

**READINGTON TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
MEETING – March 5, 2012**

Mayor Auriemma *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 T. Auriemma, Deputy Mayor J. Allen, Mrs. B. Fort, Mrs. B. Muir

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

ABSENT: Mr. F. Gatti

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>
Recreation.....	Personnel.....	Certain information at the discretion of Township Committee tonight...other information will be confidential
PBA Local No. 317.....	Contract Negotiations.....	“ “ “
Hunterdon County.....	Contract Negotiations.....	“ “ “
Law Enforcement and Emergency Shared Services Mutual Aid Agreement		
Executive Session Minutes.....	Attorney-Client Privilege.....	“ “ “
• February 21, 2012		
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 Mrs. Allen with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

The meeting reconvened at 7:30p.m.

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

Executive Session:

Personnel / Recreation

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Muir to hire Lisa Sachs Baum for a maximum of fifteen (15) hours per week at a rate of \$15 per hour, to be paid out of Recreation Trust, as Recreation Assistant effective March 19, 2012, seconded by Mrs. Fort and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mrs. Allen - Aye
Mrs. Fort - Aye
Mrs. Muir - Aye
Mayor Auriemma - Aye

Contract Negotiations / PBA Local No. 317

Mayor Auriemma stated that this matter remains in Executive Session.

Contract Negotiations / Hunterdon County / Law Enforcement and Emergency Shared Services Mutual Aid Agreement

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Allen approve the Mutual Aid Agreement, seconded by Mrs. Fort and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mrs. Allen - Aye
Mrs. Fort - Aye
Mrs. Muir - Aye
Mayor Auriemma - Aye

Attorney-Client Privilege / Executive Session Minutes / February 21, 2012

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Fort to approve the Executive Session Minutes of February 21, 2012 for content only, seconded by Mr. Allen with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded

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 Auriemma stated that this matter remains in Executive Session.

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Allen to amend the Executive Session Agenda, seconded by Mrs. Fort with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

Litigation / Thor and Lorraine Solberg vs. Twp. of Readington / Docket No. HNT-L-00072-12

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Allen to authorize Wolff & Samson, P.C. to respond to the Civil Action suit, seconded Mrs. Muir and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mrs. Allen - Aye
Mrs. Fort - Aye
Mrs. Muir - Aye
Mayor Auriemma - Aye

CONSENT AGENDA:

Mayor Auriemma 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 February 21, 2012

- * 2. ***Tax Lien Redemption***

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

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 36, Lot 117 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 \$44,230.09, plus a premium paid in the amount of \$7,000.00, known as Tax Sale Certificate #587, to the lienholder, Royal Tax Lien Services, LLC.

- * 3. ***Tax Refunds***

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

READINGTON TOWNSHIP
HUNTERDON COUNTY, STATE OF NEW JERSEY
RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Readington Township Tax Collector has recommended the following refunds for property taxes:

<u>BLOCK/LOT</u>	<u>REFUND TO</u>	<u>REASON</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
<u>2012</u> 69/1.08	Michael & Michele Leach	Exempt Property	\$1,318.42
<u>2012</u> 34/23.01	GMAC Mortgage	Duplicate Payment	\$2,711.76
69/1.08	Chase (OH4-7330)	Exempt Property	2,934.29

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee that the Treasurer is hereby authorized to refund the amounts recommended.

- * 4. *Social Affair Permit* - Mane Stream, Inc. (May 19, 2012)
- * 5. *Blue Light Permit* – Logan Yukniewicz
- * 6. *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	\$ 2,265.42
CURRENT FUND	2-01	\$ 715,383.64
SEWER APPROPRIATIONS	2-02	\$ 50,080.00
TRUST FUNDS	X-03	\$ 2,782.95
MISC REFUND, COUNTY TAX, LIENS	X-05	\$ 70,851.53
PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS	X-06	<u>\$ 137,841.76</u>
TOTAL OF ALL FUNDS		\$ 979,205.30

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

- Mrs. Allen - Aye
- Mrs. Fort - Aye
- Mrs. Muir - Aye
- Mayor Auriemma - Aye

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC for items listed on the agenda only

There were none.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

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

Clerk read by Title:

An Ordinance Amending Chapter 96, Entitled “Construction Codes, Uniform” of the Code of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey

◆ **Ordinance #09-2012**

Mayor Auriemma stated that there was an advertising error regarding this ordinance therefore it will need to be deferred to the next meeting.

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

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Muir to defer the Public Hearing for *Ordinance #09-2012* until the March 19, 2012 meeting at 8:00 p.m, seconded by Mrs. Allen with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

CORRESPONDENCE / OTHER INFORMATION

- 1. Resolution from Ella M. Ruta, Municipal Clerk, Township of Union, regarding *Urging Restoration of Funding to the Paris Grants Program.*

Mrs. Allen requested that the Committee consider passing a similar resolution.

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2012-41

URGING RESTORATION OF FUNDING TO THE PARIS GRANTS PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the New Jersey State Legislature established a grant program in P.L. 2003, c. 17, Sections 38 and 39, funded by the New Jersey Public Records Preservation Account, a dedicated fund to support public records management, preservation and storage and to support the development and improvement of the public archives and records infrastructure of county and municipal governments;

WHEREAS, a portion of these funds (maximum of 40 percent) were reserved annually for the local government records management grant program to be awarded annually to county and municipal governments; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the PARIS Grants Program was to serve as a catalyst in the establishment, enhancement and/or expansion of county and municipal public records management, preservation and storage programs; and

WHEREAS, this grant program was introduced as a result of a fee increase in 2003, which also included a statutory requirement P.L. 2001, c. 370 (S-553) which increased all constitutional officers' salaries "not less than 65 percent of the annual salary of the Judge of the Superior Court," (Currently, \$107,250.00); and

WHEREAS, Hunterdon County had received grant awards totaling \$4.9 million dollars for grant years 2005 through 2009 (five (5) grant cycles); and

WHEREAS, these PARIS grant awards enabled Hunterdon County to dramatically improve the management, preservation and storage of public records, as well as the records' infrastructure of Hunterdon; and

WHEREAS, Hunterdon County included in this effort a "shared services" model for municipal records storage for all 26 municipalities, including Readington Township; and

WHEREAS, in State FY 2010 and FY2011 no grant applications or awards were accepted or awarded; and

WHEREAS, Public Law 2003, c. 117, Sections 38 and 39 has not been repealed and is still good law.

WHEREAS, in the Report of the Transition Subcommittee on the Department of State, the subcommittee states "The Legislature has inappropriately raided and diverted the trust funds. Treasury and OMB have not accounted for or deposited the trust collections since May of 2009. The dedicated fund and program must be protected and expanded to complete projects underway from the staged initial grants."

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, in the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey that Readington Township respectfully requests that PARIS Grant funding be restored to Hunterdon County and all counties as legislated in P.L. 2003, c. 117, Sections 38 and 39, and thereby make records management services available through the County to the municipalities of Hunterdon County, including Readington Township;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution shall be forwarded to: Governor Christie, Assemblyman Christopher Bateman, Assemblyman Jack Ciattarelli, Assemblywoman Donna Simon, all Hunterdon County Municipalities, and the New Jersey State League of Municipalities.

A MOTION was made by Mrs. Allen to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mrs. Fort with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

2. Memorandum dated February 27, 2012 from Donna Burham, Township Clerk, Township of Clinton regarding ***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 further Supplemented and Amended to Revise the Zoning Map by Changing the Zoning Classification of Block 68, lot 3 from the Rc Rural Conservation Zone District to the Ob-1 Office Building – 1 Zone District.*** No action taken.

OLD BUSINESS

1. ***Request to Release Performance Bond / Genesis Building, Inc.***
 (Block 42, Lot 17) – letter dated February 1, 2012 from Engineer R. O’Brien

Engineer O’Brien stated that the developer has completed all the on-site improvements and submitted their two year maintenance guarantee therefore he recommends the release of the performance bond.

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2012-42

**TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON
 RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, Genesis Building, Inc. did on January 5, 2012 file a written request with the Township of Readington for the release of Cash Performance Guarantee Check #1850 in the amount of \$6,940.20 and Performance Bond #FP0010221 in the amount of \$62,461.80 for work completed on Block 42, Lot 17; and

WHEREAS, the Township Engineer has confirmed that a certain amount of work has been done by Genesis Building, Inc. 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 complete of site work; and

WHEREAS, the Township Engineer has released the Performance Bond Guarantee #FP0010221 and the Cash Performance Guarantee Check #1850 in the amount of \$6,940.20, as indicated in his letter of February 1, 2012 based upon the Municipal Land Use Law requirement:

BOND OR CHECK	ORIGINAL BONDED AMOUNT	CURRENT REMAINING PERFORMANCE GUARANTEE	RECOMMENDED REDUCTION FOR WORK COMPLETED	REMAINING PERFORMANCE GUARANTEE
First Indemnity of America Insur. Co. #FP0010221	\$62,461.80	\$62,461.80	100%	0
Check # 1850	\$6,940.20	\$6,940.20	100%	0
TOTAL	\$69,402.00	\$69,402.00	100%	0

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 release Cash Performance Guarantee Check #1850 and Performance Bond #FP0010221 as recommended by the Township Engineer; and

Resolution #2012-42 cont'd:

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

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

Mrs. Allen - Aye
Mrs. Fort - Aye
Mrs. Muir - Aye
Mayor Auriemma - Aye

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Tier A Permit Requirement** - Power Point Presentation by Engineer O'Brien

Engineer O'Brien gave a power point presentation on the NJ Stormwater Regulation Program mandated under the Federal Clean Water Act which became effective in February of 2004. Engineer O'Brien stated the Stormwater Management rules establish general requirements for municipal stormwater management plans and stormwater control ordinances with the goal of reducing flood damage, soil erosion and maintain groundwater recharge. Engineer O'Brien reviewed the stormwater permitting rules and coinciding municipal ordinances adopted by the Township Committee currently in place.

2. **Amendment to Committee Assignments**

Administrator Mekovetz stated that with the change in the Township Committee there were some amendments to the Committee assignments. Mrs. Fort mentioned that the Environmental Commission does not have a liaison and Administrator Mekovetz stated that the ordinance will be reviewed to see if a liaison is necessary.

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2012-43

**TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON
RESOLUTION**

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor of Readington Township, that the following Committee assignments have been amended for the year 2012:

Thomas Auriemma
Liaison to Fire Companies & Rescue Squad
Recreation Department
Library Services

Julia Allen
Planning Board
County Agricultural Development Board Liaison
Farmland / Open Space Preservation / Land Projects Liaison
Sewer Advisory Committee

Betty Ann Fort
Historic Preservation
Zoning
Engineering, Roads, Maintenance & Recycling
Municipal Court

Resolution #2012-43 cont'd:

Frank Gatti
Planning Board
Finance Department
Police Department
School Crossing Guards
Shared Services

Beatrice Muir
Board of Health
Code Enforcement Department / Construction Code Department
Senior Services
Animal Control

Entire Township Committee
Township Clerk
Board of Adjustment
Non-Profit Housing

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

- * 3. **Social Affair Permit** - Mane Stream, Inc. (May 19, 2012)

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

- * 4. **Blue Light Permit** – Logan Yukniewicz

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator Mekovetz stated that she had nothing further to report.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Attorney Dragan stated that she had nothing further to report.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Engineer O'Brien reported that they are beginning to compile the list of road projects to present to the Committee.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Thomas Auriemma

Mayor Auriemma reported that he spoke with Freeholder Rob Walton regarding the reduction in staffing to the Planning Board and was assured from him that nothing would be drastically done which would affect the municipalities. Mrs. Fort reported that there is a Freeholder meeting tomorrow and asked that anyone who could attend would be appreciated.

Julia Allen

Mrs. Allen reported that there is a Senate Energy and Environment Committee meeting on March 9th on deliberations of Senate Bill 1085. Mrs. Allen stated that this bill sets up a management system for commercial logging and the money from the sale of trees goes into a fund to pay the salaries of those managing the program; potentially creating a conflict between the people managing the program and the intent of the program.

Betty Ann Fort

Mrs. Fort reported that she met with Administrator Mekovetz, Engineer O'Brien and Scott Jesseman to discuss recommendations for Foothill Road. Mrs. Fort also stated that after a conversation with Scott Jesseman, he was requesting further clarification on the sidewalk issues on Main Street. Mrs. Fort volunteered to write an article for the Readington News on Main Street improvements focusing on remediating the hazardous conditions.

Mrs. Fort reported that on Thursday evening the furnace back fired at the Bouman Stickney Farmstead enveloping the museum in black soot.

Beatrice Muir

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

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were none.

COMMENTS FROM THE GOVERNING BODY

There were none.

As there was no further business, ***A MOTION*** was made by Mrs. Muir at 8:28 p.m. to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mrs. Fort with vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

Respectfully Submitted:

Vita Mekovetz, RMC/MMC/RPPO
Municipal Clerk