

**READINGTON TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
MEETING – March 4, 2013**

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

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>
Historic Preservation.....	Personnel.....	Certain information at the discretion of the Township Committee tonight...other information will remain confidential
Local No. 317..... Lieutenants	Contract Negotiations.....	“ “ “
Executive Session Minutes..... • February 19, 2013	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. Fort to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mrs. Muir with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

The meeting reconvened at 7:30 p.m.

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

Executive Session:

Personnel / Historic Preservation Commission

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Fort to accept the resignation of Anne Hercek from the Historic Preservation Commission and send her a letter of thanks for her service, seconded by Mr. Gatti with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

Contract Negotiations / Local No. 317 / Lieutenants

Mayor Auriemma stated that this matter remains in Executive Session.

Attorney-Client Privilege / Executive Session Minutes / February 19, 2013

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Fort to approve the Executive Session Minutes of February 19, 2013 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 Allen stated that this matter remains in Executive Session.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Mayor Allen read the following statement:

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

- * 1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** of meeting of February 19, 2013
- * 2. **Resolution to Authorize Purchase of WatchGuard 4RE™ Systems**

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2013-43

**TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON
RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, the Township of Readington has a need to purchase thirteen (13) security cameras to install in the Township’s Police Department vehicles; and

WHEREAS, the Township determined that the WatchGuard 4RE™ In-Car Video System for law enforcement best meets the Township’s security needs; and

WHEREAS, the cost for the WatchGuard 4RE™ system including in-car cameras, software and Wifi access equipment is estimated to cost \$67,000, an amount in excess of the \$36,000 bid limit; and

WHEREAS, the WatchGuard 4RE™ system has eighteen patents issued or pending that make it a proprietary system for which bid specifications cannot be standardized and is therefore exempt from the public bid requirement.

Resolution #R-2013-43 cont'd:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon and State of New Jersey that it hereby authorizes the purchase of a WatchGuard 4RE™ system including in-car cameras, software and Wifi access equipment at a cost of \$67,000.

- * 3. **Team Somerset Cycling Club Annual Individual Time Trial Bicycling Event -** permission to use township road to conduct time trial cycling event, May 4, 2013
- * 4. **Release of Escrow** (Ernie Vitale / Block 73, Lot 3.34 / 27 Clark Court)
- * 5. **Refund of Permit Fee** (Air Group LLC / Block 45.03, Lot 4 / 1 Bohlander Court)
- * 6. **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 95, Lot 12.150 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 \$871.40, plus a premium paid in the amount of \$300.00, known as Tax Sale Certificate #2012-015, to the lienholder, KAR Investments.

- * 7. **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 13, Lot 32 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 \$979.59, plus a premium paid in the

Resolution cont'd:

amount of \$400.00, known as Tax Sale Certificate #2012-003, to the lienholder, KAR Investments.

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

<u>Fund Description</u>	<u>Fund No.</u>	<u>Received Total</u>
CURRENT FUND	2-01	\$ 2,247.60
CURRENT FUND	3-01	\$ 419,240.43
SEWER APPROPRIATIONS	3-02	\$ 100,219.42
TRUST FUNDS	X-03	\$ 21,318.55
MISC REFUND, COUNTY TAX, LIENS	X-05	\$ 15,633.93
PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS	X-06	\$ 146,130.95
REG & LOCAL SCHOOL TAX	X-07	\$ 5,471,300.15
2012 CAPITAL	X-12	<u>\$ 893.50</u>
TOTAL OF ALL FUNDS		\$ 6,176,984.53

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

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

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC for items listed on the agenda only

There were none.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

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

Clerk read by Title:

An Ordinance Appropriating \$80,000 from the Capital Improvement Fund for the Repair of the Whitehouse First Aid and Rescue Squad Ambulance in and by the Township of Readington, in the County of Hunterdon, New Jersey and Further Authorizing a Loan to the Whitehouse First Aid and Rescue in Connection therewith

◆ **Ordinance #06-2013**

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

There were none.

Administrator Mekovetz stated that the Township is lending money, at a reduced interest rate, to the Rescue Squad to replace the chassis and motor on an ambulance.

Mayor Allen 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 Appropriating \$80,000 from the Capital Improvement Fund for the Repair of the Whitehouse First Aid and Rescue Squad Ambulance in and by the Township of Readington, in the County of Hunterdon, New Jersey and Further Authorizing a Loan to the Whitehouse First Aid and Rescue in Connection therewith

◆ **Ordinance #06-2013**

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

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

CORRESPONDENCE / OTHER INFORMATION

1. Public Notice from Debora Padgett, Planning Board/Board of Adjustment Clerk, Township of Hillsborough, regarding ***Review and Adoption of Master Plan Amendment-Land Use Element, Transit Ready Development District and Circulation Plan Element Update***. No action taken.
2. Matter of Comcast Cable Communications, LLC from Wesley R. Heppler, Steven J. Horvitz and Frederick W. Giroux, Davis Wright Tremaine LLP, regarding the ***Opposition to Motion to Dismiss filed by the New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel***. No action taken.
3. Letter dated February 27, 2013 from Robert O'Brien, Township Engineer regarding ***Readington Farms Inc. Significant Indirect User Permit NJ0079685 Renewal***. No action taken.
4. Memorandum from Readington Emergency Services Association ***Requesting to Rescind Ordinance #31-2012***.

Mayor Allen stated that a memorandum was received from the Chiefs of Emergency Services requesting to rescind Ordinance #31-2012 and she would like to meet with them to see what their proposals are.

NEW BUSINESS

1. ***Revised Ordinance Checklist Pages*** - Memorandum dated February 26, 2013 from Linda Jacukowicz, Planning/Zoning Coordinator

Mrs. Fort stated that these checklists are part of the application process for the zoning and planning boards and this revised ordinance would provide some updating and clean up any inconsistencies.

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Fort to authorize Attorney Dragan to draft this as an ordinance, seconded by Mrs. Muir with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

2. ***Request from Readington Community Theatre to Place Two Banners to Advertise the Hit Comedy "Nonsense"***

Administrator Mekovetz stated that she would confer with John Barczyk, Zoning Official, to be sure the advertising signs fall within the zoning ordinance guidelines.

3. ***Request from Sons of Italy to Place Two Banners to Advertise Annual Pasta Festa***

Administrator Mekovetz stated that she would confer with John Barczyk, Zoning Official, to be sure the advertising signs fall within the zoning ordinance guidelines.

4. ***Special Event Grand Opening Permit Application***
(Hunterdon Hills Vet. Corp / Block 21.13, Lot 7) May 19, 2013

Mayor Allen stated that Hunterdon Hills Veterinary Corp is seeking approval for a special event permit to hold a grand opening on May 19th. Mr. Gatti stated that based on the projected number of people expected to attend there should be some traffic planning in place.

A MOTION was made by Mrs. Muir to request that a traffic plan be submitted and approved by the Police Department prior to the Township Committee approving the Special Event Permit Application, seconded by Mrs. Fort with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

* 5. ***Resolution to Authorize Purchase of WatchGuard 4RE™ Systems***

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

* 6. ***Team Somerset Cycling Club Annual Individual Time Trial Bicycling Event - permission to use township road to conduct time trial cycling event, May 4, 2013***

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

* 7. ***Release of Escrow*** (Ernie Vitale / Block 73, Lot 3.34 / 27 Clark Court)

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

* 8. ***Refund of Permit Fee*** (Air Group LLC / Block 45.03, Lot 4 / 1 Bohlander Court)

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator Mekovetz stated that she had nothing further to report.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Attorney Dragan stated that she had nothing further to report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Julia Allen

Mayor Allen reported that the Township Committee was invited for a tour of the JCP&L Regional Dispatch office in addition to a presentation of their storm response and outage restoration process on Thursday, March 7th.

Mayor Allen also reported that Dr. Barbara Sargent, Superintendent of Readington Board of Education was seeking participation in a new partnership being created between the Readington Township School District and members of the community to bring together individuals and groups from the community to participate in interesting school events.

Mayor Allen announced to the Committee that she had signed up for *Mayors Against Illegal Guns*.

Tom Auriemma

Mr. Auriemma stated that he had nothing further to report.

Betty Ann Fort

Mrs. Fort reported that she had accompanied the Historic Preservation Commission on a site visit to the Ryland Inn.

Mrs. Fort also reported that the Museum held a *Ladies Making Lace* Program yesterday.

Frank Gatti

Mr. Gatti stated that he had nothing further to report.

Beatrice Muir

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

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were none.

COMMENTS FROM THE GOVERNING BODY

As there was no further business, *A MOTION* was made by Mr. Gatti at 8:05 p.m. to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Auriemma with vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

Respectfully Submitted:

Vita Mekovetz, RMC/MMC/QPA
Municipal Clerk