

The regular meeting of the East Amwell Township Committee was called to order at 7:38 p.m. Present were Mayor Peter Kneski, Deputy Mayor Linda F. Lenox, and Committee members C. Larry Tatsch, and Timothy Martin. Committee Member Patricia Cregar was absent. Township Administrator Timothy Matheny and Attorney Richard Cushing were 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 3, 2010, and a meeting notice published in the Hunterdon County Democrat issue of January 7, 2010. 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 October 12, 2010.

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

### AGENDA REVIEW

Under Standing Committees, add item C, an appointment to the Environmental Commission and Recycling Committee (candidate interviewed at a special meeting at 7:15 p.m.)

Under the Township Administrator's Update, add item #7, Personnel Policies and Procedures Addition: Policy for Citizen Compliments and Complaints

Add the following correspondence: 10/8 Princeton Hydro, Request for NJDEP Flood Hazard Area Permit for Furrows End Farm; 10/5 Memo from Attorney Chris Norman re: Request for Rezoning B. 42/L. 12.01; 10/13 League of Municipalities Advisory on Recent Changes to DLGS Website; 10/12 West Amwell Township public hearing notice for Stream Corridor Protection Ordinance on 11/3/10 at 7 p.m.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

General Election Day is Tuesday, November 2, 2010, from 6 a.m. – 8 p.m. All East Amwell polls are located at the municipal building.

Day Light Savings Time Ends on Sunday, November 7, 2010, at 2 a.m. – set your clocks back one hour.

Municipal Offices will be closed on Thursday, November 11, 2010, in observance of Veteran's Day. There will, however, be a regular Township Committee meeting that evening.

Hunterdon County Utilities will hold a hazardous waste cleanup day on Saturday, November 13, 2010, from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. at the County Complex. Call 908:788-1110 for details.

The East Amwell Historical Society will hold a walking tour of Ringoes on Sunday, October 24, at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. There is a rain date of October 31. Call Kat Cannelongo for further information: 908:237-2535.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

September 9, 2010, Regular Minutes were approved on a motion by Mr. Tatsch, seconded by Mr. Martin, and carried unanimously.

September 9, 2010, Executive Minutes (Attorney Advice) were approved on a motion by Mr. Tatsch, seconded by Deputy Mayor Lenox, and carried unanimously.

September 27, 2010 Special Minutes could not be approved because of a quorum of members in attendance was not present at this time. These minutes will be held for the next meeting.

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC** (for Comments from the Public for Items Not on the Agenda)

Michael Horowitz, 63 John Ringo Road, stated that he has had a problem with a neighboring property, 65 John Ringo Road (owned by John and Laurie Martin) for many years. The house on the property was demolished and there are permits for renovation, which has been going on for years. There is a boat and a truck on the property, and the State Police have been involved; a video/audio production shows the owner promising to remove the vehicles. Dr. Horowitz distributed photos to those on the dais, explaining that "he has been living with this for three years." Dr. Horowitz did speak with Mr. Matheny about a year and a half ago and was recently told that Peter Ball in Raritan Township was now in charge of construction ordinances. Dr. Horowitz commented on his inability to retire and sell his property, given the current conditions. He then played a tape of a response from Peter Ball in Raritan Township, indicating that Raritan Township cannot do anything about the property because of extended permits. Dr. Horowitz commented on his frustration and is looking for an attorney. He has lived in East Amwell for 18 years, has no children, no sewer, no [municipal] garbage pickup, owns his own well, and this is the first time he is looking for assistance from the municipality. Besides being "an eyesore," he believes that the site is a health hazard and is dangerous because there is no fence around the foundation.

Mayor Kneski recognized Dr. Horowitz concerns, noting, however, that the Construction Official is under the building code regulations with continuous activity being protected by the State. He recommended that this item be added to the November 11 agenda for a more detailed discussion. The Construction Department will be asked to explain the process, and additional facts may be gathered to determine how to resolve the issue or learn what requirements are necessary.

Dr. Horowitz was requested to provide the Clerk with any further information he would like to share before the meeting.

Oksana Mastropietro, 82 Welisewitz Road, asked the municipality to put signs up on Welisewitz Road where the road bends and riders come down the driveway at Zion Farm. The location is a "very dangerous" one, with speeders on both sides of the road. She asked that signs about horse crossing be erected by the municipality. The Administrator was directed to look into this matter.

Tim Mathews, 72 Linvale Road, offered a comment on the complaint from Dr. Horowitz, mentioning efforts given to ordinances with debate and energy, but "not much energy is spent on this."

Frances Gavigan, 123 Wertsville Road, asked about the once a month Township Committee meetings with a "twice as long" response time. She asked the governing body to consider having twice a month meetings for the next few months, especially in terms of "convergence of ordinances" and budget discussions. Adding more working meetings for other boards may also be a consideration to get work done "in a more timely fashion." The Clerk noted that an agenda item for the Township Committee meeting on November 11 will be to discuss the number of Township Committee meetings per month. She noted that the governing body agreed in March 2010 to discuss this at the end of the year, and it would be appropriate to have such discussions after elections.

Ms. Gavigan spoke about the bridge on Wertsville Road (i.e., Bridge #E-166), i.e., the road is mostly paved, side rails are up, culvert and curbing are installed, but the guard rails near the bridge are not yet installed. She hoped that the up-coming on-site meeting with Freeholders (for Bridge #E-174) will encourage them to proceed faster.

Ms. Gavigan spoke about an on-site meeting on Monday with Dr. Shenoda to review proposed changes at The Ridge. There is a County scheduled meeting on October 20<sup>th</sup> at 4 p.m., and she was "optimistic that it would be a more pleasant experience." The revised plans call for the same alignment without an "intrusive" elevation, an underground retention basin, and a better visual impact.

Ms. Gavigan asked about having more police visibility on Wertsville Road, once it is reopen; she also suggested using a borrowed police car with a "dummy" parked in certain places, including the driveway at The Ridge. She also spoke about safe speed data, noting that the design of the

road is for a speed limit of 40 mph with a standard being 10 mph below; having the speed data as a technical basis to argue lower speeds would be effective over time.

Ms. Gavigan asked about the police coverage area, suggesting that it should be “spread around,” and not just located in the village area.

Motion by Deputy Mayor Lenox, seconded by Mr. Tatsch, and it was carried unanimously to close to the public.

## **PUBLIC HEARINGS/INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES**

### **Public Hearings:**

ORDINANCE 10-14: AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EAST AMWELL TO AMEND AND SUPPLEMENT THE PROVISIONS OF CHAPTER 129, TREE HARVESTING, TO PROTECT FOREST RESOURCES AND PROVIDE CONSISTENCY WITH SOURLAND MOUNTAIN ZONING DISTRICT ORDINANCES

As proof of publication, the Clerk provided the notice in the September 16, 2010, issue of the Hunterdon County Democrat of a continued public hearing. The ordinance was introduced at the August 12, 2010, Township Committee meeting, and the first public hearing was noticed in the August 19, 2010, Hunterdon County Democrat for the September 9, 2010 Township Committee meeting. At that time, the hearing was continued until this meeting.

Mayor Kneski commented on a meeting of a subcommittee after the last Township Committee meeting, and Committee member Tatsch attended that meeting. Mr. Tatsch explained that the subcommittee briefly discussed the ordinance, primarily in terms of enforcement and the Zoning Officer's real concern about the ability to enforce with respect to his knowledge and expertise. The subcommittee agreed that it was a valid concern, and the Planning Board Chairman and a member of the subcommittee were taking the matter back to the Planning Board and reverting to the original language in the tree harvesting ordinance to have a subcommittee enforce. Mr. Tatsch noted that this was a substantive change to the ordinance, which would require re-advertising.

Mayor Kneski mentioned a resolution approved by the Planning Board memorializing the intent to remove enforcement responsibilities from the Zoning Officer and returning them to the tree harvesting committee in the existing ordinance, which is a substantive change. It was his understanding that the Planning Board wants to look at the inconsistency between the existing tree harvesting ordinance and the current land disturbance language in the Sourland Mountain District (i.e., no more than 30,000 sq. feet and an extra 10,000 sq. feet for a driveway). The current tree harvesting ordinance allows 2 acres of disturbance. The Planning Board also looked at other provisions of the ordinance, e.g., allowing for removal of up to five trees without a permit; he said that there may be other inconsistencies “by other facets,” and the question was whether to move forward with the enforcement change and with the suggested changes and recognize the comments from the public at a later time. He commented on moving quickly to address the isolated inconsistencies and look at other changes later.

Mr. Tatsch commented on inconsistencies remaining that could lead to “disastrous” tree cutting. The subcommittee discussed the fact that the ordinance would be reviewed in time to come, noting that “it was very difficult to get here.” He believed that it was important to introduce the revised ordinance now although it may not be the final version, stating it was reasonable to move ahead. He believed that any comments made by the public tonight should also be forwarded to the Planning Board for future review.

Mr. Martin asked about a final ordinance, i.e., is it months or years away; Deputy Mayor Lenox explained that this ordinance has been years in the making now. Mr. Tatsch commented on getting something in place and looking at nuances later.

Mayor Kneski recommended moving forward with the tree harvesting ordinance subject to the modification of enforcement by the tree harvesting subcommittee to be ready for introduction in

November. He noted that “this is not the end of it,” i.e., there are other issues about inconsistency in the Sourlands.

Motion by Mr. Martin, seconded by Deputy Mayor Lenox, and it was carried unanimously to open to the public for comments on the ordinance. Mayor Kneski asked the audience to provide new comments at this time, noting that there were comments made at the September meeting that were forwarded to the Planning Board.

Andrea Bonette, 17 Ridge Road, appreciated what the Township Committee was trying to do, noting that the previous ordinance was a weaker one, and to her knowledge, no permits were ever issued. The Clerk noted that about five permits were approved with the Road Supervisor overseeing the work since a tree harvesting committee was never appointed.

Mrs. Bonette spoke about a conversation she had with the Zoning Officer a year and a half ago about his perception of his salary; she commented that she was glad that the Zoning Officer would not be enforcing, but hoped that someone would be doing so.

Steve George, 169 Mountain Road, commented on acre limits for forestry plans, exempted under statute. He suggested setting a threshold for harvesting, noting that the biggest concern is clear cutting, not just pruning trees, and any harvesting above a set level should be incorporated into a forest management plan.

Frances Gavigan, 123 Wertsville Road, commented on enforcement, and if the Zoning Officer does not do it, she asked who would do so. She suggested not “creating tree police,” and she suggested incorporating educational information as part of the process. She suggested professionals with knowledge would secure less potential for abuse and situational enforcement. Mayor Kneski noted that the Zoning Officer would not be involved, and the tree harvesting committee would include Environmental Commission members, Township Committee members, and others.

Tim Mathews, 72 Linvale Road, commented on having a forest management plan and spoke about exemptions, stating that it occurred to him that the governing body was approving a “half baked ordinance ... and would catch up later to make it right.” He asked what confidence this relayed that the ordinance would be cleaned up in the future. He suggested that a subcommittee of appropriate people, such as he, Mr. George, and foresters be invited to discuss the ordinance, and time be taken to “do it right.” He commented on extreme penalties, such as jail sentences, if six tree stumps are found instead of five, on the fact that trees are dynamic and a forester knows the forest, and on the possibility of “whistle-blowing” and lawyer involvement. He recommended that the Township Committee “take your time to get it right with the right people, and nail it.”

Motion by Deputy Mayor Lenox, seconded by Mr. Tatsch, and it was carried unanimously to close to the public for comments.

A recommendation was made to reintroduce the ordinance with the substantive changes by the subcommittee and provide other comments (from this meeting and the last one) to the Planning Board.

Attorney Cushing recommended making a motion not to pass the ordinance, noting that in the future the Township Committee would consider another version.

Motion by Mr. Martin, seconded by Deputy Mayor Lenox, and it was carried unanimously not to pass Ordinance 10-14, noting that in the future the Township Committee would be considering another tree harvesting ordinance.

The Clerk will work with Attorney Lorraine Staples on the proposed changes for November.

**Introduction of Ordinances:**

ORDINANCE 10-18: AN AMENDMENT TO THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EAST AMWELL, CHAPTER 75, FEES, INCLUDING ARTICLE I, MISCELLANEOUS FEES, ARTICLE II, TAX COLLECTOR FEES, AND ARTICLE IV, VITAL STATISTIC FEES

The Clerk explained that when discussions about OPRA fees took place over the summer, there was a need to review the existing fees ordinance to remove non-pertinent language and to update the chapter. Additionally, the Tax Collector wanted to include new fees for calculations for liens and redemptions. Vital Statistic Fees were also increased from \$5 to \$10, noting that the state allows up to \$25 per copy.

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**EAST AMWELL TOWNSHIP**

**ORDINANCE 10-18**

AN AMENDMENT TO THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EAST AMWELL, CHAPTER 75, FEES, INCLUDING ARTICLE I, EVENT, COPIES, & MISCELLANEOUS FEES, ARTICLE II, TAX COLLECTION FEES, AND ARTICLE IV, VITAL STATISTIC FEES

Be It Ordained by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell that the Code of the Township of East Amwell, Chapter 75, Fees, be amended as follows:

Article I

Miscellaneous Fees

1. §75-1 Event Fees

- o REMOVE Section A, Fees for Community day and public events.
- o Rename Section B, Fees for Recreational and Athletic events as Section A, and language will now read: Deposit for Marion F. Clawson Memorial Park permitted use: \$500, but waived for non-profit 501C(3) organizations.
- o Rename Section C as Section B, Miscellaneous Fees.
- o Remove Sections (2) and (3) Land Management and Master Plan Lane Use copies and elements.
- o Section B, Miscellaneous Fees, Item 4 is now item 2 and reads, Notification of approvals for developments, public utilities, and cable companies: \$10.00
- o Section B., Miscellaneous Fees, Item 5 is now item 3, and will read as follows:  
  - “Audio tapes and/or compact disks - \$.66”
- o Section B, Miscellaneous Fees, remove Item 6, Board of Health Ordinances.
- o Section B., Miscellaneous Fees, remove item 7, Code of the Township of East Amwell.
- o Section B, Miscellaneous Fees, item 4 will remain: Charges for copies for the public will be according to state statute.
- o Section B, Miscellaneous Fees, item 5, will remain, Postage will be additional.

Article II

Fees for Duplicate Tax Bills

Change Article II to Read: Tax Collection Fees

Rename §75.2 as §75.2.A Statutory fee.

Add new §75.2.B Fees for Copies.

1) In accordance with N.J.S.A. 54:5-54 the tax collector shall provide to any party entitled to redeem a certificate pursuant to this section (N.J.S.A. 54:5-54) two calculations of the amount required for redemption within a calendar year at no cost. For each subsequent calculation requested from the tax collector there shall be a \$50.00 fee. A request for a redemption calculation shall be made in writing to the tax collector.

2) In accordance with N.J.S.A. 54:5-97.1, the tax collector may charge a lienholder of a tax lien \$50.00 for the calculation of the amount due to redeem the tax lien as required pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:5-97.1. Any request for a redemption calculation shall specify the date to be used for the calculation, which shall be the date of the notice. Neither the tax collector nor the municipality shall be liable for an incorrect calculation. The fee paid to the municipality shall not become part of the lien and shall not be passed on to any party entitled to redeem pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:5-54.

Article IV

Fees for Vital Statistics

§75.12 Vital statistic certificates.

Remove existing section and replace with the following:

The cost of copies of vital statistic certificates for birth, marriage, death, domestic partnership and civil union certificates will be \$10.00 per copy.

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

By Order of the Township Committee,

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Peter Kneski, Mayor

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

Introduced: October 14, 2010

Adopted:

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Motion by Deputy Mayor Lenox, seconded by Mr. Tatsch, and it was carried unanimously to introduce Ordinance 10-18. The ordinance will be published in the October 21, 2010, issue of the Hunterdon County Democrat, and the public hearing will be at the regular Township Committee meeting to be held on November 11, 2010, at 7:30 p.m.

**SPECIAL DISCUSSION**

Appeal from Girl Scout Troop 209 to Use Clawson Park for a Night Event (See Denied Application of 9/22/10)

Since there were no representatives from the Troop, the governing body tabled discussion until later in the meeting.

**STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

FARMLAND/OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION COMMITTEE Chairman Glorianne Robbi, Vice Chairman Dick Ginman, and Administrator Judy Conard were in attendance.

10/7/10 Memo from J. Conard re: Scibilia Requirements for Bank Subordinations:

Mrs. Conard outlined the request for \$800 for fees and an appraisal needed to obtain the subordination from Bank of America required by the SADC and the title company before closing. She explained that she and Attorney Lori MacWilliam believed that Bank of America will accept the residential appraisal on the dwelling and outbuildings because they don't look at farmland easements. A full appraisal of the property would cost approximately \$2,000-2,500; however, Mrs. Conard obtained the name of an appraiser from Farm Credit East, who will do the residential appraisal for \$350, and the paperwork to process through Bank of America is \$375.00.

Mrs. Conard was asked if this would meet the requirements, and she explained the difficulties of getting anyone at Bank of America to provide a definitive answer; she believed that the process being undertaken would be "worth a shot."

Mr. Cushing was surprised about the bank fees, and he suggested that a call to a local Congressman, such as Rush Holt, might be a good idea. Mr. Tatsch commented on trying to receive SADC reimbursement of around \$188,000 for the property, and he agreed that it was worth a call to Congressman Holt for assistance. There was a consensus, however, to approve the expense to move the matter forward.

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**RESOLUTION #141 - 10**

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell, that they approve the expenditure of \$800 for bank fees and a residential appraisal to obtain the subordination from Bank of America and to also pursue congressional assistance with the bank as a first step.

By Order of the Township Committee,

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Peter Kneski, Mayor

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Motion by Mr. Tatsch, seconded by Mr. Martin, and it carried unanimously to approve the resolution.

**COAH – AFFORDABLE HOUSING**

10/8 Emails from Planner Banisch and Attorney Cushing regarding the COAH Appellate Decision.

A letter from the League of Municipalities about the subject was also noted. Mr. Cushing explained that there are radical changes in COAH which will lead to significant impacts. All the planning that went into the third round will change to different standards. He mentioned a possible appeal to the Supreme Court, which may take a year, if they rule. In the meantime, COAH has five months to revise rules using the first and second round rules since the municipalities were dissatisfied with the growth share methodology used in the last round. Mr. Cushing commented on Judge Skillman's opinion to get rid of regional obligation, commenting on municipalities that do not grow are not subject to Mt. Laurel obligations. Reducing the growth share from 25% to 20% may create an additional burden, and COAH will be working with the round one and two methodology. Mr. Cushing commented on legislators modifying COAH to be more favorable to the municipalities.

Mr. Tatsch commented on the League's benefit with the decision, adding that there were sticking points. He asked how a municipality pays to provide their share of COAH if there is no base growth and there are no other sources of revenues. He felt that this was an unfunded mandate that the State will have to deal with, especially in light of the 2% cap.

Comments were made about Legislative Bill S-1, regarding COAH, which has passed the Senate and is in the Assembly. Mr. Cushing commented on the possibility of Senator Lesniak proposing a different bill after the election.

Mr. Tatsch commented that Jim Robbins has received "an okay" at the State as the Administrative Agent.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION AND RECYCLING COMMITTEE

Appointment of New Member: The governing body interviewed Jeff Bradstreet at a special meeting earlier tonight as a candidate for the Environmental Commission and the Recycling Committee. Chairs of both committees were in attendance at that time. Township Committee members agreed that Mr. Bradstreet was more than qualified for appointment to both committees, noting his extensive environmental experience, including during the 9/11 clean up. Mr. Bradstreet has the time to devote to both committees.

Motion by Mr. Martin, seconded by Deputy Mayor Lenox, and it was carried unanimously to appoint Jeff Bradstreet as the Alternate II on the Environmental Commission and a regular member of the Recycling Committee.

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

##### TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE:

1) Parking at Point in Ringoes – 10/1 DOT Letter from Michael Mihalic and Request for Township Resolution in Support of No Stopping/Standing: Mr. Matheny commented on the letter from the state regarding parking at the point in Ringoes near the library and post office. Complaints have been forwarded to the NJ DOT, and they had an engineer inspect with conditions which will justify a no parking area on Route 179. A sample resolution was provided for the municipality to submit. Deputy Mayor Lenox asked what repercussions there would be for residents in the area for street parking if it is eliminated, especially to the extent that the area was proposed.

Mr. Tatsch also had concerns, noting that parking for Princeton Hydro is the main problem, and he suggested speaking with company representatives to make sure that they leave entrances and exits free. Mr. Martin also voiced concern with eliminating parking in the downtown area of Ringoes. Mayor Kneski felt that "no parking" in certain locations would be a benefit. Mr. Tatsch asked if the state would reconsider certain designated parking areas near the point. Mr. Matheny explained that vehicles cannot park near intersections.

Mayor Kneski asked for a map depicting the exact stretch of Route 179 where no parking would be allowed, reaching out to the adjoining residents and businesses, and having a meeting with the Township Committee for input. He felt that it was a very long stretch of road, and he wished to have public input about parking issues. Mr. Tatsch said that the site clearing issue needs to be addressed, not necessarily the general parking.

Mayor Kneski directed Mr. Matheny to discuss the parking issue with NJ DOT for the November or December meeting, i.e., no parking from a particular spot to the corner and leaving site clearings; afterwards a meeting with the public will be held. He recommended more enforcement and more signs, adding that caution be shown to the significant impacts to property owners. Mr. Tatsch spoke about the "yellow" curbs in front of the deli; Mr. Matheny explained that NJ DOT does not paint the curbs; it may have been done locally as a visual reminder to motorists.

2) DOT Approval for Pedestrian Walk Signs on Route 179/579: Mr. Matheny commented on 2003 permission from NJ DOT to place pedestrian cross walk signs, and if the Township Committee wanted to proceed, he would look into purchasing the heavy, removable signs at a cost of about \$250 a piece. Committee members discussed the location of the signs and felt that at Carousel and Mom's would be the two appropriate locations.

RESOLUTION TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION: Mr. Cushing advised the Mayor that he has no executive business to discuss tonight, and Mr. Cushing was excused from the meeting at 9:05 p.m.

TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE, CONTINUED

3) Energy Efficiency Measures at the Municipal Building and 10/6 Letter from NJ Clean Energy Re: Implemented Measures 3 Month Extension Granted: Mr. Matheny explained that the Direct Install Program is almost complete, i.e., all lights have been changed, HVAC has been replaced, thermostats have been changed, and automatic light switches have been installed. He expressed his pleasure with the work. The next step is to sign off on the paperwork. The DPW were very pleased with the infra-red heating and the new lights in the garage.

Mr. Matheny explained that the original audit included some recommendations for the trailer, which were not completed under the Direct Install Program. The DPW will replace a fixture in the trailer, equating to about a \$60 investment or 25% implemented measure, and the Township has been given a three month extension to do the work. The Township has already received 100% of the audit costs earlier this year.

4) 10/7 Zoning Officer Inter-Office Report on Abandoned Vehicles on Dutch Lane: Mr. Matheny spoke with Mr. McManus about the report. Hunterdon County Health Department forwarded the anonymous report (from 2009) to the municipality to look at the abandoned vehicles on site. Mr. McManus did not go on the property, but could only observe 3-4 cars and 3-4 pieces of equipment, but could not determine if they were operational or not. Committee members discussed the matter briefly, noting that there seems to be an improvement over the past year, and the property owner will not part with specific antique vehicles. The Health Department did investigate the original complaint of fluid going into the brook, and they did not find any evidence of leaking fluids. Mayor Kneski stated that the Township would just continue to monitor the situation to make sure that there is no expansion, noting that there was a significant reduction made.

5) Raritan Township-September 2010 Traffic Enforcement Report: There were about 60 summons issued this month, the officers are patrolling through the municipality, and response from the residents has been positive.

6) Mayor's Signature on Change Orders for Back Brook and Lindbergh Road Improvements (See 10/6 Request from Engineer O'Neal):

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**RESOLUTION #142- 10**

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell that they hereby authorize Mayor Kneski to sign the change orders for Back Brook and Lindbergh Road Improvements, as requested by Engineer O'Neal in his 10/6 memo.

By Order of the Township Committee,

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Peter Kneski, Mayor

+++++ Motion by Deputy Mayor Lenox, seconded by Mr. Tatsch, and it was carried unanimously to approve the resolution.

7) Policy Manual Update on Citizen Compliments and Complaint Process: Mr. Matheny explained the proposed policy to track complaints and compliments with an opportunity for the

information to be used at evaluation time. The policy will also establish a process to track and investigate complaints or misunderstandings about government work. The form will be put on the website for public use. Mayor Kneski and Mr. Tatsch were in favor of the new policy.

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**RESOLUTION #143 - 10**

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell that they hereby recommend the adoption of a policy on a citizen compliments and complaint process to be incorporated in the East Amwell Township personnel policies and procedures manual.

By Order of the Township Committee,

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Peter Kneski, Mayor

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Motion by Mr. Martin, seconded by Deputy Mayor Lenox, and it was carried unanimously to approve the resolution.

NEW BUSINESS – None

SPECIAL DISCUSSIONS

Appeal from Girl Scout Troop 209 to Use Clawson Park for Night Event – see Denied Application of 9/22/10: Although there was no one present to discuss this item, the governing body wished to discuss it since the event date was on 10/22/10. The Clerk contacted NJ Open Burning and was advised that if campfire permits were not issued at the park, fire rings should not be allowed either. Deputy Mayor Lenox recalled that there were very specific conditions when the park was developed, including no evening events; she believed that the Township Committee should abide with those regulations. Committee members were in agreement that they would not like to see any night activities at Clawson Park and asked if there were any other places the Troop could meet. The Clerk reminded the Township Committee that they have allowed night activities on the municipal fields (i.e., movies, baseball, soccer, etc.). They suggested that the Troop be advised that they can use the municipal field, if they so chose; however, no fire rings/open burning would be allowed.

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

Motion by Deputy Mayor Lenox, seconded by Mr. Tatsch, and it was carried unanimously to open to the public for comments.

Frances Gavigan, 123 Wertsville Road, asked if the Raritan Township police data showed any activity on Wertsville or Manners Roads; Mr. Matheny said that they were on Manners Road for two hours and issued 9 summons. She commented on Welisewitz Road and Wertsville Road traffic and disseminating statistical information. Ms. Gavigan was advised that she can still call the State Police for service. Ms. Gavigan mentioned that she knew a number of places where the police could park, i.e., the Parkhill property and her property as two.

Ms. Gavigan commented on the pedestrian signs and horse signs discussed this evening. She recommended checking with the Hunterdon County Printing and Mailing Department as a shared service. She also recommended using prisoners for maintenance or clean up work in the Township.

Ms. Gavigan asked for support for the Township scenic byways for the Crossroads of the American Revolution, mentioning a multi-municipality movement to do so, including Raritan Township, West Amwell Township, and Delaware Township. She spoke about integrating visual aspects of the valley and historic areas. She believed that there was a change of attitude

at the County and she suggested that the Township consider a request to the County and adjacent municipalities to support the area.

Mayor Kneski felt it was prudent to ask for County input if they were amenable to the Township looking at scenic by-ways. Ms. Gavigan felt that the Crossroads of the American Revolution should also be stressed. Mayor Kneski recommended that a letter be drafted for his signature addressed to the Hunterdon County Freeholders for their support if the municipality looks into this designation. A copy of the letter will be sent to the Planning Board since they would be the lead agency in achieving the designation.

Dart Sageser, 15 Welisewitz Road, wanted to reinforce the comments about parking at the library on Route 179, i.e., Mr. Martin’s comments about the quality of the small town of Ringoes and the need for parking. He mentioned the Planning Board’s concern with slower moving traffic in the area, and he believed that traffic was “moving better, ... with more safety issues, ... and having parking available is to our benefit.” Discouraging parking at curbs and intersections is important.

Motion by Deputy Mayor Lenox, seconded by Mr. Martin, and it was carried unanimously to close to the public.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

TREASURER LUHRS presented the bills of the evening and a statement of cash on hand. A minor correction to the bill list, changing the check for the postage machine lease from \$469.35 to \$447.00 resulted in bill list reduction to \$438,099.24. Motion by Mr. Tatsch, seconded by Deputy Mayor Lenox, and it was carried unanimously to approve the bill list.

The Treasurer also provided a current date appropriations list and a September 2010 revenues report.

Treasurer’s Resolutions:

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**RESOLUTION #144 -10**

WHEREAS, it has been determined by the Board of Health of the Township of East Amwell that the following witness fees can be refunded;

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

Applicant	Amount Refunded
Engineering & Land Planning Association	\$200.00

By Order of the Township Committee,

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Peter Kneski, Mayor

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**RESOLUTION # 145-10**

WHEREAS, it has been determined by the Township of East Amwell that the following fee was made in error to the Township instead of to the County of Hunterdon,

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

Applicant	Amount Refunded
Barbara Hay	\$100.00

By Order of the Township Committee,

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Peter Kneski, Mayor

+++++  
 Motion by Deputy Mayor Lenox, seconded by Mr. Tatsch, and it was carried unanimously to approve the refunding resolutions.

All other administrative reports were acknowledged; there were no Tax Collector resolutions.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Mayor Kneski acknowledged the 9/27 communication from Attorney Orr regarding rezoning a particular property in the Sourland Mountain Zone. The Planning Board discussed the communication at their meeting last night, and an opinion was received from the Planning Board attorney stating that such a change would result in spot zoning and he would not recommend any changes. Deputy Mayor Lenox also noted that the Planning Board looked at the entire area within the last two years, and they did not see any need to rezone. The lot in question is located at the corner of Route 518 and Route 31, and it is a one acre parcel.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, motion by Deputy Mayor Lenox, seconded by Mr. Tatsch, and it was carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:43 p.m.

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Teresa R. Stahl, RMC/CMC  
Municipal Clerk

DRAFT MINUTES - NOT YET APPROVED