

**READINGTON TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
MEETING – July 1, 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, 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, THERFORE, 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>
Hunterdon Land Trust..... Block 63, Lots 21 and 67	Contract Negotiations.....	Certain information at the discretion of the Township Committee tonight...other information will remain confidential
Award of Replacement Floor..... Drains Bids	Contract Negotiations.....	“ “ “
Award of Hunting Bids.....	Contract Negotiations.....	“ “ “
Executive Session Minutes..... • April 17, 2013 • April 18, 2013 • June 17, 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 7:15 p.m.

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

Executive Session:

Contract Negotiations / Hunterdon Land Trust / Block 63, Lots 21 and 67

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Muir to approve the cost sharing of the soft costs using the Township's Hunterdon County Open Space Trust Fund allocation on the acquisition of Block 63, Lots 21 and 67, seconded by Mr. Auriemma and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

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

Contract Negotiations / Award of Replacement of DPW Floor Drains

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Fort to award the bid to John Garcia Construction in the amount of \$24,452.68, seconded by Mr. Auriemma and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

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

Contract Negotiations / Award of Hunting Bids / Pleasant Run Road (Block 66, Lot 13)

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2013-69

**TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON
RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, the Readington Township Committee (Committee) publically advertised for hunting bids during the 2013-2014 season on Block 66 Lot 13 (Pleasant Run Road) in the Township, which property is a Green Acres assisted, publicly assessed property owned by the Township (hereinafter referred to as "the Property"); and

WHEREAS, on June 19, 2013, the Administrator/Municipal Clerk conducted the bid opening whereupon the total number of bidders for hunting on the Property were two (2); and

WHEREAS, upon review of the bids, the Administrator/Municipal Clerk determined that the highest bid offered, \$4,001.00, was from Pinebank Road Hunting Association (hereinafter "Pinebank"); and

WHEREAS, upon review, the Township Attorney found that the bid from Pinebank, the highest bidder in the amount of \$4,001.00 was found to be complete and it is recommended that it be accepted.

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

Resolution #R-2013-69 cont'd:

1. The Township Committee hereby accepts the recommendation of the Township Attorney and accepts the bid of the highest bidder, Pinebank, in the amount of \$4,001.00 for hunting game on Block 66, Lot 13 during the 2013-2014 hunting season.
2. The Administrator/Municipal Clerk is authorized to notify all those who bid on the Property of this decision.

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

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

Contract Negotiations / Award of Hunting Bids / Summer Road (Block 94, Lot 8)

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2013-70

**TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON
RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, the Readington Township Committee (Committee) publically advertised for hunting bids during the 2013-2014 season on Block 94 Lot 8 (Summer Road) in the Township, which property is a Green Acres assisted, publicly assessed property owned by the Township (hereinafter referred to as “the Property”); and

WHEREAS, on June 19, 2013, the Administrator/Municipal Clerk conducted the bid opening whereupon the total number of bidders for hunting on the Property was one (1); and

WHEREAS, upon review of the bids, the Administrator/Municipal Clerk determined that the only bid offered, \$4,038.00, was from Pines Rod & Gun Club (hereinafter “Pines”) ; and

WHEREAS, upon review, the Township Attorney found that the bid from Pines, the only bidder in the amount of \$4,038.00 was found to be complete and it is recommended that it be accepted.

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

1. The Township Committee hereby accepts the recommendation of the Township Attorney and accepts the bid of the only bidder, Pines in the amount of \$4,038.00 for hunting game on Block 94, Lot 8 during the 2013-2014 hunting season.
2. The Administrator/Municipal Clerk is authorized to notify all those who bid on the Property of this decision.

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Fort to adopt this resolution, 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

Contract Negotiations / Award of Hunting Bids / Thor Solberg Road (Block 57, Lot 2)

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2013-71

***TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON
RESOLUTION***

WHEREAS, the Readington Township Committee (Committee) publically advertised for hunting bids during the 2013-2014 season on Block 57, Lot 2 (Thor Solberg Road) in the Township, which property is a Green Acres assisted, publicly assessed property owned by the Township (hereinafter referred to as “the Property”); and

WHEREAS, on June 19, 2013, the Administrator/Municipal Clerk conducted the bid opening whereupon the total number of bidders for hunting on the Property was two (2); and

WHEREAS, upon review of the bids, the Administrator/Municipal Clerk determined that the highest bid offered, \$2,451.99, was from Cranford Rod & Gun Club (hereinafter “Cranford”); and

WHEREAS, upon review, the Township Attorney found that he bid from Cranford, the highest bidder in the amount of \$2,451.99 was found to be complete and it is recommended that it be accepted.

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

1. The Township Committee hereby accepts the recommendation of the Township Attorney and accepts the bid of the highest bidder, Cranford in the amount of \$2,451.99 for hunting game on Block 57, Lot 2 during the 2013-2014 hunting season.
2. The Administrator/Municipal Clerk is authorized to notify all those who bid on the Property of this decision.

A MOTION was made by Mrs. Fort to adopt this resolution, 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

Contract Negotiations / Award of Hunting Bids / Woodschurch Road (Block 63, Lot 19 and 64)

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2013-72

***TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON
RESOLUTION***

WHEREAS, the Readington Township Committee (Committee) publically advertised for hunting bids during the 2013-2014 season on Block 63 Lot 19 and 64 (Woodschurch Road) in the Township, which property is a Green Acres assisted, publicly assessed property owned by the Township (hereinafter referred to as “the Property”); and

WHEREAS, on June 19, 2013, the Administrator/Municipal Clerk conducted the bid opening whereupon the total number of bidders for hunting on the Property was two (2); and

Resolution #R-2013-72 cont'd:

WHEREAS, upon review of the bids, the Administrator/Municipal Clerk determined that the highest bid offered, \$7,220.00, was from Woods & Water Sportsmen (hereinafter “Woods & Water”); and

WHEREAS, upon review, the Township Attorney found that the bid from Woods & Water, the highest bidder in the amount of \$7,220.00 was found to be complete and it is recommended that it be accepted.

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

1. The Township Committee hereby accepts the recommendation of the Township Attorney and accepts the bid of the highest bidder, Woods & Water, in the amount of \$7,220.00 for hunting game on Block 63, Lot 19 & 64 during the 2013-2014 hunting season.
2. The Administrator/Municipal Clerk is authorized to notify all those who bid on the Property of this decision.

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Fort to adopt this resolution, 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

Contract Negotiations / Award of Hunting Bids / Cole Road (Block 52.01, Lot 14.06)

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2013-73

**TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON
RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, the Readington Township Committee (Committee) publically advertised for hunting bids during the 2013-2014 season on Block 52.01, Lot 14.06 (Cole Road) in the Township, which property is a Green Acres assisted, publicly assessed property owned by the Township (hereinafter referred to as “the Property”); and

WHEREAS, on June 19, 2013, the Administrator/Municipal Clerk conducted the bid opening whereupon the total number of bidders for hunting on the Property was one (1); and

WHEREAS, upon review of the bids, the Administrator/Municipal Clerk determined that the only bid offered, \$5,026.99, was from Kodiak Rod and Gun Club (hereinafter “Kodiak ”); and

WHEREAS, upon review, the Township Attorney found that the bid from Kodiak, the only bidder in the amount of \$5,026.99 was found to be complete and it is recommended that it be accepted.

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

1. The Township Committee hereby accepts the recommendation of the Township Attorney and accepts the bid of the only bidder, Kodiak, in the amount of \$5,026.99 for hunting game on Block 52.01, Lot 14.06 during the 2013-2014 hunting season.
2. The Administrator/Municipal Clerk is authorized to notify all those who bid on the Property of this decision.

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

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

Contract Negotiations / Award of Hunting Bids / Cole Road (Block 66, Lot 2 and 3)

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2013-74

***TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON
RESOLUTION***

WHEREAS, the Readington Township Committee (Committee) publically advertised for hunting bids during the 2013-2014 season on Block 66 Lots 2 and 3 (Cole Road) in the Township, which property is a Green Acres assisted, publicly assessed property owned by the Township (hereinafter referred to as “the Property”); and

WHEREAS, on June 19, 2013, the Administrator/Municipal Clerk conducted the bid opening whereupon the total number of bidders for hunting on the Property was one (1); and

WHEREAS, upon review, the Township Attorney found that the bid from Pinebank Hunting Association, the only bidder in the amount of \$4,001.00 was found to be complete and it is recommended that it be accepted.

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

1. The Township Committee hereby accepts the recommendation of the Township Attorney and accepts the bid from the highest bidder, Pinebank Hunting Association, in the amount of \$4,001.00 for hunting game on Block 66, Lots 2 and 3 during the 2013-2014 hunting season.
2. The Administrator/Municipal Clerk is authorized to notify all those who bid on the Property of this decision.

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

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

Contract Negotiations / Award of Hunting Bids / County Route 523 (Block 25, Lot 19 and 20)

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2013-75

***TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON
RESOLUTION***

Resolution #R-2013-75 cont'd:

WHEREAS, the Readington Township Committee (Committee) publically advertised for hunting bids during the 2013-2014 season on Block 25 Lot 19 & 20 (County Road 523) in the Township, which property is a Green Acres assisted, publicly assessed property owned by the Township (hereinafter referred to as “the Property”); and

WHEREAS, on June 19, 2013, the Administrator/Municipal Clerk conducted the bid opening whereupon the total number of bidders for hunting on the Property were four (4); and

WHEREAS, upon review of the bids, the Administrator/Municipal Clerk determined that the highest bid offered, \$1,051.99, was from Cranford Rod & Gun Club (hereinafter “Cranford”); and

WHEREAS, upon review, the Township Attorney found that he bid from Cranford, the highest bidder in the amount of \$1,051.99 was found to be complete and it is recommended that it be accepted.

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

1. The Township Committee hereby accepts the recommendation of the Township Attorney and accept the bid of the highest bidder, Cranford in the amount of \$1,051.99 for hunting game on Block 25, Lot 19 & 20 during the 2013-2014 hunting season.
2. The Administrator/Municipal Clerk is authorized to notify all those who bid on the Property of this decision.

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

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

Contract Negotiations / Award of Hunting Bids / Pinebank Road (Block 55, Lot 13.51)

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2013-76

**TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON
RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, the Readington Township Committee (Committee) publically advertised for hunting bids during the 2013-2014 season on Block 55 Lot 13.51 (Pinebank Road) in the Township, which property is a Green Acres assisted, publicly assessed property owned by the Township (hereinafter referred to as “the Property”); and

WHEREAS, on June 19, 2013, the Administrator/Municipal Clerk conducted the bid opening whereupon the total number of bidders for hunting on the Property were two (2); and

WHEREAS, upon review of the bids, the Administrator/Municipal Clerk determined that the highest bid offered, \$4,302.99, was from Kodiak Rod & Gun Club (hereinafter “Kodiak”); and

WHEREAS, upon review, the Township Attorney found that the bid from Kodiak, the highest bidder in the amount of \$4,302.99 was found to be complete and it is recommended that it be accepted.

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

Resolution #R-2013-76 cont'd:

1. The Township Committee hereby accepts the recommendation of the Township Attorney and accepts the bid of the highest bidder, Kodiak Rod & Gun in the amount of \$4,302.99 for hunting game on Block 55, Lots 13.51 during the 2013-2014 hunting season.
2. The Administrator/Municipal Clerk is authorized to notify all those who bid on the Property of this decision.

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

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

Attorney-Client Privilege / Executive Session Minutes / April 17, 2013

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Fort to approve the Executive Session Minutes of April 17, 2013 for content only, seconded by Mrs. Muir with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

Attorney-Client Privilege / Executive Session Minutes / April 18, 2013

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Fort to approve the Executive Session Minutes of April 18, 2013 for content only, seconded by Mrs. Muir with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

Attorney-Client Privilege / Executive Session Minutes / June 17, 2013

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Fort to approve the Executive Session Minutes of June 17, 2013 for content only, seconded by Mr. Auriemma 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 April 9, April 17, April 18, April 22 and June 17 (2013)
- * 2. **Request for Release of Road Opening Permit / Block 73, Lot 40** (David and Lisa Lewis / 1 Stockton Road)
- * 3. **Resolution Authorizing Alcoholic Beverage License Renewals for 2013-14** (Bensi of Whitehouse Station, LLC)

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2013-77

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE RENEWALS

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Readington that the following Readington Township Alcoholic Beverage License Renewal for 2013-2014 be approved:

PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION:

<u>LICENSE NUMBER</u>	<u>LICENSE HOLDER</u>	<u>MUNICIPAL FEE</u>	<u>STATE FEE</u>
1022-33-007-006	Bensi of Whitehouse Station, LLC.	\$2,214.60	\$200.00

* 4. **Request of Escrow / Block 57.01, Lot 11.26** (Karen DePietro / 13 Judge Thompson Road)

* 5. **Tax Overpayments**

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

READINGTON TOWNSHIP

HUNTERDON COUNTY, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, a duplicate payment has resulted in an overpayment for the 2nd Quarter 2013 taxes, and

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector has recommended the following refund:

<u>BLOCK</u>	<u>LOT</u>	<u>REFUND TO</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
95	12.193	Estate of Chester C. Swasey	\$1,297.90

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, that the Treasurer be authorized to refund the amount recommended.

* 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	\$ 9,140.75
CURRENT FUND	3-01	\$ 718,598.08
SEWER APPROPRIATIONS	3-02	\$ 106,324.64
TRUST FUNDS	X-03	\$ 78,159.94
MISC REFUND, COUNTY TAX, LIENS	X-05	\$ 818,879.54
PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS	X-06	\$ 141,321.05
REG & LOCAL SCHOOL TAX	X-07	\$ 2,429,738.00
2010 CAPITAL	X-10	\$ 770.00
2012 CAPITAL	X-12	\$ 23,072.53
TOTAL OF ALL FUNDS		\$ 4,326,004.53

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

Mr. Auriemma - Aye
Mrs. Fort - Aye
Mr. Gatti - Aye
Mrs. Muir - Abstain (since she was not present at the June 17, 2013 meeting)
Mayor Allen - Aye

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC for items listed on the agenda only

There were none.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

As it was after 7:45 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 Amending the Fee Provisions of Chapter 123 of the Code of the Township of Readington Entitled "Fire Prevention"

◆ Ordinance #15-2013

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

There were none.

Mayor Allen 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 Mr. Gatti with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

Clerk read by Title:

An Ordinance Amending the Fee Provisions of Chapter 123 of the Code of the Township of Readington Entitled "Fire Prevention"

◆ Ordinance #15-2013

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. Memorandum dated June 513, 2013 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 VII "Zoning Provisions," of the Development Regulations Ordinance and to Add Section 702.2 "Specific Accessory Structures."*** No action taken.

2. Letter dated June 18, 2013 from Janice Mironov, President, NJLOM and Mayor of East Windsor ***Urging your Legislators to Support A-2753, Energy Receipts Property Tax Relief Initiative.***

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2013-78

***RESOLUTION SUPPORTING ASSEMBLY BILL A-2753 AND SENATE BILL S-1923
REQUIRING DIRECT PAYMENT OF ENERGY TAXES TO MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT***

WHEREAS, taxes on gas and electric utilities were originally collected by the host municipalities, and when the State made itself the collection agent for these taxes, it promised to dedicate the proceeds to municipal property tax relief; and

WHEREAS, just as municipalities collect property taxes for the benefit of school districts, counties and other entities; the State is supposed to collect Energy Taxes for the benefit of municipal governments; and

WHEREAS, for years, though, State officials have diverted funding from Energy Taxes to plug holes in the State budget and to fund State programs; and

WHEREAS, the cumulative impact of years of underfunding has left many municipalities with serious needs and burdensome property taxes; and

WHEREAS, municipalities lost \$331 million in combined Energy Tax and Consolidated Municipal Property Tax Relief Aid (CMPTRA) funding in Fiscal Years 2009, 2010, and 2011, while also being denied scheduled incremental funding; and

WHEREAS, as a result of these cuts, in a number of municipalities property taxes are higher now, despite the fact that they are spending less, proving that the State's diversion of tax relief funding has contributed to higher municipal property taxes; and

WHEREAS, A-2753, sponsored by Assemblymen Daniel Benson and Wayne DeAngelo, and S-1923, sponsored by Senator Linda Greenstein, would bill phase-in the distribution of additional Energy Tax Receipts Property Tax Relief Aid to municipalities over a period of five fiscal years, ensure that each municipality will be restored to the 2007 (SFY 2008) Energy Tax Receipts/CMPTRA level and adjust that amount to account for inflation; and

WHEREAS, the bills would require certain energy tax receipts to be paid directly to municipalities and, thereby, would assure local property taxpayers compensation for hosting transmission facilities and lines that allow gas and electric energy corporations to serve customers and conduct business in our Garden State; and

WHEREAS, the time has come to restore to local budgets the millions in property tax relief that have been annually diverted to meet State needs;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Readington salutes the sponsors for listening to the Mayors in their districts and all around New Jersey and for advancing this legislation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we enthusiastically support and urge our State Legislators to pass A-2753/S-1923; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that certified copies of this Resolution be forwarded to Governor Chris Christie, Lieutenant Governor Kim Guadagno, New Jersey Senate President Steve Sweeney, New Jersey Senate Republican Leader Thomas Kean, Jr., New Jersey Assembly Speaker Sheila Oliver, New Jersey Assembly Republican Leader Jon Bramnick, State Attorney General Jeffrey Chiesa, Legislators of District 16, and to the New Jersey League of Municipalities.

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

OLD BUSINESS

1. ***An Ordinance Amending a Portion of Chapter 112 of the Code of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon and State of New Jersey Pertaining to Emergency Services Agency Members***

Mayor Allen stated that as a result of a discussion from a previous meeting, a letter was received from the Chiefs of emergency services to amend certain portions of the ordinance. Mayor Allen stated that one of the requests was to increase the number of representatives on the appeal board. Mr. Auriemma offered that the ordinance was amended to read, if a volunteer member is arrested and it is determined that the member should be suspended, in the event it is challenged by the member, it would go before an appeal board consisting of the Chief of the member's agency, the Township Administrator and the Township Mayor or their appointed designee from the governing body. Administrator Mekovetz added that the emergency services agency members are requesting that the appeal board include the Chief of Chiefs and an additional Committee person. Mr. Auriemma stated that he was not in favor of increasing the number of representatives on the board of appeals. John Rathborne, Chief of Readington Fire, stated that he wanted to see a broader scope of members on the appeal board for a better opportunity of a fair outcome. Administrator Mekovetz reasoned that what is most important is to put together a panel that thinks independently and trust who is on the panel to stand firm on what they believe. Mrs. Muir questioned Attorney Dragan on the liability of a member being on an appeal board. A discussion took place on adding two additional representatives to the board of appeals.

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Auriemma to leave the appeal board panel as a three member panel. The motion failed since there was no second.

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Fort to increase the appeal board from three (3) to five (5) members to include the Chief of Chiefs, and in the event of a conflict with the Chief being Chief of that department, designate another emergency service Chief who may serve on the appeal board, and an additional Committee person, 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

Mayor Allen read a portion of the letter regarding the emergency services members request to do background checks through a cross section, checking members that have been with an agency for ten (10) years or less rather than all members. Mrs. Fort indicated that doing background checks is not an attempt to get a cross section but an attempt to be able to assure the residents that everyone on the emergency services are upstanding citizens with no prior criminal records.

Attorney Dragan advised the Committee that the state statute requires a person, whether paid full or part-time of a department to go through a background check at their own expense, have good moral character and have not been convicted of any criminal offense involving moral turpitude. Attorney Dragan further opined that whether an individual is a volunteer or paid member, this should not have any influence with respect to criminal background checks and responsibility to the public. Attorney Dragan added that towns that have a similar ordinance in place follow this.

Chief Rathborne relayed that when a member comes to join the fire company, they first go through the interview process and their driver's license is run through the police department and once that is cleared, the member is voted in. Mr. Rathborne further stated that unless the member is applying for the Relief Association, which requires approval from the Township Committee, the fire company is deemed the appointing body. A discussion took place on whether members that were considered lifetime or inactive members should be included in the background checks.

Administrator Mekovetz responded to the emergency services request for "Preliminary Approval" by pointing out that it is already written into the ordinance under §112-5 *Time limit for investigation*. Chief Rathborne asked that rather than the language reading *temporary approval may be given to an applicant at the discretion of the Chief of Police*, he is pushing to expedite the process to get the temporary approval done in order to get new members through the system and into the Relief Association. Mrs. Fort explained that the delay in the process is waiting for the results of the fingerprinting; however, clarified that the background check with running the driver's license for a temporary approval can be issued quickly. It was suggested that a letter from the Chief of Police be given to the applicant indicating provisional approval has been granted to move the individual through the Relief Association process as well. Charles Gyecsek, Somerset Street, commented that giving preliminary approval sidesteps protecting the public by not having gone through the full background check.

Lastly, Mayor Allen addressed the driving prohibition portion of their request to amend the ordinance to apply the Commercial Driver's license limits for blood alcohol content instead of the passenger vehicle license limit. Mrs. Fort stated that although the volunteers are not paid there are covered under the Township's workers compensation plan and LOSAP and was not in favor of changing this portion of the ordinance. Mr. Auriemma expressed concern regarding the liability to the Township if the ordinance was amended to give any permission to drink and drive. Mr. Gatti concurred that he would be uncomfortable with anything less than zero tolerance policy. Mayor Allen stated that the way the ordinance reads currently it is too vague and would like to possibly to use the CDL limit for blood alcohol content. Chief Rathborne stated that these stringent rules deter individuals from volunteering. A discussion ensued on the blood alcohol level that would be acceptable versus zero tolerance. Mrs. Fort affirmed that she is reluctant to change the portion of the ordinance as it sets forth an expectation of using good judgment. Mr. Auriemma suggested tabling the discussion in order to meet with Chief Donaruma, Administrator Mekovetz and Attorney Dragan to look into whether a lower limit than .08 can be enforced.

NEW BUSINESS

1. ***Request for Sewer Allocation Transfer from Fallone Properties to Toll Bros., Inc. for Renaissance at Readington (Block 36, Lot 49)*** – memorandum dated June 13, 2013 from Karin M. Parker, Sewer Advisory Secretary

Mayor Allen stated that Fallone appeared before the Sewer Advisory to request to transfer sewer allocation as per the agreement in the litigation settlement; however due to an oversight in the requirement for allocation in the amenity area of the senior development, additional gallonage was needed. Mayor Allen continued that the shortage could be accomplished by attributing 300 gallons per house to each of the five houses in the Whitehouse Avenue development rather than 350 gallons. Mayor Allen added that this could provide the additional gallonage to be raised from 36,060 to 36,286 gallons. Engineer O'Brien briefly explained how the gallonage would be transferred from the various properties Fallone collectively controls. Attorney Dragan reviewed the necessity of another assignment agreement with Attorney Richard Hoff who was present of behalf on Toll Bros.

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Muir to approve attributing 300 gallons of per house to the five houses on Block 31, Lot 37 and 37.02, second 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

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Fort to approve the assignment of 36,286 gallons transferred from Fallone to Toll Bros., seconded by Mr. Gatti and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

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

Attorney Hoff asked whether any further action would be needed from Engineer O'Brien to review and if appropriate, execute the Treatment Works Approval for the revised amount. Attorney Dragan advised the Committee that they could also approve the Treatment Works Approval application contingent upon Engineer's review and approval.

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Fort to approve the Treatment Works Approval application for Block 36, Lot 49 in the amount of 36,286 gallons, contingent upon approval from the Township Engineer, seconded by Mr. Gatti and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

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

2. **Resolution of Continuing Support for the Goals and Purposes of the 2004 Highlands Water Protection and Planning Act** – memorandum dated June 19, 2013 from Linda Jacukowicz, Environmental Commission

Mayor Allen stated that this resolution was passed by the Environmental Commission and they are asking the Committee to consider passing the same.

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2013-79

RESOLUTION OF CONTINUING SUPPORT FOR THE GOALS AND PURPOSES OF THE 2004 HIGHLANDS WATER PROTECTION AND PLANNING ACT

WHEREAS, New Jersey Highlands Water Protection and Planning Act (The Highlands Act) was enacted in order to protect the State's water supplies and other significant resources and

WHEREAS, The Highlands Act was passed with overwhelming bipartisan support in both the New Jersey State Senate and New Jersey State Assembly; and

WHEREAS, subsequently in 2008, the New Jersey Highlands Water Protection and Planning Council adopted the New Jersey Highlands Regional Master Plan, and proceeded with a program for its implementation through a Plan Conformance process.

Resolution #R-2013-79 cont'd:

WHEREAS, the Township of Readington is a municipality that receives all or a portion of its drinking sources within the Highlands Region; and that the Township of Readington relies on the resources of the Highlands to meet the current and future needs of its residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the governing body of the Township of Readington wishes that it be known that we strongly supports the goals, policies and objectives of the 2004 Highlands Water Protection and Planning Act and the Highlands Regional Master Plan.

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Fort to adopt this resolution and send a copy to the Environmental Commission, seconded by Mrs. Muir with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

3. Amendment to Vehicle and Traffic Ordinance

Engineer O’Brien stated that this amended ordinance is basically some housekeeping items to update the comprehensive vehicle and traffic ordinance along with adding a speed limit on Cozy Lane.

The following ordinance was offered for introduction:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE #16-2012 AMENDING THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON, TO CREATE A COMPREHENSIVE VEHICLE AND TRAFFIC ORDINANCE

ORDINANCE #16-2013

BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Township Committee of the Township of Readington in the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey that Ordinance #16-2012 adopted on July 16, 2012, amending the Code of the Township of Readington to create a comprehensive vehicle and traffic ordinance, is hereby amended as follows (Additions or revisions are underlined thus _____ and deletions are marked thus [] and page numbers refer to pages as they appeared in Ordinance #16-2012):

Section 1. Section 225-7 “Schedules”, Subsection (A) Schedule II: “Speed Limits”, pages 11 and 19

Schedule II: Speed Limits

In accordance with the provisions of § 225-9, speed limits are hereby established upon the following described streets or parts thereof:

Name of Street	Direction	Speed Limit	Scope	Description of Location
Bob White Road	Both	25	Entire Length	From the eastern edge of its intersection with Higginville Rd to its intersection with the Readington Twp / Branchburg Twp Line
Brookview Road	Both	35	Entire Length	From its intersection with the Readington Twp / Branchburg Twp line, to the eastern edge of its intersection with Hillcrest Rd
Buck Head Drive	Both	25	Entire Length	From its intersection with the Readington Twp / Clinton Twp Line south to the northern edge of its intersection with Paterson Rd
Cedar Road	Both	30	Entire Length	From the eastern edge of its intersection with Mill Rd north to its intersection with the Readington Twp. / Tewksbury Twp. Line
Centerville Rd	Both	30	Entire Length	From the southern edge of its intersection with Brookview Rd to its intersection with the Readington Twp / Branchburg Twp Line

<u>Central Avenue</u>	<u>Both</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>Entire Length</u>	<u>From the intersection of County Rt. 523 to Far Knoll Lane</u>
Chamberlain Rd	Both	30	Entire Length	From County Rt. 629(Pleasant Run Rd) to its intersection with Edgewood Rd
County Line Rd	Both	25	Entire Length	From Mitchell Rd to a point 400 ft north of County Structure R-42 (a total distance 1,000 ft north of Mitchell Rd)
<u>Cozy Lane</u>	<u>Both</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>Entire Length</u>	<u>From the intersection of Summer Road to its terminus</u>
[Central Ave]	[Both]	[25]	[Entire Length]	[From the intersection of County Rt. 523 to Far Knoll Lane]
Craig Rd	Both	30	Entire Length	From the northern edge of its intersection with County Rt. 629 (Pleasant Run Rd) to its intersection with the Readington Twp/ Branchburg Twp Line
Dreahook Rd	Both	35	Portion	From Stanton Mountain Rd to a point 2,800 ft west of Round Valley Rd
Dreahook Rd	Both	30	Portion	From a point 2,800 ft west of Round Valley Rd to County Rt. 523 (Whitehouse Rd)

Kosciuszko Road	North	In area of underground water tank as delineated by no parking signs
Lightfield Road	Both	There shall be no parking [stopping or standing] on [along] Lightfield Road [, on either side,] along [with] the portions described in Schedule A of this ordinance. [, at any time.]
Magriet Road	North	In area of underground water tank as delineated by no parking signs
[Mullen Road]	[Both]	[No person shall park a truck, tractor, trailer, semi-trailer or omnibushaving a registered gross weight in excess of four (4) tons upon Mullen Road between the hours of 8:15 p.m. and 6:00 a.m.]
Pierce Farm Road	West	In area of underground water tank as delineated by no parking signs
Ridge Road	Both	Entire length from Pulaski Road to Rt 22 intersection
Round Valley Rd	Both	Entire Length
Somerset Street	North	From County Rt. 523 (Main Street) to its dead end (Not Posted)
Springtown Rd	Both	From County Rt. 629 and Rt. 523 to Clearview Road (Not Posted)
Summer Road	Both	From Hixson Road and running southerly and easterly approximately 2,200 feet to the westerly line of Readington Township Summer Road (Block 75, Lot 18).
Whitehouse Avenue	South	From County Rt. 523 to a point about 500 feet east thereof

Whitehouse Avenue	North	From County Rt. 523 to a point about 200 feet east thereof
Witherspoon Street	East	In area of underground water tank as delineated by no parking signs
Wyckoff Road	South	In area of underground water tank as delineated by no parking signs

Section 2. Section 225-7 “Schedules”, Subsection (M), Schedule XIII: “No Stopping or Standing”, page 20

(M) Schedule XIII: No Stopping or Standing.

In accordance with the provisions of § 225-21, no person shall stop or stand a vehicle upon any of the following described streets or parts thereof:

Name of Street	Side	Location
Lake Drive	Both	Entire Length
<u>Lightfield Road</u>	<u>Both</u>	<u>Portion described in Schedule A</u>

Section 3. Section 225-7 “Schedules”, Subsection(N), Schedule XIV: “Parking Prohibited During Certain Hours”, page 20

(N) Schedule XIV: Parking Prohibited Certain Hours.

In accordance with the provisions of § 225-22, no person shall park a vehicle between the hours listed upon any of the following described streets (or parts of streets) or the following municipally-owned parking places:

Name of Street	Side	Hours/ Days	Location
<u>Mullen Road</u>	<u>Both</u>	<u>No person shall park a truck, tractor, trailer, semi-trailer or omnibus having a registered gross weight in excess of four (4) tons upon Mullen Road between the hours of 8:15 p.m. and 6:00 a.m.</u>	<u>Entire Length</u>
School Road	Both	8:00 am to 6:00 pm	From Park Lane and the Northerly Boundary of the Railroad Crossing
Whitehouse Ave	Both	8:00 am to 6:00 pm	From School Road to Juniper Drive

Section 4. A new section describing the portion of Lightfield Road controlled by this Ordinance shall be included as Schedule A, attached hereto.

Section 5. All portions, sections, clauses or provisions of Ordinance #16-2012 not specifically amended by this Ordinance shall remain in full force and effect.

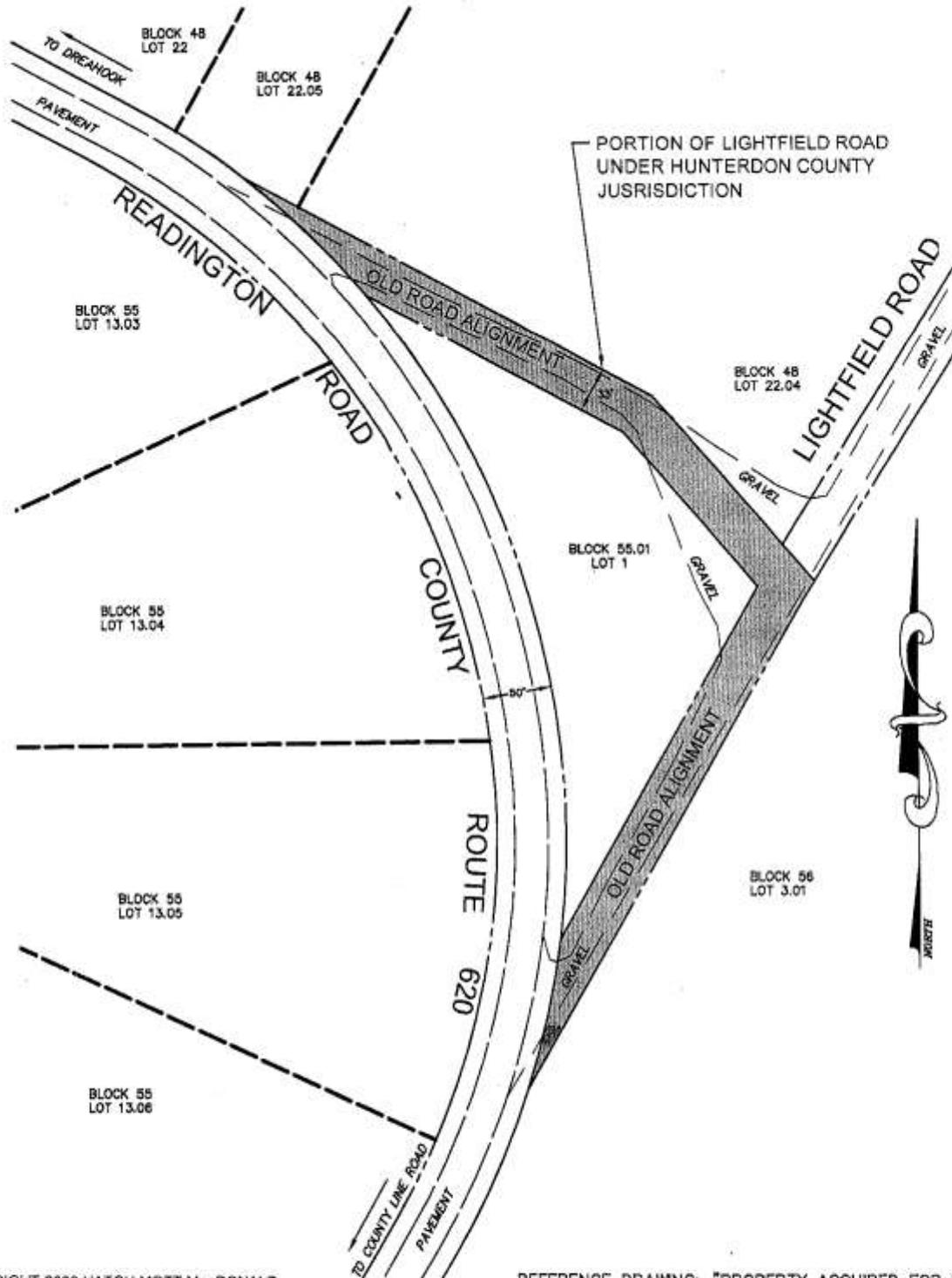
Section 6. Severability.

If any section, paragraph, subsection, clause or provision of this chapter shall be adjudged by the courts to be invalid, such adjudication shall apply only to the section, paragraph, subsection, clause or provision so adjudged and the remainder of this chapter shall be deemed valid and effective.

Section 7. Effective Date. This ordinance shall become effective immediately upon publication according to law.

SCHEDULE A

add:L:\MUNICIPAL\RT\233379 RT ROAD MAP\DWG\PARCEL .DWG



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 ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. THE COPY OR REUSE OF THIS DOCUMENT OR ANY PORTION THEREOF IS PROHIBITED WITHOUT THE WRITTEN CONSENT OF HATCH MOTT MacDONALD. THIS DRAWING IS THE SOLE PROPERTY OF HATCH MOTT MacDONALD AND HAS BEEN PREPARED SPECIFICALLY FOR USE BY THE OWNER OF THIS PROJECT AT THIS SITE. IT IS NOT TO BE USED BY ANY OTHER PERSON OR FOR ANY OTHER PURPOSE OR LOCATION WITHOUT THE WRITTEN CONSENT OF HATCH MOTT MacDONALD.

REFERENCE DRAWING: "PROPERTY ACQUIRED FOR RIGHT OF WAY FROM A. LACHENMAYR SOMERSET CO. LINE-DREAHOOK, SEC.#2, HUNTERDON COUNTY N.J. READINGTON TWP" 1942, ON FILE AT THE HUNTERDON COUNTY ENGINEER'S OFFICE.

		PAMELA L. MATHEWS, PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER, LAND SURVEYOR NEW JERSEY LICENSE NO. 41181	
Date	Revision	<i>Pamela Mathews</i>	Date 4/21/08

Job: 233379	
File: FILE_NAME	
Book:	Page:
Drawn: PLM	Checked: JC
Scale: NTS	Sht. No. 1_OF_1
Date: 4/21/08	
Drawing No.: 1293-H	

MAP SHOWING INTERSECTION
 OF
 READINGTON ROAD
 (COUNTY ROUTE 620)
 & LIGHTFIELD ROAD
 IN
 READINGTON TOWNSHIP
 HUNTERDON COUNTY, NEW JERSEY



**Hatch Mott
 MacDonald**

Certificate No. 24GA28016600

120 West Main Street
 Clinton, New Jersey 08809
 Tel: 908.730.6000 Fax: 908.730.6029

MOTION was made by Mrs. Muir to introduce 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

The Public Hearing was scheduled for August 5, 2013 at 7:45 p.m.

- * 4. ***Request for Release of Road Opening Permit / Block 73, Lot 40*** (David and Lisa Lewis / 1 Stockton Road)

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

- * 5. ***Resolution Authorizing Alcoholic Beverage License Renewals for 2013-14 (Bensi of Whitehouse Station, LLC)***

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

- * 6. ***Request of Escrow / Block 57.01, Lot 11.26*** (Karen DePietro / 13 Judge Thompson Road)

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator Mekovetz reported that John Barczyk had provided a special event permit to host a wedding on July 13th with all the information that he needed; however, unfortunately the applicant was a little late with the application and requested the Committee consider approving the application. Mrs. Fort stated that she wanted to be sure they complied with the noise ordinance.

A MOTION was made by Mrs. Fort to approve the Special Events Permit with the understanding that the applicant complies with the noise ordinance after 10:00 p.m., seconded by Mr. Auriemma with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

Administrator Mekovetz reported that the Township was informed that we would be receiving one half of the FEMA money so far.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Attorney Dragan reported that the Township closed on the Elbert Farm with the County last week.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Engineer O'Brien reported that the paving of Route 22 will begin next week. Engineer O'Brien also reported that he is following up with the DOT to clean up the culvert near Merck.

Engineer O'Brien reported that the Summer Road DOT project will go out to bid at the end of July.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Julia Allen

Mayor Allen stated that she had nothing further to report.

Tom Auriemma

Mr. Auriemma reported that the Recreation Department purchased a new sign for the Dobozyński property.

Betty Ann Fort

Mrs. Fort reported that they are still waiting for the estimate to chip and seal Foothill Road.

Frank Gatti

Mr. Gatti reported that on June 19th he met with the promoters of the Balloon Fest regarding security concerns.

Beatrice Muir

Mrs. Muir updated the Committee on the Construction Code report.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Charles Gyseck, Somerset Street, commented on the new sign installed by the gas station on Main Street and asked if it is in compliance with the zoning code.

John Anderson, JCP&L, updated the Committee on some recent developments including a critical facilities list. Mr. Anderson encouraged the Committee to visit their website which provides up to date information on the latest outages within the town and stressed the importance of every homeowner that is experiencing a power outage call it in.

COMMENTS FROM THE GOVERNING BODY

Mrs. Muir commented that recently the legislative houses passed a bill allowing commercial loggers to enter state forests and parks and requested that the Committee consider passing a resolution opposing this bill and asking Governor Christie to veto it.

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2013-80

TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, S1085, a bill, which, according to its sponsors “Establishes a forest stewardship program for State-owned lands”, in actuality serves to open up over 400,000 acres of State Parks and forested State owned lands to commercial logging, to the detriment of these forested lands, and

WHEREAS, S1085 SCS was narrowly passed by the Assembly on June 24, 2013, despite a “no” vote by all but 3 Republicans and now awaits action by the Governor’s office, and

WHEREAS, the voters who have supported land preservation efforts under the State Green Acres Program for over 50 years view this bill as a violation of the public trust, and

WHEREAS, the proposed program would be administered by DEP and any money generated by the sale of the trees from our State lands would go first to DEP staffing and consultants, there is a strong argument that efforts to develop plans, restore damage, replace trees and oversee commercial logging activities would cost much more than timber revenues could generate, and

WHEREAS, according to information provided by the DEP, expected revenues are projected to be insufficient to offset program costs because the bill requires the DEP to meet the standards of the Forest Stewardship Council to obtain forest management certification, and if insufficient, as projected by DEP, and there are no other sources of funds available to finance the program, *there could be an expenditure increase to the General Fund, and*

Resolution #R-2013-80 cont'd:

WHEREAS, logging will require intrusion into the forest with heavy machinery, causing significant damage and regeneration of new trees is made impossible by today's unusually high deer populations, since deer browse all of the young hardwoods trees, preventing regeneration, and

WHEREAS, a logging program on State lands would do nothing to further forest stewardship, but would, in fact, result in the degradation of the beautiful forests that the public has preserved under our State Green Acres Program, and

WHEREAS, New Jersey's voters would not support the commercial logging of our State Parks and many will be angered by it, and

WHEREAS, our State forests are not to be exploited by commercial loggers for private profit at the public's expense.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee of Readington Township, on behalf of its citizens who enjoy the recreational values of our State's preserved forested lands, and who appreciate the natural resource values of these lands, respectfully request that you veto the Forestry Stewardship bill known as S1085, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the governing bodies of all the municipalities of Hunterdon County, and each of its legislative representatives.

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

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

Respectfully Submitted:

Vita Mekovetz, RMC/MMC/QPA
Municipal Clerk