

**READINGTON TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
MEETING - APRIL 17, 2006**

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

PRESENT: Mayor Shamey, Mrs. Allen, Mr. Gatti and Mrs. Muir

ABSENT: Deputy Mayor Auriemma

ALSO PRESENT: Attorney Dragan, Administrator Mekovetz and Engineer McEldowney

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 of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey as follows:

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

EXHIBIT A

<u>Subject Matter</u>	<u>Basis of Public Exclusion</u>	<u>Date Anticipated When Discussion Will Be Disclosed to Public</u>
DPW.....	Personnel.....	Certain information at the discretion of the Township Committee tonight... other information will remain confidential
Police Department/ Sergeant's Promotion.....	Personnel.....	" " "
PBA – Lieutenant's Contract.....	Contract Negotiations.....	" "
Block 56, Lot 5 & Block 55, Lot 34 (James).....	Contract Negotiations.....	" " "
Block 96, Lot 18 (D=Urso).....	Contract Negotiations.....	" " "
Block 74, Lot 27 (Chesla).....	Contract Negotiations.....	" " "
Block 63, Lot 45 (Holman).....	Contract Negotiations.....	" " "
Stanton Properties.....	Contract Negotiations.....	" " "
Dobozynski Apartment Rental.....	Contract Negotiations.....	" " "
Awarding of Three Bridges Pump Station Upgrade Bid.....	Contract Negotiations.....	" " "
Awarding of New Self-propelled, Track Driven Asphalt Paver.....	Contract Negotiations.....	" " "
Executive Session Minutes - March 20, 2006 & April 3, 2006.....	Attorney-Client Privilege.....	" " "
Professional Services.....	Contract Negotiations.....	" " "
Block 48, Lot 23; Block 55, Lot 33; Block 56, Lots 1, 3, 6, & 8, Block 39, Lot 24 & Block 67, Lot 2 (Solberg Aviation - Hromoho).....	Contract Negotiations.....	" " "

2. 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".

3. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

A **MOTION** was made at 6:30 p.m. by Mr. Gatti to adopt this Resolution, seconded by Mrs. Allen with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

The meeting reconvened at 7:55 p.m.

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

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

Personnel - DPW

Mayor Shamey said that this matter will remain in Executive Session.

Personnel - Police Department/Sergeant's Promotion

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Gatti to post for the Police Sergeant's Examination. This motion was seconded by Mrs. Allen with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

Contract Negotiations - PBA - Lieutenants

Mayor Shamey said that this matter will remain in Executive Session.

Contract Negotiations - Block 56, Lot 5 & Block 55, Lot 34 (James)

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Allen to approve a contract with C.L. Orbaker in the amount of \$2,000 and a contract with Tom Rodriguez Associates in the amount of \$2,400 to perform appraisals on Block 56, Lot 5 & Block 55, Lot 34 (James). This motion was seconded by Mrs. Muir and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

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

Contract Negotiations - Block 96, Lot 18 (D'Urso)

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Muir to approve the Municipal-County Cost Share Agreement for Block 96, Lot 18 (D'Urso) with Hunterdon County, seconded by Mr. Gatti and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

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

Contract Negotiations - Block 74, Lot 27 (Chesla)

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Muir to approve the contract, as signed, for Block 74, Lot 27 (Chesla). This motion was seconded by Mrs. Allen and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

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

Contract Negotiations - Block 63, Lot 45 (Holman)

The following ordinance was offered for introduction:

BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE TOWNSHIP'S SHARE OF THE ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY PURSUANT TO A JOINT PURCHASE AGREEMENT WITH THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON, IN THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$74,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$70,300 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF

Ordinance #17-2006

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON, IN THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, NEW JERSEY (not less than two-thirds of all members thereof affirmatively concurring) AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The improvement described in Section 3 of this bond ordinance is hereby authorized to be undertaken by the Township of Readington, New Jersey (the "Township") as a general improvement. For the improvement or purpose described in Section 3, there is hereby appropriated the sum of \$74,000, including the sum of \$3,700 as the down payment required by the Local Bond Law. The down payment has been made available from the Open Space Trust Fund of the Township.

Section 2. In order to finance the cost of the improvement or purpose not covered by application of the down payment, negotiable bonds are hereby authorized to be issued in the principal amount of \$70,300 pursuant to the Local Bond Law. In anticipation of the issuance of the bonds, negotiable bond anticipation notes are hereby authorized to be issued pursuant to and within the limitations prescribed by the Local Bond Law.

Section 3. (a) The improvement hereby authorized and the purpose for the financing of which the bonds are to be issued is the Township's share of the acquisition of property known as Block 63, Lot 45 (Owner: Holman) pursuant to a Joint Purchase Agreement with the County of Hunterdon.

(b) The estimated maximum amount of bonds or notes to be issued for the improvement or purpose is as stated in Section 2 hereof.

(c) The estimated cost of the improvement or purpose is equal to the amount of the appropriation herein made therefor.

Section 4. All bond anticipation notes issued hereunder shall mature at such times as may be determined by the chief financial officer; provided that no note shall mature later than one year from its date. The notes shall bear interest at such rate or rates and be in such form as may be determined by the chief financial officer. The chief financial officer shall determine all matters in connection with notes issued pursuant to this ordinance, and the chief financial officer's signature upon the notes shall be conclusive evidence as to all such determinations. All notes issued hereunder may be renewed from time to time subject to the provisions of the Local Bond Law. The chief financial officer is hereby authorized to sell part or all of the notes from time to time at public or private sale and to deliver them to the purchasers thereof upon receipt of payment of the purchase price plus accrued interest from their dates to the date of delivery thereof. The chief financial officer is directed to report in writing to the governing body at the meeting next succeeding the date when any sale or delivery of the notes pursuant to this ordinance is made. Such report must include the amount, the description, the interest rate and the maturity schedule of the notes sold, the price obtained and the name of the purchaser.

Section 5. 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 6. The following additional matters are hereby determined, declared, recited and stated:

(a) The improvement or purpose described in Section 3 of this bond ordinance is not a current expense. It is an improvement or purpose that the Township may lawfully undertake as a general improvement, and no part of the cost thereof has been or shall be specially assessed on property specially benefitted thereby.

(b) The period of usefulness of the improvement or purpose within the limitations of the Local Bond Law, according to the reasonable life thereof computed from the date of the bonds authorized by this ordinance, is 40 years.

(c) The Supplemental Debt Statement required by the Local Bond Law has been duly prepared and filed in the office of the Clerk, and a complete executed duplicate thereof has been filed in the office of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services in the Department of Community Affairs of the State of New Jersey. Such statement shows that the gross debt of the Township as defined in the Local Bond Law is increased by the authorization of the bonds and notes provided in this bond ordinance by \$70,300, and the obligations authorized herein will be within all debt limitations prescribed by that Law.

(d) An aggregate amount not exceeding \$5,000 for items of expense listed in and permitted under *N.J.S.A. 40A:2-20* is included in the estimated cost indicated herein for the purpose or improvement.

Section 7. Any grant moneys received for the purpose described in Section 3 hereof shall be applied either to direct payment of the cost of the improvement or to payment of the obligations issued pursuant to this ordinance. The amount of obligations authorized but not issued hereunder shall be reduced to the extent that such funds are so used.

Section 8. The chief financial officer of the Township is hereby authorized to prepare and to update from time to time as necessary a financial disclosure document to be distributed in connection with the sale of obligations of the Township and to execute such disclosure document on behalf of the Township. The chief financial officer is further authorized to enter into the appropriate undertaking to provide secondary market disclosure on behalf of the Township pursuant to Rule 15c2-12 of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Rule") for the benefit of holders and beneficial owners of obligations of the Township and to amend such undertaking from time to time in connection with any change in law, or interpretation thereof, provided such undertaking is and continues to be, in the opinion of a nationally recognized bond counsel, consistent with the requirements of the Rule. In the event that the Township fails to comply with its undertaking, the Township shall not be liable for any monetary damages, and the remedy shall be limited to specific performance of the undertaking.

Section 9. The full faith and credit of the Township are hereby pledged to the punctual payment of the principal of and the interest on the obligations authorized by this bond ordinance. The obligations shall be direct, unlimited obligations of the Township, and the Township shall be obligated to levy ad valorem taxes upon all the taxable real property within the Township for the payment of the obligations and the interest thereon without limitation of rate or amount.

Section 10. 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 necessary documentation to effectuate the acquisition as described herein, concerning the property known as Block 63, Lot 45 (Owner: Holman), including, but not limited to, any contracts and amendments thereto and all closing documents needed to complete the purchase. This bond ordinance shall take effect 20 days after the first publication thereof after final adoption, as provided by the Local Bond Law.

Section 11. This bond ordinance shall take effect 20 days after the first publication thereof after final adoption, as provided by the Local Bond Law.

A MOTION was made by Mrs. Allen 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
Mayor Shamey	-	Aye

Public Hearing was scheduled for Monday, May 1, 2006 at 8:00 p.m.

Contract Negotiations - Stanton Properties

Mayor Shamey said there was no action on this matter.

Contract Negotiations - Dobozyński Apartment Rental

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Muir to authorize Administrator Mekovetz to advertise for the rental of the apartment on the Dobozyński property. This motion was seconded by Mr. Gatti with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

Contract Negotiations - Awarding of Three Bridges Pump Station Upgrade Bid

Mayor Shamey said action on this matter was deferred until the next meeting.

Contract Negotiations - Awarding of New Self-propelled, Track Driven Asphalt Paver

The following Resolution was offered for consideration:

***TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON
RESOLUTION #2006-58***

WHEREAS, the Township of Readington (hereinafter "Township") on March 30, 2006 opened sealed bid proposals from two bidders for a New Self-propelled, Track Driven Asphalt Paver machine to be used by the Township's Department of Public Works; and

WHEREAS, the Township's specifications stated that the bid would be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder; and

WHEREAS, the Township's bid specification required, among other things, that the bidder submit with its bid proposal a Statement of Experience in which the bidder was to provide a list of at least five contracts of similar equipment sold to either public or private entities within the State of New Jersey during the past 24 months. According to section 9.3 of the bid instructions, any bid not meeting this requirement would not be considered; and

WHEREAS, the Township's bid specifications stated that any reference to "brand names" in the specifications meant "brand name or equivalent". Further, the Township reserved the right to reject any and all bids and to waive immaterial defects or informalities in any bid, and the right to disregard all nonconforming or conditional bids or counter proposals where it was deemed to be in the interest of the Township to do so. Also, bids which were obviously unbalanced could be rejected: and

WHEREAS, the lowest bid was submitted by Jesco, Inc. in the amount of \$75,430.00 after trade-ins and the next lowest bid was submitted by U.S. Municipal Supply, Inc., in the amount of \$108,900.00. The Public Works Director budgeted \$110,000.00 for the equipment; and

WHEREAS, upon review of the bids, it was determined that the type of paving equipment set forth in the bid submitted by Jesco, Inc., failed to meet a substantial number of specifications for provided by the Township, was not an equivalent product and that this would negatively affect the quality of performance. Further, the Statement of Experience provided by the bidder did not provide any references for contracts for similar equipment (e.g. other pavers), so the Township was unable to confirm whether or not the purchasers were satisfied with the paving machine that the bidder was proposing in the bid it submitted to Readington Township. Also, one of the references provided yielded an incorrect phone number so that it was unable to be verified. A memo dated April 12, 2006 from the Public Works Director listing the numerous differences in the equipment bid from the equipment specified and its impact upon the Township is attached hereto and made a part hereof; and

WHEREAS, the bid submitted by the second lowest bidder U.S. Municipal Supply, Inc., met the specifications and was within the amount budgeted for the purchase.

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

1. For all the reasons listed above, the Township Committee hereby awards the contract for one (1) New Self-propelled Tract Driven Asphalt Paver to the second lowest bidder U.S. Municipal Supply, Inc., in the amount of \$108,900.00, after trade-ins, as described and stated in its bid proposal. After review of the bid documents and upon recommendation of the Township Public Works Director, the Township finds that this contractor is the lowest responsive bidder.

2. The bid received from Jesco, Inc., is rejected as non-responsive and containing fatal defects for failure to submit a mandatory required item, specifically, the Statement of Experience, and for providing a piece of equipment which was not an equivalent product in that it substantially did not meet the Township's specifications, as further described in the memo dated April 12, 2006 from the Township's Public Works Director. The bid appears to be unbalanced and to be for a lesser piece of equipment which was priced for approximately \$33,000.00 less, after trade-ins.

3. The Mayor and the Township Administrator/Clerk are hereby authorized to sign any and all documentation needed to complete this transaction.

4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

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

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

Attorney-Client Privilege - Executive Session Minutes (March 20, 2006 & April 3, 2006)

A ***MOTION*** was made by Mrs. Allen to approve the Executive Session Minutes from the meetings of March 20, 2006 and April 3, 2006 for content. This motion was seconded by Mr. Gatti and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

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

Contract Negotiations - Professional Services: WordWorks - Newsletter Services

Mayor Shamey said there was no action on this matter.

Contract Negotiations - 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 Shamey said that this matter will remain in Executive Session.

Mayor Shamey said that the following matter was added to the Executive Session Agenda:

Contract Negotiations - Royal Printing

A ***MOTION*** was made by Mrs. Allen to amend the contract with Royal Printing to provide work beyond their Base Contract, with all pricing and work to be preapproved. This motion was seconded by Mrs. Muir and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

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

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES** of meeting of April 3, 2006.
2. **Older Americans Month (May, 2006)** - Proclamation.

**TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON
RESOLUTION
R-2006-57**

WHEREAS, the month of May is traditionally designated and observed throughout the nation as **Older Americans Month**; and

WHEREAS, the 2006 theme is, "**Independence + Dignity + Choice = Healthy Aging**," in honor of older Americans and their caregivers; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Readington recognizes the contributions older Americans and their caregivers have made to our families, our communities and our nation; and

WHEREAS, older Americans are remain active and productive, volunteering their time, talents and expertise, thereby enriching all our lives.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon and State of New Jersey, does hereby proclaim the month of May, 2006 as **OLDER AMERICANS MONTH**, in the Township of Readington; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Township Committee calls upon all residents to honor and celebrate the outstanding contributions of Readington Township's older residents and acknowledge the noble work performed by caregivers.

3. **Postponement of Mortgage** - Cain/416 Well Sweep Road.
4. **Ryan Homes/Block 64, Lot 8.13** - request for return of unused escrow funds.
5. **Application for Raffles License** - Friends of Anderson House, Inc.
6. **Application for Raffles License** - Whitehouse First Aid & Rescue Squad.
7. **Payment of the Bills.**

Fund Description	Fund No.	Received Total
CURRENT FUND APPROPRIATION	001	\$ 513,824.54
SEWER APPROPRIATION	002	\$ 99,760.74
TRUST APPROPRIATION	003	\$ 12,689.30
CAPITAL APPROPRIATIONS	004	\$ 2,964.43
MISC. REFUND, COUNTY TAX, LIENS	005	\$ 14,883.06
PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS	006	\$ 161,003.65
REGIONAL AND LOCAL SCHOOL TAX	007	\$ 4,640,653.07
DUE TO STATE OF NEW JERSEY	009	\$ 25.00
TOTAL OF ALL FUNDS:		\$ 5,445,803.79

8. **Municipal Court & Violations Bureau Report** for March, 2006.

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Muir to 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
Mr. Gatti - Aye
Mrs. Muir - Aye
Mayor Shamey - Aye

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

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

Ordinance #13-2006

Clerk read by Title:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 43-90 ENTITLED "FIREARMS" OF ARTICLE III, "RULES AND REGULATIONS", OF CHAPTER 43 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON PERTAINING TO THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Ordinance #13-2006

Mayor Shamey said this ordinance amends the Township's Police Department Ordinance regarding off duty weapons.

Mayor Shamey asked if there were any comments from the Governing Body. There were none.

Mr. Gatti said the current ordinance restricts selection of an off-duty weapon to specifications of the official police weapon and the caliber of the official police weapon which is designed to be carried in a holster as part of the uniform. It is too large and bulky to be concealed while wearing civilian clothes. The Chief suggested that the ordinance be changed to say that the Chief of Police restricts his selection of an off-duty weapon to specifications approved by the Chief of Police and outlined in a Readington Township Police General Ordinance.

Mayor Shamey asked if there were any comments from the public. There were none.

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Muir to close the Public Hearing. This motion was seconded by Mr. Gatti with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

Clerk read by Title:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 43-90 ENTITLED "FIREARMS" OF ARTICLE III, "RULES AND REGULATIONS", OF CHAPTER 43 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON PERTAINING TO THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Ordinance #13-2006

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

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

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Gatti to adjourn the regular meeting to hold a Public Hearing. This motion was seconded by Mrs. Muir with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

Clerk read by Title:

AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE ACCEPTANCE OF CERTAIN ROADWAYS WITHIN THE RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT KNOWN AS STANTON RIDGE IN THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON, COUNTY OF HUNTERDON AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY FROM STANTON PROPERTIES, II, A NEW JERSEY GENERAL PARTNERSHIP

Ordinance #14-2006

Attorney Dragan said there are still outstanding items that need to be addressed before the Township accepts these roads. She suggested that the Public Hearing be continued until the May 1, 2006 meeting.

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Muir to continue this Public Hearing until the May 1, 2006 Committee

meeting. This motion was seconded by Mrs. Allen with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

Ordinance #16-2006

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Muir to adjourn the regular meeting to hold a Public Hearing. This motion was seconded by Mr. Gatti with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

Clerk read by Title:

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CONVEYANCE OF AN AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS EASEMENT ON PROPERTY KNOWN AS BLOCK 96, LOT 18 TO THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON FOR FARMLAND PRESERVATION

Ordinance #16-2006

Mayor Shamey said this ordinance provides for the conveyance of an Agricultural Development Rights Easement to Hunterdon County.

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

Mrs. Allen said this property consists of 79+/- acres and is contained in Readington Township's 2000A Round Planning Incentive Grant I list of farms.

Mayor Shamey asked if there were any comments from the public. There were none.

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Muir to close the Public Hearing. This motion was seconded by Mr. Gatti with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

Clerk read by Title:

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CONVEYANCE OF AN AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS EASEMENT ON PROPERTY KNOWN AS BLOCK 96, LOT 18 TO THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON FOR FARMLAND PRESERVATION

Ordinance #16-2006

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

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

CORRESPONDENCE/OTHER INFORMATION:

1. Notice dated April 12, 2006 from Suzanne Walczak, Secretary, Branchburg Township Planning Board, regarding ***public hearing regarding the 2006 Branchburg Township Planning Board Master Plan Draft Report***, noted for information. No action taken.
2. Resolution from the Town of Clinton ***expressing support for Readington Township's efforts to petition the NJDEP to change the surface water classification of the North Branch of the Rockaway Creek to Category One***, noted for information. No action taken.

- Mayor Shamey said the Committee will now address item #1 under "New Business."
3. ***Open Space Preservation Funding Opportunities*** - discussion.

Mr. Greg Romano from the New Jersey Conservation Foundation appeared before the Committee and gave a presentation on funding opportunities for open space preservation in New Jersey.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. ***Solberg Airport*** - update by Mayor Shamey.

Mayor Shamey gave a brief update on the status of the negotiations with Solberg Aviation.

Ms. Paula Tropello said although she is glad that there will be a public referendum it took the residents getting enough signatures on petitions for this to occur. Ms. Tropello asked if there are any restrictions on any of the funding if Eminent Domain is used.

Mr. Romano said Green Acres Direct Acquisition Funds cannot be used if Eminent Domain is used.

Mr. Ray Vernon said the Township is concerned about pollution and damage to the environment and water resources. He asked if there was the same concern when the Stanton Ridge Golf Course was built.

Mayor Shamey said the Township Planning Board hears applications for subdivisions, developments, etc. The applicant must comply with various ordinances and Township and State regulations.

Mrs. Allen said the golf course was approved around 1990. There was approximately 500 acres that was developed. At that time there was no Open Space Funding available that gave municipalities the ability to purchase large tracts for preservation.

Ms. Suzy Solberg Nagle said at a previous meeting the Committee said they would take into consideration the Solberg's request to use a mediator.

Mayor Shamey said he is opposed to using a mediator at this time.

Ms. Nagle said Mr. Gatti said that he would look into getting NJDOT and the Bloustein School involved in the negotiations.

Mayor Shamey said he was supposed to be contacted with dates to schedule negotiations.

Mrs. Allen said she would be willing to discuss use of a mediator.

Mrs. Muir said she is not in favor of using a mediator.

NEW BUSINESS:

2. **Museum Committee** - appointment of new member.

Mayor Shamey said a recommendation was received to appoint Erin Brennan to the Museum Committee.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Gatti to appoint Eric Brennan to the Museum Committee for a term of three years ending December 2008. This motion was seconded by Mrs. Muir with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

3. **2006 Budget** - introduction.

A MOTION was made by Mrs. Muir to introduce the 2006 Municipal Budget, seconded by Mr. Gatti and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

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

Public Hearing was scheduled for Monday, June 5, 2006.

Mayor Shamey said a detailed presentation regarding the 2006 Budget will be given at the public hearing.

4. **Vare/Block 25, Lot 43.09** - request for permission to direct water discharge to detention basin.

Mayor Shamey suggested that Engineer McEldowney make a site visit to this property and report back to the Committee.

Action on this item was deferred until the next meeting.

5. ***Saunders Legatees, LLC/Victory Lane Car Wash*** - request for release of Performance Bond.

Action on this item was deferred until the next meeting.

6. ***Readington Trail Association*** - request for permission to use Township Land for Fund-Raising Event on June 18, 2006.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Gatti to approve the request from the Readington Trail Association for permission to use Township Land for a Fund-Raising Event on June 18, 2006. This motion was seconded by Mrs. Muir with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

7. ***Older Americans Month (May, 2006)*** - Proclamation.

This item was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

8. ***Postponement of Mortgage*** - Cain/416 Well Sweep Road.

This item was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

9. ***Ryan Homes/Block 64, Lot 8.13*** - request for return of unused escrow funds.

This item was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

10. ***Application for Raffles License*** - Friends of Anderson House, Inc.

This item was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

11. ***Application for Raffles License*** - Whitehouse First Aid & Rescue Squad.

This item was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Written report submitted.

Administrator Mekovetz said at the last meeting she was given authorization to obtain quotes for appraisals for Block 65, Lot 7. The quotes were as follows:

Curini	\$2,678
MGM	\$2,800
Rodriguez	\$3,200
McNeeley	\$3,200

A MOTION was made by Mrs. Allen to approve a contract with Ronald A. Curini in the amount of \$2,678 and a contract with MGM Associates in the amount of \$2,800 to perform appraisals on Block 65, Lot 7 (Orlando). This motion was seconded by Mrs. Muir and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

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

Mrs. Allen said it has been recommended that soil logs and perc tests be performed on Block 80, Lots 1 & 2 prior to the property being put up for auction.

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Allen to authorize Studer & McEldowney to perform soil logs and perc tests on Block 80, Lots 1 & 2. This motion was seconded by Mrs. Muir and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

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

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

ATTORNEY'S REPORT:

Written report submitted.

Attorney Dragan said she received notification from the Director of the State ABC that the Township was successful regarding the appeal of the award of the new plenary retail distribution license.

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

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Written report submitted.

Engineer McEldowney said he has been in contact with Traffic Consultant Scott Parker regarding the design/construction of changes to the median in front of the Walmart on Route 22. The Township received \$100,000 from Walmart to be used for this purpose, however construction must commence by May 30, 2006.

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Gatti to authorize Engineer McEldowney to contact Walmart and request an extension of the deadline. This motion was seconded by Mrs. Muir with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Gerard Shamey:

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

2. Julia Allen:

a. Farmland\Open Space Preservation\Land Projects Liaison

Mrs. Allen said the next meeting of the Open Space Advisory Committee is scheduled for April 19th.

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

3. Thomas Auriemma:

As Mr. Auriemma was not in attendance, no report was given.

4. Frank Gatti:

a. Finance Department

1. Payment of the Bills.

This item was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

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

5. Beatrice Muir:

a. Board of Health

Mrs. Muir said rabies clinics are scheduled in various municipalities throughout Hunterdon County. Dates can be found on the County Health Department's website.

b. Public Assistance

Mrs. Muir said many families were given holiday food baskets. She said she would like to thank all of those who participated in this effort.

c. Municipal Court

1. *Municipal Court & Violations Bureau Report* for March, 2006.

This item was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

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

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

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

COMMENTS FROM THE GOVERNING BODY:

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

ADJOURNMENT

As there was no further business, a motion was made by Mrs. Allen at 10:10 p.m., seconded by Mr. Gatti with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

Respectfully Submitted:

Vita Mekovetz, RMC\CMC
Administrator\Municipal Clerk