

The regular meeting of the East Amwell Township Committee was called to order at 7:30 p.m. Present were Mayor C. Larry Tatsch, Deputy Mayor Patricia Cregar, Committee members Peter Kneski and Tim Mathews. Committee Member Linda Lenox was absent. Township Administrator Timothy Matheny was also in attendance. Committee member elect Dart Sageser was also present.

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 December 27, 2011.

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

### **AGENDA REVIEW**

Add the following correspondence: 12/22 Letter from NJ Department of Community Affairs Approving a Five Year Exemption from the requirement of appointing a Principal Public Works Manager and the 12/23 Letter from City of Lambertville in support of exploring a rail trail on the Black River and Western Railroad Right of Way.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Municipal Offices will be closed on the following days: December 30, 2011 and January 2, 2012.

The Township Committee will hold its annual reorganization meeting on Sunday, January 1, 2012, at 2 p.m.

Township Boards and Committees' Reorganization Dates are posted on the bulletin board and on the Township website.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES - None**

### **SHORT RECESS**

The Clerk announced that there would be a small reception in honor of Mayor Tatsch in appreciation for a job well done in serving on the Township Committee for the past six years. Mr. Kneski stated that "Larry was an inspiration" and he thanked him for serving and guiding by inspiration and knowledge and thanked him for all his accomplishments. Deputy Mayor Cregar said that she echoed these sentiments and appreciated that Mayor Tatsch was able to keep decorum when meetings got out of hand. Mr. Mathews stated that he has served one year with Mayor Tatsch and appreciated his work with the residents.

Mayor Tatsch thanked everyone, stating that he would miss the work, including working with staff, "who were a pleasure to work with" and mentioned being on call on weekends. He thanked his colleagues for all their efforts, and he thanked his wife, Joyce (in the audience), who was by his side during his terms.

Motion by Deputy Mayor Cregar, seconded by Mr. Kneski, and it was carried unanimously to hold a short recess at 7:38 p.m.

The regular meeting resumed at 8:00 p.m.

Mayor Tatsch thanked everyone for their kind comments, stating it was a special evening for him, and he offered the public to help themselves to refreshments during the meeting.

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

Andrea Bonette, 17 Ridge Road, spoke about being Mayor for three years, and she felt that Mayor Tatsch “did a magnificent job” and thanked him for his service.

Frances Gavigan, 123 Wertsville Road, congratulated Mayor Tatsch on a job well done. She commented on having the internet site stronger, and she suggested that correspondence listed on agendas be scanned and placed on the website.

Glorianne Robbi, 144 Lambertville-Hopewell Turnpike, commented on “a lot of gruff and not all fun” during Mayor Tatsch’s term, and she stated that he did a wonderful job. As a member of the Farmland/Open Space Preservation Committee (FOSPC), she was thankful for his support, stating that he “handled being Mayor very successfully.”

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

**INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES/PUBLIC HEARINGS** - None**SPECIAL DISCUSSION**

QUARTERLY UPDATE FROM COMCAST – Robert Clifton, Director of Government Affairs, was present.

Mayor Tatsch reminded the public that as part of the franchise agreement, representatives appear at quarterly meetings to answer public questions.

Mr. Clifton commented on working with Mayor Tatsch for five years during the renewal and thereafter, and he “will miss you and wish you the best of luck!”

Mr. Clifton mentioned the two major storms in the fall with tremendous problems to address.

Mr. Kneski asked about more pixilation on 800 channels. Mr. Clifton will have a technician investigate.

Moria Selinka, 114 Linvale Road, spoke about making six calls to technicians regarding the storm related issues. While getting credits for outages, she asked why it took that many calls to get results. She also noted that she cancelled television service and her internet rate was increased. Mr. Clifton will check on this and get back to her.

The Clerk mentioned visits and calls from residents concerned about lack of Verizon FiOS service for television in the township. They are being told that it is a political issue and to call the municipality. Mr. Clifton explained the statewide franchise granted to Verizon to allow them to operate in any municipality in the state. The Comcast agreement is also non-exclusive. Mr. Clifton also mentioned a calendar which shows company availability of services, and Verizon has East Amwell on the list. It is up to Verizon to choose to negotiate.

Mr. Mathews asked about “the most favorable nation clause” in a contract. Mr. Clifton explained that vendors would operate on the same terms with this type of clause. He further explained that if Verizon reaches 60% of the community, the franchise fee is 4%, and Comcast would have to provide that also. The fee would be reduced to 4% as part of the state law on statewide franchises. Mr. Mathews mentioned the triple play package.

Mayor Tatsch noted that Verizon could never reach the 60% community mark because a large portion of the Township is in the 908 area code (outside Verizon territory). He further explained that many residents trying to get FiOS television are being told by call centers that it is the government that is disallowing the service, commenting that this is untrue, and the lack of provision of Verizon FiOS may be for economic reasons.

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

Mayor Tatsch stated that there seem to be fewer comments from the public, that it was a pleasure working with Mr. Clifton, and that “service is reliable and Comcast is doing its job.”

Mr. Clifton left the meeting at this time.

## **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **RECYCLING COMMITTEE**

SWAC Member and Chairman Will Harrison was present.

1) December SWAC Report and 12/6 Letter from Will Harrison to Hunterdon County Freeholders: Mr. Harrison explained that he appeared before the Hunterdon County Freeholders to discuss their attempted change of by-laws. The Freeholders wanted to appoint the Chairman and Vice Chair of SWAC rather than having the Council elect their own officers. And the method of determining quorum was also at question, noting that some municipalities send representatives while others do not. Mr. Harrison commented on a special meeting to be held to discuss matters. Mayor Tatsch commented on publicity received and on the fact that SWAC performs an important function with the appointment of people willing to work. He thanked Mr. Harrison for his leadership.

Mr. Harrison commented on a county wide recycling initiative that will be forth-coming.

### **FARMLAND/OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION**

1) Receipt of Copy of SADC Letter to Wells Fargo Bank re: Scibilia Property, B. 11/L.37: The letter was presented for information only. Mayor Tatsch explained a preservation deal undertaken 11 years ago, with the key problem that the Township has not yet received its \$190,000 reimbursement from the State. The mortgage holder will send a letter to the State Agriculture Development Committee (SADC) but not in the form that the SADC will accept. Mayor Tatsch worked with Senator Turner’s Office (the new 15<sup>th</sup> District), and they will craft a letter to be sent in the new year.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATOR’S UPDATE**

1) Appointment of Farmland/Open Space Preservation Committee and Historic Preservation Secretaries: Mr. Matheny explained that Martha Pittore resigned from both positions, and both positions were posted in the municipal building. One candidate applied for FOSPC and was also interested in the Historic Preservation Committee. There was interested from two other people for Historic Preservation, but no applications were received. Christine Rosikiewicz is interested in both positions, and she currently serves as Board of Health, Agricultural Advisory, and Recreation Committee secretaries at different rates of pay. Some discussion took place at length about the difference in pay rates for different boards; the range of pay in the salary and wage ordinance for secretarial services (from \$9.77 to \$20.91 per hour); the fact that Ms. Pittore was paid \$13.01 (correct figure was \$13.10) per hour for these positions; a request from Ms. Rosikiewicz for \$14.50 per hour for her work; survey information from other municipalities on payment for board secretaries and use of volunteers; comparison with payrates of other board secretaries; averaging of Ms. Rosikiewicz’s salaries from all boards; among other items. Mr. Mathews suggested that a policy decision would be necessary for deciding how employees move within the salary range.

Motion by Deputy Mayor Cregar, seconded by Mr. Kneski, and carried unanimously to offer Ms. Rosiekiewicz \$14.00 per hour for all boards (Historic Preservation, FOSPC, Recreation, and

Agricultural Advisory) except the Board of Health for secretarial services. The policy issue of moving within a salary range will also be reviewed.

2) Animal Control Officer (ACO) Shared Services Update: Mr. Matheny explained that West Amwell and Lambertville are looking at a shared service for ACO services. East Amwell currently receives service from Hunterdon Humane Animal Shelter. West Amwell has an employee, and the intent was to provide services to the other municipalities at per capita rates, which would work out to approximately \$6,000 per year, beginning January 1. The ACO now states that he does not want to do it as an employee. The ACO has a separate agreement with Delaware Township, and he would like to provide services at a cost of \$7,500 per town. East Amwell is currently paying the Humane Shelter around \$9,000 per year, and the arrangement would be “a good deal” for more services. Lambertville does not like the proposed fee, and there is another meeting set for next Tuesday at 6 p.m. in Lambertville to negotiate with the ACO.

Mayor Tatsch asked about enforcement; Mr. Matheny said that there would be more enforcement, noting that there is a limited amount now. Mr. Mathews said that the ACO would be on call 24/7, and the municipality would be paying less for better service. Mr. Kneski asked if the price included equipment; Mr. Matheny said that the ACO would be acting as an LLC and the fees includes equipment. Some comments were made about whether all three municipalities would pay the requested \$7,500; whether it could be negotiated as a multi-year contract; how the ACO would function as a private contractor and an employee in one municipality; among other items. Mr. Matheny concluded that it was promising, but there may be a need to ask Hunterdon Humane to work on a month-to-month agreement until the issue is resolved.

3) Municipal Insurance Options – Request for Resolution: Peter Tarricone, CIC, CRM & Senior Vice President for Wells Fargo Insurance, was present for this discussion. (For the record, Mr. Tarricone met earlier in the evening to discuss options.) Mayor Tatsch noted that the governing body looked at the quotes, and it appeared that the decision would be between PAIC and Statewide Insurance, and not Somerset. Mr. Tarricone agreed that it would be a tough decision, based on good experience with PAIC, reductions in some coverage with Statewide and the idea that the reserves for Statewide are not as strong as PAIC. He stated that the reduction in premium from \$95,000 for the year to \$62,000 was alluring, but it was uncertain what future premiums would be.

Mr. Mathews asked about the three year commitment to a fund and the ability to leave early. Mr. Tarricone stated that the municipality would have to pay a portion of their share of payment. He further mentioned Title 59 protections, and looking at the agreement to see what is required if there is an early withdraw. Mr. Mathews was told that the three year commitment was a state requirement, and rates could increase the next year. Mr. Tarricone spoke about the assessment of other members in Statewide to see any fluctuations, but he was unable to get information from the company. Mr. Kneski asked about opting out if the rates increased. Mr. Tarricone commented on knowing the history of assessments, and PAIC released its numbers by filing with the state on December 9. The Township’s figures were consistent with other numbers although they came down slightly.

Mr. Mathews and Mr. Kneski commented on the \$32,000 less cost for Statewide Insurance. Mayor Tatsch suggested that it might be “a teaser rate or not.” Mr. Tarricone commented again on three year memberships and possible deals being made. He reminded the governing body that when an assessment is reduced for an entity, the money for the fund comes from other members, i.e., “last in gets the best deal.” He spoke about asking for a track record to see the history of a fund.

Mr. Mathews said that \$32,000 would equate to \$15,000 per year for the next two years. Mr. Tarricone explained that at any time, the fund could impose additional assessments if they fell short. This could happen with any fund that the Township joined; however, PAIC has never asked for an additional assessment in its history. Mr. Tarricone also suggested that the size of the fund and the ratio of size to reserve were important issues to consider. Mr. Sageser asked about coverage options; Mr. Tarricone explained that a municipality could not “cherry pick coverage.”

Further discussion took place, with the following highlights: Deputy Mayor Cregar felt that the Township should stay with PAIC since they were in the fund since 1997; Mr. Mathews felt that the \$32,000 more in cost for PAIC was a consideration; Mr. Tarricone agreed that nothing stood out in coverage other than the cyber-liability and pollution coverage; some comments were exchanged between Mr. Tarricone and Mayor Tatsch about the on-going Handex remediation and coverage with either fund – Mr. Tarricone will check on the Handex issue.

Mr. Kneski concluded that the funds “were pretty much equal with different limits.” Mr. Tarricone commented that there were some differences, but broadness is not the sole reason to consider. He mentioned that the known records of assessments through PAIC, the stability of the fund, and the 2 to 1 coverage to reserve ratio with PAIC as opposed to the 4 to 1 ratio with Statewide were factors to consider. Mr. Mathews asked about the assessments being regulatory information or within rights; Mr. Tarricone stated that they were public knowledge, mentioning again difficulties in getting information from Statewide.

Mr. Kneski felt that the price from Statewide was very attractive, but he “was very nervous” with the lack of information they provided, and he preferred to go with PAIC as a known entity, making the motion to proceed with them. Deputy Mayor Cregar seconded the motion. Mayor Tatsch agreed with Mr. Kneski, saying that he would love to save \$32,000, but he felt it might be a “teaser rate” and may not hold in future years. He was satisfied with the level of service experienced with PAIC with a lower assessment over the years, and receiving surplus throughout history.

+++++  
**RESOLUTION #162 - 11**

**PUBLIC ALLIANCE INSURANCE COVERAGE FUND  
RESOLUTION FOR RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP**

**WHEREAS**, East Amwell Township, hereafter referred to as "**Public Entity**" is a member of the Public Alliance Insurance Coverage Fund, hereinafter referred to as "**Fund**"; and

**WHEREAS**, said renewal membership terminates as of January 1, 2012 at 12:01 a.m. standard time, unless earlier renewed by agreement between the **Public Entity** and the **Fund**; and

**WHEREAS**, the **Public Entity** is afforded the following types of coverages:

- Workers’ Compensation
- Package (property, boiler & machinery, crime, auto & general liability, including Police Professional)
- Public Officials Liability
- Excess Liability
  - Auto & General Liability (including Police Professional)
  - Public Officials Liability
- Environmental Impairment Liability

**WHEREAS**, the **Public Entity** desires to renew said membership.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** as follows:

1. The **Public Entity** agrees to renew its membership in the **Fund** for a period of three years beginning January 1, 2012, and ending January 1, 2015 at 12:01 a.m. eastern standard time, and to be subject to the coverages, operating procedures, bylaws, and other organizational and operational documents of the **Fund** presently existing or as from time to time amended by the **Fund** and/or the Department of Banking and Insurance.
2. The **Public Entity** agrees that as a member of the Public Alliance Insurance Coverage Fund the **Public Entity** must purchase all types of coverages offered by the **Fund** which are applicable to the **Public Entity**.
3. The **Public Entity** hereby appoints The Mayor as the **Public Entity's** Fund Commissioner and is authorized to execute the renewal Indemnity and Trust

Agreement thereby evidencing annexed hereto and made a part hereof and to deliver same to the Fund the Public Entity's renewal of its membership.

By Order of the Township Committee,

\_\_\_\_\_  
C. Larry Tatsch, Mayor

+++++  
Motion by Mr. Kneski, seconded by Deputy Mayor Cregar, and it was carried unanimously.

A recommendation was made to track Statewide Insurance through the next several years to have a better sense of their quality and be comfortable in future decisions.

4) Resolution to Enter Executive Session at the End of the Meeting to Discuss Terms and Conditions of the Township Administrator's Contract: Committee members agreed to hold this discussion until after Open to the Public.

5) LEPC Meeting: Mr. Mathews mentioned the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) meeting held on December 22. Members agreed to enroll in the initial training class for NIMS and meet again in March. Members include those who will add value to the municipality, including an electrical contractor, fire and rescue members, a Board of Health member, Mr. Matheny, Charlie Soos and Gary Myers from OEM, and Mr. Mathews, among others. They will look at ways to handle middle stage emergencies and they will codify what they do.

REQUEST FOR DECISION ON TAX ASSESSMENT OF D & R PROPERTIES, B. 20/L. 17.01 AND B.21/L.1 – CIDER MILL ROAD (See 12/811 Minutes for Background)

Mayor Tatsch provided information on the recent preservation of the Cider Mill property by D & R Greenways, who are the stewards and owners of the land. There was an error in applying for the tax exempt status (i.e., loss of a key employee and oversight by staff in a public notice requirement). The property was previously under farmland assessment with a tax of approximately \$1,300. The property will no longer qualify for farmland assessment and taxes would be around \$32,000 without the tax exempt status, which would cause a huge burden. The DEP has indicated that the Tax Assessor has the authority to waive the tax. An opinion offered by the Township Attorney also indicates that the Tax Assessor has the authority to grant an exemption. Mr. Mathews believed that the Assessor did not need the permission of the governing body to proceed, thereby eliminating the need for action. Mayor Tatsch agreed but stated that the Assessor was looking for direction from the governing body. Mr. Mathews asked if the Township Committee would allow for any waivers for residents if, for some reason, they missed the deadline for filing for farmland assessment. Mayor Tatsch and Mr. Sageser explained that this was not the same, i.e., farmland assessment v. tax exemption. Mr. Mathews felt that the Assessor had her direction that she has the legal statute to make a decision. Mr. Matheny had an email from the Assessor that came in late this afternoon, which he read into the record: "I spoke with Judy Kopen directly regarding her memo. Based on her findings, and with the TC stamp of approval, I will grant the exemption for 2012 and request that D & R reapply for the exemption with the DEP, specifically adhering to the procedural criteria. I am satisfied with the direction provided by Ms. Kopen. I will not be attending the meeting this evening as I have a conflict. However, I think with the memo provided, it is not necessary."

No action was necessary.

**NEW BUSINESS**

REQUEST FOR RESOLUTION OF OPPOSITION FOR S-1954 AND A-4358 FOREST HARVEST ON STATE LANDS (See Sample Resolution from Readington, Proposed Legislation, and Position Paper for Opposition)

The Clerk noted that there were some representatives in the audience who wished to speak about the topic.

Paul Carluccio, Resident on North Hill Road, has lived in East Amwell for 25 years and is familiar with the state lands surrounding Highfields, commenting on damage that could be done to the land. He was also familiar with logging damage to his own property done nearby with poor ground recharge, stone, shallow root systems, along with the economic impact of use of equipment on township roads, air pollution, drainage, well and septic damage, streams cured, floral removal, etc. He believed that loggers were insensitive to the environment and may not pay attention to the impact on roads and chemicals and fuels used. He did not think that the State would monitor operations such as these. He believed that there would be a lot of residents who would file for insurance assistance if their properties were damaged by such operations. He believed that the logging companies should be indemnified and bonded if they proceed.

Frances Gavigan, 123 Wertsville Road, agreed, stating that weather, topography, soils, density, recharge, etc. are not considered with such operations. She mentioned a County Park employee who recommended logging as a way to help with the budget and was not thought out but just a way to make money. She believed that opposition was good, and "the state is not the best steward."

Toni Robbi, 144 Lambertville-Hopewell Turnpike, said that the Environmental Commission has not met since the state has taken this position, but he believed that the Commission would oppose the harvesting. He believed that the plan was not sustainable, mentioning the NJ deer population destroying new, smaller trees being replanted for older ones in the entire state of NJ.

Dick Ginman, 125 Mountain Road, has lived in the Township 40 + years, seeing harvesting on private properties "as not very pretty." Large equipment is used on very fragile lands with perched water, and swamps are degraded by the process. He said that it was unclear what state forest would be harvested, mentioning various areas in the township. He concluded that wood lots are more sensitive, that the State would not monitor the operations, that it will take a while to recover, and he recommended not harvesting unless done in a sustainable fashion.

Motion by Mr. Kneski, seconded by Mr. Mathews to close to the public.

Mayor Tatsch spoke about personally seeing several areas of harvesting and had real concerns; he supported the resolution to oppose harvesting. Mr. Mathews owns an 11 acre wood lot, noting that he had 150-200 saplings that grew for five years and were devastated by deer. He was concerned with successful regeneration.

+++++

**RESOLUTION #163-11**

WHEREAS State Legislators are considering a bill that would open New Jersey's prized State owned lands to commercial logging, (S1954/A4358, Forest Harvest on State Lands), and

WHEREAS New Jersey's State Lands, including its Parks, Wildlife Management Areas and forested Green Acres Lands have been set aside for conservation and recreation purposes, and

WHEREAS these forested State lands were paid for and preserved with the support of a trusting public which assumed they would be protected from commercial exploitation, and

WHEREAS the towering hardwood trees growing in our State parks and forests contribute a far greater ecological and recreational value to the citizens of the State than they would if they were to be cut and sold as commercial lumber, and

WHEREAS according to information provided by the DEP, at the end of the five-year contract for the proposed Forest Harvest Program, a \$2.7 million net operating deficit is projected due to the high cost of oversight, and

WHEREAS commercial logging is likely to cause damage to roads, streams, and drainage swales in State lands that will cost money to restore and cause soil compaction and disturbance of the fragile ecosystem on the forest floor that will be impossible to restore, and

WHEREAS 37 PhD biologists, forest scientists, and ecologists from across the State have signed onto a letter in opposition to this Bill, agreeing that commercial timber harvesting would be detrimental to the public forests, and

WHEREAS this bill does not properly address the most serious threat to today's forests; that common hardwood species such as oaks, hickory, poplar and birch among others, are not regenerating due to high deer densities, and

WHEREAS, because of high deer densities, openings in the forest canopy, occurring as a result of timber harvesting, are colonized not by young hardwood trees, but by noxious weeds, typically vines, briars, and invasive plants from Asia, and

WHEREAS opening State lands to commercial logging would be detrimental to the flora and fauna, including the threatened and endangered species, that presently inhabit these lands;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the East Amwell Township Committee hereby finds and declares that the commercial exploitation of public lands that have been set aside for conservation and recreation purposes is a betrayal of the public trust, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the East Amwell Township Committee urges the legislators of the State of New Jersey to vote NO to S1954/A4358 Forest Harvest on State Lands.

By Order of the Township Committee,

\_\_\_\_\_  
C. Larry Tatsch, Mayor

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

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

Danielle Rice, Tabby's Place, asked about the proposal for the Animal Control Officer and whether it would include facilities to handle the animals picked up, and would it include feral cats. Mr. Matheny stated that the current provider does not handle feral cats, and he has not yet seen a proposal for services for next year.

Mayor Tatsch commented on past Township Committee support of trap and release programs, noting some problem areas in the Township. Ms. Rice asked about the number of strays in the Township; it was unknown, noting that Hunterdon Humane does not come out at all for strays. Ms. Rice wanted to coordinate the trap and release program with Tabby's Place. Some comments were made about contacting Buff Barr, who was supportive of the trap and release program. Mayor Tatsch suggested letting Ms. Rice know when a decision is made about the Animal Control Officer.

Andrea Bonette, 17 Ridge Road, asked that the Clerk make sure that the copy of the resolution of opposition for state forest harvesting be sent to the legislators before they act on January 9.

Frances Gavigan asked about two pieces of correspondence regarding the BPU releasing power company performance and the JCP&L increase in rates item. Mayor Tatsch provided comments on these items.

Ms. Gavigan asked about the Trident Consultants correspondence; she was told that the applicant was NVT LLC; she noted that this is the same company working on Chris Stahl's property.

Motion by Mr. Kneski, seconded by Deputy Mayor Cregar, and carried unanimously to close to the public.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

Treasurer Kathryn Monzo provided a transfer resolution.

+++++

**RESOLUTION #164-11**

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-58 permits appropriation transfers during the last two months of the current fiscal year between line items of the municipal budget, and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that certain line items are in excess of the sums needed and certain line items have insufficient funds to complete the operation of the fiscal year,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, that the following sums be transferred as follows:

	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
Financial Administration:		
Other Expenses	1,000.00	
Tax Assessment:		
Other expenses	1,500.00	
Employee Group Insurance:		
Other expenses	795.01	
Municipal Clerk:		
Salaries & wages		565.00
Financial Administration:		
Salaries & wages		1,760.00
Revenue Administration:		
Salaries & wages		0.01
Board of Health:		
Salaries & wages		70.00
Electricity		
Other Expenses		100.00
Gasoline		
Other Expenses	_____	_____800.00
 Total:	 \$ 3,295.01	 \$ 3,295.01

By Order of the Township Committee,

Larry Tatsch, Mayor

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

Bills of the evening and a statement of cash on hand were provided. Motion by Deputy Mayor Cregar, seconded by Mr. Kneski, and it was carried unanimously to approve the bills of the evening.

Treasurer's Resolutions:

+++++  
**RESOLUTION #165 -11**  
 12/29/2011

WHEREAS, the following Current Fund budget appropriation balances remain unexpended:

General Administration: Salaries & wages	\$ 760.00
General Administration: Other Expenses	\$ 2,000.00
Mayor & Committee: Other expenses	\$ 145.00
Revenue Adm: Other Expenses	\$ 300.00
Tax Assessment: Other Expenses	\$ 1,000.00
Engineering Services: Other Expenses	\$ 1,000.00
Historic Sites: Salaries & wages	\$ 201.00

Planning Board: Salaries & wages	\$ 1,400.00
Zoning Board of Adjustment: Salaries & wages	\$ 1,400.00
Employee Group Insurance: Other expenses	\$ 2,000.00
Office of Emergency Management: Other Expense	\$ 500.00
Uniform Fire Code: Salaries & wages	\$ 100.00
Streets & Roads Maintenance: Salaries & wages	\$ 4,000.00
Streets & Road Maintenance: Other Expenses	\$10,000.00
Public Health: Other expenses	\$ 2,500.00
Environmental Commission: Salaries & wages	\$ 483.00
Stormwater Permit: Other expenses	\$ 1,000.00
Recreation Services & Programs: Other expenses	\$ 1,000.00
Social Security: Other expenses	\$ 1,000.00
Matching Funds for Grants: Other expenses	\$ 50.00
Municipal Court: Salaries & wages	\$ 96.00
Municipal Court: Other expenses	\$ 900.00
Public Defender: Salaries & wages	\$ 175.00
Bond Interest	\$ 0.82
Green Trust Loan	\$ .04
Total	\$32,010.86

WHEREAS, it is necessary to formally cancel said balances so that the unexpended balances may be credited to Surplus:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell, State of New Jersey, that the above listed unexpended balances of the Current Fund be canceled.

By Order of the Township Committee,

\_\_\_\_\_  
C. Larry Tatsch, Mayor

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

TAX COLLECTOR HYLAND provided her monthly report and the following resolutions:

+++++  
**RESOLUTION #166-11**

WHEREAS there had been a duplicate payment in the amount of \$2465.82 for 4<sup>th</sup> quarter taxes for B. 23/L. 4.01, assessed to James and Janine Kearney and;

WHEREAS, this amount has been requested by James and Janine Kearney for refund;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Treasurer be authorized to prepare and mail a check in the amount of \$2465.82 to the homeowners, James and Janine Kearney.

By Order of the Township Committee,

\_\_\_\_\_  
C. Larry Tatsch, Mayor

+++++  
**RESOLUTION #167-11**

WHEREAS there had been a duplicate payment in the amount of \$2092.84 for 4<sup>th</sup> quarter taxes for B. 24/L. 4.01 assessed to Andrzej and Barbara Buda, and

WHEREAS, this amount has been requested by Title Source for refund for Barbara Buda;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Treasurer be authorized to prepare and mail a check in the amount of \$2092.84 to the homeowner, Barbara Buda.

By Order of the Township Committee,

\_\_\_\_\_  
C. Larry Tatsch, Mayor

+++++

**RESOLUTION #168-11**

WHEREAS there has been an overpayment of 2011 taxes, by Core Logic and,

WHEREAS, the amount of \$5,070.94 has been requested for refund of this overpayment to Core Logic;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the following amount of \$5,070.94 for the following properties be returned to Core Logic,

Block	Lot	Amount-Owner
10	3.01	1,276.08 Redmond O'Rourke
11	8	1,969.34 – Jeffrey & Dawn Cullation
40	1.02	1,825.52 – Barbara Scianna

Total: \$5,070.94

By Order of the Township Committee,

\_\_\_\_\_  
C. Larry Tatsch, Mayor

+++++

Motion by Deputy Mayor Cregar, seconded by Mr. Kneski, and carried unanimously to approve the resolutions.

+++++

**RESOLUTION 169-11**

WHEREAS N.J.S.A.40A:5-17.1 allows for amounts of \$5.00 or less of delinquent taxes to be canceled, and

WHEREAS the following amounts have been underpaid for 2011 taxes, and

WHEREAS it is the desire of the Tax Collector to clear these small delinquencies before the New Year,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the following debit amounts be canceled:

Block	Lot	Amount
14.02	28	.01
17	9.01	.01
17	35.02	.42
17	35.10	.55
20	6.04	.84
21	14.02	.60
23	4.03	.01
24	11.09	.01
27	4	.20
27	47	.52
33	15 Q0213	.01

34	4Q0218	.03
35	50	.43
35	59	.27
35	65 Q0230	.89
37	1 Q0419	.05
38	23 Q0423	.02
38	36 Q0422	.04
38	37 Q0422	.02
40.01	37 Q0422	.92
41	17.03	.01
41	21	.01
41	40.06	.01
32	7.01	.04

Total: 5.92

By Order of the Township Committee,

C. Larry Tatsch, Mayor

+++++

**RESOLUTION #170-11**

WHEREAS N.J.S.A.40A:5-17.1 allows for amounts of \$5.00 or less of overpaid taxes to be canceled, and

WHEREAS the following amounts have been overpaid for 2011 taxes, and

WHEREAS it is the desire of the Tax Collector to clear these small overpayments before the New Year,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the following credit amounts be canceled and applied to Surplus.

Block	Lot	Amount
16	8.06	.01
17	14.01	.01
17	31.01	.63
27	1.05	.01
40	12.01	.03
41	40.05 Q0284	.10
Total:		.79

By Order of the Township Committee,

C. Larry Tatsch, Mayor

+++++

Motion by Deputy Mayor Cregar, seconded by Mr. Kneski, and carried unanimously to approve the resolutions.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Mayor Tatsch commented on information he received clarifying tax information on the Lang Property, i.e., \$5.29 for B. 27/L. 53.01 and \$8.03 for B. 27/L. 53. This was information that Mr. Mathews was looking for at a previous meeting, and the information was handed to him.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS, Continued**

TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATOR’S CONTRACT

+++++

**RESOLUTION #171-11**

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 Township Administrator's Contract; 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

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

Executive session began at 10:07 p.m.

The regular meeting resumed at 10:17 p.m.

Motion by Mr. Kneski, seconded by Mr. Mathews, and it was carried unanimously to extend Township Administrator Matheny’s 2011 contract until March 1, 2012.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, motion by Mr. Kneski, seconded by Mr. Mathews, and it was carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 10:18 p.m.

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