

A special meeting of the East Amwell Township Committee came to order at 7:15 PM. Present were Mayor C. Larry Tatsch, Deputy Mayor Patricia Cregar, and Committee members Linda Lenox, Peter Kneski, and Tim Mathews. Committee member elect Dart Sageser 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 December 2, 2011. The purpose of this meeting is to interview a candidate for a township board. The public is invited to attend. Action may or may not be taken.

Denise Gonsiewski, Orchard Road, was interested in serving on the Local Public Assistance Board. She has a background in social services, serving in the Domestic Peace Corps in North Dakota and working for a coalition for health care. She also worked for a crisis unit for families, battered women and children, and she has experience in fund raising and grants for the homeless in Essex County. Ms. Gonsiewski changed careers and is now a teacher.

Barbara Weber Berry, a member of the Local Public Assistance Board, was present, and she provided information about the other members of the committee, Bambi Kuhl, the LPA Director, and Dot Faherty, a long time member of the committee. Ms. Berry outlined some of the on-going cases before the Board. The Board meets quarterly and provides direction to Ms. Kuhl.

Mr. Mathews asked how the public is aware of services offered; Ms. Berry said by phone calls or through the Division of Social Services at the County. Ms. Lenox said that she knows Ms. Gonsiewski personally, and she is very compassionate and would be a good fit. Mayor Tatsch commented on Ms. Gonsiewski's special skills. He further explained the appointment process for the January reorganization.

Mr. Mathews asked if there were any other community services available to the public; Mayor Tatsch explained the arbitration program offered through the Court system.

Mr. Kneski arrived at the meeting at this time, and the Committee brought him up to speed.

There was a consensus to recommend Ms. Gonsiewski for a position on the Board for consideration at the reorganization meeting. Ms. Berry was thanked for her attendance.

There being no further business, motion by Deputy Mayor Cregar, seconded by Ms. Lenox, and it was carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

Teresa R. Stahl, RMC/CMC
Municipal Clerk