

**WEST AMWELL TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**April 27, 2011**

**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 7:05 p.m. Present were Mayor Molnar, Deputy Mayor George Fisher, Committeeman Zachary Rich and Attorney Philip J. Faherty III. Also in attendance were Hal Shute, Cathy Urbanski, Sean Pfeiffer, Bob Clerico, Dave Beaumont, Max Spann, Jr., and reporter Renee Kiriluk-Hill. Also briefly joining the meeting were Michael DeCandia, together with a host of family members, and several members of the Township's Police Department.

Mayor Molnar 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 1, 2011, 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 and a copy of the CD is on file in the Office of the Municipal Clerk.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE AMERICAN FLAG**

The assembled group was led in the pledge by Attorney Faherty.

**AGENDA REVIEW BY TOWNSHIP CLERK**

The following items were added: 9. Unfinished Business: League Resolution on Statutory Funding Compliance; 12 F. Police Report for March 2011. A Closed Session will be held immediately after #5 on the Agenda for Personnel.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The following announcements were made:

- Route 31 Resurfacing Project to Begin Soon
- Rabies Clinic, May 7<sup>th</sup>, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m., DPW Garage
- Township Country Fair, May 14<sup>th</sup> (Rain: May 21<sup>st</sup>), Municipal Complex 4-9 p.m.
- Last Day to Register to Vote in Primary Election – May 17<sup>th</sup>
- 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 approved on motion from Fisher, seconded by Rich, and carried unanimously.

- March 10, 2011 Closed Session (Contract Negotiations-Police)
- March 23, 2011 Special Meeting (Budget Workshop)
- March 23, 2011 Regular Meeting
- March 23, 2011 Closed Session (Contract Negotiations-Police)
- March 31, 2011 Special Meeting (Budget Workshop)
- April 18, 2011 Special Meeting
- April 18, 2011 Closed Session (Contract Negotiations-Police)

**RESOLUTION TO CLOSED SESSION**

**RESOLUTION #67-2011**

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:

**PERSONNEL**

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.

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

*The meeting returned to Open Session at 7:20 p.m. with the following result:*

Fisher motioned to hire Michael DeCandia as probationary patrolman. Rich seconded. Motion to hire approved unanimously.

#### **OPEN TO THE PUBLIC/TOPIC NOT ON THE AGENDA**

Dave Beaumont inquired about several topics (and received answers) as follows: 1) whether the budget of 4.5 million includes \$450,000 for police (*that and more*); 2) if the Township is planning a re-val (*A re-assessment is planned and will be funded through a special emergency appropriation after the adoption of the budget; the number of tax appeals is the reason for this*); 3) there are areas on Rock, Barry and Mill Roads where dogs are running loose; have come after he and his wife during their walks; and, expressed concern that the animals may be hit by a car (*all dogs are to be leashed and the instruction was to call the ACO*); and, 5) the police are welcome to sit in his driveway to check traffic on Rock Road (*the lieutenant has been instructed to bring back the speed machine*).

Patrolmen Goccia, Pantuso, Vanselous, Lt. Bartzak and newly hired probationary patrolman DeCandia, together with several family members, arrived. Attorney Faherty proceeded to administer the oath of office/allegiance to Mr. DeCandia and offered congratulations. Mayor Molnar, on behalf of the Committee and residents, welcomed the new hire to West Amwell and stated that the department is happy to have him on board.

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

**Public Hearing:** Ordinance 6, 2011 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 109 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST AMWELL – Establish Special Meeting Fees

Proof of publication in the March 31, 2011 issue of the Hunterdon County Democrat was presented. The ordinance has been posted and available to the public since its introduction at the March 23, 2010 Township Committee meeting and mailed to surrounding municipalities and the Hunterdon County Planning Board. Mr. Molnar read the Ordinance by title and opened the public hearing.

Sean Pfeiffer, speaking on behalf of the Planning Board, noted that there is already a special meeting fee in the existing ordinance and that this ordinance has an incorrect section reference. The Planning Board recommends raising the fee but also recommends that this particular ordinance be tabled in favor of a new fee schedule ordinance to be introduced this evening.

Hearing no further comments, the public hearing was unanimously closed on motion from Rich, seconded by Fisher. Fisher moved to table the Ordinance and Rich seconded. Roll Call: Fisher-aye, Rich-aye, Molnar-aye

**Public Hearing:** Ordinance 7, 2011 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 109 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST AMWELL – Agency Approvals

Proof of publication in the March 31, 2011 issue of the Hunterdon County Democrat was presented. The ordinance has been posted and available to the public since its introduction at the March 23, 2010 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. Molnar read the Ordinance by title and opened the public hearing. Hearing no comments, the public hearing was closed on motion from Fisher, seconded by Rich and carried unanimously.

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

**Introduction:** Ordinance 9, 2011

Mr. Pfeiffer relayed that the new fees are more comparable to those charged by other municipalities and consistent with neighboring East Amwell. Also noted was that the existing escrow requirements were so small that the secretary was continually asking for additional money in order to pay the professionals.

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

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 109 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST AMWELL – Amount of Fees and Escrow Deposits Due**

**SECTION I**

CHAPTER 109-6 – Land Development, Application and Review Fees, Amount of Fees and Escrow Deposits Due, of the Ordinances of West Amwell Township, is hereby amended and supplemented as follows:

**109-6 A.** Each applicant shall, at the time of filing a submission with the Planning Board or Board of Adjustment, submit to the Township Treasurer by certified check or money order the following sums as application fees and escrow deposits. Where one application for development includes more than one approval request, the sum of the individual required fees shall be paid. Upon presentation of payment as set forth above, applicant/owner/agent will execute an escrow agreement (see Appendix A of this Part 2) as well as a memorandum of understanding (see Appendix B of this Part 2). Note: If an escrow account falls below 30% of original amount, a request for additional funds will be made to bring the escrow account up to 50% of original amount.

<u>Application</u>	<u>Fee</u>	<u>Escrow to be Deposited</u>
1. Subdivision reviews		
a. Informal review	\$500*	\$1,000
* Will be credited towards fees for review if the applicant proceeds within one year of informal review.		
b. Sketch plat or concept plan	\$500 + \$150 per lot	\$1,000 + \$250/lot
c. Preliminary plat, major	\$1,500 + \$150 per lot or new dwelling unit	With previous sketch app.: \$4,000 + \$250/lot  Without previous sketch app: \$5,000 + \$300/lot
d. Final plat, major	\$750 + \$100 per lot or new dwelling unit	Final subdivision: \$1,000 + \$250/lot  With developers agreement: additional \$1,500
e. Resubmittal of an application for preliminary or final major subdivision approval when applicant has submitted an incomplete application as deemed by the Planning Board	No further application fees required as applicant will be billed out of escrow account for any further review of an incomplete application	
f. Minor subdivision	\$750 + \$150 per lot	\$1,000 + \$1,000/lot
g. Extension of preliminary or final approval	---	\$500

<p>h. Tax map maintenance fees. The following fees shall be paid by the applicant at the time of filing of the deeds of subdivision approval by the Planning Board or the Board of Adjustment of the Township of West Amwell for the cost of making updates and modifications to the tax maps of the Township of West Amwell relating to said applications:</p> <p>Boundary line adjustment</p> <p>2-3 lots including remaining land</p> <p>4-7 lots including remaining land</p> <p>8-12 lots including remaining land</p> <p>13-19 lots including remaining land</p> <p>20 lots or more</p>	<p>\$150</p> <p>\$450</p> <p>\$750</p> <p>\$1,000</p> <p>\$1,250</p> <p>\$1,500 + \$50/lot in excess of 20</p>	
<p>i. Agricultural division of land</p>	<p>\$100</p>	<p>\$1,000 + \$250/lot</p>
<p>2. Site plan reviews</p>		
<p>a. Informal review</p> <p>Informal review (100% agricultural use)</p>	<p>\$500*</p> <p>\$100*</p>	<p>\$1,000</p> <p>\$1,000</p>
<p>* Will be credited towards fees for review if the applicant proceeds within one year of informal review.</p>		
<p>b. Minor site plan</p> <p>Minor site plan (100% agricultural use)</p>	<p>\$500</p> <p>\$100</p>	<p>\$1,000</p> <p>\$1,000</p>
<p>c. Major site plans:</p> <p>Preliminary plan</p> <p>Preliminary plan (100% agricultural use)</p>	<p>\$1,500 + \$150 per dwelling unit, or if non-residential, \$0.10 per square foot of new construction + \$25 per acre of lot area</p> <p>\$100</p>	<p>\$1,000 + \$250 per dwelling unit, or if non-residential, the larger of \$0.30 per square foot of building area or \$250 per acre of lot area</p> <p>\$1,000 + \$0.30 per square foot of agricultural building area</p>

Final plan	\$750	\$1,000 + \$100 per dwelling unit, or if non-residential, the larger of \$0.10 per square foot of building area or \$100 per acre of lot area
Final plan (100% agricultural use)	\$100	\$1,000 + \$0.10 per square foot of agricultural building area
d. Resubmittal of application for preliminary or final major subdivision approval where the applicant has submitted an application deemed incomplete by the Planning Board.	No further application fees required as applicant will be billed out of escrow account for any review of an incomplete application	
e. Extension of preliminary or final approval	---	\$500
f. Telecommunications installations:  If no new tower is proposed:  If a new tower is proposed:	\$1,000  \$2,000	\$4,000  \$10,000
3. General development plan review	\$2,500 + \$150 per dwelling unit + \$150 per non-residential acre	\$5,000 + \$250 per dwelling unit + \$250 per non-residential acre
4. Conditional Use	\$500 plus applicable subdivision or site plan application fees	\$1,000 plus applicable subdivision or site plan escrow deposit
5. Appeals or interpretations under 40:55D-70a and b	\$250	\$750
6. Request for rezoning	\$500	Initial escrow of \$1,000 required. Additional escrow to be established on a case-by-case basis with each individual request being reviewed by the Township professionals as to approximate cost prior to any action being taken.
7. Variances *	*Add subdivision and site plan fees if applicable	
a. 40:55D-70c single or two-family  All others	\$250  \$500	\$1,000 + \$250 per variance  \$1,000 + \$250 per variance
b. 40:55D-70d:	\$1,000	\$2,500 per variance
8. Permits under 40:55D-34 and 36	\$250	\$1,000
9. Boundary line agreement	\$250	\$1,000

10. List of persons within 200 feet of subject lots	\$10 or \$0.25 per name, whichever is greater	Not required
11. Special meetings	\$750*  * If requested by the applicant and approved by the board.	Each applicant who requests and obtains a special meeting in connection with any application for development or appeal shall post an additional escrow as required and determined by the administrative officer of the Board upon consultation with Board professionals.

**109-6 B.** The per-lot fees and escrow deposits include newly created lots as well as the lots remaining.

**SECTION II - SEVERABILITY**

The provisions of this Ordinance are severable, and the invalidity of any section, subdivision, paragraph, or other part of this Ordinance shall not affect the validity or effectiveness of the remainder of the Ordinance.

**SECTION III**

All other provisions of Chapter 109-6 of the Ordinances of West Amwell Township not modified herein shall remain unchanged and in full force and effect.

**SECTION IV**

This ordinance may be renumbered for codification purposes.

**SECTION V**

This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon final passage, publication according to law, and filing with the Hunterdon County Planning Board.

Fisher moved to introduce the Ordinance on first reading and Rich seconded. Motion carried unanimously. The public hearing will be held May 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Robert J. Clerico** – Engineer Clerico presented and overviewed three options for Rocktown-Lamb. Road work. Option A: overlay existing payment at 18 ft width, minimal repair to existing payment, limited shoulder restoration with gravel, minimal drainage improvements. Option B: expanded overlay at 20 ft width with shoulder base course reconstruction, assume additional storm drainage improvement, assume some shoulder regrading. Option C: normal overlay at 22 ft width with expanded shoulder base course reconstruction, assume additional storm drainage improvement, assume additional shoulder regrading. Estimated construction costs ranged from \$585,000 to \$1,343,000 plus construction contingency of 20%. The project would start where Section 13 stopped (STA 195+00) and end at Rocktown Hill Road (STA 263+0), with a total length of 1.29 miles. Also relayed was that there’s a ROW easement to realign the curve, if desired, and the culverts near the Fulper Farm also have additional ROW, if needed. Mr. Clerico noted that larger contractors would be interested in the bigger project and there should be good competition for the job.

Rocktown Hill Road from the intersection to Route 31 North was briefly discussed. The current road is 20 ft wide; grade would not be an issue; and, not much storm drainage would be required. Mr. Clerico indicated that this would be a good candidate for a State aid application, noting that \$200,000 was received for the other section which covered 100% of the construction cost, and that the road ties into a State highway.

As an update on the unfinished portion of Rocktown Hill Road, Jonico will be completing the overlay in May. An attempt is being made to coordinate with the State on their Route 31 work as there is approximately 30 ft of ‘no man’s’ land between the two projects.

As for the Rocktown-Lamb. Road project discussed previously, Mr. Clerico also believes that this would be a good candidate for a State aid application as it’s a well traveled road and a main connector in the Township. As for the availability of additional DRJTBC money, that source has run dry although there is some talk about extending the bond issue. Also mentioned was that Sections 1 through 10 coming out of Lambertville are 25 years old and that something needs to be done to maintain the life of this portion of the road.

Mr. Clerico relayed that a road assessment was done in 1991 and that there used to be yearly road tours with members of the Township Committee. The purpose was to look at what needed to be addressed and develop a maintenance plan. It was suggested that this be considered once again so that a list of what needs to be accomplished, and estimated costs, can be developed. The Township can then look for funding opportunities for roads such as Old York Road, George Washington and Old River. Concerning a question about the use of millings, Mr. Clerico noted that these can only be used as a sub-base which is subsequently covered. There's a new micro seal product on the market but the down side is that it wears out snow plow blades.

Hal Shute offered that there's been at least one accident on the sharp corner and several on the other curve. Also, that with a lot of agricultural equipment using the road, the extra width has been a big help. Mr. Fisher noted that the land on either side of the road has been mostly preserved, so there will be no more houses. His particular concern was for the section from the school to Lambertville as it is used more heavily.

Mr. Molnar noted that further discussion is needed by the Township Committee members before a decision can be made. With appreciation extended for the information provided, Mr. Clerico left the meeting at 8:29 p.m.

## **SPECIAL AND/OR STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Open Space**

- *Results of Auction on Block 8 Lot 20 & 36 & Possible Resolution:* Mr. Pfeiffer questioned whether the numbers in the two appraisals updated earlier could now be discussed publicly and was answered in the affirmative by Attorney Faherty. The project was overviewed as follows: purchased from Toll Brothers; original appraisals were in agreement that the property was worth \$2.2 million; a discount of over \$700,000 was negotiated from the seller; the total payment was a little under \$1.5 million; of that total, \$825,000 came from the State, \$220,000 was a grant from the County with a municipal land cost share of \$451,000. Also negotiated was the receipt of 100% of the certain soft costs, including the appraisals, any demolition needed, environmental reports, surveys, and title insurance from the sale of the property—a total recoverable soft costs of over \$65,000. In preparation for auction, appraisals were updated as to the current market value and came in at \$740,000 and \$690,000, which is the restricted value of the property. Mr. Pfeiffer also noted that the property had 25 building rights; has 2200 ft of road frontage; that the Township has a non-contiguous clustering ordinance; and, that Toll discussed possibly transferring those rights elsewhere. The Max Spann auction company was contracted to auction the property, which was accomplished last week. The high bid was only \$385,000 by Bryce Thompson, who was one of the five registered bidders. This is the bid under consideration this evening.

Mr. Pfeiffer relayed that a letter was requested and received from Mick Schaible, one of the appraisers, as to his reaction to the 56% difference in auction price and appraised value. A copy of that letter is on file. He also noted a conversation with Dan Knox of the SADC that his recommendation to the SADC tomorrow, assuming that the Committee accepts the bid, is for acceptance. This would be based on their sense that as the development rights on the property were worth over \$1.1 million, and only \$375,000 more than that was paid for the property, a reasonable share is being obtained. If the Township accepts the bid, their final cost share would be about \$2500/acre. A spreadsheet has been prepared listing comparisons, with the Kilmer property specifically selected because of its adjacent location. As this was a Green Acres project, there was a higher cost share, but the conditions on the property are similar and include the power lines, although it does have significantly less road frontage—120 ft vs 2200 ft—but with appraisals also based on current zoning. A brief question/answer session with Mr. Fisher ensued over the information contained in the spread sheet.

As for what was done to market the property, Max Spann came forward. He stated that over the past 6-7 years the company has represented dozens of municipalities throughout the State of New Jersey, as well as about seven different County governments, in the sale of their preserved properties/farmland—at last count over 6,200 acres. A typical campaign is a four week process that includes a multi-media blitz of advertising involving custom signage and custom brochures which are mailed out to between 10,000 and 12,000 people. There are also links to websites and a variety of newspaper ads—17 different websites and 7 different newspapers, as well as signage and outreach to brokerage communities. This intensive and all encompassing market campaign resulted in almost 2000 website hits. Actual inquiries by those calling for a brochure and more specific information numbered 36. The next step involved pre-registering and there were 23 in that category. On auction day there were 5 or 6 actual bidders; the auction was conducted; and, a resulting bid of \$385,000 received.

Questioned by Mr. Fisher if this would be considered a normal showing, Mr. Spann indicated that each farm is unique with location and physical characteristics having a bearing on the response. Also, properties further away from major transportation corridors tend to have a

lesser response because the end-user buyer tends to be more of a life-style farmer...not someone whose primary source of income is from the farm. This farm, with the existence of the power lines, loses a vast majority of those life-style buyers because of concern over kids climbing them, resale value, etc. The impact of the current economic situation also has an impact. Mr. Spann stated that the prices are off on preserved farms vs other types of real estate although not as off as other segments of the market place due to the fact that farms are inherently scarce in New Jersey. There were a lot of obstacles, of which they were aware, including this type of open house where people literally drive up, see the power lines, turn around and drive right back out. As for the nursery stock, they were hopeful and specifically targeted nursery people as well as the broader array of typical buyers. However with nurserymen, the real driver is building, which is non existent. Therefore, the nursery stock was perceived as an impediment due to the cost of removal and was something that had to be taken into consideration when bidding for the farm.

Mr. Pfeiffer relayed that after closing on the property last year, he met with Mr. Spann and questioned both the buildings and nursery stock, noting that at the time, Mr. Spann was more hopeful that the nursery stock had value. In response, Mr. Spann indicated that on balance with the cost of removing the trees, the thought was that there may be some nurserymen that would perceive value. Also questioned was what changed between February and March to bring the original auction estimate of \$5000/acre into one of less than \$3000/acre. Again, obstacles on the property were noted and compared with a Readington property that sold earlier with a more habitable house and outbuildings, off Rt 202 but also with powerlines, that brought \$4000/acre.

A discussion ensued over property maintenance concerns; the obligations carried with farmland preservation easements; and, the need to mow per jurisdiction of the SADC. There's also a restrictive mowing covenant from Hunterdon County in return for the grant money received. With the requirement to mow the fields once a year if there are no crops, the land cannot grow up in brambles. Also noted was that the State and County hold the easements and would be responsible to police same. The Township just has public access in the SW corner comprising 1.7 acres.

In order to comply with the 60 day closing requirement in the contract, and timing factors involved at the State level, a decision is needed tonight. Mr. Pfeiffer noted that to delay this for a month would put the Township outside the closing period and the buyer could, theoretically, come back and ask for re-consideration. Another consideration is that if the property is held and an offer received in the future, the Township would only get 45% of any extra amount.

Mr. Rich expressed concern over the numbers while acknowledging what was done and conditions involved. This is not an easy decision and noted that in discussions with various people, he has received just as many answers as to how much the property is worth and what would be a minimum bid. Also, that almost \$10,000 has been spent in appraisals with experts over what we have. He noted that the Township has the right to farm the property but over access to the tree stock, there have been mixed responses.

When the market was rising, Mr. Spann relayed that they were consistently beating appraisals but have been battling a market that is a moving target for the past 2-3 years. Auctions, when done correctly, are reflective of the market at any moment in time. One absolute variable with this type of thing is that it is an emotional buy due to circumstances of the buyer. The power lines were again cited as problematic. As far as the original appraisal, Mr. Spann stated that really good farms in Hunterdon County sell for from 6,000 to 9,000/acre. With all due respect to the appraiser, he was at a loss as to how this property was appraised at that level.

A brief exchange over the cost, expenses incurred, SADC perspective on the auction, the appraiser's stance on the appraisal and feeling that the property may need to be marketed to a wider group of people, and what the discussion would be like if numbers weren't \$300,000 below appraisal ensued.

A resolution was presented for consideration.

#### RESOLUTION #68-2011

WHEREAS, the Township of West Amwell authorized the auction of Block 8 Lots 20 & 36 consisting of 130 +/- acres; and

WHEREAS, an auction was conducted by Max Spann Real Estate & Auction Company on April 21, 2011; and

WHEREAS, the high bid was received from Wm Bryce Thompson IV in the amount of \$385,000; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee has reserved the right to accept or reject any and all bids



THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the West Amwell Township Committee that the bid of \$385,000 for Block 8 Lots 20 & 36 from Wm Bryce Thompson IV be REJECTED

Rich motioned to approve the Resolution and Molnar seconded. Roll Call: Rich-aye, Fisher-aye, Molnar-aye

*A temporary adjournment was called at 8:59 p.m. due to the school board elections. The meeting was re-convened at 9:31 p.m.*

Mr. Pfeiffer inquired as to the next step for marketing the property, e.g, does the Township want to market this property again; is there a requirement to re-auction; or, can it be listed on the MLS. Attorney Faherty will research options but noted that initially it had to be by auction but that perhaps it can now be approached from another angle.

- *Invoices:* Attorney Dragan's bill for auction work preparation on Block 8 Lots 20 & 36 in the amount of \$2,048.60 and R. Michael Schaible's bill for appraisal work on Bowers in the amount of \$2,500.00 were approved for further processing. Mr. Rich questioned why these appraisals cost so much. Mr. Pfeiffer relayed that the dollar number is in the range of what is usually received when these have gone out to bid.

As an update, a purchase order for the reimbursement on the soft costs on Kilmer was received for a little over \$18,000 and is now being processed.

#### **Environmental**

- *Authorization to Post January 13 and March 10, 2011 Minutes to Website:* Approved with a minor correction to the March 10<sup>th</sup> minutes.

#### **Recycling**

- *Tonnage Report for 2010 & Submission Resolution:* A total of 10,460.18 tons was reported, which included 8,661.73 tons of concrete/asphalt/brick/block.

#### RESOLUTION # 69-2011

#### **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 grant 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 to 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 **2010 Recycling Tonnage Grant** will memorialize the commitment of this municipality to recycling and to indicate the assent of the West Amwell Township Committee 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** by the Township Committee of West Amwell Township that West Amwell Township hereby endorses the submission of the recycling tonnage grant application to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and designates Kenneth T. Hart 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.

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

- *Tax ID Resolution:* Central Jersey Waste & Recycling reported 364.07 tons for 2010 that are subject to the \$3.00/ton charge.

RESOLUTION #70-2011  
**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 local source separation and recycling programs; and

**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 moneys received by the municipality shall be expended only for its recycling program.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the TOWNSHIP OF WEST AMWELL that TOWNSHIP OF WEST AMWELL hereby certifies a submission of expenditure for taxes paid pursuant to P.L.2007, chapter 311, in (2010) in the amount of (\$1092.21). Documentation supporting this submission is available at OFFICE OF THE CLERK, WEST AMWELL TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL OFFICES, 150 ROCKTOWN-LAMBERTVILLE ROAD, LAMBERTVILLE, NEW JERSEY 08530 and shall be maintained for no less than five years from this date.

REA Tax certified by: Sal DiLpi, Central Jersey Waste & Recycling

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

**Country Fair**

- *Flyer Distribution/Student Assistance for Depot and Fair Day:* Approved

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**2011 Appointments, continued** – Porter Little was appointed, with Township Committee approval, to Finance Advisory to replace Mr. vonSaase.

**Updates** – 1) The ***Proposed Lease*** prepared by Attorney Faherty reflects some minor changes from Brad Campbell concerning the acreage; an option for additional acreage; and, a time frame for same. A discussion ensued about whether the option should provide an additional payment and concern about having a two year lock up. Attorney Faherty will discuss consideration for the option with Mr. Campbell and see what it would be worth to him. The proposed ***letter*** to Commissioner Grifa was held. 2) Mr. Fisher advised that the Township Engineer will apprise the Committee of ***funding opportunities and grants***. 3) A new club, Amwell Outdoors, has requested consideration for ***hunting privileges*** on municipal property. A Certificate of Insurance and a membership roster were provided. As there are only two clubs currently approved for hunting, a discussion ensued on the best way to handle the situation; the

properties that would be involved; and, concern about cutting out local hunters. Attorney Faherty advised that availability would have to be advertised and can be either a public auction or sealed bid. Restrictions and conditions can be placed in the ad. A yearly lease was suggested that would run July to June in order to encompass all hunting seasons and that there be separate/alternate bids for the municipal property and the Toll piece. Bidders would have to provide a Certificate of Insurance; a roster of the membership with phone numbers; and, 30% of the membership would have to be residents of West Amwell. The club awarded the bid would also be responsible for posting the property. Attorney Faherty will develop an ad for the next meeting and the current hunting clubs will be notified of the upcoming discussion. 4) The proposed **Census** letter was approved for mayor's signature and mailing. 5) Mr. Molnar relayed that he is still absorbing/pondering the **Delaware/West Amwell** policing information provided by Delaware Township, although there's not much to like as it's a rather one-sided report. 6) The inspection status for **Calton/Centex** awaits word from the individual assigned to schedule the work. The Township Engineer has advised that there are certain punch list items that will need to be inspected as they are being installed—sidewalks, curb replacements. Other items can wait until after the corrective work has been completed—tree replacement, grass restoration, etc. An estimated range of between \$2500 and \$4500 to complete any remaining follow-up inspections and provide a final report to the Township Committee prior to release of the Maintenance bond was given. The other \$6500 that is owed to Van Cleef has nothing to do with this punch list but rather things that the company has decided they don't have to pay for due to the end of the performance bond. A brief discussion ensued over why the engineer has to be involved with dead tree inspection and if this is something that the building department could do. Attorney Faherty offered that the engineer inspects projects to make sure they're done to Township specifications. Trees would not usually be included as long as somebody knows where they are supposed to be by the plan. Mr. Shute suggested that this aspect could be undertaken by the Forestry committee. Mr. Rich will e-mail the engineer with these concerns and that the Committee is trying to scale back the cost in some way. 7) It was suggested that resident artist Irma Fuhr be contacted concerning an appropriate plaque for the meeting room as part of a **Bleacher memorial**. Mr. Molnar volunteered to make the contact. Mr. Shute relayed that Diane Bleacher has indicated that anything would be great and that something outdoors would be most appropriate. Rob Tomenchok and Steve Bergenfeld are working on this aspect. The goal is to have a memorial in place by June 15<sup>th</sup>—the one year anniversary of Gary's passing.

**Budget Concerns/Questions** – Mr. Molnar attempted to get a consensus about the road work options discussed earlier but more time was needed to digest the information before making a decision.

CFO Tom Carro joined the meeting to address the not-quite flat budget concern. He explained that when taking the numbers to three places instead of two, it becomes 22.4 cents instead 21.9 cents or a \$26,000 dollar difference in the amount to be raised by taxation--\$20 on a \$400,000 home. If the budget is amended, other revenue will have to be found to make up the \$26,000 difference to take it out of taxation. Basically, the process would involve introducing an amendment, adopting the budget, advertising the amendment, receiving approval from Trenton, holding a public hearing on the amendment and then adopting it—all for \$20.00, which is an insignificant number. Mr. Shute relayed that it's not the money but that it's a 2% increase—not zero as stated—and, that 2% these days is not insignificant, although within the cap, but could mean somebody's job. Mr. Fisher noted that this is 2% of the taxes raised, not 2% of the budget.

The decision to retain the budget as introduced was approved with Mr. Rich dissenting.

**Status of Recycling Coordinator Certification** – A meeting is to be held on Monday. It was suggested that Paul Cronce be contacted as to whether he currently holds this certification.

**Office of Planning re: Plan Endorsement Determination** – Mr. Pfeiffer gave a brief overview of a project that began in 2005 and the reasons for it, including COAH rules, removal of the sewer service area and ties with farmland preservation and Green Acres programs. Planner Carl Hintz was contacted about completing the requested survey but Mr. Pfeiffer sees no sense in spending money to do it and the planner has advised not to continue as there's no benefit and no grant money. The Clerk was instructed to send a letter stating that the Township is no longer interested.

**Police Vehicles** – Salt is taking a toll on the cars and the car wash in New Hope is still \$100/month/unlimited vehicles. Approval was given for a return to that venue.

**Status of Market Competition and Consumer Choice Act Legislation** – The League has suggested that their letter be shared with the Township's Cable TV Advisory committee so that the impact of the various issues surrounding this legislation on the municipality can be researched. The Cable Advisory committee will be so requested and asked report back. Also distributed were copies of literature from Verizon refuting the League's position on the legislation.

**League Resolution re: Statutory Funding Compliance** – The League is urging all Mayors to unite to protect the taxpayer and to take a strong stand against continued State reliance on municipal revenue sources. Statutes require the State to provide annually inflation-adjusted Energy Tax and CMPTRA funding to municipalities but has not done so for the past 10 years. This is due to the State's ability to suspend and supersede statutory law simply by inserting a few sentences in the Annual Appropriations Act. Now with the Supreme Court set to render a school funding decision, the Administration has publicly stated that, should the Court order additional school aid, further municipal property tax relief funding cuts would be considered. It is imperative that the municipalities demonstrate unity on Energy Tax and CMPTRA funding to the Administration and to the Legislature.

**RESOLUTION #71-2011**

**New Jersey State League of Municipalities Conference Resolution No. 2010 – 22  
RESOLUTION TO END STATE DIVERSION OF MUNICIPAL REVENUES AND DEMAND  
COMPLIANCE WITH STATE LAWS**

**Approved by Resolutions Committee, November 16, 2010**

**Approved at the League Business Meeting, November 19, 2010**

**WHEREAS**, there are two main formula-driven general municipal property tax relief programs currently on the books in our Garden State; and

**WHEREAS**, though often referred to as "State Aid" programs, these are actually revenue replacement programs, intended to replace property tax relief funding that was, formerly, generated through taxes assessed and collected locally; and

**WHEREAS**, the first is the Energy Tax Receipts Property Tax Relief program - the direct descendant of the Public Utility Gross Receipts and Franchise Tax, which was a tax on regulated public utilities originally assessed and collected at the municipal level; and

**WHEREAS**, in the early 1980s, at the request and for the convenience of the tax paying utilities, the State became the collection agent for this assessment, and the law that effected this change promised that the proceeds would be distributed back to the municipalities, which provide services to utility facilities and from whence come utility profits; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of New Jersey never honored that commitment, immediately and annually diverting large and growing portions of the proceeds to its own general fund; and

**WHEREAS**, modernization and deregulation led to a major reform of utility taxes in the mid-nineties, which validated and, supposedly, capped the State's annual portion of the tax proceeds; and

**WHEREAS**, that law also included a 'poison pill,' which required the State to annually increase the municipal distribution of Energy Tax proceeds and to cap its skim; and it, further, provided that failure to honor that pledge would result in the forfeiture of the State's authority to collect the tax; and

**WHEREAS**, around the same time, for its own convenience, the State decided to 'consolidate' a number of previously discrete municipal property tax relief programs; and

**WHEREAS**, while some may see 'no rhyme or reason' to the distribution of Consolidated Municipal Property Tax Receipts Aid (CMPTRA), each of its component parts was distributed according to state established formulas, and many of those parts were, like Energy Taxes, the lineal descendants of taxes that had once been assessed and collected at the municipal level; and

**WHEREAS**, among its many components, CMPTRA includes the Financial Business Tax, the Business Personal Property Tax Replacement, the Railroad Class II Property Tax, the Insurance Franchise Tax, the Corporation Business Tax on Banking Corporations and State PILOT payments, that had been under-funded for many years, prior to being folded into CMPTRA; and

**WHEREAS**, these are, or were, all municipal revenue replacement programs - not, properly speaking, State aid, in that they were not meant to make things better for municipal property taxpayers; they were only intended to keep things from getting worse; and

**WHEREAS**, in the late-nineties, a law was passed that required both the Energy Tax and CMPTRA distributions to be annually increased by the rate of inflation; and

**WHEREAS**, that law posed a special problem for future State budget makers, but, as those budget makers viewed the matter, the problem was not how to comply with the requirement; the problem was how to avoid compliance without invoking the Energy Tax 'poison pill,' and

**WHEREAS**, State policy makers found a way to increase Energy Tax distributions by the rate of inflation for five straight years without providing municipalities with one new dollar in property tax relief, which was done by annually reducing the CPMTRA distribution by the same amount that it increased the Energy Tax distribution; and

**WHEREAS**, thereafter, the State strayed even farther from original legislative intent, when, in 2008 (SFY 2009), CMPTRA was reduced by about \$62 million more than the Energy Tax was increased, and in 2009 (SFY 2010), the net loss equaled about \$32 million; and

**WHEREAS**, the State's Fiscal Year 2011 budget, in which the total distribution of CMPTRA and ETR was reduced by approximately 17 percent, or \$272 million from \$1.565 billion to \$1.293 billion, honoring neither the letter nor the spirit of applicable State laws.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the New Jersey State League of Municipalities, in conference assembled, that we demand an immediate end to the State's reliance on the municipal property tax relief revenues to balance its budget and address other priorities; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we call on the Governor to introduce and the Legislature to adopt an FY 2012 State Budget that provides for the full statutory distribution of Energy Tax and CMPTRA revenue replacement funding, and to continue to honor the letter and spirit of the applicable State statutes, in all years, thereafter; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the members of the New Jersey General Assembly, the New Jersey State Senate, the Lieutenant Governor and the Governor of State of New Jersey.

Fisher motioned to adopt and approve the Resolution and Rich seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Reserve for Preliminary Expenses Resolution –**

#### **RESOLUTION #72-2011**

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of West Amwell Township, County of Hunterdon, acknowledges the requirements of preliminary expenses such as appraisals, legal costs, environmental costs, surveys and other related expenses in regards to open space and farmland preservation and has established a Reserve for Preliminary Expenses for Open Space and Farmland Preservation;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that an additional sum of \$36,000.00 be appropriated from the Open Space Trust Fund of the Township of West Amwell to the Reserve for Preliminary Expenses for Open Space and Farmland Preservation.

Fisher motioned to approve the Resolution and Rich seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

**NJ State Firemen's Association Membership Application for Jason Fretz** – Mr. Fretz would like to transfer membership to West Amwell.

Fisher motioned to approve the membership application and Rich seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

**Computer Donation Resolution** – Assessor Gill is donating a new computer to the Township for use by the Deputy Clerk. The donation is worth \$1102.48 per the attached invoices and was unanimously accepted. A letter of appreciation for the donation, and for tax purposes, will be sent to Mr. Gill.

An extended conversation ensued concerning computer prices, requirements, needs and time frame, general in-house purchasing policy, quote thresholds and approval process, IT assistance and vendors.

**Resolution for National Police Week –**

RESOLUTION #73-2011

WHEREAS May 15<sup>th</sup> through 21<sup>st</sup> is National Police Officer Week; and

WHEREAS, May 18<sup>th</sup> is “Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Day” as so legislated by the federal government; and

WHEREAS, the people of West Amwell hold their police officers in great esteem and value their local police force as an essential part of their community; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of this designation is to generate increased public support for the law enforcement profession by permanently recording and appropriately commemorating the service and sacrifice of law enforcement officers and to provide information that will help promote law enforcement safety; and

WHEREAS, this legislation requires that all American flags be lowered to half-staff on May 18<sup>th</sup> in commemoration of this service and sacrifice

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the West Amwell Township Committee that the week of May 15<sup>th</sup> through 21<sup>st</sup> is hereby declared as National Police Officer Week in West Amwell Township; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all municipal flags be lowered to half staff on Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Day on May 18<sup>th</sup>

Fisher motioned to approve the Resolution and Rich seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

**Resolution for Older Americans Month –**

RESOLUTION #74-2011

**Older Americans Month  
PROCLAMATION**

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

**Whereas**, the 2011 theme is, “**Older Americans: Connecting the Community**” in honor of older Americans; and

**Whereas**, this Municipality 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 this Municipality does hereby proclaim the month of May as Older Americans Month and calls upon individuals and entities to honor and celebrate the outstanding contributions of this Municipality's older residents.

Fisher motioned to adopt and approve the Resolution and Rich seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

**Consideration of a Resolution in Support of A3412 (Sharing Burden of Property Assessment Appeal Refunds)** – Currently municipalities bear the full cost of the legal defense of assessment appeals as well as the full cost of any re-imbursements resulting from those appeals. The result is a further decline in the property tax base used to support municipal and county governments and school systems. This legislation would require that fire districts, school districts and county governments share in the burden of property assessment appeal refunds. Mr. Fisher explained that the school's tax rate doesn't change when assessments are reduced...they still get their full amount, leaving the hit of reduced receipts to the municipality. The goal is for all to share in the pain.

RESOLUTION #75-2011  
**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING A-3412 SHARING THE BURDEN OF PROPERTY  
ASSESSMENT APPEAL REFUNDS**

**WHEREAS**, when County Tax Board appeals are granted the municipality must reimburse the property taxpayer 100% of the appealed tax levy, which includes the municipal, school, county and any special districts tax; and

**WHEREAS**, the municipal tax collector makes the adjustment from the appeal as a credit on the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter tax bill resulting in the municipality's fund balance for the preceding year to diminished, if not completely depleted; and

**WHEREAS**, a recent League of Municipalities' survey has measured the extent to which residents have filed and won tax appeals in 2010; and

**WHEREAS**, one hundred fifty (150) municipalities, representing all both large and small municipalities in all 21 counties, that participated in the survey reported property value declines of more than \$87,900,000, which resulted from 19,788 tax appeals filed in 2010; and

**WHEREAS**, those responding to the survey indicated that 13,760 appeals were filed in 2009, compared to 19,788 in 2010, representing an increase of 43.7%; and

**WHEREAS**, a municipality often experiences an increase in tax appeals because they have conducted a revaluation, however, only 5 of the 150 municipalities, which participated in our survey, indicated that their 2010 appeals resulted from revaluations; and

**WHEREAS**, as a way of comparison, 23 of the participating municipalities conducted revaluations in 2009, when fewer tax appeals were presented to the County Tax Boards; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2010 spike in appeals should be attributed to the economic down-turn, which lowered property values and placed increased stress on the income of homeowners, all around our Garden State; and

**WHEREAS**, the survey also indicated that in 2010 the various County Tax Boards have granted average property value reductions of close to \$5,000, per appeal; and

**WHEREAS**, fifty-six percent of those responding indicated that the successful tax appeals would have an impact on fund balances and place additional pressures on local officials during 2011; and

**WHEREAS**, although the survey was a snapshot picture in time, it can be used to project what might follow in 2011, since the reductions, which were granted by County Tax Boards in 2010, will have a multiplier effect when neighbors learn of their neighbor's tax reduction, which will likely increase the appeals and in the alternative, Tax Assessors could be forced to adjust property values, based upon the appeal information; and

**WHEREAS**, successful tax appeals have a three-fold negative impact on municipal budgets. First, the municipality, as the collector of taxes for the School district, county and special districts, must fund the full cost of the legal defense of the assessment. Second, since State law guarantees to the county and the school district 100% of their levies, the municipality bears the full cost of any re-imbursements resulting from the appeal (as well as the full burden for any uncollected taxes). Third, the end result will be a further decline in the property tax base used to support Municipalities, County governments and School systems; and

**WHEREAS**, in light of the revenue limitations that have been placed on all levels of local government by the Legislature (2% cap), such declining values will compound and add additional stress to local public officials, as they grapple with the issues confronting the tax paying public; and

**WHEREAS**, Assemblyman Carroll has recently introduced A-3412, which requires fire districts, school districts, and county governments to share in burden of property assessment appeal refunds;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Township Committee of the Township of West Amwell hereby urge the swift passage and signing of A-3412; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that copies of this Resolution be forwarded to New Jersey Governor Christopher Christie, to Senate President Stephen Sweeney, to Assembly Speaker Sheila Oliver, to our State Senator, to our two Representatives in the General Assembly, and to the New Jersey League of Municipalities.

Fisher motioned to approve the Resolution and Rich seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

**Consideration of Block 43 Lot 2 Donation** – Mr. Fisher inquired about the build-ability of this lot as there appears to be three 25 ft lots on the tax map. Attorney Faherty noted that this has come up in the past several times and questioned whether the Township holds the certificate on the property. Also that getting clear title is a problem because there were so many kids involved, some of whom have died leaving heirs. This name has come up in the past and it would probably be a good idea to take it just to clear it. Whether a title search would be needed was questioned by Mr. Fisher. The attorney requested that this item be held over so that he can research his file on tax foreclosures. He noted that there's a \$4000 improvement assessment listed.

A question was raised about the property at 68 Hancock that was sold last year. Attorney Faherty noted that he received a personal thank you from Mrs. Little this evening and relayed his efforts in getting the title cleared and recorded.

**COPS Grant** – The COPS Hiring Program will be accepting grant applications for FY 2011 starting May 2<sup>nd</sup> with an application deadline of May 25<sup>th</sup>. Lt. Bartzak will be requested to try again. It was noted that a cop hired under the program has to receive salary and benefits for 36 months and may include a guarantee of a job thereafter.

### **Resolution to Enter Closed Session**

#### **RESOLUTION #76-2011**

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:  
PURCHASE, LEASE OR ACQUISITION OF REAL PROPERTY
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 Fisher to approve the Resolution, seconded by Rich and carried unanimously.

*The Committee entered Closed Session at 11:07 p.m., returning to Open Session at 11:14 p.m.*

### **OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

Attorney Faherty announced that he has received a request from certain individuals to come to the May meeting to discuss a dam at the Amwell Valley Conservancy and Township involvement with the mortgage. Foran, Nelson, Whiting and the Conservancy are required to repair this dam and they want to come and relay their needs. It's not money—just signatures and guarantees—but a DEP requirement that the municipality get involved.



## **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

### **Treasurer –**

Presentation of Bills for Approval: Questions were raised on several bills which were discussed and the questions addressed. Fisher motioned to approve the evening's bills for payment and Molnar seconded. Roll Call: Rich-aye, with exception of JWS and Trap Rock, Fisher-aye, Molnar-aye.

**Tax Collector** – The monthly report for March 2011 was received showing receipts in the amount of \$303,170.36. Also received was a report, required by N.J.S.A. 54:4-91.1, for uncollectible taxes for prior years on or before May 1<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year. The report stated that there were no uncollectible taxes for the year 2010 and prior for the Township.

**Clerk/Human Resources** – The proposed letter on retirements was approved for the mayor's signature. A response was requested by May 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Construction** – The Permit Fee Log details (18), Monthly Activity Report-Permits (15), Payment Audit Report, Tax Assessor Report-Certificates (18), Monthly Activity Report-Certificates (18), and Certificate Log Detail were received for PermitsNJ for March 2011.

**Court** – The anticipated 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter report was not received.

**Police** – The February and March 2011 Monthly Reports showing 241/184 incidents, 24/94 summonses and 00/00 warnings were received.

**Zoning Officer Report** -- The March 2011 report of activities was received. Numerous phone calls, correspondence, office meetings and interpretations were noted. Five permits were issued.

Motion by Fisher, seconded by Rich to accept the reports as filed was carried unanimously.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

The correspondence as listed on the Agenda was ordered filed.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 11:36 p.m. on motion from Fisher, seconded by Rich.

Respectfully submitted,

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Lora L. Olsen, RMC  
Township Clerk