

The regular meeting of the East Amwell Township was called to order at 7:42 p.m. Present were Mayor Richard Wolfe, Deputy Mayor Tim Mathews, and Committee members Kevin Ostrander, Peter Miller, and Chris Sobieski. Also present was Attorney Carl Taylor and CFO/ Treasurer Margaret Pasqua.

In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, Deputy Clerk, Pamela Dymek announced that this is a regularly scheduled meeting, pursuant to the resolution adopted on January 2, 2019, with a meeting notice published in the Hunterdon County Democrat issue of January 10, 2019. A copy of the agenda for this meeting was forwarded to the Hunterdon County Democrat, Times of Trenton, Star Ledger, Courier News, posted on the bulletin board and filed in the Clerk's Office on March 12, 2019.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

AGENDA REVIEW BY DEPUTY CLERK

Under ANNOUNCEMENTS add - Township Easter Egg Hunt is April 13 (rain date 20th) starting at 11 a.m. sharp at East Amwell School.

Roadside Clean Up day will be April 20th. Contact Tom Rue for information on signing up to participate.

The Annual Spring Clean Up day is April 27th. Contact Will Harrison for details. Contact details are available through the Recycling Committee page on the website. Details of both events will also be published shortly via the website.

Under SPECIAL DISCUSSIONS add to item (C) - Interviews - Nora DiChiara for Environmental Commission.

Under SPECIAL DISCUSSION add to item (J) - Email from Gail Brewi Request for Information Regarding the ERI.

Under NEW BUSINESS add – request from Court Administrator Jennifer Budrewicz to advertise for a part time Violations Clerk.

Under NEW BUSINESS add – Animal Control Services.

Under CORRESPONDENCE add - ask for copy - Resolution #32 -19 In Opposition of the NJ Department of Agriculture's New Beekeeping Regulations.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

2019 Dog Licenses are now overdue. Cost is \$17 for a neutered/altered dog and \$20 for a non-neutered/non-altered dog. There is an additional \$25 late fee per dog. Contact pdymek@eastamwelltownship.com for details.

Free Radon Kits are available to residents at the Hunterdon County Health Department, at the County Complex Bldg 1 office location from 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. daily. Call 908-788-1351 for details.

The East Amwell website, www.eastamwelltownship.com, is up and running. If anyone has comments or suggestions, please direct them to Alison Castellano at Alison_wright@hotmail.com The Township encourages all its residents to sign up for updates on the site.

Hunterdon County will hold an electronics waste recycling day on Saturday, March 23, from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. at the Library Complex on Route 12. Further information is available at <http://co.hunterdon.nj.us/recycling/cleanup.html>

Hunterdon County will also hold an Ident-a-Shred day on Saturday, April 6, from 9 a.m. – noon or until the truck is full. It will be held at the library complex on Route 12. Further information is available at www.co.hunterdon.nj.s/countyclerk.htm.

The Buckwalter Art Exhibit at Clawson House is now on display. The museum is open on Saturday and Sunday from 1 – 4 p.m. The displays in the museum are constantly changing.

UPDATE FROM THE CFO

CFO Pasqua passed out summary sheets of the budget with a few tweaks. The budget as it stands is at a flat tax rate. It's a ten cent savings on an average four hundred thousand dollar home. If there weren't any issues with the State we would have been able to introduce the budget tonight. The Annual Financial Statement hasn't been filed because the new system isn't working properly. The budget can't be introduced until the AFS goes in because when you send in the budget package they ask if you submitted the AFS. Ms. Pasqua made calls and emails were sent and the State is not giving any guidance. She only received information from the auditors.

Mayor Wolfe explained the State decided to streamline the budget process. This process had the opposite effect instead of making it easier it is harder. Ms. Pasqua doesn't understand why the new process isn't ready to go.

Ms. Pasqua completed the budget on the paper forms because the State's new system hasn't been set up. The forms only need to be proofread. The budget is on the summary sheets and she doesn't see any changes.

CFO RESOLUTIONS

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CALENDAR YEAR 2019
MODEL ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION
LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK
(N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)

ORDINANCE #19-02

WHEREAS, the Local Government Cap Law, N.J.S. 40A: 4-45.1 et seq., provides that in the preparation of its annual budget, a municipality shall limit any increase in said budget up to 2.5% unless authorized by ordinance to increase it to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, subject to certain exceptions; and,

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

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell in the County of Hunterdon finds it advisable and necessary to increase its CY 2019 budget by up to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, in the interest of promoting the health, safety and welfare of the citizens; and,

WHEREAS, the Township Committee hereby determines that a 3.5 % increase in the budget for said year, amounting to \$58,486.08 in excess of the increase in final appropriations otherwise permitted by the Local Government Cap Law, is advisable and necessary; and,

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

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell, in the County of Hunterdon, a majority of the full authorized membership of this

governing body affirmatively concurring, that, in the CY 2019 budget year, the final appropriations of the Township of East Amwell shall, in accordance with this ordinance and N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14, be increased by 3.5 %, amounting to \$58,486.08, and that the CY 2019 municipal budget for the Township of East Amwell be approved and adopted in accordance with this ordinance; and,

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

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

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

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

By Order of the Township Committee,

Richard Wolfe, Mayor

Attest: _____
Pamela Dymek
Deputy Municipal Clerk

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Motion by Deputy Mayor Mathews, seconded by Mr. Ostrander, and carried unanimously to approve the Introduction of Ordinance 19-02.

The ordinance will be published in the March 21, 2019 issue of the Hunterdon County Democrat and the public hearing is set for the next regular Township Committee meeting on April 11, 2019 at 7:30 p.m.

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT TEMPORARY EMERGENCY APPROPRIATIONS #2

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RESOLUTION #37-19

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-20 provides that an addition to temporary appropriations necessary for the period prior to the adoption of the budget and regular appropriations, the Governing Body may, by resolution adopted by 2/3 vote of the full membership thereof, make emergency temporary appropriations for any purpose for which the appropriations may lawfully be made for the period between the beginning of the current fiscal year and the date of the adoption of the budget for said year.

WHEREAS, the total emergency temporary resolutions adopted in the year 2019 pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 96, P.L. 1951 (N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-20) including this resolution total \$144,000.00

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Township of East Amwell, that in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-20, the Chief Financial Officer be authorized to make the following emergency temporary budget appropriations in the 2019 current fund temporary budget and that said amounts be included under the correct headings in the municipal budget as adopted.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that one certified copy of this resolution be filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services and one certified copy with the Chief Financial Officer

	Salaries & Wages	Other Expenses
General Administration		\$5,000.00
Farmland Preservation	\$ 2,000.00	
Financial Administration	\$15,000.00	
Revenue Administration	\$ 8,000.00	
Tax Assessor	\$ 4,000.00	
Municipal Clerk	\$ 17,000.00	\$3,000.00
Tax Assessor	\$2,000.00	
Workers Comp Insurance		\$5,000.00
Public Officials Surety Bond		\$10,000.00
Group Insurance		\$20,000.00
Street & Road Maintenance	\$20,000.00	
Solid Waste	\$ 500.00	
Public Health	\$4,000.00	\$ 6,000.00
Environmental		\$ (500.00)
Telephone		\$2,000.00
Social Security/Medicare		\$ 10,000.00
Municipal Court	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Zoning Board	\$3,000.00	
Municipal Prosecutor	\$2,000.00	

By Order of the Township Committee,

Richard Wolfe, Mayor

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Motion by Deputy Mayor Mathews, seconded by Mr. Ostrander, and carried unanimously to approve the resolution.

ESCROW ACCOUNTS NO LONGER ACTIVE

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Resolution #38-19

WHEREAS, certain Escrow Accounts are no longer active or valid:

WHEREAS, it is necessary to formally cancel said balances:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, that the following unexpended balances be cancelled:

	Amount
#7763567400 Brian Parker	\$122.09
#7763567278 Dr J Dilts House LLC	\$ 62.00
#7200037161 Steven Lang	\$214.21
#7763567567 Richard Catenacci	\$648.11
#7762400568 Cellco Verizon	\$2,124.50
#7763567426 Cellco/Verizon Firehouse (Amwell Valley Fire Co)	\$390.01
#7763567442 Greenview Farms	\$1,417.75
#7763567674 GAW Holdings LLC (revised 3/14/1	\$2,420.00

By Order of the Township Committee,

Richard Wolfe, Mayor

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Motion by Mr. Sobieski, seconded by Mr. Ostrander, and carried unanimously to approve the resolution.

AWARD OF BIDS FOR RIDGE ROAD SECTIONS 1 AND 2 ROAD IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

PROPOSED RESOLUTION WILLIAM BURR

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RESOLUTION #39-19

TOWNSHIP OF EAST AMWELL Rev. W.Burr 3-12-19

March 4, 2019 “Authorize the Award of Bid 2019-1 Ridge Road Section 1 and 2 Improvements in a Fair and Open Manner to Asphalt Paving Systems Inc.”

WHEREAS, there is a need for road improvements to Ridge Road in the Township of East Amwell; and

WHEREAS, the Township of East Amwell publicly advertised for, and received bids on March 6, 2019; and

WHEREAS, the vendor who has been deemed as the most responsive and responsible, and have provided for the lowest bid deemed responsive and responsible to the specifications, and legal requirements as provided for within the bid document was Asphalt Paving Systems Inc., 500 N Egg Harbor Rd., Hammonton, N.J. to wit:

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Lump sum price</u>
Asphalt Paving Systems, Inc.	\$496,800.00
Glen Hale, Inc.	\$508,556.97
Top Line Construction Corp.	\$533,115.68
DeSantis Construction Inc.	\$630,964.56
Reivax Contracting Corp.	\$1,005,134.00

and

WHEREAS, the purchasing agent and the township engineer have concurred with the legality of the purchase in accord with the New Jersey Local Publics Contract Law (N.J.S..40A:11-1 et. Seq); and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer hereby certifies that funds NOT TO EXCEED \$496,800.00 are available as follows;

Line Item: C-04-55-985-002

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Township of East Amwell authorizes the Mayor to enter into a contract with:

Asphalt Paving Systems Inc., 500 N Egg Harbor Rd., Hammonton, N.J.; at the aforementioned rate and terms for bid 2019-01 Ridge Road Section 1 and 2 Improvements in accord with the tenets of contract found within Bid and scope of work.

By Order of the Township Committee,

Richard Wolfe, Mayor

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Motion by Deputy Mayor Mathews, seconded by Mr. Ostrander, and carried unanimously to approve the resolution.

Mayor Wolfe commented on the difference in the bid amounts for the paving of Ridge Road.

SPECIAL DISCUSSION

COMCAST QUARTERLY MEETING - Rob Clifton, Senior Director of Government Affairs, for Comcast Cable was present at this time.

Mr. Clifton spoke with the lady who said there was a downed wire on South Hill Road during the discussion with JCP&L. He also received a list with a few more wires down from Mr. Spiegel. Mr. Clifton said the crews will be out tomorrow to look at the downed wires. He had no formal presentation and asked for questions.

Motion by Mr. Ostrander, seconded by Mr. Sobieski, and carried unanimously to open to the public.

(53:44)Mr. Spiegel, Mountain Road, asked about the increase for senior citizens. Mr. Clifton remarked the only discount that is provided is prescribed by the State where if someone qualifies for the PAAD discount (Prescription Assistance to Aged and Disabled). Mr. Spiegel replied the BPU (Board of Public Utilities) sets the pricing.

(54:00)Mr. Spiegel wanted to know about the network Comcast Cable and the customer. The problem is they dictate when the shows are being shown. He asked if they set the times for shows and commercials. Mr. Clifton replied they set the times and don't get into scheduling. Mr. Spiegel asked why there are commercials when we go on demand. Mr. Clifton said they are contractual and from the people we buy the shows from. He added if you tape the show you can fast forward through the commercials.

Mr. Spiegel talked about the problem he had when he replaced his remote. All weekend on all the Stars channels and Turner Network it would start in English, the TV flicked, and everyone was speaking in Spanish. (57:03) He was on the phone for forty five minutes to try and figure out the problem. Mr. Clifton will talk with the engineers as to why there is an issue with the satellite. He would have heard if it was more widespread so it had to be a local issue. Mr. Clifton concluded that it was a remote issue.

Motion by Deputy Mayor Mathews, seconded by Mr. Ostrander, and carried unanimously to close to public.

Mr. Clifton thanked the Mayor and he will have his crews out if there are any issues after Roadside Cleanup.

REQUEST FROM BOY SCOUT MIKE ROWE TO IMPROVE THE ROCKY BROOK TRAIL WITH INSTALLATION OF KIOSK, HISTORICAL SIGN, BOARDWALKS, AND REMOVAL OF INVASIVE PLANTS AS PART OF AN EAGLES SCOUT PROJECT

(1:00:16) Mayor Wolfe asked Mike Rowe to explain his project. Mike Rowe is a member of Boy Scout Troop 65 based in Ringoes who is currently a Life Scout working on his Eagle Scout

Project. His proposed project is to improve the Rocky Brook Trail by installing a kiosk, a historical sign, boardwalks, and removing invasive plants in the area. He's been working with Toni Robbi and Patsy Wang-Iverson. The enhancements will help visitors learn more about the trail. (1:01:07) He plans to begin in early April with an estimated cost of five hundred and eighty eight dollars and eighty six cents. A GoFundMe site would be used to raise the money.

Mr. Ostrander asked Mr. Rowe when the project would be completed. Mr. Rowe said in a few months.

Mr. Rowe will email the forms that need approval to Mayor Wolfe.

Motion by Mr. Sobieski, seconded by Deputy Mayor Mathews, and carried unanimously to approve the request form Boy Scout Mike Rowe.

REQUEST FOR BICYCLE EVENT ON MAY 11 - NATIONAL PSORIASIS FOUNDATION

(1:03:00) Kris Bockmier of the National Psoriasis Foundation would like to host the fifth annual bike ride at Unionville Vineyards, Saturday, May 11, 2019. It has been done each year since 2015 with approximately no more than one hundred and twenty five riders over the three routes. They begin at 7 a.m. and are finished by 1 p.m.

Mayor Wolfe looked at what was submitted and saw the Certificate of Liability, the detailed map, and doesn't recall any complaints about this event.

Mr. Sobieski asked if a cleanup vehicle comes after the event. Ms. Bockmier replied directional signs are placed on Friday and will be picked up no later than 6 p.m. on Saturday.

Motion by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Ostrander, and carried unanimously to approve the bicycle event.

REQUEST FOR BICYCLE EVENT ON JUNE 2 – FARMLAND RIDE

This request will be carried to the April 11, 2019 meeting.

EAST AMWELL TOWNSHIP SCHOOL PTO REQUEST FOR APPROVAL FOR COLOR RUN ON MAY 4

(1:05:40) Sanja Ippoliti spoke on behalf of the East Amwell School PTO. She asked for support and approval for the second annual Color Run since part of it will include a road closure. We need approval from the Township so we could submit our application to the County for road closure.

Mr. Sobieski asked if the route was the same as last year. Ms. Ippoliti said yes. The 5k run will be from East Amwell School to the Vineyard and back. There will also be a one mile fun run or walk for families with little children.

Mayor Wolfe participated last year in the 5k and thought it was fun. He thinks this year it will be better attended. Assistance from the DPW is not an issue as well as the use of the recycling and garbage cans. It's a wonderful way to bring the community together and is a lot of fun.

Motion by Mr. Ostrander, seconded by Mr. Miller, and carried unanimously to approve the PTO request for Color Run and the DPW providing assistance.

DISCUSSION WITH DPW SUPERINTENDENT AND ENGINEER REGARDING ROADS, INCLUDING CHIP SEAL PROGRAM

(1:09:21) Mayor Wolfe explained that the Township Committee decided last year to increase the Capital Improvements Budget this year to deal with the roads now before they get to the point they can no longer be cost effectively dealt with. They want to chip seal a number of roads in the Township. If the roads aren't done they will break up and we will need a Grant to tear out the entire road to put in a new road. The chip seal is designed to extend the life of the roads. There are a number of residents that don't like chip sealing especially during the first month or two after it's done. Efforts will be made to minimize the impact of the chips. (1:10:49) The Township wouldn't get Grants for many of the roads because they aren't trafficked enough and chip sealing is the only alternative.

DPW Superintendent Jason Silverthorn and Engineer William Burr were here tonight to discuss the program. There is a proposed list of roads to do in 2019 and a list for 2020. The money is budgeted for the roads in 2019. (1:12:29) The roads to be done in 2019 are Snyderstown, Woodsville, Cider Mill, Bowne Station, Dutch Lane, and possibly Zion Road. In 2020 the roads to be done are Garboski, Boss, and Back Brook. The cost for 2019 is a hundred and twenty three or a hundred and thirty three thousand depending if Zion Road is chip sealed. The cost for 2020 would be a hundred and twenty seven thousand. (1:13:40) That would be a quarter of a million dollars of roadwork over the next two years. A quarter of a million is almost ten percent of the total budget.

Deputy Mayor added that a hearing was done on this topic in November of 2018 which is recorded on YouTube.

DPW Superintendent Jason Silverthorn explained the road list was started last year and was based on roads that were given Grants, and roads that have been overlaid and repaved. There is a significant amount of money invested in the roads and doing maintenance on them would make them last longer.

Mayor Wolfe asked about the DPW hours to prep which would be to stabilize the roads for chip seal. Some of the roads that will be chip sealed have structural issues that need to be fixed prior to chip sealing. (1:16:15) On the spreadsheet the DPW hours to prep is the projected number of hours to get the road ready for the contractor to come in and do the chip sealing. Mr. Silverthorn explained they want to take out the soft spots, do ditching, and drainage repairs, raise up low spots that hold water, and the fresh asphalt needs to sit in the sun for a month before chip sealing is done over top.

Engineer William Burr added the chip seal process will seal up small cracks on the road. The DPW will repair damage on the roads that is about a quarter of an inch or larger. Mr. Silverthorn wants to seal up the center seams, any large transverse cracks, seal them up, overlay with asphalt so the chip seal fills the road in so there is no water penetration which is the major problem.

Mayor Wolfe asked what will be done to address complaints in the past that for weeks after the chip seal people are driving and stones are kicking up and also the dust issues.

DPW Superintendent said Mr. Burr will write the specs so the stone is pre treated with asphalt emulsification so there will be no dust. That will help the stone adhere. Also included in the specs will be rolling of the chip seal after it's applied to help pack the material down..

The Mayor mentioned that the residents will be noticed who live on the roads in advance of the chip sealing. It will also be posted on the website.

Mr. Silverthorn stated that all the roads are less than thirty five miles per hour. Temporary signs will be posted for twenty five miles an hour. Driving fast over the chip seal loosens the chips up before they adhere. (1:18:39) Mr. Burr mentioned as far as noticing the residents he would like to send correspondence to those being impacted explaining the process and what they can expect. Then when the contractor is contracted to do the work they will be required under their contract to provide a notice at the start of construction usually forty eight to seventy two hours before work starts. Mayor Wolfe said it will be posted on the website as soon as we get a target date.

The Mayor didn't realize the speed issue until tonight and wanted to know if for a couple of weeks after the chip sealing is done if a speed sign could be moved to that area. (1:19:53) DPW Superintendent replied there's only one speed trailer that can be moved. It will also be written in the specs to sign the road. (1:20:19) Mayor Wolfe voiced the speed trailers do have an impact and asked if one could be rented. He suggested buying another speed trailer. Mr. Silverthorn remarked about purchasing smaller speed signs that mount to street signs or telephone poles. (1:20:49)

Mr. Ostrander voiced concerns about the contractor who paved Route 514. There's still loose gravel, it was done late in the season, the material was very coarse, and the sound of the cars going down the road is very audible than it was previously.

Mr. Burr commented it was a contract that the County puts out annually which is convenient for some municipalities. The down side is the towns lose control of their ability to craft the specs specific to their needs.

Mayor Wolfe expressed it would be better to pay a little more to get a quality product.

Deputy Mayor Mathews recalled that during the November meeting residents complimented the contractor that Hopewell used.

Mr. Burr said a bid package would be put together and the project would go out for public bid to all qualified contractors.

The Deputy Mayor asked the time frame in going out to bid. Mr. Burr responded a bid spec would be put together which would take about two weeks. It would have to be publicly noticed or advertised in the Hunterdon County Democrat for a minimum of ten days. The contractors would get a month to prepare their bids and the bid opening would be scheduled at the Municipal Building. The bids would be reviewed and awarded at a Township Committee meeting. (1:23:47) Mr. Burr would like to award the contract in June or July for a summer chip seal. Mr. Silverthorn commented that he needs time to prep the roads Mr. Burr wants the work done by mid to late September. The cooler it gets the stone doesn't adhere to the oil as well.

Deputy Mayor Mathews asked Mr. Silverthorn if he's ready with his labor crew in terms of handling this plan. Mr. Silverthorn voiced as long as the weather cooperates. The asphalt plant is scheduled to open April 1st and he's ready to go. (1:25:01)

Mr. Ostrander questioned if there was any additional out of pocket expense that hadn't been budgeted for. Mr. Silverthorn responded that there is money left over in the capital ordinance and there is also money in this capital budget for this year.

Mr. Ostrander would like to see a numeric rating system where a priority cue could be set up and the State provides that guidance. He felt it would be very valuable to have a history of the roads, pictures, commentary, and prioritization so we're doing the worst roads, monitor it, and hand it off to the next group. Right now we don't have a history of the roads that we can put our hands on. Mr. Silverthorn replied that he started a spreadsheet for every road and will sit with Clerk

Stahl and go through the old contracts to fill in the month and year from what's been done since he's been here. (1:27:16) Mr. Ostrander wants a document that chronicles the roads overtime.

Mr. Miller asked what the cost difference would be if the chip seal is let go for a long time. Mr. Burr said that chip seal is two to two fifty a square yard for about twenty five thousand dollars a mile give or take. Overlay may be upwards of one hundred dollars and full reconstruction is several hundred dollars per hundred thousand per roadway mile. (1:29:28)

Mayor Wolfe explained the chip seal process is twenty five thousand dollars a mile, if you have to redo the road it will cost two hundred and fifty thousand a mile. The chip seal is the best alternative before the roads get to the point where they are at the two hundred and fifty thousand dollars a mile. Those roads are only getting done through Grants and there are only certain roads we can get Grants for in East Amwell.

Mr. Burr clarified the chip seal is twenty five thousand per mile of road. A contract was awarded to reconstruct two point zero one miles of Ridge Road and the cost of the contract is just less than five hundred thousand dollars. (1:30:47)

Mr. Sobieski asked how you prioritize one road over another. Mr. Burr stated that a fair amount of time was spent last year touring the roads and really getting on the ground and looking at the condition of the roads. Rutgers recommends on a newly paved road in the eight to twelve year range to apply a chip seal layer. (1:31:48) Some of the roads are deteriorated and chip sealing them wouldn't work. (1:32:00) They tried to balance roads that haven't been touched in more than ten years that would be good for chip seal. Zion Road is on the list and was done five years ago. It's showing signs of cracking and a perfect process would be to seal that road and preserve the investment that the Township made. There's not a clear cut answer as to how we decided on which roads will be done. (1:32:52)

Mr. Ostrander added having a systematic approach where you can look at all the roads, do an annual inspection, and get a numerical rating to prioritize the roads (1:32:33)

Mr. Burr said we're trying to balance out the roads with the amount of prep time that's required. It's going to take the entire summer on one or two roads.

Mr. Silverthorn mentioned Snyderstown and Woodsville Roads were overlaid in two thousand seven and are starting to crack.

Motion by Mr. Ostrander, seconded by Mr. Sobieski, and carried unanimously to open to the public.

Mr. Singer, 14 Fox Hunt Road thanked the Committee for opening up the Clawson House and for moving the Library back to the center of town. He's been watching the traffic and waiting for another accident to happen where the library is located. There are two blind spots going in and out of the four businesses. There is a speed sign a quarter of mile located where you come down Route 31. He wanted to know if a speed sign could be put in before the fire department building. (1:35:19)

Mayor Wolfe shared that in two thousand and three the State came to the Township Committee and asked for approval to install bicycle lanes on Routes 179 and 31. The Township Committee gave the approval. The Committee didn't realize at the time that once the bicycle lanes were installed you just got rid of all the off street parking. The bicycle lanes were installed and the No Standing signs were installed. If you stop to drop somebody off you can be ticketed. The good is people were parking in the sight triangle and getting in and out of the post office was dangerous. (1:37:11) The bad is all of the parking was wiped out and there's not enough parking in the post office building to accommodate the traffic that goes in and out. The employees of the businesses park in the lot and take up most of the parking spaces. The Mayor had conversations with the landlord. The landlord closed on the old bank building across the street and his goal is to put

parking in that lot. He would tell his tenants to have their employee's park across the street in the old bank lot and free up parking spaces by the post office. (1:38:14) Mayor Wolfe has received many complaints over the last few months regarding the parking at the post office. The Township would help speed up the process of putting in the additional parking. (1:38:40) In terms of the speeding it's a State road and the Township doesn't have the ability to put signs up. The Mayor had conversations with State Engineer, Troy Midget and will speak to him about putting in additional signs for the speeding. (1:39:14) Mr. Singer mentioned that the State must realize that area is dangerous. (1:39:56) Mayor Wolfe felt the first priority was to deal with the parking situation. (1:40:42) The library was brought back to get better attendance than where it was located. If people can't park the library won't get the attendance we expect. (1:41:40) The Township Committee will do whatever they can within their power to help the landlord deal with the parking situation. (1:41:34) The Mayor doesn't understand why the State didn't mention in the approval letter parking would be wiped out if you approve the bike lanes. (1:48:51) Mayor Wolfe stated the sight triangle is a big issue especially when trucks are parked there. There's a checklist and nobody thinks beyond that list. (1:42:37) The Mayor added that we will do what we can.

Mr. Joe Wolfgang, 26 Zion Road was shocked to hear about chip sealing Zion Road. He stated the road was reconstructed three years ago in July of 2016. (1:44:28) He mentioned there is only one crack on the road and doesn't think the road needs to be destroyed by putting two inches of asphalt chip on it. He feels the affected areas could be patched. Mr. Burr commented that they can take another look at Zion Road. Mr. Silverthorn added that there is more than one crack in the road and two holes developed. It's not two inches of asphalt it's three eighths of an inch. He continued we are trying to save the large investment the Township made. He pointed out that when it starts to snow the snow will stick on the cracks and that road is cracked all the way through. Mr. Silverthorn wants to seal that road before it gets worse. (1:46:50)

Mr. Spiegel, Mountain Road asked about the prep procedures which is to stabilize the ditches alongside the asphalt. Mr. Silverthorn explained the soft spots need to be taken out, replace the sub-grade with asphalt and two lifts, level any spots that hold water, and ditching. (1:47:54) Mr. Spiegel wanted to know the re-leveling procedure. Mr. Silverthorn said the re-leveling would be patched with asphalt. Mr. Spiegel questioned the ditches. Mr. Silverthorn replied that before the road is sealed the ditches need to be cleaned out and drainage repairs need to be made. Mr. Spiegel spoke about Stormwater mandates. (1:48:47) The ditches are to be loaded with rip rap which stabilizes the asphalt. He feels if we did what the Stormwater Management mandated a lot of the roads wouldn't deteriorate off the ends of the road. (1:49:15) Mr. Silverthorn added rip rap had been used on Lindbergh and Zion Roads and throughout the town due to the washouts with the heavy rains. Mr. Spiegel spoke about the time and cost on asphalt paving of the roads which is based on the oil index. If the oil goes up your asphalt is going up. (1:51:07) He feels the paving should be done when the price of oil is down if you want to save taxpayers money. He also wanted to know who would be preparing the bids. Mr. Silverthorn answered Engineer Mr. Burr. Mr. Spiegel asked if the Engineer was using a form bid and filling in the blank pages to fit the town or are you writing the whole bid page to page. Mr. Burr noted there is a standard template for this type of work. Specific clauses will be written into the contract. Mr. Spiegel asked questions about what would be included in the contract. (1:52:44) Mr. Burr answered. Mr. Spiegel asked about the amount of recycling material asphalt can be used. Mr. Spiegel doesn't know if it was ten or fifteen percent. Mr. Burr doesn't know if it went to fifteen percent. (1:53:58)

Motion by Deputy Mayor Mathews, and seconded by Mr. Sobieski, and carried unanimously to close to the public.

Deputy Mayor Mathews said the intention would be to add Zion Road if the bids came in low enough. Mr. Silverthorn spoke with CFO Pasqua and there is a one hundred and fifty thousand to spend. She wants the cost to be closer to one hundred and twenty five. He would like to add Zion

Road. (1:55:10) Mr. Burr said the bid would be crafted to be unit price based with two bid items; an oil item in gallons and a stone item in tons.(1:56:04) The bid would state the specific roads and there will be a clause that the Township has the right to add or remove roads at their discretion. Mr. Burr recommended adding the quantity for Zion Road. (1:56:24) Mayor Wolfe questioned if we would do better packaging these roads than if we went out road by road. Mr. Burr responded correct. The Mayor said if we could keep the cost at one hundred and thirty four thousand or lower we'll do Zion Road. If the cost is higher; then we would come back to the Committee and decide if we want to go over.

Motion by Deputy Mayor Mathews, seconded by Mr. Sobieski, and carried unanimously to approve the six roads for chip sealing.

Mayor Wolfe thanked DPW Superintendent Mr. Silverthorn and Township engineer Mr. Burr.

INTERVIEW WITH MICHAEL MILLS FOR AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND DOUG SCHLEIFER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION AND NORA DICHIARA

Nora DiChiara, 118 Amwell Road interviewed for the Environmental Commission. Mayor Wolfe asked why the Environmental Commission. Ms. DiChiara moved here three months ago after stalking the area. She currently works at Duke Farms as the Director of Programs and Strategic Planning. She feels she could bring a lot of skills that she uses at work to the Environmental Commission. (1:58:58) The Mayor wanted to know what in particular Ms. DiChiara would like to work on. She responded that she would like to work on new initiatives such as the recycling program, Trex program, and some inventories that need to get done. (1:59:54) Mayor Wolfe questioned what Ms. DiChiara does at Duke Farms. She explained it is open six days a week to the public for free. The property is four and a quarter square miles. She manages over three hundred and fifty public programs every year, the volunteer program, the communications and marketing and works with the State and Federal Government easements. The Mayor asked if she worked on grants. Ms. DiChiara responded she did a couple of grants but they don't have to do them because they get one hundred percent of funding from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation. (2:01:52) Ms. DiChiara mentioned the grants that they do are simple grants. Grants have to be done in a correct way, get the right data, submit them in the right way, at the right time, and very detailed about them. The Mayor asked why did you stalk East Amwell. (2:03:03) She replied she wanted to live in a town that she felt comfortable in.

Mr. Ostrander asked Ms. DiChiara about her history of volunteerism. She said she is on the Somerset County Tourism Board. They meet several times a year and decide on the direction of tourism for the County. (2:04:19) They collaborate on grants with the Board. The Board consists of six people and the counsel has twenty to twenty five people.

Deputy Mayor Mathews remarked that a Green Team was recently created. He asked if Ms. DiChiara looked at the ordinance and if she would be interested in that. She agreed she would be interested in the Green Team. (2:05:22)

Mayor Wolfe continued that East Amwell uses Green Team because you can qualify for grants from Sustainable Jersey. (2:06:07)

The Deputy Mayor asked if there were any eagles in the eagle cam. Ms. DiChiara noted there are two eggs and there may be an additional nest but they aren't sure. The two chicks when they ban them this year will be attached to GPS transponders so they can watch them as they travel around.

Mayor Wolfe thanked Ms. Di Chiara for her time.

Mike Mills, 270 Wertsville Road, interviewed for the Agricultural Advisory Committee. Mayor Wolfe asked why this Committee. Mr. Mills answered that he's interested in agricultural.

(2:08:00) He worked on numerous farms raising livestock and has grown many crops in different counties throughout the State. He moved in March onto a beautiful farm with sixteen acres. He thinks this is a good opportunity to bring different types of agricultural into the area. (2:08:46) Mayor Wolfe voiced organic farming. Mr. Mills remarked not certified organic. He's interested in permaculture with sustainable methods and no till. He wants to plant a variety of crops that work together in guilds and polycultures. (2:09:40) This type of farming would increase the values of these properties. The Mayor said he receives Lancaster Farming which has one article and often multiple on the no till. (2:10:21) He also stills sees a lot of the fields being tilled every year. (2:10:34) He likes the idea of a small scale market gardening where you're using a small piece of acreage and producing high value and turnover. On one acre you can produce enough to feed twenty to thirty families and also provide to markets. (2:11:19) Mr. Mills added some people with smaller properties can now be involved in agriculture. Mayor Wolfe asked Mr. Mills if he thought about doing a co-op where you sell membership interests and people can come to your farm. He remarked that he doesn't know how a co-op would fit in with his neighbors because of the challenges with that idea. He loves the idea of community agriculture. The Mayor expressed he would like to see an organized program with the Ag Advisory Committee to assist the farmers to continue to farm and to attract young people into farming. (2:13:00) The farmers he knows are up in age and he would like young people to take up an interest in farming and make a living doing it. (2:14:23) It would be nice to take our resources and help each other to promote the farming. Mayor Wolfe is thrilled that Mr. Mills wants to be on the AG Advisory Committee.

Deputy Mayor Mathews suggested talking with East Amwell School about their gardening program. He feels Mr. Mills could help the children learn a lot about agriculture. Mr. Mills wants to bring community engagement and education. (2:15:10) Mayor Wolfe wanted to know if there's anything the Township could do to help the farmers. (2:15:47) Mr. Mills said he was at the last Ag Advisory meeting.

Mr. Ostrander commented that Mr. Mills had a great background and appreciated his enthusiasm.

The Mayor thanked Mr. Mills.

Douglas Schleifer, 101 Rocktown Road interviewed for the Environmental Commission. Mayor Wolfe noted that Mr. Schleifer was at one time on the Environmental Commission. Mr. Schleifer replied from two thousand fourteen through two thousand sixteen he was Chair. The Mayor asked what brings you back. Mr. Schleifer had personal issues that took his focus off of the Environmental Commission and as Chair he felt that was unfair to the Commission and best if he stepped down. The Mayor asked what he found attractive about the Environmental Commission. Mr. Schleifer stated his background is in Environmental Conservation and he worked for eleven years for the Upper Raritan Watershed Association. He is a GIS (Geographic Information System) specialist and ran a users group for non-profits in Environmental Commissions. (2:19:08) He thought it was a great opportunity to join a municipality where it's so important to the community and participate in that.

Mr. Ostrander asked how long have you been a resident. Mr. Schleifer said since two thousand thirteen. Mr. Ostrander wanted to know if there were any specific initiatives Mr. Schleifer had since he was Chair for a couple of years. He stated there were two initiatives that he tried to get going easement monitoring and working with land trusts to put in monarch butterfly stations. (2:21:01) He's also interested in what the Commission is working on now and would like to be part of it. Mayor Wolfe questioned Mr. Schleifer if he would be uncomfortable being on the Environmental Commission with this Township Committee. He said no and he wouldn't be here today if he was. The reason the Mayor asked and he didn't want to make Mr. Schleifer uncomfortable is he read the following letter to the editor from October 2018. *The letter is attached to the minutes.* Mayor Wolfe felt the letter suggested Mr. Schleifer was deeply disturbed by this Township Committee and he was surprised when he saw his application. Mr. Schleifer said some of the letters during the election campaign that were written he thought were

disturbing. The Mayor stated that's not what the letter said. The letter read that the treatment of the Vice-Chair of the Environmental Commission at the September Township Committee was disgraceful and doesn't say anything about letters written during the election. (2:24:52) Mayor Wolfe expressed that he would be getting into this letter later in the meeting because of some issues the Township Committee is having with the Environmental Commission.

Mayor Wolfe thanked Mr. Schleifer.

DISCUSSION OF MEETING THE PSE&G REPLACING THE ELECTRIC TOWERS

Mayor Wolfe met with five people from PSE&G to discuss replacing seven of the high tension towers in East Amwell. (2:26:12) The towers were put in, in nineteen twenty nine. (2:26:47) This will be a five year project. Overall they are replacing a total of two hundred and sixty two towers in New Jersey. The seven towers reside on the Pehinys, Stahl, and Everitt farms. (2:27:22) The tower will look like a unipole and take up less space in the farm field. (2:28:07) Their concern is the old towers aren't storm resistant anymore. They will work with the farmers to minimize the impact on the farming. There will be some impact because mats are put down and the heavy equipment is driven over the fields so they don't get chewed up. The farmers will be compensated for loss of farm area and the farm will be restored to at least as good a condition as before. PSE&G expects the project to take about a year in East Amwell starting in twenty twenty one and finishing in twenty twenty two. Letters were sent to the three farmers and only one responded. Mayor Wolfe will reach out to the other two farmers. The old cement facility on Everitt Road off of Route 202 will be used as the staging area. (2:30:32) The Mayor said it seems like a very well organized project. (2:30:42) The pictures will be posted on the website. PSE&G set up a hotline to answer questions throughout the project.

DISCUSSION OF MEETING WITH NJDEP

Mayor Wolfe attended a meeting with Kerry Kirk Pflugh from the NJDEP. She reached out and asked to talk about issues in East Amwell. The Mayor explained to her the situation with the helistop and that the process seems like a short checklist that they check off and if it hits the boxes they approve it. He sent her a copy of the letter that was provided to the NJDOT in opposition of the helistop. Ms. Pflugh will talk with her contact at NJDOT. She agreed that the helistop shouldn't be in this environmentally sensitive area. Mayor Wolfe also pointed out that the NJDEP issued a one hundred and eighty two page report proposing a number of streams environmentally sensitive in New Jersey with a three hundred foot setback. One of the environmentally streams is the Back Brook including the part that runs through East Amwell. (2:34:06) When he told her the helistop is only a few hundred feet away from that stream she was concerned. (2:34:16) The Mayor also spoke to Ms. Pflugh about the solar ordinance and the expansion of the recycling program. (2:35:05) He concluded by saying it was a nice meeting and good to know there are government agencies that care.

DISCUSSION OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION BUDGET, APPOINTMENTS, AND OTHER MATTERS

Mayor Wolfe stated that the Environmental Commission requested a budget of forty five hundred and eighty dollars which was an eighty seven percent increase over last year. (2:36:59) Seventeen hundred and fifty dollars will be put in the budget for salary and wages again this year along with five hundred dollars for other expenses. (2:37:22) Five hundred dollars for the Environmental Resource Inventory Project was not approved. If the Environmental Commission runs out of money you are out of money. (2:38:21) Since January of 2017 there has been great success with a number of the Committees (2:38:56) The Planning Board and Board of Adjustment combined and there's a group of hard working people. (2:39:21) People take different positions on different issues and stand behind the final decision. The Recycling Committee is in the process of expanding the recycling program. The Historic Preservation Committee and the Historical Society did a wonderful job with the East Amwell Museum.

Twenty one more parking spaces have to be added because of the attendance. They are generating a revenue and the goal was to get the Museum self funding so money wouldn't have to come from the Open Space Trust Fund to pay for the costs. The Mayor thought it would take four or five years to become self funding and that may happen this year. The Website Committee was set up within seven to eight months thanks to Ms. Castellano, Mr. Ippoliti, and Mr. Miller. Now East Amwell has a model website.

Mayor Wolfe talked about the Environmental Commission. Mr. Wang-Iverson asked for two thousand dollars for an Environmental Resource study. The Township Committee said no because he didn't have an explanation why the Township needed it. He then tried to circumvent the budget process and get the money run through the planning board budget. That's not the way the Committee should be run. (2:42:32) The Mayor noted that in the middle of the Election an article that Mayor Wolfe read earlier was in the VIP. (2:43:15) The letter to the editor was interesting because it apparently wasn't penned by the Environmental Commission but instead by Mike Petrus. The letter read exactly as the Mayor read it earlier except it didn't have the sentence the treatment of the vice chair of the Environmental Commission at the September Township Committee meeting was disgraceful. The letter was circulated by Mr. Petrus to all the committees. (2:44:01) The other committees didn't sign the letter because they're all flourishing under this Township Committee. (2:44:40)

Mayor Wolfe pointed out that the Environmental Commission wants to increase its budget by eight seven percent. He felt they made little or no progress on the easement survey. They did nothing useful after the Mayor prepared the letter for the NJDOT. (2:45:29) A week before the letter was due he asked how the report was coming along and they haven't even started it. If you look at the report there's nothing useful in it. The Mayor listened to the recording of the last Environmental Commission meeting and nothing was accomplished. (2:46:19) Mayor Wolfe sent four questions to the Commission regarding their request for five hundred dollars for the Environmental Resource Inventory study. (2:47:03) *Please view YouTube to hear the questions and answers to the four questions.* If the Environmental Commission wants to know why they won't be receiving the funding you now have the background. The Mayor continued that the most troubling was the letter in the VIP. To use the Environmental Commission for political gain was disgraceful. People have the right to express their views. The letter was signed by Dee Kellogg, Chair.; Lisa Davis, Vice-Chair; Tom Rue, Member; Joe Angelone, Member; Toni Robbi, former Member; and Doug Schleifer, former Chair. (2:52:24) Mayor Wolfe said Tom Rue wasn't reappointed and he could watch the video. Other residents who signed the letter are up for reappointment next year next year and may not get reappointed if they follow their current course of behavior. Mayor Wolfe believes that the Environmental Commission and the Green Team are very important in this Township. (2:53:20)

Deputy Mayor Mathews asked Ms. Davis what would be different in town if we had an Environmental Commission and she failed to answer that question. The Deputy Mayor doesn't support the funding.

Mr. Sobieski researched environmental resource inventories and found one from Sustainable New Jersey and Ms. Davis testified that Green Teams can seek grants for such items. If we decide this is valuable for the Township it should be a project for the Green Team.

Mayor Wolfe had model ERI's that he looked at and read an article by ANJEC called the Environmental Resource Inventory. He spent time trying to figure out the ERI's. (2:54:59)

Mr. Ostrander commented that the Mayor brought up a good point that we try to run the Township as a business. We have to be very careful how we spend the taxpayers money. The Committee never saw a formal proposal of the cost. There's nothing from stopping the Commission for starting portions of an ERI on their own. There is data from Raritan Headwaters and grants available that could be put into an ERI. He replied the commentary was spot on.

Mayor Wolfe stated that fifteen, twenty, or more studies that have been done in East Amwell going back to nineteen ninety three and some older than that. The Mayor and Tamara Lee are trying to put together an inventory of those so they don't get lost. (2:56:21) A service will be hired to come in and scan those in a searchable format by key word searches.

The Mayor wanted to give the Environmental Commission a reason why their requested budget wasn't approved and why the conduct or the composition of the Commission has to change. (2:57:49)

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

FARMLAND/OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

OPEN SPACE IMPROVEMENT AND MAINTENANCE PLAN

Mayor Wolfe noted that the County has a parcel in East Amwell the Sourland Preserve that's used for recreational purposes. Adjacent to that parcel are two smaller landlocked parcels that are Green Acres and owned by East Amwell. The County wants to enter into a ten year maintenance and management agreement where the County will maintain those two parcels and include them in the recreational area. The agreement can be terminated by either side on ninety days notice. (3:00:36) The parcels are Block 38 and Lots 42 and 42.02 located close to Lindbergh Road and adjacent to property owned by Hunterdon County on Rileyville Road.

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RESOLUTION #40-19
MANAGEMENT and USE AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT is made and executed on this fourteenth day of April, two thousand and nineteen, by and between:

The TOWNSHIP OF EAST AMWELL, a municipal corporation of the State of New Jersey, acting by and through its governing body, c/o the Clerk of the Township, 1070 Route 202/31, Ringoes, New Jersey 08551 (Referred to in this Agreement as "Township"), and

THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, a body politic and corporate of the State of New Jersey, acting by and through its Board of Chosen Freeholders, c/o Denise B. Doolan, Clerk of the Board, 71 Main Street, P.O. Box 2900, Flemington, New Jersey 08822 (Referred to in this Agreement as "County"). Collectively, the Township and the County shall hereinafter be the "Parties".

WHEREAS, the Township is the owner of certain real property, described below, located in East Amwell Township, County of Hunterdon consisting of approximately 23.3 acres which contains natural features of recognized value, hereinafter referred to as the "Property"; and,

WHEREAS, the Township has determined as a matter of public policy that the control of the deer population on and maintenance of the Property is a priority and necessary public purpose so as to maintain the character of the land in harmony with the goals and objectives of the Township; and

WHEREAS, adequate funds and personnel are not available for the Township to maintain the Property and properly manage hunting thereon; and

WHEREAS, The County desires to include the Property within the County's system of public parks, open space and recreation lands ("Public Parks System"); and

WHEREAS, the Parties wish to enter into a Management and Use Agreement whereby the Non-Profit will manage the Property as specified herein; and,

WHEREAS, the Parties wish to set forth the rights and obligations of each party concerning the operation, management, monitoring, and maintenance of the Property; and

WHEREAS, the Parties wish to provide for management of the Property so that decisions concerning the natural resource management and public use of the Property will be made on the basis of agreed-upon objectives;

NOW, THEREFORE, the parties mutually covenant and agree as follows:

I. **DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY.** The Property subject to this Agreement is described as Block 38, Lots 42 and 42.02 consisting of approximately 23.3 acres located in East Amwell Township, Hunterdon County.

II. **CONSIDERATION.** In consideration of the mutual promises contained herein and the agreement of the County to manage and protect the Property in accordance with this Agreement, the Parties agree as follows:

A) **MANAGEMENT.** During the term of this Agreement, the County agrees to perform all administration, management, maintenance and monitoring of the Property that is necessary or appropriate. The Parties agree to consult with each other and to cooperate in the management of the Property.

B) **TERM OF AGREEMENT.** The term of this Agreement shall be for ten (10) years, commencing on the date of its execution. The Parties may agree to renew the Agreement and agree to meet prior to the termination to determine the new terms and conditions of a new or extended Agreement.

C) **USE OF PROPERTY.** As required by the Green Acres statutes and regulations, the use of the Property shall be limited to outdoor recreation and conservation purposes as defined by the Green Acres statutes and regulations. The Township is not undertaking any actions or duties to maintain the Property in any way. Nothing herein shall affect the Township's statutory protections available under N.J.S.A. 59:4-9.

D) **ENFORCEMENT.** Nothing in this section shall be construed as a waiver of the Township's right to enforce the laws and/or regulations of the State of New Jersey on the Property. The County may coordinate enforcement with local law enforcement and the Division of Parks and Forestry/Division of Fish and Wildlife of the State of New Jersey.

E) **POSTING/SIGNAGE.** The parties agree to consult with each other to determine the nature of the signage to be placed upon the Property. At a minimum, the signage shall inform the public that the Property has been preserved, and identify the parties involved in the management of the Property. The foregoing notwithstanding, the COUNTY may, also, be permitted to post its standard park signage.

F) **NO LEASE.** This Agreement is in no way to be interpreted as a lease, and the Township exclusively holds all property and proprietary interest and right in the Property.

G) **INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR.** The County, its employees, agents, and servants, including any hunters it grants permission to hunt on the Property, are independent contractors and not employees of the Township and shall have no right or claim against Township's worker's compensation plan, insurance coverage, or other protections.

H) **ASSIGNMENT.** This Agreement shall not be assigned by the Parties hereto without the prior written consent of the other Parties, which may not be unreasonably withheld.

I) **INDEMNIFICATION.** The County shall hold harmless, indemnify and defend, the Township and its members, directors, officers, employees, agents, and contractors, and their successors and assigns from and against all liabilities, penalties, costs, losses, damages, expenses or claims, including, without limitation, reasonable attorney's fees arising from or in any way connected with injury to or the death of any person or physical damage to any Property resulting from any act, omission condition or other matter related to or occurring on or about the Property, regardless of cause, unless due to the negligence of any of the indemnified parties. The County's agreement to hold harmless and indemnify the Township shall not affect the statutory protections available to the County under the Landowner's Liability Act, NJSA 2A:42A-2, et seq.

J) HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES. The Parties agree that they shall not generate, store, use or dispose on the Property any hazardous materials or oil including, without limitation, any materials which are toxic, explosive, corrosive, flammable, or otherwise hazardous to health.

K) TERMINATION. The County or the Township shall have the right to terminate this Agreement upon ninety (90) days written notice served upon the Parties by Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested. Termination of this Agreement by any party as herein provided shall not release or discharge any obligation or liability owed to the other party under the terms and conditions of this Agreement as of the date of such termination until the Parties execute a new Agreement. The Parties agree to meet in a timely manner to determine the new terms and conditions of a revised Agreement.

L) NOTICE. All notices, reports, statements, requests, or authorizations required to be given hereunder shall be personally delivered or sent by first class mail to the Parties at the following addresses, unless a party has been notified of a change of address:

To County:
Hunterdon County Administrator
71 Main Street
PO Box 2900
Flemington, New Jersey 08822-2900; and

Director
Division of Parks and Recreation
P.O. Box 2900
Flemington, New Jersey 08822-2900

To Township:
Township of East Amwell
Township Clerk
1070 Route 202/31
Ringoes, New Jersey 08551

M) BINDING EFFECT. All of the terms, conditions, and covenants to be observed and performed by the Parties shall be applicable to and binding upon their several successors and assigns, as the case may be.

N) SEVERABILITY/WAIVER. All agreements and covenants contained herein are severable, and in the event any of them shall be held to be invalid by any competent court, this Agreement shall be interpreted as if such invalid agreements or covenants were not contained herein. Should one or more covenants or conditions be waived by either party, such waiver shall not be deemed to waive or render unnecessary the consent or approval of the waiving party to or of any subsequent similar act by the other party.

O) CHOICE OF LAW. This Agreement is being executed and is intended to be performed in the State of New Jersey and shall be governed in all respects by the laws of that State.

By Order of the Township Committee,

Richard Wolfe, Mayor

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Motion by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Sobieski, and carried unanimously to approve the resolution.

Mayor Wolfe mentioned there are three items to discuss on the Recycling Committee.

1) Appoint Tom Rue as Regular member: Tom Rue requested to be appointed as a member to the Recycling Committee. Mayor Wolfe remarked that Mr. Rue does good work and is a good member.

Motion by Deputy Mayor Mathews, seconded by Mr. Ostrander, and carried unanimously to appoint Tom Rue to the Recycling Committee.

2) Appoint Rosemary Georgett as Clean Communities Director: Mayor Wolfe noted he was asked to appoint Ms. Georgett as the Clean Communities director and she has been doing a very good job on the Recycling Committee and is willing to serve.

Motion by Mr. Sobieski, seconded by Mr. Ostrander, and carried unanimously to appoint Rosemary Georgett as Clean Communities Director.

3) Expanding items that are recycled: Mayor Wolfe had conversations with Alison Castellano about expanding the type of recycling that's done by the Recycling Committee. For example his law firm recycles batteries, small electronics, and outlawed straws. (3:06:19) If you have suggestions please reach out to anyone on the Recycling Committee.

RECREATION COMMITTEE

1) Accept Resignations of Chris Kellogg and Jenna Castellano: Mayor Wolfe explained that Mr. Kellogg will continue to work with the Recreation Committee but can't make the meetings.

Motion by Mr. Ostrander, seconded by Mr. Sobieski, and carried unanimously to accept Chris Kellogg's and Jenna Castellano's resignations with regret.

AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

1) 3/6 Resignation of Candice Wiggum: Mayor Wolfe said Ms. Wiggum is moving to Seattle in May.

Motion by Mr. Ostrander, seconded by Deputy Mayor Mathews, and carried unanimously to accept Candice Wiggum's resignation with regret.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

1) 2/27 Resignation of Eda Schmalz: Mayor Wolfe stated Ms. Schmalz circumstances changed and she had to resign from the Historic Preservation Committee

Motion by Mr. Ostrander, seconded by Mr. Sobieski, and carried unanimously to accept Eda Schmalz's resignation with regret.

2) Application for Hunterdon County Grant Funding - Clawson House Roof

Mayor Wolfe spoke about the East Amwell Museums slate roof that's worn which is very expensive to replace.. The Historic Preservation Committee wants to apply to Hunterdon County for a grant to replace the roof. They've obtained estimates and are looking to replace it with either real slate or faux slate. In order to apply for the grant they need Township approval.

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RESOLUTION #41-19

WHEREAS, the Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders has approved an Open Space, Recreation, Farmland and Historic Preservation Trust Fund and established a Historic Preservation Grant Program to provide County funds in connection with the acquisition of historic properties and the preservation of historic properties, buildings, structures, facilities, sites, areas or objects, in Hunterdon County; and

WHEREAS, the Township of East Amwell desires to further the public interest by obtaining funding in the amount of \$60,000 from the County of Hunterdon to fund the following historic preservation project: Clawson House Renovations – **Stage VI**, Repair of Slate Roof for a total amount of \$60,000.

NOW, THEREFORE, the governing body/board resolves that Richard Wolfe, Mayor, or the successor to the office of Mayor is hereby authorized to:

- (a) make application for such Historic Preservation Grant Funds,
- (b) provide additional application information and furnish such documents as may be required, and
- (c) act as the authorized correspondent of the above named applicant; and

WHEREAS, the County of Hunterdon shall determine if the application is complete and in conformance with the scope and intent of the Hunterdon County Open Space, Farmland and Historic Preservation Trust Fund Plan, adopted Freeholder Board Policies and the Procedures Manual for the Historic Preservation Grant Program adopted thereto, and notify the applicant of the amount of the funding award; and

WHEREAS, the applicant is willing to use the County funds in accordance with such adopted Policies and Procedures, and rules, regulations and applicable statutes;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, BY THE TOWNSHIP OF EAST AMWELL,

- 1. That the Mayor of the above named body or board is hereby authorized to execute any documents and agreements with the County of Hunterdon known as Clawson House Renovations – **Stage VI**.
- 2. That the applicant **may** have it share of funds.
- 3. That, in the event the County of Hunterdon’s funds are less than the total project cost specified above, the work will be adjusted accordingly;
- 4. That the applicant agrees to comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations in its performance of the project; and that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

By Order of the Township Committee,

Richard Wolfe, Mayor

+++++
Motion by Mr. Sobieski, seconded by Mr. Ostrander, and carried unanimously to approve the resolution.

Mayor Wolfe added if you haven’t been to the Museum it’s great. The receptions for the art shows are a lot of fun; there’s food and wine.

PLANNING BOARD

1) Introduction of Amendment to Master Plan for Golf Courses: Mayor Wolfe will speak more about this topic at the meeting in April. While discussing the helistop issue he wondered how in nineteen ninety nine we started out with a pure golf course. It was only supposed to be for golfing, no swimming pools, tennis courts, overnight housing, no residential, no non-golf recreation facilities and no non-golf facilities at all. The Mayor wanted to know how today the golf course has the right to build an Olympic size swimming pool, two tennis courts, and two six thousand two hundred and fifty square foot cottages for overnight housing, a special event ordinance, and a helistop. There’s no explanation in the resolutions by the Planning Board as to

why these changes were made. It's inconsistent with the Master Plan and the original vision of the property. The Mayor and Tamara Lee took the lead in drafting an amendment to the Master Plan dealing with golf courses. The Plan will be posted on the website. The Planning Board approved a public hearing at their April meeting and Mayor Wolfe urged residents to come. Notices will be sent to the Ridge, Open Space, residents, and surrounding municipalities. An amendment to the Master Plan is being done by the Planning Board and doesn't require Township approval. If an ordinance is needed to implement these ideas the ordinance can originate from the Planning Board or Township Committee.

Mayor Wolfe discussed that summary minutes went to verbatim minutes over the last couple years. The verbatim minutes were running sixty pages and time consuming. Now that we are live streaming the minutes will be done like they used to be done except they will be annotated so you can see at what point during the live stream a particular topic was discussed. (3:16:53)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

February 14, 2019 Special Budget Minute were approved on a motion by Mr. Ostrander, seconded by Mr. Miller, and carried unanimously.

February 14, 2019 Regular Minutes were approved on a motion by Mr. Ostrander, seconded by Mr. Miller, and carried unanimously with one typographical error.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Motion by Mr. Ostrander, and seconded by Mr. Sobieski, and carried unanimously to open to the public for comments not on the agenda.

Andrea Bonette, Ridge Road, asked about the Ridge Road project. She wanted to know the start date. Mayor Wolfe didn't know the date. She noticed a lot of cars driving by her house on Ridge Road during the morning and evening rush hour. Her mechanic told her a section of Route 518 was closed (3:20:14) Ms. Bonettes' concern was what would traffic be like if sections of Ridge Road were also closed.

Patsy Wang-Iverson, 55 Wagner Road, wanted it on the record that she doesn't believe any Commission or Committee should be used as a political ploy. Ms. Wang-Iverson wanted to know Mayor Wolfe really felt the Environmental Commission hadn't accomplished anything in the last two years. She refreshed their memory of what happened. The Commission worked on Omick Woods and the Rocky Brook Trail. They partnered with the Township Committee to install signage along the trail. The Environmental Commission also spearheaded the TREX recycling project. (3:22:56) Ms. Wang-Iverson spoke about why ERI's will benefit East Amwell. At the ANJEC workshop they suggested the ERI's be updated every ten years. (3:24:11) She believes the ERI will be an asset when the Master Plan needs updating. Mayor Wolfe replied the Master Plan needs to be updated by twenty twenty three. ((3:24:27) Ms. Wang-Iverson mentioned there's a Green amendment working its way through the State to ban fracking. (3:25:49) She feels the Environmental Commission can make a positive contribution if we are willing to move forward.

Richard Spiegel, 1 Mountain Road, commented he spoke with the CFO about the DEP in lieu of a tax program. He called Trenton and the program was rescinded by the previous administration. (3:27:45) Mayor Wolfe suggested if Mr. Spiegel had comments to the minutes he should put them in writing, submit them, and we will attach them to this meeting. (3:28:55) Mr. Spiegel suggested that words were put in his mouth that he didn't say. (3:30:00) He stated he didn't mention the word economical and feels someone added something to the minutes. He continued he was quoted as saying he was a contractor. He never made a statement like that. (3:31:14) He added he doesn't put false information in public records. (3:31:31) At the end of the meeting when Mr. Spiegel spoke on the heliport he didn't see the comments that the Mayor made and wanted to know what happened to them. (3:33:36) He believes the Mayor's comments shouldn't be excluded from the minutes (3:33:50) Mayor Wolfe didn't respond.

Motion by Mr. Ostrander, and seconded by Mr. Sobieski, and carried unanimously to close to the public.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS - None

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE(S)/PUBLIC HEARING(S)

Introduction of Ordinances

Ordinance 19-01 – Zoning Fees

Mayor Wolfe introduced an ordinance that came up at last month’s Township Committee meeting. It’s an amendment to the existing ordinance regarding fees that are charged for permit reviews and construction permits. Mr. Ostrander suggested removing fees for flag poles which was removed. Deputy Mayor Mathews asked for a comparison from the new fees to the old fees. The ordinance will be in line with what other municipalities are charging. (3:36:44)

+++++
ORDINANCE #19-01

AN AMENDMENT TO THE CODE OF EAST AMWELL TOWNSHIP, SPECIFICALLY CHAPTER 75, FEES, TO INCREASE THE FEES FOR ZONING OFFICER PERMIT REVIEWS OF CONSTRUCTION PERMITS AND FEES FOR STORMWATER MANAGEMENT REVIEWS.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell, that the following fees be changed:

- 1. Chapter 75, Fees, Article I, Section 75-1, Event Fees & Miscellaneous Fees, Item 6 (a), will now read; For decks, fences, sheds, finished basements, interior alterations, oil tanks, A/C units, wall and ground signs, and other accessory structures: \$50
- 1. Chapter 75, Fees, Article I, Section 75-1, Event Fees & Miscellaneous Fees, Item 6 (b), will now read; For additions (residential and non- residential): \$75
- 1. Chapter 75, Fees, Article I, Section 75-1, Event Fees & Miscellaneous Fees, Item 6 (c) , will now read; For single-family residential (new structure): \$150
- 1. Chapter 75, Fees, Article I, Section 75-1, Event Fees & Miscellaneous Fees, Item 6 (d), will now read; For stormwater and soil erosion reviews sent to the Township Engineer and or any other type of application needing review by the Township Engineer: \$75, Escrow: \$1,000

Add under fees:

- (6) Fees for Zoning Officer Review of Construction Permits:
- (e) For change of use \$100

This ordinance shall take effect upon publication, according to law.

By Order of the Township Committee,

Richard Wolfe, Mayor

Attest: _____
Pamela Dymek
Deputy Municipal Clerk

+++++
Motion by Mr. Ostrander, seconded by Deputy Mayor Mathews, and carried unanimously to approve the Introduction of Ordinance 19-01.

The ordinance will be published in the March 21, 2019 issue of the Hunterdon County Democrat and the public hearing is set for the next regular Township Committee meeting on April 11, 2019 at 7:30 p.m.

(3:38:21) Mayor Wolfe expressed the atrocious and disrespectful behavior of Ms. Robbi is on camera. Ms. Robbi commented that the Mayor is not interested in hearing anything except what you have to speak. You have been outrageous in your comments to people for the past two years. . Mayor Wolfe replied he was honest and you can't deal with honesty because while you and your friends ran the Township all you did was lie. Now you don't know how to deal with someone who is honest.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS - None

13) UNFINISHED BUSINESS

APPOINTMENT OF A SECOND TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEMBER AS MUNICIPAL COURT LIAISON

Mayor Wolfe was informed that two liaisons are needed for the Court and asked who wanted to take on the responsibility. Mr. Ostrander accepted. Motion by Mr. Miller, seconded by Deputy Mayor Mathews, and carried unanimously to approve Mr. Ostrander as Liaison to the Court.

NEW BUSINESS

Country Classics, B. 8, Lots 10.06 and 10.09-10.11 – Request for Reduction in Performance Bond – 1/10/19 Letter of Request (Tabled for lack of information from the Engineer at the February 14, 2019 Meeting)

(3:40:27) Mayor Wolfe stated there was a request for a reduction in the performance bond. It was reviewed by Engineer, Mr. Burr.

COUNTRY CLASSICS – RESOLUTION OF PARTIAL PERFORMANCE BOND

+++++

RESOLUTION #42-19

Reduction of the full Bond from \$173,560.80 to \$56,236.80

Reduction of the 10% Cash Portion from \$17,356.08 to \$5,623.68

Reduction of the 90% Surety Bond from \$156,204.72 to \$50,613.12

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the inspection fee account must be replenished as necessary as required by the developer's agreement; and that the Hunterdon County Planning Board requires a final inspection prior to the release of the final remaining balance of the performance bond.

By Order of the Township Committee,

Richard Wolfe, Mayor

+++++ Motion by Mr. Ostrander, seconded by Mr. Sobieski, and carried unanimously to approve the resolution.

REQUEST FOR RED CROSS MONTH RESOLUTION

+++++

RESOLUTION #43-19

More than 137 years ago, the American Red Cross was established as a humanitarian organization, guided by seven fundamental principles—including humanity, impartiality and independence—to provide services to those in need regardless of race, religion, gender, sexual orientation or citizenship status. Today, the American Red Cross is one of the largest humanitarian organizations in the world, and delivers its mission every day to prevent and alleviate human suffering in the face of emergencies.

Every year, the American Red Cross responds to an average of more than 62,000 disasters across the country, from small home fires to devastating massive disasters. Last year’s large crises included mudslides in California, a volcano in Hawaii, wildfires in Colorado and California, destructive hurricanes in Florida and the Carolinas, and a devastating typhoon in U.S. territories. Thousands of American Red Cross volunteers provided around-the-clock shelter for disaster victims, served millions of meals and snacks with partners, and distributed millions of relief items.

In New Jersey, the Red Cross has a long history of helping our neighbors in need. The Red Cross New Jersey Region assisted with 902 local disasters in the past year alone and helped save lives through our Home Fire Campaign. Since the campaign launched in October 2014, the New Jersey Region has worked with community partners to install more than 31,761 smoke alarms. Meanwhile, in our area, the Red Cross handles an average of 5,100 emergency military calls every year and collects an average of 95,000 units of blood from our generous blood donors.

March is Red Cross Month, a special time to recognize and thank the Red Cross volunteers and donors who give of their time and resources to help members of the community. The Red Cross depends on these local heroes to deliver help and hope during a disaster. We applaud our heroes here in New Jersey who give of themselves to assist their neighbors when they need a helping hand.

The American Red Cross shelters, feeds and provides emotional support to victims of disasters; supplies about 40 percent of the nation's blood; teaches skills that save lives; provides international humanitarian aid; and supports military members and their families.

We dedicate the month of March to all those who support the American Red Cross mission to prevent and alleviate human suffering in the face of emergencies. Our community depends on the American Red Cross, which relies on volunteers and the generosity of the public to perform its mission.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Richard A. Wolfe, Mayor of East Amwell Township, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of East Amwell Township and New Jersey, do hereby proclaim March 2019 as Red Cross Month. I encourage all Americans to support this organization and its noble humanitarian mission.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this Fourteenth day of March, in the year of our Lord two thousand nineteen, and of the Township of East Amwell, New Jersey

By Order of the Township Committee,

Richard Wolfe, Mayor

++++
Motion by Mr. Ostrander, seconded by Mr. Sobieski, and carried unanimously to approve the resolution.

++++

RESIGNATION OF VIOLATIONS CLERK OLIVIA BARRICK, EFFECTIVE MARCH 26

Mayor Wolfe asked who was appointed as Violations Clerk. Deputy Mayor Mathews stated Olivia Barrick. Mayor Wolfe said she took a job in another township.

Motion by Mr. Ostrander, seconded by Mr. Sobieski, and carried unanimously to accept the resignation of Violations Clerk, Olivia Barrick

(3:42:18) Mayor Wolfe said a different Tax Counsel would be hired for tax appeals. The Tax Assessor, Marianne Busher asked if it would be okay to retain Mr. Haushalter. It's a one year contract and terminable on sixty days at one hundred and sixty dollars an hour.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RESOLUTION

+++++

SPECIAL TAX COUNSEL – TAX APPEALS
RESOLUTION #44-19

**“Authorize the Award of a Required Disclosure Contract
for Professional Services 2019”**

WHEREAS, the Township of East Amwell has a need for a tax attorney, as a required disclosure contract pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4; and,

WHEREAS, the firm listed herein, has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification and a Personal Contribution Disclosure form which certifies that the professional firms contained herein, have not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the *Township of East Amwell* in the previous one year, and that the contract will prohibit any reportable contributions through the term of the contract, and

WHEREAS, the following firms are hereby appointed as a Required Disclosure contract pursuant to N.J.S.A19:44A-20.4 et. Seq., and a contract exempt from public bidding as a Professional Service, pursuant to N.J.S.A 40A:11-5;

Harry Haushalter
Lexington Square Commons
2119 Route #33, Suite A
Hamilton Square, NJ 08690

WHEREAS, subject to the approval of the 2019 Current Fund Budget by the Governing Body, the Chief Financial Officer hereby certifies that funds NOT TO EXCEED \$10,000 are available as follows;

Line Item: 9-01-20-150-229-002

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Township of East Amwell authorizes the Mayor to enter into the professional services contracts as listed for the 2019 budget year; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Business Disclosure Entity Certification and Personal Contribution Disclosure form, Determination of Value be placed on file with this resolution.

By Order of the Township Committee,

Richard Wolfe, Mayor

CERTIFICATION

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that the above is a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the Mayor and Council of the Township of East Amwell at a regular meeting of said Governing Body conducted on Thursday, March 14, 2019

Pamela Dymek,
Deputy Municipal Clerk

+++++
Motion by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Sobieski, and carried unanimously to approve the resolution.

Mayor Wolfe asked Deputy Mayor Mathews to comment on the next resolution. The Deputy Mayor said an RFQ was issued for a Municipal Attorney and a Municipal Labor Attorney at the end of last year. A bid was received from Archer and Greiner which is currently our Bond Counsel. The Deputy Mayor worked with Mr. Rapuano their lead attorney who has a practice in Municipal Labor Law. Mr. Rapuano helped with delicate personnel matters. His rate will be two hundred and twenty dollars an hour. Mayor Wolfe doesn't anticipate spending a lot of money but issues do pop up and are time sensitive. (3:44:48)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RESOLUTION

+++++
MUNICIPAL LABOR ATTORNEY
RESOLUTION #45-19

**“Authorize the Award of a Required Disclosure Contract
for Professional Services 2019”**

WHEREAS, the Township of East Amwell has a need for a labor attorney, as a required disclosure contract pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4; and,

WHEREAS, the firm listed herein, has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification and a Personal Contribution Disclosure form which certifies that the professional firms contained herein, have not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the *Township of East Amwell* in the previous one year, and that the contract will prohibit any reportable contributions through the term of the contract, and

WHEREAS, the following firms are hereby appointed as a Required Disclosure contract pursuant to N.J.S.A19:44A-20.4 et. Seq., and a contract exempt from public bidding as a Professional Service, pursuant to N.J.S.A 40A:11-5;

David Rapuano
Archer and Greiner PC
One Centennial Square
Haddonfield, NJ 08033
\$220.00/hour

WHEREAS, subject to the approval of the 2019 Current Fund Budget by the Governing Body, the Chief Financial Officer hereby certifies that funds NOT TO EXCEED \$5,000 are available as follows;

Line Item: 9-01-20-155-227-002

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Township of East Amwell authorizes the Mayor to enter into the professional services arrangement as listed for the 2019 budget year; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Business Disclosure Entity Certification and Personal Contribution Disclosure form, Determination of Value be placed on file with this resolution.

By Order of the Township Committee,

Richard Wolfe, Mayor

CERTIFICATION

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that the above is a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the Mayor and Council of the Township of East Amwell at a regular meeting of said Governing Body conducted on Thursday, March 14, 2019

Pamela Dymek,
Deputy Municipal Clerk

++++
Motion by Mr. Ostrander, seconded by Deputy Mayor Mathews, and carried unanimously to approve the resolution

REQUEST FROM COURT ADMINISTRATOR TO ADVERTISE FOR PART TIME VIOLATIONS CLERK

Mayor Wolfe asked for a motion to advertise for the position. Motion by Mr. Ostrander, seconded by Deputy Mayor Mathews, and carried unanimously.

ANIMAL CONTROL SERVICES

Animal Control Services will be on the April 11, 2019 agenda. Deputy Mayor Mathews mentioned that over the years we've used a couple of different animal control services. We contracted with St. Hubert's which is more expensive than the previous provider. An individual presented her animal control services at a previous meeting and that queried the Committees interest into whether or not they were interested in hiring her as an animal control officer. The Township Committee just received her proposal and will take it under consideration. Deputy Clerk, Pamela Dymek would prefer an animal control officer in house. (3:48:50) The Deputy Mayor stated the service we had prior to St. Hubert's was top shelf and inexpensive. Mayor Wolfe will read the contract and a recommendation will be made at the next meeting.

Motion by Mr. Ostrander, and seconded by Mr. Sobieski, and carried unanimously to open to the public for comments.

Andrea Bonette, Ridge Road, noted on the agenda the new clerk will be discussed in Executive Session and she's grieving the departure of our present Clerk, Terri Stahl. On the subject of the Environmental Commission Ms. Bonette felt Mr. Rue was being punished because he signed a letter critical of the Township Committee and Ms. Davis wouldn't be appointed to the Green Team under no circumstances. She believes people are being punished for speaking their mind. Ms. Bonette made a puzzle about Township priorities and wants it added to the minutes. *The puzzle is attached to the minutes.* She personally wrote a check for five hundred dollars to be used for ERI's. Mayor Wolfe voiced that to use the check for a particular purpose CFO Pasqua has to get State approval to set up a trust fund. (3:53:47) Ms. Bonette also suggested she could make out the check to the firm the Environmental Commission chooses. (3:54:17) The Mayor took the check and will talk with Ms. Pasqua to find out what it takes to comply with the law.

Mayor Wolfe thanked Ms. Bonette.

Glorianne Robbi, 144 Lambertville-Hopewell Pike, said years ago she served two terms on the Township Committee and three years of those two terms she was Mayor. In those days they never degraded residents who came to complain. (3:57:27) It's inappropriate to call people slippery, slimy, and liars. You even did it to a fellow committee person, Mr. Wang-Iverson last year. (3:58:16) Ms. Robbi felt this shouldn't go on. (3:58:50) Mr. Sobieski asked Ms. Robbi if it's respectful to sit in the back and snicker and laugh at the Township Committee. (3:59:32) Ms. Robbi said that it's easy to see the expression on your face when Mr. Spiegel comments. Mr. Sobieski remarked he lets Mr. Spiegel speak his turn. Mayor Wolfe commented to Ms. Robbi that you feel it's okay to lie, cheat, steal, and break laws. He believes it's best to tell the truth. (4:00:30)

Rich Spiegel, 1 Mountain Road, asked about the check written by Ms. Bonette. He suggested Ms. Bonette write the check out to the Board as an anonymous five hundred dollars. Mr. Spiegel is still trying to find out where the two million dollar anonymous donation for the Higgins property came from. (4:02:04)

Frances Gavigan, 123 Wertsville Road, spoke about the years when she found the meeting room whether on the dais or in the audience treated disrespectfully, mocked, and told turn that camera off. (4:03:44) Silly season is an annual event and starts the day after the election. There's a long history of misstatements, manipulations, and creative fact telling. (4:04:27) Ms Gaviagan wasn't aware of the Environmental letter. (4:06:07) She asked everyone to speak the facts.

Motion by Deputy Mayor Mathews, and seconded by Mr. Sobieski, and carried unanimously to close to the public.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

+++++

RESOLUTION #46-19

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

WHEREAS, East Amwell Township Committee is of the opinion that circumstances presently exist; and WHEREAS, the governing body of the Township of East Amwell wishes to discuss personnel; and attorney advice; and

WHEREAS, minutes will be kept and once the matter involving the confidentiality of the above no longer requires that confidentiality, then minutes can be made public;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the public be excluded from this meeting.

By Order of the Township Committee,

Richard Wolfe, Mayor

+++++ Motion by Mr. Ostrander, seconded by Mr. Sobieski, and carried unanimously to approve the resolution.

Deputy Mayor Mathews commented this is his eighth year and he's never seen more dedication of a Township Committee member than Mr. Wolfe. The amount of work that he has done in his short tenure on the Committee is astounding. (4:08:33) Mayor Wolfe is very successful, he's a model in his profession, an excellent attorney, and can run circles around the attorneys we've hired to do work for us. The Mayor leads by example. Two years in a row we had a flat budget. We're spending more money on roads. (4:09:51) The prior Township Committees were irresponsible and didn't maintain the roads the way they should have been maintained. The current Township Committee worked hard to make the budget flat and we're the envy of other

towns. (4:10:37) The Deputy Mayor will continue to support Mr. Wolfe. There was a round of applause.

Mayor Wolfe thanked Deputy Mayor Mathews.

Mr. Sobieski agreed with the Deputy Mayor.

Deputy Mayor Mathews so often in life in business you always remember the one thing someone did wrong. You always get a performance review when you made a mistake. They don't look at all of the things you did throughout your body of work. The Deputy Mayor would challenge anyone to say one thing that this Committee since they took over last year did wrong. (4:12:28) Everyone should be proud of the work this Township Committee has done.

Mayor Wolfe omitted we did do one thing wrong and he takes responsibility for it. We didn't notify the residents on the Zoning Board of Adjustment in advance that the Boards were being combined. The Mayor called everyone except one and apologized. (4:13:06) He looks forward to the next few years because there's a lot more good stuff to get done.

Deputy Mayor Mathews added we don't take a salary and dedicate a lot of time. There's a lot of work done behind the scenes, reading documents, meeting with people, and negotiating.

Mayor Wolfe stated they got rid of the seventy thousand dollar a year Administrator that people would have to go through. People now go right to the Township Committee and they respond promptly. The Mayor expressed it is hard work, rewarding, and he loves doing it.

Executive session began at 11:21 p.m.

A Consensus by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Sobieski, and carried unanimously to come out of Executive Session.

The regular meeting resumed at 11:51 p.m.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING CLERK AND MUNICIPAL; HOUSING LIAISON AND ADMINISTRATIVE AGENT

+++++

RESOLUTION #47-19

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, that in order to address the vacancy which shall be created by the pending resignation of the Municipal Clerk, Krista Parsons shall be appointed as Acting Municipal Clerk pursuant to NJ.S.A. 40A:9-133(c), with said position to be on a part-time basis and effective April 1,2019, with a salary which shall be set by the governing body pursuant to a salary ordinance covering the period beginning April 1, 2019.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Township Committee of East Amwell Township, that based on the pending resignation of the Municipal Clerk, there shall be a vacancy in the position of Municipal Housing Liaison and Administrative Agent insofar as the Municipal Clerk, with permission from the Special Master, has been serving as the Municipal Housing Liaison and Administrative Agent, and that therefore, to address such vacancy, the Township Committee of East Amwell hereby appoints Krista Parsons to assume the duties of the Municipal Housing Liaison and Administrative Agent, a part time position, effective April 1, 2019, with a salary which shall be set by the governing body pursuant to a salary ordinance covering the period beginning April 1, 2019.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Krista Parsons will enroll in and complete the required training and certification exams for the aforementioned positions in accordance with East Amwell Township policies.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township of East Amwell will pay for Krista Parsons' tuition and registration fees for the required training and certification exams.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Krista Parsons will reimburse the Township of East Amwell for the tuition and registration fees paid by the Township to Krista Parsons if she voluntarily terminates her employment with the Township of East Amwell within two (2) years after achieving said certifications.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon successful certification, the Township of East Amwell will consider appointing Krista Parsons to Municipal Clerk (Part-Time, Certified) and/or COAH Municipal Housing Liaison (Part-Time, Certified) within the salary ranges for such positions, based on her achievement of the certification(s) and effective performance of the work, duties and tasks associated with the position(s) and the scope of the certification(s).

++++
Motion by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Sobieski, and carried unanimously to approve the resolution.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

CFO PASQUA provided the bills of the evening. Motion by Mr. Sobieski, seconded by Deputy Mayor Mathews, and carried unanimously to approve the bill list.

TAX COLLECTOR HYLAND provided the February 2019 Disbursements & Receipts Report.

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RESOLUTION #48-19

REDEMPTION TAX SALE CERTIFICATE

WHEREAS there has been a redemption made for Tax Sale Certificate #201701, Block 4, Lot 4, sold on October 10th 2017 , to Ridgeback Ventures LLC and,

WHEREAS the amount of \$28,091.28 has been collected from Charles Case for the redemption of this Tax Sale Certificate #201701,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that a check in the amount of \$28,091.28 be prepared and the Mayor, Treasurer and Clerk be authorized to sign this check and,

Ridgeback Ventures LLC
PO Box 503
Mount Freedom NJ 07970

By Order of the Township Committee,

Richard Wolfe, Mayor

++++
Motion by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Sobieski, and carried unanimously to approve the resolution.

All other reports were acknowledged.

CORRESPONDENCE – There were no comments.

19) ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, motion by Mr. Sobieski, seconded by Deputy Mayor Mathews, and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 12:02 p.m.

Pamela Dymek,
Deputy Municipal Clerk