

**READINGTON TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
MEETING – JUNE 4, 2008**

Mayor Auriemma *calls the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.* announcing that all laws governing the Open Public Meetings Act have been met and that this meeting has been duly advertised.

PRESENT: Mayor T. Auriemma, Deputy Mayor J. Allen, Mr. F. Gatti, Mrs. B. Muir, Mr. G. Shamey

ALSO PRESENT: Administrator Mekovetz, Attorney S. Dragan, Engineer McEldowney

ABSENT: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Clerk read the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION
EXECUTIVE SESSION

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 *et seq.*, the Open Public Meetings Act, permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist and desires to authorize the exclusion of the public from the portion of the meeting in accordance with the act;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from discussion of and action upon the specified subject matter as set forth in the following Exhibit "A:"

EXHIBIT A

<u>Subject Matter</u>	<u>Basis Of Public Exclusion</u>	<u>Date Anticipate When Disclosed to Public</u>
Personnel.....	Museum/Zoning/Fire Official..... Building & Grounds/Tax Collector	Certain information at the discretion of the Township Committee tonight...other information will remain confidential
Personnel.....	Police.....	“ “ “
Contract Negotiations.....	Road Reclamation 2008.....	“ “ “
Contract Negotiations.....	Old Highway 28 Resurfacing.....	“ “ “
Contract Negotiations.....	Bank St. Agreement/Hunterdon County	“ “
Contract Negotiations.....	Professional Services..... Rogers Towers Attorneys at Law	“ “ “
Land/Acq/Contract Negotiations...	Block 75, Lot 33 (HannaSaqa).....	“ “ “
Attorney-Client Privilege.....	Executive Session Minutes (Mar. 5, 2008)	“ “
Attorney-Client Privilege.....	Executive Session Minutes (Mar. 31, 2008)	“ “
Attorney-Client Privilege.....	Executive Session Minutes (May 19, 2008)	“ “

Litigation..... Block 48, Lot 23; Block 55, Lot 33; “ “ “
Block 56, Lots 1, 3, 6 & 8; Block 39
Lot 24 and Block 67, Lot 2
(Solberg Aviation/Hromoho)

Litigation..... Joazee LLC v. Twp. of Readington, *et al.* “ “

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 at 6:30 by Mrs. Muir to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mrs. Allen with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

The meeting reconvened at 7:40 p.m.

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

Mayor Auriemma announced that the following business was completed during Executive Session:

Personnel/Museum/Zoning Fire Official/Building and Grounds/Tax Collector

Mayor Auriemma announced that the required notice was provided to each employee that was discussed. Record of each request is on file in the Administrator/Clerk’s office. Omayra Rosa, Deputy Tax Collector requested that any discussion regarding her position be held in public and that this matter will be addressed later in the meeting.

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Gatti to reduce the Museum Administrator’s hours 10.5 (35 to 24.5 hours) per week, to reduce the Zoning/Fire Official’s hours 5 hours (from 40 to 35 hours) per week, to reduce the Fire Inspector’s hours 3 hours (from 16 to 13 hours) per week and to confirm the consolidation of the position of Buildings, Grounds and Parks Director with the positions of Director, Public Works and Road Superintendent, seconded by Mr. Shamey and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

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

Personnel/Police

Mayor Auriemma stated this matter would remain in Executive Session.

Contract Negotiations/Road Reclamation 2008

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Shamey to award the contract for Road Reclamation project to Reclamation of Kingston, LLC in the amount of \$180,555.00 conditioned on the bidder submitting a current project list as required in the specifications, seconded by Mr. Gatti and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

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

Contract Negotiations/Old Highway 28 Resurfacing

A ***MOTION*** was made by Mrs. Allen to award the contract for Old Highway 28 Resurfacing project to Della Pello Paving Co. in the amount of \$285,230.00

conditioned on the bidder submitting a current project list as required in the specifications, seconded by Mr. Gatti and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

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

Contract Negotiations/Bank Street Agreement/Hunterdon County

A ***MOTION*** was made by Mrs. Allen to approve the agreement between the County of Hunterdon and the Township of Readington regarding the paving of the entrance to the Bank Street parking lot seconded by Mrs. Muir and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

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

Contract Negotiations/Professional Services/Rogers Towers Attorneys at Law

Mayor Auriemma stated this matter would remain in Executive Session.

Land Acquisition/Contract Negotiations/Block 75, Lot 33 (HannaSaqa)

Mayor Auriemma stated the Committee would return to Executive Session for this matter.

Attorney-Client Privilege/Executive Session Minutes (March 5, 2008)

A ***MOTION*** was made by Mrs. Muir to approve the Executive Session minutes of March 5, 2008 seconded by Mr. Shamey with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

Attorney-Client Privilege/Executive Session Minutes (March 31, 2008)

A ***MOTION*** was made by Mr. Gatti to approve the Executive Session minutes of March 31, 2008 seconded by Mrs. Allen with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

Attorney-Client Privilege/Executive Session Minutes (May 19, 2008)

A ***MOTION*** was made by Mrs. Muir to approve the Executive Session minutes of May 19, 2008 seconded by Mr. Shamey with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

Litigation/ Block 48, Lot 23; Block 55, Lot 33; Block 56, Lots 1, 3, 6 & 8; Block 39, Lot 24 and Block 67, Lot 2 (Solberg Aviation/Hromoho)

Mayor Auriemma stated there was nothing to report on this matter.

Litigation/Joansee LLC v. Township of Readington, et al.

Mayor Auriemma stated this matter would remain in Executive Session.

Personnel/Tax Collector's Office, Deputy Tax Collector position

Omayra Rosa was present accompanied by Michael Broderick, Local 469, Clerical Workers representative and Roberta Housel, Readington Township Shop Stewart.

Administrator Mekovetz requested direction from the Committee as to whether to approach Local 469, Clerical Workers Union, to discuss the possibility of reducing the position of Deputy Tax Collector to a thirty-five (35) hour work week from a forty (40) hour to coincide with the other positions within the unit.

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Muir to request that Administrator Mekovetz meet with the union seconded by Mr. Shamey with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

Omayra Rosa, Deputy Tax Collector, addressed the Committee stating that she felt that with the reduction in the Tax Collector's position and the elimination of part time quarterly help that a reduction in her work hours would create a burden on her workload in the office. She stated that with vacation, sick time the office would be closed more often and it may be difficult to post payments in a timely manner which may cause late fees charged to tax payers. She asked the Committee to take these issues into consideration before reducing her hours.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Mayor Auriemma read the following statement:

All items list 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 THE MINUTES** of meeting of March 5, 2008, March 31, 2008, April 2, 2008, April 14, 2008 and May 19, 2008.
- *2. **Blue Light Permit** – David Goldstein
- *3. **Payment of Bills**

<u>Fund Description</u>	<u>Fund No.</u>	<u>Received Total</u>
CURRENT FUND	8-01	\$ 2,356,235.45
SEWER APPROPRIATIONS	8-02	\$ 98,989.86
TRUST FUNDS	X-03	\$ 93,980.68
MISC REFUND, COUNTY TAX, LIENS	X-05	\$ 1,514,045.63
PAYROLLS DEDUCTIONS	X-06	\$ 159,491.06
REGIONAL AND LOCAL SCHOOL TAX	X-07	\$ 2,377,511.79
2003 CAPITAL APPROPRIATIONS	X-33	\$ 1,989.61
2008 CAPITAL	X-88	\$ 425,000.00
		\$ 7,027,244.08

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Gatti to approve all items listed on the Consent agenda seconded by Mrs. Allen and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

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

CORRESPONDENCE/OTHER INFORMATION:

1. Letter dated May 13, 2008 from Sharon Brienza, Municipal Clerk, Township of Branchburg *regarding an ordinance amending the land development ordinance of the Township of Branchburg by adding new defined terms; adopting a revised zoning map; adding a new section entitled “R-3 Rural three acre residential district”; and adding a new section entitled “RRC-Raritan River Corridor District”*. No action taken.
2. Memorandum dated May 15, 2008 from Robert Brassard, Municipal Clerk, Township of Tewksbury regarding *ordinances as follows:*
 - *Adoption of Ordinance to amend an ordinance whose short title is “Tewksbury Township Development Regulations Ordinance (2000)”*
 - *Introduction of an Ordinance to amend an ordinance whose short title is “Tewksbury Township Development Regulations Ordinance (2000)”*No action taken.
3. Letter dated May 16, 2008 from Donna Burham, Municipal Clerk, Township of Clinton *regarding an ordinance of the Township, in Hunterdon County, New Jersey deleting in its entirety existing section 165-109 “SIGNS” of the code of the Township of Clinton, and replacing it with new section 165-109, “SIGNS”; amending section 165- 104, “DEFINITIONS”; providing severability; and providing an effective date*. No action taken.
4. Letter dated May 14, 2008 from Mary MacConnell, Municipal Clerk, Township of Kingwood *regarding resolutions as follows:*
 - *Opposing Governor’s proposal to eliminate the Department of Agriculture*
 - *Opposing the States reduction to State Aid to Municipalities*
 - *Opposition to Assembly Bill 1880*No action taken.
5. Letter dated May 21, 2008 from Mary MacConnell, Municipal Clerk, Township of Kingwood *regarding opposing S-770 and A-1645 mandating the appointment of a qualified purchasing agent and the attendant reorganization of Township of Kingwood purchasing functions*. No action taken.
6. Resolution from Loretta Buckelew, Municipal Clerk, City of Lambertville *regarding urging the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the United States Congress to amend existing “Food-to-Fuel” Mandates”*. No action taken.
7. Memorandum dated May 19, 2008 from Denise Doolan, Clerk of the Board, *regarding opposing S-70 and A-1645 mandating the appointment of a qualified purchasing agent and the attendant reorganization of municipal purchasing functions*. No action taken.
8. Notice of Hearing, Raritan Township Zoning Board of Adjustment *regarding application of Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless*. No action taken.
9. Letter from Lou Cattuna, Department of Environmental Protection *regarding Letter of Interpretation-Presence/Absence, Hassan Nahvi Block 39, Lot 3, Readington Township, Hunterdon County*. No action taken.

10. Letter from Lou Cattuna, Department of Environmental Protection *regarding Freshwater Wetlands Letter of Interpretation/Line Verification, Joanzee, LLC, Block 21.13, Lot 6, Readington Township, Hunterdon County.* (Complete File in Clerk's Office for Review) No action taken.
11. Letter from Andrew Gale, Department of Environmental Protection *regarding authorization for Freshwater Wetlands Statewide General Permit No. 25 and Waiver of Transition Area for Access, Terry and Catherine Mitchell, Block 63, Lot 51, Readington Township, Hunterdon County.* No action taken.
12. Letter from Terry Pilawksi, Department of Environmental Protection *regarding public notice on amendment to the Upper Raritan Water Quality Management Plan, Block 48, Lot(s) 20, 21.02, Readington Township, Hunterdon County.* No action taken.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. **Public Defender** – Application Fee – Ordinance consideration

The following Ordinance was offered for introduction:

AN ORDINANCE CREATING AND ESTABLISHING IN THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON THE POSITION OF TOWNSHIP PUBLIC DEFENDER, PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF P.L. 1997 c. 256 (N.J.S.A. 2B:24-1 et seq.).

Ordinance # 15 – 2008

BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon and State of New Jersey as follows:

- (A) Term. The Township Public Defender shall be appointed by the Township Committee for a term of one year, from January 1 in the year of his appointment until his successor has been appointed and has qualified.
- (B) Qualifications. The person to be appointed to this position of Township Public Defender shall have been duly admitted to the practice of law in the State of New Jersey at the time of his appointment and during the term of his office.
- (C) Functions and duties. It shall be the duty of the Township Public Defender to represent, except in the case of temporary unavailability or conflict of interest, any defendant charged with an offense in the Municipal Court who is an indigent municipal defendant entitled to representation, pursuant to P.L. 1997, c. 256 (N.J.S.A. 2B:24-1 et seq.).
- (D) Compensation. For the performance of the services described herein, the Township Public Defender shall be paid such fees as may be deemed reasonable and proper by the Township Committee for services actually rendered, as set forth in an agreement to provide Public Defender services which shall be executed annually and as set forth on vouchers properly executed and furnished to the Township Administrator.
- (E) Application fee. Any person applying to the Municipal Court for representation by the Township Public Defender or other court appointed counsel shall pay an application fee not less than \$50.00 and no more than \$200.00, subject to the provisions of P.L., c.256 (N.J.S.A. 2B:24-1 et seq.), pertaining to court approved waivers of application fees; periodic payments thereof; and determination that the application fee does not exceed the amount necessary to pay the costs of the Township Public Defender or other court appointed counsel.

Ordinance # 15-2008 cont'd:

All application fees collected shall be deposited by the Chief Financial Officer in a dedicated fund pursuant to the provisions of the aforesaid statute.

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Muir to introduce this Ordinance seconded by Mr. Allen and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

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

A Public Hearing was scheduled for 8:00 p.m. on July 7, 2008.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Bouman Stickney Farmstead** – Eagle Scout Project Completion – Patrick Hyland

John Klotz of the Open Space Advisory Committee gave a slide show presentation on the Eagle Scout Project. Patrick Hyland gave an overview of his leadership service project.

The following Resolution was offered for consideration:

**TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON
RESOLUTION
#R-2008-73**

WHEREAS, Readington Township was awarded a grant from the Federal Highway Administration in 2005 to develop a trail system connecting the Bouman-Stickney Farmstead Museum with the Historic Village of Stanton, the Doboinski Farm Park, Hunterdon County's Peter Buell Trail and Deer Path Park, finishing at the Raritan River, and

WHEREAS, the Readington Township Recreation Department was assigned to administer the grant and the Open Space Advisory Board partnered with the Recreation Department to move the project to completion with the assistance of Dr. Jay Kelly, one of its members, as the project manager, and

WHEREAS, Eagle Scout candidate, Patrick Hyland, of Boy Scout Troop 1969, Stanton, New Jersey was required to plan, develop and provide leadership to others in a significant service project that benefits the community, and

WHEREAS, his role in the project was to obtain guidance and approval from the organization benefiting from the project, to organize and direct the work and carry it through to successful completion, and

WHEREAS, the project involved the construction and placement of five (5) picnic tables and eight (8) benches in strategic locations along the Bouman-Stickney interpretive trail loop at the Farmstead Museum, and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee approved the scope of Patrick's project and agreed to fund the materials needed to complete the project with the grant monies awarded to the Township, and

WHEREAS, Patrick obtained plans for the tables and benches, ordered materials and recruited assistance from the following scouts, as well as, troop leaders and parents: Joe Colao, Kevin Grassie, Matthew Hoe, Trevor Hoffman, Daniel Hyland, Jeremy Neumann, Zach Neumann, Jack O'Donnell, Tim Siessel, Sean Spiller, William Taylor, Jeremy Wright, Nick Wright , and

Resolution # R-2008-73 cont'd:

WHEREAS, he provided guidance and supervision to the recruited scouts during the construction of the tables and benches, at times working weekends with his team of scouts, and

WHEREAS, on May 10, 2008, Patrick and his team of scouts delivered the benches and tables and placed them at the predetermined locations along the trail loop at the Bouman-Stickney Farmstead.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, extends their appreciation as well as, the appreciation of the entire Township, to Patrick Hyland and the other scouts working under his supervision, for completing this project that greatly enhances the use and enjoyment of one of Readington's most beautiful and historic places, creates opportunities for rest, relaxation, wildlife observation, picnicking and socializing while walking the fields, woods and trails of the park.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Township Committee accepts this project as complete and as agreed upon, is completely satisfied with the work accomplished and is confident that the project will increase the utilization of the park by the residents of our Township.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution will be provided to Patrick and the participating troop members as needed to achieve the much deserved and appropriate credit for completion of this project.

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

2. **Readington Township Emergency Services** – discussion on need for vehicle assigned to Emergency Management

Jim Traynor, Chief of Three Bridges Fire Company and Township Chief, and Bill Wallace, Chief of Whitehouse Station Fire Company #1, were present to support a request for a dedicated vehicle for Joel Kerwin, Emergency Management Coordinator. Mr. Kerwin was also present and provided information in support of his request.

Mrs. Muir requested that all costs be reviewed including the projected costs of operating, maintenance, insurance, etc. for a vehicle. Mr. Shamey requested that each Fire Department consider sharing the cost for vehicle. Mrs. Allen stated that she will be meeting with representatives from Merck who may be able to offer funding.

3. **Ordinance – No Parking on County Line Road** – Introduction

The following Ordinance was offered for introduction:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON, COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY PROHIBITING PARKING ON THE PORTIONS OF COUNTY LINE ROAD LOCATED WITHIN THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON AND ESTABLISHING PENALTIES FOR THE VIOLATION THEREOF.

ORDINANCE # 16 -2008

WHEREAS, County Line Road is a roadway that is located both within the jurisdictions of the Township of Readington in the County of Hunterdon and the Township of Branchburg in the County of Somerset. It begins at its intersection with Harlan School Road in Branchburg Township and ends at its intersection with State Hwy. 22 in Readington Township; and

Ordinance #16-2008 cont'd:

WHEREAS, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 39:4-8c, the Township may prohibit parking along the roadways wholly within the Township's jurisdiction without having to obtain approval from the New Jersey Commissioner of Transportation, and

WHEREAS, the Township believes that it is within the interest of public safety to prohibit parking on either side of County Line Road along all portions of said road which are located wholly in Readington Township; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon and State of New Jersey, as follows:

Section I. Purpose. The purpose of this ordinance is to prohibit parking on all portions of County Line Road which are located wholly within Readington Township, so as to protect the public health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the Township of Readington, as well as the traveling public, and to prescribe penalties for failure to comply.

Section II. Prohibited Conduct. There shall be no parking along County Line Road, on either side, along all portions of said Road which are located in Readington Township, at any time. A map depicting the portions of the roadway affected by this Ordinance is attached hereto as Schedule A. The portions of County Line Road which are located within Readington Township and are, therefore, subject to this ordinance, are depicted as a solid line on the attached Schedule A.

1. On County Line Road, from Route 22 to a point 3,360 feet South, there shall be no parking permitted on the westerly (Readington Twp.) side of County Line Road.
2. On County Line Road starting at a point 3,850 feet South of Route 22 and ending at the Branchburg Township line 6,150 feet from Route 22, there shall be no parking permitted on either side of County Line Road.

Section III. Signage. Upon final adoption of this ordinance, for the benefit of the public, signs shall be posted at intervals along County line Road clearly indicating that parking is prohibited on either side of said road where it is located in Readington Township, at all times, in according with D.O.T. guidelines for placement of signage.

Section IV. Enforcement. This ordinance shall be enforced by the Readington Township Police Department pursuant to N.J.S.A. Section 39:4-2 once it becomes effective and signs have been put into place.

Section V. Violations and Penalty. Any vehicle parked in the prohibited parking area created by this ordinance may be towed at the expense of the owner. Any person who violates the provisions of this Ordinance shall, upon conviction, be subject to a fine not exceeding \$250 (plus court costs, if contested) and/or a period of community service not exceeding 15 days, or both. Each day a violation continues after the time required for the abatement thereof shall constitute a separate offense.

Section VI. Repealer. This ordinance supersedes and repeals any ordinances, sections or portions of any other Township ordinances inconsistent herewith.

Section VII. Severability. Each section, subsection, sentence, clause and phrase of this ordinance is declared to be an independent section, subsection, sentence, clause and phrase, and the finding and holding of any such portion of this Ordinance to be unconstitutional, void or ineffective for any cause, or reason, shall not affect any other portion of this Ordinance.

Ordinance # 16-2008 cont'd:

Section VIII. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall be effective immediately upon adoption and final publications according to law. A copy of the Ordinance shall be sent to the Township of Branchburg.

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Gatti to introduce this Ordinance seconded by Mrs. Muir and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

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

A Public Hearing was scheduled for 8:00 p.m. on July 7, 2008.

4. ***An Ordinance Appropriating \$141,000 from the Housing Trust Fund for the Acquisition of Easements and Affordable Housing Restrictions on Two Condominium Properties.***

The following Ordinance was offered for introduction:

ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$141,000 FROM THE HOUSING TRUST FUND FOR THE ACQUISITION OF EASEMENTS AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING RESTRICTIONS ON TWO CONDOMINIUM PROPERTIES (BLOCK 95, LOT 12.185 AND BLOCK 95, LOT 12.405) IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON, IN THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, NEW JERSEY. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON, IN THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, NEW JERSEY

ORDINANCE # 17-2008

Section 1. \$141,000 is hereby appropriated from the Housing Trust Fund for the acquisition of Deeds of Easement and Affordable housing restrictions on two condominium properties known as Block 95, Lot 12.185 (185 Milkweed Court) and Block 95, Lot 12.405 (405 Ferncrest Court) within the Township of Readington, in the County of Hunterdon, New Jersey (the "Township") to be used for group homes for the developmentally disabled in satisfaction of the New Jersey Council on Affordable Housing ("COAH") rules and regulations, N.J.A.C. 5:97-6.10 et seq., and any amendments thereto, and pursuant to an agreement between the Township and the Arc of Hunterdon County, Inc., including all related costs and expenditures incidental thereto. The Township is further authorized to acquire such easement interests pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:12-1 et seq.

Section 2. The Township hereby certifies that it has adopted a capital budget or a temporary capital budget, as applicable. The capital or temporary capital budget of the Township is hereby amended to conform with the provisions of this ordinance to the extent of any inconsistency herewith. To the extent that the purposes authorized herein are inconsistent with the adopted capital or temporary capital budget, a revised capital or temporary capital budget has been filed with the Division of Local Government Services.

Section 3. The Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Township Administrator/Clerk and Township Attorney, as the case may be, are authorized pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:12-1 et seq., and any other applicable law, to prepare and sign any and all documentation to effectuate the acquisition as described above, concerning the properties known as Block 95, Lot 12.185 and Block 95 Lot 405, including, but not limited to any contracts and amendments thereto, and easement documents.

Section 4. This ordinance shall take effect as provided by the law.

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Allen to introduce this Ordinance seconded by Mr. Gatti and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

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

A Public Hearing was scheduled for 8:00 p.m. on July 7, 2008.

5. *An Ordinance Supplementing and Amending Volume II Chapter 148 Entitled "Land Development" of the Code of the Township of Readington, 2000, as heretofore Supplemented and Amended, is hereby Supplemented and Amended - (COAH development fees)*

The following Ordinance was offered for introduction:

AN ORDINANCE SUPPLEMENTING AND AMENDING VOLUME II CHAPTER 148 ENTITLED "LAND DEVELOPMENT" OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON, 2000, AS HERETOFORE SUPPLEMENTED AND AMENDED, IS HEREBY SUPPLEMENTED AND AMENDED.

ORDINANCE # 18-2008

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon and State of New Jersey, as follows:

I. Section 148-111 entitled "COAH development fees" of Article XI entitled "Fees, Guaranties, Inspections and Off-Tract Improvements" is hereby amended to increase the COAH developer fee for residential and nonresidential development, as follows (deletions are indicated ~~thus~~; additions are indicated thus):

§ 148-111. COAH development fees. [Added 5-17-1993; amended 10-4-1999 by Ord. No. 20-99; 12-4-2000 by Ord. No. 40-2000]

- A. Purpose. In Holmdel Builder's Ass'n. v. Holmdel Township, 121 N.J. 550 (1990), the New Jersey Supreme Court determined that mandatory development fees are authorized by the Fair Housing Act of 1985, N.J.S.A. 52:270-301 et seq., and the State Constitution subject to COAH developing rules. The purpose of this section is to establish standards for the collection, maintenance and expenditure of development fees pursuant to COAH's rules. Fees collected pursuant to this section shall be used for the sole purpose of providing low- and moderate-income housing. This section shall be interpreted within the framework of COAH's rules on development fees.
- B. Retention of fees. Any fees collected prior to December 13, 1990, shall be retained by the Township of Readington pursuant to COAH's rules regarding the retention of development fees.
- C. Residential development fees. ~~Within the SSR, A, R, RR, R-1 and VR Zoning Districts, All residential~~ **Within the SSR, A, R, RR, R-1 and VR Zoning Districts, All residential** developers shall pay a development fee of **1 1/2 %** ~~1-%~~ of the equalized assessed value of any eligible residential activity pursuant to Subsection F of this section. [Amended 12-20-2004 by Ord. No. 40-2004]
- D. Nonresidential development fees. ~~All nonresidential D~~ **All nonresidential D** developers ~~within VC, B, ROM 1, ROM 2 and RO Zoning Districts~~ **within VC, B, ROM 1, ROM 2 and RO Zoning Districts** shall pay a fee of **3%** ~~2-%~~ of the equalized assessed value for eligible nonresidential activities pursuant to Subsection F of this section. [Amended 12-20-2004 by Ord. No. 40-2004]
- E. Eligible exaction, ineligible exaction and exemptions.

(1) Developers of low- and moderate-income units shall be exempt from paying development fees.

Ordinance # 18-2008 cont'd:

- (2) Developers that expand an existing nonresidential structure shall pay a development fee. The development fee shall be calculated based on the increase in the equalized assessed value of the improved structure.
- (3) Developers that have received preliminary or final approval prior to the effective date of this section (May 17, 1993) shall be exempt from paying a development fee unless the developer seeks a substantial change in the approval.
- (4) Within PND Zones where inclusionary development is required, developers shall be exempt from paying a development fee.
- (5) Repairs, maintenance, and the construction of decks and accessory improvements to existing residential properties shall be exempt from payment of a development fee.
- (6) Reconstruction of, and additions or improvements to, existing residential structures where no new dwelling units are created shall not be subject to payment of a development fee.

F. Collection of fees.

- (1) Developers shall pay 50% of the calculated development fee to the Township of Readington at the issuance of building permits. The development fee shall be estimated by the Tax Assessor prior to the issuance of building permits.
- (2) Developers shall pay the remaining fee to the Township of Readington at the issuance of certificates of occupancy. At the issuance of certificates of occupancy, the Tax Assessor shall calculate the equalized assessed value and the appropriate development fee. The developer shall be responsible for paying the difference between the fee calculated at certificate of occupancy and the amount paid at building permit.

G. Housing Trust Fund.

- (1) There is hereby created an interest-bearing Housing Trust Fund in ~~First Union Bank~~ **a bank as designated by the Township** for the purpose of receiving development fees from residential and nonresidential developers. All development fees paid by developers pursuant to this section shall be deposited in this fund. No money shall be expended from the Housing Trust Fund unless the expenditure conforms to a spending plan approved by COAH.
- (2) If COAH determines that Readington Township is not in conformance with COAH's rules on development fees, COAH is authorized to direct the manner in which all development fees collected pursuant to this section shall be expended. Such authorization is pursuant to this section, COAH's rules on development fees and the written authorization from the governing body to ~~First Union Bank~~ **a bank as designated by the Township.**

H. Use of funds.

- (1) Money deposited in the Housing Trust Fund may be used for any activity approved by COAH for addressing Readington Township's low- and moderate-income housing obligation. Such activities may include, but are not necessarily limited to, housing rehabilitation, new construction, regional contribution agreements, the purchase of land for low- and moderate-income housing, extensions and/or improvements of roads and infrastructure to low-more affordable to low- and moderate-income people, and administrative costs necessary to implement Readington Township's housing element. The expenditure of all money shall conform to a spending plan approved by COAH.

Ordinance # 18-2008 cont'd:

(2) Unless specifically waived by COAH, at least 30% of the revenues collected shall be devoted to render units more affordable. Examples of such loans, and rental assistance.

(3) No more than 20% of the revenues shall be expended on administrative costs necessary to develop, revise or implement the housing element. Examples of eligible administrative activities include personnel, consultant services, space costs, consumable supplies, and rental or purchase of equipment.

(4) Development fee revenues shall not be expended to reimburse the Township of Readington for housing activities that preceded substantive certification.

I. Expiration of provisions. This section shall expire if:

(1) COAH revokes substantive certification or its certification of this section.

(2) Substantive certification/judgment of repose expires prior to Readington Township filing an adopted housing element with COAH, petitioning for substantive certification or receiving COAH's approval of this section.

2. Severability. If any paragraph, section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or portion of this Article is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional by any Court

or administrative agency of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct and independent provision and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining paragraphs or sections hereof.

3. Inconsistency. All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent with this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

4. Effective Date. This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon final passage and publication thereof according to law.

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Allen to introduce this Ordinance seconded by Mr. Gatti and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

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

A Public Hearing was scheduled for 8:00 p.m. on July 7, 2008.

6. ***An Ordinance Supplementing and Amending Volume II Chapter 148 Entitled "Land Development" of the Code of the Township of Readington, 2000, as heretofore Supplemented and Amended, is hereby Supplemented and Amended – Reference "B Business Zone"***

The following Ordinance was offered for introduction:

**AN ORDINANCE SUPPLEMENTING AND AMENDING VOLUME II
CHAPTER 148 ENTITLED "LAND DEVELOPMENT" OF THE CODE OF
THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON, 2000, AS HERETOFORE
SUPPLEMENTED AND AMENDED, IS HEREBY SUPPLEMENTED AND
AMENDED.**

ORDINANCE # 19 -2008

Ordinance # 19-2008 cont'd:

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon and State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. Section 148-21 entitled "B Business Zone" of Article IV entitled "District Regulations" is hereby amended to add motorized vehicle sales to the list of prohibited uses, as follows (deletions are indicated ~~thus~~; additions are indicated thus):

§ 148-21. B Business Zone.

A. Principal permitted uses - B Zone.

- (1) On lots less than 2.0 acres, one of the uses listed below.
 - (a) Home occupations (in residences existing at the time of adoption of this chapter), excluding medical, dental, real estate, offices and other high traffic generating uses.
 - (b) Small professional and general office excluding medical, dental, real estate offices and other high traffic generating offices.
 - (c) Small appliance repair services, excluding automotive repair.
 - (d) Facilities for fabricating, finishing or assembling handcrafts, gifts, ornamental or similar goods for sale exclusively on the premises and at retail, provided that horsepower does not exceed two horsepower for anyone machine and is not in excess of a total of 10 horsepower for any one business.
 - (e) Child-care centers.
 - (f) Public and private open space and parks.
- (2) On lots 2.0 acres to less than 5.0 acres. [Amended 2-19-2002 by Ord. No. 2-2002]
 - (a) A single use characterized by the sale of an object or service to the ultimate consumer (as distinguished from wholesaler), within an enclosed building, such as:
 - [1] Retail sales of goods and services.
 - [2] Personal services, facilities, such as barber shops, beauty salons, laundry collection, shoe repairing, radio and television repairing, watchmaking, funeral parlors, bars and taverns (provided that a liquor license is available) and printing establishments and newspaper offices.
 - [3] Banks, not including drive-in facilities. [Amended 4-15-2002 by Ord. No. 9-2002; 5-19-2003 by Ord. No. 9-2003; 4-19-2004 by Ord. No. 18 2004]
 - [4] Full-service restaurants.
 - [5] Farms (see § 148-9 for definition of farm) and agricultural uses, including crops, nurseries, poultry, small animals and livestock raising and training, including outdoor parking of farm vehicles and equipment.
 - (b) A single use permitted on lots 2.0 acres or less as listed in § 148-21 A(1).
- (3) On lots 5.0 acres or greater in size.

Ordinance # 19-2008 cont'd:

(a) Farms (see § 148-9 for definition of farm) and agricultural uses, including crops, nurseries, poultry, small animals and livestock raising and training, including outdoor parking of farm vehicles and equipment.

(b) Fast-food restaurants when located within a principal building of a shopping center or planned commercial development. Fast-food restaurants shall not be permitted in freestanding buildings.

(c) Professional and general offices.

(d) Planned commercial developments containing a mix of commercial uses permitted in this zone and planned as a single entity.

(e) Uses permitted on lots 2.0 acres or less and lots 2.0 acres to less than 5.0 acres as listed in § 148-21A(1) and (2).

B. Accessory uses - B Zone.

(1) Public and private parking.

(2) Signs as regulated in Article XII.

(3) Fences and walls as regulated in Article VI.

(4) Farm storage structures and barns.

(5) Other uses and structures customarily incidental to a principal permitted use.

(6) Child-care centers for the sole use of employees of the principal use. (The floor occupied by the accessory child-care center shall be excluded in calculating any parking requirements otherwise applicable to that number of units or amount of floor space and the permitted density allowable for that building or structure.)

(7) The sale and processing of agricultural products raised or grown on the farm on which the accessory sale or processing is conducted.

C. Conditional uses - B Zone.

(1) Service station and automobile repair shops.

(2) Hotels.

(3) Conference inns.

(4) Public utilities.

D. Prohibited uses - B Zone. This district is not intended for permanent residential facilities nor any enterprise characterized by or dependent on frequent heavy trucking or incompatible with efficient retail merchandising. Therefore, the following uses are specifically prohibited. Any use not specifically permitted is considered to be prohibited.

(1) Any use having any nuisance factors (see definitions) other than noise of congregation of people; passenger traffic; transportation of things by truck or other means to enterprises in the district for retail sale on the premises; invasion of nonabutting street frontage by parking.

(2) Any display of merchandise in front of a building, other than on containers and gasoline pumps, living nursery stock, produce or flowers.

(3) Coal yard.

Ordinance # 19-2008 cont'd:

- (4) Junkyard or storage of scrap iron, rags or scrap papers.
- (5) Contractor's plant and storage yard.
- (6) Lunch wagon.
- (7) Open-front store, stand or display arranged, intended and designed for the sale of food or merchandise
- (8) Auctions or offering of sale of merchandise or personal effects conducted outside a structure, except when a private house on the site is being cleaned or vacated; not more than once a year, nor more than two days' duration.
- (9) ~~Used car sales not accessory to new car dealerships on site.~~ **New or used sales of motor vehicles, except lawn mowers or tractors used predominantly for agricultural purposes.**
- (10) Any unattended sales or service conducted as a primary business function.
- (11) Permanent private residential use.
- (12) Warehousing or storage facilities as principal use.
- (13) Automobile body shops.
- (14) Regional malls.

E. Area and yard requirements - B Zone.

- (1) The minimum lot size shall be two acres.
- (2) Requirements.

	Existing Lots Less Than <u>2 acres</u>	From 2 Acres But <u>Less than 5 acres</u>	5 acres <u>or greater</u>
Maximum floor area Ration (F.A.R.)	.10	.15	.20
Maximum Impervious Coverage (MIC)	.30	.45	.55
Maximum Height in stories	2 ½	2 ½	2 ½
Maximum building height in feet	35 feet	35 feet	40 feet
Minimum required Frontage	50 feet for home either owned or only otherwise 200 feet minimum	200 feet minimum occupation use controlled by applicant via legal easement providing for joint traffic access/egress and parking	200 feet minimum occupation use controlled by applicant via legal easement providing for joint traffic access/egress and parking

Ordinance # 19-2008 cont'd:

(3) Minimum setbacks:

Front: 75 feet from right-of-way of any state or county road.
50 feet from right-of-way of any municipal road.

Side: 75 feet minimum side yard when adjacent to residential zone.
15 feet minimum side yard when not adjacent to a residential zone.
50 feet minimum combined side yard unless adjacent to a residential zone.

Rear: 75 feet minimum rear yard when adjacent to a residential zone.
25 feet minimum rear yard when not adjacent to a residential zone.

(4) Buffers: [Amended 4-15-2002 by Ord. No. 9-2002]

(a) Buffer to county or state road:

- [1] Fifty feet for lots less than two acres.
- [2] Seventy-five feet for lots of two acres to less than five acres.
- [3] One hundred feet for lots five acres and greater.

(b) Buffer to local street:

- [1] Twenty- five feet for lots less than two acres.
- [2] Fifty feet for lots of two acres to less than five acres.
- [3] One hundred feet for lots five acres and greater.

(c) Twenty-five-foot-wide screening buffer required in side and rear yards of lots less than two acres in size when adjacent to any residential use or zone.

(d) Fifty-foot-wide screening buffer required in side and rear yards of lots two acres or more in size when adjacent to any residential use or zone.

(5) Screening. The required screening buffers shall be planted in accordance with § 148-63.

F. Minimum off-street parking - B Zone. Each individual use shall provide parking spaces according to the following provisions. No parking area or driveway shall be located within five feet of any property line where wider buffer areas are required, the parking and driveways shall comply with the buffer requirements.

- (1) Home occupations, small professional and general offices shall provide one space per 200 square feet of gross floor area.
- (2) Small appliance repair services and facilities for fabricating, finishing or assembling handcrafts, gifts, ornamental or similar goods shall provide one space per 500 square feet of gross floor area.
- (3) Retail sales of goods and services and personal services (except for bars and taverns) shall provide one space per 200 square feet of gross floor area.
- (4) Bars and taverns shall provide one space per two seats.
- (5) Child-care centers shall provide one parking space per three children.
- (6) Banks, professional and general offices under 50,000 square feet of gross floor area shall provide one space per 200 square feet of gross floor area.

Ordinance #19-2008 cont'd:

- (7) Professional and general office from 50,000 to 99,999 square feet of gross floor area shall provide one space per 250 square feet of gross floor area.
 - (8) Professional and general offices 100,000 or greater square feet of gross floor area shall provide one space per 285 square feet of gross floor area.
 - (9) Full-service restaurants shall provide one space per three seats.
 - (10) Fast-food restaurants shall provide one space per 30 square feet of gross floor area.
 - (11) Planned commercial developments under 400,000 square feet of gross leasable area shall provide one space per 250 square feet of gross leasable area.
 - (12) Planned commercial developments 400,000 to 599,999 square feet of gross leasable area shall provide one space per 225 square feet of gross leasable area.
 - (13) Planned commercial developments 600,000 square feet of gross leasable area or more shall provide one space per 200 square feet of gross leasable area.
2. Severability. If any paragraph, section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or portion of this Article is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional by any Court or administrative agency of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct and independent provision and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining paragraphs or sections hereof.
 3. Inconsistency. All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent with this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.
 4. Effective Date. This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon final passage and publication thereof according to law.

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Allen to introduce this Ordinance seconded by Mr. Gatti and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

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

A Public Hearing was scheduled for 8:00 p.m. on July 7, 2008.

7. **Request to waive fees for non profit fund raiser** – American Cancer Society

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Allen to waive the fees for the use of Hillcrest Park seconded by Mrs. Muir and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded.

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

8. **Request to suspend sewer service user fee** – Allies Inc.- Hunter's Crossing

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Gatti to deny the request to suspend the sewer service user fee seconded by Mrs. Muir and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

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

9. ***Ferreira Construction Co, Inc. Block 39, Lots 53.17, 61.03 & 61.04*** – request for reduction of cash performance bond

Engineer McEldowney requested that this matter be deferred.

ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

Administrator Mekovetz stated a letter was received from Nick Corcodilos, Mayor of Clinton Township asking municipalities to support a resolution of intent to appeal COAH Regulations.

The following Resolution was offered for consideration:

***TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON
RESOLUTION OF INTENT TO APPEAL COAH REGULATIONS
R-2008-74***

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Council on Affordable Housing has adopted new Third Round Affordable Housing Regulations; and

WHEREAS, those regulations will impose an unreasonable burden, which will adversely impact the property taxpayers of this municipality; and

WHEREAS, various municipalities have gathered together for the purpose of exploring common litigation challenging the validity of the regulations;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Readington Township does hereby express its intent to join in such litigation for the common welfare, subject to entry into an inter-local services agreement for such purpose, and allocates \$8,000 to contribute to legal and professional costs.

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

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

Administrator Mekovetz stated a draft letter Opposing A-500 was forwarded to her, written and signed by various Mayors. She stated the New Jersey League of Municipalities is also opposed to A-500.

A ***MOTION*** was made by Mrs. Allen to draft a letter and send it to the appropriate parties opposing A-500, seconded Mrs. Muir with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

Administrator Mekovetz stated there was a request from Mark Paradis to consider a resolution supporting the I-78 Corridor Scenic Byway Designation.

The following Resolution was offered for consideration:

***RESOLUTION REQUESTING SCENIC BYWAY DESIGNATION
OF INTERSTATE 78 THROUGH THE ENTIRETY OF
READINGTON TOWNSHIP HUNTERDON COUNTY***

#R-2008-75

WHEREAS, Hunterdon County has a rural character that is unique to the central part of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, Hunterdon County has maintained large areas of undeveloped and agricultural land throughout the County that significantly contributes to its rural character and residential quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the open space in Hunterdon County is scenic and includes two (2) State reservoirs, Spruce Run and Round Valley, and consists largely of picturesque rolling hills spotted with, often times historic, farm buildings and hamlets; and

WHEREAS, Interstate 78 through Hunterdon County allows approximately 87,000 motorists daily to experience this rural character from the view sheds along the corridor which provide visibility for miles; and

WHEREAS, the scenic qualities of Interstate 78 in Hunterdon County contribute toward a pleasant driving experience along Interstate 78; and

WHEREAS, Township of Readington is located in Hunterdon County and hosts approximately four miles of Interstate 78; and

WHEREAS, the view sheds in Township of Readington along Interstate 78 greatly contribute to the overall scenic quality of Interstate 78 in Hunterdon County; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Readington along Interstate 78 consists of view sheds of serene rolling hills of farmland and forest that exemplify the rural and traditional character of Readington Township; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Readington wishes to retain these scenic qualities in order to maintain the quality of life for the Township of Readington residents and maintain a pleasant driving experience for motorists along Interstate 78; and

WHEREAS, the Readington Township Committee finds that the designation of Interstate 78 as a Scenic Byway through the entirety of the municipality will help the Township of Readington achieve its goals of maintaining the quality of life for its residents and maintaining a pleasant driving experience for motorists along Interstate 78; and

WHEREAS, the Readington Township Committee wishes to proceed with a scenic byways designation that encompasses all Hunterdon County municipalities which host Interstate 78.

NOW THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, hereby requests that the Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Transportation designate Interstate 78 through the Township of Readington as a scenic byway because of its scenic and natural characteristics; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Readington Township Committee requests that one (1) or more State Assemblymen and/or Senators representing Hunterdon County sponsor the nomination of the Township of Readington as well as the other Hunterdon County municipalities seeking the Scenic Byway Designation for Interstate 78; and

Resolution # R-2008-75 cont'd:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Township of Readington will work with all municipalities who also have a portion of Interstate 78 designated as a Scenic Byway to create a Corridor Management Plan in accordance with the specifications of the New Jersey Scenic Byway's Program within five (5) years.

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

Administrator Mekovetz stated that she had sent a letter regarding the Whitehouse Station Mall exit/entrance way to the property owners and is waiting for their reply.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Attorney Dragan stated she had nothing to report at this time.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Engineer McEldowney reported he spoke with Lt. Donaruma regarding the stop signs on Westwoods Church Road and Lazy Brook Road. He requested Lt. Donaruma to review this matter and provide him with recent accident statistics. Mrs. Muir requested the Stop Sign be put back to River Avenue and Lazy Brook Road be made a through street.

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Muir to draft an ordinance to change the stop sign from Lazy Brook Road to River Avenue seconded by Mr. Gatti with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Thomas Auriemma

Mayor Auriemma stated the Memorial Day Parade was another successful Parade. Pictures from the Parade will be posted on the Township website. Mayor Auriemma stated the volunteers did a wonderful job.

Julia Allen

Julia Allen thanked Mayor Auriemma for his hard work and contribution towards the Parade. She had nothing further to report at this time.

Frank Gatti

Mr. Gatti stated he had nothing to report at this time.

Beatrice Muir

Mrs. Muir reported the Farmers Market vouchers are available for eligible seniors and information is available in the Municipal Building and that the Food Drive for July is coming up and anyone interested may call to volunteer. Food Donations will be accepted at Our Lady of Lourdes.

Gerard Shamey

Mr. Shamey stated he received a copy of a letter sent from Thomas Mathews, Supervising Engineer from Hunterdon County, regarding request to lower the speed limit on 523.

Mr. Shamey commented on an article he had read in the Democrat concerning Mayor of Raritan Township's lack of response from municipalities regarding support of sending districts to fund the police officer at the High School. Administrator Mekovetz stated a response letter had been sent and Mayor Auriemma also stated he spoke with Mayor King personally in this regard.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Gabriella Ruse and Stephen Dennis, of 909 County Road 523, asked the Committee for direction to move their Board of Health application. Mrs. Muir suggested speaking with Jane Butula, Vice Chair of the Board of Health and following up with a letter to Bill Nugent, Chair, asking to be put on the agenda if there is time. It was suggested that they possibly switch with a matter submitted by the Township that may be scheduled for the next Board of Health agenda. The Administrator was asked to follow up on this with the Board of Health Secretary.

COMMENTS FROM THE GOVERNING BODY

None.

The Committee returned to Executive Session at 10:00 p.m.

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:

3. 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 Anticipate When Disclosed to Public</u>
Land Acq/Contract Negotiations....	Block 75, Lot 33 (HannaSaqa)	Certain Information at the discretion of the Township Committee tonight.....other information will remain confidential

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”.

4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

A **MOTION** was made at 10:00 by Mrs. Muir to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mrs. Allen with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Gatti to return to Executive Session seconded by Mr. Shamey with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

The meeting reconvened at 10:15 p.m.

Land Acquisition/Contract Negotiations/Block 75, Lot 33 (HannaSaqa)

Mayor Auriemma stated this matter stays in Executive Session.

Additionally Mrs. Allen presented the following Resolution for consideration:

**TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON
RESOLUTION #R- 2008-76**

WHEREAS, on May 19, 2008, New Jersey State Assembly Louis Greenwald (D-6) and Assemblyman Joseph Cryan (D-20) introduced Assembly Bull A2867 known as the “Permit Extension Act of 2008”, (with identical Senate Bill No. S1919 introduced in the New Jersey Senate by NJ State Senator Paul Sarlo [D-36] and Senator Jeff Van Drew [D-1]) (the “Act”); and

WHEREAS, the Act, as introduced, declares that there exists – from the period of January 1, 2006 and continuing through to December 31, 2012, a state of economic emergency in the State of New Jersey, particularly a crisis in the banking, real estate and construction sectors, and declares that as a result of the crisis real estate and industrial developers have experienced an industry- wide decline. The Act finds that a “myriad of new regulations with regard to environmental protection have significantly increased” costs of development, in addition to other findings regarding development costs and the permitting and approval process; and

WHEREAS, the Act purports to address New Jersey’s state of economic emergency by automatically suspending the running of the period of approvals – tolling the period of time when an affected government or agency-issued permit or approval would otherwise expire, including extending certain approvals that have already expired. The proposed permit extension would extend the expiration of approvals at least through December 31, 2012, and certain approvals up to two years thereafter; and

WHEREAS, although it is commendable that the New Jersey Legislature would seek proactively to recognize and address a state of economic emergency, the proposed Permit Extension Act of 2008 is ineffectual to accomplish its stated purposed of preventing a waste of public and private resources, fails to address any such economic emergency or provide any economic stimulus benefit, improperly interferes with the powers and authorities of local municipalities, and may in fact result in a severe detrimental impact upon the environment and the general public health, safety and well being by allowing projects with expired approvals or stalled projects with approvals set to expire, to avoid having to comply with subsequent changes in environmental law, public health standards, building codes or local zoning; and

WHEREAS, it is the steadfast and earnest opinion of the Readington Township Committee that the proposed Act is neither beneficial nor in the best interests of the citizens of Readington Township, and rather than providing an economic benefit, would adversely impact the residents of this State.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of Readington Township, in the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The Readington Township Committee strongly opposes Assembly Bill A-2867 (and identical Senate Bill No. S-1919) known as the “Permit Extension Act of 2008”, as introduced.
2. The Readington Township Committee urges its State Legislators to oppose the Permit Extension Act of 2008.
3. The Readington Township Committee urges its State Legislators and the Governor to consider and propose better options for addressing as state of economic emergency and providing a benefit to the citizens of this State at large, rather than relying upon the presently proposed extension of permits and approvals to the benefits of developers.
4. The Township Clerk is authorized and directed to forward a copy of this Resolution to Assemblywoman Maria Karrow, Assemblyman Michael Doherty, Senator Leonard Lance, the Office of Governor Jon Corzine, the NJ State League of Municipalities, and to the clerks of all municipalities with Hunterdon County.

A MOTION was made by Mrs. Allen to adopt this resolution to be sent to all representatives opposing the Permit Extension Act A-2867 seconded by Mr. Gatti with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

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

Respectfully Submitted:

Vita Mekovetz, RMC/MMC/RPPO
Administrator/Municipal Clerk

