

WEST AMWELL TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING
May 25, 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 7:00 p.m. Present were Mayor Molnar, Deputy Mayor George Fisher, Committeeman Zachary Rich and Attorney Philip J. Faherty III. Also in attendance were Jason Fuhr, Cathy Urbanski, John Cronic, Jill Myers, Hal Shute, Betty Jane Hunt, Rob Tomenchok, Tom Carro, Jennifer Andreoli, and reporter Renee Kiriluk-Hill.

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.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE AMERICAN FLAG

Jason Fuhr led the assembled group in the pledge to the nation's flag.

AGENDA REVIEW BY TOWNSHIP CLERK

The following items were deleted: 9.B Unfinished Business: Amwell Dam; 12.E Police. Added: A brief Closed Session will be held immediately after #5 on the Agenda.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The following announcements were made:

- Municipal Offices Closed May 30th for Memorial Day Observation
- Primary Election, June 7th, 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. @ Municipal Building
- Chicken B-B-Q @ Firehouse, June 11th, 4 p.m. – 7 p.m.
- 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.

April 27, 2011 Regular Meeting

April 27, 2011 Closed Session (Personnel; Purchase, Lease or Acquisition of Real Property)

May 5, 2011 Special Meeting

May 5, 2011 Closed Session (Personnel; Protecting the Safety & Property of the Public)

May 11, 2011 Special Meeting – West Amwell School Defeated Budget

May 17, 2011 Special Meeting – SHR Defeated Budget

Attorney Faherty advised that the following Closed Session minutes could be released:

02/01/06 Contract Neg. (#2)	02/07/06 Contract Neg.	02/23/06 Contract Neg.
03/20/06 Contract Neg.	06/26/06 Contract Neg.	08/14/06 ContNeg.&/orPotLit
10/23/06 Contract Neg.	12/07/06 Litigation	12/13/06 Litigation #3
01/03/07 Litigation	01/29/07 Contract Neg.	02/07/07 Contract Neg.
03/05/07 Pending Litigation	03/09/07 Pending Lit.	04/02/07 Pending Lit #1
04/04/07 Pending Litigation	04/18/07 Pending Lit.	05/02/07 Pending Litigation
05/16/07 Litigation	06/06/07 Contract Neg #2	06/20/07 Litigation #2
06/20/07 Contract Neg. #1	07/18/07 Litigation	08/15/07 Contract Neg. #2
08/15/07 Contract Neg. #3	08/21/07 Contract Neg #1	08/21/07 Contract Neg. #2
10/01/07 Contract Neg &/or PLit	10/17/07 Litigation #1	01/16/08 Litigation #2
01/16/08 Litigation #3	01/31/08 Litigation	02/06/08 Litigation
02/06/08 Purch,Lease,Acq	04/02/08 Litigation	04/16/08 Litigation
05/07/08 Litigation	05/21/08 Litigation #1	07/30/08 Pur,Lease,Acq #2
10/01/08 Pot. Litigation	01/21/09 Purch,Lease,Acq#2	02/04/09 Pur,Lease,Acq #2
02/04/09 Purch,Lease,Acq#3	02/18/09 Litigation	03/04/09 Litigation
07/15/09 Litigation #2	08/05/09 Litigation	09/16/09 Litigation
10/28/09 Litigation	11/18/09 Litigation	12/09/09 Litigation
01/28/10 Litigation	03/03/10 Litigation	05/05/10 Litigation
05/13/10 Litigation	06/02/10 Litigation	07/07/10 Litigation
08/04/10 Purch,Lease,Acq#2	08/04/10 ProtSafety&Prop	08/16/10 Prot Safety & Prop
08/26/10 Litigation (Fulper)	09/01/10 Personnel	09/21/10 Litigation (Fulper)
09/21/10 Personnel	09/23/10 BOH Lit (Fulper)	10/06/10 Cont Neg. – Police

10/15/10 Personnel	10/27/10 Personnel-Interv #1	10/27/10 Pers-Interview #2
10/27/10 Personnel-Interv #3	10/27/10 Personnel-Interv #4	10/27/10 ContrNegotiations
11/03/10 Contract Neg.	11/10/10 Personnel	11/10/10 ContrNeg. Police
12/01/10 Personnel #1	12/01/10 Personnel #2	12/01/10 Contract Neg. #1
12/01/10 Contract Neg. #2	12/13/10 Personnel-Interv#1	12/13/10 Pers-Interview #2
12/13/10 Personnel-Inter #3	12/13/10 Contr Neg-Police	12/13/10 ContrNeg-Prof
12/16/10 Contract Neg	12/16/10 Contr Neg #1	12/16/10 Contract Neg #2
12/21/10 Personnel-Inter #1	12/21/10 Personnel-Interv#2	12/21/10 Personnel-Inter #3
12/21/10 Personnel-Inter #4	12/21/10 Personnel-Interv#5	12/29/10 Personnel-Inter #1
12/29/10 Personnel-Inter #2	12/29/10 Personnel-Interv#3	12/29/10 Personnel-Inter #4
01/10/11 ContractNeg-Police	01/27/11 Personnel #1	01/27/11 Personnel #2
01/27/11 Personnel #3	02/04/11 Contract Neg #1	02/04/11 Personnel
02/04/11 Contract Neg #2	02/23/11 ContractNeg-Police	03/10/11 Personnel-Interv #1
03/10/11 Personnel-Interv #2	03/10/11 Personnel-Interv #3	03/10/11 Personnel-Interv #4
03/10/11 Personnel-Interv #5	03/10/11 Personnel-Interv #6	03/10/11 Personnel-Interv #7
03/10/11 Personnel-Interv #8	03/10/11 Personnel-Interv#9	03/10/11 Cont Neg – Police
03/23/11 ContractNeg-Police	04/18/11 ContractNeg-Police	

Fisher motioned to open the minutes as listed and Rich seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

RESOLUTION #81-2011

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.

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

The Committee entered Closed Session at 7:10 p.m., returning at 7:12 p.m. with the following result:

RESOLUTION #82-2011

WHEREAS the Township Committee made provision for the position of Probationary Police Officer in the 2011 budget; and

WHEREAS a decision has been made by the Township Committee to fill said position at this time; and

WHEREAS John Michael Casella, submitted an application for the position of Probationary Police Officer and has been interviewed by the Township Committee; and

WHEREAS the Township Committee is in agreement with Lt. Bartzak that John Michael Casella be hired for the position

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the West Amwell Township Committee that John Michael Casella be appointed to the position of Probationary Police Officer effective June 1, 2011

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a pro-rated salary of \$43,352 be paid for this position in accordance with the police contract

Motion by Fisher to approve the Resolution of hire, seconded by Rich, and carried unanimously.

Lt. Bartzak, along with Patrolmen Vanselous, DeCandia, and Pantuso, and the newly hired probationary patrolman Cassella, together with several family members, arrived. Attorney

Fahery proceeded to administer the oath of office/allegiance to Mr. Cassella, while mom Judith Cassella held the Bible. Congratulations were extended and the mayor issued a welcome on behalf of the Township Committee and residents.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC/TOPIC NOT ON THE AGENDA

Jason Fuhr suggested that the Township Committee consider setting aside a night for informal discussions with folks that have gripes in order to reduce time spent at meetings and offered to bring the refreshments. He then proceeded to speak about the road work in front of his house. Although it was a great job overall, he believes that whoever engineered the project messed up as none of the water from the high part of the road runs into the catch basins. It pools across the street from his house; stays there for a while; and, mosquito season is coming. This feature was suppose to provide drainage from the high part of the road near his place and Hawley's into the catch basins in front of Frey's and Hult's. However, he's never witnessed any water running into them; has tried to get the flow heading in that direction; but, has not been successful. Mr. Fisher offered that engineers design these things to work but perhaps the grading was not properly done during the construction phase. He understands the problem as he has a similar situation in front of his place. The suggestion was made that the Road Supervisor be dispatched to look at it. Mr. Fuhr stated that he's been in touch with Randy but will give it some more time before he re-arranges things and lets the water run into the field. Also mentioned was that there is a warning sign for the upcoming curve leaning into the roadway that could cause an accident. It's been fixed before but needs to be again. The Road Supervisor will be requested to take a look at the problem and to also straighten the sign.

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

Municipal Alliance: Mr. Fuhr reported that this year the South Hunterdon Municipal Alliance awarded mini-grants to ESC, Stockton church, prevention education classes at South Hunterdon and Lambertville Public School. The Alliance also supported Artist Visions at the film festival at the old Acme. His charity golf tournament on behalf of the Alliance will be held on July 25th and sponsorships are being solicited. As the Kiwanis had to cancel their event last year due to a lack of golfers, he's also trying to get a few of them to help out and hopefully bring in more money. The Alliance continues its substance abuse program and interested parties can contact Patti Macdonald at 908-788-1900 or himself.

Public Hearing: Ordinance 8, 2011 ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)

Proof of publication in the April 21, 2011 issue of the Hunterdon County Democrat was presented. The ordinance has been posted and available to the public since its introduction at the April 18, 2011 Township Committee meeting. Mr. Molnar read the Ordinance by title and opened the public hearing. Hearing no comments, the public hearing was unanimously closed.

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

Public Hearing: Ordinance 9, 2011 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 109 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST AMWELL – Amount of Fees and Escrow Deposits Due

Proof of publication in the May 12, 2011 issue of the Hunterdon County Democrat was presented. The ordinance has been posted and available to the public since its introduction at the April 27, 2011 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 unanimously.

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

Public Hearing: 2011 West Amwell Township Budget

Proof of publication in the April 21, 2011 issue of the Hunterdon County Democrat was presented. The budget has been posted and available to the public since its introduction at the April 18, 2011 Township Committee meeting.

RESOLUTION #83-2011
RESOLUTION TO READ BUDGET BY TITLE ONLY

WHEREAS, the 2011 Budget of the Township of West Amwell was introduced on April 18, 2011 and advertised on April 21, 2011; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-8 states that the budget, as advertised may be read by title only if at least one week prior to the public hearing the approved Budget as advertised shall be posted where public notices are customarily posted and copies made available to each person requesting same; and

WHEREAS, the above requirements have been complied with;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of West Amwell, assembled in public session this 25th day of May 2011, that the 2011 budget be read by title only as provided by N.J.S.A. 40A:4-8.

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

2011 West Amwell Township Budget was announced and public hearing opened.

Jill Myers, 11 Big Top, relayed disappointment over last week's school budget decision noting that a lot of information was shared between people with a common interest; was curious why the Committee could 'nickel and dime' the kids but are now giving themselves \$9000 salaries; inquired how this can be justified; and, noted that the more money taken from the school makes it harder going forward as that money never comes back. She stated they were looking for the municipalities to work as a team, to support each other, and partner with the parents, kids, teachers and the administration and noted that the municipal work group worked hard the last couple of years; spent a lot of time trying to please all the 'no' voters; and, it was a stab in the back when something was needed in return. Now to see that the Township is increasing its budget, taking more from the taxpayer in another way, is like robbing Peter to pay Paul. Ms. Myers also noted that LAF raised \$32,000 for the kids at the March auction— money that was originally earmarked for enriching art-related, music-related programs that could not be funded within the school budget. However, the LAF is now receiving requests for band equipment, smart boards, and teacher in-service training—things that should be provided for in the budget. She further inquired whether the Committee had any regrets about their decision last week; if they had lost even 10 minutes of sleep over it; and, if the Committee thought it was possible to pass as school budget at South. Ms. Myers further relayed that has worked the phones but thinks all that has been drummed up is negativity. She will do whatever is in her power to communicate and get the vote out next year but questioned if passage is possible given the demographics of the area.

In response, Mr. Molnar advised that the Committee didn't nickel and dime the kids; that the taxpayers voted down the budget; that it's been several years of no pay; that the Township budget has been the subject of many meetings over the past five months; and, that budget was worked out before the school election. As for the possibility of ever passing a South budget, Mr. Fisher commented that budget passage is akin to a game in West Amwell, which is something that he doesn't understand. Mr. Rich relayed there will be \$250,000 in revenue and more kids coming in; that there's more power than ever to negotiate with the teacher's union as 70% of South's budget is labor costs; that this will make the school competitive; and, if things happen right, he would do everything possible to help get the budget passed.

Jennifer Andreoli, 16 Hunter, inquired whether the Committee knew why the taxpayers rejected the budget.

Mr. Fisher intoned that the no voter was larger than the yes voter; that nobody at South sells the budget; that a percentage of people in the township are not the school's mailing list; questioned who was doing outreach to those without kids in the school; and, noted that without serving on the work group, he would not have known anything that was going on. As for the work group, the five year plan was of little consequent as what people want to know is 'are the grades going up,' 'is the ranking going up,' 'is the cost per pupil going down?' Although it may be public information, it has to be searched out and questioned whether anyone was sent to speak with the seniors at their meeting.

Ms. Myers offered the opinion that meeting with the seniors brought out the no vote, although an effort was made to educate them about the budget, and that it seems that the referendum was their limit. South runs classes for the seniors, there are luncheons in all the schools but it's futile. It would have been powerful if the three municipalities had come together as a team on the \$100,000 cut and said to the no voters that their position of no was respected but that there's another group of people who matter just as much. Agreeing with the no voters just keeps bringing them out.

A brief exchange between Ms. Andreoli and Ms. Myers over whether the taxpayer message was 'no more taxes' or just 'take another look at the budget for places to cut' ensued. The PR angle was also raised in that the school's Community Messenger probably only reaches the yes voter.

Ms. Andreoli then questioned whether it may be possible that the voters have said no more...taxes are through the roof...we've hit a limit...we're done. Receiving a possibly affirmative to that opinion from Mr. Fisher, she asked whether the Committee is doing the same thing by giving an increase to employees and dealing with contribution obligations that have skyrocketed. She observed that the Committee has asked the school to really fine-tooth comb their budget and questioned whether they are doing the same. She acknowledged that there have been plenty of meetings held over the budget; trusts that a fine tooth comb was used; stated that this is not an economy where increases should be handed out; and, that the private sector has taken cuts. A brief exchange ensued over teacher raises and those at the Township. Although the decision about raises is up to the Committee, Ms. Andreoli noted that taxpayers are looking at substantial increases every year; that every little bit adds up; and, that people are asking what is being done with the money--the roads are cleaned very well in the snow but trash is extra, and there is no public sewer or water. Although reminded that 70% of the taxes go to the school, Ms. Andreoli also pointed out that the money is coming out of the taxpayer pocket; it needs to be less, otherwise community members will be lost; that the Committee has to fine tooth comb the budget; what is being said to the high school needs to be reflected here; and, that the Committee needs to stop increasing taxes. She also mentioned the state of the website; that she has complained repeatedly about it; and, that there's no information on it.

Hearing no other comments, the public hearing was unanimously closed. Mayor Molnar extended appreciation to CFO Carro for his efforts on this budget.

RESOLUTION #84-2011
SELF EXAMINATION OF BUDGET RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:78b has authorized the Local Finance Board to adopt rules that permit municipalities in sound fiscal condition to assume the responsibility, normally granted to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services, of conducting the annual budget examination; and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 5:30-7 was adopted by the Local Finance Board on February 11, 1997; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-7.2 through 7.5, the Township of West Amwell has been declared eligible to participate in the program by the Division of the Local Government Services, and the Chief Financial Officer has determined that the local government meets the necessary conditions to participate in the program for the 2011 budget year;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the governing body of the Township of West Amwell that in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:30-7.6a and 7.6b and based upon the Chief Financial Officer's certification, the governing body has found the budget has met the following requirements:

1. That with reference to the following items, the amounts have been calculated pursuant to law and appropriated as such in the budget:

- a. Payment of interest and debt redemption charges
- b. Deferred charges and statutory expenditures
- c. Cash deficit of preceding year
- d. Reserve for uncollected taxes

- e. Other reserves and non-disbursement items
- f. Any inclusions of amounts required for school purposes.

2. That the provisions relating to limitation on increases of appropriations pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.2 and appropriations for exceptions to limits on appropriations found at N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.3 et seq., are fully met (complies with CAP law).

3. That the budget is in such form, arrangement, and content as required by the Local Budget Law and N.J.A.C. 5:30-4 and 5:30-5.

4. That pursuant to the Local Budget Law:

- a. All estimates of revenue are reasonable, accurate and correctly stated
- b. Items of appropriation are properly set forth
- c. In itemization, form, arrangement and content, the budget will permit the exercise of the comptroller function within the municipality.

5. The budget and associated amendments (if applicable) have been introduced and publicly advertised in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Local Budget Law, except that failure to meet the deadlines of N.J.S.A. 40A:4-5 shall not prevent such certification.

6. That all other applicable statutory requirements have been fulfilled.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution will be forwarded to the Director of Division of Local Government Services upon adoption.

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

RESOLUTION #85-2011
BUDGET ADOPTION

Be it resolved by the Township Committee of the Township of West Amwell, County of Hunterdon, that the 2011 budget hereinbefore set forth is hereby adopted and shall constitute an appropriation for the purposes stated of the sums therein set forth as appropriations, and authorization of the account of:

- (a) \$ 1,202,562.13 for municipal purposes; and
- (d) \$ 482,500.00 Open Space, Recreation, Farmland and Historic Preservation Trust Fund Levy

SUMMARY OF REVENUES

1) General Revenues	
Surplus Anticipated	\$ 85,000.00
Miscellaneous Revenues Anticipated	1,697,254.00
Receipts from Delinquent Taxes	175,000.00
2) AMOUNT TO BE RAISED BY TAXATION FOR MUNICIPAL PURPOSES	<u>1,202,562.13</u>
Total Revenues	<u>\$ 3,159,816. 13</u>

SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATIONS

5) GENERAL APPROPRIATION	
Within CAPS	
(A & B) Operations including Contingent	\$ 1,992,886.00
Deferred Charges and Statutory Expenditures	216,649.00
Excluded from CAPS	
(A) Operations – Total operations excluded from CAPS	24,398.53
(C) Capital Improvements	60,000.00
(D) Debt Service	655,882.60

(M) Reserve for Uncollected Taxes	<u>210,000.00</u>
Total Appropriations	<u>\$ 3,159,816.13</u>

Fisher motioned to adopt the Budget Resolution and Rich seconded. Roll Call: Rich-no, Fisher-aye, Molnar-aye

Pie charts of the budget were prepared by Rob Tomenchok and are available in the municipal office.

Resolution Amending the 2011 Capital Budget – This amends the capital portion of the just adopted municipal budget.

RESOLUTION #86-2011

WHEREAS, the local Capital Budget for the year 2011 was adopted on May 25, 2011; and

WHEREAS, it is desired to amend the adopted Capital Budget for the year 2011;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of West Amwell Township, County of Hunterdon, New Jersey, that the following amendment to the adopted Capital budget be made:

CAPITAL BUDGET (Current Year Action) PLANNED FUNDING SERVICES FOR CURRENT YEAR-2011

Project Title	Estimated Total Cost	Capital Improvement Fund	Debt Authorized
Road Improvements			
From	\$750,000	\$ 37,500	\$ 712,500
To	\$ 354,000	\$ 17,700	\$ 336,300
DPW Equipment			
From	\$ 100,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 95,000
To	\$ 194,000	\$ 9,700	\$184,300
Total			
From	\$ 1,003,500	\$ 50,175	\$ 953,325
To	701,600	\$ 35,080	\$ 666,520

3 YEAR CAPITAL PROGRAM-2011-2013 Anticipated Project Schedule and Funding Requirements

Project Title	Estimated Total Cost	Estimated Completion Time	12/31/11
Road Improvements			
From	\$750,000	\$ 37,500	\$ 712,500
To	\$ 354,000	\$ 17,700	\$ 336,300
DPW Equipment			
From	\$ 100,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 95,000
To	\$ 194,000	\$ 9,700	\$184,300
Total			
From	\$ 1,003,500	\$ 50,175	\$ 953,325
To	701,600	\$ 35,080	\$ 666,520

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be filed forthwith in the Office of the Director of Local Government Services within three days after the adoption of this project for the 2011 Capital Budget.

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

A Supplemental Debt has been filed in the Office of the Municipal Clerk.

Prior to the introduction of the ordinance, CFO Tom Carro relayed that purposes are explained by category in the ordinance. There are road improvements (Old York Road and Rocktown Hill), acquisition of DPW equipment; acquisition of SUVs and radar units for the police; turnout gear and airbags for the fire company; and building improvements, which include alterations (HVAC, roofing, etc.) on various municipal buildings. The total appropriation is \$816,600 and the bonds and notes authorized is \$775,770. The difference between the two numbers is the down payment from the capital improvement fund, which is the \$40,830, or the required 5%. He further explained that the first year of the project, one year BANS are utilized which average about 1.5% on the interest. If the total amount was borrowed, it would cost about \$12,000 in interest in each year's budget until rolled into a bond issue at a higher interest rate. A brief exchange over about bonding fees, i.e., whether these are a fixed amount or are based on the amount borrowed ensued. It was explained that these are fixed, not a percentage, and are based on bond counsel's hourly rate. Whether or not borrowing is accomplished, this amount stays the same. Mr. Carro also relayed that if a project is not done, the debt can be cancelled. The category of building improvements was questioned. It was explained that this can cover the heating system, roofs for DPW and/or the 3 bay garage but is primarily a catch all for municipal improvements. Also noted was that it is unlikely that all items will be completed this year due to timing but with everything in place, bids can be solicited earlier in 2012. Mr. Molnar relayed that in the past whenever State funds were available for a project, the Township had no matching funds. With this effort, needed funds will be 'in the bank' if an opportunity arises and could result in a 2-1 dollar savings. The latter would also lower the proposed debt. Mr. Rich added that the Committee is really trying to target the roads but this work is very expensive. The goal is for a 50% match, as this Committee is not looking to be the first to bond 100% for roads, and gives an opportunity to make something happen. Also noted by the CFO was that expensive items such as dump trucks, SUVs and radar equipment cannot possibly be funded through the budget due to cap laws.

Introduction: Ordinance 10, 2011

The following ordinance was read by title and introduced on first reading: (copy attached)

BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST AMWELL, IN THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT OF \$816,600 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$775,770 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF

Fisher moved to introduce the Ordinance on first reading and Rich seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Public hearing will be held on June 22nd.

SPECIAL AND/OR STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Open Space

- *Authorization to Post March 8, 2011 Minutes to Website:* Approved.

Environmental

- *Resolutions for Sustainable New Jersey Certification Project:* Cathy Urbanski reminded the Committee that the Environmental Commission is working towards the Sustainability program and gave an update on the various items that have been uploaded and those still pending or needing implementation. She also noted that the solar panels being installed on municipal property is worth 10 points. Pledges for sustainable land use and one supporting the New Jersey wildlife action plan have been drafted. The latter has been reviewed and the Township has already completed everything listed, except for #7. She relayed that this may be a good project for the Open Space committee, and for municipal property. As for the resolution on sustainable land use, the transportation choices portion was highlighted. Mr. Molnar questioned what 'complete streets' meant and was advised that this means including bicycle things, curbing, and walkways...nothing that is feasible here at this time as these are primarily geared to developed communities but will come into play when planning transportation projects.

Mr. Fisher suggested that an eye be kept on these pledges/resolutions at the Planning Board level. These are things that do not have to be done just that an effort be made, e.g, best practices and therefore sees no problem. Mrs. Urbanski offered that her group also questioned this particulate item but figured that cars, feet and bikes are currently in use and that major transportation items could appear in our life time. Approval of both these plans was requested as they are worth 20 points; opens the door for grant money; assured that there were no 'hooks' involved; and, the grants do not have a match requirement. The New Jersey League of Mayors for a Green Future and the College of New Jersey are involved with this effort but not the State per se, although the DEP is involved in an advisory/review capacity. There are also several non-profits and the BPU. Mr. Fisher relayed Art Neufeld's concerns have been addressed as well.

RESOLUTION # 87-2011
PLEDGE of Municipal Support for New Jersey's Wildlife Action Plan

This Plan is in support of New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Fish and Wildlife, State-level Priority Conservation Goals and Strategies

Recognizing that animals are an integral and valuable part of all communities and believing concern for the wellbeing of wild animals and wild species is a hallmark of a sustainable natural community the Township of West Amwell pledges its support for the New Jersey Wildlife Action Plan as outlined:

WHEREAS, New Jersey is home to a rich diversity of wildlife and ecologically significant natural communities,

WHEREAS, New Jersey's wildlife and wild places are under threat from development, fragmentation, invasive species and the impacts of people,

WHEREAS, the populations of mammals, birds, invertebrates, fish, reptiles and amphibians that live in and migrate through New Jersey find themselves clinging to smaller and smaller pieces of wild clean lands and aquatic habitats,

WHEREAS, it is more cost-effective to prevent species from becoming imperiled than it is to recover them once their populations have declined,

WHEREAS, a naturally functioning and healthy ecosystem represents a healthy environment for NJ wildlife and our citizens,

WHEREAS, the NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife, other state and federal agencies, and many partners in conservation have worked together to develop a state Wildlife Action Plan for the benefit of biologists, wildlife experts, municipal leaders, land stewards, non-profit organizations, educators, planners, researchers, outdoor recreation enthusiasts, landowners and all the people who know the wild places of New Jersey State,

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Wildlife Action plan is a comprehensive action agenda for the conservation of native wildlife, the restoration of important lands and water, and public education targeting the needs of rare wildlife in New Jersey,

WHEREAS, the residents of, and visitors to, New Jersey also enjoy and benefit from New Jersey's wildlife and wild spaces.

NOW THEREFORE, we the township of West Amwell resolve to take the following steps with regard to our municipal land-use decisions with the intent of making West Amwell an ecologically sustainable community. It is our intent to include these principles in our public lands management, our environmental resources inventory and to inform the next master plan revision and update our zoning accordingly.

1. We have and will continue to identify imperiled species, critical habitat and unique ecosystems in our Natural Resource Inventory.

2. Acknowledging that it is more cost-effective to protect species than recover species, we will protect populations of rare and imperiled species that live and breed in, and migrate through, the municipality and the habitats they depend upon.
3. Because habitat integrity is critical to healthy biodiversity we will manage publicly owned lands in accordance with wildlife management actions laid out in the New Jersey Wildlife Action Plan and will promote the management of all protected lands to promote biodiversity.
4. We will protect wildlife habitats and maintain connectivity of habitat when formulating an open space acquisition strategy, open space stewardship plans and through the municipal master plan including planning and zoning ordinances.
5. We will seek to minimize disturbance of critical wildlife populations and their habitats from human activities, subsidized predators and invasive species.
6. When possible and appropriate, we will work with neighboring municipalities to implement the aforementioned principles across municipal boundaries.
7. When possible and appropriate, we will strive to monitor and implement appropriate management of municipal easements to ensure native vegetation and wildlife takes precedence over invasive and/or exotic species.

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

RESOLUTION #88-2011
Sustainable Land Use Pledge Resolution

WHEREAS, land use is an essential component of overall sustainability for a municipality; and

WHEREAS, poor land-use decisions can lead to and increase societal ills such as decreased mobility, high housing costs, increased greenhouse gas emissions, loss of open space and the degradation of natural resources; and

WHEREAS, well planned land use can preserve open space, provide for adequate recreation, allow for the continued protection and use of vital natural resources, and create a community with more sustainable approaches to guiding development for the benefit of the overall community such as responsible transportation alternatives and consideration for providing choices in housing options; and

WHEREAS, Given New Jersey's strong tradition of home rule and local authority over planning and zoning, achieving a statewide sustainable land use pattern will require municipalities to take the lead;

NOW THEREFORE, we the Township of West Amwell, resolve to take the following steps with regard to our municipal land-use decisions with the intent of making West Amwell Township a truly sustainable community. As a township we have already proven our commitment to these principles as we have included them in the latest revision of our master plan and reexamination report. We have updated our land-use zoning, natural resource protection, and other ordinances accordingly. We pledge to revisit these aspects of planning in order to renew and update these aspects as needed.

Regional Cooperation - We pledge to reach out to administrations of our neighboring municipalities concerning land-use decisions, and to take into consideration regional impacts when making land-use decisions. We have already shown our commitment to regional cooperation, as West Amwell is part of a 5-municipality Alliance working to recognize and protect the Sourland Mountain region.

Transportation Choices - We pledge to create transportation choices with a Complete Streets approach by considering all modes of transportation, including

walking, biking, transit and automobiles, when planning transportation projects and reviewing development applications. We will reevaluate our parking with the goal of limiting the amount of required parking spaces, promoting shared parking and other innovative parking alternatives, and encouraging structured parking alternatives where appropriate.

Natural Resource Protection - We pledge to take action to protect the natural resources of the State for environmental, recreational and agricultural value, avoiding or mitigating negative impacts to these resources. Further, we have completed a Natural Resources Inventory which identifies and assesses the extent of our natural resources and to link natural resource management and protection to carrying capacity analysis, land-use and open space planning. We have pledged to review and revise our Natural Resource Inventory every four years.

Mix of Land Uses - We pledge to use our zoning power to allow for a mix of residential, retail, commercial, recreational, agricultural, open space and other land use types in areas that make the most sense for our municipality and the region, particularly in crossroads areas where connector roads intersect.

Housing Options - We pledge, through the use of our zoning and revenue generating powers, to foster a diverse mix of housing types and locations, including single- and multi-family, for-sale and rental options, to meet the needs of all people at a range of income levels.

Green Design - We pledge to incorporate the principles of green design and renewable energy generation into municipal buildings to the extent feasible and when updating our site plan and subdivision requirements to guide development for residential and commercial buildings toward greener choices.

Municipal Facilities Siting - We pledge, to the extent feasible, to take into consideration factors such as walkability, bikability, greater access to public transit, proximity to other land-use types, and open space when locating new or relocated municipal facilities.

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

In conclusion, Mrs. Urbanski stated that this effort is on behalf of the Township, not the Environmental Commission or the Green Team and that the Township, not the Environment Commission, will be the recipient of the money.

Country Fair

- *Possible Report of Activities:* Mrs. Urbanski relayed that she received a lot of complaints about the website; noted that the site contains dated material; and, offered to contact a member of the Sourland Planning Council for assistance. This is the next project on the list according to Mr. Fisher, noting that this has been a volunteer effort and that it's time for professional involvement. Mrs. Urbanski suggested that perhaps a team be created to work on the website and volunteered to help.

Betty Jane Hunt relayed that she was very pleased with the event but that there is always room for improvement. There was a good turn out, considering the weather, and lots of cooperation. A wrap-up meeting will held next week.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Sale of Block 8 Lots 20 & 36 –

- *Discussion with Bryce Thompson:* Mr. Thompson will not be attending this evening but sent a letter of explanation, along with a listing of his other farm holdings. This information was disseminated to the Committee.

- *Options Letter from Attorney Faherty:* Another public sale to the highest bidder could be held, or the property could be sold by private sale, after the adoption of an ordinance, to a person who had submitted a bid pursuant to section (a) of NJSA 40A:12-13. This would be someone who bid at the auction. However, the terms and price agreed to has to be greater than the highest bid rejected. Any terms and/or conditions which were attached to the auction

process would apply to this sale.

As the former Perrine property is also being considered again for sale, both properties could be included in the proposed private sale. Attorney Faherty was instructed to prepare an ordinance for introduction at the next meeting.

2011 Appointments – Paul Cronce was contacted about the Recycling Coordinator position but relayed to the Clerk that this is something better handled by an employee due to the training requirements. A review of the ordinance concerning this position was suggested and a shared services option was also mentioned.

Updates – (1) The fully executed property **lease** was presented by Attorney Faherty. The letter to Commissioner Grifa was again held. (2) Members of all three **hunting** clubs were contacted concerning the discussion this evening; however, only John Cronce of Lambertville Rod & Gun was in attendance. Mr. Cronce inquired about the proposed land lease; the kind of money desired; suggested that the municipal property be limited to bow hunting because of safety issues due to the proximity of the development and Mill Road; that the former Toll property off of Route 179 could be used for both gun and bow as there is more room; and, that the lease period run from September to the end of May. As the three clubs are all friends, Mr. Cronce advised against starting a bidding war due to possible creation of hard feelings. Attorney Faherty relayed the available options—minimum bid or bid solicitation with right to reject and commented that there will less hurt feelings with a bid solicitation rather than a minimum bid approach. Mr. Cronce noted that this whole thing started with a gentlemen's agreement between the two clubs that they would rotate every two years; however, now there's a third party in play. Also relayed was that Lambertville Rod & Gun was the club that set the original rules and brought the idea to the township. However, he understands the need to generate money but it won't bring in \$10,000/acre unless the bid goes statewide, which is something that probably is not desired. Discussion ensued about bid direction; property sizes; accessibility issues; types of hunting; legal issues; other lands that might be available for lease, i.e., Titus, O'Boyle, Calton open space; and, what restrictions would apply to preserved properties. According to the minutes from 2005, the power towers are possibly inhabited structures with a 450' safety zone surrounding them, which makes Titus a no hunt zone, but this will be researched further; however, the presence of the towers may impact the Toll property as well. Mrs. Urbanski relayed that the spreadsheet completed for Open Space last year has information on how properties are categorized, location, access, etc. A review of the information could turn up possible properties for hunting thereby creating some value to the hunt clubs. Mr. Rich and Mrs. Urbanski will work on locating properties and options. Mr. Cronce also inquired if the Township would be interested in renting out the Perrine property for a hunting lodge. He thinks that his club would be willing to lease it for \$600-1000/year. They would assume insurance, electric; provide for upkeep such as mowing, possibly new roof, etc., and, do not need the water. (3) Hal Shute relayed that some decisions concerning the **Bleacher memorial** are needed if the 1 year anniversary date is to be met. The consensus is that it should be outside the municipal building and across from the rock. A group has been working with Porter Little and a granite bench is under consideration that can be obtained for between \$600 to \$1,000. The consensus of the Committee was that this is a good idea and approved placement across from the rock. The CFO will be consulted about whether the donations made to the Open Space trust fund in Gary's name can be used for this purchase. (4) Attorney Faherty advised against accepting the donation of **Block 43 Lot 2** due to recent actions taken by the Lambertville Land Association. A letter will be sent to Ms. Goccia stating that the property is now in the name of the Lambertville Land Association. (5) The Hunterdon Land Trust has requested a link to them be placed on the Township's **website**. Barbara Walsh, the housing official, has also requested that a link to HMFA also be added. Decision deferred until the website is updated. An **online presentation offer** is available. No interest was expressed at this time. (6) A brief discussion over whether or not to send a letter to Delaware Township concerning the **Police** report/situation ensued. No action was taken but that the Township will continue re-building the police force was noted. (7) John Glynn was contacted concerning possible use of their facility for **truck washing** and he provided information about a company that will come out and do this. In order to preserve any new equipment purchased, the power washing of the truck undercarriages is desired. Current regulations allow for removing excess salt with a broom and rinsing equipment on a stone pad. The Stormwater plan and regulations will be checked to see if an amendment is needed. (8) A new Local Finance Notice has arrived concerning the **QPA** Law. Anyone named to the title of purchasing agent after January 1, 2011 must hold a QPA certification and the position of purchasing agent must be created by ordinance. This means that the currently named person cannot be so designated again; that without a QPA there's a bid threshold of \$17,500; and, that a person in a title other than purchasing agent can be designated to award contracts up to that threshold. The law does

not require a purchasing agent; allows for the CFO to participate in the exam without having to complete the course work; and, also allows for a shared services agreement with another contracting unit, if desired.

Approval of Energy Efficiency Project for Municipal Building – The Township has received notice that the submission was approved for a little over \$26,942. Mr. Fisher advised that the work needs to be scheduled and completed by August 2012.

Resolution Authorizing the Sale of Municipal Property and/or Equipment – With the deletion of the former Perrine property, as it will be included in the ordinance discussed previously, the following resolution was offered.

RESOLUTION #89-2011

WHEREAS, the Township of West Amwell has acquired title to certain equipment through purchase for a particular use; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee has determined that said equipment is not needed for public purposes

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following equipment be sold pursuant to N.J.S. 40A:12-13 at public sale to the highest bidder, after public advertisement thereof, in the Hunterdon County Democrat and the Trenton Times on the 2nd day of June 2011 and the 9th day of June 2011, said sale to take place at the Township's Municipal Building, 150 Rocktown-Lambertville Road on the 21st day of June 2011 at 2 o'clock P.M.

	<u>Equipment</u>	<u>Location</u>		<u>Minimum Bid</u>
1)	Water Buffalo #1	150 Rocktown-Lamb. Rd.	\$	500.00
2)	Water Buffalo #2	150 Rocktown-Lamb. Road	\$	500.00
3)	2003 Crown Vic	258 Mt. Airy-Harb. Rd	\$	700.00

The use to be made of such real property by any successful bidder shall be only those uses as allowed by the Motor Vehicle laws in effect at the time of the sale.

At the time of sale, purchasers will be required to deposit with the Township Clerk ten percent (10%) of the purchase price. The remainder shall be due at or before conveyance of Title to purchaser.

Closing shall take place within thirty (30) days of the date a bid is accepted by the Township.

The Township reserves the right to reject any or all bids pursuant to N.J.S. 40A:12-13 (upon completion of the bidding, the highest bid may be accepted or all bids may be rejected).

Purchasers accept the property as is.

Fisher motioned to approve the Resolution of sale and Rich seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Municipal Building Planting Request/Proposal – Martha Shea's family would like to change their earlier request to one that involves planting daffodil bulbs around the building entrance and the veteran's monument this fall. The Road Supervisor has been consulted and has no problem with it. Request approved.

NEW BUSINESS

Springers Custom Cycles – The Motor Vehicle Commission requires an application for license and it requires the Clerk to certify that the Governing Body has approved the location, establishment and maintenance of the business. Zoning approval has been obtained. Item approved.

Consideration of Resolutions – The first resolution opposes proposed changes to Open Public Meetings Act as it imposes new procedural requirements on municipalities which will be

time consuming and costly; are impractical and wasteful; and, are unnecessary to protect the public's interest.

RESOLUTION #90-2011
RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO SENATE BILL NO. 1351

WHEREAS, Senate Bill No. 1351 (hereinafter referred to as S-1351) would amend the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6, et seq., to include many new requirements that are unnecessary to protect the public's interest in open and transparent government, and which would unduly burden municipalities; and,

WHEREAS, S-1351 would impose new procedural requirements on municipalities which will be time consuming and costly, at a time when municipalities are facing unprecedented financial constraints; and,

WHEREAS, S-1351 would impose new procedural requirements on municipalities that are impractical and wasteful, and which would result in longer meetings and less efficient governance; and,

WHEREAS, among the time consuming, costly, impractical and wasteful new requirements of S-1351 are the following:

- A. new requirements pertaining to subcommittees, including notice of subcommittee meetings and the preparation of minutes, which would, among other things, necessitate additional administrative support for all meetings of subcommittees so that minutes can be prepared; and,
- B. new requirement that agendas provide a description of all agenda items, including the names of the parties to and approximate dollar amounts of any contracts to be acted upon, which would increase preparation time for agendas; and,
- C. new requirement that agendas include estimated starting times for the public portion of the meeting and the portion of the meeting from which the public is to be excluded, though this information would be purely speculative and unreliable; and,
- D. new requirement that no public body be permitted to act upon or discuss a matter that is not listed on the agenda except in emergencies, which requirement would be impractical and unnecessarily inhibit the operations of municipal government, as it is often necessary for the effective and efficient administration of municipal governmental purposes to discuss or act on matters for which three business days' notice may not be possible; and this would effectively prevent discussion of items brought forward by the public; and,
- E. new requirement that a public body provide for public comment on emergency items that are added to a meeting agenda, adding unnecessary and time-consuming process to meetings; and,
- F. new requirement that a public body provide for public comment before taking final action on any matter at any meeting of at least three minutes per person, which requirement, as written, would result in an unworkable series of public comment periods on every action of the governing body, from appointments to resolutions to approval of minutes, thereby adding substantial time to every meeting of the public body; and,
- G. new requirement eliminating attorney-client privilege as a basis for excluding the public from a portion of the meeting, which will inhibit the public body's ability to obtain needed legal advice, which is contrary to the public interest; and,

- H. new requirement that public bodies be permitted to exclude the public from discussion of personnel matters only with the written consent of the potentially affected employee, thereby inhibiting the public body's ability to take necessary actions on personnel matters; and,
- I. new requirements for more extensive minutes of public body meetings, such as the inclusion of each member's stated reasons for his or her actions or vote, the identity of each member of the public who spoke and a summary of what was said, which shall cause the preparation of minutes to be more time consuming and costly; and,
- J. confusing new requirements pertaining to disclosure of recordings of meetings, including making recordings promptly available after meetings, and somehow incorporating such recordings with meeting minutes; and,
- K. new requirements that minutes would include electronic communications concerning public business among an effective majority of the members that occurred prior to a meeting, which would be an unworkable and ineffective imposition on municipalities, and would purport to make pre-meeting communications somehow become part of the meeting itself, an unprecedented expansion of the meeting concept; and,
- L. new requirements for maintaining on the municipal website schedules of meetings, agendas, notices of emergency meetings, minutes, resolutions and ordinance to the extent not already set forth in the minutes, and closed meetings resolutions, for a period of at least five years, which would result in additional costs for posting and maintaining website information;

WHEREAS, there is no justifiable basis for the imposition of the burdensome and cost generative provisions of S-1351; and,

WHEREAS, portions of S-1351 place financial, time, manpower and other burdens on municipalities at a time when municipalities are constrained to layoff municipal employees, impose furloughs, and reduce departmental budgets so that municipalities can meet strict CAP requirements even when revenues are decreased and operating costs continue to climb; and,

WHEREAS, the cost generative provisions of S-1351 are unfunded mandates that violate the "State Mandate, State Pay" amendment to the New Jersey Constitution;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Township of West Amwell, County of Hunterdon, and State of New Jersey, for the reasons stated above, do hereby opposes Senate Bill No. 1351 in its current form, and urge the New Jersey State Senate and Assembly to oppose this Bill; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to State Senator Loretta Weinberg, State Senator Stephen Sweeney, the members of the Senate and Budget Appropriations Committee, the legislators of the 23rd State Legislative District, the New Jersey State League of Municipalities, and the Municipal Clerks' Association of New Jersey.

Motion by Fisher to approve the Resolution with Rich providing the second. Motion carried unanimously.

The second resolution was recently adopted by the County Freeholders; calls for the repeal of RGGI; and, presented as follows:

RESOLUTION #91-2011

WHEREAS, the governing body of West Amwell Township recognizes that cap-and-trade is a destructive tax on energy that will dramatically increase energy prices, cost thousands of jobs, and damage the state's economy; and

WHEREAS, the governing body of West Amwell Township recognizes that the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) cap-and-trade program will have an adverse economic impact on the citizens of West Amwell Township, New Jersey by causing an undue increase in municipal tax rates; and

WHEREAS, the governing body of West Amwell Township recognizes that the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) cap-and-trade program is devoid of transparency, operates in a clandestine manner, and has refused open public records requests; and

WHEREAS, the governing body of West Amwell Township recognizes that the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) cap-and-trade program has the potential of being exploited by speculators and Wall Street Investment firms; and

WHEREAS, the governing body of West Amwell Township recognizes that the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) cap-and-trade program is failing in its stated mission to reduce carbon emissions and will not have any impact on reducing carbon emissions until Year 2030; and

WHEREAS, the governing body of West Amwell Township recognizes that the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) cap-and-trade program is a prelude to a national cap-and-trade program; and

WHEREAS, the governing body of West Amwell Township recognizes it has an obligation to stop the expansion of the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) cap-and-trade program, and end this threat to our state and national economy.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the governing body of West Amwell Township strongly supports the repeal of the Global Warming Response Act (2007) and Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative or RGGI Implementing law (2007), as currently proposed in the State Assembly and Senate, thereby withdrawing New Jersey from the Regional Greenhouse Initiative (RGGI) cap-and-trade program; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Township Clerk is hereby directed to forward a copy of this resolution to Governor Chris Christie, Senate President Stephen Sweeney, Senate Minority Leader Thomas Kean Jr., Assembly Speaker Sheila Oliver and Assembly Republican Leader Alex DeCroce.

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

Uniform Allowance for Part-time/Special Patrolmen – A question has been raised about uniform allowances for part-timers. The original uniform is provided but there's no other provision. Whether this should be handled as a requisition item on an 'as-needed' basis instead of a stipend was raised. The decision was to provide, within 5 months of a part-timer's anniversary date, a prorated portion of the contract amount based on the previous year's average hours worked per week. Example: An average of 30/hrs/wk would receive 75% of the stipend.

Resolution to Enter Closed Session (not needed)

Attorney Faherty was instructed to prepare an ordinance to sell the Toll and Perrine properties for the next meeting. The minimum bid was shared at the table. Mr. Rich will reach out to the person who recently e-mailed a note of interest in the property.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Hal Shute relayed that Senator Doherty has proposed legislation for a new school funding approach and will be taking his idea on the road. The premise is equal funding on a per pupil basis, with the pool of money generated from the income tax specifically dedicated for property tax relief, split up statewide on a head count basis. Funding for special needs students is unclear but is something that the state will have to figure out. Mr. Shute's estimate for West Amwell, between the two schools, is an improvement of \$2.5 million/year, or 50 cents off the tax rate. However, due to demographics, a town like West Amwell would still be contributing 10 x as much as an average homeowner in an urban area as they would continue to be heavily subsidized. Mr. Shute would like to extend an invitation to Senator Doherty to come to West Amwell with one of his public events—either at the high school or at the municipal building. Mr. Molnar will work with Mr. Shute on getting this set up.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Treasurer –

RESOLUTION # 92-2011

WHEREAS, it has been determined by the Board of Health of West Amwell Township that the following applicant's STW fee is in excess of what was needed to cover their charges; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Health has approved a refund of the following amount

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of West Amwell that the Treasurer is hereby authorized to refund the following amount to the applicant:

Applicant	Amount Refunded
Thomas Zeng Block 14 Lot 27.02	600.00

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

Presentation of Bills for Approval: Concerns over the Van Cleef bill for Rocktown-Lamb. Road and the money owed on the Calton project were discussed. The punch list for the latter will be disseminated to the Committee members and the contact information for Bob Holmes obtained. A listing of items requiring engineer inspection vs what can be done in-house is needed. Mr. Rich will contact Construction Official Rose. Mr. Clerico is to be contacted for to-date amounts owed and instructed to cease all activity. The inspection report for the Calton basins that is due to DEP was noted as something that needs to be completed. Several other items on the bill list were questioned and answered accordingly.

Fisher motioned to approve the evening's bills for payment, seconded by Rich. Motion carried unanimously.

Tax Collector – The monthly report for April 2011 was received showing receipts in the amount of \$337,335.35.

Clerk/Human Resources –

- *Salary & Wage Amendment.*

RESOLUTION #93-2011 SALARY & WAGE RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED by the Committee of the Township of West Amwell that the 2011 Salary and Wage Resolution, adopted January 1, 2011 be amended as follows:

Position	Salary/Compensation
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<u>Add:</u> Part-time/Special Officer Jeffrey S. Jones	\$20.50/hr
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Fisher motioned to approve the Resolution, seconded by Rich. Motion carried unanimously.

- *Resolution of Appointment:* Lt. Bartzak has relayed the need for a formal resolution of appointment for Mr. DeCandia.

RESOLUTION #94-2011

WHEREAS the Township Committee made provision for the position of Probationary Police Officer in the 2011 budget; and

WHEREAS a decision has been made by the Township Committee to fill said position at this time; and

WHEREAS Michael DeCandia, submitted an application for the position of Probationary Police Officer and has been interviewed by the Township Committee; and

WHEREAS the Township Committee is in agreement with Lt. Bartzak that Michael DeCandia be hired for the position

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the West Amwell Township Committee that Michael DeCandia be appointed to the position of Probationary Police Officer effective April 27, 2011

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a pro-rated salary of \$43,352 be paid for this position in accordance with the police contract

Fisher motioned to approve the Resolution, seconded by Rich. Motion carried unanimously.

Construction – The Permit Fee Log details, Monthly Activity Report-Permits (12), Payment Audit Report, Monthly Activity Report-Certificates (15), Certificate Log Details were received for PermitsNJ. Also noted were 3 CO's and 9 CA's in UCCARS. Deposits for March 2011 totaled \$4,306.00, which included receipt of a \$1000 violation. April 2011 deposits were \$3,713.00

Roads – The April 2011 work logs were received. Vehicle maintenance, mowing, road/ditch work and park duties were especially noted.

Zoning Officer Report -- The April 2011 report of activities was received. Numerous phone calls, e-mail correspondence, meetings, interpretations and site visits were noted. Deposits for March were \$500. April deposits were \$195.00

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 10:24 p.m. on motion from Fisher, seconded by Molnar.

Respectfully submitted,

Lora Olsen, RMC
Township Clerk