

WEST AMWELL TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING
February 22, 2012

CALL TO ORDER AND STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT

The regular meeting of the West Amwell Township Committee was called to order at 7:08 p.m. Present were Mayor George A. Fisher, Deputy Mayor Zachary T. Rich, Committeeman Thomas J. Molnar and Attorney Philip J. Faherty III. Also in attendance were Hal Shute, Glenn Baran, Mike Pearson, Frank DeFazio, John Cronic, Cathy Urbanski, Nate Barson, Dave Beaumont, Barbara Walsh, Jennifer Andreoli, and an unidentified lady.

Mayor Fisher announced that this meeting is called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act. Notice of this meeting was included in the Resolution faxed to the Hunterdon County Democrat and Trenton Times on January 3, 2012, was posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building on said date and has remained continuously posted as required under the Statute. A copy of this notice is and has been available to the public and is on file in the office of the Municipal Clerk.

The meeting was recorded via digital recording system.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE AMERICAN FLAG

Dave Beaumont led the assembled group in the pledge to the nation's flag.

AGENDA REVIEW BY TOWNSHIP CLERK

The following items were added: 8.G Website. Deleted were: 7.B Municipal Alliance and 12. C & G under Administrative Reports

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The following announcements were made:

- 2012 Dog Licenses – Late Fees Apply
- First Energy Tree Pruning, Ongoing
- PSE&G Power Line Work/Lewis Tree Service, Various Lines, Ongoing Thru March/April 2012
- Daylight Savings Returns March 11th
- Spring Begins March 20th
- Please Come to the Table if You Wish to Address the Committee
- Kindly Turn Cell Phones Off During Meeting

PRESENTATION OF MINUTES

The following Regular, Special and Closed Session minutes were unanimously approved on motion from Molnar, seconded by Rich.

January 25, 2012 Special Meeting

January 25, 2012 Regular Meeting

January 25, 2012 Closed Session (Protecting the Safety & Property of the Public; Litigation)

The following Closed Session minutes were approved for release on motion by Molnar, seconded by Rich. Motion carried unanimously.

5/2/09 Pending Litigation

4/27/11 Personnel

5/5/11 Personnel

5/5/11 Protecting the Safety & Property of the Public

6/22/11 Purchase, Lease or Acquisition of Real Property

8/29/11 Personnel (Interviews)

9/1/11 Personnel (Interviews) #1, #2, #3

9/28/11 Potential Litigation

11/7/11 Personnel (Interviews) #1, #2, #3

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC/TOPIC NOT ON THE AGENDA

Glenn Baran, a DPW employee, came forward concerning carry over of vacation days. He requested consideration of an expanded the window from March 31st and August 31st to July 31st and October 31st. It is very difficult for DPW employees to use days during the winter months due to unexpected snows, etc. Mr. Baran noted that he's carrying 15 days into 2012. The Clerk relayed that the Policy Manual is due to be updated and this could be considered.

The requested change to the policy was temporarily approved on motion by Molnar, seconded by Rich and carried unanimously.

Mr. Baran also inquired about the former suggestion policy and will provide copy.

Mr. Rich also took an opportunity to inquire about several items including 1) tax maps as the engineer was questioning what changes need to be made; 2) whether Swan Creek will provide a letter to Construction; 3) if closed session minutes are posted on the website (have not been); and, 4) if agendas are posted (yes).

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE AND/OR PUBLIC HEARING AND/OR SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Affordable Housing – Barbara Walsh reviewed her previously sent February 16th memo concerning issues that the Affordable Housing Board addressed as a result of Shirley Bishop's appearance at the December 2011 meeting. At that time, Mrs. Bishop made two recommendations: 1) to commit funds required to meet the Settlement Agreement with Fair Share Housing Center to subsidize the next two existing low income accessory apartments, making them 'very low' income units, to provide the required very low income family units and satisfy the municipality's obligation to provide affordability assistance, and 2) initiate a rehab program as the Township has a 4 unit obligation. The former is to avoid having uncommitted trust fund money transferred to the State as of July 1st. The Township Committee subsequently requested that the AHB recommend a consultant to administer the rehab program. Inquiries were sent out and proposals reviewed by the AHB. The recommendation of the Board is to hire Ed Geubtner of Mullin & Lonergan to administer this program. However, in the meantime, NJ First legislation is in place; she's been advised that it covers consultants too; Mullin & Lonergan is a Pennsylvania company; and, she's asked Attorney Faherty to review the legislation. Attorney Faherty stated that he can find no definition for 'person' in the legislation and questioned if a 'corporation' would be considered a person but this is not defined, so more research is needed. Therefore, the recommendation is to table a decision on hiring Mr. Geubtner. Mrs. Walsh continued that the Township also has CDBG money from past projects and the AHB recommends using those funds for the rehabs as there is no urgency to commit these funds.

As for the trust fund money of \$168,579, \$71,584 is to be committed to subsidize 2 low-income accessory apartments, leaving a balance of \$96,995. These funds are subject to State transfer unless committed to a project under the spending plan. Mrs. Walsh then spoke about a special needs housing partnership sponsored by DCA, Dept of Human Services and NJ Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency that encourages municipalities to utilize trust fund money to create group homes. The Partnership will match municipal contributions up to \$250,000 to purchase an existing 3/4 bedroom ranch house which can be readily rehabbed/retrofitted for the special needs population. The program further provides for having the Agency handle all the arrangements but if no unit is identified or produced within 120 days, the money can be reclaimed. Discussions have also been had with Community Options for a group home and they now want \$60,000 per bedroom, half of which will be matched by the State. A sample funding scheme was presented.

In order to create a group home, the Township's spending plan needs to be amended to use the trust fund for this as it currently calls for a rehab program and accessory apartments. The AHB recommends amending the spending plan and committing \$90,000 to the Special Needs Housing Partnership program. Another \$4000 would be used for administration. Mrs. Bishop would need to modify the spending plan and resolution in order to make application. Mrs. Walsh noted that DCA is looking for group homes, and the money for them, as institutions are being closed. There's also legislation by Senator Lesniack that calls for a municipality with development fee money to buy foreclosed properties but this would probably not be applicable to West Amwell. The DCA can also take State trust fund money to purchase property in anticipation of money coming into the State on July 1st.

A lengthy discussion ensued over group home acquisition, providers, ownership of the home, and how soon something like this needs to start. The answer to the latter is now as the Township is zero to their goal and vulnerable to a developer for not meeting affordable housing obligations. The current plan calls for 20 accessory apartments, 14 group homes (bedrooms) and 4 rehabs. The question to the Committee was whether they want to move on a program to amend the spending plan and make application to the Partnership program, transferring \$90,000 to said program. The consensus was to start the process with Mrs. Bishop and assess the next step with DCA. Also noted was that an approved vendor in the County must be used for a group home—SERVE, NORWESCAP, ARC or Community Options—and that the latter has been interviewed, and recommended, by the AHB. Information on Community Options is available through the Clerk's office.

FFA – Mr. Molnar reported on behalf of Kelly Albanir that there was good food at the banquet held at the Green Horn.

Regionalization Study – Dave Beaumont reported on the February 6th meeting and noted that the report is available on South's website. Approximately 200 people were in attendance and various aspects of the study were relayed—demographics, educational and financial. There are still questions about tax savings; how to phrase the various questions for a ballot; and, the fact that the data used is already old. It'll be a year or more to reach the next level. The committee meets again next month.

Mr. Fisher inquired about the offer from the last meeting for a Technology committee list. Mr. Beaumont stated that a charter is needed first in order to identify what type of folks would be best to nominate.

Public Hearing: Ordinance 2, 2012 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 90 (FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION) OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST AMWELL

Proof of publication in the February 2, 2012 issue of the Hunterdon County Democrat was presented. The ordinance has been posted and available to the public since its introduction at the January 25, 2012 Township Committee meeting. Mr. Fisher read the Ordinance by title and opened the public hearing. Hearing no comments, the public hearing was unanimously closed.

Molnar moved for adoption of the Ordinance and Rich seconded. Roll Call: Fisher-aye, Rich-aye, Molnar-aye

Public Hearing: Ordinance 3, 2012 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE 3, 2011 AMENDING CHAPTER 109 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST AMWELL (Renewable Energy Facilities)

Proof of publication in the February 2, 2012 issue of the Hunterdon County Democrat was presented. The ordinance has been posted and available to the public since its introduction at the January 25, 2012 Township Committee meeting and mailed to surrounding municipalities and the Hunterdon County Planning Board. The Ordinance has been reviewed by the Planning Board, found consistent with the Master Plan and adoption recommended. Mr. Fisher read the Ordinance by title and opened the public hearing.

Steve Bergenfeld of 376 Rock Road East came forward in opposition to the ordinance, particularly the need for a site plan for arrays of 15KW and above and fencing. His stated objections were that it was not fair and sets the stage for a lawsuit. He would like to see both the site plan application and fencing requirement removed so as not to create more hardship for the people and questioned how the 15KW number was arrived at. To the latter point, Mr. Fisher relayed that the number was derived by scientists on the Board and to align with State statutes. Mr. Bergenfeld also asked if the ordinance currently on the books can be re-visited. Mr. Rich was supportive in that he questioned whether it was equitable for someone to spend \$5,000-\$10,000 on a site plan.

Jennifer Andreoli, 16 Hunter Road, inquired if it was possible to do a full review of the ordinance in fairness to the community as there are problems with it; several issues were mentioned at the recent hearing; and, too many assumptions were made. A work session for this review was requested. Ms. Andreoli was instructed to bring her list of recommendations to the Clerk.

Molnar motioned to continue the public hearing, with a second from Rich. Roll Call: Molnar-aye, Rich-aye, Fisher-nay

After some related discussion, Molnar motioned to rescind his previous motion. Rich seconded. Roll Call: Molnar-aye, Rich-aye, Fisher-nay

Molnar then motioned to send the Ordinance back to the Planning Board. Rich seconded. Roll Call: Molnar-aye, Rich-aye, Fisher-nay.

Public Hearing: Ordinance 4, 2012 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE 1, 2012 TO PROVIDE FOR AND DETERMINE THE RATE OF COMPENSATION OF OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST AMWELL, COUNTRY OF HUNTERDON, NEW JERSEY

Proof of publication in the February 2, 2012 issue of the Hunterdon County Democrat was presented. The ordinance has been posted and available to the public since its introduction at the January 25, 2012 Township Committee meeting. Mr. Fisher read the Ordinance by title and opened the public hearing. Hearing no comments, the public hearing was unanimously closed.

Molnar moved for adoption of the Ordinance and Rich seconded. Roll Call: Molnar-aye, Rich-aye, Fisher-aye

Introduction: Ordinance 5, 2012

The following ordinance was read by title and introduced on first reading:

**TOWNSHIP OF WEST AMWELL
CALENDAR YEAR 2012
ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS
AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK
(N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)**

WHEREAS, the Local Government Cap Law, N.J.S. 40A: 4-45.1 et seq., provides that in the preparation of its annual budget, a municipality shall limit any increase in said budget up to 2.0% unless authorized by ordinance to increase it to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, subject to certain exceptions; and,

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.15a provides that a municipality may, when authorized by ordinance, appropriate the difference between the amount of its actual final appropriation and the 3.5% percentage rate as an exception to its final appropriations in either of the next two succeeding years; and,

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of West Amwell in the County of Hunterdon finds it advisable and necessary to increase its CY 2012 budget by up to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, in the interest of promoting the health, safety and welfare of the citizens; and,

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of West Amwell hereby determines that a 3.5 % increase in the budget for said year, amounting to \$ 77,333.72 in excess of the increase in final appropriations otherwise permitted by the Local Government Cap Law, is advisable and necessary; and,

WHEREAS the Township Committee of the Township of West Amwell hereby determines that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, by the Township Committee of the Township of West Amwell, in the County of Hunterdon, a majority of the full authorized membership of this governing body affirmatively concurring, that, in the CY 2012 budget year, the final appropriations of the Township of West Amwell shall, in accordance with this ordinance and N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14, be increased by 1.5 %, amounting to \$ 33,143.02, and that the CY 2012 municipal budget for the Township of West Amwell be approved and adopted in accordance with this ordinance; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that any that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance as introduced be filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services within 5 days of introduction; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance upon adoption, with the recorded vote included thereon, be filed with said Director within 5 days after such adoption.

Molnar moved to introduce the Ordinance on first reading and Rich seconded. Motion carried unanimously. The public hearing will be held on March 28, 2012.

SPECIAL AND/OR STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Open Space

John Cronic and Hal Shute came forward about the following items:

- *NJDEP/Green Acres Request Concerning Block 13 Lot 70.01 & Block 11 Lot 12*: These parcels are being evaluated for possible acquisition in fee or easement. Their policy requires information on past use of properties as landfills, hazardous waste production, storage or disposal sites, etc. The questionnaire asked about complaints registered for environmental issues, violations of public health codes and underground storage tanks. This letter was circulated to Environmental, Open Space and Construction for comment. Finding nothing, the questions asked were answered in the negative. Mayor Fisher was unanimously authorized to sign off.

- *ROSI/Declaration of Encumbrance (Adam)*: HELD

- *Green Acres Funding Request*: A letter has been sent to Trenton for additional funding in the amount of \$475,663.00.

- *Trees*: Mr. Cronic inquired about the trees on Toll and the connection to the new development. He was advised that the excavator had contacted Mr. Molnar and was supposed to have the developer make contact. As now is the time to move trees, Mr. Cronic noted that guidelines need to be set up. However, if the developer doesn't want the trees, they need to be removed as they down-grade the sale potential. He questioned whether the Committee desired to have some variation of tree removal looked into by Open Space and received an affirmative response.

The removal of the old pipes from the culvert repair was raised. Mr. Cronic suggested that the DPW take them for scrap.

A walk of the Nunn property is scheduled for February 25th at 9 a.m.

Environmental

- *Authorization to Post January 12, 2012 Minutes on Website*: Approved

Ag Advisory

- *Authorization to Post January 2012 Minutes on Website*: Approved

Finance Advisory

- *Authorization to Post 2009-2011 & January 2012 Minutes on Website*: Approved

Parks and Rec

Mr. Molnar reported that the group recently met to re-organize and that 2010 had been their last meeting. Joe Petrucci was elected Chair. A walking trail at Hewitt was discussed. A joint effort of Open Space and Parks to undertake this was mentioned. Mr. Fisher suggested that some high school students could help

with this effort. A question about the use of Open Space funds for Hewitt Park work was raised. This will have to be checked with the CFO but the Open Space Trust hearing has in the past included money for maintenance of parks.

Recycling

- *Certified Recycling Coordinator Offer*: Franklin Township has offered the services of their CRC at no charge. The offer was accepted unanimously and will be relayed to Franklin Township.
- *Electronic Recycling*: A bin for recycling this commodity should be in place around the end of March. Placement will be in the recycling area and collections accepted Saturdays opposite regular recycling.

Website – No report after all.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Appointments – Mayor Fisher appointed Janice Zuzov to the unexpired 2 year term on the Environmental Commission. Appointment unanimously approved by the governing body.

Updates – 1) The ***Perrine*** contract of sale was modified to remove the spouse, otherwise approved for Mayor and Clerk signature and subsequently executed. 2) At the January 9th meeting, ***Anna Lustenberg*** of Verizon stated that her contact information, and initial steps to be taken, could be posted on the Township's website so that residents can reach her directly with unresolved problems. The suggested information will be posted. 3) ***List Serve*** was held. 4) Progress on the ***Energy Audit Program*** is waiting on DomeTech. 5) The position of ***Deputy Court Administrator*** will be changed to Violations Clerk. An ordinance revision is needed. 6) Mr. Fisher has obtained a map and continues to work on the ***Census*** problem. 7) A question concerning which engineer would be working with the Construction office on plot plan review for the ***Creekside*** development was resolved during a meeting with the new Township engineer. It was decided that Bob Lorentz would handle the plot plan review for the first house to get that moving along and the Rick Roseberry would take over after that.

Animal Control

- *ACO Agreement Status*: Attorney Faherty has reviewed the latest revision and is okay with the changes made by East Amwell and Delaware. The revised agreement will be circulated to the participants for signature.

RESOLUTION #52-2012

Authorizing a Shared Services Agreement for Animal Control Services

WHEREAS, the municipalities of Delaware Township, East Amwell Township, the City of Lambertville and West Amwell Township have proposed to share the services of an Animal Control Officer (ACO); and

WHEREAS, shared services are authorized by N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1, et seq; and

WHEREAS, said municipalities have reviewed the Shared Services Agreement as proposed by lead agent, West Amwell Township

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of West Amwell, County of Hunterdon and State of New Jersey, that the Mayor and Clerk are authorized to sign the Shared Services Agreement for Animal Control Services as presented under the terms and conditions agreed to by the signatories.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the terms of the Shared Services Agreement shall be eleven months effective February 1, 2012, with the exception of the City of Lambertville which will be effective February 3, 2012, and extending through December 31, 2012.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution and the executed Shared Services Agreement be forwarded to the Department of Community Affairs.

Rich motioned to approve the Resolution and Molnar seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

- *Vaccinations/licensing*: The Township's ACO, Nate Barson, was present for this discussion. He explained that the State code states that no license can be issued unless the rabies vaccination is valid through the first 10 months of the licensing period. He reviewed the State regulations guiding licensure and addressed the dog licensing procedure provided by Wendy Williams. Extended discussion ensued over 1 and/or 3 year licenses; if there could be both and what this would involve administratively; time frame of the rabies clinic; that the assessment of late fees has been extended through March to allow time for updates to vaccinations; and, that the ACO will share prepared notices and letters with the Township Committee prior to their release to residents that are delinquent with licensing their animals. This matter will be further discussed at the next Board of Health meeting.

- *Proposed Date Change for Rabies Clinic*: ACO Barson has been in touch with Dr. Maxian about changing to a November date. A date of November 10th at the DPW was agreed upon. Flyers will be

distributed prior to the former May date and again prior to the new November date. Notice will also be posted on the website.

Mr. Fisher advised that an e-mail had been received from Jim Troutman concerning community service possibilities for the football team. Suggestions made included working on trails, helping with the tree inventory on Toll and assisting with the dog census. Mr. Beaumont mentioned putting a page on the website for community service ideas which would be shared with the guidance counselor at the high school.

Vehicle Maintenance Quote & Resolution of Award – This service was re-advertised with more positive results.

RESOLUTION #53-2012

WHEREAS, West Amwell is in need of a maintenance facility for its police vehicles according to the attached specifications; and

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that the cost for said repairs will exceed the quotation threshold of \$2,625.00 but will not exceed the bid threshold of \$17,500.00 for 2012; and

WHEREAS, a request for quotes for Automotive Repair was advertised in the HC Democrat on February 2, 2012; and

WHEREAS, solicited quotes were due on February 16, 2012, with three responses received as follows:

	Hourly Rate	Routine Turn-Around	% off List
Amwell Auto	\$101.75	Same Day	N/A
Boni Auto Service	90.00	Same Day	10%
Ditschman Flemington	89.00	One Day	35%

WHEREAS, all vendors have submitted a Business Registration Certificate per the specifications; and

WHEREAS Ditschman Flemington Ford Lincoln has submitted the lowest quote for the advertised work; and

WHEREAS, the CFO has certified that funds are available in the 2012 temporary budget and will be made available in the 2012 Budget under Vehicle Maintenance OE.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the West Amwell Township Committee that the quote for 2012 Automotive Repair be awarded to Ditschman Flemington Ford Lincoln.

The Resolution of award was unanimously approved on motion by Molnar, seconded by Rich.

Firehouse Roof Bid – The Clerk suggested that the Township Engineer be commissioned to handle this bid given the problem encountered previously. The consensus of the Committee was that the Clerk continue to handle this bid work.

Resolution re S1954/A4358, Timber Harvesting on State Lands – A revision edition was presented for consideration.

RESOLUTION #54-2012

WHEREAS State Legislators have considered a bill that would open New Jersey's State owned lands to commercial logging, (S1954/A4358, Forest Harvest on State Lands), and

WHEREAS on January 9, 2012 S1954/A4358 was voted on and passed by the Senate, but was not voted on by the Assembly, and

WHEREAS on January 17, 2012, the Senate reintroduced S1954 as S1085, and S1085 will be voted on again in the Senate on March 8, and

WHEREAS New Jersey's State Lands, including its Parks, Wildlife Management Areas and forested Green Acres Lands have been set aside for conservation and recreation purposes, and

WHEREAS the mature trees growing in our State parks and forests contribute a far greater ecological and recreational value to the citizens of the State than they would if they were to be cut and sold commercially, and

WHEREAS the state Office of Legislative Services estimates that the proposed Forest Harvest Program would result in a net loss to the state of \$2.7 million over five years, and

WHEREAS commercial logging is likely to cause irreparable damage to roads, streams and drainage swales in the fragile ecosystem on the forest floor, and

WHEREAS commercial timber harvesting will exacerbate existing invasive species problems by allowing too much sunlight to reach the ground, thus allowing these species to flourish and out-compete native populations, and

WHEREAS this legislation does not provide for the identification and protection of threatened or endangered species, the restoration of disturbed areas or the requirement of buffer areas around streams and rivers.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the West Amwell Township Committee hereby finds that the commercial timber harvesting of public lands set aside for conservation and recreation purposes is based on environmentally and financially unsound principles.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the West Amwell Township Committee urges the legislators of the State of New Jersey to vote No to the legislation which proposes Forest Harvesting on State Lands (S1085).

The Resolution was unanimously approved on motion by Fisher, seconded by Molnar.

Closed Session –

RESOLUTION #55-2012

WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances, and

WHEREAS, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist,

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

1. The public shall be excluded from discussion of and action upon the hereinafter specified subject matter.

2. The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows:

PENDING LITIGATION

3. It is anticipated at this time that the above stated subject matter will be made public when the matter has been resolved.

4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Motion by Molnar to approve the Resolution, seconded by Fisher, and carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Vehicle Use Request – The request by the Fire Official to use the old police car for inspections was denied. The decision whether to keep or sell is under consideration. Once an inventory of equipment to be sold is ready, preparations can be made for a sale.

South Hunterdon Band Parents – A Raffles application has been received. Lt. Bartzak has reviewed and has indicated no problem with proceeding.

RESOLUTION #56-2012

WHEREAS, application has been received the Township of West Amwell to grant a raffle license, and

WHEREAS, no objections have been received the Clerk of the Township, nor were any objections made at the regular meeting.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the raffle license be granted

TO:	South Hunterdon Regional Band Parents Association
BENEFIT:	Marching Band Camp Fees
DATE:	March 17, 2012
TIME:	5:30 - 11:00 p.m.
LOCATION:	South Hunterdon Regional High School 301 Mt. Airy-Harb. Road, Lambertville NJ 08530

The Resolution was unanimously approved on motion by Molnar, seconded by Fisher

The *Findings & Determination* was reviewed and approved for the Mayor's signature.

Ethics and Public Officials Training – Information on a model Ethics training course from the MEL was distributed. The 2012-2013 Employment Practices Risk Control Program is updated every two years and to remain eligible for premium and deductible incentives, several items must be completed by May 1st. These include public officials training, updated personnel policies and procedures manual and employee handbook, managerial and supervisory training and police lieutenant training. Currently all elected official's training seminars are a distance away. Something closer will be investigated.

Fire Company – Applications for a *Blue Light Permit* were received for member Douglas Stokes and Saul N. Barson of the LNHARS. These were signed by the mayor.

A membership application to the NJ State Firemen's Association was received for *Chris J. Murzdeck*. Unanimously approved on motion from Rich, seconded by Molnar.

Possible Professional Services Resolution – The Clerk has obtained a contract from Shirley Bishop for housing planning consultant to assist with the work needed for affordable housing for consideration.

RESOLUTION #57-2012

WHEREAS there exists a need for the hiring of various professionals without competitive bids as a non-fair and open contract process; and

WHEREAS the Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40:11-1 et. seq. allows governing bodies to execute agreements without competitive bidding for professional services; and

WHEREAS these executed agreements must be available for public inspection; and

WHEREAS sufficient funds are available in the 2012 Temporary Budget and will be made available in the 2012 Municipal Budget for the Township of West Amwell

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of West Amwell, that an agreement be executed with the following professional:

Shirley M. Bishop (Shirley M. Bishop, P.P., LLC) Housing & Planning Consultant

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this agreement is awarded, subject to contract discussions, without competitive bidding as defined under the appropriate section of the Local Public Contracts Law, because each of the above mentioned individuals is authorized by law to practice a recognized profession.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a Business Entity Disclosure Statement be placed on file with this resolution; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the notice of this action shall be published in the newspaper of general circulation within the Township of West Amwell not more than ten days from the enactment thereof.

The Resolution was unanimously approved on motion by Rich, seconded by Fisher.

Request for Refund of Dog License Fee – A dog license was issued on January 26th and the dog was euthanized on February 4th. The owner has inquired if a refund of the \$150.00 license fee would be possible given the circumstances. Approved for refund.

Budget Meetings – Mr. Molnar indicated that he is only free on Mondays or Wednesdays. A tentative date was set for February 29th at 6:30 p.m.

Inquiry Concerning Possible Community Service Projects – A brief discussion on this topic was held earlier in the evening.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Mr. Beaumont inquired about the status of the re-assessment, noting that the Assessor has not visited his house. He also mentioned the traffic problems on Rock Road and inquired about the Alexauken Road speed bumps. Mr. Molnar advised that these are portable. A possible use around the Corsalo Road intersection was suggested.

Ms. Andreoli commented that the website is not up to date.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Treasurer –

Presentation of Bills for Approval: A couple of bills were questioned but no problem found.

RESOLUTION #58-2012

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of West Amwell that the vouchers listed on the Bill List, in the amount of \$1,478,218.83 dated February 22, 2012, as presented by the Township Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer, be paid from existing appropriations.

Motion by Molnar to approve the evening's bills for payment was seconded by Rich, and carried unanimously.

Treasurer Report, Statement of Cash, Revenue, and Investment Report: Appropriations through February 21, 2012 were provided and reviewed.

Tax Collector – The monthly report for January 2012 was received showing receipts in the amount of \$397,542.63.

Construction – The Permit Fee Log details (16), Monthly Activity Report-Permits (16), Payment Audit Report (27), and Monthly Activity Report-Certificates (3) were received for PermitsNJ.

Court – The January 2012 monthly report was received showing a ticket total of 230 (159 local) and the receipt of \$8,758.28.

Police – The January 2012 monthly Report showing 169 incidents, 165 summonses and 1 warning was received.

Zoning Officer Report – The January 2012 report of activities was received. Numerous phone calls, e-mails, office meeting and interpretations were noted, together a total of 8 permits.

The reports were unanimously accepted as filed.

The Committee entered their previously approved Closed Session at 10:36 p.m., returning to Open Session at 10:55 p.m.

CORRESPONDENCE

The correspondence as listed on the Agenda was ordered filed.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 10:56 p.m. on motion from Molnar, second by Rich.

Respectfully submitted,

Lora L. Olsen, RMC
Township Clerk