

**READINGTON TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
MEETING – April 19, 2010**

Deputy Mayor Gatti *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: Mrs. B Muir, Mr. F. Gatti, Mrs. J. Allen, Mr. T. Auriemma
Mayor G. Shamey arrived at 8:10 p.m.

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>
Tax Collector’s Office.....	Personnel.....	Certain information at the discretion of Township Committee tonight...other information will remain
MADA FARMS, LLC..... (Previously Verdi) Block 80, Lot1	Contract Negotiations.....	“ “ “
Executive Session Minutes..... (March 29 & April 5, 2010)	Attorney-Client Privilege.....	“ “ “
Block 48, Lot 23; Block 55, Lot 33, Block 56, Lots 1, 3, 6 & 8; Block Lot 24 and Block 67, Lot 2 (Solberg Aviation)	Litigation.....	“ “ “

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

2. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

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

The meeting reconvened at 7:20 p.m.

Deputy Mayor Gatti led those present in the *Salute to the Flag*.

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

Personnel/Tax Collector's Office

Deputy Mayor Gatti stated that this matter remains in Executive Session.

Contract Negotiations/MADA Farms, LLC (Previously Verdi)/Block 80, Lot 1

A ***MOTION*** was made by Mrs. Muir to approve the contract assignment from Verdi to MADA Farms, LLC, seconded by Mr. Auriemma and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

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

Attorney –Client Privilege/Executive Session Minutes (March 29, 2010 and April 5, 2010)

A ***MOTION*** was made by Mr. Auriemma to approve the Executive Session Minutes of March 29 and April 5, 2010 for content only, seconded by Mrs. Muir with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

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

Deputy Mayor Gatti stated that this matter remains in Executive Session.

Deputy Mayor Gatti stated that there was a matter added to the Executive Session agenda.

Attorney -Client Privilege/Amawalk/Block 93, Lot 1

Deputy Mayor Gatti stated that this matter remains in Executive Session.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Deputy Mayor Gatti read the following statement:

All items listed with an asterisk “*” are considered to be routine by the Township Committee and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a committee member or citizen requests, in which event the item will be removed from the General Order of Business and considered in its normal sequence on the agenda.

- * 1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** of meeting of March 29 and April 5, 2010
- * 2. ***Resolution to Affirm the Township of Readington's Civil Rights Policy with Respect to All Officials, Appointees, Employees, Prospective Employees, Volunteers, Independent Contractors, and Members of the Public that come into Contact with Municipal Employee, Officials and Volunteers***

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2010-57

A RESOLUTION TO AFFIRM THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON'S CIVIL RIGHTS POLICY WITH RESPECT TO ALL OFFICIALS, APPOINTEES, EMPLOYEES, PROSPECTIVE EMPLOYEES, VOLUNTEERS, INDEPENDENT CONTRACTORS, AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC THAT COME INTO CONTACT WITH MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES, OFFICIALS AND VOLUNTEERS

WHEREAS, it is the policy of the Township of Readington to treat the public, employees, prospective employees, appointees, volunteers and contractors in a manner consistent with all applicable civil rights laws and regulations including, but not limited to the Federal Civil Rights Act of 1964 as subsequently amended, the New Jersey Law against Discrimination, the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Conscientious Employee Protection Act, and

WHEREAS, the governing body of the Township of Readington has determined that certain procedures need to be established to accomplish this policy.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ADOPTED by the Township of Readington that:

Section 1: No official, employee, appoint or volunteer of the Township of Readington by whatever title known, or any entity that is in any way a part of the Township of Readington shall engage, either directly or indirectly in any act including the failure to act that constitutes discrimination, harassment or a violation of any person's constitutional rights while such official, employee, appointee volunteer, or entity is engaged in or acting on behalf of the Township of Readington's business or using the facilities or property of the Township of Readington.

Section 2: The prohibitions and requirements of this resolution shall extend to any person or entity, including but not limited to any volunteer organization or inter-local organization, whether structured as a governmental entity or a private entity, that receives authorization or support in any way from the Township of Readington to provide services that otherwise could be performed by the Township of Readington.

Section 3: Discrimination, harassment and civil rights shall be defined for purposes of this resolution using the latest definitions contained in the applicable Federal and State laws concerning discrimination, harassment and civil rights.

Section 4: The Administration shall establish written procedures for any person to report alleged discrimination, harassment and violations of civil rights prohibited by this resolution. Such procedures shall include alternate ways to report a complaint so that the person making the complaint need not communicate with the alleged violator in the event the alleged violator would be the normal contract for such complaints.

Section 5: No person shall retaliate against any person who reports any alleged discrimination, harassment or violation of civil rights, provided however, that any person who reports alleged violations in bad faith shall be subject to appropriate discipline.

Section 6: The Administration shall establish written procedures that require all officials, employees, appointees and volunteers of the Township of Readington as well as all other entities subject to this resolution to periodically complete training concerning their duties, responsibilities and rights pursuant to this resolution.

Section 7: The Administration shall establish a system to monitor compliance and shall report at least annually to the governing body the results of the monitoring.

Section 8: At least annually, the Administration shall cause a summary of this resolution and the procedures established pursuant to this resolution to be communicated within the Township of Readington. This communication shall include a statement from the governing body expressing its unequivocal commitment to enforce this resolution. This summary shall also be posted on the Township of Readington's website.

- * 3. ***Resolution Authorizing the Special Tax Counsel for the Township of Readington to Enter into a Stipulation of Settlement Relative to the Tax Appeal Captioned HCM Family Life Deliverance Center, Inc. vs. Readington Township, Tax Court of New Jersey, Docket No. 014713-2009***

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2010-58

TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SPECIAL TAX COUNSEL FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON TO ENTER INTO A STIPULATION OF SETTLEMENT RELATIVE TO THE TAX APPEAL CAPTIONED HCM FAMILY LIFE DELIVERANCE CENTER, INC. VS. READINGTON TOWNSHIP, TAX COURT OF NEW JERSEY, DOCKET NO. 014713-2009

WHEREAS, HCM FAMILY DELIVERANCE CENTER, INC. ("Honey's Child"), the owners of Block 78, Lot 1 and 4 on the Township of Readington's Tax Assessment Maps, commonly known as 652 Old York Road ("Property"), filed an appeal of the denial of an exemption in the 2009 tax year in the Tax Court of New Jersey, Docket No. 014713-2009; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Readington met and discussed the aforesaid tax appeals and the recommendations of its Township Tax Assessor and Special Tax Counsel; and

WHEREAS, the Assessor has inspected the property and determined that the properties are both exempt and that they should have been classified as exempt in 2009; and

WHEREAS, an acceptable settlement of the aforesaid tax appeal has been negotiated which exempts from taxation Block 78, Lot 1, and reaffirms the exemption of Block 78, Lot 4 on Honey's Child's Property in 2009; and

WHEREAS, in consideration for the continuance of the exemption in 2010, Honey's Child has filed a deed of consolidation of Block 78 Lot 1 into Lot 4, Lot 1 being an undersized lot that adjoins Lot 4; and

WHEREAS, Honey's Child has also agreed not to file an appeal in 2010 except for the sole purpose of enforcing the classification of the property as exempt in 2010; and

WHEREAS, Honey's Child has agreed to waive interest on any refunds; and

WHEREAS, the Tax Assessor has already adjusted the 2010 tax assessment to a reflect it's classification as exempt property; and

WHEREAS, the aforesaid agreement has no general application to other properties within the Township of Readington as a result of the aforesaid specific facts situation; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee makes this settlement with Taxpayers without prejudice to its dealing with any other Readington Township's taxpayers' request for tax exemption; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee has reviewed a copy of the proposed Stipulation of Settlement, which is annexed hereto and incorporated herein by this reference.

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

Resolution #R-2010-58 cont'd:

1. The Special Tax Counsel is hereby authorized to execute a Stipulation of Settlement relative to the tax appeal of HCM Family Life Deliverance Center, Inc., Docket NO.014713-2009 which results in the classification of Block 78, Lot 1 and Lot 4 as exempt in 2009; which further provides that interest shall be waived on any refunds; which further provides for the consolidation of Lots 1 and 4; which further provides for the waiver of the taxpayer's right to appeal in 2010 if the property is classified as exempt in 2010.
2. The settlement outlined above shall be without prejudice to the Township of Readington's dealings with any other Township taxpayers' request for tax exemption.

* 4. **Tonnage Grant Application**

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2010-59

**TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON
2009 RECYCLING TONNAGE GRANT APPLICATION RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, the Mandatory Source Separation and Recycling Act, P.L. 1987, c.102, has established a recycling fund from which tonnage grants may be made to municipalities in order to encourage local source separation and recycling programs; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent and the spirit of the Mandatory Source Separation and Recycling Act to use the tonnage grants to develop new municipal recycling programs, and to continue and expand existing programs; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection has promulgated recycling regulations to Implement the Mandatory Source Separation and Recycling Act; and

WHEREAS, the recycling regulations impose on municipalities certain requirements as a condition for applying for tonnage grants, including but not limited to, making and keeping accurate, verifiable records of materials collected and claimed by the municipality; and

WHEREAS, a resolution authorizing this municipality to apply for the 2009 Recycling Tonnage Grant will memorialize the commitment of this municipality to recycling and indicate the assent of the Township Committee of the Township of Readington to the efforts undertaken by the municipality and the requirements contained in the Recycling Act and recycling regulations; and

WHEREAS, such a resolution should designate the individual authorized to ensure the application is properly completed and timely filed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey hereby endorses the submission of the recycling tonnage grant application to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and designates Director of Public Works/Municipal Recycling Coordinator Scott Jesseman to ensure that the application is properly filed; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the monies received from the recycling tonnage grant be deposited in a dedicated recycling trust fund to be used solely for the purposes of recycling.

- * 5. **Older Americans Month (May)** – letter dated March 10, 2010 from Mary Ann Rodenberger, Hunterdon County Division of Senior Services, requesting the Township pass a Resolution/Proclamation celebrating and recognizing older Americans

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2010-60

**TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON
 RESOLUTION TO DESIGNATE MAY AS OLDER AMERICANS MONTH**

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

WHEREAS, the 2010 theme is, **“Older Americans: Age Strong! Live Long!**, in honor of older Americans; and

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

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township of Readington does hereby proclaim the month of May as older Americans Month and call upon individuals and entities to honor and celebrate the outstanding contributions of this Municipality’s older residents.

- * 6. **Social Affairs Permit** – Knights of Columbus #10627 – Solberg Aviation Festival (July 23-25th)
- * 7. **Cellco Partnership (Block 20, Lot 6)** – release of escrow (\$584.05)
- * 8. **Malinowski, Anthony (Block 54, Lot 14)** – release of escrow (\$516.19)
- * 9. **Payment of Bills** – (Complete bill list is on file in Clerk’s Office)

Fund Description	Fund No.	Received Total
CURRENT FUND	0-01	\$ 753,377.32
CURRENT FUND	9-01	\$ 1,750.00
TRUST FUNDS	X-03	\$ 13,523.42
MISC REFUND, COUNTY TAX, LIENS	X-05	\$ 4,061.09
PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS	X-06	\$ 177,518.94
DUE TO STATE OF NJ	X-09	<u>\$ 544,825.00</u>
TOTAL OF ALL FUNDS		\$1,495,055.77

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

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

PUBLIC HEARINGS

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

Clerk read by Title:

An Ordinance Amending Chapter 197 of the Code of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon Pertaining to Soil and Surface Water Management

Ordinance #08-2010

Attorney Dragan stated that this ordinance allows the Township to collect escrow inspection fees for surface water management.

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

There were none.

Deputy Mayor Gatti asked if there were any comments from the public.

There were none.

A ***MOTION*** was made by Mr. Auriemma to close the Public Hearing and open the regular meeting, seconded by Mrs. Muir with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

Clerk read by Title:

An Ordinance Amending Chapter 197 of the Code of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon Pertaining to Soil and Surface Water Management

Ordinance #08-2010

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

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

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

Clerk read by Title:

Bond Ordinance Providing for Sewer Improvements to Mimosa Drive and Pulaski Road in and by the Township of Readington, in the County of Hunterdon, New Jersey, Appropriating \$120,000 therefor Authorizing the Issuance of \$114,000 Bonds or Notes of the Township to Finance Part of the Cost thereof

Ordinance #09-2010

Deputy Mayor Gatti stated that this ordinance provides the funding for a sewer main line enabling residents on these two roads to hook up to the main sewer connection.

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

There were none.

Deputy Mayor Gatti asked if there were any comments from the public.

There were none.

A ***MOTION*** was made by Mr. Auriemma to close the Public Hearing and open the regular meeting, seconded by Mrs. Allen with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

Clerk read by Title:

Bond Ordinance Providing for Sewer Improvements to Mimosa Drive and Pulaski Road in and by the Township of Readington, in the County of Hunterdon, New Jersey, Appropriating \$120,000 therefor Authorizing the Issuance of \$114,000 Bonds or Notes of the Township to Finance Part of the Cost thereof

Ordinance #09-2010

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

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

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

Clerk read by Title:

An Ordinance Amending and Supplementing the Readington Township 2009 Salary Ordinance for Officers and Employees of Readington Township

Ordinance #11-2010

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

There were none.

Deputy Mayor Gatti asked if there were any comments from the public.

Lauren Huelsebusch, of Hoagland Drive, asked if the salary ordinance represented an increase and if so, what was the justification for the increase.

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Auriemma to close the Public Hearing and open the regular meeting, seconded by Mrs. Allen with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

Clerk read by Title:

An Ordinance Amending and Supplementing the Readington Township 2009 Salary Ordinance for Officers and Employees of Readington Township

Ordinance #11-2010

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

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

Mayor Shamey arrived at 8:10 p.m.

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

Clerk read by Title:

An Ordinance of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, New Jersey to Set the Schedule of Fees for Certified Copies of Vital Statistic Records

Ordinance #12-2010

Administrator Mekovetz stated that this ordinance represents a slight increase in fees because the Township fees are low in comparison to other municipalities.

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

There were none.

Mayor Shamey asked if there were any comments from the public.

There were none.

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

Clerk read by Title:

An Ordinance of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, New Jersey to Set the Schedule of Fees for Certified Copies of Vital Statistic Records

Ordinance #12-2010

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

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

Clerk read by Title:

Bond Ordinance Providing for the Reclamation and Overlay of Various Roads in and by the Township of Readington, in the County of Hunterdon, New Jersey, Appropriating \$1,065,000 therefor Authorizing the Issuance of \$1,011,750 Bonds or Notes of the Township to Finance Part of the Cost thereof

Ordinance #13-2010

Mayor Shamey stated that every year the Township reviews all of the roads and a list is determined in terms of priorities.

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

Mr. Gatti stated initial list of roads to be repaired was more extensive but had to be pared down to the worst roads. Mr. Gatti stated that the Township will be receiving a state grant for a portion of County Line Road.

Mayor Shamey asked if there were any comments from the public.

There were none.

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

Clerk read by Title:

***Bond Ordinance Providing for the Reclamation and Overlay of Various Roads
in and by the Township of Readington, in the County of Hunterdon, New
Jersey, Appropriating \$1,065,000 therefor Authorizing the Issuance of \$1,011,750 Bonds or
Notes of the Township to Finance Part of the Cost
thereof***

Ordinance #13-2010

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

CORRESPONDENCE/OTHER INFORMATION

1. Memorandum dated March 29, 2010 from Peter S. Palmer, Chairman of Raritan Valley Coalition regarding ***Resolution against the Proposed NJ Transit Fare Hikes, Service and Staffing Cuts.*** No action taken.
2. Memorandum dated April 7, 2010 from Rose Sollena, Municipal Clerk, Raritan Township, regarding ***Notice of the Following Pending Ordinances:***
 - ***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, 1999” and More Specifically to Amend Chapter 16.28.B – 1.2 Major Industrial Zone, Chapter 16.68.060 Conditional Uses and Chapter 16.02 Purpose, Administration and Definitions***
 - ***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, 1999” and More Specifically to Amend Chapter 16.28A to Include a Planned Residential Development Overlay Zone on Block 34, Lot 17 in the I-1 Zone.***
No action taken.
3. Memorandum dated April 7, 2010 from Denise B. Doolan, Clerk of the Board, County of Hunterdon regarding ***Transparent Government – Legal Actions.*** No action taken.
4. Public Notice from Douglas J. Janacek, Esq., Sblendorio Tewksbury Holdings, LLC regarding ***Use of a variance to convert a portion of the existing building located at 152 Oldwick Road, NJ to medical office and general office where such uses are not permitted in the R-1.5 zoning district in which the property is located.*** No action taken.

NEW BUSINESS

1. ***Residents of Witherspoon Street Subdivision*** – petition from residents requesting to appropriate funding to resurface streets

Mrs. Allen stated that she had discussed this matter with Scott Jesseman and although the original list for road reclamation had to be cut, there will be some temporary patching and skim paving on the old section of Witherspoon. Mrs. Allen suggested sending a letter, along with a map to those residents listed on the petition, advising them that some temporary improvements will be done and that they will be on the top priority list for 2011.

Mr. Auriemma requested that Scott Jesseman fix the potholes on the streets throughout the township.

2. ***South Branch Watershed Association*** – request for contribution for annual clean up, April 24, 2010

Administrator Mekovetz stated that this item may be removed from the agenda since the Environmental Commission took care of this matter.

3. ***Appointment to Readington-Lebanon Sewerage Authority*** – vacancy

A MOTION was made by Mrs. Allen to appoint Tanya Rohrbach to the Readington-Lebanon Sewerage Authority to fill the unexpired term of Kenneth Garvey through February 1, 2011, seconded by Mr. Auriemma with a vote of ayes all nays none recorded.

4. ***2010 Budget*** – introduction

Deputy Mayor Gatti stated that the budget is almost identical to last year; facing a similar problem of lack of revenue. Deputy Mayor Gatti stated that part of the revenue short fall was the reduction of approximately \$400,000 in State Aid. Deputy Mayor Gatti stated that the Township is proposing a 2¢ increase on the municipal tax rate on basically a flat budget.

A MOTION was made by Mrs. Allen to introduce the 2010 budget, seconded by Mr. Auriemma and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

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

The Public Hearing has been scheduled for June 9, 2010 at 7:30 p.m.

5. ***Tax Identification Statement for Tonnage Grant***

Administrator Mekovetz stated that this item came through last minute to be added to new business in conjunction with the Tonnage Grant application.

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2010-61

***TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON
RESOLUTION
TAX IDENTIFICATION STATEMENT***

WHEREAS, the Recycling Enhancement Act, P.L. 2007, chapter 311, has established a recycling fund from which tonnage grants may be made to municipalities in order to encourage a local source separation and recycling programs; and

Resolution #R-2010-61 cont'd:

WHEREAS, there is levied upon the owner or operator of every solid waste facility (with certain exceptions) a recycling tax of \$3.00 per ton on all solid waste accepted for disposal or transfer at the solid waste facility.

WHEREAS, whenever a municipality operates a municipal service system for solid waste collection, or provides for regular solid waste collection service under a contract awarded pursuant to the “Local Public Contracts Law”, the amount of grant monies received by the municipality shall not be less than the annual amount of recycling tax paid by the municipality except that all grant monies received by the municipality shall be expended only for its recycling program.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township of Readington that the Township of Readington hereby certifies a submission of expenditure for taxes paid pursuant to P.L. 2007, chapter 311, in 2009 in the amount of \$21,467.16. Documentation supporting this submission is available at Municipal Building, 509 Route 523, Whitehouse Station, 08889 and shall be maintained for no less than five years from the date.

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

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

- * 6. ***Resolution to Affirm the Township of Readington’s Civil Rights Policy with Respect to All Officials, Appointees, Employees, Prospective Employees, Volunteers, Independent Contractors, and Members of the Public that come into Contact with Municipal Employee, Officials and Volunteers***

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

- * 7. ***Resolution Authorizing the Special Tax Counsel for the Township of Readington to Enter into a Stipulation of Settlement Relative to the Tax Appeal Captioned HCM Family Life Deliverance Center, Inc. vs. Readington Township, Tax Court of New Jersey, Docket No. 014713-2009***

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

- * 8. ***Tonnage Grant Application*** – resolution

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

- * 9. ***Older Americans Month (May)*** – letter dated March 10, 2010 from Mary Ann Rodenberger, Hunterdon County Division of Senior Services, requesting the Township pass a Resolution/Proclamation celebrating and recognizing older Americans.

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

- * 10. ***Social Affairs Permit*** – Knights of Columbus #10627 – Solberg Aviation Festival (July 23-25th)

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

- * 11. *Cellco Partnership (Block 20, Lot 6)* – release of escrow (\$584.05)

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

- * 12. *Malikowski, Anthony (Block 54, Lot 14)* – release of escrow (\$516.19)

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator Mekovetz reported that the web page is currently being updated.

Administrator Mekovetz reported that liquor licenses are in the process of being renewed.

Administrator Mekovetz reported that she received the energy audit report which she will be reviewing with Mike Kovonuk.

Administrator Mekovetz reported that the online tax payments will be set to begin August.

Administrator Mekovetz stated that the Open Space Committee has provided comments and recommendations on the hunting contracts which she will review and present to them Committee.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Attorney Dragan reported that the Township closed on the Amawalk property.

Attorney Dragan requested from the Committee authority to change a section of the zoning ordinance that references the Capital Review Program which the township does not use, however does pertain to Municipal Capital Improvement Projects.

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Muir to authorize Attorney Dragan to draft changes to the ordinance referencing the Municipal Capital Improvement project, seconded by Mrs. Allen with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

COMMITTEE REPORT

Julia Allen

Mrs. Allen reported that the monthly Open Space walk took place Sunday at Lake Cushetunk Mountain. Mrs. Allen also reported John Klotz has been running a volunteer sign up day for various maintenance projects on the trails.

Mrs. Allen stated that the New Jersey Barn Company has drafted a nomination for the Reno Barn for the 20th Annual Historic Preservation Award and asked the Committee to pass a resolution in support of the nomination.

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2010-62

TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the NJ Barn Company has accurately chronicled the history of the Reno Barn, formerly located on Cole Road in Readington Township; and

WHEREAS, the Reno Barn is a wonderful example of an English Style barn once common in the countryside of rural Readington Township; and

Resolution #R-2010-62 cont'd:

WHEREAS, the Reno Barn is in fact remarkable for the fact that the barn's massive oak "swingbeam" bent includes two arced braces, examples of which are rare to New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the Reno Barn has now been authentically restored and relocated to the James Pidcock Farm in Whitehouse, now preserved by Green Acres and owned by Readington Township; and

WHEREAS, as a result, a rare vernacular structure has been saved, and has been relocated to an appropriate site within the Township, where it will be open to the public and have a new use as an interpretive Environmental Education Center.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee of the Township of Readington enthusiastically supports the application submitted by The NJ Barn Company to the New Jersey Historic Preservation Awards Program for the Reno Barn project.

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

Thomas Auriemma

Mr. Auriemma stated that he had nothing to report.

Frank Gatti

Mr. Gatti stated that he had nothing to report.

Beatrice Muir

Mrs. Muir stated that she had nothing to report.

Mrs. Muir

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Joe Murray, an attorney with Schiller & Pittenger in Scotch Plains, requested a copy of the budget.

A MOTION was made by Mrs. Muir to take a short recess until the Public Hearing could begin at 8:00, seconded by Mr. Auriemma with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

The meeting reconvened at 8:00 p.m. to open the Public Hearing.

As there was no further business, ***A MOTION*** was made by Mr. Auriemma at 8:20 p.m. to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mrs. Muir with vote of all ayes, nays none recorded.

Respectfully Submitted:

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