

A special meeting of the East Amwell Township Committee came to order at 6:50 PM. Present were Mayor C. Larry Tatsch, Deputy Mayor Patricia Cregar, and Committee members Peter Kneski and Linda Lenox. Committee member Tim Mathews was absent. Township Administrator Timothy Matheny was also present.

In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, a copy of notice of this meeting was filed in the Clerk's Office, posted on the bulletin board, and sent to the Hunterdon County Democrat, Times of Trenton, and Star Ledger on June 20, 2011, and published in the June 23, 2011, issue of the Hunterdon County Democrat. The purpose of this meeting is to approve a resolution to enter executive session to discuss the CFO position; to appoint a certifying officer for pensions; and to discuss the municipal court judge and summer playground.

The public is invited to attend and comment. Action may or may not be taken.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPOINTMENT OF CERTIFYING OFFICER FOR PERS: Mrs. Luhrs, who is retiring tomorrow, held this position. The recommendation was to appoint Assistant Treasurer Deborah Smith as the Certifying Officer and Mr. Matheny as the Supervisor.

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RESOLUTION #102 - 11

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell that they hereby appoint Deborah L. Smith as the Certifying Officer for P.E.R.S.

By Order of the Township Committee,

C. Larry Tatsch, Mayor

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Motion by Mr. Kneski, seconded by Ms. Lenox, and it was carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION ON JOINT MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGE: The 6/28 letter from Judge Petronko was mentioned as just being received today. Mr. Matheny explained that the Governor has the authority to appoint joint municipal court judges, and Mr. Matheny discussed a recommendation with Mr. Scholl, who is an attorney and a Committee member of Delaware Township. They discussed putting two letters of support for Edward Martin in the same submission for consideration for the position. (For the record, a copy of Mr. Martin's resume was provided to the governing body in preparation of this meeting.) Mr. Matheny spoke with the Municipal Court Administrator who is familiar with his work, and "he is highly regarded elsewhere." Delaware Township has gone on record with support of this candidate also. If the governing body agrees tonight, a letter will be sent to Senator Bateman in District 16 with a copy to Senator Turner in District 15 (the new legislative district for East Amwell).

Motion by Deputy Mayor Cregar and it was seconded by Ms. Lenox to send a letter of recommendation in support of Attorney Edward Martin for the position to be vacated by Judge Petronko. Mr. Kneski asked if Stockton Borough was contacted; Mr. Matheny explained that Stockton shares the court and is not part of the joint court. Mayor Tatsch stated that as far as he was concerned, this was not a political concern for East Amwell, and he was not aware of Mr. Martin's views. He stated that the Township would be looking for a competent, qualified judge to replace Judge Petronko, and he would support the appointment of Edward Martin because of the comments Ms. Hooven made that he is a good candidate. The motion to send the letter was carried unanimously.

SUMMER PLAYGROUND OPERATIONS AND STAFFING: Mayor Tatsch commented on the "great job" by Mr. Matheny in filling the positions, which was outlined in an inter-office

memo to the governing body. Mayor Tatsch commented also on "his personal observations" of Summer Playground, seeing a "beautifully organized" program and directors in charge, who were aware of their surroundings. Comments were exchanged between committee members and Mr. Matheny about keeping the program running and trying to maintain a good ratio of adults to children. Mr. Matheny explained how the PTO was contacted for assistance, and some members were hired to fill vacancies (one will work four weeks and another will work two varying weeks). Since the program began on June 27, 2011, one PTO member, Ms. Connelly, was considered a volunteer until officially hired retroactively at tonight's meeting.

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RESOLUTION #103 -11

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell that they hereby approve the hiring of two summer playground directors and an amendment to the 2011 Salary and Wage Resolution, as follows:

- Shelley Connelly Retroactive to June 27, 2011 through July 22, 2011
- Stacy Skillman July 1, 5-8, and July 25-29, 2011

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the 2011 Salary and Wage Resolution be amended to Add Ms. Connelly and Ms. Skillman to be paid \$236.00 per week, and the names Devon Bowman and Timothy Loveland be removed from the schedule.

By Order of the Township Committee,

C. Larry Tatsch, Mayor

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Motion by Mr. Kneski and seconded by Ms. Lenox to approve the resolution. Mr. Kneski suggested looking at the program and hiring earlier next year. It was explained that there will be a committee appointed to look at next year's program before budget discussions, possibly starting their discussions in September. Mr. Matheny also reminded the governing body that in this instance, positions were filled, but last minute decisions by directors to take other jobs caused the dilemma. The motion to appoint Ms. Connelly and Ms. Skillman was carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS THE CFO/TREASURER POSITION:

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RESOLUTION #104 - 11

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 the CFO/Treasurer Position and contracts; 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,

C. Larry Tatsch, Mayor

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Motion by Ms. Lenox, seconded by Mr. Kneski, and it was carried unanimously.

The executive session began at 7:45 p.m.

The special meeting resumed at 8:15 p.m.

For the record, Mayor Tatsch explained that two resolutions would need to be adopted to appoint an interim CFO to cover for the CFO who is retiring tomorrow. There has been a candidate search for three months; there may be some new candidates coming along, but having coverage by an interim CFO for the next three months is warranted. One suggestion is to appoint Mr. Matheny for a position up to 30 days, if necessary, as an agreement for shared services is being negotiated with Tewksbury Township to have their CFO work a couple of hours a week in East Amwell. The agreement will be for ninety days and cost the Township \$5,000. In the interim, the Township will continue its search for a candidate for the position. The Mayor reiterated his request for two separate resolutions to appoint Mr. Matheny to a 30 day position as Interim CFO and to approve a shared services agreement with Tewksbury Township to share their CFO and allow her to work in East Amwell Township two hours per week.

The resolution was approved and subsequently amended and approved by the governing body.

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RESOLUTION #105 - 11

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell that they hereby appoint Timothy L. Matheny as the interim CFO for a period not to exceed 30 days;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Mr. Matheny will be relieved of this title and duties once the shared services agreement is approved by both East Amwell Township and Tewksbury Township.

By Order of the Township Committee,

C. Larry Tatsch, Mayor

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Motion by Deputy Mayor Cregar, seconded by Ms. Lenox, and it was carried unanimously.

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RESOLUTION #106 - 11

AUTHORIZING AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT PURSUANT TO THE UNIFORM SHARED SERVICES ACT, 40A:65-1 et. seq., BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF TEWKSBURY AND THE TOWNSHIP OF EAST AMWELL FOR A TEMPORARY SHARED CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER.

WHEREAS, the Township of Tewksbury (hereby referred to as "Tewksbury") and the Township of East Amwell (hereby referred to as "East Amwell"), in the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, are desirous of achieving cost savings and efficiencies by having Tewksbury be the lead agency for the establishment of a temporary shared Chief Financial Officer; and

WHEREAS, East Amwell is in the process of searching for a Chief Financial Officer to replace their retiring CFO; and

WHEREAS, Tewksbury is agreeable to sharing their CFO for a temporary period not to exceed ninety (90) days from July 2011 through September 2011; and

WHEREAS, Section 40A:65-5 allows for two (2) or more municipalities to enter into an agreement for the establishment of a shared position by resolution; and

WHEREAS, Tewksbury has a documented history of providing cost effective service through shared services to other municipalities; and

WHEREAS, this attached contract is open to public inspection at the offices of both municipalities.

BE IT RESOLVED, that

1. The Township of Tewksbury and the Township of East Amwell hereby agree to the sharing of the Tewksbury Township CFO for 90 days pursuant to the contract attached hereto as Exhibit A, and enter into a contract for this shared service on this day, June 29, 2011.
2. The contract shall be effective upon adoption of appropriate resolutions, and execution of the contract, by both the Townships of Tewksbury and East Amwell.
3. A copy of the executed contract shall be filed with the Department of Community Affairs for informational purposes only.
4. A copy of the executed contract shall be open to public inspection at the municipal offices of both the Townships of Tewksbury and East Amwell.
5. The Mayor, Clerk of the Township, Chief Financial Officer, and any other proper official of the Township, be and each of them is, hereby authorized to execute and deliver any and all documents and instruments, and to do and cause to be done any and all acts and things necessary and proper for the carrying out of the transactions contemplated by this resolution.

By Order of the Township Committee,

 C. Larry Tatsch, Mayor

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 Motion by Mr. Kneski, and it was seconded by Ms. Lenox to approve the resolution.

It was noted that since the funding for the shared service was not planned in the current budget (i.e., funding for the CFO was in Salary and Wage, not Operating Budget), Tewksbury Township is willing to wait until to be paid until November when transfers can be made.

The motion was carried by roll call vote: Ms. Lenox, yes; Mr. Kneski, yes, Mrs. Cregar, yes; Mr. Tatsch, yes.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

The meeting was open to the public for comments; there being no members of the public present, motion by Ms. Lenox, seconded by Mr. Kneski, and it was carried unanimously to close to the public.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Deputy Mayor Cregar, seconded by Ms. Lenox, and it was carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m.

 Teresa R. Stahl, RMC/CMC
 Municipal Clerk

