

The regular meeting of the East Amwell Township Committee was called to order at 7:30 p.m. Present were Deputy Mayor Patricia Cregar, and Committee members Linda Lenox, Peter Kneski, and Tim Mathews. Mayor C. Larry Tatsch 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 2, 2011, and a meeting notice published in the Hunterdon County Democrat issue of January 6, 2011. 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 July 12, 2011.

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

AGENDA REVIEW

Correction on Agenda: Approval of June 9 (not 12) minutes should be noted. Under Correspondence, add 7/13 NJ League of Municipalities Letter re: 2011 Property Tax Bills and Statement of State Aid and Receipt of the Amwell Valley Ringoes Rescue Squad 2010 audit on file in Clerk's Office.

Letters from Senator Bateman and Senator Turner re: the recommendation of Edward Martin's consideration for Municipal Court Judge were also received.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Summer Playground will run from 6-27 to 7-29-11. The Township Committee is looking for residents to participate on an ad hoc committee to discuss future playground activities. Please email tstahl@eastamwelltownship.com if you are interested in serving.

Hunterdon County Office of the County Engineer will hold a public information meeting on August 17, 2011, between the hours of 6 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. at the East Amwell Municipal Building on the Resurfacing and Sidewalk Construction Project for County Route 579 and County Route 602 in Ringoes. Plans are on line at www.eastamwelltownship.com or in the Clerk's Office.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

June 9, 2011, Regular Minutes were approved on a motion by Mr. Kneski, seconded by Ms. Lenox, and carried with one abstention, Deputy Mayor Cregar.

June 29, 2011, Special Minutes were approved on a motion by Ms. Lenox, seconded by Mr. Kneski, and carried with one abstention, Mr. Mathews.

June 29, 2011, Executive Minutes (Contracts/Personnel) were approved on a motion by Ms. Lenox, seconded by Mr. Kneski, and carried with one abstention, Mr. Mathews.

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

Fred Gardner, 46 North Hill Road, explained that he and his wife, Gael, were very upset with the broadcast of salt on North Hill Road with runoff, which resulted in pollution of his pond and caused the death of frogs in their pond. He stated that North Hill was a straight road with no cross traffic, and the safest road in East Amwell except at the apron near Wertsville Road (elaborating on specific details of two dangerous areas that were addressed in past years). Mr. Gardner wanted the issue to be addressed and he be provided with an answer (also noting that he brought this up to the governing body in the past without response). He felt that using salt was a "waste of money, hostile to the environment, and stupid." He understood that the road crew

wanted to insure that everything was done, needed or not, to keep roads from any hazard possible, but applying salt to North Hill Road “was absolutely unnecessary.”

Mr. Kneski reminded the governing body that they did hear from Mr. Gardner; Mr. Gardner said that the crew continued to spread salt after that. Mr. Matheny advised the crew at that time “not to go crazy,” and Mr. Gardner stated that he did not want to see any salt applied to North Hill. Mr. Gardner commented on past township policy concerning use of sodium chloride on roads, such as Welisewitz, Rainbow Hill, and sections of Lindbergh where shading, curves, and high traffic were problematic; North Hill is a narrow road, and he commented on the amount of salt used. Mr. Kneski asked if the neighbors on North Hill expressed the same sentiment about using no salt on the road; Mr. Gardner stated that a few do not want it, again stating that the road is straight, is a dead end road, and has no through traffic. Mr. Mathews asked if it was appropriate to treat the apron area, and Mr. Gardner said “absolutely.” Mr. Matheny spoke about problems associated with the apron and drainage issues. Mr. Gardner stated that the road was “not a super-highway.” Mr. Gardner said that he would like to have a response.

Deputy Mayor Cregar asked the Clerk to make sure that the DPW Superintendent listened to the tape to hear Mr. Gardner’s concerns.

Tracy Carluccio, 81 North Hill Road, supported what Mr. Gardner said, stating that there was little traffic, a dead-end with no through traffic, with slow drivers using the road. She believed that the Township does not need to salt the road at all.

Motion by Mr. Kneski, seconded by Ms. Lenox, and it was carried unanimously to close to the public.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES/PUBLIC HEARINGS – None

SPECIAL DISCUSSION

AWARD OF DUTCH LANE ROAD AND LINDBERGH ROAD IMPROVEMENTS:

The Clerk explained that bids were received for both projects on July 6, 2011, and the same four contractors bid on both projects:

Lindbergh Road:

Jonico \$47,730.00; Pave-Rite \$38,682.50; Top-Line \$42,900.00; Mannon \$32,930.00.

Dutch Lane:

Jonico \$307,410; Pave-Rite \$278,982.75; Top-Line \$232,259.70; Mannon \$230,029.00.

Engineer O’Neal provided his 7/12/11 Letter and Bid Tabulation, showing that Mannon was low bidder on both projects, and Attorney Kopen submitted her 7/13 email acknowledging that Mannon’s bid submittals for both projects were satisfactory. The interim CFO certified funds for the award to Mannon Paving and Excavation on 7/13/11 in Ordinances #10-21 and #11-09.

+++++
RESOLUTION #107-11

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell that, based upon the recommendation of the Township Engineer and the notification by the Township Attorney that bid documents are satisfactory, the following bids are authorized:

ROAD IMPROVEMENTS TO LINDBERGH ROAD

Mannon Excavating & Paving Co., Inc.
356 Route 31
Flemington, New Jersey 08822
in the amount of \$32,930.00 for

250 linear feet of road edge repair and
390 tons of I-4 mix

DUTCH LANE ROAD IMPROVEMENTS

Mannon Excavating & Paving Co., Inc.
356 Route 31
Flemington, New Jersey 08822
in the amount of \$203,029.00 for
signage, excavation, paving, bank removal, seeding
and turf repair

By Order of the Township Committee,

Patricia A. Cregar, Deputy Mayor

++++
Motion by Ms. Lenox and seconded by Mr. Kneski to award the bids for Lindbergh Road and Dutch Lane. Mr. Mathews asked if Mannon had ever done any other work in East Amwell, and Mr. Matheny said yes, explaining that they are part of Flemington Bituminous. The motion to award was carried unanimously.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

SOURLAND ALLIANCE: Resolution of Endorsement for the Sourland Mountain Regional Comprehensive Plan (see 6/12/11 minutes for background). Tracy Carluccio, Chair of the Board of Health and Delegate to the Sourland Alliance, and Don Reilly, Planning Board Chair and Alternate Delegate to the Sourland Alliance, were present at this time.

Mr. Mathews read the entire plan since the last meeting and had some questions about undertaking new regulations, e.g., septic tank regulations. Ms. Carluccio and Mr. Reilly said that the septic regulations have been around since 1989. Mr. Mathews mentioned an objective of creating a state park and asked about implications for contiguous communities and residents in the area.

Ms. Carluccio explained the formation of the alliance across municipal boundaries where similar goals are shared on a regional basis, including protecting the forest, water, and other resources. Two phases of Sourland studies provided data to conclude that there is scarce water in the area because of the geology, that there is a fair amount of recharge in the forest, and there are headwaters in the area that feed three watersheds. Protecting resources is paramount, and East Amwell led the joint project 10 years ago (phase 1), and all participants share a vision to protect the area. There are various bullet points and ideas in the plan, but there is no priority to establish a state park; the concept was one of many ideas mentioned in phase 2 presentations. The Township was being asked to endorse a vision plan with a goal to protect the area. Mr. Reilly stated that there was no obligation to enact legislation; the municipality was being asked to support the objectives delineated in the report, which reaches across boundaries and to share best practices with the goal of preserving the environment. It was noted that the Township Committee (in the past) supported the creation and participation in the Sourland Alliance, which is developing policies that will cross municipal and county boundaries.

Mr. Mathews again mentioned a goal of creating a NJ state park for passive recreation and branding and geo-tourism. Mr. Reilly mentioned sharing the area with others; Ms. Carluccio said that the idea came up at a public meeting about using the area for biking or a trail system since there are parks there already. She reiterated that this is not a priority and not the number one goal.

Mr. Mathews agreed with some goals, including protecting the water, but not the creation of a state park. Mr. Reilly did not want to debate policy, but asked for endorsement of the plan. Mr. Mathews asked about abolishing hunting from a safety perspective – Mr. Mathews is in support

of hunting although the document suggests otherwise; Ms. Carluccio explained that several municipalities agreed that deer management was a priority. Setbacks from homes may be standardized, and there are state laws about them. She stated that there would be no effort to stop hunting on the mountain.

Mr. Mathews asked about “strategic branding” of the area to attract people, asking about infrastructure for tourists. Ms. Carluccio stated that the intent was not to build shops on the mountain but to encourage people to use the trails. Mr. Mathews asked about delayed mowing, mentioning problems with farmers’ hay crops. Ms. Carluccio talked about forest stewardship in open areas and preserving grasslands for habitat management for fledglings and providing an example of this. She mentioned that farmers sometimes voluntarily work with NRCS on mowing.

Mr. Mathews asked about rebuilding houses based on aesthetics. Ms. Carluccio explained Board of Health provisions, e.g., if a house is being expanded by 20%, water supplies must be tested and the state has specifics about the septic size for a particular number of bedrooms. She said that the health concerns drive the development.

Mr. Kneski saw the document as a master plan for the region by five municipalities cognizant of protecting the environment. Mr. Reilly said it was very similar; however, individual towns would have to adopt their own ordinances on what they elect to follow. Mr. Reilly said that from his perspective, it gives the Township Committees and Planning Boards of five municipalities data and shared practices in an easier manner to coordinate ways to take advantage of what other municipalities are doing, i.e., better communication between municipalities with a common goal.

Mr. Mathews again asked about the creation of a state park. Mr. Reilly explained that there were numerous meetings with appointees from five municipalities with this being one suggestion. There are no financial means to create a state park, it is a concept only, and there is no obligation to create one. He also noted that there has been a lot of federal, state, county, and private money spent to preserve the mountain, and the public has a right for passive recreation on those preserved lands.

Deputy Mayor Cregar opened to the public.

Dick Ginman, Vice Chair of the Farmland/Open Space Preservation Committee, said that there has been a lot of money invested in the area (e.g., D & R Greenways and Green Acres funding), and creation of the plan will encourage them to invest further. On a practical side, there have been court cases, including the one in East Amwell, when courts ask what the broader picture might be beyond the municipality to a regional plan, and this is the type of thing they were looking for in the past to support zoning.

Motion by Mr. Kneski, seconded by Ms. Lenox, and carried unanimously to close to the public.

Deputy Mayor Cregar asked where the Sourland Alliance meets; Ms. Carluccio said once a month at the environmental center in Montgomery. East Amwell has two representatives (Ms. Carluccio and Mr. Reilly), and the Township Committee makes the appointments at their reorganization meeting.

+++++
RESOLUTION #108 -11

Resolution Endorsing the Sourland Mountain Comprehensive Management Plan

WHEREAS, the Township Committee acknowledges that the Sourland Mountain Region comprises the headwaters of many of the streams in the Region and surrounding towns, and its forested areas maintain the stream water and groundwater quality while providing habitat for many threatened and endangered species, while also offering many unique scenic, historic, agricultural and recreational resources for residents of and visitors to the area; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee has recognized the importance of a cooperative municipal alliance consisting of the five Townships within the Region by authorizing participation in the Sourland Municipal Alliance; and

WHEREAS, the Sourland Mountain Comprehensive Management Plan (“Plan”) has since been developed by the Sourland Alliance (formerly the Sourland Municipal Alliance) to (1) develop background studies on the critical environmental features of the Region so that land use capability can be examined and (2) provide a framework for partnership among the government entities within the Region to advance certain goals that will protect these unique resources mentioned above.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell endorses the Sourland Mountain Comprehensive Management Plan and looks forward to working with the Sourland Alliance in its efforts to safeguard the uniqueness of the Sourland Mountain Region, to protect the natural resources, to protect the water supply, to maintain the rural characteristics of the municipalities and to provide and maintain the quality of life for the current residents and for future generations.

By Order of the Township Committee,

Patricia A. Cregar, Deputy Mayor

+++++
Motion by Mr. Kneski, seconded by Ms. Lenox, and carried with one no vote by Mr. Mathews to approve the resolution endorsing the Sourland Alliance Comprehensive Master Plan.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

FARMLAND/OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION Vice Chairman Dick Ginman and Member Fred Gardner were present during this discussion.

1) A-3992/Amends Solar, Wind & Biomass Act – Request for Letter of Opposition to New State Regulations: Ms. Lenox read the regulations and did not see a problem with one turbine for a 33 acre parcel with 750 feet from the boundary lines. She felt that you can “still farm around” the installation, and she could not support the letter. She was, however, against solar if you were using prime farmland for installation. Mr. Ginman explained that there was no distinction between solar or turbine.

Mr. Gardner felt that there was significant structure if regulations allowed for 3 turbines on 100 acres, i.e., up to 300 percent of electricity generated to support the farmstead with a potential to open up to commercial operation on a preserved farm. He said he knew of two farmers who were installing single turbines for 110% of their usage with good reason to do so. He believed that SADC has not yet gotten around to writing permissive regulations for wind power as was done for solar. He concluded that if a preserved farm installed 4 – 5 wind turbines, residents would be notifying the Township. Mr. Ginman agreed that the public would not like to see commercial use on preserved land, noting the solar regulation of allowing 110% of production on site for the property owner’s utilities. FOSPC Chair Glorianne Robbi is contacting SADC on behalf of the two residents on preserved land who wish to install alternative power sources.

Mr. Mathews asked the Attorney if the state looked at wind turbine as beneficial, like solar power; Mr. Cushing said yes. Mr. Mathews felt that there was a disconnect between solar and wind. Mr. Gardner commented on the SADC not promulgating permissive regulations to allow two East Amwell farmers to install turbines. He felt that wind turbines were more conspicuous than solar. SADC is against the current bill in the legislature, and he stated that the bill would damage overall preservation efforts and undermine the confidence of the public that what is being preserved is beneficial to the neighborhood. He concluded that he was not against alternative energy, but it was not appropriate in all areas.

Ms. Lenox commented on speakers at the Agricultural Advisory forums indicating that wind turbines wouldn’t do well here. Mr. Gardner spoke about the wind currents that would help the

two East Amwell Township farmers, and Mr. Ginman mentioned a third property owner who is installing turbines now. Mr. Kneski commented on citizen funding for preserved land and installation of alternative energy equipment on them; he would support a letter of opposition (although in favor of turbines for other areas).

Motion by Mr. Kneski, seconded by Mr. Mathews, and it was carried with one no vote, Ms. Lenox, to endorse the draft letter prepared by FOSPC in opposition to the new state regulations as they relate to wind and biomass.

2) Letter to Hunterdon County re: Preservation of Block 38/Lot 3 (247 Rileyville Road): Mr. Ginman explained that the property owner, Mr. Plimpton, had been working with D & R Greenways before he passed away. The executor of his will is trying to fulfill his wishes in getting the property preserved. The property connects to a Hunterdon County park, and there is "terrible access" to the park due to limited parking; it would be beneficial if the Freeholders acquired the land for parking. The first step is to make the recommendation to the Freeholders and Kevin Richardson (Hunterdon County Open Space Coordinator) will follow up. The former property owner, Mr. Napiorkowski, did a lot of work clearing the property. Mr. Mathews asked about more parking room, and Mr. Ginman felt that it was critical to make trails more available to the public. Mr. Gardner felt that there would not be a huge influx of people, a few during the week and more on the weekend.

Mr. Mathews mentioned problems he is aware of at the D & R Greenways park on Mountain Road, near Stony Brook and Mountain Roads, i.e., kids going in, partying, etc. Mr. Ginman felt that the location of the Plimpton property, on Mountain Road (a major County Road), would deter such activities. He believed that the County could initiate a design which would not cause a nuisance to residents. He also noted that acquisition would be at no cost to the municipality.

Motion by Ms. Lenox, seconded by Mr. Kneski, and it was carried unanimously to send the prepared letter from FOSPC to the Hunterdon County Freeholders in support of the acquisition.

3) 7/5 SADC Request for Information on Lindbergh Road Right of Way in Conjunction With the Acquisition of Block 34/Lot 34 in East Amwell: The property in question (Holcombe) has road frontage on Wertsville Road with a very small flag on Lindbergh Road. Mr. Kneski explained that usually a right of way is acquired to do any drainage work on a roadway. The DPW Superintendent has advised that there are no plans to widen the road in the future. Mr. Cushing felt that the County may have an interest in acquiring a right of way on Wertsville Road and pay for it, and in some semi-urban or suburban areas, sidewalks might be considered. The area in question is nowhere near where road projects are being done this year.

Motion by Ms. Lenox, seconded by Mr. Kneski, and it was carried unanimously to send a letter to the state that there are no issues with the property and a right of way is not required.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE

1) Section 125 Plan (See 6/12 agenda for background): Former Treasurer Luhrs was working on establishing the plan before she retired. It will allow money to pay for insurance costs to be placed in a pre-tax category to save on tax implications. A plan was acquired from another municipality; however, Attorney Lorraine Staples recommended getting the Township's own plan via the internet at an approximate cost of \$99. Shortly thereafter, the State announced that municipalities had to have these plans, and it was agreed that waiting to see what the state has to offer or recommends is the best course of action.

2) Municipal Building Façade: Mr. Matheny got a quote of \$8,736 to complete the matching stone façade across the front of the building or additional \$9,700 to go around the side. There is \$18,000 in a capital improvement ordinance for building renovations. The money was held in place to see if there were any expenses for energy efficiency, but they were covered with a grant. Deputy Mayor Cregar felt that the work should proceed since there was money in the capital budget to do so. Mr. Mathews and Ms. Lenox could not support using the money for "purely aesthetic" purposes. Mr. Kneski agreed to hold off on the purchase until more quotes were obtained. Mr. Matheny commented on it being hard to get quotes for cultured stone.

Mr. Mathews felt that it was egregious in this economy to spend the money when there are many residents out of work. Ms. Lenox agreed that the building looked fine without the finished stone. Mr. Kneski again asked for quotes; Mr. Matheny had two quotes and would be surprised if one came in under \$5,000. Mr. Mathews and Ms. Lenox said that they would not support the installation at any cost.

3) Refuse/Trash Collection(7/1/11 – 6/30/13): Mr. Matheny obtained some quotes (Raritan Valley Disposal and Global) for trash collection, and RVD reduced their price from the last two-year quote for a savings of \$1,000 or better. RVD will continue to provide service to the municipality.

4) Littering Complaint- Bicycle Race in June: Joe Saling, organizer of the annual event, was contacted about the littering complaint after their race. He will reinforce the littering policy for next year’s race and offered his apologies. Mr. Mathews commented on the growing number of bicyclists in general who litter Township roads with water bottles. He also asked about issuing parade permits in the township; none are issued. Mr. Matheny explained that the police are usually aware of the event, the organizers provide insurance certificates, and an errant bottle is hard to control.

5) Request for Bicycle Ride Through East Amwell on 8/14 (See 7/1 Letter from Assemblywoman Grace Spencer, 29th Legislative District): Committee members agreed that there was no action required since the ride will not be held on local roads, only County Routes 518 and 179. A letter will be sent to Assemblywoman Spencer thanking her for alerting the Township and asking for sensitivity from the riders in terms of littering.

6) June 2011 Raritan Township Police Report: There were 43 summonses written over the course of 20 hours in June, including secondary charges (not just speeding). The police are stationed all over the municipality, and they recently worked on Rocktown Road where complaints have been on-going.

7) CFO/Treasurer Position Update: Mr. Matheny quipped about being the shortest serving CFO in the State of New Jersey, being appointed as Interim CFO on June 29th at the special meeting and being relieved of duties when the agreement with Tewksbury Township was approved on Tuesday, July 5, with changes made by East Amwell. Tewksbury Township CFO Judie McGrorey, who also works in Stockton Borough and Hopewell Borough, is now acting as Interim CFO and “has hit the ground running.” She has on-line access to banks, is in the office two hours a week, and is working with Assistant Treasurers Maria Andrews and Debbie Smith to get the work done. The agreement will give the Township a 90 day buffer to find a CFO, and Mr. Matheny will continue with another interview next Tuesday.

Mr. Mathews was not at the special meeting on the 29th and asked, for future reference, if it was a conflict of interest to appoint Mr. Matheny as the Interim CFO since he is also the procurement officer. Some comments were exchanged, and Mr. Cushing will research this. The explanation for Mr. Matheny’s appointment was to allow funds to be certified for the road projects that were awarded earlier tonight, and it was unclear whether Tewksbury Township would accept the changes made to the shared services agreement on June 29. Mr. Matheny commented on the requirement to make the award of the Dutch Lane bids at the July meeting or risk losing funding. He reminded the governing body that his QPA background was also helpful in the position. Mr. Cushing agreed that Mr. Mathews’ point was well taken and will look into the matter for future reference. Mr. Matheny concluded that his position was for a thirty day period only, and he also believes in “checks and balances,” noting that the former CFO also helped with purchasing.

8) Dog Census Takers: A letter was received today from Tom Kovacs stating that he will not be able to do his half of the dog census. Nery Ragno has agreed to perform the entire count.

+++++

RESOLUTION # 109-11

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell that they hereby accept the letter of resignation from Tom Kovacs and hereby appoint Nery Ragno to complete the entire dog census (both districts) during the summer of 2011; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the 2011 Salary and Wage Resolution, amended with Resolution 78-11 on May 12, 2011, be further amended as follows:

Remove	Tom Kovacs	\$500 & \$325/ Dog Census Taker
Add	Nery Ragno	\$500 & \$325/Dog Census Taker for Second District

By Order of the Township Committee,

Patricia A. Cregar, Deputy Mayor

+++++
Motion by Mr. Mathews, seconded by Ms. Lenox, and it was carried unanimously to approve the resolution.

9) Construction Fees for Solar: Mr. Matheny received information from Raritan Township about their increased fees for solar construction. He recommended that the Township follow suit. Mr. Matheny will work with the Clerk on proposed changes for the Township Committee’s consideration.

10) FBI Training: Mr. Mathews asked for information from the recent FBI training that Mr. Matheny attended at the Montego Bay Resort in Wildwood. Mr. Matheny had already forwarded the information to the governing body by email, but he will send it again to Mr. Mathews.

11) Municipal Field Maintenance: Mr. Mathews asked who was maintaining the Municipal ballfields; Mr. Matheny explained that baseball and soccer cut the fields, done with some guidance. There is some funding for field maintenance in the recreation budget, and baseball and soccer leagues provide some funding too.

6/28 LETTER FROM JUDGE JOHN PETRONKO ANNOUNCING DECEMBER 2011 RETIREMENT The Township Committee acknowledged the letter from Judge Petronko indicating that he will be leaving East Amwell at the end of December. In his letter, Judge Petronko also commended Court Administrator Hooven’s professionalism and efforts in handling the court office.

4H FAIR GAME LICENSES – REQUEST BY CLERK TO AUTHORIZE GAME APPLICATION FROM PREVIOUS LICENSE HOLDERS The Clerk explained that there have been only two licenses applied for and issued for the August 2011 4H Fair. She was concerned that some previous applicants would come in after tonight’s meeting and if applications are not processed until the August 11 meeting, they may be too late for issuance. She requested authority to issue licenses before that meeting. Mr. Cushing asked for time to consider this request. (See below Resolution for Coalition for Animals.)

NEW BUSINESS

RECEIPT OF 2010 AUDIT FROM WITHUM, SMITH & BROWN

The 2010 audit was delivered this week from Auditor Case, and each governing body member was given a copy. The governing body was asked to review the material, and the audit resolution will be adopted at the next meeting.

RESOLUTION TO RETURN UNUSED ESCROWS/BONDS FOR VARYING DEVELOPMENTS

The Clerk worked with Mrs. Luhrs to release old escrow and bonds from past developments, and Township Engineer O'Neal agreed that the following escrows/bonds could be released.

+++++

RESOLUTION # 110-11

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell that they hereby approve the following cancelations of performance bonds and escrow fees for the developments and properties herein listed, at the recommendation of the Township Engineer on June 27, 2011:

Ringoes Rentals, B. 10/L.1	\$260.87 inspection fees \$ 14.03 performance bond cash
Hunterdon Mini Storage, B.14.02/L.28.02	\$2,577.35 inspection fees
Three Kids Enterprises, B.16/L.1.01	\$105.75 inspection fees
Amerada Hess, B.15.01/L.2	\$3,924.00 performance bond cash \$ 206.80 inspection fees
Nextel, B.8/L.26.01	\$3,996 performance bond cash
Cellco, B.8/L.26.01	\$20.20 inspection fees
Nextel/Deleon, B.18/L.18	\$3,840.00 performance bond cash \$ 500.00 inspection fees

By Order of the Township Committee,

Patricia A. Cregar, Deputy Mayor

+++++ Motion by Ms. Lenox, seconded by Mr. Kneski, and carried unanimously to approve the resolution.

RAFFLE LICENSE 11-02: ROBERT WOOD UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL FOUNDATION, THE RIDGE AT BACK BROOK, 8/8/11, AT 6 P.M. (RAIN-DATE 8/15/11)

+++++

RESOLUTION #111-11

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell that they hereby support the fund-raising efforts of Robert Wood University Hospital Foundation, 10 Plum Street, Suite 910, New Brunswick, NJ 08901; and

WHEREAS, the Foundation has made application to hold a raffle on August 8, 2011, at 6:00 p.m. at The Ridge at Back Brook, 211 Wertsville Road, Ringoes, NJ 08551;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell that Raffle License #11-02 be approved and processed.

By Order of the Township Committee,

Patricia A. Cregar, Deputy Mayor

+++++

RAFFLE LICENSE 11-03: COALITION FOR ANIMALS, UNIONVILLE VINEYARDS, SEPTEMBER 17, 2011, AT 2:30 P.M.

+++++
RESOLUTION #112-11

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell that they hereby support the fund-raising efforts of the Coalition for Animals, Inc., 20 Peterson Road, Hillsborough, NJ 08844 (Mailing Address: PO BOX 611, Somerville, NJ 08876); and

WHEREAS, the Coalition has made application to hold a raffle on September 17, 2011, at 2:30 p.m. at Unionville Vineyard, 9 Rocktown Road, Ringoes, NJ 08551;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell that Raffle License #11-03 be approved and processed.

By Order of the Township Committee,

Patricia A. Cregar, Deputy Mayor

+++++
Motion by Ms. Lenox, seconded by Mr. Kneski, and carried unanimously to approve the resolution.

4H FAIR AMUSEMENT GAMES, Continued Unfinished Business

Mr. Cushing discussed the matter with Mr. Matheny and reviewed the existing ordinance for amusement games. He agreed that the Clerk could be given permission to issue the licenses, and it would be ratified by the governing body at the August 11 meeting.

+++++
RESOLUTION #113-11

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell that, upon review of the statutory regulations pertaining to the issuance of amusement licenses, they hereby delegate the Municipal Clerk to issue amusement licenses for the August 2011 4H Fair to be held at the South County Fairgrounds, and the Township Committee will ratify the conduct at the next regular Township Committee.

By Order of the Township Committee,

Patricia A. Cregar, Deputy Mayor

+++++
Motion by Ms. Lenox, seconded by Mr. Kneski, and carried unanimously to approve the resolution.

SOCIAL AFFAIRS ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSES:

1) The Ridge at Back Brook: Three Organizations, St. Peter’s Foundation, NJ CAR, and Midland Foundation, applied to hold special events at The Ridge at Back Brook. Mr. Cushing reminded the governing body that they held a special meeting last year to allow The Ridge to hold such functions. Even though they have their own golf club license, they are required to get licenses for outside social events.

+++++
RESOLUTION #114-11

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 events to be held at The Ridge of Back Brook, 211 Wertsville Road, Ringoes, NJ 08551:

St. Peter’s Foundation
254 Easton Avenue
New Brunswick, NJ 08903
September 12, 2011

NJ CAR
856 River Road
Trenton, NJ 08628
September 19, 2011

Midland Foundation
PO Box 5026
North Branch, NJ 08876
September 26, 2011

By Order of the Township Committee,

Patricia A. Cregar, Deputy Mayor

+++++
Motion by Ms. Lenox, seconded by Mr. Mathews, and carried unanimously to approve the resolution.

2) Amwell Valley Fire Company: The Fire Company is applying for a social affairs permit for their annual Harvest Fest.

+++++
RESOLUTION #115-11

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 their annual Harvest Fest to be held at the Amwell Valley Fire Company, Post Office Box 76, Ringoes, NJ 08551 on Saturday, September 10, 2011 (Raindate, Sunday, September 11, 2011).

By Order of the Township Committee,

Patricia A. Cregar, Deputy Mayor

+++++
Motion by Mr. Kneski, seconded by Ms. Lenox, and carried unanimously to approve the resolution.

AMWELL VALLEY FIRE COMPANY: RESOLUTION FOR APPROVAL OF FIREWORKS DISPLAY FOR HARVEST FEST ON 9/10/11 (9/11/11)

+++++
RESOLUTION #116-11

WHEREAS, there is a Harvest Fest in East Amwell Township held each fall at the Amwell Valley Fire Company in Ringoes; and

WHEREAS, there has been a request for a resolution of approval from the governing body of the Township of East Amwell to have a fireworks display at the event; and

WHEREAS, an application for a permit to the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, Division of Fire Safety, has been made by the Amwell Valley Fire Company for a fireworks display on Saturday, September 10, 2011, with a rain date of Sunday, September 11, 2011;

WHEREAS, Garden State Fireworks, a New Jersey operator approved by the Amwell Valley Fire Company, will be displaying the fireworks and complying with the requirements of the New Jersey Division of Fire Safety’s permit; and

WHEREAS, a certificate of additional insured has been obtained from the Amwell Valley Fire Company’s insurance carrier, naming East Amwell Township to their coverage;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell that they grant permission for the public fireworks display in the municipality at the 2011 Harvest Fest.

By Order of the Township Committee,

Patricia A. Cregar, Deputy Mayor

+++++
Motion by Ms. Lenox, seconded by Mr. Mathews, and carried unanimously to approve the resolution. At Attorney Cushing’s recommendation, the Township insurance agent will be asked to review the insurance certificate provided by the Fire Company.

Attorney Cushing left the meeting at 9:20 p.m.

HUNTERDON COUNTY MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE APPLICATION FOR 2012

The Clerk reminded the governing body that this is the annual application to participate in the drug awareness program with the sending districts to the high school. Motion by Mr. Kneski, seconded by Ms. Lenox, and it was carried unanimously to have the Deputy Mayor sign the application.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Frances Gavigan, 123 Wertsville Road, asked that future agendas show the name or address of properties only identified by block and lot. She mentioned speeders on Wertsville Road, including motorists and bicyclists, who are also using the Rocktown Road to Wertsville Road stretches too. Ms. Gavigan commented on using the same auditor each year, suggesting switching for a period of time or rotating to “have a different set of eyes.” Deputy Mayor Cregar mentioned that the firm had been doing the audit for forty years; Ms. Gavigan felt it would be valuable and good practice to give the firm a year off. Ms. Gavigan mentioned the village sidewalk plans, stating the DEP and State Historic Preservation Office approval would be necessary for work in the historic area.

Motion by Mr. Kneski, seconded by Ms. Lenox, and carried to close to the public.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

CFO/TREASURER’S OFFICE

Bills of the evening and statement of cash on hand were presented. Motion by Mr. Kneski, seconded by Ms. Lenox, and carried unanimously to approve the bills of the evening.

TAX COLLECTOR HYLAND provided the June 2011 Municipal Receipts and Disbursements Report.

+++++
RESOLUTION #117-11

WHEREAS, the certified 2011 tax rate may be delayed from the Tax Board of Hunterdon County; and

WHEREAS, this amount is needed for the property tax bills to be printed; and

WHEREAS, there must be twenty-five days from the date of mailing for the return of the quarterly payment before interest is charged;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:4-66 et seq., the payment without interest for third quarter 2011 taxes will be extended to at least twenty-five days from mailing of the tax bills, after which time all receipts for the third quarter shall be deemed delinquent with interest accruing from August 1, 2011.

By Order of the Township Committee,

Patricia A. Cregar, Deputy Mayor

+++++
Motion by Ms. Lenox, seconded by Mr. Kneski, and carried unanimously to approve the resolution extending the tax payment period because bills have not yet been prepared.

COURT ADMINISTRATOR HOOVEN provided her June 2011 report.

DPW SUPERINTENDENT KADEZABEK provided the June 2011 Road Activities report.

Mr. Mathews would like to see more detail on how the four employees are using their time. Ms. Lenox commented on the men being busy and not being able to spend time writing reports. Some discussion took place on the report, the amount of work done by the DPW, and difficulty in having reports prepared, including having the Deputy Clerk “clean up” the report to show a variety of tasks each day. Mr. Mathews felt that it was in the best interest of the DPW to clearly identify their accomplishments, i.e., “more meat” on what they did rather than small bullet points – he referenced his experience in the corporate world by defining value in work being done. He was offering his comments as constructive feedback about the report. Mr. Matheny explained that there is a lot done that is not included in the report, e.g., building tasks, driving errands for parts and supplies, etc.; he also reminded the governing body that the Department runs “on a shoestring” with equipment that often needs repair, men work in 100 degree heat “slinging blacktop,” and paperwork is not their first priority. As an aside, Mr. Matheny mentioned that the current DPW Superintendent has “done a great job with purchasing” and paperwork involved with that aspect of the job. Mr. Matheny would rather see work product than taking time for job documentation; Mr. Mathews agreed but hoped that detailed reporting could be worked out.

CORRESPONDENCE

Ms. Lenox commented about the New Jersey correspondence about fireworks laws and lack of concern by residents who illegally display them, particularly in farming communities.

The 6/30 League of Municipalities memo regarding abolishing COAH was mentioned; Mr. Matheny reminded the Township Committee that municipalities may then be required to meet their own requirements themselves or be subject to developer’s remedies.

The Hunterdon County Resolution on All Hazards Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan was mentioned, and Mr. Mathews spoke about a Hunterdon County emergency response exercise to be held on

September 10 in Raritan. A community outreach to recruit volunteer members may be considered. Mr. Kneski provided anecdotal information about a previous exercise held years ago in Ringoes involving a train wreck. Mr. Mathews spoke about recruiting people who would bring value, e.g., fire fighters, doctors, pharmacists, etc. Mr. Matheny said that details of the exercise have not yet been received, and if it is a “table-top” exercise, volunteers may not be needed. A suggestion was made to advertise in the VIP if it is determined that volunteers are necessary.

The Clerk received a phone call from a family member regarding the 7/1 Meszaros site conditions letter. The caller said that his wife (Mr. Meszaros’ daughter) rides by the property on a daily basis and she does not see any evidence of break-ins. The caller said that they went over the whole property yesterday, and they did see three new items on site. The family will be putting up boulders in front of the house and garage and will try to put some on the perimeter to keep people out.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, motion by Ms. Lenox, seconded by Mr. Kneski, and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 p.m.

Teresa R. Stahl, RMC/CMC
Municipal Clerk