

**READINGTON TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE  
MEETING – February 17, 2015**

Mayor Fort *calls the meeting to order at 6:00 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 B. Fort, Deputy Mayor T. Auriemma, Mr. J. Broten, Mrs. M. Duffy  
Mr. S. Tropello

**ALSO PRESENT:** Deputy Township Clerk Karin Parker, Attorney S. Dragan, Engineer R. O'Brien

**ABSENT:** Administrator V. Mekovetz

**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**

<b><u>Subject Matter</u></b>	<b><u>Basis Of Public Exclusion</u></b>	<b><u>Date Anticipated When Disclosed to Public</u></b>
Museum.....	Personnel.....	Certain information at the discretion of the Township Committee tonight...other information will remain confidential
Municipal Court.....	Personnel.....	“ “ “
Three Bridges Library.....	Personnel.....	“ “ “
Police Department.....	Personnel.....	“ “ “
Department of Public Works..... Summer Help	Personnel.....	“ “ “
Public Works Employees..... Teamsters Local No. 469	Contract Negotiations.....	“ “ “
Building and Grounds..... Teamsters Local No. 469	Contract Negotiations.....	“ “ “
PBA .....	Contract Negotiations.....	“ “ “

Lorenzen..... Contract Negotiations..... (Block 44, Lot 4.02 / 49 Dreahook Road)	“	“	“
Executive Session Minutes..... Attorney-Client Privilege..... • January 20, 2015	“	“	“
Ryland Developers, LLC..... Litigation.....	“	“	“
Iferika-Osawe, et al..... Potential Litigation..... (202 Dove Cote Court)	“	“	“
Transcontinental Gas Pipeline v..... Litigation..... Twp. of Readington, Garfield, Zweerink, et al.	“	“	“
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 Mr. Auriemma to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mrs. Duffy with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

The meeting reconvened at 8:05 p.m.

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

Corporal Christopher Heycock and Sergeant Carlos Ferreiro were present to introduce the two police dogs, Ronin and Polis. They demonstrated to the Committee and the public the training which enables the dogs to search for drugs and missing people along with assisting the police in various other duties.

***Executive Session:***

***Personnel / Museum***

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Broten to confirm the hiring of Barbara Krassner as part-time Museum intern at a salary rate of \$13 per hour for fifteen (15) hours per week not to exceed August 1, 2015, seconded by Mr. Auriemma and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

- Mr. Auriemma - Aye
- Mr. Broten - Aye
- Mrs. Duffy -Aye
- Mr. Tropello - Aye
- Mayor Fort - Aye

***Personnel / Municipal Court***

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Duffy to hire Elizabeth Giuliano as part-time Violations Clerk at a salary rate of \$15 per hour for twenty six (26) hours per week, seconded by Mr. Auriemma and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

- Mr. Auriemma - Aye
- Mr. Broten - Aye
- Mrs. Duffy -Aye
- Mr. Tropello - Aye
- Mayor Fort - Aye

***Personnel / Three Bridges Library***

A ***MOTION*** was made by Mr. Auriemma to hire Jane Downer as part-time Librarian Assistant replacing Lorraine Post, at a salary rate of \$15 per hour, seconded by Mr. Broten and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Auriemma - Aye  
Mr. Broten - Aye  
Mrs. Duffy -Aye  
Mr. Tropello - Aye  
Mayor Fort - Aye

***Personnel / Police Department***

A ***MOTION*** was made by Mr. Auriemma to approve Patrolman Terry Wolverton as a permanent Patrolman in addition to progress him to the next grade level as per Article XV, seconded by Mr. Broten and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Auriemma - Aye  
Mr. Broten - Aye  
Mrs. Duffy -Aye  
Mr. Tropello - Aye  
Mayor Fort - Aye

A ***MOTION*** was made by Mr. Broten to approve Patrolman Jack Mazellan as a permanent Patrolman in addition to progress him to the next grade level as per Article XV, seconded by Mr. Auriemma and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Auriemma - Aye  
Mr. Broten - Aye  
Mrs. Duffy -Aye  
Mr. Tropello - Aye  
Mayor Fort - Aye

*Mayor Fort stated the following matter was added to the Executive Session:*

***Personnel / Construction Code Office***

A ***MOTION*** was made by Mr. Auriemma to re-appoint Michael Wright as acting plumbing subcode official, effective February 20<sup>th</sup>, for an additional thirty (30) days or until the position is filled at his current salary rate, seconded by Mr. Broten and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Auriemma - Aye  
Mr. Broten - Aye  
Mrs. Duffy -Aye  
Mr. Tropello - Aye  
Mayor Fort - Aye

***Personnel / Department of Public Works / Summer Help***

A ***MOTION*** was made by Mrs. Duffy to hire Thomas Sekella as temporary summer help at a salary rate of \$11 per hour, seconded by Mr. Broten and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Auriemma - Aye  
Mr. Broten - Aye  
Mrs. Duffy -Aye  
Mr. Tropello - Aye  
Mayor Fort - Aye

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Auriemma to hire Michael D’Aniello as temporary summer help at a salary rate of \$10 per hour, seconded by Mrs. Duffy and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Auriemma - Aye  
Mr. Broten - Aye  
Mrs. Duffy - Aye  
Mr. Tropello - Aye  
Mayor Fort - Aye

***Contract Negotiations / Public Works Employees / Teamsters Local No. 469***

Mayor Fort stated that this matter remains in Executive Session.

***Contract Negotiations / Building & Grounds / Teamsters Local No. 469***

Mayor Fort stated that this matter remains in Executive Session.

***Contract Negotiations / PBA / Local No. 317***

Mayor Fort stated that this matter remains in Executive Session.

***Contract Negotiations / Lorenzen (Block 44, Lot 4.02 / 49 Dreahook Road)***

Mayor Fort stated that this matter remains in Executive Session.

***Attorney-Client Privilege / Executive Session Minutes / January 20, 2015***

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Auriemma to approve the Executive Session Minutes of January 20, 2015 for content only, seconded by Mr. Tropello with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

***Potential Litigation / Iferika-Osawe, et al. (202 Dove Cote Court)***

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Duffy to authorize Attorney Dragan to file an answer with the State Superior Court, seconded by Mr. Broten with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

***Litigation / Ryland Developers, LLC.***

Mayor Fort stated that this matter remains in Executive Session.

***Litigation / Transcontinental Gas Pipeline v. Twp. of Readington, Garfield, Zweerink, et al.***

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Broten to authorize Attorney Dragan to represent the Township in these proceedings, 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 Fort stated that this matter remains in Executive Session.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

Mayor Fort 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.

Mr. Broten requested to remove the approval of the minutes of the January 20, 2015 meeting from the Consent Agenda.

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** of meeting of January 20, 2015

Mr. Broten requested an amendment to the minutes for approval at the next meeting.

- \* 2. *Award of Bond Anticipation Notes*

*Total Principal \$ 34,175,000*  
*Closing Date January 28, 2015*

*Term : 1/28/15 – 8/5/2015*  
*Awarded to JP Morgan Securities @ 1.00%*  
*Premium on Notes \$ 151,053.50*

*Net Interest Rate = 1.491%*

*Purpose of Sale: Partial Rollover of Existing Notes and Fund New Ordinances*

- \* 3. *Resolution Authorizing State Contract Purchase* (2015 Single Axle Dump Truck)

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

**#R-2015-33**

**TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON**  
**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING COUNTY COOPERATIVE PURCHASES**

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Readington wishes to purchase a single axle municipal dump truck, 2015 model year or newer, from an authorized vendor through a Hunterdon County Cooperative Bid; and

**WHEREAS**, the purchase of goods and services by local contracting units is authorized by the Local Public Contracts Law, *N.J.S.A. 40A:11-12*; and

**WHEREAS**, Brown Truck Group, 963 Route 173, PO Box 98, Bloomsbury, NJ, 08804 has been awarded a County Cooperative Contract to furnish and deliver a 2015 or newer, Mack Granite MHD GU432 with Municipal Dump and associated equipment for a period of one year; and

**WHEREAS**, the actual cost for the purchase of a single axle dump truck, 2015 model, is expected not to exceed \$172,000.; and

**WHEREAS**, the purchasing agent recommends the utilization of this contract on the grounds that it represents the best price available; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chief Finance Officer has certified the availability of funds for this contract.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, that Brown Truck Group be awarded a contract for a Mack Granite MHD GU432 truck, 2015 model year or newer, with municipal dump and associated equipment; and

**Resolution #R-2015-33 cont'd:**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, The Mayor and Township Clerk are hereby authorized to sign the contract documents necessary to effectuate the award of this contract. The Township Attorney shall review any and all contractual documents prepared in furtherance of this award; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

- \* 4. **Municipal Alliance Renewal Application / Grant Year: July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016**

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

**#R-2015-34**

**TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON  
RESOLUTION**

**Fiscal Grant Cycle July 2014-June 2019**

**WHEREAS**, the Governor’s Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse established the Municipal Alliances for the Prevention of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse in 1989 to educate and engage residents, local government and law enforcement officials, schools, nonprofit organizations, the faith community, parents, youth and other allies in efforts to prevent alcoholism and drug abuse in communities throughout New Jersey.

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey recognizes that the abuse of alcohol and drugs is a serious problem in our society amongst persons of all ages; and therefore has an established Municipal Alliance Committee; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Readington, further recognizes that it is incumbent upon not only public officials but upon the entire community to take action to prevent such abuses in our community; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Readington has applied for funding to the Governor’s Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse through the County of Hunterdon;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey hereby recognizes the following:

1. The Township of Readington Council does hereby authorize the submission of a strategic plan for the Central Hunterdon Municipal Alliance grant for fiscal year 2016 in the amount of :

<i>DEDR</i>	<i>31,844</i>
<i>Cash Match</i>	<i>7,961</i>
<i>In-Kind</i>	<i>23,883</i>

2. The Township of Readington Council acknowledges the terms and conditions for administering the Municipal Alliance grant, including the administrative compliance and audit requirements.

- \* 5. **Resolution in Recognition of Douglas Woolever Attaining Eagle Scout**

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

**#R-2015-35**

**TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON  
RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, Douglas Woolever a valued member of his Boy Scout Troop, 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 Douglas Woolever's Eagle Project was to update the Historic Rural Hill Cemetery in the Whitehouse Mechanicsville Historic District; and

**WHEREAS**, this information will be helpful to all Readington residents as well as to families whose loved ones are buried there; and

**WHEREAS**, Readington Township is thankful for the availability of this current information and for the hard work involved in assembling it; and

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

**WHEREAS**, on February 9, 2015 Douglas Woolever 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 Douglas Woolever 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.

- \* 6. **Release of Escrow** – D & D Developers (6 Margriet Road / Block 21.12, Lot 46)
- \* 7. **Blue Light Permit** (Vannucci, Nicholas)
- \* 8. **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 95, Lot 12.068 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 \$ 887.67, plus a premium paid in the amount of \$1,300.00, known as Tax Sale Certificate #2014-024, to the lienholder, FWDSL & Associates, LP.

\* 9. **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	4-01	\$ 44,514.35
SEWER APPROPRIATIONS	4-02	\$ 53,560.75
CURRENT FUND	5-01	\$ 963,009.15
SEWER APPROPRIATIONS	5-02	\$ 101,555.60
TRUST FUNDS	X-03	\$ 25,928.88
MISC REFUND, COUNTY TAX, LIENS	X-05	\$2,947,496.08
PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS	X-06	\$ 402,884.62
REG. & LOCAL SCHOOL TAX	X-07	\$2,362,156.00
CAPITAL	X-11	\$ 2,500.00
CAPITAL	X-14	\$ 600.00
CAPITAL	X-66	\$ <u>1,200.00</u>
<b>TOTAL OF ALL FUNDS</b>		<b>\$6,905,405.43</b>

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

- Mr. Auriemma - Aye
- Mr. Broten - Aye
- Mrs. Duffy - Aye
- Mr. Tropello - Aye
- Mayor Fort - Aye

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC** for items listed on the agenda only

There were none.

**CORRESPONDENCE / OTHER INFORMATION**

1. Public Notice from Mark Harris, Division of Land Use Regulation regarding *New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Notice of Public hearing on Leidy Southeast Expansion Project*. No action taken.
2. Letter dated January 19, 2015 from Frank X. Simpson, Manager, Rates and Regulator, NJ American Water regarding *The Petition of NJ American Water Co, Inc. to Change the Levels of its Purchased Water Adjustment Clause and Purchased Wastewater (Sewerage) Treatment Adjustment Clause*. No action taken.
3. Letter dated January 22, 2015 from Maureen Murphy, Borough Clerk, Borough of Tinton Falls regarding *Resolution Supporting, Recognizing and Honoring the Service of Law Enforcement Officers*. No action taken.
4. Notice of Public Hearing from Brian MacLean, President, Pivotal Utility Holdings, Inc. d/b/a/Elizabethtown Gas regarding *Public Hearing on Increasing the Energy Efficiency Program Rider rate from \$0.0000 per therm to \$0.0098 per therm*. No action taken.
5. Notice of Public Hearing from Brian MacLean, President, Pivotal Utility Holdings, Inc. d/b/a/Elizabethtown Gas regarding *Public Hearing to Revise the Remediation Adjustment Clause component of its Societal Benefits Charge Rate*. No action taken.
6. Resolution from the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the Country of Hunterdon regarding *the Urging the Renewal of the Transportation Trust Fund Include at Least \$400 million for Local Aid to Counties and Municipalities*. No action taken.

7. Public Notice dated January 20, 2015 from Michael Fahy, Esq., Attorney for Applicant, regarding ***Clinton Agricultural Associates, LLC application to Clinton Township Planning Board to seek corrections, amendments and modifications to the Resolution granting approvals and other variances and such waivers and exceptions as may be deemed necessary in the opinion of the Planning Board.*** No action taken.
8. Readington Township Board of Adjustment Public Notice dated January 12, 2015 from Ernest Renda, Esq. regarding ***Applicant Vincent Della Pello applying to the Board of Adjustment, Twp. of Readington, County of Hunterdon for the following relief regarding Block 14, Lot 4.06.*** No action taken.

#### ***NEW BUSINESS***

1. ***Request for Replacement of Whitehouse Rescue Squad Equipment*** – letter dated January 12, 2015 from Jeff Herzog, Chief, Whitehouse Rescue Squad

Jeff Herzog, Chief of Whitehouse Rescue Squad, George Liothake, Assistant Chief of Rescue Services and Tim Apgar, Chief of Whitehouse Fire Company appeared before the Committee to present their proposal to replace the Rescue Squad's 22 year old heavy rescue unit. Mr. Herzog gave a brief history of the role of the Whitehouse Rescue Squad and the function of the current rescue unit. Mr. Herzog pointed out the uniqueness of the vehicle and stressed the need to replace the rescue unit with a medium sized, more efficient model at a cost of approximately \$625,000. Mr. Apgar stated that he was in support of this much needed vehicle since the Whitehouse Fire Company also benefits from this rescue unit.

The Committee discussed the low mileage on the current unit and also the necessity of replacing the transmission three times in 38,000 miles. Mr. Tropello stated that the unit has served the community well over the years and opined that this is one of the key purchases that the Township needs to address. Mayor Fort expressed concern on the level of expense of the truck and also the other requests listed in the rotation of replacement equipment for all emergency services. Mr. Broten opined that one of the key responsibilities for Township government is public safety stressing that this purchase should be one of the priorities. A discussion ensued regarding the shared services among the surrounding Townships and the feasibility of sharing the various equipment and trucks.

Mr. Auriemma agreed that it is important to maintain the level of public safety that the Township is accustomed to; however going forward, he would like to see the Township hire a professional consultant to determine if equipment may be shared in the future among all the Township's emergency services or possibly a consolidation of some sort to ensure what is actually needed for the Township rather than follow a rotation schedule of replacing equipment. Mr. Broten stated that due to the lengthy lead time in purchasing this type of equipment it is imperative to move forward with consideration of this request.

Mayor Fort stated that several things must be determined prior to any approval, including options for financing and also the tax implication to the tax payers. The Committee concurred that they would request Administrator Mekovetz to look into the financing and also the cost of hiring an outside consulting firm to determine the needs of emergency services in the Township.

2. ***An Ordinance Amending the Penalty Provisions of Chapter 158, Entitled "Noise", of the Code of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey***

Mayor Fort stated that this ordinance would amend the civil penalty portion to model the State's noise ordinance.

The following ordinance was offered for introduction:

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE PENALTY PROVISIONS OF CHAPTER 158, ENTITLED  
“NOISE”, OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON, COUNTY OF  
HUNTERDON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

**#01-2015**

**BE IT ORDAINED**, by the Mayor and Township Committee of the Township of Readington in the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, that pursuant to a recent notification of changes made by NJDEP with respect to penalties imposed in connection with the State’s Model Noise Ordinance, Chapter 158 of the Code of the Township of Readington entitled “Noise” is hereby amended as follows (new language is underlined thus \_\_\_\_\_; deletions are marked thus [ ]):

**SECTION 1.** Chapter 158, “Noise”

**§158-7. Enforcement: civil penalty.**

B. Any person who violates any provision of this chapter or an order issued pursuant thereto shall be subject, upon order of a court, to a civil penalty for each offense of not more than [\$3,000 for each offense, and each day during which the violation continues shall constitute an additional, separate and distinct offense] the maximum penalty allowed pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:49-5, which is \$2,000 as of December 2014. If the violation is of a continuing nature, each day during which it occurs shall constitute an additional, separate and distinct offense.

C. Upon identification of a violation of this chapter or any order issued pursuant thereto, the noise control officer shall issue an enforcement document to the violator. The enforcement document may be sent to the violator by certified mail, return receipt requested. The enforcement document shall:

(3). Notify the violator that he or she may be liable to a civil penalty of no more than [\$3,000] the maximum penalty allowed pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:49-5, which is \$2,000 as of December 2014 for the violation that is the subject of the enforcement document.

**SECTION 2. Repealer.**

All ordinances and resolution or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this ordinance are repealed.

**SECTION 3. Severability.**

If the provision of any article, section, subsection, paragraph, subdivision or clause of this ordinance shall be judged invalid by any Court of competent jurisdiction, such Order or Judgment shall not affect or invalidate the remainder of any such article, section, subsection, paragraph, subdivision or clause and, to this end, the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared to be severable.

**SECTION 4. Effective Date.**

This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon final adoption and publication according to the law of the State of New Jersey. The Clerk is directed to file a copy of this amendment with the NJDEP Office Of Local Environmental Management.

**A MOTION** was made by Mrs. Duffy to introduce this ordinance, seconded by Mr. Auriemma and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Auriemma	- Aye
Mr. Broten	- Aye
Mrs. Duffy	-Aye
Mr. Tropello	- Aye
Mayor Fort	- Aye

The Public Hearing was scheduled for March 2, 2015 at 7:45 p.m.

3. ***Acceptance of Performance Bond / Triad Tool & Die Co. (Block 39, Lot 53.18 / 9 Commerce Street)***

Engineer O'Brien stated that Triad Tool & Die Co. posted the bond in order to receive their certificate of occupancy since the paving and landscaping has yet to be completed due to weather conditions.

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. Auriemma to accept the Performance Bond from Triad Tool & Die Co., seconded by Mr. Broten and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Auriemma	- Aye
Mr. Broten	- Aye
Mrs. Duffy	-Aye
Mr. Tropello	- Aye
Mayor Fort	- Aye

4. ***Maintenance Bond – Release of Retainage / American Tennis Courts, Inc. (Pickell Park – Tennis Courts)***

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. Auriemma to approve the release of the remaining retainage and accept the Maintenance Bond for American Tennis Courts, Inc., seconded by Mrs. Duffy and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Auriemma	- Aye
Mr. Broten	- Aye
Mrs. Duffy	-Aye
Mr. Tropello	- Aye
Mayor Fort	- Aye

5. ***Request to Hold Coin Toss Fundraiser / Whitehouse Fire Company #1***  
(June 5<sup>th</sup>, June 6<sup>th</sup> / Alternate Rain dates June 12<sup>th</sup>, June 13<sup>th</sup>)

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. Broten to approve the request to hold the Whitehouse Fire Company coin toss fundraiser June 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> with alternate rain dates of June 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>, seconded by Mr. Auriemma with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

\* 6. ***Award of Bond Anticipation Notes***

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

\* 7. ***Resolution Authorizing State Contract Purchase*** (2015 Single Axle Dump Truck)

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

\* 8. ***Municipal Alliance Renewal Application / Grant Year: July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016***

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

\* 9. ***Resolution in Recognition of Douglas Woolever Attaining Eagle Scout***

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

\* 10. ***Release of Escrow – D & D Developers*** (6 Margriet Road / Block 21.12, Lot 46)

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

\* 11. *Blue Light Permit ( Vannucci, Nicholas)*

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

**ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

Deputy Township Clerk Karin Parker stated she had nothing further to report.

**ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

Attorney Dragan stated she had nothing further to report.

**ENGINEER'S REPORT**

Engineer O'Brien reported that the proposed Road Reclamation project for 2015 is ready for the Committee's review.

Engineer O'Brien reported the work to clean out the culvert by Merck to alleviate the flooding went out to bid by the DOT.

Engineer O'Brien reported that he had met with Clinton and Tewksbury Township for a joint project on Potterstown Road. Engineer O'Brien continued that the DOT funding will not be released till May so they are beginning the process now.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Thomas Auriemma**

Mr. Auriemma reported that at the last Recreation Committee meeting Girl Scout Troop #80758 presented a proposal to earn their silver award which would entail fundraising to install a piece of playground equipment known as *Super Nova* at Pickell Park. Mr. Auriemma continued that the Girl Scouts are seeking the support of the Township Committee for funding. Attorney Dragan recommended checking with the insurance company with regard to liability. Mr. Auriemma suggested that Administrator Mekovetz do some additional research on this matter and bring it back at the next meeting.

**John Broten**

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

**M. Elizabeth Duffy**

Mrs. Duffy reported that in response to a citizen's comment at the last meeting, she has provided photos of the fencing installed by PSE&G near the high tension wire easements. Mrs. Duffy explained that the fencing photos show that there is access to the open space for pedestrians or horseback riders but prevents access to motorized vehicles, although it does not impede emergency services from attaining access.

**Betty Ann Fort**

Mayor Fort reported the Whitehouse Mechanicsville Historic District was approved to be placed on the State Historic District and has been forwarded to Washington, DC for consideration for placement on the National Register.

Mayor Fort reported that two alternates on the Historic Preservation Commission Derek Dandurand and John Woodward, Jr. requested to switch alternate appointments.

**A MOTION** was made by Mrs. Duffy to appoint Derek Dandurand as *1<sup>st</sup> Alternate* and John Woodward, Jr. as the *2<sup>nd</sup> Alternate* on the Historic Preservation Commission, seconded with Mr. Tropello with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

Mayor Fort also reported that the Bouman Stickey Museum held an Open Hearth Cooking demonstration last week.

**Samuel Tropello**

Mr. Tropello reported that he sat in on a court session and also met with Municipal Court Judge Shamey.

***COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC***

Linda Besecker, mother of a Girl Scout from Troop #80758, showed the Committee a picture of the *Super Nova*. Mrs. Besecker stated that the troop presented this project to the Recreation Committee and explained that the issue is not only the support for funding; the installation had to be paid for by the Township in order to be covered by the insurance.

Bob Schoenfeld, Oldwick Road, commented that he would like to see an address identified with a block and lot on the agendas/minutes and also asked if the tax map was on the website.

John Cunha, Militia Road, questioned why he was responsible for his portion of the Sewer Expansion contribution in his sewer agreement if the sewer expansion debt has been paid off and also in 2014 the Township transferred funds from the Sewer Expansion Trust Fund into Sewer Utility Operating Fund. Attorney Dragan stated that she was following the Township ordinance and suggested that a request be made to Tom Carro to do a complete audit of the Sewer Trust Fund. The Committee concurred with this suggestion.

***COMMENTS FROM THE GOVERNING BODY***

Mayor Fort commented on the Hunterdon Central School Board voting on the new \$2 million weight room.

Mr. Tropello stated that there is a Transco Public Hearing meeting on February 23, 2015 in Princeton.

As there was no further business, ***A MOTION*** was made by Mrs. Duffy at 10:15 p.m. to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Auriemma with vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

Respectfully Submitted:

Karin M. Parker, RMC  
Deputy Township Clerk