

The regular meeting of the East Amwell Township Committee was called to order at 7:30 p.m. Present were Mayor Tim Mathews, Deputy Mayor Richard Wolfe, and Committee members David Wang-Iverson, Kevin Ostrander, and Peter Miller. Attorney Carl Taylor was also in attendance.

In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, Municipal Clerk Teresa R. Stahl announced that this is a regularly scheduled meeting, pursuant to the resolution adopted on January 2, 2018, with a meeting notice published in the Hunterdon County Democrat issue of January 11, 2018. 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 April 10, 2018.

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

### **AGENDA REVIEW**

Three Items of Correspondence are added: HC Seniors Newsletter Spring 2018; Tewksbury Twp. 4/20 Resolution regarding Beekeeping; West Amwell Construction Report for March 2018. A New Announcement is listed: Hunterdon County Prosecutors will hold an unwanted drug disposal day on Saturday, April 28, on the municipal lot from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Additional Items of Business:

Under Special Discussions, add the following: An update from Jim Davidson on Clawson House. An update from John Allen re: Status of Landis Burial Ground. Under Unfinished Business, add an update from Deputy Mayor Wolfe re: Status of Funding for Seniors. Under New Business, add a discussion regarding the Township Professionals.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

A. Hunterdon County Freeholders announced the 2018 Shred Days from 9:00 a.m. – noon, on the parking lot behind the Historic Court House, 71 Main Street, on the following dates: April 21; May 5; September 8; October 6, November 3. Details at [www.eastamwelltownship.com](http://www.eastamwelltownship.com)

B. East Amwell will hold the following events – Look for Spring Newsletter for details.

- Well Testing through Raritan Headwaters Association: Kits will be available from 4/2 through 4/13 with a return date of 4/17/18.
- The annual Roadside Clean Up on Saturday, April 21. Contact Ron O'Reilly at [ron@stories-worth-repeating.com](mailto:ron@stories-worth-repeating.com) or 908-399-9189 to volunteer and get a road assignment.

The Mayor mentioned whether participating or not, if residents see debris from power companies, please identify the debris and location by address and bring it to the Township's attention. The material will be marked with marking tape, and JCP&L will pick up the debris, specifically, power wires, cross members, power poles, or anything with power, not trees or tree debris.

- Spring Clean-Up Day will be held on Saturday, April 28, from 8 a.m. – Noon on the municipal lot. Contact the Clerk's Office at 908-782-8536 for information on permits.
- May 19 from 9 a.m. – 11 a.m. – Plant Exchange at Clawson Park Pavillion

Mr. Wang Iverson wanted to make everyone aware that at the March meeting of the Hunterdon County Parks and Open Space Advisory Committee, they approved a \$825,000 grant to the New Jersey Conservation Foundation for the purchase of a 111 acre farm named Wertsville Industries. That represents one half of the purchase price of the farm with the other half coming from the Township's Green Acres grant fund and other grants that New Jersey Conservation Foundation is obtaining. This is the latest example of the excellent collaboration that the Township's Farmland Open Space Preservation Committee has with New Jersey Conservation Foundation. New Jersey Conservation Foundation is in the final phases of completing the Higgins acquisition, which is

immediately adjacent to Wertsville Industries farm, so when the two acquisitions close, there will be about 525 contiguous acres of open space. The parcel is also contiguous with about 600 acres owned by Somerset County. New Jersey Conservation Foundation will be managing the whole parcel for recreation. There were quite a few East Amwell residents who attended the Hunterdon County meeting, which Mr. Wang-Iverson thought was helpful. The Deputy Mayor was there and spoke in support of the grant. Mr. Wang-Iverson added that \$825,000 represents half of the total budget for the county parks and open space for this year.

Mayor Mathews thanked Mr. Wang-Iverson, Deputy Mayor Wolfe, and residents who attended the County meeting for support.

**UPDATE FROM THE CFO**

CFO Margaret Pasqua was present at this time.

**RESOLUTION TO ADOPT A TEMPORARY EMERGENCY APPROPRIATIONS BUDGET, REVISED DATE 4/9/18**

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**RESOLUTION 49-18**

**RESOLUTION NO. (on 4-5-18)  
April 12, 2018**

**RESOLUTION TO ADOPT TEMPORARY EMERGENCY APPROPRIATIONS #1**

**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 2018 pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 96, P.L. 1951 (N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-20) including this resolution total \$170,100.00

**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 2018 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	\$1,000.00	
Financial Administration	\$10,000.00	\$ 35,000.00
Revenue Administration	\$ 4,000.00	
Municipal Clerk	\$ 10,000.00	
Tax Assessor	\$4,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
Legal		\$20,000.00
Engineering		\$ 3,000.00
Historic Sites Committee		\$ 500.00
Planning Board		\$ 4,000.00
Zoning Board		\$ 3,000.00
Street & Road Maintenance	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00
Buildings & Grounds		\$ 2,000.00
Recreation Services & Programs	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00

Solid Waste	\$1,000.00	\$ 2,250.00
Public Health		\$ 6,000.00
Environmental		\$ 150.00
Heating Oil/Gas		\$ 1,200.00
Social Security/Medicare		\$ 5,000.00
Municipal Court	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 1,000.00

By Order of the Township Committee,

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Tim Mathews, Mayor

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Motion by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Ostrander, and carried unanimously.

INTRODUCTION OF THE 2018 BUDGET

Resolution to Read by Title Only

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**RESOLUTION #50-18**

WHEREAS, N.J.S. 40A:4-8 provides that the budget be read by title only at the time of public hearing if a resolution is passed by not less that a majority of the full governing body, providing that at least one week prior to the date of hearing a complete copy of the approved budget as advertised has been posted in the Municipal building, the local public library, and copies have been made available by the Clerk to persons requesting them; and

WHEREAS, these conditions have been met;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell, in the County of Jersey, State of New Jersey, that the budget shall be read title only.

By Order of the Township Committee,

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Tim Mathews, Mayor

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Motion by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Ostrander, and carried unanimously.

Self-Examination Resolution:

Ms. Pasqua explained that the state set up three year categories for municipalities, and one year, municipalities must go to the state for budget approval. The other two years municipalities can self-examine their budgets without state approval. This year East Amwell can self-examine.

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**RESOLUTION # 51-18**

SELF-EXAMINATION OF BUDGET RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-78b has authorized the Local Finance Board to adopt rules that permit municipalities in sound fiscal condition to assume the responsibility, normally granted to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services, of conducting the annual budget examination; and

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

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-7.2 through 7.5, the *Township of East Amwell* has been declared eligible to participate in the program by the Division of Local government Services, and the Chief Financial officer has determined that the local government meets the necessary conditions to participate in the program for the 2018 budget year.

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

1. That with reference to the following items, the amounts have been calculated pursuant to law and appropriated as such in the budget:
  - a. Payment of interest and debt redemption charges
  - b. Deferred charges and statutory expenditures
  - c. Cash deficit of preceding year
  - d. Reserve for uncollected taxes
  - e. Other reserves and non-disbursement items
  - f. Any inclusions of amounts required for school purposes.
  
2. That the provisions relating to limitation on increases of appropriations pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.2 and appropriations for exceptions to limits on appropriations found at N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.3 et seq., are fully met (complies with CAP law).
  
3. That the budget is in such form, arrangement, and content as required by the Local Budget Law and N.J.A.C. 5:30-4 and 5:30-5.
  
4. That pursuant to the Local Budget Law:
  - a. All estimates of revenue are reasonable, accurate and correctly stated,
  - b. Items of appropriation are properly set forth
  - c. In itemization, form, arrangement and content, the budget will permit the exercise of the comptroller function within the municipality.
  
5. The budget and associated amendments have been introduced and publicly advertised in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Local Budget Law, except that failure to meet the deadlines of N.J.S.A. 40A:4-5 shall not prevent such certification.
  
6. That all other applicable statutory requirements have been fulfilled.

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

By Order of the Township Committee,

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Tim Mathews, Mayor

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Motion by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Ostrander, and carried unanimously.

Compliance with Federal Civil Rights Requirements Resolution and Affidavit for Governing Body

Committee members were aware of this requirement from a previous meeting and were prepared to sign the affidavit.

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**RESOLUTION #52-18**

**GOVERNING BODY CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE**

**UNITED STATES EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION’S  
“Enforcement Guidance on the Consideration of Arrest and Conviction Records in  
Employment Decisions Under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964”**

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-5 as amended by P.L. 2017, c.183 requires the governing body of each municipality and county to certify that their local unit’s hiring practices comply with the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission’s “Enforcement Guidance on the Consideration of Arrest and Conviction Records in Employment Decisions Under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964,” *as amended*, 42 U.S.C. § 2000e *et seq.*, (April 25, 2012) before submitting its approved annual budget to the Division of Local Government Services in the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs; and

WHEREAS, the members of the governing body have familiarized themselves with the contents of the above-referenced enforcement guidance and with their local unit’s hiring practices as they pertain to the consideration of an individual’s criminal history, as evidenced by the group affidavit form of the governing body attached hereto.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell hereby states that it has complied with N.J.S.A. 40A:4-5, as amended by P.L. 2017, c.183, by certifying that the local unit’s hiring practices comply with the above-referenced enforcement guidance and hereby directs the Clerk to cause to be maintained and available for inspection a certified copy of this resolution and the required affidavit to show evidence of said compliance.

By Order of the Township Committee,

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Tim Mathews, Mayor

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

Introduction of 2018 Budget

Ms. Pasqua said that the tax rate was being reduced from .214 to .203, which was a \$30 reduction per year on an average home in East Amwell. She referred to the budget resolution, which is part of this set of minutes.

Mr. Wang-Iverson asked if there was still money in the budget for the Kleinschmidt house; he was told yes. Mr. Wang-Iverson asked if there was \$50,000 allocated for chipseal. Ms. Pasqua said that there was \$160,000 in the capital improvement fund, with \$60,000 earmarked for a truck and \$100,000 for roads. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that there was enough money left in the budget for two miles to chip seal, but they were not sure if they would be chipsealing or not. Mr. Wang-Iverson asked about the request from the Environmental Commission for \$500 to evaluate the environmental resource inventory; this was not budgeted. Mayor Mathews said that when attending a planning board course, they specifically asked that question, and it is not a requirement and can actually be done by the planning board, and the planner, who is a professional, could take that on if they wanted.

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**RESOLUTION #53-18**

2018 BUDGET RESOLUTION  
(as attached to the original set of minutes)

By Order of the Township Committee,

Tim Mathews, Mayor

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Motion by Mr. Miller and seconded by Mr. Ostrander to approve the budget resolution.

Mayor Mathews thanked Ms. Pasqua for her work on the budget and all the comments and input from the Township Committee. It was very collaborative, and they went through a lot of detailed discussion and looked at about every line item. He thought that the budget was in good shape. Although there was a reduction in the overall expenditures, the things that mattered were not cut and in fact some of them were increased. He thought that everyone would be happy with the outcome of the budget. He hoped that they could produce some good output over the course of the year.

The Mayor said that this was a vote to introduce the budget. There would be time for the public to review, there would be time for comment and discussion at the next meeting, and another vote to adopt the budget.

A roll call vote on the budget was taken: Mr. Wang-Iverson, yes; Mr. Wolfe, yes; Mr. Ostrander, yes; Mr. Miller, yes, Mr. Mathews, yes.

Notice of the budget will be published in the April 19, 2018, issue of the Hunterdon County Democrat, and a public hearing is set for May 10, 2018, at 7:30 p.m.

CLAIMS LIST

Ms. Pasqua said that by reading the minutes from the last meeting, the Township Committee wanted her to point out any unusual bills. The only thing on this bill list that is unusual to her is the bond closing bills, which are around \$28,000. She said that these are the only ones unusual to her. As far as keeping the governing body updated on the budget, she was waiting until the budget is adopted, and after that time, she will provide monthly updates. Mayor Mathews said that what was asked was that every month that the bill list is prepared, the CFO should highlight the anomalies or out of the normal. Ms. Pasqua said that next month there will be a huge bill list because all of the taxes are due, but these are normal to her

PAYROLL CONTRACT WITH PRIMEPOINT

Ms. Pasqua said that the auditors requested that the Township get an annual contract with the payroll company. QPA Nancy Canto said that there was no action required by the governing body, and the Mayor should just sign the agreement. Mayor Mathews asked if this was the company the Township has been using and if they were happy with them. He was told yes.

2018 SALARY AND WAGE ORDINANCE

The Clerk pointed out a new version of the ordinance, dated April 11, 2018. Mrs. Pasqua said that normally the salary and wage ordinance is passed at this time. The change in the new version was to address the court administrator's range.

Mayor Mathews requested that the Clerk amend the agenda to have this ordinance introduced after a personnel discussion later in the meeting. The Clerk said that this could be done, but since the CFO would not be staying until that time, if the governing body had any questions, they should ask her now. Mayor Mathews asked the governing body members if they had any questions, adding that there was one personnel matter relative to the salary and wage ordinance that they wanted to discuss in executive session and would introduce this ordinance once the executive session was over. There were no questions on this item for the CFO.

AWARD OF CONTRACT – LINVALE ROAD DRAINAGE PROJECT

The Clerk advised the governing body that there was revised resolution before them based on comments from the QPA to include information in the resolution about where funding was coming from. There was a spread sheet from the QPA and a letter of recommendation from the engineer, William Burr.

Mr. Wang-Iverson asked about the work to be done on Lindbergh Road. The Clerk read from the bid proposal page regarding three sections on Lindbergh Road and purchase of hot asphalt mix in specific quantities, which were listed as part of an alternative bid.

Mayor Mathews explained that the bid package was put together by the previous Township engineer, it went out to bid, and the current engineer is taking the project over. He said that previous ordinances and previous money were allocated. He said that the bid came in significantly under what was in the capital budget. Ms. Pasqua said that \$231,000 was allocated in one ordinance and \$20,000 was left in another. The project was coming in at \$197,000. The lowest bidder was Messercola Excavating, and both the QPA and engineer have followed up on references, talked to the company, and they felt confident that they would be able to do the work. The Clerk added that the CFO has certified available funds in the amount of \$197,069.00 The Mayor said that the project can start as soon as the governing body approves the award.

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**RESOLUTION # 54-18**

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell that, based upon the recommendation of the Township Engineer and the notification by the QPA that bid documents are satisfactory, the following bids are authorized pursuant to the Local Public Contracts Law NJSA 40A:11-1, et. al. with funding available from Capital Ordinance 15-07 Various Road Improvements and Capital Ordinance #11-09 Overlay of Lindbergh Road:

LINVALE ROAD DRAINAGE PROJECT

Messercola Excavating  
549 East 3<sup>rd</sup> Street  
Plainfield, NJ 08060

\$117,169.00 Contract Amount

\$ 79,900.00 Alternate Bid Items-Lindbergh Road

Total Award of \$197,069.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that contracts are on file in the Municipal Clerk's Office, 1070 Route 202, Ringoes, NJ 08551, for public inspection during normal business hours.

By Order of the Township Committee,

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Tim Mathews, Mayor

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Motion by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Ostrander, and carried unanimously by roll call vote:  
Mr. Wang-Iverson, yes; Mr. Wolfe, yes; Mr. Ostrander, yes; Mr. Miller, yes, Mr. Mathews, yes.

AUDITOR EXIT INTERVIEW

Ms. Pasqua mentioned the exit interview with the auditor next Tuesday morning at 11 a.m. Mayor Mathews asked that he be able to conference in if he cannot make it in person.

Mayor Mathews thanked Ms. Pasqua and appreciated her work.

SPECIAL DISCUSSIONS

PRESENTATION BY DENNIS HAJEK RE: SPEEDING ON ROCKTOWN HILL ROAD (See 1/24/18 Letter to the Mayor)

Mr. Hajek thanked the governing body for the opportunity to present and appreciated the flexibility of cancelling his appearance at the last minute at last month's meeting. He said that he is in his 26<sup>th</sup> year of being a resident of East Amwell Township. His neighbor who is an attorney, Tom Leyhane, was unable to join him tonight. He referenced his letter to the Mayor in January and the presentation he also provided last month. He said that Rocktown Hill Road is about a mile and a half down Route 31 and used to be part of Route 31 back in the day. It is an old carriage run from Clinton to Trenton that cuts through Historic Rocktown. There are only three residences on Rocktown Hill Road that are East Amwell residents. It is an unlined road marked by two relatively blind intersections, one off Gulick Road and one at Rocktown/Rocktown Hill Road, where the old orchard is and historic buildings are located. A Google shot and pictures he provided show some homes extremely close to the roadway, saying that in addition it is a busy road, especially in the spring and summer time, when folks are running, biking, and walking their dogs. It provides a cut through for travelers coming south on Route 31, who want to get over to Lambertville to the high school and that way. Northbound, it provides a cut through, exiting left onto Rocktown Hill Road for folks who want to go down to Route 29 and Gulick Road. The most intensive time of issue is the morning hours for cars traveling on Route 31 South. Where the road merges into one lane, most mornings that roadway is all backed up, and as diagramed on page two of his presentation, if traveling on that road, the GPS would show a big red line on Route 31, and you would get a notice that it would save you two minutes if you make a right onto Rocktown Road, cut around all the traffic, and cut in above where everyone is merging in.

Mr. Hajek had hoped that Mr. Leyhane would be here tonight to speak about his previous communication with the prior Mayor, saying that he was pretty active working on the East Amwell side. Mr. Hajek was working with the most recently retired West Amwell Police Captain Bartzak. The previous Township Administrator, Tim Matheny, was also helping to support efforts as well, including placing the East Amwell traffic monitor on site on a number of different occasions to create awareness of road speed limits. He spoke about lack of awareness and when he first spoke with the West Amwell Police Department, they thought that it was a 35 mph road, and when the traffic monitor was set up the first time, it was posted at a 35 mph speed zone. The Township then had to correct it to read 25 mph, and this was shown in part of his appendix, showing the speed study set at 35 mph for a couple of weeks. The data showed that over 25% of the cars were exceeding 35 mph, and from a pure numbers standpoint, that was over 1,000 cars. It will show that it was not just cars going 35 mph, but cars going 40 and 45 mph, and a recent West Amwell patrol caught someone going 50 mph right past Mr. Hajek's property.

Mr. Hajek said that he had the support of Captain Bartzak and can provide emails showing that he had the same concerns about the problem and willingness to help support the efforts. Captain Bartzak retired and there is new leadership in West Amwell. West Amwell actually has help by creating awareness by placing additional 25 mph speed signs, and this has helped a bit. They have also increased patrolling on their road as well. Mr. Hajek believed that sooner or later, if this is not corrected, something terrible will happen in terms of an accident, a fatality, or a serious injury to someone walking those roads.

Mr. Hajek has recommended some possible solutions, and there were a number of things he suggested to West Amwell, and a number of things that Mr. Leyhane suggested to East Amwell. They spoke about speed control devices. However, there are not just cars traveling the road but farm equipment from West Amwell Township and 18 wheel vehicles servicing the farms, with a number of construction vehicles in the morning and afternoon hours that are probably the fastest speeders, based on Mr. Hajek's observations. He said it was a mishmash of vehicles coming through. Mr. Hajek said that he would not share tonight, but he has a video of a car coming through at 25 mph with all the other cars just parading through at excessive speed. He said that another suggestion was a permanent electronic sign, similar to the one in the Ringoes Village area, acknowledging that this would be expensive. Increasing the West Amwell Police presence, particularly in the morning, would be a suggestion. The possibility of placing devices in the middle of the road was a suggestion, but with farm equipment, Mr. Hajek was not sure if this would be the solution. Mr. Hajek screaming at everyone going down the road or putting up signs on his garbage cans that say slow down would not be very effective. He thought that the thing that would be commonsense, after speaking with all the neighbors, would be turning the intersections into four way stops or a three way stop at Gulick Road to at least forcing vehicles to stop. He believed that drivers would not violate a stop sign although they would violate speeding signs; with points of interruption in speed, he believed that this would cause people to slow down.

Mr. Hajek said that before Captain Bartzak left last fall, the Mayor in West Amwell was very willing to speak with East Amwell about a solution, but Mr. Hajek said that they held back because they knew that there would be a change in leadership. He said that he is here now and would happy to help facilitate and engage in addressing some simple solutions.

Mayor Mathews said he had an update on discussions with West Amwell. He has met with a West Amwell Township Committee member and their Mayor and the Acting Chief. They have agreed to increase services to East Amwell, and the East Amwell budget is being increased by 50% for additional traffic protection and monitoring for the aggregate of the town, including the Rocktown Hill Road area. This will be put in effect as soon as some details are wrapped up and changes are made to the agreement. Mayor Mathews asked about the stop sign as you come across Route 31 at Rocktown, saying that there is a stop sign there and asked if there wasn't one at Rocktown Hill Road. Mr. Hajek said that Rocktown Hill is a straight pass through. As you approach the top of the hill, coming off Route 31 South, Gulick Road is on the right, and there is a stop sign there. You can proceed right past his home and right on through to Route 31. The stop sign is on Rocktown Road. Mayor Mathews asked if it was a West Amwell decision to put up a stop sign; Mr. Hajek imagined that it would be since West Amwell controls that area and their Road Department works on the road. Mr. Hajek believed all the residents in the area, including Mr. Leyhane, would be all for a stop sign, adding that Mr. Leyhane had previously said that he would pay for the sign.

Mr. Wang-Iverson asked about any feedback from Captain Bartzak about installing a stop sign; Mr. Hajek said no, that they were really trying to work on building awareness as a first step. Mr. Hajek commented on Captain Bartzak's frustration with follow through or any real interest in the issue. Mr. Wang-Iverson said that there are rules about putting up signs.

Mayor Mathews said that he would look into putting up a stop sign while working on the details of the revised police patrol agreement, and include it as something that the Township would like to see in the deal for West Amwell to control, or at least work together in partnership. Mr. Hajek welcomed increased police presence but understood that the force is spread thin. He added that it would take quite an amount of time to create awareness for the number of people who go through that area. He mentioned the creation of the four way stop intersection at South Hunterdon High School, and he felt that this would be a good solution for his area of concern. He would not change what is there for Rocktown to the area heading to South 31, but he would create additional stopping there and the same thing on Gulick. He commented on leaving his house to go to Quick Check with drivers pulling out in front of him already thinking that it was a four way stop sign without knowing he had the right of way. He believed the stop signs would have multiple benefits

Mayor Mathews asked if anyone wanted to see the presentation; he was told that the screen was for another presentation later in the meeting. He thanked Mr. Hajek for his presentation.

#### **PROPOSAL FROM SOUTH COUNTY SOCCER LEAGUE FOR REPAIR OF SOCCER LIGHTS**

Howard Young, Acting President of the South County Soccer League, was present for this discussion. Mr. Young provided a handout with various options for light repair at the school field.

There was a problem with floodlights at the school. Historically, SCSL dealt with the fields and the Township handled the lights. There is an extraordinary situation because 27 lights went out because of a storm in November. Jason Silverthorn has put some things together and the Township has commented that this is far more than what is usually paid. Mr. Young has been researching with Rowe Electric, and they came up with two ways to do it: 1) repair the existing halogen lights by replacing bulbs and ballasts and repair some mounts with a cost of \$14,600 - \$6,000 materials and \$8,600 labor - which Mr. Young is proposing that SCSL would pay this amount with a request that the Township continue to pay the electric portion, which is \$4,300 for running the lights - the amount paid last year. 2) Update the lights to LED, which would be \$65,000. Mr. Young would have to discuss his proposal with his SCSL committee, adding that paying for option 1 would deplete their funds with a bill for maintaining the fields will cost the league about \$12,000 this year already. Option 2 is a long term consideration, and SCSL would apply for a grant for this. Mr. Young said that option 2 would have a potential major savings to the township, and if SCSL was able to get funding and install the LEDs, the League would like to have

some of the money back over time to restore the SCSL coffers. Mr. Young said that the League recognized that the lights had to be restored, and they must figure out a way to solve the problem.

Mr. Wang-Iverson asked if the LEDs would reduce the surge. Mr. Young did not know, adding that he has been working with Rowe Electric, who is working on the electric figures and equipment. They would need to get a consultant to help them figure out the overall voltage across the 48 lights and if the way it works will continue to create the surge –that would be the next stage, and Mr. Young cannot tell the Committee what the surge charge would be. If the savings are only \$1,225, it was not worth bothering; if the savings would be \$4,000 a year, it would be worth considering.

Deputy Mayor Wolfe knew a little bit about LED lighting because he did his whole house virtually with LED. Those bulbs go forever. The bulbs in the lights now burn out every few years. So every few years, the Township was paying a few thousand dollars to replace the bulbs. So going with the LED, it is not just a question of the electrical usage, it is a question of the bulbs. The savings could be substantial, but the initial outlay of \$65,000 may knock this out of the box absent the grant. Mr. Young agreed, but it felt that it was pertinent to look at this as a possibility now because if 27 bulbs were being replaced anyway, and it makes sense to have done the investigation to see if this is possible. Mr. Young said that there is a possibility of getting a grant, and they will go through that process. A decision would have to be made between now and September. It would take about a week to install lights.

Mayor Mathews asked about light usage. Mr. Young said that the League uses lights approximately 10 weeks from roughly the end of September through the end of November, using them each night – before daylight savings, perhaps just an hour or two and after, having the lights on the whole time. Mr. Young said that they have already taken over the lights at the municipal field because once the baseball league left, they took over paying what baseball used to pay for.

Deputy Mayor Wolfe asked what percentage of participants were East Amwell residents; Mr. Young said at least 50%.

Mr. Ostrander asked for clarity under option 1 – were all of the bulbs being replaced, not just the 27 that are not functioning, or does Mr. Young have to check on that. Mr. Ostrander felt that replacing all of them for that cost would sound better to him rather than mixing old with new bulbs. Mr. Young said that he would be getting technical advice from the electrical company because he did not know the history of each bulb. Mr. Ostrander said that his point was that since the company was there with their equipment, it would behoove the League to replace all of the bulbs. Mr. Ostrander said that option 2 was interesting, but \$50,000 was rather frightening. With a payback period of 41 years, he would like to know how this works out. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that the payback period was for the replacement bulbs, and the Township would not have to spend several thousand dollars each year for bulbs with LED bulbs lasting forever. Mr. Ostrander said the surge and replacement costs were not factored in. Mr. Young said he did not write the word proposal and used the word option. He agreed that they needed to look at maintenance cost comparison. Mr. Ostrander said that the offer from SCSL to come forth and make a contribution was encouraging, and he was happy to hear that. Mayor Mathews agreed. Mr. Young said that the cost will pretty much clean the League out. Mayor Mathews did not like to hear that, referencing the baseball league having really bad times financially. Mayor Mathews understood what leagues go through to maintain them, and he asked about fundraisers that the soccer league does. Mr. Young said that fundraisers are generally through sponsorship, adding that if the Township feels there is a contribution that the Township would fund to reduce that, it would be helpful.

Mayor Mathews said that he appreciated the information provided, and the Township Committee would have to digest it. He said that he would open the meeting to the public after discussion to see if they have any comments in support or not. He asked Mr. Young if he knew or did Rowe Electric tell him if the LED lights present a difference in illumination because there are some residents in that general area that aren't real happy with the lights in terms of light pollution. He asked if the LED solution helped or solved that issue. Mr. Young said that this is a really good point and was thinking about this today. The lights are not technically floodlights because of the light ordinance, with Mr. Young adding that Jay Rowe from Rowe Electric understood this and was on board about this particular point. Mr. Young did not know about any increase in whiteness, but he imagined that the same rules apply that the lighting cannot be too severe.

Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that the problem he was having was that the annual running [charge](#) was \$4,300 under option 1, which was the number that Mr. Young and Mr. Silverthorn provided. The Deputy Mayor said that if it was going to cost \$4,000 a year to replace bulbs because a number of them go out every year, so it was about \$8,300 a year for ten weeks of light, it would work out to \$830 a week for lights. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that this was a lot of money for as many nights a week that players practice; Mr. Young said it was five nights a week – games on weekends are played during the day without a need for lights. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that \$850 a week divided by 5 nights is \$170 a night for lights, and he was having a hard time wrapping his arms around that. Mayor Mathews asked if this annual number was just power charges or bulbs. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said no, just the running charges with the surge being the lion's share, which is very expensive and is for shutting the service off, and it is only running for three months. If the power runs longer than that, and there is no reason to, it would cost more. Mr. Young said that Jason Silverthorn turns the lights off, and they are on for a very short time; the league can now just turn one field on rather than two and reduces costs.

Mr. Ostrander would like to know if option 1 included replacing all of the bulbs and would like an idea from Rowe Electric about longevity of the bulbs. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that the bulbs burn very hot so that they don't have a long life; they are sort of like the lights that you use on construction sites. They burn incredibly hot, and the bulbs don't last that long. The Deputy Mayor has spoken with Jason Silverthorn about them, and they are so sensitive, that if you touch them with your hand, they will burn out even faster. Deputy Mayor Wolfe was all for extracurricular activities for kids, because kids have a lot of energy and it has to be directed somewhere. If it is not directed for something good, invariably it will be directed to something bad, so he was all for extracurricular activities but the Township Committee has to talk more because it is a big number.

Mayor Mathews is also having discussions with JCP&L regarding performance during storms or lack thereof. He said that maybe there is something that they may have in terms of grants or funding for supporting electric usage, so he will go down that path. Mayor Mathews said that the Committee should digest this and get some questions answered. He wondered what was in the currently introduced budget and recommended asking Jason to clarify some of the numbers and regroup in a month or so and revisit and discuss it again with Mr. Young.

Mr. Wang-Iverson asked how many participants the League has; Mr. Young said that it varies. The fall is the big season, and the season when the lights are needed. He said that there were about 200 participants in total, and there were well over 250 two or three years back. The spring season is about half of that. Mayor Mathews confirmed with Mr. Young that no lights are needed in the spring. The Mayor also asked about the 50% of the number of participants being from East Amwell, and Mr. Young said that he had a complete printout and the number is slightly higher than 50% from micro up to under 18 years old.

Mayor Mathews said that he remembered several years ago an adult league who was interested in using the fields. He asked if there were any partnerships that could help fund the lights. Mr. Young said their league pays enough money in terms of field upkeep. Mr. Young has been trying to use more of the fields in West Amwell to try to alleviate the amount of time spent on the fields. West Amwell doesn't have lights, and he has been trying to play more games at South Hunterdon on the weekends when lights aren't necessary to reduce usage of the fields here so that they don't get pounded. He said that grownups and adult kids pound the fields.

Mayor Mathews asked if anyone from the public had any comments.

Dennis Hajek came forth, saying that he didn't know that this item was on the agenda until tonight. He was President of the East Amwell Recreation Committee for a number of years and served for six years and came on board just before the lights were installed. Mike Stover was the President of Recreation Committee then, and they still talk about that project. Mr. Hajek actually helped lead a consortium of the school, the township, and the league to resurface the field a number of years ago. This issue of lights burning out is an historic problem and early on, the cost of replacing bulbs was avoided because they had surplus supply of leftover bulbs so that Rowe Electric only had to replace the bulbs, not purchase them. Mr. Hajek said that there was a transformer on site that historically been the issue, and he was shocked to hear that 27 of 80 bulbs went and believed that this was remarkable. He felt that the problem has gotten worse, and there may be a problem with the transformer and lines coming across. He said that there were breakers on every single stand, with 20 stands each having 4 bulbs. He believed that the issue may be with the electric company or

something wrong with the breaker system. He suggested an insurance policy to address something of this magnitude.

Mr. Hajek commented on the LED idea. He felt that if they were better lights and provided better illumination, the league would get the same benefit with fewer lights as a money saving opportunity. Regarding the concern from the neighbors about lights, he said that everyone of the lights could be adjusted. He suggested that whatever route is gone, part of the process would be to adjust the lights so that they are less intrusive on neighbors. Mr. Hajek said that his third comment from an option standpoint was if the Township did not want to bite the bullet all at once, there were two fields independent of each other, the Township could convert one field to LED lighting, take the bulbs out and put them on the existing lighting on the other field and take that project on down the road. He believed that by doing this, there would be leftover light bulbs to support field B, and the Township could split this up to two projects over time.

Joe Angelone commented that he came for another matter and also didn't know that this was on the agenda. He said that he worked with Dennis Hajek on the field reconstruction project that he spoke about. Mr. Angelone was a coach in the SCSL for 11 years, and he was field and equipment coordinator for 6 years, and he now refs for the soccer league. Mr. Angelone believed that the lights were an important item to have the league function and kids practice. Looking at Mr. Young's suggestion, Mr. Angelone did not think that \$65,000 was farfetched, saying that based on what Mr. Wolfe said, if you were spending \$4,000 in lighting costs a year and another \$4,000 in bulb replacement, that was \$8,000 a year. The return on investment was only 6 years at that point for a total of \$48,000. If the League was putting up \$15,000 anyway, he believed that 6 years on the return on investment was really quite good for an investment of this type. Mr. Angelone thought that if there was a way to finance this over time, it was a great idea and it would not take 41 years to finance. Mr. Angelone said that the League has been an asset, adding that his son played in the league for many years, and all volunteers, past and present, have put a lot into keeping this league going.

Frances Gavigan, Wertsville Road, said that the issue with JCP&L and the delivery of service and problems with maintenance is highly visible now. The transformer across the street she has seen on fire twice at least. JCP&L has done some re-routing and some investigation into how they are balancing because if there is a problem here, they are switching and rerouting power and creating surges probably, and they may be contributing to and would continue to contribute to and the Governor and other folks paying attention to this, she would think that there may be a potential liability issue. She did not know if Freeholders would be meeting with JCP&L, but the Township has them here once in a while, and she thought that the Township should reach out to the County level to see because these are costs that are being incurred by not only parents and league members, but taxpayers as a whole, and she did not know if anyone got discounts on their electric bills when they didn't have power for a week or two a month ago. Ms. Gavigan said that just because somebody says not my problem not my fault doesn't necessarily ~~there~~mean it isn't, and there might be people who would look into this because there could possibly be a return. She suggested thinking out of the box.

Mr. Young appreciated the comments and said that these were some of the challenges of playing any sport in the fall, i.e., they are playing with daylight savings, and this is just one of the aspects. One of the great things about East Amwell is that it provides is a really cost effective soccer program for folks for East Amwell. In Raritan people can ~~play~~pay four times as much and up at Hunterdon they can ~~play~~pay twice as much. He said that this was a benefit for the families who don't want to pay \$2,000 on a soccer program, which is basically the price that they would pay at GFSC, which is run as a business. The SCSL is a volunteer effort, and there is a huge contribution going into keeping costs down. If fall soccer was going to be played, teams need to find some lights.

Mayor Mathews thanked Mr. Young and said that the Township Committee would take this into consideration.

#### CLAWSON HOUSE UPDATE FROM JIM DAVIDSON

Mr. Davidson was present at this time and wanted to report on progress. He said that most of the governing body members have been there recently. There has been construction going on for five

years, and work is 95% complete. He provided the following update: all rooms are sheet-rocked and trimmed out; and by end of phase 5, ending in a month, there will be a complete kitchen, tile, bath, electrical, fixtures, and trim will be done; there have been hundreds of volunteer hours over the five years, including work in the cellar, tearing out plaster on walls and ceilings; landscaping; five open houses so far; the Historical Society has had donated over \$40,000 in antique furniture.

Funding comes from three different sources, the Hunterdon County Open Space Trust Fund, the East Amwell Open Space Trust Fund, and the Historical Society, which raises money through donations. By the time Phase 5 is complete in a month, there will have been \$540,000 put into the building in the last five years. Mr. Davidson thought initially that this was a lot of money until he found the original estimate from about ten years ago of between \$600,000 - \$650,000. The breakdown of funds is as follows: Hunterdon County Open Space Trust Fund \$205,000 so far; the Historical Society has put in around \$40,000 between direct money and paying for things themselves, such as buying the kitchen for \$6,000. The Township has put in somewhere around \$295,000. Anticipated moneys: the Historical Society has put in for two different grants for \$30,000, and the Historic Preservation Committee has applied for another Hunterdon County Open Space Trust Fund grant of \$70,500. Mr. Davidson said that the Township has received money from every Hunterdon County grant applied for. Currently, there is \$11,000 left in the Township's Open Space Trust Fund designated for Clawson House and the Historical Society has about \$15,000 so they have about \$25,000 to keep construction going. They are advertising for local businesses and individuals to purchase a room in the house to have a permanent plaque installed. Anticipated expenses included getting estimates to paint the inside of the house, 10 rooms and 2 hallways – if volunteers painted, they would be doing so until next year. The group needs money to do the floors and staircase at a \$12,000 estimate, they need additional moneys for the security system, and a change order from the contractor will be about \$6,700. Soft costs would include purchase of display cases, office furniture, chairs for the presentation room, and cabinets for the big room.

Mr. Davidson thought that the Township would get a large amount of the grant money that was applied for, adding that the problem is that they don't find out about the grants and get the money until summer. If construction doesn't slow down, the museum could be open by late summer. Mr. Davidson had asked if it was possible to get some money out of the Open Space Trust Fund to be repaid assuming that the Township gets grant money. He commented on being so close to getting things done with work being done almost every day. Mr. Davidson asked if anyone had questions.

Mr. Wang-Iverson asked about timing on the grants. Mr. Davidson spoke about submitting the Hunterdon County Open Space Trust Fund grant with a high likelihood of getting the grant since the County only had five people putting in grants. The grants are approved in June with money available in July or August. Last year, the Township got their money in August.

Mr. Wang-Iverson said that it sounded that Mr. Davidson said that the work would be done in August. Mr. Davidson said that hopefully, they would be done, and what they were trying to do is leverage the grants. Mr. Wang-Iverson asked if there would any problem with the funding if the work is already done, i.e., if the work is done, could the County not fund the grant. Mr. Davidson could not say what would happen if the Township put in money for the work and whether they can be reimbursed; he commented on possibly holding off the opening until September.

Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that tonight an ordinance was being introduced to basically provide a bridge loan from the Open Space Trust Fund of \$25,000 to continue construction. Even with the \$25,000 there is not enough money to complete all the construction, which means what he assumes is that some of the contractors were going to have to wait a while to be paid; they will be paid something ~~thereafter~~after their work is complete. Deputy Mayor Wolfe did not know the answers to Mr. Wang-Iverson's other questions because he was not involved with the grants. From his own perspective, the Deputy Mayor said that the objective was to get Clawson House complete as quickly as possible so it can be open and start to have events and fundraisers there, with two objectives: 1) to raise money and make the house self-funding so that the Township is not funding upkeep, maintenance, etc. out of the Open Space Trust Fund or general tax revenues; and 2) there are a fair number of residents in the township who are not supportive of Clawson House, and they think it was a colossal mistake. Deputy Mayor Wolfe has had phone calls and emails about this. He hopes that once the house is open and people attend and nice events are there, it will turn a lot of people around. A lot of people that say that it was a colossal mistake, the Deputy Mayor

believed, have not been to Clawson House and are making comments in isolation without ever seeing the house. He said that it will be a terrific space when it is done and will be a great addition to the township, and he wanted to get it done to start turning people around and muster even more support for that project. The Deputy Mayor was very much supportive when Mr. Davidson raised the issue of needing the bridge funding for \$25,000. The ordinance will be introduced later tonight, hopefully the Township will receive the grants, and hopefully the money will be paid back, but Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that they could not just stop Clawson House. It is so close to being done that they can't say, alright, let's stop it. His view is let's get it done as quickly as they can and get it open. If people have different views, he was certainly happy to hear them.

Mayor Mathews said that he did not have a different view, but he wanted to return to a request that he made before, and now that they were doubling down and talking about a bridge loan concept, he would really like to see a strategic plan. He knew that Mr. Davidson committed to one in the summertime at a meeting one or two months ago. The Mayor thought that a presentation on how this thing will be self-sustaining will go a long way in making some who may not be quite as eager to continue down the path and make them comfortable. He asked if Mr. Davidson was willing to continue on the path and by summer, make that presentation. Mr. Davidson said absolutely.

Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that in Jim Davidson's defense, and he knew because Deputy Mayor Wolfe's wife has had a lot of involvement with Clawson House, Jim is working like a dog on his project, working really, really hard, and when this is done, a vast amount of credit will go to him. The Deputy Mayor liked Jim devoting as much effort as possible to just getting the house done. Both the Deputy Mayor and Mr. Davidson have had discussions on how the house will be self-funding, and the Deputy Mayor was confident that when the dust settles, there will be a plan in place to make Clawson House self-funding. He was very confident about that, particularly if Jim Davidson sticks around for a few more years. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that he was not happy about taking money out of the Open Space Trust Fund for things other than open space, and he has been clear about that. He did not want to take money out for anything other than open space. But a commitment was made to Clawson House, and the Township cannot walk away from that at this point, and the Township needed to see this through.

Mayor Mathews said that he would like to add that in his experience in business, when you commit to pen and paper a strategic plan, it happens. If you don't commit to something in writing, it is socializing and has a little bit less probability of success. Mr. Davidson agreed, adding that part of the problem is that they are so focused on trying to get the house done, that a strategic plan is not in the picture at this second. Mayor Mathews said that all he was asking for was not a 30 page document but perhaps a Power Point of concepts, something that socializes that the residents can buy into and say, yeah, that's a neat event. He felt that if Mr. Davidson did this on a periodic basis, they would tend to support. Mr. Davidson said that one thing that they were thinking of was a liquor license. He also said that he was glad to see a smile from the Mayor.

Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that they came up with the idea of the naming rights, and one can name a room for \$5,000. You can name the large conference room, basically the two room area when you walk in to the left for \$10,000. They are hoping that businesses will participate and hoping that even some residents will participate, and that will raise \$55,000 alone. Deputy Mayor Wolfe thought that when the house is a little further along and people see what is there, he was mildly optimistic that people will take the naming rights, and they will be raise a nice chunk of money. Alternatives also discussed were pavers for \$100 with your name, and Alison Castellano raised that since it was done at the school, and this amounts to smaller donations. Mr. Davidson said that someone already donated \$10,000 through the Historical Society, so this was not unheard of.

Deputy Mayor Wolfe agreed with the Mayor that something must be put in writing, and it will. He said that Jim Davidson is working really hard to get this done, and he would like to see it get done. The Deputy Mayor said that it was not as if they were ignoring the notion of a plan, and that the Mayor would have the plan in the summer.

The Mayor thanked Mr. Davidson for the update.

**UPDATE ON LANDIS BURIAL GROUND FROM JOHN ALLEN**

Mr. Allen had a prepared slide show, which he said was presented to the governing body a year ago tomorrow, and he wanted to tell this committee where they are and where they thought that they would be. Mr. Allen referenced the property on the slide, saying that Landis was pretty much gone for sixty years. He said that the only way to get back to the site is to park on the parking lot of Kirkpatrick Chapel, trespass, and get into the Landis Burial Ground. Mr. Allen mentioned title research done by Robert Leith of the Hunterdon County Historical Society dating back to Solomon Landis, who built the house on Old York Road. Mr. Allen continued by saying there was land purchased by Theodore Van Marter in 1865 and eventually sold while still maintaining ownership of the burial ground. He commented, "Good luck finding the owner." Mr. Allen showed the slide of the tax map, B. 11 L. 4 and L. 24, pointing out the lots for Kirkpatrick parking area, and showing where the easement is requested. Mr. Allen spoke about having material sent to Attorney Cushing last year to consider an easement of necessity. On a question from the Mayor, Mr. Allen explained that the items on the left side of the slide where the tax map is shown is a blown up portion of Landis Burial Grounds, showing location of stones. The next slide showed ownership of B. 11, L. 4, the Landis Burial Ground, shown as John Ringo Burial Ground, an exempt property with ownership unknown. Surrounding property owners include Dorothy Brown and Gregory & Dina Scibilia. Mr. Allen said that the Scibilia's have done a lot of clearing out in the cemetery.

Mr. Allen showed another slide with photos of two stones on the property, taken by Ed Quick in the late 1950's, stones belonging to John Runyon and Rebecca Runyon. Rebecca Runyon was the daughter of Henry Landis, owner of the Landis House. He said that Rebecca's tombstone says, Rebecca is Daughter of Henry Landis, who lies at the head of this grave. Mr. Allen asked if Henry was buried on the site, adding that he did not think anyone knew. He said that this was tantalizing since the house is in vicinity and is on the Explore Ringoes tour. He said that this was also interesting because the stones were found, all of them originally flat and overgrown. He said that the next slide showed a picture of a stone dating back to 1730, also shown in the East Amwell History Book from 1700-1800, with a claim that this is the oldest stone in the Township. He wondered who W.W. was, saying that it is an unknown.

Mr. Allen came to the Township Committee last year and asked if they could look at taking over the cemetery. It can be put into the Explore Ringoes area, and he would show where it belongs. There was a legal opinion given that addressed three issues, one is whether a municipality is obligated to take over a historic cemetery that has fallen into disrepair; two is whether a municipality is required to establish a maintenance fund, three, if it wants to take it over, what is the process to do so. Mr. Allen said that the third issue is the only one that mattered. They were not asking anyone to take it over nor to have a maintenance fund. The East Amwell Historical Society members will be asked to volunteer.

Mr. Allen said that he would not go into chapter and verse about the statute, but the steps would be to advertise in the Hunterdon Democrat four times to see who owns the land. He would like to discuss a parking requirement with the trustees of Kirkpatrick Chapel for occasional parking in the back lot, and he would like to have their buy in. The group also wishes to acquire an easement by necessity to access the landlocked parcel through B. 11, L. 4, currently owned by Case property. Mr. Allen said that they would keep the easement off to the side, wide enough for two people, and be kept out of the farming area. On a question from the audience, Mr. Allen said that the easement area is half brush and bramble with a hard top area being gravel. On a question from Mr. Wang-Iverson about the distance from the cemetery to the parking lot, Mr. Allen said maybe 120 yards. Mr. Allen spoke about looking at the site for 3 – 4 years, having someone out there and probing and finding stones, saying it was pretty amazing.

Mr. Allen said that this is what's there now, including the John and Rebecca Runyon stones, who are a married couple, an ANA stone and the W.W. stone. He said that one could see that there was a pattern to the stones with one every three feet with some of the stones being Stockton formation or country rock to mark a grave.

Mr. Allen asked how they can proceed to acquire the easement. He wanted to see how the Township could acquire access to that block and lot on the basis on what was done as a diligent inquiry, and no one has come forward to say that they own the property. No taxes are being paid on the cemetery. Mr. Allen said that step two is that he would speak with the trustees of Kirkpatrick Chapel about the parking, and step three, after they hear that they can park, an easement is necessary.

Mr. Allen spoke about hearing that someone at last year's meeting said that a title search would cost between \$1200-1500. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said was information from Cortes and Hay. A gentleman in the audience said that the Township could do what they have done in two other municipalities and that is to do a resolution to do a title search for about \$500 to get started. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that they already did that, and Cortes and Hay said that the Township would have to dig deeper for a cost of \$1200-1500. He added that there was an initial search done. The Deputy Mayor said that he talked with Mr. Allen, adding that there was a lot to get done since November until now getting the budget and everything done, but once the Township Committee gets this behind them, Deputy Mayor Wolfe would be happy to put some time in on this with Mr. Allen and see how far that they can take it without spending township money. The Deputy Mayor guessed that they could get it pretty far without spending township money. He felt that there would be people who would be willing to help like the soccer league who would be willing to help.

Mr. Allen's question was how much of the work had been done by someone who was not a certified title searcher, i.e., how much is legally accessible. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said probably nothing. He said that if they do the work and a new deed is recorded, the price might drop from \$1200-1500 to a few hundred. The gentleman in the audience said that would be step one, then advertising could be done and get an attorney. He said that he has done this in Stockton and in Kingwood. It was noted that there was a memo on the Stockton project to be reviewed. Deputy Mayor Wolfe spoke about a lot of work already being done. It was also noted that members of the Amwell Brethren Church will also help with maintenance since they have a lot of their founding members are buried there.

Mr. Allen said that without getting too much into the history, Henry Landis may be buried there, which is cool enough. His first wife, Elizabeth Nos, was Johannis Nos, who founded the Amwell Church of the Brethren. Elizabeth died in 1750-something, and if there are stones from 1733, and Henry Landis owned the property, which he did, and Mr. Allen asked why wouldn't Elizabeth Nos be buried there.

Mr. Ostrander asked why Mr. Allen didn't have the discussion with the church trustees now to get a verbal about their cooperation to make sense it to pursue getting the easement. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that if they are unable to get an easement by negotiations, they would be able to get one by necessity in New Jersey. He commented on getting an easement from the parcel from which the landlocked area was given birth, which they did, and they obtain an easement of necessity from the birthing lot owner, and while it would take time, Deputy Mayor Wolfe can probably get the legal work done for nothing.

Mayor Mathews said that the property in question is part of the COAH overlay zone. Deputy Mayor Wolfe questioned whether this impacted the easement at all.

Mr. Allen said that the only thing needed on the Case property was the easement, and he would locate it right at Dorothy Brown's property line.

Mr. Allen was thanked for his very interesting presentation.

## **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**

1) Request for Support of ANJEC Grant for Signage and Kiosk at Rocky Brook Trail:  
Environmental Commission Member Patsy Wang-Iverson was present for this discussion. Ms. Wang-Iverson said that the Commission would like to submit a grant for ANJEC (Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions) funding, and the deadline for application is tomorrow. In the spirit of hoping for the best, the Environmental Commission waited to get the Township Committee's resolution tonight before submitting the grant application. The application is in the spirit of what East Amwell Township is about, which is preserving open space and preserving farmland. In 2002, NJ DEP acquired a conservation easement along Rock Brook, which is a tributary of the Stony Brook, and there is also a Woodsville Brook. After many years of working with NJ DEP and acquiring a memo of agreement with them, volunteers from different communities got together and built the Rocky Brook Trail, volunteering 1062 hours of time to build the trail with 6 stream crossings. There are quite a few trails in East Amwell and in Hunterdon County, and Ms. Wang-Iverson believed that this was the most beautiful trail, when it

was accessible. The trail is completed, but after the storms, the crossing rocks are all under water so additional work has to be done to find larger, more permanent rocks, and she said that she was looking at five sturdy people who she was sure would volunteer to help, looking directly at the Township Committee.

Ms. Wang-Iverson said that the Environmental Commission was requesting money from ANJEC now. On a side note, she asked how many saw “Field of Dreams” or were old enough to remember it, and she asked if they remembered what Kevin Costner’s character was told. Mr. Ostrander responded, “If you build it, they will come,” saying that he read it in the grant application. Ms. Wang-Iverson asked how many knew where the Rocky Brook Trail was located without having read the grant. Some members knew the general location. Ms. Wang-Iverson said that part of the problem is that there is no signage. She mentioned the Omick Woods trail that has a very nice kiosk that was part of an Eagle Scout Project. Ms. Wang-Iverson continued by saying that Troop 65 from Ringoes has agreed to build a kiosk as a volunteer undertaking. Quotes were obtained for signage on both ends of the trail, on Route 518 and Snyderstown Road, and Ms. Wang-Iverson was here tonight to request Township Committee support for the grant to be submitted tomorrow. She explained that ANJEC will only accept the grant if the Township is in support.

Mr. Ostrander said that the grant application was very well done and quite informative. He was in support of the signs to help him find the trail so he could enjoy it. Ms. Wang-Iverson asked if he would volunteer to work on the trail; he replied that he would look into volunteering with all of his other duties. Some comments were made about other volunteers doing projects in the Township. Ms. Wang-Iverson commented on looking for volunteers to help with the trail, adding that Girl Scouts will identify trees for tagging for education. She added that this follows after Mr. Young’s comment about volunteer effort being at the heart of East Amwell that they accomplish things through volunteers and not just throwing money at it.

Deputy Mayor Wolfe agreed that Ms. Wang-Iverson did a great job on the application, which was very well done. Ms. Wang-Iverson did not know that the Township Committee had read the grant since it was only to be sent to the Environment Commission. But Ms. Wang-Iverson offered the governing body the opportunity to make suggestions, if they wished, since it would not be sent until tomorrow.

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**RESOLUTION #55- 18**

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell that they hereby authorize the Mayor to sign a letter of endorsement for the Environmental Commission’s 2018 ANJEC Open Space Stewardship Grant for signage and a kiosk at Rocky Brook Trail.

By Order of the Township Committee,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tim Mathews, Mayor

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

The Clerk had a letter for the Mayor’s signature, which he signed, and it was given to Ms. Wang-Iverson tonight for inclusion with the grant application tomorrow.

Mayor Mathews thanked Ms. Wang-Iverson for her assistance on the grant and drafting the letter for his signature. Ms. Wang-Iverson again reiterated the need for volunteers.

**BOARD OF HEALTH**

1) 3/27 Resignation from Member Charles Van Horn: Motion by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Ostrander, and carried unanimously to accept Mr. Van Horn’s resignation with regret.

**BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT**

1) Resolution of Appreciation: Mayor Mathews read the full resolution into the record.

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**RESOLUTION #56 -18**

WHEREAS, upon the adoption of East Amwell Township Ordinance 18-02, the East Amwell Zoning Board of Adjustment duties were transferred to the East Amwell Planning Board, and the March 13, 2018 meeting of the Zoning Board of Adjustment was its final meeting; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee recognizes the outstanding commitment of the members of the Zoning Board of Adjustment to our community and its residents, with the members being called upon to make many decisions, some of them difficult, on various zoning applications in East Amwell over the years; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of East Amwell wishes to acknowledge the efforts of those who served on the Zoning Board of Adjustment over the years;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that all former Zoning Board of Adjustment members are duly recognized for their dedication and service to the Township and its residents over the years with great appreciation for their efforts.

By Order of the Township Committee,

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Tim Mathews, Mayor

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Motion by Mr. Miller and seconded by Mr. Ostrander to approve the resolution.

Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that one of the former Board of Adjustment members sent a letter to the Mayor expressing disappointment that no one from the Township Committee meeting came to the Board of Adjustment meeting to explain why they were merging Planning and Zoning. The resident, Michele Doherty, sent the letter to the Mayor, and the Township Committee received. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that Ms. Doherty was right when he read the letter. He reached out to Mayor Mathews and asked if it would be okay for the Deputy Mayor to contact the members, and the Mayor said that it was fine. So the Deputy Mayor reached out to Ms. Doherty and other members and told them that he goofed since he was sort of spearheading the merger, and he should have gone to the meeting to explain to them what the Township was doing and why it was being done. The Deputy Mayor had a very pleasant conversation with Ms. Doherty and a follow up conversation with her and conversations with all but one of the other Board members. Deputy Mayor Wolfe wanted to go on the record to say that Michele Doherty was correct in her letter that he could have handled the matter better; it is a learning process, but that is not an excuse. He said that he would certainly know better next time. He said that Ms. Doherty, to her credit, still wanted to stay involved, and tonight she will be appointed to the Recreation Committee. He said that they actually offered her a position on the Planning Board, but the meeting nights did not work for her although she really wanted to be on the Recreation Committee.

Deputy Mayor Wolfe wanted to go on record to thank Ms. Doherty for bringing this to the Township Committee's attention and helping them learn.

The motion to adopt the resolution was approved unanimously.

The Clerk was directed to send the resolution to the former Board of Adjustment members after the Mayor signs it.

**RECYCLING COMMITTEE**

1) Appointment of Certified Recycling Coordinator to Submit Grant Application: The Clerk reminded the governing body that the annual reports to the state must be submitted by a certified recycling coordinator, and East Amwell's coordinator is not certified. For the past four years, two different Certified Recycling Coordinators were paid to submit on behalf of East Amwell. This year a staff member at Hunterdon County Solid Waste agreed to submit at no cost. The East Amwell Recycling Coordinator will do the work and send it along to the Certified Recycling Coordinator for submission.

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**RESOLUTION # 57- 18**

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell that they hereby appoint Jennifer O’Sullivan as the Certified Recycling Coordinator to assist with the submission of the N.J. recycling grant application for 2018.

By Order of the Township Committee,

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Tim Mathews, Mayor

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Mayor Mathews acknowledged the Recycling Committee Chair in the audience, Will Harrison. Mr. Harrison was not prepared to speak to this issue, but he felt that it was fine.

Motion by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Ostrander, and carried unanimously to approve this resolution.

**AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

1) Deer Symposium Update: Member Candice Wiggum was present for this discussion. Ms. Wiggum said that firstly, she has hiked the Stony Brook Trail several times, and it is gorgeous. She helped on the trail work early on, and she would encourage all the governing body members to help too. She added that a lot of the men moving the huge rocks were in their 70’s and 80’s so it would be nice to get some younger guys out there moving those heavy things.

Ms. Wiggum said that the deer symposium actually happened. The initial date was scheduled on March 3<sup>rd</sup>, which was when the huge snowstorm came that put out all the electricity, including the electricity to their venue, so it had to be rescheduled for March 20<sup>th</sup>, which was another snow storm. She suggested not scheduling anything in March. There were about 50 participants; they broke down into five different working groups, which included agricultural strategies, forest strategies, hunter strategies, community based management strategies, and legislative strategies. One of the purposes of this symposium was to get these working groups so that they could continue on their efforts on this problem. There were packets that were provided by Ms. Wiggum to the governing body tonight. The organization committee is meeting next Wednesday at the municipal building to talk about how to continue the efforts, and the legislative committee is meeting next Thursday to also continue their work. One of the legislative committee’s proposals is to create the Sourlands as a special zone with the legislature and ask for a pilot project that would include allowing people to hunt commercially and offer the meat commercially. Ms. Wiggum was sorry that the Township Committee, other than Mr. Wang-Iverson, missed the symposium because they had about ten to fifteen venison dishes that were made by Brothers Moon for the best feast ever.

Ms. Wiggum wanted to mention a couple of other things: A deer survey was completed by Jodi Powers from Fish and Game and Mike Van Clef from Hopewell Valley Friends of Open Space. They found that East Amwell has about 120 deer per square mile, which would translate to over 3,000 deer in East Amwell. Hopewell Township had 94 deer; Ms. Wiggum said that East Amwell has a good healthy deer population. Mayor Mathews asked if there was a desired target. Ms. Wiggum said that different people talk about different targets but the target of about 40 per square mile is the number that they would like to see to allow forest regeneration. The amount in the area when Europeans first came was about 10 per square mile, but all the predators were eliminated, which allowed the deer population to increase. In the early 1990’s, there were almost no deer. A lot of laws were passed to protect the deer, and they have been able to reproduce quite successfully.

Ms. Wiggum said that a suggestion from the community based strategies group was to do some education for the population, so Ann delCampo has a poster that people might have seen in the lobby. Ms. Wiggum urged people to look at it, adding that Ms. delCampo did a nice job on it, and

the group will be adding something in the tax bill mailing this year that educates the population on what the problem is and what people can help do about it.

Ms. Wiggum asked if there were any questions. Mr. Miller said that a couple of farmers contacted him about their ability to address the issue in different ways than a non-farmer; he asked if any of this was discussed at the symposium. Ms. Wiggum said that it was discussed by the agricultural group, and there is also a project going on in East Amwell, particularly with John Nalence and Bill duFosse, who are working with contiguous landowners. They are applying for depredation permits for the summer, and they want to have a deer drive with some identified deer management hunters. She said that one of things was to identify some hunters who shoot the does and really know the best strategies for hunting, and the group members are working with them. She spoke about trying the pilot project. She will be speaking with Jodi and the farmers to figure out a good time for her to come, and she will help people get depredation permits and licenses, and has been helpful with working with the farmers.

Mayor Mathews asked if a forest management property qualified for depredation permits. Ms. Wiggum said that this was a suggestion that was made. Right now, it does not, but one of the forest managed properties.

Mayor Mathews thanked Ms. Wiggum for her presentation.

Frances Gavigan, in the audience, said that she lived in the valley and had triplets in her pasture, which wandered up to the mountain. She suggested not just designating the Sourlands as a special zone but maybe adjacent agricultural property. Ms. Wiggum said that the Sourland Zone includes, but Ms. Gavigan cut her off and said not where she was. Ms. Wiggum said that one of the things that John Nalence and Bill duFosse were doing was working with the farmers behind them that have the same problem that the deer go up on the hills and then come down and eat. The two farmers want to start a drive to get the deer down to an area where they could be shot. She said that this was another strategy being looked at.

Mayor Mathews thanked Ms. Wiggum very much.

#### **HISTORICAL PRESERVATION COMMITTEE**

1) Request for Change in Ordinance for Quorum Change – Presentation from Will Harrison, Member. Mr. Harrison thanked the Committee for considering their request. He explained that the quorum for the Historic Preservation Committee was three, and it was established before Mr. Harrison joined the Committee. He did not believe anybody knew the rationale of why a quorum of three was chosen for that committee. He said that this is really unyielding, and the group cannot have work sessions without advertising, and this is what the group has been doing. There is a lot of work for the Committee to do, and they break up in subcommittees to work on the Quick collection, etc. Mr. Harrison referenced the East Amwell code, specifically Chapter 86-8, D 2. Mr. Harrison did not see the text that was sent from the Committee's secretary, Sharon Brighthaupt, which he believed might be self-explanatory.

Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that he looked at the ordinance, and he believed that it needs additional work as well. He would be happy to speak with Mr. Harrison about that. He had no issue with amending the ordinance to make it much more practical and user friendly. The Deputy Mayor said that he was going through the Township's ordinance code to deal with committees that either only exist in air without ordinances that are out of date or impractical so over the course of the next month he would be able to work with Mr. Harrison in getting the Historic Preservation Committee ordinance in order, and they can introduce a revised ordinance at the next meeting. Mr. Harrison said that they specifically run into issues, and he thinks that the norm or the standard is a quorum of 50% plus one of active members. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that was interesting, and he has been poking around on that. He said that a quorum is whatever you designate as the quorum, and a lot of people think that a quorum means the majority. He said that you have a lot of statute ordinances drafted without really defining quorum; technically, even Roberts Rules says that a quorum is whatever you define to be a quorum. Mr. Harrison said that they are asking for 50% plus one as a quorum, and Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that this could be fixed very easily. Mr. Harrison asked if the Deputy Mayor was suggesting that this would have to be advertised and make some other changes at the same time at once. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said yes, and he said that he would work with Mr. Harrison on this. Mr. Harrison said that there were other members of the Committee there tonight, saying that he was asked to simply speak for the committee, and he believed they

would agree that Deputy Mayor Wolfe's suggestion was a great idea and thanked him very much. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that he would have something ready to introduce at the next month's meeting. Mr. Harrison said that the Chairman is Barbara Sageser, and she would be the appropriate person to contact. Mr. Harrison said thank you very much.

#### **ADDITIONAL APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS/COMMITTEES**

Mayor Mathews said that he would be making the following appointments: Tamara Lee will be the Alternate 2 to the Planning Board; Tom Jarick is a regular member of Farmland/Open Space Committee; Janis Grover is moving from the Alternate 2 position on the Board of Health to the vacated regular seat previously held by Charles Van Horn; Alison Castellano, Erica Johanson, and Steve Ippoliti as Class B members and Rick Wolfe as a Class A member of the Webpage and Communication Committee; Michele Doherty as a member of the Recreation Committee.

Mr. Wang-Iverson asked if the Mayor would consider appointment of Bogdan Slecza to the Board of Health as an alternate. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that they had this discussion. The Deputy Mayor said that if he (Mr. Slecza) wants to be appointed to the Board of Health, he should come in and talk to the Township Committee about the appointment. Mr. Wang-Iverson said that Mr. Slecza had requested reappointment but was not reappointed to the Board of Health. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that if it was him, and there was a change in the governance of the Township, and he wanted to be on a committee, he would not be relying on Mr. Wang-Iverson pleading his case. The Deputy Mayor would want to come in and plead his case himself, with the Deputy Mayor saying that if Mr. Slecza wanted to plead his case, the Deputy Mayor would be happy to listen. The Deputy Mayor said that the committees are open to anyone that they think is qualified. Tom Jarick was appointed tonight, and the Deputy Mayor did not know Tom Jarick from Adam. Tom Jarick was appointed solely based on Fred Gardner's recommendation because Deputy Mayor Wolfe holds Fred Gardner in high regard when it comes to desire to deal with farmland preservation issues, and if Fred says to him that Tom Jarick is a good guy to have on FOSPC, that was all the Deputy Mayor Wolfe needed. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that if Mr. Slecza wanted to come in and talk to the governing body, they would be happen to listen to him and give him a fair hearing, but they were not going to appoint him simply because Mr. Wang-Iverson says to appoint him because quite honestly, all Mr. Wang-Iverson was trying to do was to undermine everything that "they" were trying to do, and Deputy Mayor Wolfe was not going to take his word on appointments.

There was an inaudible to the Clerk remark from the audience, and Deputy Mayor Wolfe said, yes he is a cretin or a creep or whatever you just said, but the fact that you don't like what I said doesn't mean it is not true. He identified Glorianne Robbi as the member of the audience so that it is not an unidentified person in the minutes, speaking out of turn, who is also holding up sign with a thumb down, which further shows her maturity.

Mayor Mathews said to leave it like this, if Bogdan would like to be considered, the Mayor would invite him to come to the next meeting and be interviewed by the Township Committee.

The Clerk asked about the appointment of Michele Doherty to the Recreation Committee, stating that the Committee would be introducing the new Recreation Committee ordinance tonight – what type of member was Ms. Doherty, i.e., would she be a regular member? Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that right now that committee exists in air and is functioning. The Township Committee is introducing an ordinance to formalize it, so the Committee is kind of appointing her to a committee that right now exists in air. There are nine other people to a committee that exists in air, so she will be the tenth member who exists in air. Mayor Mathews said that they would look to the Chair to settle the members in, once the ordinance is adopted.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

March 8, 2018, Minutes: Motion by Mr. Miller and seconded by Mr. Ostrander to approve these minutes. Mayor Mathews said that he had a general comment, saying that there was a section regarding a dialogue that occurred at the section with Mr. Wolfe and his four comments he made, four topics, and there were some sections in it that after reading, while he didn't have a lot of specifically identified, but there are a lot of third person references that really should be first person. The Clerk said that she took the minutes from the tape and they were the words used and

she was previously told not to put things in quotes. Mayor Mathews said that if one read it and wasn't at the meeting, one would not know that Mr. Wolfe was talking about himself. He did not know if that was the way that it was spoken. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that part of it was when one is sitting here and looking at someone, you make a reference that is different than when you are writing something. Deputy Mayor Wolfe will take a look at the section to see if any changes need to be made. The Clerk had assumed that the Deputy Mayor would have made the changes when he reviewed the draft minutes she provides. She again stated that they were done almost verbatim, and Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that it was a very good job.

Mayor Mathews said that the minutes would be deferred to the next meeting.

March 8, 2018, Executive Minutes (Personnel): Motion by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Ostrander, and carried to approve the minutes as presented.

### **OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

Mayor Mathews said that the meeting was now open to the public for items not on tonight's agenda.

Andrea Bonette, 17 Ridge Road, wanted to introduce a new resident to East Amwell. She had a stuffed animal, which she said was a groundhog, saying that the Township has been having some groundhog situation here, so the groundhog got all excited and wanted to come. She introduced him as Mendacious, and he was very excited about being here and she wanted to introduce him. In terms of mendacity, the other thing that she would like to mention is that there was some discussion about her comments last time about the neighbors and the dog kennel, etc., so she wanted to say that she does have the transcript of the zoning board hearing, the transcript of the Superior Court judge hearing, and the judge's decision. She said that if anybody would like to know the actual facts, she would be happy to share them.

Mayor Mathews said that he would like the record to state that Ms. Bonette has a groundhog puppet on her right hand. Mrs. Bonette commented on the puppet's name, Mendacious.

Glorianne Robbi, Hopewell-Woodsville Road, wanted to call the Township Committee's attention to Mr. Wolfe's really bullying, not pleasant comments to a member of the public. Public members have a right to have an opinion, and she thought that the Township Committee should appreciate it, and she thought that he should stop being so nasty.

Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that he did not know how to respond to this, saying that Mrs. Robbi was one of the most obnoxious residents he has met. He said that she attacked him every which way until Sunday, she attacked his wife, and she was standing there and talking to him about being a bully. He said that she acted immature, sitting in the back, and she makes comments out of turn, and he asked if she was going to attack him as being a bully, really? Mrs. Robbi said that was right. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that Mrs. Robbi feels that she can come in here and say whatever she wants, make personal comments, and it is inappropriate for the Deputy Mayor to respond. He said that Mrs. Robbi sits there and acts perplexed. He said that she should go back and look at the minutes and look at some of the comments she made. He said that she was not happy. He said that she and her cronies got kicked out. The residents were fed up with you. There is now a new group here running the town, and you are not happy with that. He said, "Glorianne, get over it."

Frances Gavigan, 123 Wertsville Road, Ringoes, was at the Freeholder's meeting when they enthusiastically gave the \$800 some thousand dollars for Wertsville Industries, and they also awarded \$45,000 and change to support debt for Clawson Park and Open Space. As a citizen, she thanked the Freeholders, and they were very welcoming, and she invited them to Clawson House to see what their money had bought, and they seemed somewhat amenable to that. She said that it never hurts to thank the people who give you money and to let them know that you are paying attention. Ms. Gavigan was at the meeting, Fred, David, Jeff, and a whole bunch of people at the meeting at the county to support it and numbers and squeaky wheels get some grease, not necessarily get some peace, but they get some grease. Ms. Gavigan wanted to let the Township Committee know about that. Ms. Gavigan mentioned her diabetes as an annoying thing.

Ms. Gavigan said that the Township Committee did a good job, and she appreciated the positive changes. She said that she was not unique in that, but she may not be part of the majority. She suggested putting it on the calendar because as of April 2, silly season has started and the election in the fall has begun by way of the primaries, and hence the memes and whatever. As part of the record, take what you like and leave the rest and keep it in context. As for last month, Ms. Gavigan said that she did not bring the camera tonight but she would donate to the Township record the video tape of what was going on from this perspective and from this perspective, and once you get the website, things can be up there, hopefully before November and people can see for themselves and keep things in context. She said God help the Clerk, she has a tough job. Ms. Gavigan appreciated everything being done, and suggested that everyone hang in there, adding that it would all get there, especially once the Township starts getting cameras; then she would not have to be the one doing it.

Ms. Gavigan thanked the governing body for introducing a budget going in a positive direction, which is down. She said that it may be only \$38 for the average, but there are also others, and she is sure that school taxes will take up the slack.

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

**CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

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**RESOLUTION #58- 18**

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell that they hereby support the fund-raising efforts of Thomas Edison State University Foundation, Inc., 111 West State Street, Trenton, NJ 08608;

WHEREAS, the organization has made application to hold a raffle for a drawing on May 14, 2018, at The Ridge at Back Brook, 211 Wertsville Road, Ringoes, NJ 08551;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell, that raffle license number #RL18-02 be approved and processed.

By Order of the Township Committee,

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Tim Mathews, Mayor

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**RESOLUTION #59 - 18**

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, that they have no objection to a Social Affairs Permit being granted to the Amwell Valley Fire Company, PO Box 76, Ringoes, NJ 08551 from the New Jersey Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control for an event to be held on April 21, 2018.

By Order of the Township Committee,

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Tim Mathews, Mayor

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**RESOLUTION #60 – 18**

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, that they have no objection to a Social Affairs Permit being granted to CentraState Healthcare Foundation, 225 Will Brook Road, Suite 5, Freehold, NJ 07728

from the New Jersey Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control for an event to be held on June 11, 2018, at The Ridge at Back Brook.

By Order of the Township Committee,

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Tim Mathews, Mayor

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Motion by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Ostrander, and carried unanimously to approve the consent agenda items.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS/INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES**

**Public Hearings:**

ORDINANCE 18-03: AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 75, FEES, OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EAST AMWELL, SPECIFICALLY SECTION 75.1, EVENT FEES AND MISCELLANEOUS FEES TO INCREASE THE COST FOR SUMMER PLAYGROUND

As proof of publication, the Clerk provided the legal notice from the March 15, 2018, issue of the Hunterdon County Democrat. The ordinance has been posted and available in the Clerk’s Office since introduction on March 8, 2018.

Mayor Mathews explained that the ordinance was introduced to recognize the summer playground staff, who have been dedicated to this program for five or six years and haven’t had a pay increase since inception. Their pay has been increased in the budget, and the Township Committee has also increased fees to the parents of the children who will be attending to offset the increase in salary.

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

Frances Gavigan, in the audience, said that it was fair to people, fair to the tax payers, and it was nice to be responsive to the people who pay bills, and she supported the ordinance.

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

Motion by Mr. Ostrander, seconded by Mr. Miller, and carried unanimously by roll call vote to adopt Ordinance 18-03: Mr. Wang-Iverson, yes; Mr. Wolfe, yes; Mr. Ostrander, yes; Mr. Miller, yes; Mr. Mathews, yes.

Mayor Mathews said that for the Township Committee’s information, the positions for summer playground staff have been posted and some applications were received. He said that they decided to leave it open to see if anyone else applies over the next week or so, and appointments will be made at the next meeting.

**ORDINANCE 18-04 AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A WEBPAGE AND RESIDENT COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE**

As proof of publication, the Clerk provided the legal notice from the March 15, 2018, issue of the Hunterdon County Democrat. The ordinance has been posted and available in the Clerk’s Office since introduction on March 8, 2018.

Mayor Mathews said as a summary, this is an ordinance to establish a committee to essentially to improve a way for the Township to communicate to residents. The Township Committee would like to improve the speed and content of communications on all topics.

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

Glorianne Robbi said that the Mayor previously made appointments to this committee just a little earlier prior to setting up the committee. She asked if he knew that. Mayor Mathews said that he would double check, saying that they actually did make the appointments, and he thanked Mrs. Robbi for pointing this out. The Mayor said that right after the ordinance is adopted, they would reappoint those members.

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

Motion by Mr. Ostrander, seconded by Mr. Miller, and carried unanimously to adopt Ordinance 18-04, by roll call vote: Mr. Wang-Iverson, yes; Mr. Wolfe, yes; Mr. Ostrander, yes; Mr. Miller, yes; Mr. Mathews, yes.

Mayor Mathews said that he would like to appoint Alison Castellano, Erica Johanson, and Steve Ippoliti as Class B members and Rick Wolfe as a Class A member to the webpage and communications committee and extend an invitation to others to apply membership on that committee.

#### ORDINANCE 18-05 AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2017 SALARY AND WAGE ORDINANCE

As proof of publication, the Clerk provided the legal notice from the March 15, 2018, issue of the Hunterdon County Democrat. The ordinance has been posted and available in the Clerk's Office since introduction on March 8, 2018.

Motion by Mr. Ostrander, seconded by Mr. Miller, and carried unanimously to open to the public on the ordinance to amend the salary and wage ordinance for the Planning Board and Board of Health/Recycling/Recreation secretaries.

There being no comments, motion by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Ostrander, and carried unanimously to close to the public.

Motion by Mr. Ostrander, seconded by Mr. Miller, and carried unanimously to adopt Ordinance 18-05 by roll call vote: Mr. Wang-Iverson, yes; Mr. Wolfe, yes; Mr. Ostrander, yes; Mr. Miller, yes; Mr. Mathews, yes.

#### **Introduction of Ordinances:**

#### ORDINANCE 18-07 AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A RECREATION AND PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Mayor Mathews said that he would be turning this item over to Deputy Mayor Wolfe to explain. The Clerk noted that there was a revised ordinance provided to the governing body with today's date on it.

Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that the Recreation Committee doesn't exist under NJ statute or by any of the Township's ordinances and was sort of an informal committee. He said that it made sense to adopt an ordinance laying out guidelines. As part of that process, it was decided that it made sense to roll what had previously been called the Clawson Park Advisory Committee into recreation essentially rolling Clawson Park into recreation. That led Deputy Mayor Wolfe to think more exactly what should be under recreation and so basically [all](#) of the Township's recreation facilities, including athletic facilities, trails, etc. That is why the name was changed from recreation committee to Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee. The word advisory was inserted to make it clear to distinguish it from a statutory type of recreation committee that is not being looked at to adopt here. That sort of committee has the right to buy open space, etc., and that is not what is being looked at to do here, and that is the reason to insert the word advisory. This committee will have eleven regular voting members. There was no need to have alternate non-voting members. To deal with the issue of conducting business when sometimes not enough people show up, a decision was made to define a quorum as five of those members. So as long as there are five members there, they have a quorum and conduct business. The membership is pretty much open to anybody in the township, including employees, as long as they are township residents. The members will serve three year terms. As the Deputy Mayor said at a prior meeting, they are trying

to get youth more involved in the community so this committee can have up to three youth members. The township will be looking into doing this for other committees as well, but this may be more difficult with the statutory committees like Planning Board, etc. and they may deal with that in a different way; they are trying to make opportunities for young people. The committee will meet periodically, how often will be determined as things go on. Duties of the committee are laid out in the ordinance with a thought that it was important to articulate them so the duties are laid out in the ordinance – they are pretty broad. They can have events at pretty much any township facility, including the municipal building, Clawson Park, and the events can be quite broad or targeted. As an example, they can have events for youth or senior citizens; they can have activities that celebrate the history of the town, or milestones such as an anniversary. They can even have events and activities that celebrate significant accomplishments by residents. If permissible under relevant NJ law and the Township ordinances, they can do fundraisers to raise money. One of the goals is to start doing events in Clawson Park to raise money to try to make Clawson Park at least partially self-funding, so they will be working on fundraisers for Clawson Park. As the Deputy Mayor said, they will also be in charge of trails in the township and will be overseeing the athletic facilities. They will report back to the Township Committee on a regular basis. There will be a liaison from the Township Committee to this Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee. The Recreation Committee will keep the liaison informed in advance of events that they are considering having. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that he thought that this was pretty much it. They would be trying to start doing more community things to bring people together, and the right person is chairing the committee, Alison Castellano, who is currently chairing the Recreation Committee as it exists in air. Once it is formalized in this ordinance, Deputy Mayor Wolfe assumed that she will continue to chair it.

The Clerk just wanted clarification that the committee will not necessarily be meeting on a monthly basis. Deputy Mayor Wolfe suspected that is how this will play out but they were not committed to monthly meetings in the ordinance. The Clerk said that she was just thinking in terms of publicizing meetings.

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**TOWNSHIP OF EAST AMWELL  
HUNTERDON COUNTY, NEW JERSEY  
ORDINANCE #18-07**

**AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING  
A RECREATION AND PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**WHEREAS**, the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell believes that recreational events and activities within the Township, for the residents of the Township, will improve the quality of life within the Township by enhancing interaction among the residents of the Township and creating a greater sense of community within the Township;

**WHEREAS**, the Township Committee also believes that the Township’s parks and recreational facilities, including the Marion F. Clawson Memorial Park, play a significant role in the quality of life within the Township and are and should continue to be important components of recreational events and activities with the Township; and

**WHEREAS**, to facilitate (i) the initiation and continuation of recreational events and activities within the Township and (ii) the proper care and utilization of the Township’s parks and recreational facilities, the Township Committee desires to form a Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee, as set forth in this ordinance.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell, County of Hunterdon, and State of New Jersey, as follows:

**Section 1.** The following is hereby added to Chapter 29 of the Code of the Township of East Amwell:

**Chapter 29:** Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee.

§ 29-1 **Establishment.** There is hereby established in the Township of East Amwell (the “Township”) a Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee.

§ 29-2 **Members.** The Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee will consist of the following members, each of whom will be appointed by the Mayor:

- A. Eleven regular members, each of whom will be a voting member.
- B. Up to three youth members, who must be between 12-18 years old at the time of their appointment, each of whom will be a non-voting member.

§ 29-3 **Composition of Members; Terms.**

A. Each regular member of the Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee must be a resident of the Township. The regular members may be a member of any other committee(s) (including the Township Committee) or board(s) of the Township and may be an employee of the Township. The term of each regular member will be three (3) years, except that: (i) the term of a regular member who ceases to be a resident of the Township will end on the date such person is no longer a resident of the Township; (ii) the term of a Township employee who is terminated as an employee will end on the date of such termination; and (iii) the terms of the regular members first appointed pursuant to this § 29-3 will be as follows: (A) three regular members will initially have a one (1) year term; (B) four regular members initially will have two (2) year terms; and (C) four regular members initially will have three (3) year terms.

B. Youth Members. Each youth member must be a resident of the Township. The term of each youth member will be one (1) year.

C. Vacancies. If a vacancy occurs with respect to any member other than by expiration of that member’s term, the vacancy will be filled by an appointment by the Mayor for the balance of that member’s term.

§ 29-4 **Leadership.** At each annual reorganization meeting of the Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee, the regular members of the Committee will elect, by a majority vote, a Chairperson and a Vice-Chairperson. There will be no limit on the number of times, consecutively or nonconsecutively, that a person may serve as Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson.

§ 29-5 **Meetings.** The Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee will hold public meetings on a regular basis.

§ 29-6 **Quorum.** A quorum of the Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee will consist of at least five regular members. Approval of any matter will require the affirmative vote of a majority of a quorum.

§ 29-7 **Removal.** The Mayor will have the right, in the Mayor’s sole discretion, to remove any regular member or youth member of the Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee. It is expected that each regular member will regularly attend the meetings of the Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee. Unexcused absence from three or more of the regularly scheduled meetings in any calendar year will be grounds for removal and replacement by the Mayor.

§ 29-8 **Budget.** Each year, the Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee will prepare an annual budget, and will submit that budget to the Township Committee for its approval. Approval of any such budget will be in the sole discretion of the Township Committee.

§ 29-9 **Compensation.** No member of the Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee will receive any compensation for serving on the Committee.

§ 29-10 **Liaisons.** Each year, the Mayor will appoint one member of the Township Committee as the Township Committee’s liaison to the Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee (such appointee, the “Township Committee Liaison”). Each other committee and board in the Township will have the right, but not any obligation, to appoint a liaison to the Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee.

§ 29-11 **Duties.** The duties of the Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee will be as follows:

A.      Recreational Events and Activities. The Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee will initiate or continue, as the case may be, oversee and carryout non-partisan recreational events and activities within the Township, primarily for the residents of the Township, with the objective of enhancing interaction among the residents of the Township and creating a greater sense of community within the Township. For the avoidance of doubt, such events and activities may include the following:

(1)      Events and activities for, targeted at, and/or limited to, the youth or senior citizens of the Township;

(2)      Events and activities celebrating the history of the Township or Township milestones, such as an anniversary of the Township;

(3)      Events and activities celebrating significant accomplishments of residents, employees, committees or boards of the Township; and

(4)      If permissible under applicable law (including Township Ordinances), events and activities that charge admission, or otherwise raise funds (for example, through donations, raffles or auctions), to cover the costs and expenses of such events and activities or to raise money for Township purposes, including funding other events or activities by the Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee.

The events and activities of the Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee may, upon obtaining any required approval(s) and/or permit(s), and in compliance with applicable law (including Township Ordinances), take place at the Township Municipal Building, the Marion F. Clawson Memorial Park (“Clawson Park”), the East Amwell Township School District property, or any other location within the Township.

B.      Parks and Recreational Facilities. The Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee will oversee the utilization, care and maintenance of the Township’s parks and recreational facilities, including Clawson Park, in all instances subject to and in compliance with applicable law, including the Township’s Ordinances.

§ 29-12 **Oversight.** The Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee will report directly to the Township Committee. The Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee will keep the Township Committee Liaison reasonably and timely informed of (i) any contemplated or upcoming events or activities being initiated, conducted, overseen, sponsored or co-sponsored by the Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee, and (ii) any material matters regarding utilization, care or maintenance of the Township’s parks and recreational facilities, including Clawson Park.

**Section 2.** If any provision in this ordinance is, or is held to be, invalid or unlawful, (i) such provision shall, if possible, be deemed amended to the extent necessary to make it valid and lawful, and (ii) such invalidity or unlawfulness shall not affect the validity of the remaining provisions of this ordinance.

**Section 3.** This ordinance shall become effective immediately upon its final passage and publication as required by law.

By Order of the Township Committee

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tim Mathews, Mayor

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Teresa R. Stahl, RMC/CMC

Introduced: April 12, 2018

Adopted:

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Motion by Mr. Ostrander, seconded by Mr. Miller, and carried unanimously to approve the introduction of Ordinance 18-07.

The ordinance will be published in the April 19, 2018, issue of the Hunterdon County Democrat, and the public hearing is set for the May 10, 2018, regular Township Committee meeting beginning at 7:30 p.m.

ORDINANCE 18-08 AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING AN ADDITIONAL \$25,000 OF FUNDING FOR THE RESTORATION OF CLAWSON HOUSE FROM THE MUNICIPAL OPEN SPACE, RECREATION AND FARMLAND AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION TRUST FUND

Mayor Mathews said that this was discussed earlier and is a bridge loan concept to be reimbursed upon receipt of grants, if possible.

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**TOWNSHIP OF EAST AMWELL  
HUNTERDON COUNTY, NEW JERSEY  
ORDINANCE #18-08**

**AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING AN ADDITIONAL \$25,000 OF FUNDING  
FOR THE RESTORATION OF CLAWSON HOUSE FROM THE  
MUNICIPAL OPEN SPACE, RECREATION AND FARMLAND  
AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION TRUST FUND**

**WHEREAS**, the Township of East Amwell owns, and is restoring, the historic house known as Clawson House, which is located within the Township;

**WHEREAS**, upon its completion, Clawson House will be operated as a museum, allowing the Township to display its historical artifacts and archival material that are currently stored in the basement of the Township’s Municipal Building and elsewhere, and will also serve as a community center for, among other things, lectures on the rich history of the Township and the surrounding area;

**WHEREAS**, the East Amwell Township Historical Preservation Committee has applied for grants, from Hunterdon County and other sources, to fund the completion of the restoration of Clawson House;

**WHEREAS**, while it is currently anticipated that most of those grants will be received, and the amounts received will be sufficient to complete the restoration of Clawson House, those grants likely will not be received prior to August of 2018;

**WHEREAS**, it is anticipated that, until those grants are received, approximately \$25,000 will be needed, in excess of the remaining available funds, to continue the restoration of Clawson House; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Committee is willing to fund that \$25,000, from the Municipal Open Space, Recreation and Farmland and Historic Preservation Trust Fund, provided that if and when the above mentioned grants are received, and to the extent available, the \$25,000 will be restored to the Municipal Open Space, Recreation and Farmland and Historic Preservation Trust Fund from those grants.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell, County of Hunterdon, and State of New Jersey, as follows:

**Section 1.** The Township of East Amwell is hereby authorized to provide an additional \$25,000 for the restoration of Clawson House, to be funded from the East Amwell Township Municipal Open Space, Recreation and Farmland and Historic Preservation Trust Fund.

**Section 2.** It is determined that the work undertaken at Clawson House with such funds will constitute a capital expense.

**Section 3.** To the extent the amount of the third-party grants, if any, received with respect to Clawson House is greater than the amount necessary to complete the restoration of Clawson House, the first \$25,000 of the excess will be applied to restore the \$25,000 to the East Amwell Township Municipal Open Space, Recreation and Farmland and Historic Preservation Trust Fund.

**Section 4.** This ordinance shall become effective immediately upon its final passage and publication as required by law.

By Order of the Township Committee

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tim Mathews, Mayor

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Teresa R. Stahl, RMC/CMC

Introduced: April 12, 2018  
Adopted:

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Motion by Mr. Miller, seconded by Deputy Mayor Wolfe, and carried unanimously.

The ordinance will be published in the April 19, 2018, issue of the Hunterdon County Democrat, and the public hearing is set for the May 10, 2018, regular Township Committee meeting beginning at 7:30 p.m.

**ORDINANCE 18-09 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 106-3A(2) OF THE CODE OF EAST AMWELL TOWNSHIP GOVERNING EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT FOR THE USE OF CLAWSON PARK**

Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that this started with the Deputy Clerk requesting a raise for the time she spends going to and from Clawson Park when a group, business, or individual reserves the pavilion for a private party. She was getting paid a little over \$10 for doing that, which seemed ridiculously low, so when she came in and asked for an increase to \$25, he felt that was quite fair since she goes there and back and there and back. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that led them to think about what costs we are incurring when people reserve the pavilion at Clawson Park. Deputy Mayor Wolfe spoke with Jason Silverthorn, the DPW Superintendent, who said that the Road Crew has to go out and empty the garbage and sometimes clean the restrooms, etc. and that takes an hour to two hours, so that is another hour and a half on average of \$60.00. The Deputy Mayor said so it was costing the Township \$85 an event, and the Township wasn't getting anything for that. People were reserving the pavilion for free. There are also additional maintenance charges of maintaining the slab, painting the pavilion itself, etc. After the Deputy Mayor spoke with the DPW Superintendent a few times, they decided that a fee of \$100 to reserve the pavilion was a fair fee really just to cover the township's costs. An ordinance was being introduced to allow the township to charge a fee to people who want to reserve the pavilion for private parties of \$100. Jason Silverthorn told the Deputy Mayor that other municipalities charge that sort of fee to reserve their parks and pavilions so East Amwell would be in line with what other municipalities are doing.

Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that this was going to wind up being the first step of a larger project where they were going to take a more careful look at the ordinance regarding the use of Clawson Park. He thought that it was out of date and it was put in place when the facilities were different, so

that was another ordinance that hopefully over the next couple of months will be tackled and brought up to date. Since people are coming in now to start reserving the pavilion, Deputy Mayor Wolfe wanted to get this fee in place so that the township isn't losing money.

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**TOWNSHIP OF EAST AMWELL  
HUNTERDON COUNTY, NEW JERSEY  
ORDINANCE #18-09**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 106-3A(2) OF THE CODE OF EAST AMWELL TOWNSHIP  
GOVERNING EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT FOR THE USE OF CLAWSON PARK**

**WHEREAS**, the Township of East Amwell owns the Marion F. Clawson Memorial Park ("Clawson Park");

**WHEREAS**, Section 106-3A of the Code of East Amwell Township requires, in certain instances set forth therein, persons seeking to have a gathering in Clawson Park to obtain a permit for that gathering;

**WHEREAS**, Section 106-3A(2) of the Code of East Amwell Township requires persons requesting such a permit to, among other things, post a \$500 deposit and pay certain expenses that arise as result of their use of Clawson Park; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell would like to amend Section 106-3A(2) of the Code of East Amwell Township to expand and set forth with greater specificity the expenses for which a person requesting such a permit is responsible.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell, County of Hunterdon, and State of New Jersey, as follows:

**Section 1.** The second sentence of Section 106-3A(2) of the Code of East Amwell Township is hereby deleted, and replaced with the following:

"The following costs and expenses will be deducted from the deposit: (i) a \$100 fee for processing the permit application and for the use of the Park for the period set forth in the permit application; and (ii) the actual cost incurred by East Amwell Township to repair any damage to the Park caused by or resulting from such activity."

**Section 2.** If any provision in this ordinance is, or is held to be, invalid or unlawful, (i) such provision shall, if possible, be deemed amended to the extent necessary to make it valid and lawful, and (ii) such invalidity or unlawfulness shall not affect the validity of the remaining provisions of this ordinance.

**Section 3.** This ordinance shall become effective immediately upon its final passage and publication as required by law.

By Order of the Township Committee

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tim Mathews, Mayor

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Teresa R. Stahl, RMC/CMC

Introduced:  
Adopted:

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Motion by Mr. Miller and seconded by Mr. Ostrander to introduce Ordinance 18-09.

Mr. Wang-Iverson said that the current ordinance requires a deposit of \$500 and the deposit is to be used for the expense to clean the restrooms, remove trash, and repairs related to the activity. He believed that should already be happening. If it was not, Mr. Wang-Iverson did not know why. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that it was not and they have never withheld a nickel from anybody's deposit, he has been told. He understood what Mr. Wang-Iverson was saying. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that you can go through the rest of the ordinance. If one comes in for a permit when you are reserving, he believed, for 40 or more people, then you are required to provide john-johnies, he believed, port-a-potties, or whatever they are referred to. The ordinance the way it is drafted doesn't work. It doesn't really reflect the way that Clawson Park currently exists, and really the whole ordinance needs to be revised. The proposed ordinance is just a band-aid to let the township get a fee to cover the costs. Mr. Wang-Iverson said that he did not understand, asking if the township was not collecting the deposit. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that the \$500 deposit would still be collected in case somebody does damage so that there was something to hold against. The ordinance will provide a \$100 dollar fee that the township will keep. Mr. Wang-Iverson said that he understood that, but his question was, are we not collecting a deposit now. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said yes. Mr. Wang-Iverson said that it wasn't being used for the removal of trash; Deputy Mayor Wolfe said no. Mr. Wang-Iverson asked why was that. Deputy Mayor Wolfe had no idea, saying that the first that he had ever heard of this was two or three weeks ago when Pam Dymek asked for a raise, Deputy Mayor Wolfe started asking questions, and this snowballed into where it is now. Deputy Mayor Wolfe reiterated that this was a band-aid on something that really needs more significant surgery.

Mr. Wang-Iverson said that his only other comment would be that he found combining a permit fee with a deposit kind of confusing. His suggestion would be in paragraph one, simply say that there is a permit fee of \$100 and leave paragraph two unchanged. Deputy Mayor Wolfe did not have the paragraphs in front of him so he did not know what one and two refer to. Mr. Wang-Iverson said that it would be confusing to people to tell them that there was a deposit but the township would be keeping \$100 as the fee; he thought that it would be more clear if there was a separate permit fee in paragraph one and the deposit fee, as outlined in paragraph two, is unchanged. Deputy Mayor Wolfe told Mr. Wang-Iverson that he was happy to make the whole ordinance clear when ~~he sits down to rewrite~~ the ordinance is rewritten. He said that when someone comes in to Pam Dymek and says what do I need to reserve, she will say there is a \$100 fee for the pavilion and you need to put up a \$500 deposit for damages. Mr. Wang-Iverson said that this would be \$600; Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that it would be \$600, a \$500 deposit and there will be a \$100 fee. Mr. Wang-Iverson said that this is not what the Deputy Mayor has written. The ordinance reads that a \$500 deposit will be posted and the following costs and expenses will be deducted from the deposit: (1) a \$100 fee for processing the permit application. Mr. Wang-Iverson thought that this would be confusing. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that they will do a much better version of the entire Clawson Park ordinance when the ordinance is redrafted.

Mr. Ostrander asked how many times the park was used last year; Deputy Mayor Wolfe said 25 and so far there are 5 reservations as of a week ago, which he thought that it is too late to impose the fee. Going forward, the township will collect the \$100. Mr. Ostrander said that this made sense since other municipalities do it. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that Jason Silverthorn said that others impose the fee. The Deputy Mayor thought that the township was behind on a number of things in terms that the township allows free usage and other municipalities charge. He said that the township would start looking at that generally and some will come under the Recreation Committee.

Mayor Mathews said that a comment was raised to him as the township looks at the broader ordinance, he did not know what the rules and regulations were regarding dogs. Deputy Mayor Wolfe and Alison Castellano have been talking about that and there is poop-gate going on in Clawson Park. He said that he was saying that half jokingly but it is actually a serious issue. The township has a park where kids are playing, and there are people who are not picking up after their dogs and is becoming a problem. Mr. Ostrander said that it was a sanitation issue and a safety issue with dogs being loose. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that there were some issues in Clawson Park that have to be addressed, and that is why he said that this ordinance has to be redone to reflect what Clawson Park is today.

Mayor Mathews asked if there were any other comments. Deputy Mayor Wolfe will report on poop-gate at the next meeting.

The motion to introduce Ordinance 18-09 was carried with four aye votes and one no vote from Mr. Wang-Iverson.

The ordinance will be published in the April 19, 2018, issue of the Hunterdon County Democrat, and the public hearing is set for the May 10, 2018, regular Township Committee meeting beginning at 7:30 p.m.

**SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS – None**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**WEST AMWELL TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT AGREEMENT – Proposed Contract on 3-28-18 from West Amwell Township**

Mayor Mathews wanted to give everyone a brief update. The Township currently has an agreement with West Amwell for traffic enforcement, and that agreement is binding through December 31, 2020. West Amwell has agreed to allow us to expand the scope of that agreement to include more hours. The municipalities are in discussion right now about what the costs of that will be. West Amwell made a proposal via letter, which the Mayor did not think was acceptable. Their costs were not linear, they took a big step up, and the Mayor would have expected a little volume discounting, so the Mayors of both towns are negotiating the dollar amount. The Mayor said that essentially what East Amwell is asking for is that the current agreement has four hours plus one for the tax assessor, and East Amwell is asking to move it to seven hours plus one, so it would be a 50% increase on the base essentially so the four will move to six and they'll keep one in the tax assessor shared services agreement. It was just a matter of dollars that they are working out. Mayor Mathews thought that there was a good opportunity to do that, and there is money in the budget to support the increase based on the way that the Mayor valued the increase. The Mayor said that West Amwell's evaluation was a little higher than East Amwell's budget, so the Mayor thought that they would find common ground and hopefully wrap it up. To amend the agreement is essentially an agreement between the Mayors and not reopen and resign a new contract as long as the Mayors of each town formally agree, they will work on it.

Mr. Wang-Iverson asked what sort of money was being discussed, saying that in the chart for 2018, it says \$28,000. Mayor Mathews said that was West Amwell's proposal, and they wanted to put in a step program to commit East Amwell to three years. Mayor Mathews told them that East Amwell is not willing to commit the next Township Committee to increases, so Mayor Mathews wants an annual and be revisited based on the Township's need and money. Where East Amwell is at currently is \$25,000 for the bump for a one year deal and revisit it annually.

Mr. Ostrander thought that the other point that Mr. Wang-Iverson may have been getting at was to a degree it is self-funding so based on the revenue received from violations to pick up 75%, roughly. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said it was about two-thirds, and this did not make sense to him and he wanted to look into this. Mr. Ostrander said that this figure may have been from a point in time, and he didn't know if that is consistent so that would be something to be monitored as well over time to see if productivity goes up to match. Mayor Mathews talked to the Acting Chief of Police or Acting Leader and he explained to the Mayor how it worked – it is not near 75%. There are a lot of fingers in that pot that gets distributed and goes to a lot of places so the Township ends up with about 30%. Mayor Mathews said that is for the tickets that West Amwell writes, adding that they do a lot of stops where they don't ticket so they are doing a lot of enforcement and not ticketing a lot of folks. Mr. Ostrander thought that they may be residents. Deputy Mayor Wolfe questioned [that the Township](#) only ~~get~~gets 30%; Mayor Mathews said yes, adding that the state gets some, the county gets some. Deputy Mayor Wolfe asked if there was something that shows where all the money is going; Mayor Mathews said to look at the disbursements sheet. Mr. Ostrander didn't realize it was so low either. Mayor Mathews said that there were a lot of grabs to the revenue source, commenting on a lot of warnings to folks and not ticketing. The Mayor thought that where the Township was at is an increase that was in line with what they are currently paying. West Amwell also wants to encumber East Amwell with what they are paying to their union contract,

which has an annual 5% increase, and the Mayor frankly said to them that this was not East Amwell's problem and would not necessarily be held to the union contract.

Mayor Mathews said that they were in a good place, and there were some other things that East Amwell was working on with West Amwell with some opportunity to find common ground. He felt that they were in good shape and hopefully will be wrapped up before the next meeting. Mr. Ostrander thought that in theory it was a great idea since there were numerous residents coming in to complain about speeding and other traffic violations. He said that this is one mechanism to help deter speeding as a safety issue. The Mayor said that he would give another update or have a finalized agreement by the next meeting.

**APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO WEB AND COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE** – This item was addressed earlier in the meeting.

**UPDATE ON APPOINTMENT OF QPA**

Mayor Mathews said that they have formalized an agreement with the QPA. Her name is Nancy Canto, and she is currently a full time employee in Hopewell Township. She is retiring in September and was eager to take this on as a consulting assignment, essentially. She is being paid as a professional services agreement, it is in the township's budget, and so far, he believed that she has already helped with a lot of things and educated the township. Mayor Mathews said that she was very competent and very meticulous, which the Mayor likes. The Mayor wants to make sure that the township is clean as a whistle on procurement and making sure that the township is following rules and laws and that everything the township does is auditable. Ms. Canto has that same belief, and the Mayor is very happy to say that this deal was closed, and Ms. Canto is now on board and available to advise and assist. Scheduling will be a little shaky with her time because she is very meticulous and will not work for East Amwell Township on Hopewell's time so that she doesn't violate any rules. Mayor Mathews liked that ideal, but it meant that there has to be some flexibility until September.

**STATEMENT FROM COMMITTEE MEMBER DAVID WANG-IVERSON RE: VAN LIEUS ROAD**

Mr. Wang-Iverson said that at the last meeting in March, he, along with Charles Van Horn and Dart Sageser, were accused by the Deputy Mayor of wasting \$50,000 on the chip seal for Van Lieus Road project. He was taken aback by that comment because after the previous complaint for the road, fairly soon after the chip sealing was done, Mr. Wang-Iverson went out and drove the road himself, and it seemed perfectly okay to him. The pictures that the Deputy Mayor showed at the last meeting were pretty dramatic, but they had no scale so it was very difficult to determine exactly what the extent of the problem was. Clearly, there were a couple of failures in the road since the chip sealing. He asked to go out with Jason Silverthorn to review those and then to have him identify for Mr. Wang-Iverson areas that had been repaired for drainage projects. There was one last year actually, which was in one of the pictures that Mr. Wang-Iverson provided to the governing body for review. Mr. Wang-Iverson didn't even know the drainage project was there, and when one drives over it, a casual person will not even notice that it is there. Mr. Wang-Iverson had a second, larger picture of that drainage project, which he shared. It was a cross-road drainage that the DPW put in last year with materials that cost about \$6,000 with about two weeks of labor involved, and the Township can see the excellent job that was done in terms of the patch. Mr. Wang-Iverson also commented on seeing in that picture that the chip sealing did what it was intended to do, which was to seal the cracks along the patch so surface water doesn't get into the cracks and underneath the road and destroy the patch.

Mr. Wang-Iverson said that he was not directly involved in the decision to chip seal Van Lieus Road, but he provided the priority list from 2017 and Van Lieus was on the priority list. He believed that the reason that Van Lieus Road was chosen last year was because it fit the budget, a little less than two miles, and because of the extensive drainage work, they wanted to seal all the cracks, as chip sealing does, to protect the investment in the drainage projects. There was one in 2017 and one in 2016 and one a couple of years before that. He said that there were several drainage projects on Van Lieus Road, and it was the intent to protect the work and investment that

was done. When Mr. Wang-Iverson went out with Jason Silverthorn, Mr. Silverthorn pointed out three areas of concern, which Mr. Wang-Iverson had photographed. The worst one was the one that Deputy Mayor Wolfe showed last month. Another picture showed a pothole outside #74 Van Lieus Road with a scale showing the size of the pothole not much bigger than Mr. Wang-Iverson's foot. Another picture was taken outside #107 Van Lieus Road, which was a collapsed catch basin due primarily to the age of the catch basin, about 30-35 years old. Mr. Wang-Iverson said that the catch basin area is not related to the chip sealing and is simply a maintenance issue. When Mr. Wang-Iverson was out on the road today, Jason Silverthorn and the crew were actually replacing the catch basin and in the process of replacing the failure area which was in the vicinity of #113 Van Lieus. Mr. Wang-Iverson said that the photo showed a tape measure he used to measure the length and width of the failure. It is about 20 feet long and 6 feet wide, or 14 square yards total. According to the priority list, the total surface area of Van Lieus Road is 24,910 square yards; dividing 14 by 24,910 works out to 0.06 percent of the total surface area of the road. In other words, 99.9 percent of the road surface is okay. He said that 0.06 percent of \$48,564.48, which was the invoicing for the chip sealing last year for Van Lieus Road, is \$29.14. Mr. Wang-Iverson believed that the comments that \$50,000 was wasted on Van Lieus Road is not supported by any of the facts. Mr. Wang-Iverson drove the road again this morning, and he found the road to be perfectly fine. In fact, he said that it was so much better than the roads around his house, he would be happy if, for example, they had this surface on Garboski Road, which he drives every day. Garboski Road has many potholes, which need to be repaired almost every winter, and the Township doesn't have the money to chip seal Garboski Road, which is understandable. Mr. Wang-Iverson said that to compare Van Lieus Road in its current condition with the chip sealing to Garboski shows a difference of night and day, and to say that the money was wasted chip sealing Van Lieus was simply not supported.

Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that he would like to respond. He asked Mr. Wang-Iverson where Jason Silverthorn got his engineering degree from; Mr. Wang-Iverson said that he did not know. Deputy Mayor Wolfe asked Mr. Wang-Iverson if Jason Silverthorn had an engineering degree. Mr. Wang-Iverson asked for the point of the Deputy Mayor's question. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that the answer is that he does not. The point of the question is simple. Mayor Mathews and Deputy Mayor Wolfe walked Van Lieus Road; they did not sit in their car and drive it. They walked the road with the Township Engineer. For Mr. Wang-Iverson to say that the road is in good condition, except for these small parts, was Mr. Wang-Iverson, once again, inventing the truth. Deputy Mayor Wolfe directed the Clerk to schedule a 6:30 p.m. meeting of the Township Committee on Van Lieus Road before the next regular Township Committee meeting, and all will walk Van Lieus Road. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that he and the Mayor walked it with the Township Engineer. The Engineer told them that this road should never have been chip sealed. There are dozens and dozens of large cracks in that road. Mr. Wang-Iverson said that this was not true, that he was just on the road today. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said no, that Mr. Wang-Iverson drove the road and took the lazy way. Deputy Mayor Wolfe even spoke to Jason Silverthorn asking him if Mr. Wang-Iverson got out and walked the road; Mr. Silverthorn said yes, in a couple of spots, where it was shown in pictures, Mr. Wang-Iverson got out and measured. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that Mr. Wang-Iverson drove the road, emphasizing again that he drove the road. The Deputy Mayor said that whatever date it was in May, the Township Committee would all meet the road, including Mr. Wang-Iverson, and they would all walk the road, and the Deputy Mayor will point out every crack. He said that the Township Engineer told the Mayor and Deputy Mayor that road should never have been chip sealed. The Deputy Mayor did some research, and research tells you that you don't chip seal a road that has wide cracks without first dealing with those cracks. The Deputy Mayor said that he wanted to tell Mr. Wang-Iverson what happened here: "For thirty years, you guys let these roads go. You spent enough money to maintain them at the minimum safety level, and you let them go to pot. Deputy Mayor Wolfe was not saying that this was necessarily the wrong decision; you deployed money elsewhere. But then all of a sudden last year in a key campaign year, these guys decided that they were going to fix the roads so a budget was enacted that allocated \$100,000 to repairing the roads. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that made sense to repair the roads except that the problem was that the budget was illegal. When the Deputy Mayor pointed out that the budget was illegal, the next day he received an email that they did not mean fixing potholes but they meant chip seal. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that this was all on the record. Then they rush out to pick a road to chip seal, and since they had money to chip seal Van Lieus, they said let's chip seal Van Lieus. Van Lieus was too far gone to be chip sealed. There are other roads in the township that can be chip sealed. Van Lieus was too far gone. Is it a complete waste of \$50,000? No, there were some spots that benefited. But largely, it was a waste of \$50,000." Mr. Wang-Iverson did not agree.

Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that they will go out and anyone who wanted to join them, they would go out at 6:30 p.m. before the next Township Committee meeting and will spend a half hour walking the road. Deputy Mayor Wolfe will show everyone every crack, and Mr. Wang-Iverson can bring as many people as he wanted – he can bring all of his little minions along, and they can all go walk the road with the Deputy Mayor showing them every crack. The Deputy Mayor was willing to stand behind what he was saying because he walked the road. He also wanted to tell Mr. Wang-Iverson that the Deputy Mayor knew Garboski Road and not because he drives Garboski but he runs Garboski. And if you really want to get to know the road, you run the road. Deputy Mayor Wolfe did not think that Garboski Road was a good illustration, saying that he thought that Van Lieus was worse than Garboski. Mr. Wang-Iverson said no, it is not, and that was ridiculous. Deputy Mayor said that it was not, saying that Mr. Wang-Iverson sat in a car and drove it – there’s a big difference between driving a road and running a road. The Deputy Mayor has been running now for 43 years, and he knows roads. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that they will meet at 6:30 p.m. and go walk the road, then Mr. Wang-Iverson can come to him with his pictures saying “Oh, there’s only one tiny fraction of some percent.” Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that there are residents on that road telling the previous Township Committee that road wasn’t ready to be chip sealed since it wasn’t sufficiently stabilized. Deputy Mayor Wolfe looked forward to walking the road.

Mayor Mathews had one comment, saying that he walked the road with Deputy Mayor Wolfe and the Township Engineer. He also drove the road several times and what prompted him to walk it was when he drove it and said that it wasn’t too bad. He said that when you walk it, especially with a professional, who points out all the issues. He said that it is very ~~tough~~telling, and there are a lot of things to learn by walking a road. Mayor Mathews said that what he would like to do, besides this, is when there is a re-prioritized list, we ask the Engineer to meet with Jason Silverthorn to review the list. When the next two or three roads are identified for chip sealing, he would like to walk the roads and invite all to walk with him and make sure that they are all in agreement that the road is a candidate for chip sealing, it will be on the priority list, and the township will get it done.

Deputy Mayor Wolfe added that not only would he like to walk the road, he would like to get input from the residents who live on the road; he said that he raised this last year and it was voted down, but he thought significant capital expenditures deserved input from the residents. He believed that input from the residents was necessary because they are significant capital expenditures and they have an impact on the budget and on the people who live on the roads. He said that not everybody who lives on the roads want the roads improved, and there are a lot of people happy to leave the roads as they are. He added that he was not necessarily being critical of the fact that for thirty years the EADA chose to maintain the roads at basically the minimum level necessary to maintain roads. He did not know if that was the right or wrong decision. He hasn’t given it enough thought yet to know, and he would like to get more input from the residents as to what they think. But what the Deputy Mayor does know, based on walking Van Lieus Road, based on the input from the Engineer, and based on research that he has done, and there are lots of reports out there on chip seal, Van Lieus wasn’t a candidate for chip seal. There are a number of other roads in this township that were much better candidates than Van Lieus. Van Lieus was too far gone. And while the Deputy Mayor has tremendous respect for Jason Silverthorn, these are the types of issues one has to take to the Engineer.

#### STATUS OF FUNDING FOR THE SENIORS

Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that Mr. Rowe came in to last month’s meeting, asking for an increase in the budget for the seniors from \$1,000 to \$2,000. The Deputy Mayor did not want to get into the whole discussion but the bottom line was that the Township Committee was not comfortable with doing that but some of the members and Mr. Rowe agreed that they would pay the \$1,000 out of their own pocket so that the seniors would have \$2,000. After that meeting, Deputy Mayor Wolfe reached out to one of the Township Committee members in Raritan Township – he knows a couple of members on that Township Committee. Deputy Mayor Wolfe chatted with the Township Committee member about Raritan Township kicking in \$1,000 for the seniors, because the seniors have gone to Raritan in the past, and Raritan has refused to do it. It was a very pleasant conversation, and in the end, the Raritan Township Committee member indicated that he would do what he could to get that approved. As the Deputy Mayor understands from Mr. Rowe, it looks like \$1,000 will be approved by Raritan Township, so the seniors will get \$1,000 from East Amwell and \$1,000 from Raritan to be fully funded.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**3/5 REQUEST FROM CROSS RIVER FIBER FOR MUNICIPAL CONSENT FOR USE OF RIGHT-OF-WAY FOR FIBER INSTALLATION ON EXISTING INFRASTRUCTURE**

Mayor Mathews mentioned the request, saying he was hard pressed to provide consent, given what the Township has seen in storm damage. In his opinion, having gone through the last two storms, working with JCP&L, PSE&G, Verizon, and Comcast, in dealing with this, also noting an earlier storm, the Mayor did not know if the poles in the township could handle any more infrastructure. He said that there is a lot of weight and a lot of things put on the poles that were never intended to be put on them. These poles are old, the ownership of the poles is always questioned, with everyone pointing to different companies for ownership, and frankly, they just keep hanging more stuff on them. The Mayor is afraid that if they continue down this path, there will be continued chaos in storms when things will fall and break, and it will be one more party that has to be involved with the clean up and mess. He said that if you look at our roads, there are wires all over the place on the sides of the roads that are owned by various parties, and they don't clean up after themselves. The Mayor did not know what could be done; the company provided both federal and state law. There is a minor clause at the back end that might be an opportunity for us to work with them to do an assessment of the poles that they are selecting and see what the state of the poles is before the Township commits to allowing them to hang anything else on the poles.

Mayor Mathews said that everyone had the information in their packets, and he was happy to hear a motion to approve it. However, the Mayor would not be supporting approval at this time.

Mr. Wang-Iverson asked if the Township had the authority to allow people to hang stuff on poles that don't belong to the Township. Mayor Mathews said that the Township had to give a consent to the right-of-way.

Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that he spoke to the Township Attorney, Carl Taylor, about this, asking him if he would like to chime in about this issue. Mr. Taylor said that the company needs permission to enter the Township's right of way. The question becomes who owns the pole and kind of utility they are, if they are in fact a utility. Mr. Taylor said that there were a number of factors at play. He felt that this should be discussed in executive session because he did not want to go into what the Township's strategy may be, legally moving forward. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that was a good point.

Mr. Ostrander mentioned, to Mr. Wang-Iverson's point, that the Committee ran into this about a year ago with cellular phone boosters that a company wanted to hang on poles. Deputy Mayor Wolfe believed that the matter should be brought into executive session.

Mayor Mathews concluded that upon counsel's advice, this item will be discussed in executive session.

**OFFER FROM HUNTERDON COUNTY FREEHOLDERS TO PROVIDE MUNICIPALITIES WITH KIA FLAGS – see 3/28 Email from Freeholder J. King**

The Clerk mentioned an email today from the County noticing a special flag raising in Flemington on April 16, to which all were invited. Copies of the invitation were provided to the governing body this evening.

Deputy Mayor Wolfe suggested sending a letter to request the free flag.

**DISCUSSION ON FEE BASED BRUSH PICK UP**

Mayor Mathews said that he would like to start a discussion tonight, although he did not believe it would be finished. He wanted to throw some ideas out on the table. He said that given the amount of storm damage, there is a lot of debris all over, adding that the mountain is really bad. The Mayor said that all over, everyone has had a lot of tree damage. This has built up over several storms, and there hasn't been brush pick up/roadside chipping in some time. The Mayor knew that

there was a tub grinder and the ability for people to come and bring their debris, but that was frankly not available to everyone for whatever reason. People might not have the capability to do so.

Mayor Mathews would like to look for a creative way in which to offer the service but necessarily at no charge. The Mayor spoke with the DPW Superintendent about some ideas, and one idea that seems to resonate with him and the Mayor at this point is something that he wanted to put out there. He asked the committee all to think about it and maybe move forward with it at the next meeting, is just as a permit is charged for other things, he has folks who want roadside chipping done on their behalf. They would come in and take out a permit with some fee to be determined that would be fair and also to encumber the cost and maintenance of the chipper. The chipper is old and will go through a lot of wear and tear. The folks would come in and then have a scheduled time with permits open for a certain period of time and then chipping starts. There would be a list of the homes and addresses, and the DPW crew can go through and chip those homes who have purchased permits. That way it is kind of a fee for service. Without that the DPW would feel compelled to go to every house, and if stuff is not stacked appropriately, it takes a lot longer. Mayor Mathews thought that this would be a good compromise for those who feel that they want it and need it to have it available, but it would not be a town wide chipping service. It would not stop what the township does with the tub grinder; this will still be continued. The Mayor would like to at least start a discussion about the pros and cons about this kind of concept, but he thought that it was important. He said that all knew, the Mayor was very sensitive to the fire hazard on the mountain. He did not believe that the chipping would solve it, but the more debris that is removed the mountain, the less fuel wood there would be. Given the fires seen on the west coast, if there is a severe drought, fires can happen here too. The Mayor was very concerned about fuel wood build up, and if this is one way that it can be addressed to remove some debris from the roads, he would like to consider this.

Mayor Mathews was happy to discuss this further now, or the Committee could take the material back and think about it.

The Clerk wanted to add that if the Township Committee was considering this for the fall, the governing body might want to have discussions quickly in order to get information out to the residents via the tax bill mailing in the summer. The Mayor asked if there would be an ordinance necessary if this was implemented; the Clerk said that the fee ordinance would need to be amended, similar to the mulch delivery ordinance that is also in the fee ordinance.

The Mayor asked the Township Attorney to look at the fee ordinance to see how easily it could be amended to accommodate a fee for roadside chipping. He said that this made sense because people could get truck loads of chips as part of this, if they so desire. He asked Mr. Taylor to have an ordinance for introduction for next month after continued discussion and communicate in time to get information out to the residents.

Mr. Ostrander said that the town where he grew up in New York does this as fee for service. He did not think this was a bad idea. He did not recall seeing a time that would conducive for chipping, and he said that the information provided tonight could be cleaned up.

Some comments were exchanged about the information provided tonight, and this item will be on the next agenda.

#### DISCUSSION REGARDING TOWNSHIP PROFESSIONALS

Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that this would take him a couple of minutes but he would make it as brief as he can. There are some materials that have appeared on the EADA webpage that were emailed to him that are attacking the [integrity of](#) four of the township committee members on this side of the committee. Deputy Mayor Wolfe wanted to respond to them. He normally does not like reading things but he actually wanted this to appear in the record and he wanted a record of his response.

For roughly 30 years the EADA controlled East Amwell. To be clear when he spoke of the EADA, he was not referring to the entire membership of the EADA. Rather he was referring to [the](#) small group, about a dozen or so, which he called the dirty dozen. During their reign, they wasted the tax dollars, they illegally raided the farmland preservation trust artificially to keep taxes low. They let

the township roads and other infrastructure deteriorate, and they retaliated against anyone who questioned their decisions. They ran the township like a country club. If you paid your dues to them and an appropriate level of homage, you would be treated well. If you dared to challenge them, you would be expelled from the club. It was their way or the highway. They were and still are a well organized well funded political machine. They controlled the township committee, the various other township boards and committees, the township's professionals, and key sources of news in the township, the VIP and the township's webpage. Last November the residents of East Amwell said enough is enough and they dethroned the dirty dozen. The voters of East Amwell kicked their cans to the curb. The new leadership, Tim, Pete, Kevin, and the Deputy Mayor promised the residents of East Amwell a fiscally responsible government, which would be transparent and inclusive, would treat residents with respect, would welcome different points of view. In other words, the antithesis of the dirty dozen. In response the dirty dozen has fired up their slime machine. They have reached into their bag of underhanded tricks in an attempt to discredit the new leadership and regain control over the township. Deputy Mayor Wolfe wanted to take a few minutes to share with the audience some of the underhanded tricks. He started with a recent post on the EADA webpage. When we assumed control of the Township Committee in January one of the first objectives was to clean up the local government. That process included replacing township professionals, who in their view, were in the back pocket of the dirty dozen, specifically those professionals who put the interest of the dirty dozen above the interest of the residents, whose work product and advice was of questionable quality and who cost the residents far more in fees than the value they were providing to the residents. To identify quality replacements, the committee undertook a process that under New Jersey law is called a fair and open process. They publicly advertised each position, set forth a detailed list of criteria, carefully scrutinized the qualifications of those who responded, and as a committee, made their decisions. They then explained the reasons at a township committee meeting. The dirty dozen, unhappy that they were dismantling their corrupt loaded government recently posted the following on the EADA webpage: "The new TC majority made two changes to township professionals with no public explanations, no public input, no discussion, no justification, no criteria, and no qualifications cited for the selections." The dirty dozen also claims that campaign donations influenced the decisions. The Deputy Mayor said that as he noted earlier, they followed a fair and open process in appointing new professionals. It is called fair and open for a reason because it is fair and open. Indeed the dirty dozen's sole remaining member of the Township Committee, David Wang-Iverson, was given full access to all information and an unlimited opportunity to voice his views. The notion that these appointments under the [leak cover](#) of darkness is just plain nonsense. Likewise, the assertion by the dirty dozen that donations influenced the decision is nonsense. The Deputy Mayor said that Tim, Pete, Kevin and he have far too much integrity for that. In fact, what the EADA doesn't tell the public is that each of them waived the salary they are entitled to as Township Committee members. None of the Township Committee members take a nickel from the township. He asked why they would do that if they were in this for the money. The EADA also doesn't tell the public that the last two EADA Township Committee members took their full salaries from the township while driving around town in their Mercedes and BMW. Deputy Mayor Wolfe wanted to turn to another example of the dirty dozen's attempt to undermine the new leadership. To save costs and create efficiency, they decided to merge the Zoning Board of Adjustment into the Planning Board. Without exception, those with expertise supported the merger. David Wang-Iverson, the sole remaining EADA insider on this committee, strongly objected. At the February 8<sup>th</sup> Township Committee meeting, he asserted that the merger would not reduce costs and would, in his words, remove volunteer opportunities for people. At the March 8<sup>th</sup> Township Committee meeting, when they demonstrated the merger likely would produce a significant tax savings, David's response was that those savings could be "done with two boards." David also said that it was unfortunate that they were eliminating seven volunteer positions.

Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that this was his response to David. "If, in fact, the savings we expect to achieve could be done with two boards, as David asserted, then why didn't David and his friends in the dirty dozen do that when they controlled the Township Committee. Why didn't we make the cuts necessary to achieve the savings. The answer is simple. You are not going to achieve the same savings with two separate boards as you will with a single board. So David's cost savings point is nothing more than a thinly veiled attempt to undermine the credibility of the new leadership. Regarding David's elimination of volunteers point, David recently sent me comments to a draft ordinance that I prepared for the Recreation Committee. In those comments David questioned the decision to expand the Recreation Committee from nine to eleven members. Specifically, David said the following: 'It seems like a lot. A few years ago, we couldn't fill a nine member committee.' If David is really concerned about the seven volunteer positions that were

eliminated through the merger, then why is he suggesting that I not add two additional volunteer positions to the Recreation Committee. Again, the answer is simple. This is another thinly veiled attempt to undermine the credibility of the new leadership. As an aside, I will also note that repeatedly over the past few years the EADA has sought additional volunteers because their committees and boards have been shorthanded. So here is the bottom line. The dirty dozen is beside themselves because they lost control of the Township Committee last November. Rather than work with the new leadership to try to improve East Amwell, the dirty dozen is going to focus 100% of their efforts on attacking the credibility of the new leadership through lies and deceit. They will utilize the EADA webpage, the VIP, mailers, and any other form available to them. I will do everything in my power to insure that the dirty dozen is not successful. The residents of East Amwell deserve better, much better, and the new leadership is going to work tirelessly to deliver that.” Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that was all that he had to say. He said that for the record, Glorianne Robbi is holding up a poster with a thumbs down throughout his full presentation.

### **OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

Glorianne Robbi said that there were three ordinances for introduction tonight with the Deputy Mayor rambling about what he has included in them. She said that there is a township attorney, Mr. Taylor. She asked if Mr. Taylor wrote the ordinances, and she assumed that he had some specialty in municipal law. Mr. Taylor said that actually, as a lawyer, unless you are certified, you cannot say in New Jersey that you have a specialty. He said that he had an area of emphasis in government practice. Ms. Robbi commented that the Deputy Mayor also has such experience in government legalese that he is the one who is proposing and writing these ordinances. Ms. Robbi said that since it such an involved ordinance here, she asked if there was a copy that the public may have now. The Clerk said that she would be able to email a copy in the morning, and Ms. Robbi said that she would appreciate that. She asked for clarification that the ordinance was available on paper or on the internet, saying it would be nice to have here. She said that she knew that the committee was very upset with members of the public who do not “appreciate your genius.” However, she thought that members of the public here have a right to read these ordinances, certainly establishing a Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee that will seem to be handling everything possible under the sun. She said that it would be helpful so people have enough time prior to the May 10<sup>th</sup> public hearing. Ms. Robbi said that at some point they had to have some respect with people here for the residents who pay their taxes and ask questions.

Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that he had tremendous respect for the residents but he did not have respect for the dirty dozen who simply chose to criticize everything that the committee does with lies and deceit and won’t even show him the respect to let him speak when he sat there and let her speak. Ms. Robbi said, “Excuse me, Sir. You’ve shown no respect for your fellow committee person when you were speaking about appointments to the Board of Health. The fact that your fellow committee person offered and noted to you that this gentleman had reapplied to go on the Board of Health, and you indeed said, no I am not listening to you. I will listen to some people but I will not listen to you. In effect, that is what you said to your fellow committee person. And that certainly does not show any respect among people who are supposed to be working together.”

Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that his fellow committee ... Ms. Robbi said, “Excuse me, I am going to sit down now, and I heard your response, and it is really quite sufficient.” Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that he would finish his response. Mayor Mathews said that the Deputy Mayor will be reserving his response until the meeting is closed to the public. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that was fine.

Andrea Bonette, 17 Ridge Road, had a couple of questions about Ordinance 18-07, the Recreation and Parks Committee, saying that maybe it was mentioned, but she remembered from working on the ordinances, one question is how will the chair be chosen by the committee, adding that she knew as an example that the Environmental Commission Chair is appointed by the Chair. She said that as far as she understood from her experience, all the other committees appoint their own chairs. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that committee select their own chairs. Ms. Bonette’s other question was if there were going to be three year terms, it might be a problem if the Township Committee appointed everybody at once. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said terms would be staggered and is in the ordinance.

Mayor Mathews asked the audience to remember the process that the ordinance is introduced and is then available to the public for about a month until the next meeting. Ms. Bonette said that she was not trying to create a problem and she was really trying to be helpful. Mayor Mathews said that he understood, and she will get a copy of the ordinance for review. He said that they would love her feedback.

Frances Gavigan said that they cannot make this stuff up, even after 23 years. She gave her address of 123 Wertsville Road, except no imitations, and that goes back 10-15 years. She said that when Deputy Mayor Wolfe brought up the issue of his outreach to Raritan Township. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that he would not express it as outrage, saying that he just asked. Ms. Gavigan said it was "outreach." She continued by saying that after last night's meeting she went to Flemington to get something to eat, otherwise known as lunch, and she ran into, while they actually came to her, a Raritan Township Committee person. After exchanging some pleasantries, she gave the Committee member a little bit of a push about how come the citizens of East Amwell are subsidizing the Raritan Township seniors, who are in the majority. It was shared with her at that time that Deputy Mayor Wolfe reached out to Raritan Township. Ms. Gavigan said that Raritan Township is introducing their budget, and she reminded the committee member to make sure that the money got in the budget. She will be going to the introduction of the Raritan Township budget to put something into the record because when she sent information to tap into Flemington Raritan about what was going on, in the absence of somebody speaking in public, nothing would have happened. She will go to Raritan Township and open her mouth, and hopefully "you won't have to contribute your money to the seniors but you can contribute to Clawson House."

Ms. Gavigan said that earlier in the evening, she took note and might have the figures recorded, when the Township Committee was talking about accepting the low bid on Lindbergh Road and the losing bid was \$260,000 versus \$190,000-196,000 plus or minus \$10,000, but it sounded like changing engineers lowered the cost; she asked if that was accurate. Mayor Mathews said that it was not due to the engineer; the bid packet was put together by the previous engineer. Ms. Gavigan said that the person who came and put in the bid to actually do the work was lower. Mayor Mathews said that there were five bids, and Ms. Gavigan continued that the Township went with the lowest by introducing their open and fair process. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that they went with the lowest but they also had the engineer and the QPA diligence the lowest bidder to make sure that they were not complaints against them, that they weren't doing inferior work, there were data bases that could be checked where people can file complaints if the particular contract is done with inferior quality work. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that this contractor passed all those tests, so the engineer and QPA signed off on the lowest bid.

Mayor Mathews said that the range was the lowest bid at \$197,069 and the high bid was \$313,416. Ms. Gavigan appreciated their patience with her checking her facts before she said something wrong. She said that for the work that had been done previously on Lindbergh Road, she went up to a meeting at Mr. Davidson's house, and she recalled and might have to go out with a spray paint can to mark, that there seems to be one place to where the pavement is here and the drainage gate is about almost a quarter or more lower than that and when you have a 13 year old tin coffin, the shocks aren't so good. She said that when the committee is walking roads, they should walk up there and take a look to see if there are any of those anomalies to take a look at. As she recalled, this spot was below Ridge Road in those places where they placed drainage things off to the side.

Ms. Gavigan said that when the committee was discussing in their executive session about brush pick up and whatever else, she would like to toss out the concept of seeing if there might be a private sector party, some with dump trucks, and either having something being brought to the road or chipped in their slower times. It would be competitively priced, it's private sector, and it is not taking the road crew that the Township has away from doing the roads that need it, two of which are adjacent to each other, which she frequently goes up and down and having a hard time finding a place that isn't going to break a tie-rod and 1) it gets repaired at least two times last year, which is the section of Rocktown Road in front of the vineyard, and when you turn on Linvale Road and go up there, it is like bumper cars trying to find the spot because of the water and the drainage issues. She said that is a road that is beyond chip seal but is also something that is an issue.

Ms. Gavigan has been coming to a lot of meetings here, saying that you guys are for the most part new. She said that over the decades she has taken and has experienced as a member of the public

abuse to the point to where she started video-taping, and on more than one occasion, when statements were being revisited as the history, and she had to say, "let's go to the video-tape" and the conversations switched. She said that there is a lot of stuff. She said that some things are better, some things are the same. Change is painful. One thing, as an anecdote, but she was sure that she could find the check. A few years ago, at Hillbilly Hall, there was a fundraiser/pizza party that she was asked to, and she signed up. She wrote a check to join the EADA, and the check was cashed. She then got a letter saying that it would confuse the membership, and they would not accept her application. The membership of the EADA is a secret; she did not think that had ever been published anywhere unless you are part of it. She said that would be in the interest of transparency and a very open silly season because she said that they were already into it, and she was not even aware of what was raised earlier. She said that it would be nice to know where things are coming from because at least with the funding for things that "you" got, that is in there on state websites and who donated this, what, and whatever. Ms. Gavigan feared, and she needed to find someone to help her with this, but her concern is that she might need to go in the video-tape archives and start excerpting sections to where in both directions there has been less than adult behavior. Then putting the videos on U-Tube and letting people see and judge for themselves. She said that she needed a geek and may have to rent a geek, if anyone knew of one. She said, "Alison, I am sure that you know one, send one to me because at least you are competent electronically," saying that she was not.

Ms. Gavigan said that she would not rambling more of this, but what she was intending to bring up tonight as a private citizen, saying that she might have a little bit of a reputation for being a nudge or for being an advocate for people who apply to the township for permissions and things like that and there are fees that are incurred. She said that there was one of note that cost hundreds of thousands of dollars up on Lindbergh or Linvale Road, saying that there are others. Ms. Gavigan was extremely concerned and will provide all five of the township committee members with at least her observations and comments on invoices that came out the week before and maybe fifteen hours before the Planning Board meeting. What came out right before the meeting was over a thousand dollar hit for engineering to a young couple applying to put a second bedroom on a property that is a third of an acre. She would like the committee, and she would probably under OPRA as a private citizen like to see some in-depth review and analysis of how the township has managed professionals and what is being paid for, e.g., making a copy at a professional rate versus whatever, and to try to bring these costs down and to have them somewhat accountable. She asked that at least one of the bills, as a private citizen, for \$1051 that you not approve this evening until some in-depth review and analysis can be done about what is our process and what controls, if any, are out there, in terms of process and things like that because "we need to count our pennies." Ms. Gavigan said that what she said before and multiple times is that she treats what the township spends, and she likes and appreciates it when the township committee spends as if it is her money because she said that it is her money. She said that not only is she a taxpayer, but she paid the whole year and she will only get to deduct two quarters of it. Some inaudible comments were exchanged with Ms. Gavigan. Ms. Gavigan said that the township does need some controls, and she thought that if anybody ever came in and did some in-depth analyses, she has some concerns and she was asking that they be looked into, and "heads up, guess what, I am going to be looking into it the way I looked into committee meeting minute books from 1997, 98, 99, etc., etc. My little portable scanner wand and I will be going and looking at things," commenting on it being a useful tool for documenting things, and she will find and send the committee the picture she took of the full letter and the check that was cashed. The letter, as she recalled, graciously allowed me to make a donation, so it actually went into the coffers. She concluded, "That is what it is." She apologized for not bringing her camera this month, saying that it has been a long day and wasn't able to get good photos at least or video of some of the show and tell that has been going on or the "Greek Chorus," commenting on Deputy Mayor Wolfe having a dirty dozen and referencing a catholic education, saying that she was subjected to a certain amount of "oh classy players", and there was usually a Greek Chorus that would go "Ohhhhh Oh." Ms. Gavigan said that it was going to be a long season, adding that by the way, she was right. Mayor Mathews thanked her. Ms. Gavigan conclude that if the township committee screwed up, they will all go. She appreciated that Deputy Mayor Wolfe acknowledged that they did screw up with the interpersonal stuff with the committees that went away and all that sort of stuff. What she told the committee is the same thing that she told Mr. Wang-Iverson six years ago when she talked with him before he ran about where she saw issues and would tell him the truth. Mayor Mathews said he thought that there was somebody else who wanted to speak.

John Allen, 53 Manners Road, which was also County Road 609, wanted to speak about the fee based brush pick up. He said that it was a great idea. He has two sedans and would not be able to get branches in here. He also had a lot of yellow pines right on the front of the property. He said that the County tends to come through when you get the heavy, moist snow. They plow the roads and knock the hell out of the mailboxes and the snow weighs down the lower branches and break them off in big diameter. Mr. Allen thought the service was great, but he also wondered if the County should be responsible. He said that the County did come and used a chipper/shredder to take care of a lot of his damage but he wondered if the County could be responsible for Wertsville Road, Manners Road, Old York Road and take that off the township's plate. Ms. Gavigan commented on seeing work done on Wertsville Road. Mr. Allen asked if they were obligated to do that. Mayor Mathews said that they would have to look into this but he wouldn't want to say those residents were excluded from the chipping and leave it up to the County because they may not do it. Mr. Allen said that he had stuff in the back of his property. The Mayor said that it was a good point to reach out to the County to see if they have any program that they may be doing. Mr. Ostrander commented on living on a county road and he thought that it was ad hoc, unfortunately, but it would be good to see if they do any routine work. He said that they came through after Hurricane Sandy, the county came through and took care of a lot of his stuff doing a really fantastic job. He thought that it was done on an as needed basis.

Alison Castellano, 9 Prall Court, said that she attended a seniors meeting on Tuesday representing the Recreation Committee and Township just to meet them and say hi and get to know them so that they can know her face and interact if they want help. The seniors were very surprised and appreciative of the effort that went into acquiring the extra funding and very appreciative of the offer that came by way of donations prior to Raritan Township kicking in. They were very surprised to hear that had happened and they are really excited that they can do more things now. Ms. Castellano was sure that the township would be receiving a letter of thanks from the seniors, and she just wanted to let the township committee know. She will be going to the seniors meetings periodically to see what she can do for them, with them, or whatever and help them to achieve more of their events now that they have more money. Mayor Mathews thanked Ms. Castellano.

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

Mayor Mathews said that he would opening the meeting up for Township Committee members to respond to comments that were made by the public.

Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that he wanted to clarify one thing. He did not disrespect David Wang-Iverson. He said that he actually had a great deal of respect for David. The problem that he has with David is his main objective is to undermine what the township committee is trying to do here. Mr. Wang-Iverson said that was not true. The Deputy Mayor said that when someone is trying to undermine everything that you are trying to do, you can't really give credibility to what they say. He said that in fact it winds up becoming just the opposite. He said that if David comes to us and says that he thinks a person should be on a committee, right away the Deputy Mayor is looking at that with a great deal of skepticism because he can't think that David is really looking at trying to help them here. As the Deputy Mayor said in his little spiel earlier this evening, one meeting it is hey, you guys are merging the two committees and eliminating volunteer positions, then Mr. Wang-Iverson is saying to him that he is creating too many volunteer positions and will never be able to fill them. Mr. Wang-Iverson said that was not what he ~~said~~ sent. The Deputy Mayor said to Mr. Wang-Iverson that he took the words exactly from what Mr. Wang-Iverson said. Mr. Wang-Iverson said that the Deputy Mayor left out the part where Mr. Wang-Iverson suggested two alternates. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that it did not matter, saying that they talked about it, and he took Mr. Wang-Iverson's words exactly. The Deputy Mayor asked how many times over the years has the EADA said at these meetings we can't get enough volunteers to fill. He said to Mr. Wang-Iverson that he was criticizing the merger on the grounds that it was eliminating seven volunteer positions but throughout the years the EADA was saying that they can't find enough people to fill the volunteer positions. The Deputy Mayor continued by saying, "Or you are saying, gee, this isn't going to save money, and when Tim demonstrates it saves money, you say 'oh, we could have saved money by not merging the two committees.' If they could have saved money by not merging the two committees, why didn't you do that when you were Mayor?" Mr. Wang-Iverson said it was because there was a full time person covering both boards, that was why. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that the hours could have been reduced or could have modified the position but it wasn't done. Mr. Wang-Iverson said that this person was a long time employee.

Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that he saw – this went back to his country club mentality, and they ran this like a country club. The fact is that they now have a group here whose laser focused on efficient use of tax payer dollars. The Deputy Mayor said that this is what he does and what he has done for thirty years and he does not do it on a small scale. He probably has forty clients right now that are billionaires, and he was laser focused on saving money, and all he sees with Mr. Wang-Iverson is criticism for everything that they do. Mr. Wang-Iverson said that was not true, asking if he was not supporting all the ordinances that they are adopting with a few exceptions; he asked if he had to agree with everything that the Deputy Mayor says. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said no, no, and asked if Mr. Wang-Iverson was supporting the merger of the Planning Board and Zoning Board; Mr. Wang-Iverson said that he gave him his answer. The Deputy Mayor said that Mr. Wang-Iverson was supporting things that there was no realistic way that he can attack, but in anything that Mr. Wang-Iverson can find that he can attack, he attacks, and he does not want to see them succeed. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said, “You want to criticize, you want to lie, look at what is on the webpage, look what is on the EADA webpage, and that came from you, David. Those are your words on the webpage. You are attacking our credibility. I can tell you donations did not influence my decision. Do you think a \$500 donation is going to impact my decision? I gave up what, what is our salary here, \$3,000 or over \$3,000? I didn’t take the salary and these guys didn’t take the salary.” Mr. Wang-Iverson said that neither was he. Deputy Mayor Wolfe continued, “Do you think that they were influenced by somebody making a few hundred dollars’ donation?” Mr. Wang-Iverson said that he did not know. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said, “I didn’t even know who made donations to my campaign. Peter Miller was Treasurer. I wanted nothing to do with campaign donations. I made that very clear from inception. I don’t want to touch them; I don’t want to know about them, I don’t care who makes them. My decisions aren’t influenced by who contributes to the campaign .... The thing that really burns me is the way that you guys have attacked Carl (Taylor). What you say on that webpage that he has no municipal experience. He has plenty of municipal experience. That is all that he has done. He may not have represented municipalities as clients. He has a wealth of municipal experience. I can call Carl and get him Monday through Sunday. Most of the time that I deal with Carl is on the weekend. Gebhardt & Kiefer, I would send an email, I would wait three or four days for a response, sometimes I would have to send a second email. I call Carl on Sunday, I get him on Sunday. And if I don’t get him, he calls me back within an hour. And when I ask him a question, I either get an answer right away or he says to me, ‘I’ll take a look at it,’ and he comes back to me with an answer, not gee, there’s alternative A, B, and C, and you decide which one. I get an answer from Carl. And you mark my words because he is laser focused on saving fees. We’ll see what his bills are by the end of the year, and we’ll compare them to what we were getting from Gebhardt & Kiefer. So the donations had nothing to do with it. To say that he is not qualified is just simply not true. He is very qualified, and he doesn’t deserve being attacked. He did not do anything wrong here.” Mr. Wang-Iverson said that they were not attacking him; he was attacking the process. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said, “David, you are not attacking the process. You are attacking him. Look at what you guys say on the webpage. I have it right here. Look at the graphics. ‘The new municipal attorney will charge the same fees as the township’s previously highly experienced, independent legal counsel, yet has no previous municipal experience.’ That’s not true; that’s just wrong, and he doesn’t deserve that. You are attacking his credibility. He didn’t do anything to you guys. If you want to come after me, that’s fine. I deal with that on a daily basis. I don’t care, if you guys want to attack me, that’s fine. Attack me anyway you want to. Dig into my past till the cows come home; there isn’t anything there. I live a very boring life, and that’s why I am a tax lawyer. If I had an interesting life, I’d be a corporate or real estate lawyer. So dig all you want and attack all you want. He doesn’t deserve that. Our bond counsel – they ~~did~~ did a spectacular job; ask Margaret. Margaret will tell you how happy she was with the bond counsel they appointed. We told the bond counsel that we wanted to get those bonds issued before the feds met at the end of March. We gave them a very short time frame; they got it done. Getting it done saved this township money. Our bond counsel is good. Maser Engineering – Jason went to a program on maintaining roads, and he said that at that program they had a 40 page slide deck. I said to send it to me, that I would like to see it. He sent the 40 page slide deck to me, and who taught the program? Maser Engineering. So the notion that we hired incompetent professionals under the cover of darkness and aren’t saving the tax payers money and did so because they made donations, that’s just not true. Some of them made donations. That didn’t influence our decision. Plenty of EADA people that are on committees made donations to EADA campaigns. Did you appoint them to committees because they made donations? I could sit here and say, yeah you guys appointed them because they made donations.” Mr. Wang-Iverson said that they were not talking about volunteers; you are talking about professionals. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said, “The volunteers, in my view, take the Planning Board, take the Board of Health, they have a great impact on the lives of the East Amwell residents

than our professionals. The power of the Board of Health is tremendous. The impact you can have on the lives. The power of the combined Planning and Zoning Board or the Planning Board and the Zoning Board before the combination – that had an incredible impact on the lives of the people in this township. So to say somehow that the volunteers on these committees are down here and the professionals are up here, that’s not true. The volunteers on these committees can have a significant effect on the lives of the people in the township.”

Mayor Mathews said that with respect to time, there will still a lot of things to get through, including an executive session. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that he just wanted to be clear, and he did not disrespect Mr. Wang-Iverson. He said, “People will tell you this, that I have a great deal of respect for you, and I think that you and I can actually accomplish a lot, if we wanted to work together.” Mr. Wang-Iverson said, “If I agreed with everything you say.” Deputy Mayor Wolfe said, “Not at all. Frances will tell you. Frances calls me. She doesn’t agree, and I have tremendous respect for Frances. I really do. Alison doesn’t always agree with me, I’ll tell you that much....I am not always looking for people that agree with me. I am looking for people who are not looking to stab me in the back every chance they get. That’s all I care about. I don’t care if you disagree. Disagreement is good; stabbing people in the back, not good.”

Mayor Mathews said that they were closed to the public, and he said that they would take a brief recess before entering executive session.

The Clerk asked, prior to entering executive session, where would the Township Committee be meeting on Van Lieu’s Road for their special meeting on May 10<sup>th</sup>. She was told by the Deputy Mayor that they would meet where they met with the engineer. Mayor Mathews said that would be coming off of Amwell Road, make a left onto Danberry, parking along the right hand side.

There was a brief recess from 11:23 p.m. – 11:28 p.m.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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**RESOLUTION #61-18**

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-hiring, contracts, 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,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tim Mathews, Mayor

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

Executive session began at 11:28 p.m.

The regular meeting resumed at 12:03 a.m.

APPOINTMENT OF MUNICIPAL COURT STAFF

Mr. Wang-Iverson said that there was a resolution to hire a new court administrator and read it into the record.

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**RESOLUTION #62- 18**

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell that the following appointment be made as one year probationary appointment, with an effective start date of May 29, 2018:

Jennifer Budrewicz, DCA, CMCA – Joint Court Administrator

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the conditions of Ms. Budrewicz’s appointment are as follows:

- Working hours in East Amwell: Monday – Friday, 8:30AM – 3:00PM. Two Monday evening court sessions per month.
- \$60,000 annual salary: \$4946 from Stockton, \$27,527 each from Delaware & East Amwell. East Amwell will be the lead agency to comply with current pension rules.
- 15% reduction of joint salary if Franklin leaves (\$46,795 + \$4946 = \$51,742.)
- \$50 / call out.
- hour for hour comp time for evening court sessions.
- 18 vacation days, 5 sick days, 3 personal days (per EA policy based on 16 years of service.)
- For 2018 days off prorated as follows: 12 vacation days, 4 sick days, 2 personal.
- medical and PERS benefits provided.

By Order of the Township Committee,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tim Mathews, Mayor

+++++

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

SUMMER PLAYGROUND STAFF

On a question from the Clerk about appointments, the Mayor said that they would not be making any appointments at this time.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES, CONTINUED

ORDINANCE 18-06 2018 SALARY AND WAGE ORDINANCE

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ORDINANCE 18-06 THE 2018 SALARY AND WAGE SCHEDULE

As Attached to the Original Set of Minutes

By Order of the Township Committee,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tim Mathews, Mayor

Attest:\_\_\_\_\_

Teresa R. Stahl, RMC/CMC

Introduced: April 12, 2018

Adopted:

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Motion by Deputy Mayor Wolfe, seconded by Mr. Ostrander, and carried unanimously to introduce this ordinance. The ordinance will be published in the April 19, 2018, issue of the Hunterdon County Democrat, and the public hearing is set for May 10, 2018, at 7:30 p.m.

**ORDINANCE 18-10 AN ORDINANCE FOR DPW SUPERINTENDENT COMPENSATORY TIME CONSISTENT WITH THE EAST AMWELL TOWNSHIP BENEFITS RESOLUTION**

Mayor Mathews said that this is an ordinance to recognize that the DPW Superintendent acts in two roles, as a supervisor and as a laborer when there are storms and adverse conditions. Rather than dollar compensation, he will be provided up to 40 hours of comp time.

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**ORDINANCE 18-10**

**AN ORDINANCE FOR DPW SUPERINTENDENT COMPENSATORY TIME CONSISTENT WITH THE EAST AMWELL TOWNSHIP BENEFITS RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, the Township of East Amwell (the “Township”) has a Department of Public Works (“DPW”); and

**WHEREAS**, the Township employs a Superintendent of its DPW; and

**WHEREAS**, the DPW Superintendent receives a salary from the Township and is not an hourly employee eligible for overtime; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Committee has determined that, subject to the conditions and limitations set forth in this Ordinance, the DPW Superintendent should receive compensatory time for operating a Township snow plow, salt truck or similar Township vehicle during “off hours” in snow or ice storms; and

**WHEREAS**, consistent with the New Jersey Wage Payment Law (N.J.S.A. 34:11-4.1 et seq.) and the findings in the State Comptroller’s Report of April 9, 2014, titled: “Analysis of Local Government Overtime and Compensatory Time Practices,” the Township Committee wishes to set forth in this Ordinance the terms, conditions and limitations governing the DPW Superintendent’s receipt of such compensatory time.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED**, by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell, County of Hunterdon, and State of New Jersey, the following compensatory time policy is hereby created for the position of DPW Superintendent, consistent with the annual benefits resolution:

1. The DPW Superintendent shall receive one hour of compensatory time for each hour (i) during which the DPW Superintendent operates a Township snow plow, salt truck or similar Township vehicle (ii) servicing Township roads (iii) during a snow or ice storm (iv) during hours in which the hourly DPW workers in general receive overtime. The compensatory hours earned by the DPW Supervisor pursuant to this Section 1 are referred to in this Ordinance as “Snow Plowing Compensatory Hours.”
2. The maximum number of Snow Plowing Compensatory Hours or other compensatory hours the DPW Superintendent may earn during any calendar year shall not exceed forty (40) hours.
3. The DPW Superintendent shall not be entitled to carry over to a future calendar year any Snow Plowing Compensatory Hours or other compensatory hours earned by the DPW Superintendent in any prior calendar year. Any Snow Plowing Compensatory Hours or other compensatory hours earned by the DPW Superintendent in any calendar year that are not utilized in that calendar year shall be considered waived.

4. The DPW Superintendent shall not receive, or be entitled to receive, any compensation (monetary or otherwise) for any Snow Plowing Compensatory Hours or other compensatory hours earned by the DPW Superintendent (i) that are waived pursuant to Section 3 above or otherwise, or (ii) that are unutilized at the time of the retirement, death, disability, termination (with or without cause) or other cessation of employment (whether voluntarily or otherwise) of the DPW Superintendent.

5. The DPW Superintendent shall maintain accurate records of all Snow Plowing Compensatory Hours and other compensatory hours earned by the DPW Superintendent and shall provide a copy of such records to the Township Clerk no less frequently than monthly for review and approval by the Mayor of East Amwell Township.

6. This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon its final passage and publication as required by law.

By Order of the Township Committee

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tim Mathews, Mayor

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Teresa R. Stahl, Township Clerk

Introduced:

Adopted:

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Motion by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Ostrander, and carried unanimously to introduce the ordinance. The ordinance will be published in the April 19, 2018, issue of the Hunterdon County Democrat, and the public hearing is set for May 10, 2018, at 7:30 p.m.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

TREASURER/CFO Pasqua provided the bills of the evening. Mayor Mathews said that there was a comment from the public about one bill and he didn't know which one it was. In the audience, Frances Gavigan said it was from Ferriero Engineering. The Mayor suggested to the Township Committee that they approve the bills of the evening with the exception of that one. The Clerk asked if Ms. Gavigan and the Committee were sure that the bill was on this bill list. Ms. Gavigan said that it was on the second bill list, saying that there were two sent out. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that they were on the Planning Board's bill lists. Mayor Mathews said that there was nothing they could do about this; the Clerk said she didn't know, asking the Township Committee if they had read the bill list and did they see it on there. The current bill list was reviewed at this time, with Deputy Mayor Wolfe saying it was a bill for the C variance in the amount of \$1,050 roughly. The Clerk said that the bill list is published on a Monday or Tuesday, and the Planning Board meets on a Wednesday, and she was not sure if the bill was on this list or not. After continued review, it was determined that the bill in question was not on this bill list.

Motion by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Ostrander, and carried to approve the bills of the evening.

TAX COLLECTOR HYLAND provided her monthly report and two resolutions.

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**RESOLUTION #63-18**

WHEREAS there had been a duplicate payment for first quarter 2018 for Block 33, lot 4, 36 Saddle Shop Road, assessed to David H Futterman and Marnie Stetson and,

WHEREAS this amount of \$\$4,662.90 has been requested for refund by Corelogic,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Treasurer is authorized to prepare a check in the amount of \$4,662.90 and that this check be signed and mailed to:

Attn: Refund Department  
Corelogic  
PO Box 9202  
Coppell, TX 75019

By order of the Township Committee,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tim Mathews, Mayor

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**RESOLUTION #64-18**

WHEREAS there had been a overpayment payment for first quarter 2018 for Block 14.02, lot 18, 19 Sandra Road, assessed to Jessica Horne (Kell) and,

WHEREAS this amount of \$1,448.30 has been requested for refund by Apex Mortgage Services,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Treasurer is authorized to prepare a check in the amount of \$1,448.30 and that this check be signed and mailed to:

Attn: Christie Ervin  
Apex Bank  
430 Montbrook Lane  
Ste 207-208  
Knoxville TN 37919

By order of the Township Committee,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tim Mathews, Mayor

+++++ Motion by Mr. Wang-Iverson, seconded by Deputy Mayor Wolfe, and carried unanimously to approve the resolutions.

All other reports were noted without comment.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Mayor Mathews asked if there were any questions about correspondence. Mr. Wang-Iverson asked about the letter from Attorney Brown to Attorney St. Angelo about a house in Ringoes, suggesting that this be referred to Jim Robbins. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that this was taken care of, asking Mr. Taylor if he took care of this and was told yes. Mr. Taylor said that there is a certain non-profit that has a list, so the party was directed there. Mayor Mathews said to answer Mr. Wang-Iverson's question, isn't that the role of Mr. Robbins. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that the problem is that there is no real official list, adding that this is kind of complicated.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, motion by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Ostrander, and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 12:15 a.m.

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Teresa R. Stahl, RMC/CMC  
Municipal Clerk

East Amwell Township  
The 2018 Salary & Wage Schedule  
Ordinance # 18-06

BE IT ORDAINED by the Township of West Amwell, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, as follows:

SECTION ONE: The following shall be the rate and ranges of compensation for the officials and employees of the Township for the year 2018.

**SALARIED:**

Mayor	\$0.00-\$3,473
Township Committee Members	\$0.00-\$3,015
Tax Assessor	\$28,200-\$38,300
Tax Collector	\$32,200-\$61,500
Treasurer/CFO	\$14,790-\$83,300
Municipal Clerk	\$44,895-\$65,000
Payroll Clerk	\$2,079-\$4,100
Zoning Officer	\$13,300-\$14,630
Magistrate-East Amwell 1/2 Share	\$9,800-\$15,000
Magistrate-Additional Franklin Court Allocation per Contract	\$4,330-\$4,504
Court Administrative Officer 1/2 share	\$21,190-\$34,350
Court Administrative Officer - Additional Franklin Court Allocation per Contract	\$5,412-\$5,630
Director of Public Assistance	\$2,342-\$3,991
Public Defender	\$1,120-\$2,365
Public Defender -Additional Franklin Court Allocation per Contract	\$540 - \$565
Prosecutor	\$10,000-\$17,900
Prosecutor - Additional Franklin Court Allocation per Contract	\$4,330 - \$4,504
DPW Superintendent	\$77,467-\$85,135
COAH Municipal Housing Liaison	\$4,770-\$9,982
Board of Health Secretary	\$12,000-\$14,000
Recycling Coordinator	\$2,700-\$2,900
Recreation Committee Secretary	\$2,700-\$2,900
Planning Board Administrator/Zoning Board Administrator/Zoning Board Secretary	\$15,000-\$17,000

**HOURLY:**

Alternate Zoning Officer	\$35.00/hour
DPW Supervisor	\$24.76-\$33.02
DPW Employee	\$20.09-\$29.77
Extra DPW Employee, temporary as necessary	\$9.57-\$23.31
Grounds Maintenance	\$9.57-\$20.39
Deputy Clerk/Assistant Tax Collector	\$18.13-\$26.09
Assistant Treasurer	\$17.82-\$30.37
Deputy Court Administrator-East Amwell 1/2 Share	\$7.80-\$13.87
Environmental Commission Secretary	\$11.23-\$23.44
COAH Housing Inspector	\$35.00
Farmland/Open Space Administrator	\$18.49-\$26.09
Farmland/Open Space Recording Secretary	\$11.23-\$23.44
Rabies Clinic-Secretarial	\$25.00/hour
Secretarial Services	\$11.23-\$23.44
Agricultural Advisory Secretary	\$11.23-\$23.44
Historic Preservation Secretary	\$11.23-\$23.44
Violations Clerk	\$7.96-\$10.08

**BOARD OF HEALTH FEES:**

A. Witnessing Service up to 2 hours	\$50.00
B. Witnessing Services more than 2 hours, up to 8 hours in one day	\$120.00
C. Witnessing Services after 8 hours in one day-(8am-4pm) for each hour or fraction of hour	\$25.00
D. Surcharge for Saturday or Sunday	\$100.00

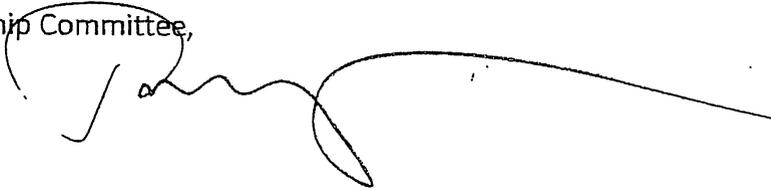
**OTHER:**

Summer Playground Director (per week)	\$198.45-\$284.41
Summer Playground Supervising Director	\$246.57-\$330.85
Dog Census Takers	\$450.00 plus \$500 per district

Section TWO: This ordinance shall become effective upon publication, according to law, and be retroactive back to January 1, 2018, or the date of salary rate change for those employees who may have had a rate change earlier in 2018.

By Order of the Township Committee,

Tim Mathews, Mayor

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tim Mathews', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Attest: Teresa R. Stahl  
Teresa R. Stahl, RMC/CMC  
Municipal Clerk

Introduced: April 12, 2018

Adopted: May 10, 2018