

**READINGTON TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
MEETING – April 16, 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

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>
Environmental Commission.....	Personnel.....	Certain information at the discretion of Township Committee tonight...other information will be confidential
Police Department.....	Personnel.....	“ “ “
PBA Local No. 317.....	Contract Negotiations.....	“ “ “
Dog Park at Readington.....	Contract Negotiations.....	“ “ “
Maintenance Agreement / Beekman Homestead Farm / Block 57, Lot 2	Contract Negotiations.....	“ “ “
Developers Agreement / Hunterdon Hills Animal Hospital / Block 21.13, Lot 7	Contract Negotiations.....	“ “ “
Executive Session Minutes..... • April 2, 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 7:45 p.m.

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

Executive Session:

Personnel / Environmental Commission

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Fort to accept the resignation of Frank Ace from the Environmental Commission and send him a letter of thanks for his service, seconded by Mrs. Allen with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

Personnel / Police Department

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Gatti to hire Andrew Adams as a Special Officer Class I on an as needed basis, at a rate of \$20/hour and as I.T. Support Personnel at a rate of \$50/hour, on an as needed basis, 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

Contract Negotiations / PBA Local No. 317

Mayor Auriemma stated that this matter remains in Executive Session.

Contract Negotiations / Dog Park at Readington

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Fort to approve the expansion of the small dog park as provided in the description, seconded by Mrs. Muir and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

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

Contract Negotiations / Maintenance Agreement / Beekman Homestead Farm / Block 57, Lot 2

Mayor Auriemma stated that this matter remains in Executive Session.

Contract Negotiations / Developers Agreement / Hunterdon Hills Animal Hospital / Block 21.13, Lot 7

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Fort to approve the Developers Agreement, subject to attorney review and acceptable performance guarantee, 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

Contract Negotiations / Bergold / Block 52.01, Lot 22 (510 Edgewood Road)

Mayor Auriemma stated that this matter remains in Executive Session.

Attorney-Client Privilege / Executive Session Minutes / April 2, 2012

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Fort to approve the Executive Session Minutes of April 2, 2012 for content only, seconded by Mrs. Muir 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.

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 April 2, 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 66, Lot 21 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 \$67,416.68, known as Tax Sale Certificate #571, to the lienholder, Plymouth Park Tax Services, LLC.

- * 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 88, Lot 1 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 \$605.01, plus a premium paid in the amount of \$300.00, known as Tax Sale Certificate #11-14, to the lienholder, Tad J. Dabrowski.

- * 4. **Reach the Beach Relay (October 12-13, 2012)** – letter dated from Paul Dionne requesting to use Township roads for relay race
- * 5. **Catering Affair Permit** – Redwood Inc. (July 27th through 29th) NJ Festival of Ballooning
- * 6. **Social Affair Permit** – Kiwanis Club of North Hunterdon Clinton (July 27th through July 29th) NJ Festival of Ballooning
- * 7. **Release of Hunting Security Deposit** (Cranford Rod and Gun Club)
Block 57, Lot 2 (Thor Solberg Road) \$275
Block 25, Lots 19 & 20 (County Road 523) \$50
- * 8. **Resolution in Recognition of Christopher Hranj Attaining Rank of Eagle Scout**

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2012-51

TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON
RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Christopher Hranj, a valued member of Boy Scout Troop 186, is a dedicated young man who has earned the respect and admiration of his fellow scouts through his active participation in the many programs sponsored by the Boy Scouts of America; and

WHEREAS, Eagle Scout Candidate Christopher Hranj's Eagle Project included collecting forty-seven (47) bicycles together with Pedals for Progress and several sewing machines to be sent to South America; and

WHEREAS, the Eagle Scout is the highest rank of recognition offered in Scouting; and

WHEREAS, on April 15, 2012 Christopher Hranj will be recognized for his achievement with the coveted Eagle Scout Award and is well deserving of this recognition.

Resolution #R-2012-51 cont'd:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Readington hereby commends Eagle Scout Christopher Hranj for his diligence, determination, and dedication in pursuing the highest honor awarded by the Boy Scouts of America and congratulates him on attaining the rank of Eagle Scout.

* 9. **Resolution in Recognition of Daniel Baker Attaining Rank of Eagle Scout**

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2012-52

**TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON
RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, Daniel Baker, a valued member of Boy Scout Troop 186, is a dedicated young man who has earned the respect and admiration of his fellow scouts through his active participation in the many programs sponsored by the Boy Scouts of America; and

WHEREAS, Eagle Scout Candidate Daniel Baker's Eagle Project was to make and re-establish several trails in a local Readington Park; and

WHEREAS, the Eagle Scout is the highest rank of recognition offered in Scouting; and

WHEREAS, on April 15, 2012 Daniel Baker will be recognized for his achievement with the coveted Eagle Scout Award and is well deserving of this recognition.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Readington hereby commends Eagle Scout Daniel Baker for his diligence, determination, and dedication in pursuing the highest honor awarded by the Boy Scouts of America and congratulates him on attaining the rank of Eagle Scout.

* 10. **Resolution in Recognition of Michael Biondo Attaining Rank of Eagle Scout**

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2012-53

**TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON
RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, Michael Biondo, a valued member of Boy Scout Troop 186, is a dedicated young man who has earned the respect and admiration of his fellow scouts through his active participation in the many programs sponsored by the Boy Scouts of America; and

WHEREAS, Eagle Scout Candidate Michael Biondo's Eagle Project was to make sign and map holders for a local park and also refurbish several of the park's kiosks; and

WHEREAS, the Eagle Scout is the highest rank of recognition offered in Scouting; and

WHEREAS, on April 15, 2012 Michael Biondo will be recognized for his achievement with the coveted Eagle Scout Award and is well deserving of this recognition.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Readington hereby commends Eagle Scout Michael Biondo for his diligence, determination, and dedication in pursuing the highest honor awarded by the Boy Scouts of America and congratulates him on attaining the rank of Eagle Scout.

* 11. ***Resolution in Recognition of Thomas M. Caporaso Attaining Rank of Eagle Scout***

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2012-54

***TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON
RESOLUTION***

WHEREAS, Thomas M. Caporaso, a valued member of Boy Scout Troop 1969, is a dedicated young man who has earned the respect and admiration of his fellow scouts through his active participation in the many programs sponsored by the Boy Scouts of America; and

WHEREAS, Eagle Scout Candidate Thomas M. Caporaso's Eagle Project included three components of a project for Our Lady of Lourdes; and

WHEREAS, the first project involved restoring, purchasing and painting partition doors to serve as room dividers providing privacy for homeless families seeking temporary shelter through the Interfaith Hospitality Network ; and

WHEREAS, the next component of the project included researching, designing and creating a wooden storage donation unit on wheels for canned goods, clothing and other supplies to transport from Florian J. Gall Community House to the church as needed; and

WHEREAS, the final project was to construct two wooden bookcases for CCD materials to be used as new furniture pieces and storage in the foyer of the Community House; and

WHEREAS, the Eagle Scout is the highest rank of recognition offered in Scouting; and

WHEREAS, on April 21, 2012 Thomas M. Caporaso will be presented with the coveted Eagle Scout Award and is well deserving of this recognition.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Readington hereby commends Eagle Scout Thomas S. Caporaso for his diligence, determination, and dedication in pursuing the highest honor awarded by the Boy Scouts of America and congratulates him on attaining the rank of Eagle Scout.

* 12. ***Resolution in Recognition of Michael J. Marsh Attaining Rank of Eagle Scout***

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2012-55

***TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON
RESOLUTION***

WHEREAS, Michael J. Marsh, a valued member of Boy Scout Troop 1969, is a dedicated young man who has earned the respect and admiration of his fellow scouts through his active participation in the many programs sponsored by the Boy Scouts of America; and

WHEREAS, Eagle Scout Candidate Michael J. Marsh's Eagle Project was to build a fence around the Memorial Garden and next to the barn at the Stanton Reformed Church; and

WHEREAS, the fence creates privacy for the house next to the church and also for those walking around the memorial garden; and

WHEREAS, the project benefits the church and also those tenants which rent the house; and

Resolution #R-2012-55 cont'd:

WHEREAS, the visitors of the memorial garden will be able to relax and enjoy the privacy of the garden; and

WHEREAS, the Eagle Scout is the highest rank of recognition offered in Scouting; and

WHEREAS, on April 21, 2012 Michael J. Marsh will be presented with the coveted Eagle Scout Award and is well deserving of this recognition.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Readington hereby commends Eagle Scout Michael J. Marsh for his diligence, determination, and dedication in pursuing the highest honor awarded by the Boy Scouts of America and congratulates him on attaining the rank of Eagle Scout.

* 13. **Resolution in Recognition of Michael J. Matza Attaining Rank of Eagle Scout**

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2012-56

**TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON
RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, Michael J. Matza, a valued member of Boy Scout Troop 1969, is a dedicated young man who has earned the respect and admiration of his fellow scouts through his active participation in the many programs sponsored by the Boy Scouts of America; and

WHEREAS, Eagle Scout Candidate Michael J. Matza's Eagle Project was to restore the exterior of the cottage at the Dobozyński Farm located in Readington Township; and

WHEREAS, with the help of fellow scouts, friends and family the exterior of the building was primed and painted and necessary steps were taken to ensure the barn red color was the exact match with the other buildings on the property; and

WHEREAS, the window trim and railing to the entrance of the building was painted white and the handicap ramp was treated with a waterproof sealer; and

WHEREAS, all the weeds and brush surrounding the building were cleared and a mulch bed was created around the building to plant perennial flowers; and

WHEREAS, the Eagle Scout is the highest rank of recognition offered in Scouting; and

WHEREAS, on April 21, 2012 Michael J. Matza will be presented with the coveted Eagle Scout Award and is well deserving of this recognition.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Readington hereby commends Eagle Scout Michael J. Matza for his diligence, determination, and dedication in pursuing the highest honor awarded by the Boy Scouts of America and congratulates him on attaining the rank of Eagle Scout.

* 14. **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	2-01	\$ 926,138.61
SEWER APPROPRIATIONS	2-02	\$ 719.00
TRUST FUNDS	X-03	\$ 97,827.09
MISC REFUND, COUNTY TAX, LIENS	X-05	\$ 90,160.13
PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS	X-06	\$ 181,834.67
DUE TO STATE OF NJ	X-09	\$ 250.00
2011 CAPITAL	X-11	\$ 884.75
TOTAL OF ALL FUNDS		\$1,297,814.25

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Muir to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Mrs. 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

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC for items listed on the agenda only

There were none.

CORRESPONDENCE / OTHER INFORMATION

1. Memorandum dated March 29, 2012 from Roberta Brassard, Municipal Clerk, Township of Tewksbury regarding **An Ordinance of the Township of Tewksbury, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, to Amend, Revise and Supplement Article V of the Tewksbury Township Development Regulations Ordinance by Including a New Section 519 Entitled Applications for Development in the Highlands.** No action taken.
2. Resolution from Lora Olsen, Municipal Clerk, West Amwell Township regarding **Amendments to Opra regarding Privacy.** No action taken.
3. Memorandum dated March 21, 2012 from Laura Eidsvaag, Municipal Clerk, Borough of Califon regarding **Resolution Requesting a Study of School District Consolidation Alternatives in the County of Hunterdon.** No action taken.
4. Memorandum dated April 3, 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.
5. Memorandum dated April 9, 2012 from Ella Ruta, Municipal Clerk, Union Township regarding **Resolution Objecting to Use of the 2001 State Plan Policy Map.** No action taken.

6. Resolution from Lora Olsen, Municipal Clerk, Township Clerk, Township of West Amwell regarding *Resolution Calling on the State Legislature and the Governor to Restore Municipal Energy Tax Receipts*.

Mr. Gatti requested that the Committee consider passing a similar resolution.

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2012-57

***RESOLUTION CALLING ON THE STATE LEGISLATURE AND THE GOVERNOR
TO RESTORE MUNICIPAL ENERGY TAX RECEIPTS***

WHEREAS, the Energy Tax Receipts Property Tax Relief program is the direct descendant of the Public Utility Gross Receipts and Franchise Tax (PU-GRAFT), which was a tax on regulated public utilities originally assessed and collected at the municipal level; and

WHEREAS, in the early 1980's, when at the request and for the convenience of the taxpaying utilities, the State became the collection agent for this assessment, the law that effected this change promised that the proceeds would be distributed back to the municipalities which provide services to utility facilities and are the source of the utility profits; and

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey never honored that commitment, immediately diverting large and growing portions of the proceeds to its own general fund; and

WHEREAS, modernization and deregulation led to a major State "reform" of utility taxes in the mid-1990's, which legislation validated and, supposedly capped the State's annual skim, and which included a "poison pill," requiring the State to annually increase the municipal distribution of Energy Tax proceeds or to risk the forfeiture of the State's authority to collect the tax; and

WHEREAS, in the late 1990's, a State law was passed requiring the Energy Tax distributions to be annually increased by the rate of inflation; and

WHEREAS, as State budget-makers viewed this situation, the problem was not how to comply with this requirement, but rather how state officials might evade compliance; and

WHEREAS, in order for the State to increase Energy Tax distributions by the rate of inflation for five straight years without providing municipalities with one new dollar in property tax relief, State officials reduced the CMPTRA distribution by the same amount that it increased the Energy Tax distribution; and

WHEREAS, just in the past ten years, the State has withheld almost \$475,315 in Energy Tax Receipt funds belonging to Readington Township property taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, stunningly, the Governor and New Jersey Legislature wrongfully withheld another \$799,654 of our municipal Energy Tax Receipts (and CMPTRA) in 2010 and again in 2011, which funds belong to Readington Township and would reduce local property taxes; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Readington have long supported and called for State actions to reduce oppressive property tax burdens on our residents, since as noted, State officials in fact are the biggest drivers of increasing municipal property taxes

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, as follows:

1. The Governor, State Legislative leadership and all members of the State Senate and Assembly should immediately restore in full all Energy Tax Receipt funding, thereby respecting and affirming the historic and fiduciary obligation as collector of municipal revenues.

Resolution #R-2012-57 cont'd:

2. The Municipal Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to provide a certified copy of this Resolution to the following: Governor Chris Christie, New Jersey Senate President Stephen Sweeney, New Jersey Senate Minority Leader Thomas Kean, Jr., New Jersey Assembly Speaker Sheila Oliver, New Jersey Assembly Minority Leader John Bramnick, New Jersey State Legislators of the 16th District, Hunterdon County Municipalities, and the New Jersey League of Municipalities.

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

NEW BUSINESS

1. ***Bond Ordinance Providing for Various Capital Improvements of the Township of Readington, in the County of Hunterdon, New Jersey, Appropriating the Aggregate Amount of \$1,296,400 therefor an Authorizing the Issuance of \$1,231,580 Bonds or Notes of the Township to Finance Part of the Cost Thereof***

Administrator Mekovetz stated that there was agreement from the Committee on the roads listed in the ordinance; however, she was requesting confirmation on the proposed equipment listed in the ordinance. Mr. Gatti requested Scott Jesseman, Director of Public Works, to provide an explanation for some of the equipment which needed to be replaced and also prioritize the equipment. Scott Jesseman gave an overview of the age and condition of the various pieces of equipment he had requested to replace. Mayor Auriemma asked about the possibility of purchasing used equipment. A discussion took place on the equipment to be replaced and the feasibility of purchasing it used. Mrs. Fort stated she was in favor of purchasing the mason dump truck and the construction sweeper since the excavator could be rented on an as needed basis. The Committee agreed with this recommendation. Mrs. Muir stated that she had traveled Thor Solberg Road and County Line Road and felt these roads were not necessary for reclamation. Administrator Mekovetz stated that County Line Road would only be considered if there was money left over from the other projects after completion. Mayor Auriemma confirmed the proposed purchase of the mason dump truck and the construction sweeper and leaving the roads as listed, therefore reducing the ordinance by approximately \$125,000.

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 \$1,171,400 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$1,112,830 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF

ORDINANCE #15-2012

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 \$1,171,400, including the aggregate sum of \$58,570 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 #15-2012 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 \$1,112,830 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, Weavers Lane, Coopers Circle, Shepherds Lane, Summer Road, Juniper Drive, Foothill Road, Thor Solberg Road, and County Line Road, including all work and materials necessary therefor and incidental thereto.	\$896,400	\$851,580	10 years
b) <u>Equipment:</u> The acquisition of a mason dump truck with plow, spreader & hydraulics and a construction sweeper, including all related costs and expenditures incidental thereto.	\$205,000	\$194,750	5 years
c) <u>DPW Garage:</u> The acquisition of an oil/water separator, including all related costs and expenditures incidental thereto.	<u>\$70,000</u>	<u>\$66,500</u>	5 years
TOTALS	<u>\$1,171,400</u>	<u>\$1,112,830</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 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.

Ordinance #15-2012 cont'd:

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 8.82 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 \$1,112,830, and the obligations authorized herein will be within all debt limitations prescribed by that Law.

(d) An aggregate amount not exceeding \$100,000 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 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.

Ordinance #15-2012 cont'd:

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 Mr. Gatti 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.

2. **Request to Place a Container For Clothing Donations on Property** – letter dated March 27, 2012 from Bob Rainey, President of Whitehouse Rescue Squad

Bob Spielberger stated that the Whitehouse Rescue Squad was requesting approval to place a barn/shed-like structure for clothing donations on the property of Whitehouse Rescue Squad. Mr. Spielberger stated that the structure would be maintained by the Turnkey organization and at this time they are seeking permission to implement the fundraiser for a year. Mrs. Fort stated that the Zoning Officer has enforced the removal of the clothing bins from commercial properties since they are not considered a permitted use, and expressed concern that this would be setting a precedent for other non-profits. Mrs. Fort also expressed concern about the potential traffic this could create on Main Street. Mrs. Allen stated that she was in favor of the fundraiser and suggested trying this on a temporary basis.

A **MOTION** was by Mrs. Allen to allow for the clothing shed at the Whitehouse Rescue Squad on a temporary basis (on a one year cycle with a month to month review and to be removed within a month if not acceptable) as a special event fundraiser for non-profit, seconded by Mrs. Muir with a vote of three ayes, two nays.

- * 3. **Reach the Beach Relay (October 12-13, 2012)** – letter dated from Paul Dionne requesting to use Township roads for relay race

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

- * 4. **Catering Affair Permit** – Redwood Inc. (July 27th through 29th)
NJ Festival of Ballooning

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

- * 5. **Social Affair Permit** – Kiwanis Club of North Hunterdon Clinton (July 27th through July 29th) NJ Festival of Ballooning

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

- * 6. **Release of Hunting Security Deposit** (Cranford Rod and Gun Club)
Block 57, Lot 2 (Thor Solberg Road) \$275
Block 25, Lots 19 & 20 (County Road 523) \$50

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

* 7. ***Resolution in Recognition of Christopher Hranj Attaining Rank of Eagle Scout***

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

* 8. ***Resolution in Recognition of Daniel Baker Attaining Rank of Eagle Scout***

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

* 9. ***Resolution in Recognition of Michael Biondo Attaining Rank of Eagle Scout***

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

* 10. ***Resolution in Recognition of Thomas M. Caporaso Attaining Rank of Eagle Scout***

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

* 11. ***Resolution in Recognition of Michael J. Marsh Attaining Rank of Eagle Scout***

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

* 12. ***Resolution in Recognition of Michael J. Matza Attaining Rank of Eagle Scout***

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator Mekovetz reminded everyone to vote in the School Elections tomorrow.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Attorney Dragan reported that the closing on the affordable unit took place last Friday and the net amount to the Township was approximately \$99,400.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Thomas Auriemma

Mayor Auriemma stated that he had nothing further to report.

Julia Allen

Mrs. Allen reported that the Freeholders are discussing various changes to the use and amount to be collected for the Hunterdon County Open Space Recreation, Farmland and Historic Preservation Trust Fund. Mrs. Allen stated currently it is funded by the *not to exceed 3¢ per \$100 of assessed valuation* collected in the Towns and they are proposing three potential changes 1) use of the dedicated fund to pay Administrative salaries, 2) use of trust funds to pay off debt incurred prior to establishing the dedicated tax and 3) reduction of the funding for the trust from 3¢ to 2¢. Mrs. Allen stated that she draft a resolution and asked the Committee to consider passing the resolution.

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2012-58

**TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON
RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, the Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders declared by Resolution dated August 5, 2008, that open space, agricultural lands and historic structures are an important part of the heritage of Hunterdon County and are rapidly decreasing at an accelerated rate; and

WHEREAS in November of 2008, voters of Hunterdon County overwhelmingly approved the Hunterdon County Open Space, Recreation, Farmland and Historic Preservation Trust Fund to be funded by the continuation of the existing annual tax assessment not to exceed three cents per \$100; and

WHEREAS 3 out of 4 Hunterdon County voters who overwhelmingly approved this Open Space tax did so with the confidence that these funds would provide a stable and consistent source of funding for the purchase of open space, farmland easements and historic preservation projects in the future and would not be subject to political forces from year to year; and

WHEREAS it has come to our attention that the Freeholders propose major changes to the funding of the Trust Fund that could seriously compromise the preservation program's ability to protect Hunterdon's valuable natural and cultural resources, that is; use of the dedicated funding to pay administrative salaries; use of Trust Funds to pay off debt incurred prior to establishing the dedicated tax; reduction of the funding for the Trust Fund from 3 to 2 cents; and

WHEREAS these changes, when taken together, will seriously compromise the ability of the Program to adequately protect Hunterdon County's wonderful open spaces, pristine water resources, rolling farmland, and culturally significant historic sites; and

WHEREAS reduced funding will curtail efforts to expand and enhance recreational opportunities provided by the Hunterdon County Park System in the future; and

WHEREAS maintaining adequate levels of local preservation funding annually triggers millions of dollars of State and Federal preservation money otherwise lost to Hunterdon County; and

WHEREAS the preservation programs supported by the Hunterdon County Open Space, Recreation, Farmland and Historic Preservation Trust Fund provides residents their best hope of preserving what makes Hunterdon County a great place to live and work.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee of the Township of Readington in the County of Hunterdon hereby supports the current three-cent assessment level for the Hunterdon County Open Space, Recreation, Farmland and Historic Preservation Trust Fund; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Board of Chosen Freeholders should make every effort to utilize the current fund in a way that best supports local preservation partners, including local governments and non-profit organizations, so as to maximize State and Federal preservation matching funds, and insure the continued success of all preservation efforts in Hunterdon County.

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

Betty Ann Fort

Mrs. Fort reported that Scott Jesseman has done some research on materials for the sidewalks on Main Street and is still in the process of gathering some additional information on this.

Frank Gatti

Mr. Gatti reported that the Budget meeting will take place April 25 at 6:30 p.m.

Beatrice Muir

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

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Daniel Dorf, Whitehouse American Legion, stated that he was making himself available to the Committee in the event they had any questions regarding waiving the \$750 municipal fee for raffle games.

COMMENTS FROM THE GOVERNING BODY

There were none.

As there was no further business, ***A MOTION*** was made by Mr. Gatti at 9:15 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