential properties to have signs. Mrs. Allen stated that when items come up, it behooves the Township to make amendments; noting that the most important thing about the sign ordinance is to bring it in line with the constitutional rights. Mayor Gatti stated that he will also review this with the Historic Preservation Commission.

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Auriemma to close the Public Hearing and open the regular meeting, seconded by Mrs. Allen with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

Clerk read by Title:

AN ORDINANCE SUPPLEMENTING AND AMENDING VOLUME II CHAPTER 148 ENTITLED "LAND DEVELOPMENT" OF THE ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON, 2000, AS HERETOFORE SUPPLEMENTED AND AMENDED, TO AMEND REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO SIGNS (CHAPTER 148-112-116)

ORDINANCE #08-2011

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Auriemma to adopt this ordinance, seconded by Mrs. Allen and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mrs. Allen	- Aye
Mr. Auriemma	- Aye
Mrs. Muir	- Aye
Mrs. Simon	- Aye
Mayor Gatti	- Aye

CORRESPONDENCE / OTHER INFORMATION

1. Memorandum dated March 17, 2011 from Rose Sollena, Municipal Clerk, Raritan Township, regarding ***Resolution Opposing Reduced Allocation of Open Space Tax Levy Funds to Municipal Grant Programs***. No action taken.
2. Memorandum dated March 28, 2011 from Tricia Houck, Deputy Clerk, Township of Clinton, regarding the following:
 - ***An Ordinance Supplementing and Amending Chapter 165 Entitled "Land Use Regulations" of The Code of the Township of Clinton, 2003, to Clarify the Definition of a Shed and Require a Zoning Permit for All Sheds and a Construction Permit for Large Sheds***
 - ***An Ordinance Supplementing and Amending Chapter 165 Entitled "Land Use Regulations" of The Code of the Township of Clinton, 2003, as heretofore Supplemented and Amended is hereby Supplemented and Amended to Amend Sign Regulations to Permit Commercial Window Signs, Regulate their Placement and to Provide Regulations for the Location of Temporary Special Events Signs***
 - ***An Ordinance Supplementing and Amending Chapter 165 Entitled "Land Use Regulations" of The Code of the Township of Clinton, 2003, as heretofore Supplemented and Amended is hereby Supplemented and Amended to Revise the Zoning Map to Change a Portion of the RR-4 Rural Residential Zone District to the Rom-3 Research Office Manufacturing 3 Zone District***

No action taken.

3. Mayors Advisory dated March 28, 2011 from William G. Dressel, Jr. Executive Director, NJLM, regarding *Strengthening Municipal Immunity to Tort Claims*. No action taken.
4. Memorandum dated March 27, 2011 from Christine Dispenza, Township Clerk, Township of Bethlehem regarding *Opposing Reduced Allocation of Open Space Tax Levy Funds to Municipal Grant Programs*. No action taken.

NEW BUSINESS

1. ***Presentation of Readington Board of Education Budget***

Rick Finn, Vice President of Board of Education, stated that the purpose of the presentation was to provide context to the overall 2011 budget and allow the public the opportunity to comment, ask questions and share any concerns that they may have. Bob Gulick, Interim Superintendent, and Steffi Jo DeCassas, Business Administrator, thanked the Committee for their involvement in the budget process and gave an overview of their 2011 budget.

2. ***General Improvement Bond Ordinance***

Mayor Gatti stated that this is a bond ordinance providing for various capital improvements, including road improvements and equipment. Mayor Gatti stated that roads are listed in priority order and due to budgetary constraints are then pared down. Mrs. Allen made a suggestion to only purchase the single axle dump truck with plow, spreader and hydraulics. The Committee agreed with this recommendation.

Administrator Mekovetz stated that relative to paving the Summer Road parking lot, they had checked with emergency services and having a separate entrance going to the Summer Road parking lot would be sufficient, lowering the estimated cost for this line item to \$15,000-20,000.

The following ordinance was offered for introduction:

BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON, IN THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT OF \$1,322,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$1,255,900 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF

ORDINANCE #09-2011

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON, IN THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, NEW JERSEY (not less than two-thirds of all members thereof affirmatively concurring) AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The several improvements described in Section 3 of this bond ordinance are hereby respectively authorized to be undertaken by the Township of Readington, in the County of Hunterdon, New Jersey (the "Township") as general improvements. For the several improvements or purposes described in Section 3, there are hereby appropriated the respective sums of money therein stated as the appropriation made for each improvement or purpose, such sums amounting in the aggregate to \$1,322,000, including the aggregate sum of \$66,100 as the several down payments for the improvements or purposes required by the Local Bond Law. The down payments have been made available from the Capital Improvement Fund.

Ordinance #09-2011 cont'd:

Section 2. In order to finance the cost of the several improvements or purposes not covered by application of the several down payments, negotiable bonds are hereby authorized to be issued in the principal amount of \$1,255,900 pursuant to the Local Bond Law. In anticipation of the issuance of the bonds, negotiable bond anticipation notes are hereby authorized to be issued pursuant to and within the limitations prescribed by the Local Bond Law.

Section 3. The several improvements hereby authorized and the several purposes for which the bonds are to be issued, the estimated cost of each improvement and the appropriation therefor, the estimated maximum amount of bonds or notes to be issued for each improvement and the period of usefulness of each improvement are as follows:

<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Appropriation and Estimated Cost</u>	<u>Estimated Maximum Amount of Bonds or Notes</u>	<u>Period of Usefulness</u>
a) <u>Roads:</u>			
Reclamation, overlay and drainage of various roads, including, but not limited to, Ridge Road, Chamberlain Road, Hyde, Juniper Drive, Old York Road, Coddington Road, Judge Thompson Complex, Weavers Lane, Shepherds Lane, and Coopers Circle, including all work and materials necessary therefor and incidental thereto.	\$1,128,000	\$1,071,600	10 years
b) <u>Equipment:</u>			
The acquisition of a single axle dump truck with plow, spreader and hydraulics, including all related costs and expenditures incidental thereto.	\$171,500	\$162,925	5 years
c) <u>Miscellaneous:</u>			
Paving of Summer Road Parking Lot, including all work and materials necessary therefor and incidental thereto.	<u>\$22,500</u>	<u>\$21,375</u>	10 years
TOTALS	<u>\$1,322,000</u>	<u>\$1,255,900</u>	

The excess of the appropriation made for each of the improvements or purposes aforesaid over the estimated maximum amount of bonds or notes to be issued therefor, as above stated, is the amount of the down payment for each purpose.

Section 4. All bond anticipation notes issued hereunder shall mature at such times as may be determined by the chief financial officer; provided that no note shall mature later than one year from its date. The notes shall bear interest at such rate or rates and be in such form as may be determined by the chief financial officer. The chief financial officer shall determine all matters in connection with notes issued pursuant to this ordinance, and the chief financial officer's signature upon the notes shall be conclusive evidence as to all such determinations. All notes issued hereunder may be renewed from time to time subject to the provisions of the Local

Bond Law. The chief financial officer is hereby authorized to sell part or all of the notes from time to time at public or private sale and to deliver them to the purchasers thereof upon receipt of payment of the purchase price plus accrued interest from their dates to the date of delivery

Ordinance #09-2011 cont'd:

thereof. The chief financial officer is directed to report in writing to the governing body at the meeting next succeeding the date when any sale or delivery of the notes pursuant to this ordinance is made. Such report must include the amount, the description, the interest rate and the maturity schedule of the notes sold, the price obtained and the name of the purchaser.

Section 5. The Township hereby certifies that it has adopted a capital budget or a temporary capital budget, as applicable. The capital or temporary capital budget of the Township is hereby amended to conform with the provisions of this ordinance to the extent of any inconsistency herewith. To the extent that the purposes authorized herein are inconsistent with the adopted capital or temporary capital budget, a revised capital or temporary capital budget has been filed with the Division of Local Government Services.

Section 6. The following additional matters are hereby determined, declared, recited and stated:

(a) The purposes described in Section 3 of this bond ordinance are not current expenses. They are all improvements that the Township may lawfully undertake as general improvements, and no part of the costs thereof has been or shall be specially assessed on property specially benefitted thereby.

(b) The average period of usefulness, computed on the basis of the respective amounts of obligations authorized for each purpose and the reasonable life thereof within the limitations of the Local Bond Law, is 9.35 years.

(c) The Supplemental Debt Statement required by the Local Bond Law has been duly prepared and filed in the office of the Clerk, and a complete executed duplicate thereof has been filed in the office of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services in the Department of Community Affairs of the State of New Jersey. Such statement shows that the gross debt of the Township as defined in the Local Bond Law is increased by the authorization of the bonds and notes provided in this bond ordinance by \$1,255,900, and the obligations authorized herein will be within all debt limitations prescribed by that Law.

(d) An aggregate amount not exceeding \$150,000 for items of expense listed in and permitted under N.J.S.A. 40A:2-20 is included in the estimated costs indicated herein for the purposes or improvements.

Section 7. The Township hereby declares the intent of the Township to issue the bonds or bond anticipation notes in the amount authorized in Section 2 of this bond ordinance and to use proceeds to pay or reimburse expenditures for the costs of the purposes described in Section 3 of this bond ordinance. This Section 7 is a declaration of intent within the meaning and for purposes of Treasury Regulations.

Section 8. Any grant moneys received for the purposes described in Section 3 hereof shall be applied either to direct payment of the cost of the improvements or to payment of the obligations issued pursuant to this ordinance. The amount of obligations authorized but not issued hereunder shall be reduced to the extent that such funds are so used.

Section 9. The chief financial officer of the Township is hereby authorized to prepare and to update from time to time as necessary a financial disclosure document to be distributed in connection with the sale of obligations of the Township and to execute such disclosure document on behalf of the Township. The chief financial officer is further authorized to enter into the appropriate undertaking to provide secondary market disclosure on behalf of the Township pursuant to Rule 15c2-12 of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Rule") for the benefit of holders and beneficial owners of obligations of the Township and to amend such undertaking from time to time in connection with any change in law, or interpretation thereof, provided such undertaking is and continues to be, in the opinion of a nationally recognized bond counsel, consistent with the requirements of the Rule. In the event that the Township fails to comply with its undertaking, the Township shall not be liable for any monetary damages, and the remedy shall be limited to specific performance of the undertaking.

Section 10. The full faith and credit of the Township are hereby pledged to the punctual payment of the principal of and the interest on the obligations authorized by this bond ordinance. The obligations shall be direct, unlimited obligations of the Township, and the

Ordinance #09-2011 cont'd:

Township shall be obligated to levy *ad valorem* taxes upon all the taxable real property within the Township for the payment of the obligations and the interest thereon without limitation of rate or amount.

Section 11. This bond ordinance shall take effect 20 days after the first publication thereof after final adoption, as provided by the Local Bond Law.

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Muir to introduce this ordinance, seconded by Mrs. Simon and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

- Mrs. Allen - Aye
- Mr. Auriemma - Aye
- Mrs. Muir - Aye
- Mrs. Simon - Aye
- Mayor Gatti - Aye

The Public Hearing was scheduled for April 18, 2011 at 8:00 p.m.

- 3. **Fallone at Buckingham, LLC (Block 76, Lot 3)** – request for reduction of performance bond

Engineer O'Brien stated that an inspection was done and recommended that the bond be reduced down to \$218,108.70.

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

R-2011-47

**TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON
 RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, Fallone at Buckingham, LLC. did on January 16, 2003 file a written request with the Township of Readington for a reduction in Cash Performance Guarantee Check #9353 in the amount of \$72,702.90 and Performance Bond #45037870 in the amount of \$654,326.10 for work completed on Buckingham Estates, Block 76, Lot 3; and

WHEREAS, the Township Engineer has confirmed that a certain amount of work has been done by Fallone at Buckingham, LLC. on said property; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Municipal Land Use Law the Township may retain up to 30% of a Performance Bond to assure the completion of site work; and

WHEREAS, the Township Engineer has supplied a reduced bond amount for Cash Performance Guarantee Check #9353 and Performance Bond #45037870, as indicated in his letters of February 3, 2003, and March 30, 2011 based upon the Municipal Land Use Law.

Bond or Check	Original Bonded Amount @ 120%	Feb. 2003 Recommended Reduction for Work Completed	April 2011 Recommended Reduction for Work Completed	Remaining Performance Guarantee @ 120% Value
Greenwich Insurance Co. Bond # 45037870	\$654,326.10	\$371,643.12	\$175,345.29	\$196,297.83

Check #9353	\$ 72,702.90	\$ 41,293.68	\$19,482.81	\$21,810.87
Total	\$727,029.00	\$ 412,936.80	\$194,828.10	\$218,108.70

Resolution #R-2011-47 cont'd:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, that authorization is hereby given to reduce Cash Performance Guarantee Check #9353 and Performance Bond #45037870, as recommended by the Township Engineer; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that authorization is given to the Township Clerk to forward copies of this Resolution approving these reduced amounts to the applicant.

A MOTION was made by Mrs. Allen to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mrs. Muir and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

- Mrs. Allen - Aye
- Mr. Auriemma - Aye
- Mrs. Muir - Aye
- Mrs. Simon - Aye
- Mayor Gatti - Aye

- * 4. **Social Affair Permit** – St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church – May 14, 2011

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

- * 5. **Older Americans Month (May)** – letter dated March 29, 2011 from Mary Ann Rodenberger, Hunterdon County Division of Senior Services, requesting the Township pass a Resolution/Proclamation celebrating and recognizing older Americans.

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

- * 6. **Release of Security Deposit for Hunting Club**
 - Cranford Rod & Gun Club / Block 57, Lot 2 (\$255.00)

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

- * 7. **Release of Security Deposit for Hunting Club**
 - Kodiak Rod & Gun Club / Block 52.01, Lot 14.06 (\$558.00)

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

- * 8. **Release of Security Deposit on Leased Hunting Properties**
 - Pine Bank Hunting Association / Block 66, Lot 2 & 3 (\$520.00)
 - Pine Bank Hunting Association / Block 66, Lot 13

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

Administrator Mekovetz stated that she was pleased to report that the Township had achieved their bronze certification under Sustainable Jersey, being one of 74 municipalities in New Jersey to receive it, and thanked the members of the Green Team who participated in the application process.

Administrator Mekovetz stated that she had a request from Triple A Rod and Gun Club for the release of their security deposit. Administrator Mekovetz stated that although it was not listed on the agenda since it just came in, the property had been checked and asked the Committee to consider making a motion to return the security deposit.

A MOTION was made by Mrs. Allen to return the security deposit of \$510.00 to Triple A Rod and Gun Club, seconded by Mr. Auriemma and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mrs. Allen	- Aye
Mr. Auriemma	- Aye
Mrs. Muir	- Aye
Mrs. Simon	- Aye
Mayor Gatti	- Aye

ATTORNEYS REPORT

Attorney Dragan reported that the closing on the Salomon property (Block 94, Lot 11) took place last Friday.

Attorney Dragan stated that in regard to the discussion on the historical signing, there is a general provision in the sign ordinance referring to the definition of free expression signs, *communicating information or views on matters of public policy, or public concern or containing any other noncommercial message, that is otherwise lawful* which historical signs may fall under.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Engineer O'Brien reported that he attended a meeting back in February with the Hunterdon County engineer's office for the improvement to Route 523, starting at the Hall Mills Road intersection, to widen the bridge near the traffic light and in order to do that they would need the Township's concurrence on acquiring property from the Township on one side. Mrs. Allen stated that this is the bridge that would allow the pipe to be hung if the NJDEP renewal permit is approved and since the Township is contending the process, requested that the Township be allowed more time on this decision.

Engineer O'Brien reported that the in-street pedestrian signs have been placed by Bank Street.

Engineer O'Brien reported that the public meeting at the Branchburg Township regarding the County Line Road project is scheduled for April 20th from 1:30-3:30.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Frank Gatti

Mayor Gatti reported that the Museums received a \$6,000 grant from the NJ Historical Commission.

Mayor Gatti reported that he met with Leslie Gable, Associate Executive Director of the Hunterdon Prevention Resources, to talk about the possibility of the Township passing an ordinance to penalize persons under legal age for the possession and consumption of alcoholic beverages on private property. Mayor Gatti passed around a sample ordinance for a discussion at the next meeting.

Julia Allen

Mrs. Allen reported that the next Open Space Walk, climbing to the top of Cushetunk Mountain, will take place on April 17th.

Mrs. Allen reported that the Open Space meetings have changed from the 4th Wednesday of the month to the 1st Wednesday of the month.

Mrs. Allen stated that there was a request from the Open Space Committee, the Recreation Committee and the Parks Recreation and Leisure Activities which meet monthly to get on the website calendar.

Thomas Auriemma

Mr. Auriemma reported that the Annual Memorial Day Parade will take place May 30th at 10:30 a.m. and the Recreation Committee will be hosting the Community Day at Pickell Park after the parade.

Beatrice Muir

Mrs. Muir stated that she had nothing further to report.

Donna Simon

Mrs. Simon reported that the third seminar of Municipal Shared Services discussing regionalization and reallocation will take place on Thursday, April 7th at 7:00 p.m.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Gerry Cook, Railroad Lane, commented that the old buffalo tank building has a new warehousing situation with a lot of big trucks which may tear up the road on Ridge Road.

COMMENTS FROM THE GOVERNING BODY

Mrs. Allen stated that she attended the Hunterdon County Planning Board and Design Awards Dinner on March 30th and accepted an award for Readington Township for the Historic Preservation of the Ann Reno barn.

Mayor Gatti stated that he felt *Comments from the Public* at the beginning of the meeting should be limited to agenda items only and asked for the Committee's recommendation on this. Mrs. Muir stated that she wanted the public to understand that they are accessible either via mailboxes at the municipal building, telephone or emails but public comment should remain public comment. Mayor Gatti stated that the agenda could be amended going forward to include *Comments from the Public* at the beginning of the meeting *limited to agenda items* in addition to *Comments from the Public* at the end of the meeting.

As there was no further business, **A MOTION** was made by Mrs. Muir at 9:50 p.m. to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Auriemma with vote of all ayes, nays none recorded.

Respectfully Submitted:

Vita Mekovetz, RMC/MMC/RPPO
Municipal Clerk