

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 and Kevin Ostrander. Committee member Peter Miller was absent. 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 August 7, 2018.

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

AGENDA REVIEW

Additional Correspondence: 8/8 Municipal Court Administrator report on Dismissed Cases and 8/9 Email from Patsy Wang-Iverson re: Rain Gardens in East Amwell.

There is a revised copy of the Ringoes Village Advisory Committee ordinance in files tonight, dated 8/8/18.

Under Unfinished Business, add another item: Update on Library

Under New Business, add Bike Rallies through East Amwell Township- Discussion Led by Deputy Mayor Wolfe. (Moved to Unfinished Business during the meeting.)

Under New Business, the Mayor added two items: Observations on Tax Bills and Summary of Meeting with the Fire Company (Moved to Unfinished Business during the meeting.)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

East Amwell Recreation Committee's Friday Night in the Park will be held on August 17 from 5 p.m. till dark.

Hunterdon County 4H Fair will be held from August 22 to 26, 2018 at the Fair Grounds on Route 179. See County website at www.hunterdoncountyfair.com for further information.

Municipal Offices will be closed on Monday, September 3, 2018, for Labor Day.

Mayor Mathews added the following announcements:

The Amwell Valley Fire Company will hold a beef and beer event at the firehouse on September 8 from 4 to 9 p.m. This is their second annual event, and the public is invited.

A special announcement was that a resident, who is also a member of the Planning Board, Joe Nyce, had a fiction book published called Mary's Lament, set in a time about 30 years after the death of Jesus. A book signing at his home, 28 Zion Road, will be held on 6:30 on Wednesday.

UPDATE FROM THE CFO

CFO Margaret Pasqua passed out the latest print out of the 2018 budget status.

Ms. Pasqua also put together a print out of the summer playground including registration and funds spent for the last four years. Deputy Mayor Wolfe asked why participants were down from 61 and 65 to 45 this year, asking other committee members if they thought that the rate increase was the cause of a 25% decrease in summer playground. Mayor Mathews said that this is an agenda item, and the director would be giving an update later in the meeting.

Ms. Pasqua mentioned the sick leave matter, which she said was handed off to the labor attorney because of the complexity. Mayor Mathews explained that Archer and Greiner were engaged as the labor attorney under the bond agreement, and David Rapuano is the labor attorney. The Mayor said that he would get the contact information to the Township Committee, and Mr. Rapuano would be working under the current contract agreement. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that the attorney has done this for other clients, and he should be able to get the work done on a cost effective basis since he is not starting from scratch.

CFO RESOLUTIONS:

1) Membership in the National Sourcewell Co-operative:

Ms. Pasqua said that the first resolution is to join the Sourcewell Co-op. Mr. Wang-Iverson asked if the Township was still a member of the Middlesex Co-op; he was told yes. On a question about why this co-op was being recommended, DPW Superintendent Jason Silverthorn, in the audience, said that this is a national co-op with a bigger pool and lots more options and better pricing, mentioning thousands of dollars savings on the same item if purchased from the national co-op as opposed to the Middlesex Co-op.

Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that (QPA) Nancy (Canto) was doing a good job saving the Township money. She reviews just about everything and looks to find items at the lowest price. He commented that the more they work with her, the more he realizes that she was a good catch for East Amwell.

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RESOLUTION #102-18

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING USE OF SOURCEWELL_MN, A NATIONAL COOPERATIVE

WHEREAS, the Township of East Amwell, Hunterdon County, State of New Jersey, desires to participate in the purchasing program known as Sourcewell_mn, and is of the opinion that participation in this program will be highly beneficial to the tax payers through the anticipated savings to be realized; and

WHEREAS, after a competitive solicitation and selection process, Sourcewell_mn has set up a number of Master Agreements to provide goods, products, and services based upon national volumes; and

WHEREAS, the competitive solicitation and selection process required that suppliers allow Participating Public Agencies to purchase goods, products and services on the same terms, conditions and pricing, subject to the applicable local purchasing ordinances and laws of the state of purchase;

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

The Township of East Amwell, Hunterdon County, New Jersey is authorized to enroll and participate in the purchasing program known as Sourcewell_mn, and purchases through such program shall be deemed to meet the agency's competitive purchasing requirements; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall take effect immediately upon its passage.

By Order of the Township Committee,

Tim Mathews, Mayor

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Motion by Mr. Ostrander, seconded by Mr. Wang-Iverson, and carried unanimously.

2) Escrow Return:

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RESOLUTION #103-18

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

WHEREAS, it is necessary to formally cancel said balances;

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

	<u>Amount</u>
#7763567484 Robert Sepesi	\$16.50

By Order of the Township Committee,

Tim Mathews, Mayor

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Motion by Mr. Ostrander, seconded by Mr. Wang-Iverson, and carried unanimously.

SPECIAL DISCUSSION

PRESENTATION BY SHARON ERNST REGARDING EAST AMWELL TOWNSHIP SCHOOL TERRACYCLE PROGRAM

Deputy Mayor Wolfe said as background information, he read an article last week in the Hunterdon County Democrat regarding East Amwell School being honored for recycling non-recyclables. He referenced the fact that East Amwell Township School’s Environmental Club received the NJ Food Council scholarship award from the NJ Clean Community Council for on-going commitment to recycling. He suggested to the Mayor that the Head of the Environmental Club and some of the members be invited to a Township Committee meeting to discuss what they do, saying that the article and the school webpage elaborate on what they do, and he thought it would be useful to get a little more information.

Ms. Ernst said that they received \$1,000 from the NJ Food Council, which was a surprise. She entered the School for a New Jersey Clean Communities award, which she thought would be a plaque. She was invited to an award dinner to receive it. The teacher and whole fifth grade class attended the Hunterdon County 4H Fair Clean Communities Program where a large replica of the check was awarded to them; this award will be hung at the school. The school received an actual check, and the Food Council representative told Ms. Ernst that the award was because of all the things that the School does, e.g., not just planting milkweed for monarchs, but composting and using the material for soil, participating in Terracycle collections (with each classroom and the cafeteria having collection bins). The school receives funds from Terracycle and have used it to purchase native plants, bird feeders, seeds, pitchforks, spades, rakes, etc. Everyone in the Environmental Club and in 5th grade has been in the garden. Some children will also be joining the club in the future. Ms. Ernst displayed some articles made at Terracycle, such a book bag and a pencil case, and she displayed some articles that she herself collected at her home. Ms. Ernst said that the woman from NJ Food Council was impressed that a school of 400 students is a top collector in New Jersey, and Ms. Ernst said that they get recognized often for their top collection of specific items. Ms. Ernst said that the \$1,000 was nice, and in 2011, the school received \$50,000 as a top prize for collections. She said that the school was on the

map, that there were U-Tube Videos, and East Amwell School is out there; they have a lot to sort but these are materials not going into a landfill.

School members were identified as follows: David Fulper, 5th grade, Olivia Ostrander, 5th grade; Jenna Castellano, 8th grade; Stanley Dombroski, 5th grade; Emma Kogut, 5th grade; Sara Castellano, 2nd grade; Ellie Pridachin, 3rd grade; Emma Dombroski, 8th grade.

Deputy Mayor Wolfe asked Ms. Ernst about the school gardens. Ms. Ernst said that there were about 15-17 gardens of different sizes near the building and attract butterflies. The students plant nectar plants, such as zinnia, milkweed, parsley, fennel, etc. in the gardens in front of the building, and the gardens are drought tolerant. She described other gardens, including a very large one near her classroom with stepping stones and “square foot” gardens for smaller children to use. Every year the fifth grade class designs and chooses plants for the greenhouse to do the farm to table program, etc., strawberries, tomatoes, snap peas, etc. The class harvests what they can, including lettuce and kale. Ms. Ernst works with Michele Runk, who has summer program, and they take care of the garden and harvest what is there. What is left over is harvested and given to the school cafeteria at the beginning of the year. There are about 5-6 farm to table crops in the garden, including strawberries.

Deputy Mayor Wolfe asked about using the Terracycle money for the gardens; he was told yes, and Ms. Ernst mentioned having the \$1,000 coming in and the necessity of taking pictures of how they use it, e.g., putting in more garden items, such as snap peas, purchasing compost bins, etc. Deputy Mayor Wolfe asked if they did fund-raising; Ms. Ernst said that just collection of trash was the fundraiser. The \$50,000 that they won had to be used for environmental items and the environmental club, and they also earned between \$13,000-15,000 for collections over the past 10 years. Some of the purchases also included helping the PTO with bleachers and purchase of musical equipment.

Deputy Mayor Wolfe commented on being very impressed with having the young people being involved with recycling at such a young age and wanted to acknowledge their contributions. He read a resolution that he prepared.

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RESOLUTION #104-18

RESOLUTION HONORING THE EAST AMWELL TOWNSHIP SCHOOL’S ENVIRONMENTAL CLUB

WHEREAS, the East Amwell Township School has an Environmental Club, which focuses on protecting the environment and promoting environmental sensitivity; and

WHEREAS, Sharon Ernst, a teacher at the East Amwell Township School, is in charge of the Environmental Club; and

WHEREAS, the Environmental Club participates in TerraCycle, a program that recycles traditionally “nonrecyclable” items, such as chip bags, drink pouches, tooth care products, certain electronic products, ink cartridges, and beauty and body care products; and

WHEREAS, the Environmental Club recently received the New Jersey Food Council Scholarship Award from the New Jersey Clean Communities Counsel for the Club’s ongoing commitment to innovative recycling; and

WHEREAS, the Environmental Club uses the funds it raises to maintain the School’s garden, which is comprised of flowers, plants and crops, as well as bird houses and feeders; and

WHEREAS, the Environmental Club, Sharon Ernst, and the parents and other teachers who assist and support the Environmental Club, perform the admirable task of working toward protecting the environment, and serve as a model for the students of the School and the residents of East Amwell Township regarding environmental sensitivity.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of East Amwell Township that they hereby acknowledge, applaud and appreciate the efforts by the student members of the East Amwell Township School Environmental Club, by Sharon Ernst, and by the

parents and other teachers who assist and support the Club, toward protecting the environment and promoting environmental sensitivity; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Committee wishes the Environmental Club continued success in its endeavors to protect the environment and promote environmental sensitivity.

By Order of the Township Committee,

Tim Mathews, Mayor

Rick Wolfe, Deputy Mayor

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Motion by Mr. Ostrander, seconded by Mr. Wang-Iverson, and carried unanimously to approve the resolution.

Ms. Ernst had some butterflies to release tonight, saying that she keeps them at her house and brings them back to school in the fall, speaking about their repopulating process throughout the year. The public was invited outside to watch the butterfly release at 8:01 p.m. and returned to the meeting room at 8:04 p.m.

Alison Castellano, 9 Prall Court, spoke about Ms. Ernst’s passion and amount of time and effort expended in this effort, including keeping butterflies at her home. She commented on kids participating in her programs and having them remember all their experiences. She again said that Ms. Ernst was passionate and should be commended for her fantastic work.

PRESENTATION BY STEVE SOUZA, PRINCETON HYDRO – UPDATE ON STORMWATER 319H GRANT.

Steve Souza, resident at 20 Iron Horse Drive and founder of Princeton Hydro was here tonight with Dr. Jack Szczepanski to talk about the grant funding, with about \$200,000 in grant money still available. He wanted to discuss other projects. He trusted that some of the governing body members had been over to Clawson Park to see the work done under this grant. The handouts illustrated rain gardens 1 and 2, the wildflower meadow planted over a portion of the pipeline, and a renovated basin #2, the northerly basin. The basin by Rutgers Nursery is in good shape and will not be touched. Mr. Souza confirmed that there was still a lot of grant money available and wanted to discuss projects. There were some ideas put on the table as projects that could be conducted, e.g., a rain garden at the school or here at the municipal building. There are some other drainage problems at Clawson Park that could be corrected with low intensity bio-swales. He would like to steer away from anything that would require DEP permits which would involve a 3 – 6 month permit delay, and they are running out of time. He would like to do some easy lift projects that would only require Hunterdon County Soil Conservation permits. There is no match for these grants, which should be spent. There are limitations, i.e., cannot be used to satisfy the Township’s stormwater permit requirements or flood control, although they are doing flood management in the projects just completed. The grant will expire at the end of next summer. The money can be used for township property, with Mr. Souza mentioning potential work at the school, but adding he was not sure about the municipality working on Board of Education properties. He said that it can be anywhere in the Back Brook watershed, including the Sourland Mountain region.

Mr. Wang-Iverson mentioned some drainage issues in the Iron Horse Road area; Mr. Souza said that the issues were taken care of outside the grant funding. Mayor Mathews mentioned the wet rainy season, and Mr. Souza said that the drainage work done at the park is working perfectly.

The Mayor mentioned the small municipal fields area; Mr. Souza said that he visited the site with DPW Superintendent Silverthorn, but any potential project in that area may require a flood hazard permit. He said that they could take another look at it and design a potential project to minimize regulatory constraints, but working within the stream channel was difficult. The

Mayor asked if this area could be looked at, saying that baseball is not active there now, but they may come back.

Deputy Mayor Wolfe asked if Mr. Souza had any projects on the radar; Mr. Souza said that he would like to stay close to the municipal building for public outreach and PR. On another question from the Deputy Mayor, Mr. Souza said that the property doesn't necessarily have to be owned by the municipality, but if not, easements would have to be acquired. He felt that it was easier to have the work on municipal property, which would only involve maintenance agreements.

Mr. Wang-Iverson asked about the drainage area in front of the parking lot and near Route 202. Mr. Souza said that he didn't look at this area because of potential NJ DOT rights of way, which would be difficult to maneuver.

Deputy Mayor Wolfe was concerned about the possibility of losing the grant money. Mr. Souza commented on the DEP not liking to extend grants, but if there was something in the hopper, they may give a 6 – 12 month extension. Some comments were exchanged between the two about getting a project ready by spring; Mr. Souza said something could be designed and implemented by March or April. Mayor Mathews suggested having Mr. Souza and Mr. Silverthorn propose some projects and come back to the governing body. Mr. Souza said that there was a little work needed on the two rain gardens, which would amount to about \$5,000. He agreed to meet with Mr. Silverthorn to identify project areas. Deputy Mayor Wolfe suggested the Township Committee walk the sites once identified. Mr. Souza agreed to develop and email a concept to the committee, and a site walk date could be chosen.

Mr. Ostrander asked about the costs for rain gardens. Mr. Souza said that they are typically between \$15,000-30,000 for garden, and the Clawson rain garden was on the high end because of under drainage work that was required. Mr. Wang-Iverson asked if the gardens were part of the Eagle Scout project, and Mr. Souza said yes, with the Scout providing a great effort on his part.

Mr. Souza agreed to come back to the September meeting.

DISCUSSION WITH TOWNSHIP ENGINEER WILLIAM BURR AND DPW SUPERINTENDENT JASON SILVERTHORN ON ROADS

Mr. Burr asked if the governing body had any questions on his memo of 7/12 regarding chipping. The Mayor asked if Mr. Burr would first update the governing body on projects.

Mr. Burr said that Mr. Silverthorn was involved with him on the Linvale Road drainage improvements and resurfacing, which was 99% complete. Paving was completed yesterday, and there is a minor punchlist, including pavement clean up. As part of this project, there were three sections of Lindbergh Road to be paved, which was completed. Mayor Mathews asked about the selection of stone for drainage on Linvale Road. Mr. Burr said that the design was prepared by the previous Township Engineer, and he suspected that Engineer O'Neal used curbed blocks on the inlets because of embankments and the thought that they would keep soil in place. Mr. Burr didn't know if this might be an office standard for the previous firm, and he said that he would not have chosen that. Mr. Silverthorn said that this was also installed on Lindbergh Road in the past. On a question from the Mayor on any plowing problems, Mr. Silverthorn said that the DPW marks the location and handles it appropriately. Mr. Burr said that working with Mr. Silverthorn on Linvale, they moved the inlets back further to give more space for two-way traffic and for plowing.

Mayor Mathews referred to the chip-seal memo prepared by Mr. Burr. Mr. Burr said that he discussed chipsealing with Mr. Silverthorn and about two months ago also looked at roads independently. He said that all recommendations were viable candidates with all having a varying degree of necessity. Suggested roads included Snyderstown, Zion, Woodsville, Boss, Back Brook, and Dutch Lane. Estimates for the work were included, based on a cost estimate of \$2.00 per square yard. He spoke about an order of magnitude for the roadwork, mentioning as example sealing coating a road like Zion, which was paved a few years ago. Seal coating sooner than later would prevent oxidation and keep it from falling apart. He added that it may be hard to justify the work if there are other roads that need more work.

Mr. Burr continued by saying that Snyderstown Road was a good candidate since the Township was on the verge of losing the road, i.e., road edges are deteriorating and there are signs of failure in several places. He would recommend the work being done this year or next. He said that Boss Road, Back Brook Road, and Dutch Lane were in pretty good shape, but they will deteriorate if unattended. He spoke about pros and cons on how much to budget for chip seal, but he said that ultimately chip seal does work as a preventive maintenance technique with an industry wide opinion that this buys a road five years of useful life. A brand new road is needed between 15-25 years, depending on traffic, and buying 5 years on a road at a lesser cost is helpful, but Mr. Burr asked where the Township would start.

Mayor Mathews spoke about Woodsville Road being part of a detour for work being done on Route 31, getting a lot more traffic. Mr. Burr agreed with the Mayor on waiting to seal this road until after the detour is done. Mr. Burr also recommended that either his office or the DPW go out and take before and after pictures of a baseline of road conditions, and if there was an issue, bring the concern to the NJDOT for potential funding for repair.

Deputy Mayor Wolfe asked about getting a discount cost for volume of roads; Mr. Burr said that it would depend on the avenue of work. Co-operatives set unit prices, but the Township could publicly bid the work with a higher volume, lower unit prices. Mr. Silverthorn would like to see this done, saying that the contractor hired in the co-operative didn't pretreat stone, which causes dust and loose gravel. He would rather see the Township go out for bid with good specs and get a quality contractor.

Mr. Burr spoke about the unit price for the Hunterdon County co-operative purchase for contractor and subcontractor being around \$2.42 a square yard, and his expectation being about \$2.00 a square yard if the Township went out to bid, although there were no guarantees. Mr. Silverthorn also mentioned a 20-30 percent reduction in cost if volume was there, and he mentioned the expectation of quality work. Mayor Mathews suggested contracting at a slower time, and Mr. Silverthorn said spring and fall were the busiest seasons. Mr. Burr agreed, saying that oil is too hot in summer, and there is a "sweet spot" in the spring and before Halloween. Deputy Mayor Wolfe asked about the time frame for the bid process, and Mr. Burr explained in detail the necessary steps. Depending on timing, it could be done in a month or two. Deputy Mayor Wolfe asked about the prep work by the DPW before the work is done; Mr. Silverthorn said that they could fix a road this year and chip seal next year. He mentioned Snyderstown Road and Woodsville Road being overlaid in 2007, and the Township would lose the roads if nothing is done and will have to start over. Mr. Silverthorn thought that they could do Snyderstown Road this year and do Woodsville in the spring.

Discussion turned to finances, with Deputy Mayor Wolfe asking if money was needed up front or after the work is done; Ms. Pasqua said that the money would have to be available before contracts were awarded but payment is not made until after the work is done. There is \$100,000 in capital now, with Mr. Silverthorn saying that \$50,000 of that is for Ridge Road. Ms. Pasqua mentioned some money in capital and some in surplus but would need to prepare an ordinance. Some comments were exchanged by the Deputy Mayor and Mr. Silverthorn about having enough money for Snyderstown Road work. Mr. Silverthorn commented on doing Snyderstown this year or doing it in the spring, or when the budget is approved next year, do the work with other roads in the fall. Deputy Mayor Wolfe liked a volume discount for multiple roads, perhaps three, and asked if they bid that way, could they award one road this year and the other two next year after the budget is adopted. Mr. Silverthorn said that would have to be checked on, adding that with a capital ordinance, the money could be carried over a year to have a bigger pot.

Deputy Mayor Wolfe felt that the decision of doing the roads was a fundamental decision, i.e., chip seal or let the roads go and then have to repave with that being done only if the Township received grants. He said that the Township Committee must make the decision to chip seal and get five more years out of the roads or let them go and hold them together until grant money is available. Mayor Mathews spoke about doing the work with the current available funding in a phased approach, such as Snyderstown and another road. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that he would want to walk the roads and look at them himself after the list was prioritized. The Mayor agreed that he would like to walk them and also get input from the residents on the road; Deputy Mayor Wolfe agreed. Deputy Mayor Wolfe asked Mr. Burr if he would be able to prioritize the roads, keeping Woodsville Road on the list since it is unclear about the status of this road, and he

agreed to do it. The Deputy Mayor commented on looking at the numbers as well, saying that depending on the priority, they could possibly do more than one in the spring or fall.

Mr. Wang-Iverson asked why Rainbow Hill Road wasn't on the list since there was a lot of work done on it. Mr. Silverthorn said that it was not added because he knew that there was only \$50,000 available. He said that the Township would also have to do work on Lindbergh Road since it is all paved now, and it will be more like a \$75,000 road to seal. Mr. Silverthorn said that he would look at all the roads, but he was aware of the money involved.

Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that the review should be done without a cap constrain, saying it was important to have a prioritized inventory of all the roads, recognizing that they cannot all be done at once. Mr. Silverthorn agreed to do so. Mayor Mathews also asked Mr. Silverthorn to also provide an analysis of how much work the DPW would have to do for each road. Mr. Silverthorn reminded the governing body that a lot of Township money was invested on some of these roads, and he was trying to protect the money that was invested.

Deputy Mayor Wolfe anticipated that there would be a lot of push back from residents on the road who do not like chip seal on the roads and the stones on the road. He said it was a hard decision, saying he does not like chip seal, but he realized that the Township would not be getting grants for each road. Mr. Silverthorn agreed that some roads would not be eligible for grants.

Mr. Burr explained that the biggest complaints that his firm hears about chip seal is the dust, loose stones, and the road is not smooth. For more money, the Township can do a cape seal, which is a layer of chip seal, swept up in about a week, and a layer of slurry seal is applied for a smoother finish; the added layer also helps seal cracks along with giving a smoother service. The cost is double or more than chip seal at about \$4 -5 a square yard, and it is mostly used in subdivisions and suburban areas. Deputy Mayor Wolfe asked if this type of treatment gave additional time to the road beyond the five years for chip seal. Mr. Burr did not know but would find out. Mr. Silverthorn said he knew about this type of treatment from his Rutgers courses. He also spoke about sweeping as part of the program, and Mr. Burr added that the three large chip seal contractors usually sweep as part of their contract.

Mayor Mathews outlined the action plan: A priority road list will be prepared with a DPW impact statement with lead time for prep work. Mr. Silverthorn stated for the record that some roads were beyond chip seal. Ms. Pasqua was asked to see what funds are available for road work. In the interim, the Township Committee will walk the roads and talk to residents.

Ms. Pasqua asked if the Engineer was working on any new grant proposals, saying that even if the Township applies for grants, she would have to find between \$25,000 – 75,000 for cost share. Mr. Burr said that NJ DOT announced their 2019 grant program. The Deputy Mayor asked if there were any projects in the pipeline. Mr. Silverthorn mentioned Linvale Road, near Orchard Road where paving stopped, which is a high traffic volume area. Mayor Mathews mentioned Runyon Mill Road falling apart; Mr. Silverthorn said that their work involved edging. The Deputy Mayor asked about Garboski Road and about traffic on the road; Mr. Silverthorn said that he would have to put the speed trailer on the road, and this road would not meet DOT criteria. Deputy Mayor Wolfe mentioned alligating on the road; Mr. Silverthorn spoke about having demonstrations of road equipment to repair larger cracks and seeing how it does over the winter. Mayor Mathews asked how chip seal resonated with the residents, such as those on Danberry Road and Michael Lane; Mr. Silverthorn commented on the use of cape seal in developments. He added that in speaking with other superintendents, some use quarter inch stone; while there are complaints about chip seal, it is a monetary decision to chip seal rather than repave. The Mayor spoke about the use of chip seal as being perceived as a downgrade. Mr. Burr also mentioned micro-surfacing, which was more of a fine grit and emulsion; it was not the same quality but it does seal cracks and is helpful. Mr. Silverthorn again mentioned the DPW getting to try a machine designed to fix large cracks, which is the latest technology. They'll try it and see how the material does over the winter (i.e., see about shrinkage, etc.). Deputy Mayor Wolfe commented on the size of the cracks on Danberry Road being very big.

Mayor Mathews asked about projects for the next DOT grant. Mr. Burr said that the applications will be submitted electronically by October 8 with supporting documents. He expected to have a good idea of a project by the end of the month, and he would talk with Mr. Silverthorn about

this. He also asked the governing body if they had any candidates. Mr. Burr explained that NJ DOT has defined criteria and a 25 point rating system, which he agreed to forward to the governing body. Mr. Burr said that he would have a short list to offer at the next meeting based on the rating system and any suggestions made.

The Clerk asked about the Ridge Road project. Mr. Burr explained that there were two sections, one approved in 2017 and one in 2018, both totaling around \$450,000. The entire project was designed and shipped to NJ DOT for initial review and they are waiting for either comments or a statement that there are no comments. It will be up to the Township to decide to build either this year or in spring, with Mr. Burr adding that phase 1 (awarded in 2017) must be awarded by June 2019. He hoped that NJ DOT would provide feedback within the next month and the Township could contract to build either this year or in the spring.

Mayor Mathews suggested having a special meeting in September to discuss roads, and all were in agreement.

Mr. Wang-Iverson asked about the total cost of Ridge Road. Mr. Burr said that the design was being based on construction costs at the full amount of the award and the Township would be responsible for soft costs. On a question from Mr. Wang-Iverson, Mr. Burr said that the design will be a full deck reclamation.

The Township Committee and Mr. Burr agreed to have a special meeting on roads on Thursday, September 20, 2018, at 7 p.m. Both Mr. Burr and Mr. Silverthorn were thanked for coming to the meeting tonight.

INTERVIEW OF VOLUNTEER FOR COMMITTEE/BOARD

Alexis Antracoli was present at this time and is interested in serving on the Historic Preservation Committee. Mayor Mathews said that her background matches well with this committee.

Ms. Antracoli said that she moved to Ringoes about two months ago and has a historic house on Old York Road. She is the head of Archiving and Processing at Princeton University and has been doing archiving work for the last decade. Before she came to Princeton, she received her PhD in American History and taught Early American History. She was drawn back to archiving since she did this type of work for such a long period of time.

Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that he spoke with Jim Davidson who wanted her voted in and added that he had plenty of work for her. The Deputy Mayor proposed that she be voted in now. The Clerk mentioned that there was a resignation on the committee that had to be addressed first.

Mr. Ostrander felt that Ms. Antracoli's background was fantastic; Deputy Mayor Wolfe commented on Jim Davidson being happy with this volunteer application. Ms. Antracoli wanted to get involved in the community and felt that using her professional background was a good way to do it. The Mayor thanked her for her offer of services.

A motion was made by Mr. Ostrander, seconded by Mr. Wang-Iverson, and carried to accept the resignation of Historic Preservation Committee member Jeff Kelhert.

The Mayor then appointed Alexis Antracoli to a position on the Historic Preservation Committee. (For the record, she will be taking the vacated seat of Mr. Kelhert.) The Clerk will contact her about meeting times.

UPDATE FROM KATHY VEITH ON 2018 SUMMER PLAYGROUND

Summer Playground Supervising Director Kathy Veith provided a handout on the 2018 Summer Playground. She explained that head count went down, and she had confirmed with the school secretary that enrollment did go down, particularly in the 4-5 grade. There were 17 new children, some of them kindergarten, who did enroll. Ms. Veith heard that there are new families moving into the township, who may have children to enroll and raise the limits. Ms. Veith was disappointed with the significant drop in attendance, but she said that daily attendance

of those enrolled was good, except for the week of drama camp. Next year they will work on coordinating activities, e.g., camp in the morning, drama in the afternoon. Ms. Veith commented on holding camp even in the extreme heat of July and the children enjoyed the program. She spoke about comments both she and Mr. Ostrander received from parents who appreciated the program.

Mr. Ostrander asked how the student volunteers did this year; Ms. Veith said they were helpful, including helping with relays, help in the art room, packing and setting up. She would like to see the volunteer program continue next year and spoke at length about the older children being good role models and seeing the interaction between older and younger grades. Mr. Ostrander thought that this might stimulate more participation next year.

Mayor Mathews asked if the number of counselors could be reduced given the fact that there were only 45 attendees, 20 less than in the past. Ms. Veith said that this could be considered, but they may have to change the number of activities, adding that the children would have to move to another area if counselors had to use the bathroom facilities. The Mayor said that the previous administrator had a ratio of 5 counselors for 64 students and asked about reducing the 5 to 45 figure. Ms. Veith commented on the possibility of reducing counselors and programs and therefore reducing interest in the program. Salary for the program was \$5719, but there were no complaints about fees.

Mayor Mathews suggested earlier marketing of the program next year and after pre-registration, determine the number of counselors needed. He suggested that a plan to promote earlier registration be initiated. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that the salary worked out to \$1143 per counselor, and at 45 students, it equated to \$127 for each student. Ms. Veith added that she kept her budget down to \$1200 this year knowing that the salary increased and the price of the program went up. Mayor Mathews reiterated that a plan for better subscription was necessary for next year.

Alison Castellano said that the next year class of 4th grade will be 25 students, the same as this year. She also said that Thyra Zengel (a summer playground counselor and a member of the Recreation Committee) brought to the Recreation Committee that she has been discussing with the art teacher, Jen Stafford, the possibility of having an afternoon art program and having students stay through lunch for a longer day at the school. Ms. Veith also spoke with Ms. Stafford about this, and if this happens, the clay art project done at the playground will be moved to the art program and help keep the playground budget lower. Deputy Mayor Wolfe also suggested that the playground students could help the Environmental Club maintain the garden during their stay at the school.

Mayor Mathews reiterated that he would like to see a better subscription and a lower cost to the township; he suggested revisiting the model for a better balance next year. Ms. Veith again said that the drama club taking place at the same time as camp reduced some attendance figures. Mayor Mathews asked if a survey was done this year; Ms. Veith explained why she did not do one for personal reasons, but would do one if desired. The Mayor suggested doing one in early spring with questions as to what would entice students to attend.

Mr. Ostrander thanked Ms. Veith for the efforts of all, adding that he was sure that the program was enriching for the children.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

The resignation of Jeff Kelhert and appointment of Alexis Antracoli already took place earlier in the meeting.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION Member Patsy Wang-Iverson was present at this time.

Ms. Wang-Iverson mentioned emailing Jim Davidson and Alexis Antracoli regarding her appointment to the Historic Preservation Committee and hearing back already from Ms. Antracoli.

Ms. Wang-Iverson said that the past discussions with the governing body were all connected, and she appreciated the outline on the agenda.

1) Sustainable NJ Update: This is on hold until after the introduction and passage of the green team ordinance. The next steps would be the appointment of members. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that this was part of the introduction of the ordinance.

2) Trex Program Update: There is a collection box in the lobby of the municipal building, and the first deposit equated to 10.4 lbs of material. Ms. Wang-Iverson suggested that a photo of the box be given to the two political candidates and she suggested that when they and their surrogates knock on every door, they mention the program. This program will also take more plastic waste out of the water stream in a small corner of the west coast of New Jersey, and Ms. Wang-Iverson felt that it would make a difference. She was looking for 100% participation, adding that the first 500 lbs. of plastics would be for a bench, and she would hope that the program would continue thereafter. Ms. Wang-Iverson said that the Township can have five boxes with one for the municipal building, one for the school, and one for Tractor Supply (through Kate McGreevey for the pellet bags). Ms. Wang-Iverson will follow up with Trex to see if they are looking for more businesses. She also mentioned speaking with the postmaster who will look for a location for a box; South County Library will have a box, and Kirkpatrick Church will have one, i.e., now 6 boxes rather than 5. Ms. Wang-Iverson was committed to being responsible for weighing and documenting collections and will bring the materials to Stop and Shop for deposit. She was not committing to the remaining thousands of pounds she expected to be collected, and that would have to be figured out.

3) Plastic Bag Resolution: Ms. Wang-Iverson spoke about the resolution sent from the Environmental Commission, as pointed out by Mr. Ostrander. The question was whether the Township Committee wanted to send their own, asking Mr. Ostrander to talk about the reasons why ANJEC recommended that the Environmental Commission ask the Governor to veto the legislation. Mr. Ostrander had his own reasons, but he believed that it did not meet the expectation of what they really wanted to accomplish, saying that in DC and Maryland, it also did not get the expected outcome. He was also concerned about another taxation and not knowing exactly how the funding would be used – it was for lead abatement but did not say what period of time.

Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that the objection was that the legislation didn't go far enough, and the goal was to ban plastic bags in entirety and impose a tax on paper bags, even recyclable ones, to encourage people to buy cloth bags. Mr. Ostrander also thought that there were too many exceptions, including specific store size and seniors. Deputy Mayor Wolfe read part of the resolution, "Therefore the Town of Blank resolves to support Governor Murphy's ban on bin filled plastic bags with a fee on reusable and recyclable paper bags." Some comments were made about the fees for bags, with Mr. Ostrander saying it was 5 cents a bag with 1 cent staying at the store and the other 4 funneling back to the state. There was also the matter of determining the thickness of the plastic as well. Ms. Wang-Iverson said that if the legislation was passed, municipalities would not be able to enact stricter laws; Mr. Ostrander said yes.

Ms. Wang-Iverson didn't know if the Township Committee wanted to send their own resolution since the Environmental Commission has already contacted the state. Mayor Mathews said that the Environmental Commission's action was sufficient, and he wanted to read more about the legislation.

4) Cost of Signs at Rocky Brook Trail: Ms. Wang-Iverson said that the Superintendent at Washington's Crossing has responded about the guidelines for the signs for two signs at each trail for the DEP and for East Amwell Township. She doesn't have a firm quote from DEPTCOR, who has the lowest pricing. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that Ms. Wang-Iverson should provide it to the Clerk, who will get it to the governing body.

5) 7/20 Email re: Drive Green Grants: Ms. Wang-Iverson said she received an email today about the status of the grants. There is no time line yet, but the Governor and the BPU are

moving forward to encourage the installations of EV charging stations, and she believed that East Amwell is well positioned to host a level 3 charging station. Level 3 stations are 480 volts with a direct current plug and will provide 80% charge in a half hour at a cost of about \$50,000. There will be grants coming, probably several months from now, and she suggested that the Township Committee look at their budget in November to offer to invest funds. She felt that motorists on Route 202 will take advantage of the stations. She said that the information she was providing was not yet public knowledge, but further information about the stations and grants would be available soon. She expected that the DEP would be handling grant administration.

Mr. Ostrander asked who paid for the electrical fees, and was there a charge for users. Ms. Wang-Iverson said that there was a level 2 charger at Duke Park where cars must be plugged in all day to recharge. There is a fee, which she will find out about, and she commented that the Township should not expect that the fees will pay for the system and grants should be sought.

6) Rain Gardens for Residents: Ms. Wang-Iverson spoke about a late email regarding this matter. She spoke with Kyle Richter at North Jersey Resource Conservation and Development (NJRCDC) about doing some work in East Amwell, i.e., a project in the drainage ditch in front of the municipal building where pine trees once were planted but died because of extreme sensitivity to salt. He would put in a filter for pollutants if the Township was interested. The second project was near the stream behind the municipal building, where shade trees would be planted in the stream buffer.

Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that he spoke with Superintendent Silverthorn about these areas. He also spoke with Erica Johanson in the winter when she raised the issue. The property along Route 202 is in a state right of way and there is a stream issue with the DEP near the back of the property. He spoke about the amount of time and money involved for these agencies to say no anyhow. The Deputy Mayor would like to do both projects, and he said that Mr. Souza is looking into to them.

Ms. Wang-Iverson said that she did contact Mr. Souza about creation of rain gardens, adding that Chris Hendrix initiated interest in this project before he left the Environmental Commission last year. NJRCDC is interested in working with residents in the creation of rain gardens in the Neshanic Watershed with grants being available. The group also wants to host a rain garden construction workshop and bring people from Rutgers to advise on construction. Ms. Wang-Iverson suggested that the 319H Grant could be used in part for the private rain gardens. Mayor Mathews said that Mr. Souza previously advised that use of the money must be for municipal property, and Deputy Mayor Wolfe added that if it was used on private property, the owners would have to provide maintenance easements, which might be difficult to get. Ms. Wang-Iverson said that the grant required property owners to maintain the gardens for stormwater runoff.

Mayor Mathews suggested UTube videos on how to make and maintain the rain gardens. Deputy Mayor Wolfe suggested that Ms. Wang-Iverson speak with Mr. Souza about the issue. Mayor Mathews agreed that she should work with Mr. Souza, who is coming back to the Township Committee next month.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Mathews spoke about the June 14 executive minutes that were approved at the July meeting, saying that he approved the change in them attributing some comments to him.

June 14, 2018 Regular Minutes: The Clerk explained that the minutes were, in fact, approved at the last meeting when Mr. Wang-Iverson made some corrections. However, Deputy Mayor Wolfe then asked that the minutes be held until the Mayor was present to make sure that what was offered by Mr. Wang-Iverson was corrected in context.

Mayor Mathews listened to the changes that Mr. Wang-Iverson wanted, and he had no objection to it. He also listened to the previous minutes to put things in context, and he wanted to offer some additional changes. Mayor Mathews mentioned Mr. Wang-Iverson's statement "that are deemed unsafe and are blowing out people's tires with potholes, etc." The Mayor said that the

actual statement was, “This allows the DPW staff to have the equipment and materials needed to go around town and fix issues that are deemed unsafe and are blowing out people’s tires with potholes, etc.” The Mayor said that to put things in context, he would like to add the entire statement.

The Mayor said that subsequent to that, a resident posed a very long question, summarized as, is this funding from the budget discussions. He said that his answer, which wasn’t in the minutes, is something that he would like to add to add context to what he said. He added, “This makes available the funding so that Jason, i.e., DPW, can do the work envisioned in the budget.”

The Mayor said that he would entertain any more comments.

Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that he also took a look at the minutes and wanted to clarify that in 2017, the then Township Committee, with him voting no, authorized \$100,000 in the budget and sought an ordinance to allocate a portion of that to fix potholes. He pointed it out that the budget was rendered illegal and they went back and the next day said that they didn’t really mean potholes, notwithstanding that they all told him that repeatedly but what they meant was chip seal. The Deputy Mayor said that Mr. Wang-Iverson is trying to say that the Mayor’s statement in June had the same issue that their statement made because you used the word potholes, and that was simply not true. The discussion that they were having when the Mayor made his statement pertains to the issues that they saw, for example, on Van Lieus Road. There are significant drainage problems on some of the Township roads, which is causing the roads to collapse in spots to open up sinkholes or potholes. Those are dangerous and put people at risk. On Van Lieus Road, cones had to be placed around one of them so no one would drive into it, particularly with a smaller vehicle since it would undoubtedly damage a vehicle. The Deputy Mayor said that what they were focusing with the allocation that they were doing with the funds was to deal with the drainage issues, and that is why the Mayor spoke about equipment and materials to go around town and fix things that were unsafe, not regular potholes, but the sinkholes that are opening up as a result of drainage issues, and those are clearly capital. He did not think that people would debate whether they are capital with tearing up the road and putting in concrete pipe. They are dealing with drainage issues so the two situations are not the same, and he wanted to point that out.

Mr. Wang-Iverson said that he looked at the budget minutes from 2017, and the most extensive discussion on the capital budget was on February 9, 2017. There was the discussion about how much money to put into the capital budget and what it would be used for, and the discussion centered exclusively on chip seal with never a mention of potholes. The budget, when adopted, said nothing about potholes. The ordinance said nothing about potholes. He said that the idea that anybody on the Township Committee put forward the \$50,000 for potholes was simply not the case.

Deputy Mayor Wolfe said, “Well, David, as usually the case, you are wrong.” Mr. Wang-Iverson said that he was not wrong. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that he would read to Mr. Wang-Iverson. He said that he would start with the May 11, 2017 meeting, “Deputy Mayor Sageser explained that the \$100,000 helps keep potholes filled and other repairs made by providing for the purchase of material used by the DPW. Mr. Wang-Iverson suggested a possible figure of \$250,000 a year for a number of years.” It goes on to say, “Mayor Van Horn said that the \$100,000 in capital was for patching and repairs.” The Deputy Mayor said that after the May 11th meeting, he started thinking to himself that \$100,000 to keep potholes filled and for patching and repairs doesn’t sound like capital to him. He read verbatim from the June meeting -- Rick Wolfe: “Costs. What engineering costs, is there some sort of plan?” Terri Stahl said “It’s mostly for them to buy the materials that they need for repairing.” Charlie Van Horn: “Yes. This is basically just for patching and repairing the roads and we need to purchase the materials for this, whatever you call the black stuff that they put down. We buy it from the County, we don’t have to go out bid on this. We buy it from their bid and they’ll make it available to us.” Rick Wolfe: “So, Charlie, you’re talking about – I’m going to use layman’s terms, because I don’t know if I necessarily know the technical terms – but the tar that fills the potholes?” Charlie Van Horn: “Right.” Rick Wolfe: “Or the oil that is used for chip seal?” Dart Sageser: “No, it’s not chip-seal. It’s actually, they call it [blank]. It’s underlayment material.” Charlie Van Horn: “If we had Jason here we’d know exactly what it’s called. He could not be here. He couldn’t have been here anyway as it turns out. The Engineer can’t be here until July.” Rick Wolfe: “But, this is just to maintain the roads, isn’t it?” Charlie Van Horn: This is to maintain.

Correct". Rick Wolfe: "This is to maintain?" Charlie Van Horn: "This is to maintain. This is patching, basically maintaining. For \$50,000, this is just maintaining." Rick Wolfe: "Okay, I just couldn't understand." Kevin Ostrander: "Is this just a typical annual expenditure? Roughly we see about \$50,000?" Charlie Van Horn: "Yes, \$50,000." Kevin Ostrander: "So this is standard, correct?" Dart Sageser: "Yes, we put it in the capital ordinance and now have to authorize..." Rick Wolfe: "So if we have potholes, we get the materials to fill potholes?" Charlie Van Horn: "Fill the potholes.": Rick Wolfe: "Or if we have cracks, we have to take oil to do whatever to seal the cracks." Charlie Van Horn: "Yes." Rick Wolfe: "Okay." Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that later on in the meeting -- "Rick Wolfe: "Now I understand why [about the expenditure]." Charlie Van Horn: "This will be as it comes up." Rick Wolfe: "If a pothole comes up, you can fill it." Charlie Van Horn: "Yes." Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that this was to fill potholes, and it was the June 8, 2017 meeting. He said that lo and behold, on June 9, 2017, they all get an email from Terri, saying that he didn't know who wrote the email but it came from Terri. "Jason was in the office for a few minutes. He clarified that the sub grade work was a capital expense. The materials include blacktop, stone, drainage pipe, block are used for subgrade work that the DPW needs to do. The work lasts for more than five years. There is no specific list of roads yet. The blacktop that is used for potholes comes out of the operating budget."

Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that what happened was that he questioned the Committee about the use of this material for potholes, and the answer was yes by a number of you. He then pointed out that this rendered the budget illegal. They all went back to wherever they all go, the little EADA hovel, and got the email sent out and said no, no, no, that's not what we meant. We really didn't mean that. That comes out of the operating budget. We really meant that this \$50,000 was for chip seal. Notwithstanding that when he questioned if it was for chip seal, he was told no. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that what Mr. Wang-Iverson just said was not correct. He said that what he just read was verbatim transcript from the minutes. He said that "you guys" screwed up and were going to take \$50,000 and use it to fill potholes. He said that was not a capital expense. He said that they got their hands slapped, and now they are trying to say that Mayor Mathews made the same mistake. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that the Mayor did not make the same mistake; he wasn't talking about filling potholes. He was talking about dealing with drainage issues, and it was not the same, and that was his point.

Mr. Wang-Iverson said that he would repeat what he said before. All of the budget discussions referred exclusively to chip sealing. He said that this was in the February minutes. The budget for the capital said nothing about potholes and when the ordinance was adopted it was for subgrade reconstruction and surface treatment, nothing about potholes. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that when the ordinance was presented, it did not say surface treatment. He said that after he pointed it out, the ordinance was amended before it was adopted, and he questioned whether the ordinance had to be reintroduced, and Attorney Cushing said no. Deputy Mayor Wolfe told Mr. Wang-Iverson to go back and get his facts right and come here with actual language as opposed to statements out of the air, and he would be happy to continue this conversation. The Deputy Mayor said to bring him statements from the minutes and bring him a transcript. Mr. Wang-Iverson said that it is on the website. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that the problem is that "you guys lie, you are too lazy to get anything done, you take credit for everybody else's work, and then you are trying to paint us as the same type of people but we are not. We don't sit here and lie. We are not lazy. We work hard. We understand how this budget works. We don't rely on other people to do our work. We don't rely on a \$70,000 administrator to do our work. We do the work. And we make sure that we understand what we are doing or we certainly do make the best effort we can. So don't try to drag me down into your slime hole or don't try to drag the Mayor down into your slime hole. We are not in your slime hole. Okay? You screwed up on the budget. You planned on allocating this for potholes. You all said it repeatedly." Mr. Wang-Iverson said that was not true. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said, "Well I read directly what you said. I specifically asked if this was for chip seal, and the answer was no. I asked if it was to fill potholes, and the answer was yes, not just one of you but several of you. That's true, and we can bring the tapes and play the tapes for everybody." Mr. Wang-Iverson said that he could also play the tape from February. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said, "You play the tape, David. You keep saying to me, you can do this and you can do that. I brought the transcript, and you bring the words. Bring them." Mr. Wang-Iverson said okay. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said, "Then I'm happy to have the debate. You love to invent things." Mr. Wang-Iverson said that he was not inventing anything and was telling him what was in the February budget meeting. Deputy Mayor said, "And yeah, David, you sent out an email telling everybody that your petition is why the library came back. And then when I asked if you gave the petition to the Freeholders or the

Commission, you said no. Then when I said how can your petition bring the library back when the Freeholders or the Commission never saw it, you say ‘I withdraw the statement’ because you were bold face lying and got caught. You are the worst liar possible because you lie to your own constituents. You go out there and profess that you did all kinds of great things when you didn’t.” Mr. Wang-Iverson said that was not true. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said, “It is true. I caught you in a lie last month, a bold faced lie.”

Mr. Wang-Iverson said that he would tell him what isn’t a lie, asking if they would be talking about the library now, noting an agenda item later on the agenda. Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that he would be happy to discuss whenever the Mayor wanted.

The Mayor said to focus on the minutes now, asking if everyone was okay with the changes made by both Mr. Wang-Iverson and his comments. All were in agreement.

The Clerk asked for a new motion on the changes. Motion by Mr. Ostrander, seconded by Deputy Mayor Wolfe, and carried unanimously to approve the June 14, 2018 regular minutes with Mr. Wang-Iverson and Mayor Mathews’ changes.

July 12, 2018, Regular Minutes were approved on a motion by Mr. Ostrander, seconded by Deputy Mayor Wolfe, and carried with one abstention, Mayor Mathews.

July 12, 2018, Executive Minutes will be held under after Executive Session because Deputy Mayor Wolfe had some corrections to offer.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC Comments pertaining to topics not on tonight’s agenda

Glorianne Robbi, 144 Lamberville-Hopewell Road, had a query for the Township Attorney, Mr. Taylor. She said that there is a current item displayed on the Township website, which says, “Draft Ordinance for the Village of Ringoes. At their August 9th meeting, the Township Committee is considering an ordinance for an advisory committee for the Village of Ringoes. They are looking for comments on the proposed ordinance prior to introduction. Please contact Deputy Mayor Rick Wolfe at rwolfe@eastamwelltownship.com and Richard.wolfe@friedfrank.com or at 908-377-0560 with any comments you may have.”

Mrs. Robbi said that this goes out to the residents, and she asked if the Township Attorney advised the Township about the legality of a Township elected official directing residents on the Township’s website to use his commercial law firm’s email as a contact for comments on the proposed ordinance. She asked if this satisfied New Jersey’s Open Public Meeting Act (OPMA).

Mr. Taylor said that he usually doesn’t speak at the Township’s public meeting because he’s not an elected official, but if the Committee directs him, he will respond. The Mayor had no problem with that. Mr. Taylor did not find this a violation of the Open Public Meetings Act. Mrs. Robbi asked Mr. Taylor if that was his response and if there was no question in his mind. Mr. Taylor said that he would look at it again if he was paid to do so, but he did not think it was a viable use of his time, adding that there was not OPMA policy or procedure that he was aware of or familiar with in his experience with this issue. Deputy Mayor Wolfe asked if Mr. Taylor read articles on OPMA. Mr. Taylor said usually more with the Open Public Records Act (OPRA) than OPMA, but he was familiar with both.

Deputy Mayor Wolfe wanted to add a comment, and the Mayor said to wait until after the public commented.

John Seramba, 111 John Ringo Road, thanked the Township for answering his wife’s call about a potential tree problem near the easement to his property, and they notified the electric company to take the tree down. He was here tonight with two of Chris Stahl’s daughters (who had to leave earlier) regarding three trees in the cemetery that are very dead and a real safety issue with a potential to fall on the easement or onto John Ringo Road. He was here tonight to ask who is responsible for this major safety issue since the ownership of the Servis-Quick Cemetery is unknown. Deputy Mayor Wolfe will visit the site over the weekend.

Mr. Seramba also suggested that the Clerk prepare two binders for the back table with all the items being discussed (i.e., correspondence, ordinances, etc.) by the Township Committee, saying that Raritan Township and the Town of Clinton have these binders and it engages the public. Mayor Mathews said it was a good idea, and Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that maybe the material can be posted on the website when it is up.

Mr. Seramba was impressed seeing all the students at the meeting earlier, and he suggested that the Mayor and Deputy Mayor may want to attend a political science class at the school to explain to students what they do. Mayor Mathews said that when he ran for election in the past, he debated another candidate at the high school as part of their curriculum. The Mayor will call John Capuano and discuss this. Mr. Seramba spoke about youth involvement, adding that they have 40 first aid squad members, and it being nice to see youth participation.

Frances Gavigan, 123 Wertsville Road, said that she has brought this subject up in the past, saying that the first open to the public took place at 9:50 p.m. this evening. She suggested holding the open to the public session at the beginning of the meeting to create more engagement from the public. She also thought that it was a great idea to become involved at the local school and high school, commenting on “as a tree bends, so it grows” and pointing out that Mr. Ostrander has family at the school, and it being a good idea to get students involved to make a difference, which is an area that can improve.

Motion by Mr. Ostrander, seconded by Mr. Wang-Iverson, and carried to close to the public.

Mayor Mathews said that the Deputy Mayor wanted to make some comments. Deputy Mayor Wolfe felt it was a good idea to post draft ordinances to solicit comments. He said he did not advise the Clerk which email addresses to use, but she typically uses both of his email addresses. He said he now has his East Amwell account set up to send all email to his work account and the Clerk did not have to use the work account any longer. He said that originally, he used both email accounts to make sure that he could respond to inquiries in real time and this was the reason for using the work account.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

4H GAME LICENSES FOR K. RHODE OF M AND K GAMES, AG-18-03 THROUGH AG 18-08: ONE BALL; BALLOON DARTS; MINI BASKETBALL; MONKEY TOSS; WATER RACE; DOG DART FOR EVENT TO BE HELD ON AUGUST 22 – 26, 2018 AT THE FAIRGROUNDS

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RESOLUTION # 105 -18

WHEREAS, South County Park, property belonging to the County of Hunterdon, is located in the Township of East Amwell, and

WHEREAS, South County Park is now the location of the annual Hunterdon County 4H Agricultural Fair, and amusement games play an important part in the entertainment at the Fair;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell approves the following amusement game application, which conform to local ordinances:

- Applications AG #18-03, 18-04; 18-05; 18-06; 18-07; 18-08
- Kimberly Ann Rhode, 1244 N. Ott Street, Allentown, PA 18104
- Operating Under the Name of M & K Amusements
- Hunterdon County 4H Fair/South County Park/ 1207 Route 179,
- Lambertville, NJ 08530
- August 22-26, 2018
- One Ball; Balloon Darts; Mini Basketball; Monkey Toss; Water Race;

Dog Dart

By Order of the Township Committee,

Tim Mathews, Mayor

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ABC SPECIAL AFFAIRS LICENSES:

- St. Peters Foundation, 9/4/18, at The Ridge at Back Brook
- NJ Coalition Automotive Retailers, 9/17/18, at The Ridge at Back Brook

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RESOLUTION # 106 -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 granting Special Permits for Social Affairs from the New Jersey Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control for an event to be held by St. Peter’s Foundation at The Ridge at Back Brook, 211 Wertsville Road, Ringoes, NJ 08551, on September 4, 2018.

By Order of the Township Committee,

Tim Mathews, Mayor

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RESOLUTION # 107 -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 granting Special Permits for Social Affairs from the New Jersey Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control for an event to be held by NJ Coalition of Automotive Retailers at The Ridge at Back Brook, 211 Wertsville Road, Ringoes, NJ 08551, on September 17, 2018.

By Order of the Township Committee,

Tim Mathews, Mayor

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

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

ORDINANCE 18-17 AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A RINGOES VILLAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (8/8 VERSION)

Deputy Mayor Wolfe explained that at reorganization the Committee spoke about looking into the Ringoes village area, adding that no one debated the significant issues in the deteriorating village, and the possibility of establishing a committee to look into what can be done with the village. The Deputy Mayor spoke about difficulties in establishing the committee, with lots of revisions and black lines in the ordinance, based on suggestions and feedback, including the mission of the committee, number of members, budgetary items, whether liaisons could vote, the Mayor’s ability to remove members, etc. Deputy Mayor Wolfe commented on the high points of the ordinance, with consensus being the members should come from the Village area, both residents and on-site (not absentee) business owners with the residents being the majority of the

five member committee – the intent is that they have a real connection with the village; after discussion, it was decided that there would not be any Planning Board or Township Committee members and the members are a-political; the Mayor has the right to appoint but does not have the discretion to remove without showing cause for bad faith – the basic design is so that the committee is not disrupted with leadership change, and it remains stable. Purposes are pretty broad, including examination of expansion of commercial activities, parking, septic issues, aesthetics, converting existing residences for affordable housing, with the Deputy Mayor receiving an email from a resident suggesting looking at functioning of the existing affordable housing in the village. Other purposes include looking at ways to improve pedestrian, vehicular, and bicycle traffic, preserving historic structures, looking at public and private grants, etc. It will be an advisory, not enforcement, committee, and the committee will not launch until all five members are chosen. The Deputy Mayor does not want to launch the committee and fail, adding that some of the feedback he previously received indicated that this was tried before and nothing happened. This got him to be laser focused on creation, including determining that five members is the appropriate number for dedicated members, the interview process will be intense, membership is limited to the village and surrounding area because “they have skin in the game.” Deputy Mayor Wolfe said he received a lot of comments and feedback, there were a bunch of drafts, that this is a really critical committee, and he was still looking for comments. The goal is to enact the ordinance next month, and he believed that it would be process to appoint the members.

Mayor Mathews commended Deputy Mayor Wolfe for his efforts in putting this ordinance together, including taking comments and doing research, and he realized that it was a lot of work.

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**TOWNSHIP OF EAST AMWELL
HUNTERDON COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
ORDINANCE #18-17,**

**AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING
A RINGOES VILLAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell believes that an advisory committee should be formed to study the area in the Township known as the Ringoes Village and identify practical and economically viable ways to improve the Ringoes Village; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee believes that the advisory committee should be comprised of (i) residents of the Township who live in or near the Ringoes Village, and (ii) persons, whether or not residents of the Township, who own and operate a business in the Ringoes Village.

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 [ZZ] of the Code of the Township of East Amwell:

Chapter ZZ: Ringoes Village Advisory Committee.

§ ZZ-1 **Establishment.** There is hereby established in the Township of East Amwell an advisory committee known as the Ringoes Village Advisory Committee.

§ ZZ-2 **Definitions.** As used in this Chapter, the following terms have the following meanings:

RINGOES AREA. The Ringoes Village and, to the extent not included within the Ringoes Village, (i) the portion of John Ringo Road from Larison Lane to Toad Lane; (ii) Iron Horse Drive; (iii) Sandra Road, Michael Lane, Fisher Court and Hart Lane; (iv) Fox Hunt Road; and (v) Melbourn Lane.

RINGOES AREA RESIDENT. An individual who is a resident of, and owns and occupies a home in, the Ringoes Area.

RINGOES VILLAGE. The area within East Amwell Township designated as the “Village District” on the July 2006 version of the Zoning Map of East Amwell Township.

RINGOES VILLAGE BUSINESSES OWNER. An individual who owns or co-owns, manages and is regularly present at, a business located within the Ringoes Village and open to the public.

§ ZZ-3 **Members.** The Ringoes Village Advisory Committee will consist of the following members, each of whom will be appointed by the Mayor:

- A. Regular Members. Five regular members, each of whom will be a voting member.
- B. Youth Members. Up to two youth members, who must be between 15-18 years old at the time of their appointment, each of whom will be a non-voting member.

§ ZZ-4 **Composition of Members; Terms.**

- A. Regular Members. Each regular member of the Ringoes Village Advisory Committee must be, at the time of their appointment and throughout their term, a Ringoes Area Resident and/or a Ringoes Village Business Owner; provided, however, that a majority of the regular members must be Ringoes Area Residents at the time of their appointment. The regular members may be a member of any other committee(s) or board(s) of East Amwell Township, other than the Township Committee and the Planning Board (and, if it exists as a separate body, the Zoning Board of Adjustment), 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 will end on the date such member is no longer a Ringoes Village Resident or a Ringoes Village Business Owner; (ii) the term of a regular member who is an employee of East Amwell Township will end on the date such member is terminated as an employee; and (iii) the terms of the regular members first appointed pursuant to this § ZZ-4 will be as follows: (I) one regular member will initially have a one (1) year term; (II) two regular members will initially have a two (2) year term; and (III) two regular members will initially have a three (3) year term.
- B. Youth Members. Each youth member must be a resident of East Amwell 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.

§ ZZ-5 **Leadership.** At each annual reorganization meeting of the Ringoes Village Advisory Committee, the regular members of the Committee will elect, by a majority vote, a Chairperson and a Vice-Chairperson. There is no limit on the number of times, consecutively or nonconsecutively, that a person may serve as Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson.

§ ZZ-6 **Meetings.** The Ringoes Village Advisory Committee will hold public meetings on a regular basis.

§ ZZ-7 **Quorum.** A quorum of the Ringoes Village Advisory Committee will consist of at least three regular members. Approval of any matter will require the affirmative vote of a majority of a quorum.

§ ZZ-8 **Removal.** The Mayor will have the right to remove any regular member or youth member of the Ringoes Village Advisory Committee for cause. Absent a clear showing of bad faith, a determination by the Mayor that there was cause for removal shall be conclusive and final. It is expected that each regular member will regularly attend the meetings of the Ringoes Village Advisory Committee. Unexcused absence from three or more of the regularly scheduled meetings in any calendar year is grounds for removal and replacement by the Mayor.

§ ZZ-9 **Budget.** Each year, the Ringoes Village Advisory Committee will prepare an annual budget, and will submit that budget to the Township Committee for its approval. The budget may, but will not be required to, include (i) costs of obtaining legal advice, or advice from a municipal planner or other qualified professionals, regarding proposals for improving the Ringoes Village, (ii) costs of seeking and applying for grants to improve the Ringoes Village, and (iii) costs of an administrator for the Ringoes Village Advisory Committee. Approval of any such budget will be in the sole discretion of the Township Committee. The Township Committee will have the right to modify any budget that is proposed by the Ringoes Village Advisory Committee.

§ ZZ-10 **Compensation.** No member of the Ringoes Village Advisory Committee will receive any compensation for serving on the Committee.

§ ZZ-11 **Liaisons.** Each year, (i) the Mayor will appoint one member of the Township Committee as its liaison to the Ringoes Village Advisory Committee, (ii) the Planning Board Chairperson will appoint one member of the Planning Board as its liaison to the Ringoes Village Advisory Committee, and (iii) if East Amwell Township has a Zoning Board of Adjustment, the Zoning Board of Adjustment Chairperson will appoint one member of the Zoning Board of Adjustment as its liaison to the Ringoes Village Advisory Committee. Each other committee and board in the Township will have the right, but not any obligation, to appoint a liaison to the Ringoes Village Advisory Committee. No liaison will have any voting rights on the Ringoes Village Advisory Committee.

§ ZZ-12 **Purpose.** The purpose of the Ringoes Village Advisory Committee is to carefully study the Ringoes Village and identify practical and economically viable ways to improve the Ringoes Village, including, but not limited to:

- i. Improving the aesthetic appearance of the Ringoes Village, focusing in particular on the properties within the Ringoes Village that have fallen into extreme disrepair.
- ii. Determining whether it is desirable to increase commercial activity within the Ringoes Village and, if it is, (A) whether the focus should be on certain type of businesses, such as antique shops and art galleries, (B) whether the increased commercial activity will require more parking than is currently available in the Ringoes Village, (C) whether existing residences in the Ringoes Village should be converted to commercial use, (D) whether the infrastructure of the Ringoes Village, particularly the septic systems, can accommodate the increased commercial activity and (E) whether, in connection with any of the foregoing, the permitted uses within the Ringoes Village should be changed.
- iii. Determining whether it is desirable to convert any of the existing residences in the Ringoes Village to affordable housing, either rental or owner-occupied, to assist the Township in satisfying its affordable housing obligations.
- iv. Examining the success, economically and otherwise, of the existing multi-family housing and affordable housing in the Ringoes Village
- v. Determining whether there are ways to improve pedestrian, vehicular and bicycle circulation within the Ringoes Village.
- vi. Determining whether to preserve any of the historic structures within the Ringoes Village.
- vii. Determining whether government or private grants are available to assist with the funding of any recommendations.
- viii. Determining whether there are economically viable ways for East Amwell Township to assist with the funding of any recommendations.

§ ZZ-13 **Oversight.** The Ringoes Village Advisory Committee will report directly to the Township Committee. The Ringoes Village Advisory Committee is solely an advisory committee and therefore will not have any legislative or judicial authority or enforcement powers.

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, Township Clerk

Introduced: August 9, 2018

Adopted:

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Motion by Mr. Ostrander, seconded by Mr. Wang-Iverson, and carried unanimously to approve introduction of the ordinance.

The ordinance will be published in the August 16, 2018, issue of the Hunterdon County Democrat, and the public hearing will be held at the regular Township Committee meeting on September 13, 2018, at 7:30 p.m.

ORDINANCE 18-18 AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A GREEN TEAM ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Deputy Mayor Wolfe commented on being the “committee ordinance drafter” adding that Mr. Taylor reviewed the advisory ordinances, and he appreciated the feedback he received from the attorney.

Deputy Mayor Wolfe explained that the Green Team Advisory Committee is a product of two ideas. He said that the older he gets, the more he cares about environmental issues, e.g., he and his wife built a net zero house and he had straws banned at his law firm. One of the things he wanted to do was start a green initiative, even if not a formal committee, that would work hand in hand with open space and preservation. When Ms. Wang-Iverson presented information about potential grants available, and he dug further in to the Green Team, he saw the green initiative and team coming together, and he wanted it up and running as soon as possible so that the Township could get grants. Based on what he learned from the students tonight, he felt that there were probably lots of other grants to tap for environmental issues.

Deputy Mayor Wolfe explained establishing a green team as a committee of 7 members, with the Mayor having cart blanche, i.e.. no limit to who is appointed as long as they are residents of the township; there is the ability to appoint up to two non-resident members if they have significant environmental expertise to contribute; the members can serve on other township committees or boards; they can have as many students, including the entire Environmental Club, if they want – the number is unlimited; the mission is to look at environmental issues in East Amwell, e.g., solar for the municipal building; expanding the recycling program for non-recyclable collections; education and expansion of recycling; etc. The goal is to introduce the ordinance tonight and pass it next month and find seven people to serve; the Deputy Mayor has already asked some

people to serve on this a-political committee. The members just have to be committed to the environmental cause, get the team up and running, and start seeking grants.

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

**AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING
A GREEN TEAM ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

WHEREAS, the Township of East Amwell has a strong desire to protect and maintain its natural beauty through the preservation of farmland and open space within the Township;

WHEREAS, the Township of East Amwell also has a strong desire to protect the Township’s wildlife and environment;

WHEREAS, the Township Committee believes that a logical extension of the foregoing is focusing on promoting a more environmentally sensitive lifestyle within the Township, including through (i) the use of renewable energy; (ii) recycling, including recycling traditionally non-recyclable items; (iii) reducing storm water runoff; (iv) reducing the use of pesticides and other potentially harmful products; (v) avoiding the use of non-recyclable products; and (vi) the use of environmentally friendly products.

WHEREAS, the Township Committee believes that an advisory committee should be formed to advise the Township Committee on ways to improve the environmental sensitivity of East Amwell Township and its residents;

WHEREAS, a nonprofit organization called Sustainable Jersey provides tools, training and financial incentives to municipalities within New Jersey to enable them to, among other things, improve the environment and promote sustainability;

WHEREAS, to participate in the Sustainable Jersey program a municipality must form a “green team”;

WHEREAS, the Township Committee would like the Township of East Amwell to participate in the Sustainable Jersey program; and

WHEREAS, based on the foregoing, the Township Committee wishes by this Ordinance to establish a “Green Team Advisory Committee.”

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 the Code of the Township of East Amwell as Chapter 30:

Chapter 30: Green Team Advisory Committee.

§ 30-1 **Establishment.** There is hereby established in the Township of East Amwell an advisory committee known as the Green Team Advisory Committee.

§ 30-2 **Members.** The Green Team Advisory Committee will consist of the following members, each of whom will be appointed by the Mayor:

A. Regular Members. Seven regular members, each of whom will be a voting member.

B. Youth Members. Any number of youth members, as determined from time to time by the Mayor of East Amwell Township, who must be between 10-18 years old at the time of their appointment, each of whom will be a non-voting member.

§ 30-3 **Composition of Members; Terms.**

A. Regular Members. Each regular member of the Green Team Advisory Committee must be, at the time of their appointment and throughout their term, a resident of East Amwell Township; except that up to two regular members may be non-residents of East Amwell Township who have significant expertise on environmental matters relevant to East Amwell Township. A regular member may be a member of any other committee(s) 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 the terms of the regular members first appointed pursuant to this § 30-3 will be as follows: (i) two regular members will initially have a one (1) year term; (ii) two regular members will initially have a two (2) year term; and (iii) three regular members will initially have a three (3) year term.

B. Youth Members. Each youth member must be a resident of East Amwell 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.

§ 30-4 **Leadership.** At each annual reorganization meeting of the Green Team Advisory Committee, the regular members of the Committee will elect, by a majority vote, a Chairperson and a Vice-Chairperson. There is no limit on the number of times, consecutively or nonconsecutively, that a person may serve as Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson.

§ 30-5 **Meetings.** The Green Team Advisory Committee will hold public meetings on a regular basis.

§ 30-6 **Quorum.** A quorum of the Green Team Advisory Committee will consist of at least four regular members. Approval of any matter will require the affirmative vote of a majority of a quorum.

§ 30-7 **Removal.** The Mayor will have the right, in the Mayor's sole discretion, to remove any regular member or youth member of the Green Team Advisory Committee. It is expected that each regular member will regularly attend the meetings of the Green Team Advisory Committee. Unexcused absence from three or more of the regularly scheduled meetings in any calendar year is grounds for removal and replacement by the Mayor.

§ 30-8 **Budget.** Each year, the Green Team 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. The Township Committee will have the right to modify any budget that is proposed by the Green Team Advisory Committee.

§ 30-9 **Compensation.** No member of the Green Team Advisory Committee will receive any compensation for serving on the Committee.

§ 30-10 **Liaisons.** Each year, (i) the Mayor will appoint one member of the Township Committee as its liaison to the Green Team Advisory Committee, (ii) the Board of Health Chairperson will appoint one member of the Board of Health as its liaison to the Green Team Advisory Committee, and (iii) the Environmental Commission Chairperson will appoint one member of the Environmental Commission as its liaison to the Green Team Advisory Committee. Each other committee and board in the Township will have the right, but not any obligation, to appoint a liaison to the Green Team Advisory Committee. No liaison will have any voting rights on the Green Team Advisory Committee.

§ 30-11 **Purpose.** The purposes of the Green Team Advisory Committee are as follows:

- i. To advise the Township Committee on ways to promote greater environmental sensitivity by East Amwell Township and its residents.
- ii. To manage the participation by East Amwell Township in the Sustainable Jersey program.

iii. To solicit the views of the residents of East Amwell Township regarding environmental matters relevant to East Amwell Township, and report the findings to the Township Committee.

iv. After obtaining the approval of the Township Committee, to provide recommendations to other committees and boards of East Amwell Township regarding environmental matters they should consider in their deliberations and decisions.

v. After obtaining the approval of the Township Committee, to seek grants to initiate, support, further, expand or otherwise promote environmental initiatives, programs, practices or ideas within East Amwell Township.

§ 30-12 **Oversight.** The Green Team Advisory Committee will report directly to the Township Committee. The Green Team Advisory Committee is solely an advisory committee and therefore will not have any legislative or judicial authority or enforcement powers.

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, Township Clerk

Introduced: August 9, 2018

Adopted:

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Motion by Mr. Ostrander, seconded by Mr. Wang-Iverson, and carried unanimously to introduce the ordinance.

The ordinance will be published in the August 16, 2018, issue of the Hunterdon County Democrat, and the public hearing will be held at the regular Township Committee meeting on September 13, 2018, at 7:30 p.m.

Mayor Mathews thanked Deputy Mayor Wolfe for his efforts.

Public Hearing(s) – None

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS - None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

WEST AMWELL TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT AGREEMENT UPDATE: There was no update at this time.

UPDATE ON CROSS RIVER FIBER REQUEST FOR RIGHT OF WAY (see 6/14/18 Minutes for Background)

Deputy Mayor Wolfe spoke to John Seramba in the audience about dark fiber near his house. Mr. Seramba commented on fiber optics being run into East Amwell and near the Everitts farm, a road closing on John Ringo Road, and running the line for multiple days. The Deputy Mayor explained that the dark fiber is for specific types of business users, not residences, and may be being installed without consent. The Deputy Mayor added that the township doesn't have the legal budget to oppose action.

Mayor Mathews did not want to jump to conclusion that it was Cross Fiber being installed. He said that his concern stemmed from correspondence from the BPU that they were requiring the utility companies to perform assessment of the poles for storm damage, requesting an assessment of viability and strength of the poles. He felt from a business point of view, it was premature for the companies to risk running fiber in case the poles need to be replaced or they come down because of poor condition.

UPDATE ON LANDIS BURIAL GROUND

Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that the property is behind Kirkpatrick Church, and the goal is for East Amwell to annex the burial ground, obtain a right of way over a property, and clean up the burial ground, which has historic significance. A title search, at a cost of \$750, was done a few days ago as a first step. The second step is to publish and try to locate an owner, which he believed would not happen. The Township will then go to court to have the title to this small parcel awarded to the township. The Deputy Mayor and John Allen have a dream easement, but the Deputy Mayor is confident that they will get some type of right of way since a property cannot be landlocked. Volunteers will be found to help clean up the site, and the Deputy Mayor will use his tractor on site, and this will be added "to the historical gems of East Amwell." The Deputy Mayor felt that he could find some economical legal work to handle the title work, and he concluded that progress is being made.

FEEDBACK ON TAX BILL

Mayor Mathews explained that for the twenty years that he has lived in East Amwell, he has kept a spreadsheet of his taxes to keep a running track on elements of his taxes. He wanted to share his observations, as follows. His house is assessed at \$534,000, which is higher than an average assessed property. The East Amwell municipal tax went down \$53.40, but compared to last year, when it went up, the total difference, i.e., the delta between last year and this year, was \$154.86. The Township was able to address services for the residents and the Township Committee unanimously put together a budget with significantly lower taxes this year. The County tax went up slightly, i.e., \$64.08, although the Freeholders tried to keep taxes flat. The County and Township open space taxes remained flat. Local and regional school taxes went up, locally \$16.02 and the high school \$69.42. The state passed legislation that redistributes school money and the Township is feeling it. As residents of the state, county and East Amwell, he believed that residents should contact legislators about redistribution of school money and why the township is not getting their fair share. The Mayor said that the fire tax increased by \$5.34, so the overall increase in his taxes was \$101.46. He said that the Committee put up a good fight locally but they had control only over their portion of the taxes.

Mayor Mathews said that he wanted to take the time to opine on the taxes because he takes this very seriously each year, and he wishes that the Township could do more. He said that he will continue to be committed to looking for ways to reduce costs. He commended the work of the Township Committee for the fine job that they did on lowering the taxes for the community.

ATTENANCE AT AMWELL VALLEY FIRE COMPANY

The Mayor just attended the monthly meeting of the Fire Commissioners and they brought up the challenge they have of being aware of road closings, such as the recent one on Route 31 and the

Lindbergh Road closing. The Mayor committed to having them added to the list serve for the website and wanted to make sure that the fire company and rescue squad were aware of any road work projects. He suggested that the website and communications committee take this on to have the information automated. The Mayor spoke about communications being a two way process, and suggested that the Township go the extra mile to get a process in place.

Mayor Mathews also brought up the possibility of having fireworks return to East Amwell. The fire company has turned to their beef and beer programs as their fall event now, and the Mayor brought up the possibility of the fire company partnering with the Recreation Committee to work with them in 2019 in finding an event for viewing the fireworks at Clawson Park. The fire company is receptive to this, and the Mayor was invited to attend the September 6 meeting of the fire company. Alison Castellano will also attend the event and may be included in the budgeting for recreation for 2019.

BIKE RALLIES IN EAST AMWELL

Deputy Mayor Wolfe said that there was a recent bike rally at East Amwell Township School, which no one at the Township was made aware of. It created a lot of traffic issues, and there were very significant complaints, including having a large wave of riders going through the township at one time. He did not object to people riding through East Amwell for recreation and enjoying the beautiful scenery, but he believed that limitations had to be set, e.g., having the Township aware that people bring in port-a-potties and have rallies, etc. He believed that the governing body should consider an ordinance or some guidance for rallies and they have to have advanced notice. There may be costs involved for bonds and expenses, and he added that riders often leave bottles and energy bar wrappers on their routes.

Mayor Mathews said that there have been some successful bike rallies, whose organizers present plans and are signed up and don't litter. He agreed that there should be some constraints and notification given to the Township, i.e., what are the routes. The Mayor said that residents enjoy their weekends without getting stuck behind bikers on the roads. He added that some riders are not good partners on the road, riding 6 - 7 wide and chatting with companions and not being courteous to traffic. He agreed that some type of guidance was needed but not necessarily an ordinance.

The Clerk said that she would reach out to HART. Deputy Mayor Wolfe thought that an ordinance was necessary. The Mayor spoke about events being well managed and organizers being compliant with regulations. As an example, he spoke about a bike event on Van Lies Road that was in all likelihood an organized tour of about 40 "chaotic" riders – he believed that if the organization was making a profit from using the Township roads, they should follow rules. He said that the Township Committee should be considering this over the winter before the bike season begins in spring.

UPDATE ON SOUTH COUNTY LIBRARY RELOCATION

Deputy Mayor Wolfe spoke with Kevin Davis from Hunterdon County, and the lease for the library has been approved and signed. The County is doing some cosmetic work at the space and may install new carpet and paint. They are on track for opening in October if contractors work is complete on time. The Deputy Mayor got a phone call from a resident about traffic issues in and out of the property, saying that there was no sight triangle or no respect for the sight triangle. The Deputy Mayor will speak with Mr. Silverthorn about this issue. He added that most visitors to the library will be young and elderly visitors and will need the sight triangle.

NEW BUSINESS

7/26 RESIGNATION OF ZONING OFFICER RICHARD MCMANUS

Mayor Mathews mentioned the resignation of Mr. McManus because of health issues. Motion by Mr. Ostrander, seconded by Deputy Mayor Wolfe, and carried unanimously to accept the letter of resignation with regret. Mayor Mathews said that the Township wishes Mr. McManus well.

APPOINTMENT OF ZONING OFFICER KRISTA PARSONS

Mayor Mathews said that two months ago, Krista Parsons was appointed as the Interim Alternate Zoning Officer and with feedback from residents and people in the office, she is doing a good job and up for the challenge. She will be appointed as Zoning Officer, as allowed by the ordinance, i.e., the vacancy of the Zoning Officer will be filled by the Alternate Zoning Officer. Bob Miller is the resident Alternate Zoning Officer, but he was not willing to take on more work. He has agreed to stay on as the Alternate and act as a mentor for Krista Parsons as she takes this on. Ms. Parsons agreed to take training for certification as a Zoning Official even if it isn't required. She has done two of the classes and will complete them this fall. There is a resolution to appoint, and it stipulates conditions, such as a probationary period starting at this appointment and is an annual position with reappointment at the discretion of the Township Committee. She will participate at least 6 hours of time available to the public, which is the normal standard for the Zoning Officer and will put in the additional hours necessary to fulfill the role in or out of the office. She will receive \$13,300 for the role.

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RESOLUTION #108-18

ZONING OFFICER APPOINTMENT-Revised 8-3-18

WHEREAS, a Township may appoint a zoning officer to enforce the provisions of its local zoning ordinance; and

WHEREAS, East Amwell Township previously passed such an ordinance (06-02, adopted March 9, 2006); and

WHEREAS, at the January 11, 2018 Township Committee Meeting Richard McManus was appointed to serve as Township Zoning Officer for 2018 and Robert Miller was appointed at the January Reorganization Meeting to serve as Alternate Zoning Officer; and

WHEREAS, at the June 14 2018 Township Committee Meeting Krista Parsons was appointed as an additional Alternate Zoning Officer effective June 18, 2018; and

WHEREAS, Township Zoning Officer Richard McManus has now resigned from the position, effective immediately; and

WHEREAS, East Amwell Township Code section §24-22 states that appointments to the office of the Zoning Officer shall be made by the Mayor and Committee and that a vacancy in the office shall be filled by the Mayor and Committee for the unexpired term only; and

WHEREAS, East Amwell Township Code section §24-22 further states that any newly hired Zoning Officer will be subject to a six-month probationary period during which the Zoning Officer may be dismissed at the Township Committee's discretion, with or without cause; and

WHEREAS, East Amwell Township Code section §24-28B further states that an Alternate Zoning Officer shall fill the office of the Zoning Officer, with all powers thereof, in the event of incapacity, death, absence, resignation or removal of the Zoning Officer, upon the approval of the Mayor and Committee; and

WHEREAS, Alternate Zoning Officer Robert Miller has indicated he wishes to remain in the role of Alternate Zoning Officer; and

WHEREAS, Alternate Zoning Officer Krista Parsons has indicated that she is willing to serve as Zoning Officer for the remainder of the unfulfilled term ending December 31, 2018; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Township Committee of East Amwell Township that they hereby appoint Krista Parsons as Acting Zoning Officer for the Township of East

Amwell through December 31, 2018, fulfilling the remaining term consistent with the provisions of the Township Code; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Ms. Parsons will have a six-month probationary period from start date of August 13, 2018 and that such probationary period will carry over should Ms. Parsons be appointed Zoning Officer at the January 2019 Reorganization Meeting; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Ms. Parsons will make at least 6 hours in office time available to the public along with the additional time needed for coverage of this position; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Ms. Parsons will continue to attend the Zoning Administration and Enforcement program through Rutgers University and pursue a Zoning Official Certificate following completion of the three-course Rutgers University program; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township will reimburse Ms. Parsons for Zoning Administration and Enforcement program course(s) through Rutgers University taken during her employment as East Amwell Township Zoning Officer provided that Ms. Parsons seeks prior Township Committee approval for pursuing such course(s), receives passing marks in such course(s), and provides vouchers and proof of payments made to Rutgers University for which she is seeking reimbursement; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the 2018 Salary and Wage Resolution will be amended as follows, effective August 13, 2018:

Remove Zoning Officer McManus	\$13,600/year
Remove Interim Alternate Zoning Officer Parsons	\$25.00/hour
Add Zoning Officer Parsons	\$13,300/year, prorated from Start date

By Order of the Township Committee,

Tim Mathews, Mayor

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Ms. Ostrander made the motion to approve the resolution and seconded by Deputy Mayor Wolfe.

Mr. Wang-Iverson met Ms. Parsons once, she is very personable, and he felt that she would be a good addition. Mayor Mathews was very happy, and the folks on the Planning Board, the West Amwell Construction Office, and some residents who have interacted with her have a good relationship with her. He was very excited about this appointment, and so is Ms. Parsons.

The motion to approve the resolution was carried unanimously.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Mayor Mathews said that he would consider Ms. Gavigan’s commentary about the late open to the public and will think about it.

Frances Gavigan said that there was a 65 mile Sourland Mountain bicycle tour on September 8 and believed that there should be a mechanism to let people know. She mentioned a rally a few years ago when riders sprayed paint on the road. She spoke about basket bicycles and multiple tours every weekend, pretty much every weekend, as a business occurring in East Amwell – she sees them on Runyon Mill Road. She believed some outreach through the VIP or through local bicycle shops, such as the one in Hopewell, might be part of this. She suggested saying thank you for coming to East Amwell, tread lightly, and respect us. She said that a couple of days ago, she pulled into her property, people came onto the property, didn’t say hi or whatever, drinking

water (which she didn't notice if they threw stuff or anything). She said that there was a certain subset that were as rude as hell and would get people killed, commenting on their latex pants. Ms. Gavigan thought that there should be something on the Township's end to reach out to the companies, while supporting them, that they should know to respect us. She thought that there may be some value for an ordinance and to include motorcyclists in the regulations because of the rallies or the Saturday and Sunday warriors who come flying around, especially near her property where pop-a-wheelies take place. She said that there was work to be done and some education necessary. She suggested that someone reach out to the Sourland Conservancy about the 9-8 rally.

Alison Castellano, 9 Prall Court, spoke about the woman who came here in spring and presented what they were doing with their event. There were signs throughout the township. Having done the color run last year when they closed the road, Ms. Castellano said that they had to jump through hoops to do it, eg., notify the county, provide the route, insurance certificate, etc. She said that the amount of bike riders the other day were huge. She said that there are groups out there that want to run big events and try to get in under the radar; she suggested putting things in place.

The Clerk asked if the school knew that the bike group was using their property for staging. Ms. Castellano said that the school did sign off on a facilities use form. The Clerk said that when they allowed a bike rally to stage there several years ago, they did notify the Township so that they could coordinate. Ms. Castellano suggested that the Clerk contact the school, but she believes that the paperwork did not contain information on the extent of the rally.

Deputy Mayor Wolfe said a form will be developed that can be filled out on the website and it will make a difference if the rally originates here or is passing through. If it is originating, there will be traffic issues depending on the number of participants and whether they disperse at all. This is different if it is a 100 mile ride and they just pass through the municipality. There may not be a one size fits all, but he said that what happened here cannot happen again. Ms. Castellano said that one of the parents was entering the school and some riders barged into the school facility when there were children in the school. She said that there was no reason for them to go into the school, whether it was a school year or not, and there were port-a-potties outside.

Deputy Mayor Wolfe spoke about having 1,000 cyclists, most of whom are not East Amwell residents, and there are kids going in and out of the school; there is a real security issue. Schools are targets these days, and that should get the highest level of scrutiny. He said that they needed to do something over the next couple of months, and he was fine taking the lead in putting together an ordinance so that when spring comes, they will be able to tackle the matter.

Mr. Wang-Iverson said that Delaware Township must have been notified because there was police presence at the blinking light in Sergeantsville. Mayor Mathews will add this to the discussion points when he meets with the principal.

Frances Gavigan said to include the County and the State Police in the regulations. She believed that signage would result in adult behavior.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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RESOLUTION #109- 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 executive minute corrections; 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

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

Executive session began at 10:58 p.m. The regular meeting resumed at 11:01 p.m.

Approval of July 12, 2018, Executive Minutes with corrections offered in executive session were approved on a motion by Mr. Ostrander, seconded by Deputy Mayor Wolfe, and carried with one abstention, Mayor Mathews.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

CFO PASQUA provided the bills of the evening. Mayor Mathews said that the bill for Archer and Greiner had an incorrect rate, and that it will be \$150.00 an hour. The bill will be removed from the bill list and recalculated. Motion by Mr. Ostrander, seconded by Mr. Wang-Iverson, and carried unanimously to approve the bills of the evening minus the bill from Archer and Greiner.

TAX COLLECTOR HYLAND provided the July report. There was one resolution.

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RESOLUTION #110- 18

WHEREAS, there had been an overbill for 2018 for Block 14.02, Lots 32.01, 32.02, and 32.03 due to a successful county Board Appeal and.

WHEREAS these amounts totaling \$1492.09 has been requested for refund by Michael I. Schneck, Trustee for Lipka, Kevin and Pelliccia, Cynthia;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Treasurer is authorized to prepare a check in the amount of \$1,492.09 and that this check be signed and mailed to:

Michael I. Schneck, Trustee for Lipka, Kevin and Pelliccia, Cynthia
Schneck Law Group, LLC
301 South Livingston Avenue, Suite 105
Livingston, NJ 07039

By Order of the Township Committee,

Tim Mathews, Mayor

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

All other reports were acknowledged without comment.

There was no July West Amwell Construction Report tonight.

CORRESPONDENCE

There were no comments on correspondence.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, motion by Mr. Ostrander, seconded by Deputy Mayor Wolfe, and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 11:05 p.m.

Teresa R. Stahl, RMC/CMC
Municipal Clerk