

**READINGTON TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
MEETING – JUNE 16, 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

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>
Contract Negotiation.....	Teamsters Local Union 469.... Parks & Groundskeepers	Certain information at the discretion of the Township Committee tonight...other information will remain confidential
Personnel.....	Personnel Matters/Museum.....	“ “ “
Personnel.....	Police.....	“ “ “
Contract Negotiations.....	Merck/Sewer Agreement.....	“ “ “
Contract Negotiations.....	Fibertech Networks	“ “ “
Land Acq/Contract Negotiations.....	Block 75, Lot 33 (HannaSaqa).....	“ “ “
Attorney-Client Privilege.....	Executive Session Minutes (June 4, 2008)	“ “
Litigation.....	Combes Landfill	
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.....	Joanee LLC v. Twp. of Readington, <i>et al.</i>	“ “

It is anticipated at this time that the stated subject matter will be made public on or about the time set forth in Exhibit “A”.

2. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. 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:

Contract Negotiations/Teamsters Local Union 469/Parks and Groundskeepers

Mayor Auriemma stated this matter would remain in Executive Session.

Personnel/Personnel Matters/Museum

Mayor Auriemma stated there was expected funding from the educational foundation that would offset the salary for the Administrator.

A **MOTION** was made for the Museum Administrator’s hours to be adjusted to 28 hours by Mrs. Allen 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

Personnel/Police

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Shamey to ratify the promotion of Vincent Corsentino to Corporal at the contract rate 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/Merck/Sewer Agreement

Mayor Auriemma stated this matter would remain in Executive Session.

Contract Negotiations/Fibertech Networks

Mayor Auriemma stated this matter would remain in Executive Session.

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

Mayor Auriemma stated this matter would remain in Executive Session.

Attorney-Client Privilege/Executive Session Minutes (June 4, 2008)

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Muir to approve the Executive Session Minutes of June 4, 2008 for content seconded by Mr. Shamey with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

Litigation/Combes Landfill

Mayor Auriemma stated this matter would remain in Executive Session.

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 that this matter would be deferred.

Administrator Mekovetz reported the road maintenance repair project on 523 was scheduled to begin next week. Administrator Mekovetz stated in September of 2007, after attending a meeting with the Police Department and Public Works Director and Hunterdon County Road Department, the Township Engineer presented the Township Committee with three options for the time the work should be scheduled. The choices were 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. or late evening hours. At that time, the Township Committee agreed the best option would be 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Since then the Police Department provided the information regarding traffic and safety concerns with the emergency services exiting and impact on local businesses. Administrator Mekovetz stated she spoke with John Glynn, from the Hunterdon County Road Department, and he asked that the Committee advise him of their preference at this time.

Mayor Auriemma asked for any public comments.

Mary Hanna, of Washington Drive, expressed her concern regarding the economic impact on local businesses if the road work was to be done during daytime hours, preferring the work to be done at night.

Charles Gyecsek, of Somerset Street, spoke in favor of work being done on weekends or possibly partial evenings to cut down the evening hour noise level and disruption to residents.

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Gatti to set the hours for this work to commence immediately after rush hour ending before the morning rush hour, seconded by Mrs. Allen with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

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 MINUTES** of meeting of June 4, 2008.
- *2. ***Application for Catering Permit*** – Randolph Restaurants LLC – Balloon Festival
- *3. ***Dedication by Rider Resolution*** – Public Defender

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

**DEDICATION BY RIDER RESOLUTION
 TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON
 # R- 2008-77**

REQUESTING APPROVAL OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE DIVISION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES TO ESTABLISH A DEDICATED TRUST BY RIDER FOR PUBLIC DEFENDER FEES

WHEREAS, permission is required of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services for approval as a dedication by rider of revenues received by a municipality when the revenue is not subject to reasonable accurate estimates in advance, and

WHEREAS, the Division of Local Government Services allows municipalities to receive amounts for costs incurred for Public Defender fees, and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-39 provides that the Director of the Division of Local Government Services may approve expenditures of monies by dedication by rider,

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

1. The Mayor and Township Committee hereby request permission of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to pay expenditures for Public Defender fees as per N.J.S.A. 40A:4-39.
2. The municipal clerk of the Township of Readington is hereby directed to forward two certified copies of this resolution to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services.
- *4. *Approval of Application for Change of Corporate Structure* – Readington Wine and Spirits LLC
- *5. *Red Light Permit*- William E. Wallace
- *6. *Payment of Bills*

<u>Fund Description</u>	<u>Fund No.</u>	<u>Received Total</u>
CURRENT FUND	7-01	\$ 2,000.00
CURRENT FUND	8-01	\$1,055,308.23
SEWER APPROPRIATIONS	8-02	\$ 98,989.86
TRUST FUNDS	x-03	\$ 3,989.59
MISC REFUND, COUNTY TAX, LIENS	x-05	\$ 13,582.72
PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS REGION & LOCAL	x-06	\$ 187,623.58
SCHOOL TAX	x-07	\$3,011,840.30
2003 CAP APPROPRIATIONS	x-33	\$ 3,650.00
2006 CAP APPROPRIATIONS	x-66	\$ 3,548.88
2007 CAP APPROPRIATIONS	x-77	<u>\$ 3,127.03</u>
TOTAL OF ALL FUNDS		\$4,383,660.19

- *7. *Tax Refund* – Block 37.01/Lot 5 in the amount of \$2,190.58.

The following Resolution was offered for consideration:

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

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector has recommended the following 2008 refund:

<u>BLOCK/LOT</u>	<u>REFUND TO</u>	<u>REASON</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
37.01/5	Pevonis, Joseph & Robyn	duplicate payment	\$2,190.58

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

A MOTION was made by Mrs. Muir to approve all items listed on the Consent agenda 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

Public Hearing:

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

1. 2008 Municipal Budget

Mr. Gatti reported this year was a particularly difficult year for Readington Township. He stated revenues were down approximately 6% and appropriations were up roughly 4%. Decreases in revenues were a result of interest on investments which impacted revenues to \$165,000. Mr. Gatti stated our State Aid had been reduced by approximately \$176,000. On the appropriation side we had increases in debt service, reserve for uncollected taxes, state pension and contributions and utilities.

Mr. Gatti stated that each department's budget was reduced by approximately 4% and positions were eliminated and hours were adjusted for other positions. The final result was an increase of 3.9 cents on the tax rate.

Mr. Gatti stated that 50% of the increase was for the airport debt service for the 22 million dollar bond approved by the voters in 2006 through a referendum. This was the first full year that the Township had the interest on the notes for the bond.

Mr. Shamey stated when the Township was discussing the impact of the referendum in the Public Information Sessions, the Township projected the cost of carrying the bond, prior to the receipt of funding, would be somewhere between \$65 to \$165 dollars per year on an approximate average house assessed at \$400,000.

Mrs. Allen summarized that the debt service (interest on the notes) on the airport purchase is costing the average homeowner slightly under \$100 per year, which is in line with what was estimated on the referendum.

Mayor Auriemma asked for comments from the public.

There were none.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Gatti to close the Public Hearing and open the regular meeting with a votes of ayes all, nays none recorded.

Mr. Gatti reported the State reviewed the budget and there were some minor changes. Administrator Mekovetz stated the actual dollar amount for adjusting was just some rounding off of numbers, and lowered what needed to be raised through taxation by about \$100.

The following Resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2008-78

**TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON
 RESOLUTION TO AMEND BUDGET**

WHEREAS, the local municipal budget for the year 2008 was approved on the 5th day of May, 2008 and

WHEREAS, the public hearing on said budget has been held as advertised, and

WHEREAS, it is desired to amend said approved budget, now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, that the following amendments to the approved budget of 2008 be made:

RECORDED VOTE

(INSERT LAST NAMES)	<u>Ayes</u>	(Allen	<u>Nays</u>	(<u>Abstained</u>	(
		(Gatti		((
		(Muir		(<u>Absent</u>	(
		(Shamey		((
		(Mayor Auriemma		((

Anticipated Revenues:

	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>
Summary of Revenues:		
Receipts from Delinquent	975,000.00	975,100.00
Subtotal General Revenues	7,269,814.37	7,269,914.37
6. Amount To Be Raised By Taxes For Support Of Municipal Budget		
(A) Local Tax For Municipal Purposes Including Reserve for Uncollected Taxes	10,876,268.00	10,876,168.00
Total Amount To Be Raised By Taxes For Support of Municipal Budget	10,876,268.00	10,876,168.00
8. General Appropriations:		
a. Operations Within "CAPS":		
Uniform Safety Act:		
Salaries and Wages	0.00	15,260.00
Other Expenses	0.00	6,624.00
Total Operations (Items 8(A)) Within "CAPS"	\$ 11,985,475.00	12,007,359.00
Total Operations Including Contingent – Within "CAPS"	11,988,475.00	12,010,359.00
Detail:		
Salaries & Wages	5,694,125.00	5,709,385.00
Other Expenses	6,294,350.00	6,300,974.00

Resolution # R-2008-78 cont'd:

h-1 . Total General Appropriations for Municipal Purposes Within "CAPS"	12,442,372.66	12,464,256.66
Operations – Excluded From "CAPS"		
Uniform Fire Safety Act:		
Salaries and Wages	15,260.00	0.00
Other Expenses	6,624.00	0.00
Total Other Operations Excluded From "CAPS"	510,383.20	488,499.20
Total Operations Excluded from "CAPS"	975,237.05	953,353.05
Detail:		
Salaries and Wages	16,260.00	1,000.00
Other Expenses	958,977.05	952,353.05
(H-2) Total General Appropriations For Municipal Purposes Excluded From "CAPS"	4,503,629.05	4,481,745.05
(O) Total General Appropriations Excluded From "CAPS"	4,503,629.05	4,481,745.05

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that two certified copies of this resolution to be filed forthwith in the Office of the Director of Local Government Services for her certification of the local municipal budget so amended.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Shamey to adopt this Resolution amending the 2008 Budget per the State comments 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

A MOTION was made by Mr. Shamey to approve the 2008 Municipal Budget as amended seconded by Mr. Gatti and on Roll Call the following was recorded:

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

CORRESPONDENCE/OTHER INFORMATION:

1. Memorandum dated June 4, 2008 from Dorothy Gooditis, Municipal Clerk, Township of Raritan **regarding a Resolution Opposing Proposed Assembly Bill 2867 (and Identical Senate Bill S1919) Known as the "Permit Extension Act of 2008"**. No action taken.
2. Memorandum dated May 30, 2008 from Dorothy Gooditis, Municipal Clerk, Township of Raritan **regarding pending Ordinance #08-18 An Ordinance of the Township of Raritan, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey to Amend an Ordinance Entitled "Revised General Ordinances of the Township of Raritan", and More Specifically to Amend Chapter 16.68 Conditional Uses**. No action taken.

3. Resolution from Heidi Abs, Township Clerk, Township of Middletown ***regarding Opposing Current FEMA Flood Zone Map and Requesting Reconsideration.*** No action taken.
4. Memorandum dated June 10, 2008 from Sharon Brienza, Municipal Clerk, Branchburg ***regarding an Ordinance Amending the Land Development Ordinance of the Township of Branchburg by Establishing a Revised Definition for “Restaurant” that includes outdoor use.*** No action taken.
5. Notice on Hearing on Appeal or Application from the Township of Readington Planning Board/Zoning Board Adjustment ***regarding a filed application for extension of a Use Variance.*** No action taken.
6. Letter dated June 2008 from John Flynn, Administrator of Green Acres Program, Department of Environmental Protection, State of New Jersey ***regarding an invitation to apply for Green Acres Funds.***

A ***MOTION*** was made by Mrs. Allen asking Administrator Mekovetz to move forward with a letter of application for continuation of Planning Incentive Grant Funding in the amount of \$1,000,000 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

7. Letter from Lou Cattuna, Department of Environmental Protection ***regarding Freshwater Wetlands Letter of Interpretation /Line Verification, Fallon Properties, LLC, Block 32/34, Lots 12/10 & 11.*** No action taken.
8. Letter from Edward A. Kuc, Principal Ecologist, Eastern States Environmental Associates, Inc. ***regarding Legal Notification, Charles Urban, Block 36, Lots 47 & 48, Readington Township, Hunterdon County, New Jersey.*** (Complete File in Clerk’s Office for Review) No action taken.
9. Letter from Yacoub E. Yacoub, Bureau Chief, Department of Environmental Protection, State of New Jersey ***regarding Conditional No Further Action Letter and Covenant Not to Sue, Block 37.01, Lot 2, Readington Township, Hunterdon County.*** No action taken.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. ***2008-2009 Liquor License Renewals*** –Resolution

The following Resolution was offered for consideration:

***TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE RENEWALS
R-2008-79***

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Readington that the following Readington Township Alcoholic Beverage License Renewals for 2008-2009 be approved:

Resolution # R-2008-79 cont'd:

PLENARY RETAIL DISTRIBUTION:

<u>LICENSE NUMBER</u>	<u>LICENSE HOLDER</u>	<u>MUNICIPAL FEE</u>	<u>STATE FEE</u>
1022-44-008-005	Bishop & Bishop Bar & Liquors	\$1,537.92	\$200.00
1022-44-015-002	Readington Wine & Spirits	\$1,537.92	\$200.00

PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION:

<u>LICENSE NUMBER</u>	<u>LICENSE HOLDER</u>	<u>MUNICIPAL FEE</u>	<u>STATE FEE</u>
1022-33-001-002	Chanco (Stanton Ridge Country Club)	\$1,537.92	\$200.00
1022-33-006-005	Ryland Inn Restaurant Operation, L.L.C.	\$1,537.92	\$200.00
1022-33-007-005	Bensi of Whitehouse Station, LLC.,	\$1,537.92	\$200.00
1022-33-005-005	Readington Diner, Inc.	\$1,537.92	\$200.00

CLUB:

<u>LICENSE NUMBER</u>	<u>LICENSE HOLDER</u>	<u>MUNICIPAL FEE</u>	<u>STATE FEE</u>
1022-31-012-001	Polish American Citizens Club	\$ 150.00	\$200.00
1022-31-010-001	Whitehouse American Legion	\$ 150.00	\$200.00

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Gatti to approve the liquor license renewals as per the 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

2. **Special Events Permit** – NJ Multisport Associates, LLC, Duathlon 5K, Solberg Aviation, Block 56, Lot 3

Mayor Auriemma stated he had some questions regarding the event. Mayor Auriemma asked Administrator Mekovetz to confirm who will pay the cost of police activity, whether permission was granted from the Freeholders, Somerset County and Branchburg and also who would be benefitting from the event. This matter will be brought back at a later date with the requested information.

3. **Request to film a car crash/River Avenue, Rockafellowes Mill Road** – Sunset Sky Productions

Mayor Auriemma stated there was confusion regarding this request and the environmental impact. There was not enough time to consider this request.

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Shamey to deny this request seconded by Mr. Gatti with a of ayes all, nays none recorded.

4. **Application for Catering Permit**- Randolph Restaurants LLC – Balloon Festival

This item was addressed under Consent Agenda.

5. ***Dedication by Rider Resolution*** – Public Defender

This item was addressed under Consent Agenda.

6. ***Approval of Application for Change of Corporate Structure*** – Readington Wine and Spirits LLC

This item was addressed under Consent Agenda.

7. ***Red Light Permit*** – William E. Wallace

This item was addressed under Consent Agenda.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator Mekovetz reported she received a letter from Whitehouse Fire Company requesting to have a fire hydrant installed in front of their station due to the construction work to be scheduled on 523. Administrator Mekovetz stated the Whitehouse Fire Company is seeking approval from the Township Committee to install the fire hydrant and a commitment to assume future maintenance responsibilities of an installed hydrant.

A ***MOTION*** was made by Mrs. Allen for a commitment to assume the future maintenance responsibilities of an installed hydrant seconded by Mr. Shamey 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 she had a request from Hunterdon Central High School to utilize the three baseball fields parking lots (Hillcrest, Summer Road and Pickell Park) as a convenient location for pick up/drop off shuttle service to the High School Graduation scheduled to take place on June 19, 2008. The Township Committee granted their approval.

Administrator Mekovetz reported that the Whitehouse Station Mall has agreed to put up an exit sign and it is under construction. Mr. Cook who was in the audience thanked the Committee for their efforts to address this safety issue.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Thomas Auriemma

Mayor Auriemma stated the Department of Recreation will be hosting an outside movie night on June 28, 2008 at Hillcrest Park.

Julia Allen

Mrs. Allen reported she attended Readington's Theater Group Cabaret Fundraiser on June 13, 2008.

Mrs. Allen stated the Open Space Walk will take place Sunday, June 22, 2008 from the Stickney Museum to Round Mountain and Dobozyński Farm loop.

Frank Gatti

Mr. Gatti stated he had nothing to report.

Beatrice Muir

Mrs. Muir reported the Starfish food distribution will be held Tuesday, July 1, 2008. Mrs. Muir stated donations can be made at Our Lady of Lourdes a day or two before. Mrs. Muir stated Farmer's Market vouchers are available to income eligible seniors through the Social Services office.

Gerard Shamey

Mr. Shamey stated he recently met with Judge Martin to get an update on the Municipal Court. Mr. Shamey reported the volume is heavy but the court is handling it.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Gabriella Ruse, of Whitehouse Station, came before the Township Committee to read the following letter:

Ms. Gabriela Ruse & Mr. Steven Dennis 909
County Road 523 Flemington, NJ 08822
9087887377 (Home), 908 3344969 (Cell)

June 16, 2008

RE: BOH application review/ approval delays, Block 62, Lot 12

Dear Mr. Mayor & Township Committee Members, et.al;

On June 4th, 2008, my husband & I attended the TC meeting to bring your attention to an issue we are having with the Readington BOH as far as delays are concerned with new construction application review and placement on their agenda for approval.

Our application has been with the Readington BOH since April 22, 2008. We were NOT placed on the May agenda (21st) nor the June agenda (18th), because of (we are told) an extraordinary number of system "failures". It took the Readington BOH engineer 5 weeks to review our application and provide initial feedback to our own engineer. On June 5, 2008, we escalated these delays to the BOH Chairman & the Vice chair, but have yet to hear back with any resolution or confirmation that we WILL DEFINITELY be heard for final review/ approval in July 2008, at the latest. Our engineer satisfied all revision requests made by Ferriero Engineering (FE) on June 9, 2008, and a revised letter from FE was sent to the Readington BOH secretary on June 12, 2008, indicating such.

The Readington BOH office continues to tell us they review applications in the order they are received, however they cannot commit to placing us on their July 2008 agenda because of the uncertainty of the number of "failing systems" they will receive between now and July 7th 2008. We will loose our construction financing on July 30th, 2008, if we do not have all approvals, building permits, and close our bank loan by this date. We have repeatedly brought this to the BOH office's attention. Their lack of concern or urgency is unbelievable, yet they indicate it is allowable because their ordinance does not call for a specific turnaround on application reviews. I have requested a copy of this ordinance and am waiting on this from the Readington Twp clerk's office. We hope not to have to take legal action in this case, but we continue to spend a tremendous amount of money each day anticipating whether we will be reviewed in time, or whether all expenses, resources, and efforts put toward our project to date will be lost? We are incredulous that taxpaying citizens of this township (such as ourselves) are being treated with such disregard. Is it too much to ask that we be reviewed and approved in a timely fashion, or at least receive clear commitment of such?

Additionally, the BOH appears to be changing application requirements as they go. Their application DOES NOT require potable water (well) testing except in the case of subdivisions

Letter from Ms. Ruse/Mr. Dennis cont'd:

(which we are not). As of last week, they requested we test our well and are using that as another reason why they cannot add us to June's agenda. We have ordered a water test whose results will be available on Friday of this week.

Please advise your recommendations for timely and prompt resolution to this matter. Thank you in advance for your attention and kind concern.

Best Regards,

Gabriela Ruse & Steven Dennis

Ms. Ruse expressed her frustration with the Board of Health and not being able to know when her application would be heard by the Board of Health.

Mayor Auriemma stated he will reach out to the Chairman of the Board of Health and get back to the homeowners.

Phyllis DeStefano thanked the Township Committee for allowing the Relay of Life fundraiser at Hillcrest Park.

COMMENTS FROM THE GOVERNING BODY

Mr. Shamey stated with road improvements taking place on Main Street he would like to see some improvements with sidewalks and lamps. Administrator Mekovetz will ask Engineer McEldowney to speak about this issue at the next meeting.

As there was no further business, ***A MOTION*** was made by Mrs. Muir at 9:35 p.m. to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Gatti with a vote of all ayes, nays none recorded.

Respectfully Submitted:

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

