

**READINGTON TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
MEETING – April 2, 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, Mr. F. Gatti, Mrs. B. Muir

ALSO PRESENT: Administrator Mekovetz, Attorney S. Dragan, Engineer R. 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>
PBA Local No. 317.....	Contract Negotiations.....	Certain information at the discretion of Township Committee tonight...other information will be confidential
Dog Park at Readington.....	Contract Negotiations.....	“ “ “
Maintenance Agreement..... Beekman Homestead Farm	Contract Negotiations.....	“ “ “
Professional Services / Golf..... Property Analysts	Contract Negotiations.....	“ “ “
Hunterdon Hills Animal Hospital	Attorney-Client Privilege.....	“ “ “
Executive Session Minutes..... • March 19, 2012	Attorney-Client Privilege.....	“ “ “
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 7:35 p.m.

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

Executive Session:

Contract Negotiations / PBA Local No. 317

Mayor Auriemma stated that this matter remains in Executive Session.

Contract Negotiations / Dog Park at Readington

Attorney Dragan requested to review more information on the dog park.

Contract Negotiations / Maintenance Agreement / Beekman Homestead Farm

Mayor Auriemma stated that this matter remains in Executive Session.

Contract Negotiations / Professional Services / Golf Property Analysts

Mayor Auriemma stated that this matter remains in Executive Session.

Attorney-Client Privilege/ Hunterdon Hills Animal Hospital

Mayor Auriemma stated that this matter remains in Executive Session.

Attorney-Client Privilege / Executive Session Minutes / March 19, 2012

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Allen to approve the Executive Session Minutes of March 19, 2012 for content only, seconded by Mr. Gatti 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.

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 March 19, 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 73, Lot 321 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 \$623.44, plus a premium paid in the amount of \$200.00, known as Tax Sale Certificate #11-11, to the lienholder, Kevin Rickman.

* 3. ***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 34, Lot 36.063 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 \$32,795.13, plus a premium paid in the amount of \$2,000.00, known as Tax Sale Certificate #585, to the lienholder, Royal Tax Lien Services, LLC.

- * 4. ***Hunterdon County Municipal Alliance Renewal Application 2012***
- * 5. ***Readington Trail Association Annual Trail Pace*** – request to hold fundraising Event on Township property (May 20, 2012)
- * 6. ***Blue Light Permit*** – Adolfo Kohara
- * 7. ***Blue Light Permit*** – Charles (Todd) Quintard
- * 8. ***Release of Escrow*** – Wilmark Building Contractors, Inc.
- * 9. ***Release of Escrow*** – Kolmer (Block 25, Lot 51)
- * 10. ***Release of Hunting Security Deposit*** (Pine Garden Gun Club - \$293)
- * 11. ***Release of Hunting Security Deposit*** (Kodiak Rod & Gun Club - \$610, \$430)

* 12. *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	\$ 1,834.44
CURRENT FUND	2-01	\$ 406,354.64
SEWER APPROPRIATIONS	2-02	\$ 195.00
TRUST FUNDS	X-03	\$ 12,815.40
MISC REFUND, COUNTY TAX, LIENS	X-05	\$ 50,514.18
PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS	X-06	\$ 158,805.03
REG. & LOCAL SCHOOL TAX	X-07	\$2,436,721.00
2010 CAPITAL	X-10	\$ 12,559.74
2011 CAPITAL	X-11	<u>\$ 16,416.60</u>
TOTAL OF ALL FUNDS		\$3,096,216.03

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

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

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC for items listed on the agenda only

Eric Zwerling, Van Neste Road, commented that there are other ways to achieve a black coating for the deer fencing rather than specify in an ordinance what type of coating should be required. (New Business #3)

Bill Goodwin, Barkelow Road, questioned the basic premise of the deer fencing. (New Business Item #3)

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 TO PROVIDE FOR THE ACCEPTANCE OF A STREAM CORRIDOR CONSERVATION EASEMENT ON A PORTION OF BLOCK 73, LOTS 40 AND 40.04 IN THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON, COUNTY OF HUNTERDON AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY FROM LEWIS

ORDINANCE #12-2012

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

There were none.

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

There were none.

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.

Clerk read by Title:

AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE ACCEPTANCE OF A STREAM CORRIDOR CONSERVATION EASEMENT ON A PORTION OF BLOCK 73, LOTS 40 AND 40.04 IN THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON, COUNTY OF HUNTERDON AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY FROM LEWIS

ORDINANCE #12-2012

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

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

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

Clerk read by Title:

AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE ACCEPTANCE OF A PORTION OF BLOCK 73, LOT 40.04 FOR PUBLIC ROADWAY PURPOSES IN THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON, COUNTY OF HUNTERDON AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY FROM LEWIS

ORDINANCE #13-2012

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

There were none.

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

There were none.

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

Clerk read by Title:

AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE ACCEPTANCE OF A PORTION OF BLOCK 73, LOT 40.04 FOR PUBLIC ROADWAY PURPOSES IN THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON, COUNTY OF HUNTERDON AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY FROM LEWIS

ORDINANCE #13-2012

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

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

CORRESPONDENCE / OTHER INFORMATION

1. Memorandum dated March 15, 2012 from Donna Burham, Township Clerk, Township of Clinton regarding ***Requesting Amendments to the Open Public Records Act.***

Mrs. Allen requested that the Township pass a similar resolution.

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2012-46

**TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON
RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, in its enactment of the Open Public Records Act (“OPRA”), *N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1 et seq.*, the New Jersey Legislature identified, among others, the following public policies regarding government records:

- Government records shall be readily accessible for inspection, copying, or examination by the citizens of this State;
- A public agency has a responsibility and an obligation to safeguard from public access a citizen’s personal information with which it has been entrusted when disclosure thereof would violate the citizen’s reasonable expectation of privacy;

WHEREAS, in fact, at the time OPRA was enacted, the Legislature was so concerned with the privacy implications of OPRA upon the citizenry that it simultaneously established a temporary Privacy Study Commission (“Privacy Commission”) to study the privacy issues raised by the collection, processing, use and dissemination of information by public agencies and recommend specific measures, including legislation, to address these issues and safeguard the privacy rights of individuals [*P.L.2001, c. 404, §15*];

WHEREAS, the Privacy Commission duly convened and submitted a report in December 2004 wherein it concluded, “The Commission believes an individual’s reasonable expectation of privacy in his or her home address and telephone number may be violated in certain circumstances when the government discloses this information to the public;”

WHEREAS, with respect to home phone numbers and addresses, the Privacy Commission made the following recommendations to the Governor and Legislature:

- Home telephone numbers, including cell phone numbers, should not be disclosed.
- Public agencies should notify individuals that their home addresses may be disclosed pursuant to OPRA request.
- Individuals should be permitted to provide an “address of record” for disclosure purposes, in addition to their home address when interacting with public agencies.
- The Governor or Legislature should establish objective guidelines defining when and from which government records home addresses should be redacted.
- Individuals should be permitted to opt out of disclosure of their home addresses.
- In the future, computer systems and applications should be programmed to collect but not disclose home addresses and telephone numbers.

WHEREAS, the Privacy Commission’s report has been ignored by successive Governors and Legislatures;

Resolution #R-2012-46 cont'd:

WHEREAS, in the meantime, New Jersey's courts have issued multiple decisions condoning the release of citizens' private information;

WHEREAS, in *Renna v. County of Union*, No. A-1811-10 (App. Div. Feb. 17, 2012) the Appellate Division of the Superior Court of New Jersey held that, under the provisions of OPRA, Union County must release the names and addresses of senior citizens who signed up to receive Union County's "Senior Newsletter;"

WHEREAS, in *Geier v. Township of Plumstead*, No. OCN-L-3718-09 (Law Div. Oct. 27, 2009) a judge held that Plumstead Township's newsletter email subscription list and the home addresses of individuals filing tort claim notices with the Township must be released under OPRA;

WHEREAS, in *Atlantic County Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals v. City of Absecon*, No. A-3047-07 (App. Div. June 5, 2009) a judge directed the release of a town's list containing the names and addresses of all dog license holders;

WHEREAS, in *Burnett v. County of Bergen*, 198 N.J. 408 (2009), the New Jersey Supreme Court has held that public access to records and protection of citizens' personal information are "twin aims" and has directed the implementation of a complicated, cumbersome, burdensome, overly legalistic, seven-step balancing analysis that municipal clerks and other public records custodians must apply on a case-by-case basis to determine how to treat a records request that implicates a privacy interest;

WHEREAS, OPRA mandates the imposition of attorney fee awards against public agencies whose records custodians apply this seven-step balancing analysis and, in good faith, deny records requests for citizens' personal information, when a court subsequently decides that the records should be released;

WHEREAS, according to the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Internet Crime Complaint Center ("IC3"), in 2009 fraudulent internet schemes cost consumers \$559.7 million;

WHEREAS, the New Jersey IC3 2010 Internet Crime Report reflects a reported State-wide loss of \$12,396,583.13 and New Jersey ranks fourth in the nation in Internet crime complaints per 100,000 population;

WHEREAS, fraudulent scams such as the "Grandparents Scam," sweepstakes and lottery scams, phishing/spooking and home repair scams are regularly committed against senior citizens by criminals who use senior citizens' home addresses, phone numbers and/or email addresses to perpetrate their crimes;

WHEREAS, from time to time, government obtains its citizens' home addresses, phone numbers and email addresses for various public health, safety and welfare purposes including, among countless others, reverse 911 emergency notifications; dissemination of newsletters or containing information about government programs and community news; advice about pet licensing, rabies clinics, flu shot clinics, recycling schedules and road closures; publication of senior citizen activities, juvenile recreational programs and town-wide events such as Memorial, Independence and Veteran's Day celebrations; and providing notices and agendas of public meetings;

WHEREAS, parents should be able to register their children for youth sports programs and other activities without fear that the names and addresses of their children will be subject to public dissemination;

WHEREAS, senior citizens should be able to sign up for activities at their local senior centers and receive local newsletters without fear that personal information such as their home addresses, phone numbers and email addresses will be released to those who prey on the elderly;

Resolution #R-2012-46 cont'd:

WHEREAS, records custodians should be able to review records requests and grant or deny them according to clear standards that do not require the advice of counsel and undergoing a seven-step overly legalistic balancing analysis that will result in the imposition of legal fees against the local government when a court rules the records custodian reached an incorrect result, albeit in utter good faith;

WHEREAS, citizens are largely unaware of the fact that availing themselves of government newsletters, notices and programs puts their personal information at risk, and as they gain awareness of this undesirable consequence, many will likely withdraw from such participation, including receipt of notices of public meetings, thereby reducing transparency in government;

WHEREAS, many commercial enterprises desire convenient and cheap access to lists of resident phone numbers, email and home addresses so that they may target their advertising; and

WHEREAS, the commercial harvesting of citizens' personal data results in taxpayers funding the collection and distribution of information for commercial, non-governmental purposes in addition to the invasion of citizens' personal privacy.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Township of Readington as follows:

1. The Legislature and Governor should immediately adopt legislation amending OPR so that citizens' home addresses, phone numbers and email addresses are deemed exempt from disclosure;

2. The Clerk shall forward a copy of this resolution to Governor Chris Christie, State Senator Christopher Bateman, Assemblypersons Jack Ciattarelli and Donna Simon, the Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders, the New Jersey State League of Municipalities, the New Jersey Clerks Association, the AARP, and all Hunterdon County Municipal Clerks.

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. Resolution from Ella Ruta, Municipal Clerk, Township of Union regarding ***Opposing Assembly Bill A-1338 and Senate Bill S-743, Extending and Expanding Permit Extension Act of 2008.***

Mrs. Allen requested that the Township pass a similar resolution.

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2012-47

***OPPOSING ASSEMBLY BILL A-1338 AND SENATE BILL S-743,
EXTENDING AND EXPANDING PERMIT EXTENSION ACT OF 2008***

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Assembly Housing and Local Government Committee has amended and approved A-1338, which would further extend the provisions of the Permit Extension Act an additional two years, until December 31, 2014, which means that most governmental approvals, unless exempted by the 2008 Act would be extended until 2014; and.

WHEREAS, the proposed legislation is more than just a simple extension of the current Act; and

WHEREAS, the Readington Township Committee believes that approvals of the type extended by the Permit Extension Act should result from a legitimate planning process, not a legislative determination, and Union Township accordingly objects to the overly broad definition of "extension area" in the bill; and

Resolution #R-2012-47 cont'd:

WHEREAS, A-1338 and S-743 are supported by the pro-development community, but are opposed by many advocates of environmentally sound, local planning, including the New Jersey State League of Municipalities and the Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, in the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, that this governing body expresses its opposition to A-1338 and S-743 for the following reasons:

- 1) This proposed legislation would expand the original Act to include the entire Highlands Planning Area, Planning Area 4 (Rural) and Planning Area 3 (Fringe Planning Area), through an expanded definition of the term “extension area.”
- 2) This proposed additional extension of the Permit Extension Act allows developers whose project approvals have expired, or are due to expire, to avoid returning for review before municipal boards. Therefore, developers would not have to amend their plans to account for any changes in environmental regulations, public health standards, building codes or local zoning that have occurred since the original approval, creating a potentially detrimental effect as projects are built out based upon potentially outdated laws or practices.
- 3) The proposed legislation undermines good and proper planning procedures by denying municipalities and their residents the opportunity to address changing conditions in their communities and to participate in the continuing planning process, years after the subject approvals should normally have expired; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution shall be forwarded by the Municipal Clerk to New Jersey Governor Chris Christie, to State Senator Christopher Bateman, Assemblypersons Jack Ciattarelli and Donna Simon, to each of the municipalities of Hunterdon County and to the New Jersey League of Municipalities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

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

3. Memorandum dated March 9, 2012 from Denise Doolan, Clerk of the Board of Chosen Freeholders, County of Hunterdon regarding ***Supporting Governor Christie’s proposal to create Veterans Haven North Facility in Hunterdon County.***

Mrs. Allen requested that the Township pass a similar resolution.

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2012-48

**TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON
SUPPORTING GOVERNOR CHRISTIE’S PROPOSAL TO CREATE VETERANS HAVEN
NORTH FACILITY IN HUNTERDON COUNTY**

WHEREAS, the Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders supported keeping Hagedorn Psychiatric Hospital open in its prior use; and

WHEREAS, Governor Christie, in his February 21, 2012 budget address, proposed converting Hagedorn Psychiatric Hospital into a State operated vocational/transitional housing

Resolution #R-2012-48 cont'd:

center for homeless veterans; and

WHEREAS, proposed facility would be known as Veterans Haven North and pattern itself after the highly successful Veterans Haven Program in Camden County; and

WHEREAS, there are an estimated 7,500 homeless veterans of the United States Armed Forces throughout the State of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, Hunterdon County is grateful to all veterans and recognizes the need to restore dignity and purpose to those who selflessly sacrificed their lives for our Country; and

WHEREAS, Veterans Haven North will be a State operated facility for homeless veterans offering a long term program focusing on treatment, self-reclamation and community reintegration, and tailored to individual treatment needs and vocation interests; and

WHEREAS, Veterans Haven North staff will be comprised of diverse professionals specializing in addictions counseling, vocational rehabilitation, mental health/social services counseling and nursing; and

WHEREAS, Veterans Haven North will be supported by numerous entities including the New Jersey Department of Military & Veterans Affairs, US Veterans Affairs, the United States Department of Housing & Urban as well as a wide variety of service organizations, community agencies, veterans groups and private citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Readington does hereby whole heartedly support Governor Christie's proposal to convert the Hagedorn Psychiatric Hospital into a vocational/transitional housing program for homeless veterans to be known as Veterans Haven North; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Municipal Clerk of the Township of Readington is hereby directed to forward copies of this resolution to Governor Chris Christie, Lt. Gov. Kim Guadagno, Senate President Stephen Sweeny, Assembly Speaker Shelia Oliver, Attorney General Jeffry Chiesa, DMAVA Adjutant Gen (Acting) Brig. Michael Cuniff, and State and Assembly members of the 16th District.

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

4. Memorandum dated March 15, 2012 from Donna Burham, Township Clerk, Township of Clinton regarding **Requesting Public Hearing be held on the Flood Hazard Permit Application for the Transcontinental Gas Pipeline Company's Northeast Supply Link Project.**

Mrs. Allen requested that the Township pass a similar resolution.

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2012-49

**REQUESTING PUBLIC HEARINGS BE HELD ON THE FLOOD HAZARD AREA
PERMIT APPLICATION FOR THE TRANSCONTINENTAL GAS PIPELINE
COMPANY'S NORTHEAST SUPPLY LINK PROJECT**

WHEREAS, On December 14, 2011, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC") issued a notice of application by Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, LLC ("Transco") under § 7 of the Natural Gas Act, 15 U.S.C. § 717f, and § 157 of FERC's regulations, 18 C.F.R. § 157.1 *et seq.*, for the proposed Northeast Supply Link Project ("Project"), FERC Docket No. CP12-30-000. As stated in FERC's notice of application, Transco seeks, among other things, authorization to construct a 42-inch diameter pipeline and all

Resolution #R-2012-49 cont'd:

appurtenant facilities in New Jersey and in Pennsylvania and New York, as well; and

WHEREAS, the construction of the 42 inch diameter pipeline proposed as part of the Project by Transco would be adding flow capacity, the demand for which has not been demonstrated to exist, to Transco's currently existing 24 inch and 36 inch diameter pipelines through the Township of Clinton; and

WHEREAS, in connection with the Project, Transco has submitted applications for a Flood Hazard Area permit and hardship exemption under the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection ("NJDEP") Flood Hazard Area regulations, *N.J.A.C. 7:13*, and Individual Freshwater permits and Transition Area Waivers under the Freshwater Wetlands Protection Act rules *N.J.A.C. 7:7A*; and

WHEREAS, the Flood Hazard Area Rules at *N.J.A.C. 7:13-9.3(1)1* state the Department shall hold a public hearing before issuing a permit if "There is a significant degree of public interest in the application, as manifested by written requests for a hearing from at least 10 persons at different addresses"; and

WHEREAS, *N.J.A.C. 7:13-9.3(1)2* provides a public hearing will be held on the permit applications if "The Department determines that the public interest would be best served by holding a hearing due to an unusual situation or condition on site, or due to a high potential for adverse impacts to flooding and/or the environment"; and

WHEREAS, Township Committee members have received numerous letters and e-mails from concerned Township of Readington residents and have listened to public testimony from Township of Readington residents opposing the Project at multiple Township Committee and other public meetings, further demonstrating a significant degree of public interest in the Project and its consequences; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Legislature recognized the significance of the New Jersey Highlands region and afforded special protection to the region and its resources in 2004 with the passage of the New Jersey Highlands Water Protection and Planning Act. The Act created the Highlands Water Protection and Planning Council and the Highlands Regional Master Plan to ensure resource based planning would be used in the Highlands to combat sprawl and the depletion of water quality and quantity as the region provides drinking water to 5.4 million state residents; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Government acknowledged the exceptional value of Highlands resources and the urgent need for their preservation in 2004 when Congress passed the Highlands Conservation Act which "recognize[s] the importance of the water, forest, agricultural, wildlife, recreational, and cultural resources of the Highlands region, and the national significance of the Highlands region to the United States."; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee is concerned that within the Project area and temporary work spaces severe compaction of the existing soil will occur reducing water absorption and potentially increasing future flooding possibilities, including through areas of the Township designated as Green Acres property; and

WHEREAS, the majority of Township of Readington residents depend on ground water for water supply and the Project will impact groundwater quality and quantity of the residents along and in proximity to the right of way; and

WHEREAS, the wise stewardship of our natural resources involves protection of Township of Readington's water supplies and water and other natural resources for generations to come; and

WHEREAS, protection of Township of Readington's water supplies and other natural resources is better accomplished by prevention of contamination and environmental degradation,

Resolution #R-2012-49 cont'd:

rather than attempting to clean up contamination and restoring degraded environments after the fact; and

WHEREAS, Transco is currently seeking a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), but FERC has not granted Transco any approvals on the Project; and

WHEREAS, FERC is in the process of completing an Environmental Assessment under the National Environmental Policy Act to determine the impacts the Project will have on the natural resources of the region; and

WHEREAS, Transco has failed to demonstrate that it is has fairly and sufficiently considered alternative routes for the Project designed to avoid or minimize such adverse impacts on the environment in general and the Township of Readington, its natural resources and its residents in particular.

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

- 1- That NJDEP hold a public hearing on the Flood Hazard Area permit and hardship exemption application submitted by the Transcontinental Gas Pipeline Company for the Northeast Supply Link Project to the Department of Environmental Protection under the Flood Hazard Area regulations, *N.J.A.C 7:13*.
- 2- That NJDEP not deem the Transco Northeast Supply Link Project applications complete for NJDEP review until all required Federal approvals have been secured.

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

5. Memorandum dated March 15, 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 Sign Regulations of the Township of Clinton Pertaining to Temporary Signs. No action taken.***
6. Email dated March 20, 2012 from Peter Jost, Esq., Township of Union regarding ***Resolution Objecting to Use of the 2001 State Plan Policy Map.***

Mrs. Allen reported that Mayor Auriemma sent a letter with comments on behalf of the Township regarding the State Strategic Plan and requested that the Committee consider supporting this letter.

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Allen in support of the letter regarding the State Strategic Plan, seconded by Mrs. Fort with a vote of ayes all

7. Memorandum dated March 20, 2012 from Judith Sullivan, Municipal Clerk, Township of Bedminster regarding ***An Ordinance Amending Section 13-201 Entitled “Definitions, Words and Descriptions” and Section 13-607 Entitled “Air Safety and Zoning Regulations” of Article 13-600 Entitled “Exceptions, Modifications and Development Alternatives” of Chapter XIII Entitled “Land Development of the Revised General Ordinances of the Township of Bedminster to Comply with the Requirements of the New Jersey Department of Transportation and the New Jersey Air Safety and Zoning Act of 1983 and Regulations thereunder. No action taken.***

8. Notice of Public Hearing from McElroy, Deutsch, Mulvaney & Carpenter, LLP Regarding *Tewksbury Township Land Use Board to hold meeting on the application of Jersey Central Power & Light seeking permission to install new driveways*. No action taken.

OLD BUSINESS

1. **Request for Release of Performance Bond / Winfield Management Corp. / Cushetunk Manor** (Block 8, Lot 3) – letter dated November 2, 2011 from Engineer O’Brien

Engineer O’Brien stated that Winfield Management provided their two (2) year maintenance bond so the performance bond may now be released.

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2012-50

**TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON
 RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, Winfield Management did on September 29, 2011 file a written request with the Township of Readington for a release of Cash Performance Guarantee Check #1551 in the amount of \$15,527.16 and Performance Bond #588358S in the amount of \$139,744.44 for work completed on Block 8, Lot 3; and

WHEREAS, the Township Engineer has confirmed that a certain amount of work has been done by Winfield Management 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;

WHEREAS, the Township Engineer has released the bond amount for Cash Performance Guarantee Check #1551 and Performance Bond ##588358S as indicated in his letter of November 2, 2011 based upon the Municipal Land Use Law requirement:

BOND OR CHECK	ORIGINAL BONDED AMOUNT	CURRENT REMAINING PERFORMANCE GUARANTEE	RECOMMEND. REDUCTION FOR WORK COMPLETED	REMAINING PERFORM. GUARANTEE
Developers Surety & Indemnity Corp. #588358S	\$169,160.40	\$139,744.44	100%	0
Check #1551	\$18,795.60	\$15,527.16	100%	0
Total	\$187,956.00	\$155,271.60	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 # 1551 and Performance Bond #588358S, 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 released amounts to the applicant.

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

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

NEW BUSINESS

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

Dr. Barbara Sargeant, Superintendent of the Readington Board of Education, gave a power point presentation on the proposed 2012 school budget which will go to the voters at the School Board Elections on April 17th. Business Administrator Steffi Jo DeCasis stated that the state aid granted to Readington schools last July will be used to offset the tax levy. The Committee congratulated the school board on what they perceive as a very responsible proposed budget.

2. ***An Ordinance Amending Chapter 148 of the Land Use Ordinance of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon and State of New Jersey Pertaining to the ROM-1 and ROM-2 Zones***

Mrs. Allen stated that Planning Board realized there were several inconsistencies that were written many years ago and this ordinance is an effort to clarify certain sections of the ordinance.

The following ordinance was offered for introduction:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 148 OF THE LAND USE ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON, COUNTY OF HUNTERDON AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY PERTAINING TO THE ROM-1 AND ROM-2 ZONES

ORDINANCE #14-2012

BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Township Committee of the Township of Readington in the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey that the following amendments shall be made to Chapter 148 of the Land Use Ordinance of the Township of Readington in order to revise the ROM-1 and ROM-2 zones to provide for renewable energy uses and to clearly identify permitted principal uses. Additions are indicated **thus** and deletions are indicated **~~thus~~**.

SECTION 1. Article II. Definition of Terms, Section 148-9 entitled “Definitions” shall be amended to add the following new terms:

Product Assembly: The assembling of component parts of manufactured products, such as, but not limited to computer and peripheral equipment, audio and video equipment, small electrical appliance, cabinetry, and un-motorized vehicles, and other similarly sized assembled products, and excluding large assembled products such as but not limited to vehicles, airplanes, and prefabricated homes.

Heavy Manufacturing: The production of goods, such as steel, in which large volumes of raw materials are used to produce goods for a secondary industry.

Light manufacturing: The production of goods, such as baked goods, candies, clothing, electronic devices, millwork and woodworking products, for the direct consumption by the consumer.

Ordinance #14-2012 cont’d:

Trucking/Truck Terminal: A use that constitutes a trans-shipment point for the loading and unloading of trucks, where goods are transferred between trucks, between trucks and railroads, or between trucks and ports, and where storage of goods and material are incidental to the primary function of motor freight shipment. This use shall also include facilities for the storage, repair, dispatch and management of trucks and associated elements (i.e. trailers) whether or not any warehousing of materials takes place.

Warehouse: Storage and distribution of manufactured products, supplies and equipment, excluding bulk storage of materials that are inflammable, toxic, hazardous or explosive or that present conditions commonly recognized as offensive.

Wholesaling: Sales and distribution of merchandise to other businesses for re-sale that does not include direct retail sales to the public.

SECTION 2. Article IV. District Regulations, Section 148-2, entitled “ROM-1 Research Office and Manufacturing Zone” is hereby amended as follows:

A. Purpose - ROM-1 Zone.

(1) This district is intended for the research, development and manufacturing of products, delivery of professional services and administration of businesses serving ~~primarily local~~ regional and/or national markets. ~~By virtue of type of activity, size, parking and loading requirements, land use and/or nuisance characteristics, these uses require direct or indirect highway access, provided that:~~

~~(a) Individual customers do not require immediate and frequent access;~~

~~(b) Truck or rail delivery of materials and/or shipping of goods does not diminish the utility of adjacent uses;~~

~~(c) Access from and/or use of roads serving or facing residential areas or roads intersecting with minor or collector streets is prohibited;~~

~~(d) Nuisance factors, other than reasonable truck noise and numbers of employees, within defined limits, are prohibited; and~~

~~(e) Outdoor storage of materials or vehicles, loading areas, waste disposal facilities and other visually objectionable features are completely screened from view with an aesthetically pleasing masonry wall up to 10 feet in height and designed for maximum compatibility with adjacent uses.~~

(2) ~~In order to minimize traffic hazards, development plans on lots with sub-minimum frontage must provide shared parking or access driveways with adjacent parcels and/or use secondary roads within the above guidelines.~~ Site planning in this district should discourage all unnecessary traffic movements impeding traffic flows on major highways. Multiple structures may be built at one time or phased, provided that each site plan adheres to an overall site or tract design concept that coordinates traffic and pedestrian circulation, parking, loading, road access, buffers and screening, site design and architectural design and building locations.

B. Permitted Principal ~~permitted~~ uses - ROM-1 Zone.

Ordinance #14-2012 cont'd:

(1) On lots less than 10 acres. One or more of the following uses ~~characterized by professional or business administration and warehousing facilities for individual manufacturers, excluding commercial storage and shipping facilities for multiple firms, including the following:~~

(a) Professional, administrative and business offices.

~~(b) Light warehousing and associated offices (with Route 22 access).~~

(be). Agriculture.

(c) Child-care centers.

~~(d)~~

(d) Public and private open space and parks.

(e) Stand-alone Renewable Energy Facilities

(f) Product Assembly

(g) Wholesaling

(2) On lots of 10 acres or more in size one or more of the following: (Note 1: On lots 25 acres or greater in size, the frontage of the tracts shall be developed only with office uses and the parking shall be screened from the highway.)

(a) All uses permitted under § 148-23B(1).

(b) Research, testing and analytical laboratories.

(c) Computer centers.

(d) Processing, bottling, packaging and distribution of milk and milk products.

(e) Light manufacturing.

C. Accessory uses - ROM-1 Zone.

(1) Signs as regulated in Article XII.

(2) Private garages, off-street parking and truck loading spaces.

(3) Eating facilities not open to the general public.

(4) Display showrooms for products of permitted on-site research, testing or manufacturing.

(5) Fences and walls as regulated in Article VI.

(6) Child-care centers for the sole use of employees of the principal use (The floor area occupied by the accessory child-care centers shall be excluded in calculating any parking requirements otherwise applicable to that number of units or amount of floor space and the permitted density allowable for that building or structure.)

Ordinance #14-2012 cont'd:

(7) Warehousing

(8) Repair and service of vehicles that are used, solely, in the operation of a permitted principal use. Repair and service is only permitted when conducted within an enclosed building.

(9) Accessory Solar Energy Facilities

D. Conditional uses - ROM-1 Zone (subject to regulations set forth in Article V).

[Amended 7-6-2009 by Ord. No. 19-2009]

- (1) Mixed-use corporate office park.
- (2) Public utilities.
- (3) Assembly uses.

E. Prohibited uses - ROM-1 Zone.

- (1) Retail sale of goods and services to the general public ~~except where accessory to a permitted use, including display showrooms for products, of on-site research, testing or manufacturing uses or employee dining rooms.~~
- (2) All residential uses.
- (3) Trucking facilities or truck terminals
- (4) Outdoor storage of any loose bulk material
- (5) Outdoor storage of material that is not completely and opaquely screened from public streets or rights-of-way, or adjacent properties. Outdoor storage includes all vehicles that are not used by employees solely for travel to and from the work site.

F. Area and yard requirements - ROM-1 Zone.

- (1) Minimum lot size shall be 10 acres for new lots.

Ordinance #14-2012 cont'd:

- (2) Requirements.

Maximum Floor Area Ratio (F.A.R.) (see Note 1)	Existing Lots Less Than 10 Acres	10 Acres or Greater
Office uses with public sewer and public water and favorable traffic accessibility. (See definition in § 148-9.)	0.12	0.15
Office uses without public sewer and public water or favorable traffic accessibility.	0.08	0.10
All other uses with favorable traffic accessibility.	N/A <u>0.10</u>	0.12
All other uses without favorable traffic accessibility.	N/A <u>0.08</u>	0.08

NOTE An increment of no greater than 10% of the gross floor area 1: (GFA) otherwise permitted by the applicable F.A.R. standard is permitted as additional GFA for buildings limited to office use which, have favorable ~~and direct~~ access to Route 22 and are 10 or more acres in size which employ either of the following design elements:

- 1. A minimum of one level of underground parking which is equivalent in area to 90% of the GFA of the ground floor of the

office building being served by the parking; or

2. In multistory buildings, an atrium at the entrance or other central location within the building in which the interior space shall be open from the ground level to the ceiling of the highest floor. The atrium shall occupy a minimum of 5% of the ground floor area and be no less than 500 square feet in area.

A maximum increment of 20% of the GFA is permitted for buildings which employ both of the design elements cited above.

Maximum Impervious Coverage (MIC)	Less Than 10 acres	Existing Lots 10 Acres or Greater
Offices uses with public sewer and public water and favorable traffic accessibility. (See definition in § 148-9.)	0.35	0.45
Office without public sewer and public water or favorable traffic accessibility.	0.25	0.30
All other uses with Route 22 access.	N/A	0.35
All other uses without Route 22 access.	N/A	0.25
Required frontage:		
For access from Route 22.	200 feet	200 feet
For access from secondary streets.	50 feet	50 feet
Setbacks:		
Front		
From right-of-way of any state or county road.	75 feet	100 feet
From right-of-way of any municipal street.	75 feet	100 feet
Side		
Each side unless adjacent to a residential zone.	50 feet	50 feet
Each side which is adjacent to residential zone district when two-story construction is proposed.	75 feet	100 feet
Each side which is adjacent to residential zone district when three-story construction is proposed.	125 feet	150 feet
Rear		
Same as side yard requirements.		
Buffers		
Width of buffer required from right-of-way of any state or county highway.	50 feet	50 feet
Width of screening buffer required in the side and rear yards adjacent to any residential zone or existing residential use. Screening buffers shall be planted in accordance with § 148-63.	50 feet	50 feet
Height:		
Feet	35 feet	45 feet
Stories	2 1/2 stories	3 stories

NOTE: Roof-mounted mechanical equipment must be suitably screened from view and may exceed the height standard listed above by no more than 10 feet.

G. Minimum off-street parking - ROM-1 Zone. Each individual use shall provide parking spaces according to the following provisions. No parking area shall be permitted in a front yard. No parking area shall be located within 25 feet of any property line. Where

wider buffer areas are required, the parking and driveways shall comply with the buffer requirements.

- (1) Professional, administrative and business offices under 50,000 square feet of gross floor area shall provide one space per 200 square feet of gross floor area.
- (2) Professional, administrative and business offices from 50,000 to 99,999 square feet of gross floor area shall provide one space per 250 square feet of gross floor area.
- (3) Professional, administrative and business offices 100,000 square feet or greater in gross floor area shall provide one space per 285 square feet of gross floor area.
- (4) Wholesaling shall provide one space per 5,000 square feet of gross floor area.
- (5) Research, testing and analytical laboratories shall provide one space per 1,000 square feet of gross floor area.
- (6) Computer training centers shall provide one space per 200 square feet.
- (7) Light manufacturing and the processing, bottling, packaging and distribution of milk and milk products shall provide one space per 800 square feet of gross floor area.
- (8) Child-care centers shall provide one space per three children.
- (9) Product assembly shall provide one space per 800 square feet of gross floor area.

Ordinance #14-2012 cont'd:

SECTION 3. Article IV. District Regulations, Section 1418-24, entitled “Rom-2 Research Office and Manufacturing Zone” is amended as follows:

A. Purpose - ROM-2 Zone. This district is intended to permit the development of small research, office and manufacturing uses on smaller size lots within a planned park.

B. ~~Principal~~ Permitted Principal uses - ROM-2 Zone.

- (1) Professional, administrative and business offices.
- (2) Light manufacturing.
- (3) Research, testing and analytical laboratories.
- (4) Computer centers.
- (5) Agriculture.
- (6) Child-care centers.
- (7) Public and private open space and parks.
- (8) Stand-alone Renewable Energy Facilities
- (9) Product Assembly
- (10) Wholesaling

C. Accessory uses - ROM-2 Zone.

- (1) Signs as regulated in Article XII.
- (2) Private garages off-street parking and truck loading spaces.
- (3) Eating facilities not open to the general public.
- (4) Display showrooms for products of permitted on-site research, testing or manufacturing.
- (5) Fences and walls as regulated in Article VI.
- (6) Child-care centers for the sole use of employees of the principal use. (The floor area occupied by the accessory child-care center shall be excluded in calculating any parking requirements otherwise applicable to that number of units or amount of floor space and the permitted density allowable for that building or structure.)
- (7) Warehousing
- (8) Repair and service of vehicles that are used, solely, in the operation of a permitted principal use. Repair and service is only permitted when conducted within an enclosed building.
- (9) Accessory Solar Energy Facilities

Ordinance #14-2012 cont'd:

D. Conditional uses - ROM-2 Zone (subject to regulations set forth in Article V).

[Amended 7-6-2009 by Ord. No. 19-2009]

- (1) Public utilities.
- (2) Assembly uses.

E. Prohibited uses - ROM-2 Zone.

- (1) Retail sale of goods and services to the general public ~~except where accessory to a permitted use, including display showrooms for products of on-site research, testing or manufacturing uses or employee dining rooms.~~
- (2) All residential uses.
- (3) Trucking facilities or truck terminals
- (4) Outdoor storage of any loose bulk material
- (5) Outdoor storage of material that is not completely and opaquely screened from public streets or rights-of-way, or adjacent properties. Outdoor storage includes all vehicles that are not used by employees solely for travel to and from the work site.

F. Area and yard requirements - ROM-2 Zone.

- (1) Minimum tract area: 25 acres (sites less than 25 acres shall develop under the ROM-1 standards).
- (2) Minimum lot area: 108,700 square feet.

- (3) Minimum lot circle, per lot: 300 feet.

- (4) Minimum street frontage: 50 feet.

- (5) Minimum setbacks:
 - (a) Front yard: 50 feet.
 - (b) Side yard: 30 feet.
 - (c) Rear yard: 30 feet.

- (6) Buffers. Minimum width of screening buffer adjacent to a residential zone or existing residential use (screening buffers shall be planted in accordance with § 148-63): 50 feet.

- (7) Height: 35 feet.

Ordinance #14-2012 cont'd:

- (8) Maximum floor area ratio (F.A.R.):

Percentage	Primary Access
0.20	On to County Line Road with public water and public sewer service.
0.17	On to County Line Road without public sewer or public water service.
0.18	On to a road other than County Line Road with public sewer and public water service.
0.15	On to a road other than County Line Road and without public sewer or public water service.

- (9) Maximum Impervious Coverage (MIC) Ratio:

Percentage	Primary Access
0.40	On to County Line Road with public water and public sewer service.
0.35	On to County Line Road without public sewer or public water service.
0.35	On to a road other than County Line Road with public sewer and public water service.
0.30	On to a road other than County Line Road and without public sewer or public water service.

G. Minimum off-street parking - ROM-2 Zone. Each individual use shall provide parking spaces according to the following provisions. No parking area shall be permitted in a front yard. No parking area shall be located within 25 feet of any property line. Where wider buffer areas are required, the parking and driveways shall comply with the buffer requirements.

- (1) Professional, administrative and business offices under 50,000 square feet of gross floor area shall provide one space per 200 square feet of gross floor area.

- (2) Professional, administrative and business offices from 50,000 to 99,999 square feet of gross floor area shall provide one space per 250 square feet of gross floor area.

- (3) Professional, administrative and business offices 100,000 square feet or greater in gross floor area shall provide one space per 285 square feet of gross floor area.

- (4) Wholesaling shall provide one space per 5,000 square feet of gross floor area.
- (5) Research, testing and analytical laboratories shall provide one space per 1,000 square feet of gross floor area.
- (6) Computer centers shall provide one space per 200 square feet.
- (7) Light manufacturing and the processing, bottling, packaging and distribution of milk and milk products shall provide one space per 800 square feet of gross floor area.
- (8) Child-care centers shall provide one space per three children.
- (9) Product assembly shall provide one space per 800 square feet of gross floor area.

SECTION 4. All other language not specifically changed by this ordinance amendment shall remain in full force and effect.

Ordinance #14-2012 cont'd:

SECTION 5. This ordinance supersedes any ordinances, sections or portion(s) of the Land Use or any other Township ordinance inconsistent herewith.

SECTION 6. If the provision of any article, section, subsection, paragraph, subdivision or clause of this ordinance shall be adjudged by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such order or judgment shall not affect, impair or invalidate the remainder of any such article, section, subsection, paragraph, subdivision or clause and, to this end, the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared to be severable.

SECTION 7. This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon final passage and publication in accordance with law and upon filing with the Hunterdon County Planning Board.

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

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

The Public Hearing was scheduled for May 7, 2012 at 8:00 p.m.

3. ***Deer Fence Regulations Ordinance*** – discussion

Mrs. Allen stated that the current ordinance prohibits deer fencing without a variance and since some residents have requested to fence their property with a type of deer fencing, this ordinance is an attempt to make it a permissible use. Mrs. Muir expressed concern that this severely mandates what owners are required to use, for example the steel coated black vinyl posts, which can be quite cost prohibitive.

Mrs. Fort stated that this is to address the permanent installation of a deer fence, attempting to keep it visually unobtrusive. After further discussion from the Committee, it was decided to table the ordinance and continue to work on it.

* 4. ***Hunterdon County Municipal Alliance Renewal Application 2012***

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

* 5. ***Readington Trail Association Annual Trail Pace*** – request to hold fundraising

Event on Township property (May 20, 2012)

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

- * 6. ***Blue Light Permit*** – Adolfo Kohara

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

- * 7. ***Blue Light Permit*** – Charles (Todd) Quintard

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

- * 8. ***Release of Escrow*** – Wilmark Building Contractors, Inc.

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

- * 9. ***Release of Escrow*** – Kolmer (Block 25, Lot 51)

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

- * 10. ***Release of Hunting Security Deposit*** (Pine Garden Gun Club - \$293)

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

- * 11. ***Release of Hunting Security Deposit*** (Kodiak Rod & Gun Club - \$610, \$430)

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator Mekovetz reported that she had attended the NJ Municipal Clerk's Conference last week and obtained C.E.U's in several categories including Finance, Records, Elections and Professional Development.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Attorney Dragan stated that she had nothing further to report.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Engineer O'Brien reported that Township was awarded a DOT grant for *Summer Road Section One Project* in the amount of \$120,000. He also stated that Sophie Street will also need to be considered. Attorney Dragan reminded the Committee that it is written into the Developers Agreement that the developer will fund the improvements; however the funds will be returned if not completed. It was recommended that the Construction office be alerted when the certificate of occupancies are issued to ensure the improvements are done in a timely manner.

Engineer O'Brien reported that he had received some comments from residents regarding speed bumps on Dreahook Road and other roads that get traffic when improvements are being made on the county roads. Mrs. Filler stated that when County Road 523 closes, the most affected roads are Dreahook, Holland Brook, Chamberlain and Cole Road and asked the Committee to consider doing a traffic study.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Thomas Auriemma

Mayor Auriemma stated that he had nothing further to report.

Julia Allen

Mrs. Allen reported that Readington Township prevailed in the litigation regarding the open space ownership and clear title of the 100 acres on Dreahook Road.

Mrs. Allen reported that last Open Space walk took place up Cushetunk Mountain.

Betty Ann Fort

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

Frank Gatti

Mr. Gatti reported that next budget meeting is scheduled to tentatively take place on April 19th.

Beatrice Muir

Mrs. Muir reminded everyone that residents can attend any one of the various rabies clinics throughout Hunterdon County.

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 Mr. Gatti at 9:45 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