

**READINGTON TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE**  
**REORGANIZATION MEETING**  
**JANUARY 3, 2005**

Sharon A. Dragan, Esq., *called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.* announcing that all laws governing Open Public Meetings Act have been met and that this meeting has been duly advertised.

**PRESENT:** Mrs. J. Allen, Mr. T. Auriemma (arrived at 6:40), Mr. F. Gatti,  
Mrs. B. Muir and Mr. G. Shamey

**ALSO PRESENT:** Attorney Dragan, Administrator Mekovetz and Engineer McEldowney

Attorney Dragan led those present in the *Salute to the Flag*.

*Swearing in of Gerard Shamey* as a member of the Township Committee for a three (3) year term by Sharon A. Dragan, Esq.

Attorney Dragan swore in Gerard Shamey as a member of the Township Committee for a three (3) year term

**Sharon A. Dragan, Esq. opens Nominations for Mayor for the year 2005.**

Attorney Dragan asked for nominations for Mayor for the year 2005.

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. Shamey to nominate Frank Gatti for the position of Mayor for 2005. This motion was seconded by Mrs. Muir with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

**Sharon A. Dragan, Esq. administers Oath of Office to Mayor.**

Attorney Dragan administered the Mayor's Oath of Office to Mr. Gatti.

**2005 Mayor's Comments.**

Mayor Gatti made the following comments:

Good evening everyone, and welcome to Readington Township's Reorganization meeting. On behalf of the Committee I would like to wish everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year. I want to thank all of you for coming here tonight and I especially want to welcome my wife Terri, and my daughter Kristin. Without their support I would not be sitting here tonight.

I want to thank the Committee for appointing me as Mayor for the second time.

Under the leadership of Mayor Julia Allen, this past year, we as a committee, continued to accomplish our goals and fulfill our commitments to the voters.

This is especially true with regard to open space and farmland preservation.

With regard to farmland preservation the highlight of 2004 was the final approval of a new farmland preservation Planning Incentive Grant. This grant will preserve 12 farms, totaling 714 acres.

In 2005 we will continue our aggressive posture of preserving farmland and will continue to work our way through the Planning Incentive Growth Program.

In 2004 we were just as aggressive in pursuing Open Space. Early 2004 we purchased the YES Farm, which was formally known as the Lana Lobelle farm. This purchase resulted in our preserving over 229 acres along the Rockaway and Lamington Rivers.

Late in 2004 we signed a contract with the state Green Acres Program for them to purchase this property, and as a result Readington Township will be reimbursed for 100% of the cost of this land. The state will preserve this land as a wildlife management area.

In 2005 I would like to see us continue to implement our Greenways Conservation Plan. This plan is spelled out in our 1998 master plan, and its' goal is to preserve greenways along our streams and rivers and to preserve mature woodlands within the Cushetunk and Round Mountain areas, greenbelt our historic villages and to protect critical wildlife habitat. To accomplish this we will continue to seek funding through the Green acres Program.

In 2004 we saw a major effort by our Planning Board to work its way through the states cross acceptance process. Members of our Planning Board worked with representatives of 7 sister towns along the Route 22 and 78 corridors to recommend major changes to the State's Plan Map. Through proper planning we are committed to protect our quality of life and preserve our rural character.

In 2005 we look forward to continuing to work through the cross acceptance process and also work along side of the Hunterdon County Planning Board to complete this planning process with the state.

In 2005 we will work with the Council on Affordable Housing to develop our affordable housing plan for Round 3 certification.

Good planning and our aggressive posture of land preservation have made Readington a very desirable place to live, which has translated into higher home values and equity for our residents. I am committed to taking advantage of the financial benefits of both the Open Space and Farmland Preservation programs which will lead to a stabilized property tax for our residents.

In 2005 Readington is looking forward to successfully defending its' Agricultural Residential zoning, which was implemented in 1998 and changed 50% of the township from RR, Rural Residential to AR, Agricultural Residential.

In 2004 we completed the planning for 2 major road improvements including School Road and Mountain Road. In 2005 we look forward to completing these projects, and we will continue to identify roads that need reconstruction and we will work with various agencies to get grants to accomplish this goal.

In 2004 we bonded to purchase a new ambulance for our Rescue Squad. In addition we increased the pension contribution for our emergency services volunteers, and also built in a cost of living increase into this funding.

In 2005 we will continue to support our Police, Fire and Rescue Services and we are very proud of the first rate work they do. In addition we will work with our Rescue Squad to help them achieve their goal of a new building that makes sense for the needs of the Squad and the Township. To this end a sub-committee from our Board of Adjustments will be working with key members of the Rescue Squad to accomplish this goal.

In 2004 the Readington Recreation Committee worked with Lee Seitz Superintendent of Hunterdon Central to make arrangements for Readington to get our fair share of Gym time in the High School for our recreation program.

In 2005 we look forward to continuing this program and will continue our good working relationship with our schools, recreation department and Readington Junior Baseball. It is in the best interest of the Readington tax payer to get the best use out of all its' facilities.

In 2005 I am looking forward to forming a partnership with the State Department of Transportation and other agencies to preserve Solberg Airport and the open space that surrounds it.

In 2004 our Museum Committee was approved by the New Jersey Historic Trust to receive a \$42,660.00 grant for the exterior preservation and stabilization of the Eversole-Hall House. As part of this stabilization process in 2005 I would like to see our engineer work with the county to help solve the water problem that exists on this property. This problem appears to be the result of Route 523 rising in height through numerous resurfacing of the roadway through the years, thereby trapping the water on the property.

Since its formation our Museum Committee has done a wonderful job opening our museums to the public and hosting 2 barn dances a year to promote community spirit while also educating the public about our history. The monthly open house at the Bouman Stickney property has raised the level of awareness of our history to many members of the community.

Back in 2003 I wanted to see improvements on Main Street starting with upgrading the Bank Street parking lot. Money has been bonded for this project and I would like to see the improvements move ahead to provide off street parking for the Main Street merchants. Once this is accomplished we can move ahead with removing some of the parking on the street where bottlenecks occur, paint cross walks in the roadway and petition the DOT to allow us to erect pedestrian pylons.

I look forward to working with all of you this year and serving the people of Readington Township as Mayor. Thank You

Mayor Gatti began to read appointments, as listed below.

**TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON  
 RESOLUTION  
 R-2005-01**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the following appointments are made for the year 2005:

2005  
 APPOINTMENTS

<u>POSITION</u>	<u>APPOINTMENT</u>	<u>TERM/YEARS</u>
DEPUTY MAYOR.....	GERARD SHAMEY .....	ONE YEAR
MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATOR.....	VITA MEKOVETZ.....	FOUR YEARS
TOWNSHIP ATTORNEY .....	SHARON A. DRAGAN.....	ONE YEAR
TOWNSHIP ENGINEER.....	H. CLAY McELDOWNEY.....	ONE YEAR
MUNICIPAL JUDGE .....	EDWARD MARTIN .....	THREE YEARS
(retroactive to Jan. 1, 2003 - due for reappointment Jan. 1, 2006)		
TAX COLLECTOR .....	BONNIE HOLBOROW .....	FOUR YEARS
TOWNSHIP PROSECUTOR.....	ROBERT BALLARD.....	ONE YEAR
DEPUTY TWP. CLERK.....	PATTI JO McCONNELL.....	ONE YEAR
ASSESSMENT SEARCH OFFICER.....	VITA MEKOVETZ.....	ONE YEAR
BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT:.....	DIANA HENDRY .....	FOUR YEARS
	MEREDITH GOODWIN .....	FOUR YEARS
	JAMES STAATS 1ST ALTERNATE.....	TWO YEARS
	PAT FELICETTA 2ND ALTERNATE.....	ONE YEAR
BOARD OF HEALTH:.....	WILLIAM NUGENT .....	THREE YEARS
	STEPHANIE MOORE .....	THREE YEARS
	BEATRICE MUIR .....	ONE YEAR
DOG LICENSING OFFICIAL.....	LORRAINE PETZINGER.....	ONE YEAR
DOG WARDEN .....	ST. HUBERT'S GIRALDA .....	ONE YEAR
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION .....	PETER HOLLIS .....	THREE YEARS
	GEORGE SHEPHERD, JR. ....	THREE YEARS
	LAURIE WYSONG .....	THREE YEARS
	CHRISTINA ALBRECHT Alternate .....	TWO YEARS
FIRE WARDEN.....	CHIEF OF EACH FIRE COMPANY.....	ONE YEAR
FLOOD VERIFICATION OFFICIAL.....	ROBERTA HOUSEL .....	ONE YEAR
HUNT. CTY. AG. DEVEL. BOARD LIAISON.....	KEN JAGEL.....	ONE YEAR
	JULIA ALLEN .....	ONE YEAR
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMM.....	DONNA GROHOSKI .....	FOUR YEARS
	MICHAEL PORUBCAN.....	FOUR YEARS
	ROBERT CLAPP.....	TWO YEARS
LIBRARY COMMITTEE.....	RONALD MONACO .....	ONE YEAR
	DEBRA BULICK .....	ONE YEAR
	PEGGY WILCOX .....	ONE YEAR
	LINDA ZAINO.....	ONE YEAR
POLICE MATRON.....	JENNIFER PAULSON.....	ONE YEAR
	DAWN KOUSOULIS .....	ONE YEAR
MUNICIPAL COORDINATOR (office on aging) .....	LORRAINE KRIZENAWSKI .....	ONE YEAR
PAIC FUND COMMISSIONER.....	VITA MEKOVETZ.....	ONE YEAR
PERS/PFRS CERTIFYING OFFICER.....	VITA MEKOVETZ.....	ONE YEAR
PLANNING BOARD.....	JULIA ALLEN (CLASS III) .....	ONE YEAR
	FRANK GATTI (CLASS I).....	ONE YEAR
	RONALD MONACO (CLASS II) .....	ONE YEAR
	JERRY COOK (CLASS IV).....	FOUR YEARS
	ELIZABETH DUFFY (CLASS IV) .....	FOUR YEARS

TOWNSHIP PHYSICIAN.....	CENTER FOR FAMILY HEALTH.....	ONE YEAR
ALTERNATE TWP. PHYSICIAN.....	THE DOCTOR IS IN .....	ONE YEAR
POLICE OFFICER (SPECIAL):.....	HANS SALOPEK (Class I).....	ONE YEAR
	JOHN SHULAK (Class II).....	ONE YEAR
PROPERTY CERTIFICATION OFFICIAL.....	JOHN BARCZYK .....	ONE YEAR
SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE		
LOCAL ASSISTANCE BOARD.....	DOLORES FISCHER.....	FOUR YEARS
	BEATRICE MUIR .....	ONE YEAR
SOCIAL SERVICE CASE WORKER.....	BONNIE LIDDANE.....	ONE YEAR
SOCIAL SERVICE DIRECTOR.....	DIANE CLAPP.....	ONE YEAR
RECREATION COMMITTEE:.....	BILL QUINN.....	ONE YEAR
	RON ARMELLINO .....	ONE YEAR
	SHARON BOBNER-BECKER.....	ONE YEAR
	ED DUDZINSKI .....	ONE YEAR
	RON SANTALLUCIA .....	ONE YEAR
MUNICIPAL RECYCLING COORDINATOR.....	SCOTT JESSEMAN.....	ONE YEAR
SCHOOL CROSSING GUARDS.....	JILL KREIDER .....	ONE YEAR
	MARIAN ESPOSITO .....	ONE YEAR
	KATHERINE HALENAR .....	ONE YEAR
	MARGARET FARRELL.....	ONE YEAR
	.LORRAINE HERZOG .....	ONE YEAR
SEWER ADVISORY COMMITTEE... ..	JULIA ALLEN .....	ONE YEAR
	RONALD MONACO .....	ONE YEAR
	ED MOLLER.....	ONE YEAR
	BILL MEGLAUGHLIN .....	ONE YEAR
	KATHY TILTON .....	ONE YEAR
SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL.. ..	KEN STAATS .....	ONE YEAR
SOLID WASTE ADV. COUNCIL ALTERNATE....	ROBERT SOHL .....	ONE YEAR
STREET NAMING COMMITTEE.....	CAROL MAGNATTA .....	ONE YEAR
	STEPHANIE STEVENS .....	ONE YEAR
	VIOLET WACHENDORF .....	ONE YEAR
TAX SEARCH OFFICER.....	BONNIE HOLBOROW .....	ONE YEAR
ASSISTANT TAX SEARCH OFFICER .....	DIANE WILTON .....	ONE YEAR
AGRICULTURAL LAND ADVISORY COMM. ....	JULIA ALLEN .....	ONE YEAR
	RONALD MONACO .....	ONE YEAR
	KEN JAGEL.....	ONE YEAR
	STEPHANIE MOORE .....	ONE YEAR
MUSEUM COMMITTEE .....	RICHARD GROHOSKI.....	THREE YEARS
	AL REBOVITCH .....	THREE YEARS
	JIM HORVATH .....	TWO YEARS
OPEN SPACE ADVISORY BOARD .....	MICHAEL OROZCO.....	THREE YEARS
	BEN SMITH.....	THREE YEARS

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:**

DEPUTY COORDINATOR... ..	LT. SEBASTIAN DONORUMA .....	ONE YEAR
DEPUTY COORDINATOR... ..	PATRICK PAUL.....	ONE YEAR
MAYOR.....	FRANK GATTI.....	ONE YEAR
TWP. ADMINISTRATOR .....	VITA MEKOVETZ.....	ONE YEAR
CONSTRUCTION OFFICIAL .....	MICHAEL KOVONUK.....	ONE YEAR
S. TITLE III FACILITY .....	MIKE LORENZ .....	ONE YEAR
BOARD OF HEALTH MEMBER.....	JANE BUTULA .....	ONE YEAR
TOWNSHIP SOCIAL SERVICES .....	DIANE CLAPP .....	ONE YEAR
TOWNSHIP PLANNING BOARD .....	JULIA ALLEN .....	ONE YEAR

LIEUTENANT OF POLICE.....	SEBASTIAN DONARUMA.....	ONE YEAR
FIRE CHIEF.....	CHIEF OF CHIEFS.....	ONE YEAR
WHITEHOUSE STATION FIRST AID.....	JEFF HERZOG.....	ONE YEAR
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS.....	SCOTT JESSEMAN.....	ONE YEAR
TOWNSHIP ATTORNEY.....	SHARON DRAGAN.....	ONE YEAR
MEDIA GROUP.....	SUSAN DAMATO TOMSKY.....	ONE YEAR
ENGINEER.....	H. CLAY McELDOWNEY.....	ONE YEAR
READINGTON TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS.....	MARK TURSK.....	ONE YEAR
BUILDINGS & GROUNDS.....	KEVIN FISCHER.....	ONE YEAR

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

Mrs. Allen	-	Aye
Mrs. Muir	-	Aye
Mr. Shamey	-	Aye
Mayor Gatti	-	Aye

2. **2005 Committee Appointments Resolution by the Mayor.**

Mayor Gatti offered the following Resolution for consideration:

**TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON  
RESOLUTION  
R-2005-02**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Mayor of Readington Township, that the following Committee assignments be made for the year 2005:

**Frank Gatti:**

Finance Department  
Police Department  
Historic Preservation/Museums

**Gerry Shamey:**

Liaison to Fire Companies and Rescue Squad  
Engineering, Roads, Maintenance & Recycling  
School Crossing Guards

**Julia Allen:**

Planning Board  
County Ag. Develop. Board Liaison  
Farmland\Open Space Preservation\Land Projects Liaison  
Sewer Advisory Committee

**Thomas Auriemma:**

Recreation Department  
Library Services  
Code Enforcement Department\Construction Code Department

**Beatrice Muir:**

Board of Health  
Public Assistance  
Municipal Court  
Animal Control

**Entire Township Committee**

Township Clerk  
Board of Adjustment  
Non-Profit Housing

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

Mrs. Allen - Aye  
Mrs. Muir - Aye  
Mr. Shamey - Aye  
Mayor Gatti - Aye

3. ***Resolution designating depository banks for Readington Township for 2005.***

Mayor Gatti offered the following Resolution for consideration:

***TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON  
RESOLUTION DESIGNATING DEPOSITORY BANKS FOR 2005  
R-2005-03***

***BE IT RESOLVED***, that the Readington Township Committee does designate the following banks as their Depositories for the monies of Readington Township for the year 2005:

Wachovia  
Bank of America  
PNC Bank  
Somerset Savings Bank  
Sovereign Bank  
Peapack Gladstone Bank  
State of New Jersey Cash Management Fund  
Unity Bank  
Commerce Bank  
Advantage Bank  
Yardville National Bank  
Investors Savings Bank

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

Mrs. Allen - Aye  
Mrs. Muir - Aye  
Mr. Shamey - Aye  
Mayor Gatti - Aye

4. ***Resolution authorizing check signing of Current/Municipal account checks for Readington Township for 2005.***

Mayor Gatti offered the following Resolution for consideration:

***TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON  
CHECK SIGNATURE RESOLUTION  
R-2005-03***

***BE IT RESOLVED***, that the following officials be authorized to sign our Current/ Municipal Account checks for the Township of Readington for the year 2005:

Treasurer  
Mayor  
Clerk  
Deputy Mayor  
Chief Financial Officer  
Administrator  
Deputy Clerk

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

Mrs. Allen - Aye  
Mrs. Muir - Aye  
Mr. Shamey - Aye  
Mayor Gatti - Aye

5. **Temporary Budget & Sewer Utility Temporary Budget Resolution**

Mayor Gatti offered the following Resolution for consideration:

**TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON  
 TEMPORARY BUDGET 2005  
 R-2005-05**

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>SALARIES &amp; WAGES</b>	<b>OTHER EXPENSES</b>
<b>CURRENT FUND:</b>		
Administrative & Executive	\$ 76,250.00	\$ 43,000.00
Mayor & Committee	7,900.00	
Elections		2,275.00
Financial Administration	46,825.00	8,550.00
Audit Services		5,000.00
Assessment of Taxes	23,875.00	8,000.00
Revision of Tax Map		5,000.00
Collection of Taxes	24,775.00	6,863.00
Legal Services		150,000.00
Prosecutor		3,875.00
Engineering	35,000.00	5,775.00
Buildings and Grounds	57,575.00	25,900.00
Unemployment Tax		625.00
Planning Board	7,275.00	2,325.00
Board of Adjustment	7,275.00	900.00
Environmental Commission	1,064.00	2,000.00
Consultants		50,000.00
Group Insurance		258,750.00
Surety Bonds		1,250.00
Other Insurance		96,250.00
Waste Collection/Recycling	3,750.00	137,500.00
Fire Companies/Rescue Squad		67,450.00
Supplemental Fire Service		2,500.00
Police	487,600.00	58,475.00
School Crossing Guards	12,050.00	
Streets and Roads	279,700.00	75,950.00
Snow Removal		22,625.00
Street Lighting		13,750.00
Board of Health	5,325.00	12,062.00
Emergency Management	1,703.00	2,150.00
Animal Control	3,120.00	1,500.00
Public Assistance	20,975.00	1,456.00
Recreation	31,150.00	11,250.00
Celebration of Public Events		2,625.00
Free County Library	22,950.00	3,570.00
Museum Committee	8,750.00	6,875.00
Historic Preservation Commission		750.00
Construction Code Official	106,475.00	23,875.00
Fire Hydrant Service		18,000.00
Electricity		37,500.00
Telephone		22,750.00
Fuel Oil		5,500.00
Gasoline		22,500.00
Contingent		875.00
Social Security		95,625.00
Pension Plans		3,511.00
Municipal Court	29,325.00	2,875.00
Uniform Fire Safety	15,000.00	1,545.00
Public Defender		7,000.00
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 1,315,687.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,338,382.00</b>

**SEWER UTILITY**

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>SALARIES &amp; WAGES</b>	<b>OTHER EXPENSES</b>
Salaries and Wages	\$ 1,250.00	
Other Expenses		\$ 8,775.00
Service Fees		329,500.00
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 1,250.00</b>	<b>\$ 338,275.00</b>

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

Mrs. Allen - Aye  
Mrs. Muir - Aye  
Mr. Shamey - Aye  
Mayor Gatti - Aye

6. *Resolution to set delinquent tax interest rate for 2005.*

Mayor Gatti offered the following Resolution for consideration:

***TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON  
RESOLUTION FIXING INTEREST RATES ON DELINQUENT TAXES  
FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2005  
R-2005-06***

***BE IT RESOLVED***, that pursuant to R.S. 54:4-67, the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon and State of New Jersey hereby fixes the rate of interest to be charged on delinquent taxes for calendar year 2005 at the rate of eight percent (8%) per annum on the first \$1,500.00 of delinquency and eighteen percent (18%) per annum on any amount in excess of \$1,500.00 of delinquency.

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED***, that notwithstanding the above provision, no interest shall be charged if payment of any installment is made within ten (10) days after the date upon which the same became payable according to the laws in such cases made and provided. If such payment is not made within the ten (10) day grace period, the above rate of interest shall run and accrue from the original due date of such taxes.

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED***, that the same interest calculations for delinquent tax collections be applied to sewer utility accounts with the exception that the grace period be thirty (30) days.

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED***, that any taxpayer with a delinquency in excess of \$10,000.00 who fails to pay that delinquency prior to the end of the calendar year shall be so charged an additional rate of interest of six percent (6%) against the delinquency.

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

Mrs. Allen - Aye  
Mrs. Muir - Aye  
Mr. Shamey - Aye  
Mayor Gatti - Aye

7. *Resolution designating official newspapers for 2005.*

Mayor Gatti offered the following Resolution for consideration:

***TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON  
RESOLUTION  
R-2005-07***

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Readington Township Committee does hereby designate the following newspapers as its official newspapers for the year 2005:

*Hunterdon County Democrat*  
*Hunterdon Review*  
*Courier News*  
*Star Ledger*  
*Express Times*  
*The Hunterdon County News*

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

Mrs. Allen - Aye  
Mrs. Muir - Aye  
Mr. Shamey - Aye  
Mayor Gatti - Aye

8. ***Professional Services Resolution.***

Mayor Gatti offered the following Resolution for consideration:

**TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON  
RESOLUTION  
R-2005-08**

**WHEREAS**, there exists a need in the Township of Readington for Professional Services; and

**WHEREAS**, the Local Public Contract Law (*N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.*) requires that the Resolution hiring a professional for professional services without competitive bids must be publicly advertised.

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

1. That the following contracts have been awarded without competitive bidding as a "Professional Service" in accordance with *N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1) (a)* of the Local Public Contract Law because the services rendered or to be performed are by persons authorized by law to practice their profession:
  - Sharon A. Dragan as Township Attorney
  - Martin Allen, Esq. of Bivona, Cohen, Kunzman, Coley, Yospin, Bernstein & DiFrancesco as Tax Attorney
2. Said contracts shall expire on December 31, 2005.
3. Copies of these Professional Service Contracts are on file with the Municipal Clerk and are available there for public inspection.
4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

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

Mrs. Allen - Aye  
Mrs. Muir - Aye  
Mr. Shamey - Aye  
Mayor Gatti - Aye

9. ***Resolution setting 2005 meeting dates for Township Committee.***

Mayor Gatti offered the following Resolution for consideration:

**TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON  
RESOLUTION  
R-2005-9**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Readington Township Committee hold its regular meetings on the First and Third Monday of each month starting at 6:30 p.m., at which time an Executive Session will be held, at the Municipal Building, unless said day should fall on a legal holiday, in which case the meeting will be held on the following day.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the following meeting dates be confirmed for publication:

January 3, 2005	July 5, 2005
January 18, 2005	July 18, 2005
February 7, 2005	August 1, 2005
February 22, 2005	September 6, 2005
March 7, 2005	September 19, 2005
March 21, 2005	October 3, 2005
April 4, 2005	October 17, 2005
April 18, 2005	November 7, 2005
May 2, 2005	November 21, 2005
May 16, 2005	December 5, 2005
June 6, 2005	December 19, 2005
June 20, 2005	December 27, 2005

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

Mrs. Allen	-	Aye
Mrs. Muir	-	Aye
Mr. Shamey	-	Aye
Mayor Gatti	-	Aye

10. **Resolution for Investment of Idle Funds and Fund Transfers**

Mayor Gatti offered the following Resolution for consideration:

**TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON  
RESOLUTION  
INVESTMENT OF IDLE FUNDS AND FUND TRANSFERS  
R-2005-10**

**WHEREAS**, it is desirable that idle funds of the Township of Readington be invested in legal investment vehicles at all times; and

**WHEREAS**, it is occasionally necessary to transfer funds for the purpose of meeting current Township expenses or for the purpose of effecting investments.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, that it does hereby authorize the Chief Financial Officer or the Township Clerk/Administrator to request bids and to place orders for the investment of idle funds solely in legally authorized investment vehicles, such investments to the investing institution; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the above named Township Officials are hereby authorized to transfer funds by wire solely for the following purposes and subject to all pertinent regulations:

- 1..... To or from Readington Township checking or savings accounts to other Township accounts.
- 2..... To or from Readington Township checking or savings accounts to or from accounts specified by banks or the State of New Jersey Cash Management Funds solely for the purpose of investing for the account of the Township of Readington.

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

Mrs. Allen	-	Aye
Mrs. Muir	-	Aye
Mr. Shamey	-	Aye
Mayor Gatti	-	Aye

11. ***Resolution - Added and Omitted Assessments***

**TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON  
RESOLUTION  
ADDED AND OMITTED ASSESSMENTS  
R-2005-11**

**WHEREAS**, the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, recognizes that *N.J.S.A. 54-5-63.12 et seq.*, popularly known as the "Originally Method", allows the Collector of Taxes upon written complaint to the County Tax Board to notify such Board of any property alleged to have been omitted and the particular year of the assessment to be assessed; and

**WHEREAS**, the Tax Assessor of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, has requested the Township Committee to authorize her to notify the County Tax Board upon written complaint of any property alleged to have been omitted and the particular year of the assessment to be assessed pursuant to and in compliance with *N.J.S.A. 54:5-63.12*; and

**WHEREAS**, the Tax Assessor of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, is called upon with the knowledge of omitted and rollback taxes prior to the Tax Collector.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, that the Tax Assessor of the Township of Readington be and is hereby authorized to notify upon written complaint to the Hunterdon County Board of Taxation of any property alleged to have been omitted and the particular year of the assessment to be assessed.

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

Mrs. Allen	-	Aye
Mrs. Muir	-	Aye
Mr. Shamey	-	Aye
Mayor Gatti	-	Aye

12. ***Resolution Authorizing Tax Assessor to File Correction of Tax Assessment for 2005.***

Mayor Gatti offered the following Resolution for consideration:

**RESOLUTION  
AUTHORIZATION FOR ASSESSOR TO FILE CORRECTION OF  
TAX ASSESSMENT FOR 2005  
R-2005-12**

**WHEREAS**, the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, Hunterdon County, New Jersey, has been informed by the Tax Assessor of the Township of Readington, that from time to time errors are made in computing the tax assessments covering certain property locations within the Township of Readington; and

**WHEREAS**, the Tax Assessor of the Township of Readington has requested the Township Committee to authorize her to file corrections of such errors with the Hunterdon County Board of Taxation; and

**WHEREAS**, the filing of these corrections by the Tax Assessor of the Township of Readington will relieve the Taxpayer for said property from filing an appeal with the Hunterdon County Board of Taxation.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, Hunterdon County, New Jersey, that the Tax Assessor of the Township of Readington is hereby authorized after having previously notified the governing body by an appropriate list of properties setting forth the manner and mode of adjustment to file corrective appeals for 2005 with the Hunterdon County Board of Taxation concerning those properties wherein errors were made; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that any negotiations to be done on behalf of the Municipality will be handled by the Tax Assessor, including Resolution of Appeals filed directly by property owners.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Tax Assessor send copies of such corrected assessments to the individuals involved.

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

Mrs. Allen	-	Aye
Mrs. Muir	-	Aye
Mr. Shamey	-	Aye
Mayor Gatti	-	Aye

13. **Authorization for Tax Attorney, to File Correction of Tax Assessment for 2005**

**AUTHORIZATION FOR MARTIN ALLEN, ESQ., READINGTON TOWNSHIP TAX ATTORNEY, TO FILE CORRECTION OF TAX ASSESSMENT FOR 2005  
R-2005-13**

**WHEREAS**, the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, Hunterdon County, New Jersey, has been informed by the Tax Assessor of the Township of Readington, that from time to time errors are made in computing the tax assessments covering certain property locations within the Township of Readington; and

**WHEREAS**, Martin Allen, Esq., Readington Township Tax Attorney (hereinafter "Tax Attorney") has requested the Township Committee to authorize him to file corrections of such errors with the Hunterdon County Board of Taxation; and

**WHEREAS**, the filing of these corrections by the Tax Attorney of the Township of Readington will relieve the Taxpayer for said property from filing an appeal with the Hunterdon County Board of Taxation.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, Hunterdon County, New Jersey, that the Tax Attorney of the Township of Readington is hereby authorized after having previously notified the governing body by an appropriate list of properties setting forth the manner and mode of adjustment to file corrective appeals for 2005 with the Hunterdon County Board of Taxation concerning those properties wherein errors were made; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that any negotiations to be done on behalf of the Municipality will be handled by the Tax Attorney, including Resolution of Appeals filed directly by property owners.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Tax Assessor send copies of such corrected assessments to the individuals involved.

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

Mrs. Allen	-	Aye
Mrs. Muir	-	Aye
Mr. Shamey	-	Aye
Mayor Gatti	-	Aye

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

1. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES** of meeting of December 20, 2004.

2. **Authorization for Tax Collector to Conduct Tax Lien Sale** - Resolution.

**TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON  
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TAX COLLECTOR  
TO CONDUCT A TAX LIEN SALE  
R-2005-14**

**WHEREAS**, there remains on the records of the Township of Readington delinquent taxes and sewer charges owing as of December 31, 2004; and

**WHEREAS**, the statutes of the State of New Jersey, expressly *N.J.S.A. 54:5 et seq.*, provide for the enforcement and collection of such delinquencies through a tax lien sale; and

**WHEREAS**, the Tax Collector is empowered by statute to conduct and preside over the sale of liens.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, that the Readington Township Tax Collector is authorized to conduct a tax lien sale for 2004 delinquent taxes and sewer charges on or before December 31, 2005

3. **Tax Refunds** - resolutions.

**READINGTON TOWNSHIP  
HUNTERDON COUNTY, STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, the Tax Collector has recommended the following 2003 & 2004 refunds:

<u>BLOCK/LOT</u>	<u>REFUND TO</u>	<u>REASON</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
<b>2003</b>			
34/36.281	Langrin, Roderick & Claudine	Duplicate Payment	\$1,491.77
95/12.035	Oppici, Ann Marie	Duplicate Payment	874.28
<b>2004</b>			
21.04/212.05	Klaiman, David & Anita	Duplicate Payment	1,797.48
25.02/5	Haney, Kevin & Susan	Duplicate Payment	1,274.83
28/34.02	O'Neill, Robert & Dawn	Duplicate Payment	2,997.44
34/36.157	Leahy, Margaret	Duplicate Payment	526.83
45/4.01	Rohrbach, John C.	Vet. Deduction	250.00
71/3	Occhipinti, Thomas	Vet. Deduction	250.00
71/5.01	Powers, Frances	Overpayment	1,108.74
75/19Q	Roadside Associates	Overbill	357.60
75/30.02Q	Pleasant Run, LLC	Overbill	271.05
95/12.143	Newberger, Irene	Vet. Deduction	250.00
95/12.371	ARC of Hunterdon	Overpayment	1,577.80

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Township Committee that the Township Treasurer be authorized to refund the amounts recommended.

**TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON  
RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, 2003 and 2004 taxes have been paid in full on Block 39, Lot 21.29; and

**WHEREAS**, it has been determined that the property owner is the widow of a permanently disabled vet and therefore is tax exempt; dated of determination, February 22, 1994.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Township Committee that the Collector be authorized to refund 2003 taxes in the amount of \$9,670.64 and 2004 taxes in the amount of \$10,213.88.

4. **Police Department Summary** - November, 2004.
5. **Municipal Court & Violations Bureau Report** for November, 2004.

6. **Authorization for Tax Collector to Conduct Tax Lien Sale** - Resolution.

**TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON  
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TAX COLLECTOR  
TO CONDUCT A TAX LIEN SALE  
R-2005-14**

**WHEREAS**, there remains on the records of the Township of Readington delinquent taxes and sewer charges owing as of December 31, 2004; and

**WHEREAS**, the statutes of the State of New Jersey, expressly *N.J.S.A. 54:5 et seq*, provide for the enforcement and collection of such delinquencies through a tax lien sale; and

**WHEREAS**, the Tax Collector is empowered by statute to conduct and preside over the sale of liens.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, that the Readington Township Tax Collector is authorized to conduct a tax lien sale for 2004 delinquent taxes and sewer charges on or before December 31, 2005.

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Shamey approve the items as listed on the consent agenda. This motion was seconded by Mrs. Allen and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mrs. Allen	-	Aye
Mrs. Muir	-	Aye
Mr. Shamey	-	Aye
Mayor Gatti	-	Aye

**CORRESPONDENCE/OTHER INFORMATION:**

1. Memorandum dated December 16, 2004 from Denise B. Doolan, Clerk, Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders, regarding ***adoption of a Resolution authorizing and directing the Planning Board to review Municipal Stormwater Management Plans and Municipal Stormwater Management Ordinances on behalf of the County***, noted for information. No action taken.
2. Letter dated December 10, 2004 from Marcia A. Karrow, Hunterdon County Freeholder Director and Richard D. Gardner, Warren County Freeholder Director, regarding ***the Highlands Water Protection & Planning Act***, noted for information. No action taken.
3. Notice dated December 13, 2004 from Philip E. Freeman, Assistant Director, NJ Division on Civil Rights, regarding ***Resolution supporting the establishment of an Arab Heritage Commission***, noted for information. No action taken.
4. Notice dated December 14, 2004 from Diane L. Schottman, Municipal Clerk, Borough of Flemington, regarding ***adoption of the following***:
  - ***Resolution expressing support for Assembly Bill A-860 requiring school districts to provide transportation to public and non-public schools for students living along hazardous routes.***
  - ***Resolution in support of a Property Tax Reform Convention***
  - ***Resolution in opposition to A-2121/S-911 which would expand local responsibilities under the Condo Services Act.***

The items listed above were noted for information. No action taken.

5. Notice dated December 21, 2004 from Diane L. Schottman, Municipal Clerk, Borough of Flemington, regarding ***adoption of a Resolution in opposition to the Fast Track Permitting Act, PL 2004, C. 89***, noted for information. No action taken.
6. Notice dated December 17, 2004 from Theresa A. Farbaniec, Municipal Clerk, Borough of Sayerville, regarding ***adoption of a Resolution expressing support for Assembly Bill A-1835 & Senate Bill S-1023 which requires the state to reimburse municipalities for the reimbursement and payment of property taxes that disabled veterans are exempt from***, noted for information. No action taken.

7. Notice dated December 23, 2004 from Gail W. McKane, Municipal Clerk, Twp. of Clinton, regarding *adoption of Ordinance #869-04 Supplementing & Amending Chapter 165 entitled "Land Use Regulations," providing standards for fences*, noted for information. No action taken.
8. Memorandum dated December 15, 2004 from Roberta A. Brassard, Municipal Clerk, Twp. of Tewksbury, regarding *adoption of Ordinance #28-2004 - An Ordinance to Amend an Ordinance whose short title is "Tewksbury Twp. Development Regulations Ordinance (2000),"* noted for information. No action taken.
9. Notice from Roberta A. Brassard, Municipal Clerk, Twp. of Tewksbury, regarding *public hearing of Ordinance #29-2004 - An Ordinance to Amend an Ordinance whose short title is "Tewksbury Twp. Development Regulations Ordinance (2000),"* noted for information. No action taken.
10. Letter dated December 15, 2004 from Brian P. Cramer, Environmental Scientist, Matrix Environmental & Geotechnical Services, regarding *application for Letter of Interpretation/Line Verification - Block 38, Lot 38.01, Hindu Sanatan Dharma Seva Mandal, Inc.*, noted for information. No action taken.
11. Letter dated December 22, 2004 from Steven Glasson, President, Glasson Environmental Services, regarding *application for Letter of Interpretation - Block 36, Lot 7, Tom Jr. Properties, Inc.*, noted for information. No action taken.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. *Authorization for Tax Collector to Conduct Tax Lien Sale* - Resolution.

This item was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

**M. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:**

Administrator Mekovetz said she had nothing to report at this time.

**N. ATTORNEY'S REPORT:**

Attorney Dragan said the closing on the Dolan property is scheduled for January 4<sup>th</sup>.

Attorney Dragan said she had nothing further to report at this time.

**O. ENGINEER'S REPORT:**

Written report submitted.

Engineer McEldowney said the County has received the stream encroachment permit for the Dreahook Road Bridge culvert. They are going to do everything they can to move the project along.

Engineer McEldowney said he expressed the Township's wish to have stone façade on the structure which will not extend above the level of the pavement.

Mrs. Allen suggested that the Committee send a letter to the County stating that the Committee is glad that the project will be moving forward, thanking them for working with the Township and keeping the Township apprized of the dates.

*A MOTION* was made by Mrs. Allen to send a letter to the County stating that the Committee was pleased to hear that the project is moving forward, thanking the County for working with the Township regarding suggestions/recommendations for the repair, and also requesting that they keep the Township apprized of any upcoming dates regarding the status of the project. This motion was seconded by Mr. Shamey with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

Engineer McEldowney said he had nothing further to report at this time.

**P. COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**1. Frank Gatti:**

**a. Finance Department**

1. *Tax Refund* - resolutions.

This item was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

**b. Police Department**

1. *Police Department Summary* - November, 2004.

This item was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

**2. Gerry Shamey:**

Mr. Shamey said he had nothing to report at this time.

**3. Julia Allen:**

**a. Farmland\Open Space Preservation\Land Projects Liaison**

Mrs. Allen said she would like to start holding monthly meetings of the Open Space Advisory Board. She suggested that it be held the fourth Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.

Mrs. Allen said a letter was received from Freeholder Marcia Karrow regarding the Highlands Water Protection Act. They are asking if any municipalities are interested in joining as Plaintiffs in the County's action against the State of New Jersey regarding this matter.

Mrs. Allen said she supports the goals and purposes of the Highlands Act to protect the water quality for those who depend on the Highlands as a source of water.

Mr. Shamey said he does not see any benefit in becoming a plaintiff in the case. All agreed.

*A MOTION* was made by Mrs. Allen to send a letter to the County thanking them for their letter regarding the Highlands Act. The consensus of the Township Committee is not to join in as a plaintiff at this time. This motion was seconded by Mrs. Allen with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

Mrs. Allen said she had nothing further to report at this time.

**4. Thomas Auriemma:**

**a. Recreation Department**

Mr. Auriemma said they are working to restructure Recreation so it is more organized. They are working on drafting by-laws. A draft recommendation will be submitted to the Committee for review.

Mayor Gatti said there are two (2) vacancies on the Recreation Committee and he has several names to give to Mr. Auriemma for consideration.

Mrs. Allen said she also has a name for consideration.

Mr. Auriemma said he had nothing further to report at this time.

**5. Beatrice Muir:**

**a. Public Assistance**

Mrs. Muir said Diane Clapp and Bonnie Liddane of the Social Services office worked very hard over the holidays to supply needy residents with food baskets, gifts and other items. She said she would like to thank all of those who participated in this effort.

**b. Municipal Court**

1. *Municipal Court & Violations Bureau Report* for November, 2004.

This item was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:**

Mayor Gatti asked for comments from the public. There were none.

**COMMENTS FROM THE GOVERNING BODY:**

Mayor Gatti asked for comments from the Governing Body. There were none.

**ADJOURNMENT**

As there was no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Shamey to adjourn at 6:45 p.m., seconded by Mrs. Muir with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

Respectfully Submitted:

Vita Mekovetz, RMC\CMC  
Administrator\ Municipal Clerk