

The regular meeting of the East Amwell Township Committee was called to order at 7:30 p.m. Present were Mayor Peter Kneski, Deputy Mayor Patricia Cregar, and Committee members Linda Lenox, Tim Mathews, and Dart Sageser. Township Administrator Timothy Matheny and Attorney Judith Kopen 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 1, 2012, and a meeting notice published in the Hunterdon County Democrat issue of January 5, 2012. 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 August 7, 2012.

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

### **AGENDA REVIEW**

Under Special Discussion, delete Item B re: NJ Economic Development Authority for Meszaros Property. The item has been handled internally for continuation of the grant.

Under Unfinished Business, Executive Session will be to discuss COAH Contracts with two property owners, a personnel matter, correction of executive minutes, and to receive advice from the Township Attorney. (For the record, minutes were corrected under Minute Presentation.)

Under New Business, add the 8/1 Memo from the Attorney on a Potential Donation to Clawson Park.

Add the following correspondence: 8/7 League of Municipalities Memo on Affordable Housing Funds and 8/8 attorney client draft letter re: Stoney Brook Meadows Appeal to Zoning Board of Adjustment.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Municipal Offices will be closed on Monday, September 3, 2012, for Labor Day

East Amwell Environmental Commission will be offering well testing kits in September for return in October. Further Information will be on the website and posted at the municipal building.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

July 12, 2012, Regular Minutes: Motion by Ms. Lenox, seconded by Deputy Mayor Cregar, and carried unanimously to approve the minutes.

July 12, 2012, Executive Minutes: The Clerk noted, for the record, that she was not out of the office for a total of 28 days, only 16.5 days. Mr. Matheny will note this correction. Motion by Ms. Lenox, seconded by Mr. Sageser, and carried unanimously.

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

The meeting was open to the public for comments. There being no comments, motion by Deputy Mayor Cregar, seconded by Ms. Lenox, and it was carried to close the meeting to the public.

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

#### **Public Hearing:**

ORDINANCE 12-07: SALARY AND WAGE 2012 SCHEDULE

As proof of publication, the July 19, 2012, legal notice from the Hunterdon County Democrat was shown. The ordinance has been available to the public since introduction on July 12, 2012.

The meeting was open to the public for comment. There being no comment, motion by Ms. Lenox, seconded by Deputy Mayor Cregar, and it was carried unanimously to close to the public.

Motion by Ms. Lenox, seconded by Deputy Mayor Cregar, and carried by unanimous roll call vote to adopt Ordinance 12-07: Lenox, yes; Cregar, yes; Sageser, yes; Mathews, yes; Kneski, yes.

## **SPECIAL DISCUSSION**

### **INTRODUCTION OF KAREN BALDINO, EAST AMWELL TOWNSHIP CFO/TREASURER**

Mr. Matheny said that Ms. Baldino was working on Wednesdays and Fridays, and he has met with her to discuss upgrades in the office.

Ms. Baldino said it was a pleasure to work here, noting that she lives in West Amwell; she is looking forward to the work, "following the rules of New Jersey, serving East Amwell, and ... working with all of you."

Mr. Matheny said that he would be adding a discussion on procedures under his report later in the meeting.

The Committee welcomed Ms. Baldino.

## **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

FARMLAND/OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION COMMITTEE Present during this presentation were Chair Glorianne Robbi, Vice Chair Dick Ginman, Committee member Fred Gardner, and Jay Watson from D & R Greenway Land Trust (who appeared half way through the discussion).

### 1) Discussion on Acquisition of B. 35/L. 51 & 52 (Polhemus Property) (See 8/6/12 FOSPC Memo):

Mr. Ginman asked if there was anything new about the Meszaros property, noting FOSPC and D & R Greenway's interest in the property. Mayor Kneski explained that ex-Mayor Tatsch has been assisting with the project since he has had a long history from the beginning, working on the contract from the State for the clean-up of the site and working with the company overseeing it. The letter related to moneys from the state. There is an issue of vanadium on site and the availability of funding "for the consultant to move forward." Mr. Mathews asked about Mr. Tatsch's involvement; Mayor Kneski explained that Mr. Tatsch is working as a private citizen at the Mayor's request to oversee the project and is in contact with the Mayor about it. Later in the meeting, the Mayor also noted that Mr. Tatsch is a member of the Board of Health and is familiar with the Meszaros property.

FOSPC members explained that they were recommending the purchase of one lot, Lot 51, using the Open Space Trust Fund. D & R will purchase Lot 52. A copy of a map was produced and the lots located for the benefit of the public and the Township Committee. Highlights include the following: the lots have been favorably considered for preservation by FOSPC and D & R for a number of years, with owners approached 6 or 7 years ago; they are adjacent to preserved land and will help to extend Cat Tail Brooke Preserve; Mr. Gardner walked the property and it has mature trees never harvested; it is a beautiful site but has a lot of lumber value; if logging were to occur, it would do significant damage by erosion to the mountain and probably damage North Hill Road.

Mrs. Robbi summarized the handouts, including an aerial view of the area, impact statement from D & R for conserved land and natural resources, a summary of the Open Space and

Recreation Plan of 2006, and a copy of the tax map. The purchase price for the Township would be up to \$25,000, and an agreement has already been signed between D & R and Mr. Polhemus and a relative. They are looking for interest from East Amwell Township. Appraisals will still have to be done, and D & R is handling costs and logistics. Mayor Kneski confirmed that what was being sought tonight was a resolution of intent from the Township Committee for an amount up to \$25,000. Mr. Mathews asked whether the commitment could be for equity in both lots rather than East Amwell and D & R purchasing each lot separately; Mr. Ginman did not see why not.

Mr. Ginman spoke about Lot 54 on the tax map, the sale of which was negotiated by D & R Greenways some years ago; the Township offered their intent to partner, however, the way that the land transferred precluded the Township from ever getting involved. He commented on Mr. Mathews' suggestion as a good one; Mr. Mathews advised that it was not a suggestion, only a question.

Mr. Gardner explained that D & R would oversee the properties; Mrs. Robbi spoke about their trained employees who would assist, noting however, that volunteers may be need for creation of trails.

Mr. Mathews asked about the one dissenting vote on FOSPC for the preservation; Mrs. Robbi explained that the member did not feel that the property was worth the money but would accept it as a donation. Mrs. Robbi did not think a donation was realistic.

Jay Watson, Vice President, D & R Greenways Land Trust, arrived at this time. He was asked his opinion about a joint purchase of both lots, and Mr. Watson said that D & R would be willing to facilitate the purchase either way, with the main objective being further conservation of the Cat Tail Brooke Preserve.

Mr. Mathews asked about the lots being landlocked. Mr. Gardner explained that NJ Law is set up that there is no such thing as a totally landlocked parcel, i.e., owners can sue to get access to their lots and there are "driftways" which have been used to get access to interior lots for logging. Ms. Kopen agreed that a property owner has a right to obtain an access to a parcel – it may be expensive but could be done. Mr. Ginman and Mrs. Robbi provided anecdotal information on a farmland project that was stymied for over a year with a similar suit.

Mr. Sageser asked about properties to the north of the proposed lots for purchase; Mr. Watson said that the lots are undeveloped and the desire is to keep the forest intact. He mentioned that D & R is currently negotiating with the Van Dorens for access to a lot they own; the property owners plan to access D & R property from their landlocked parcel to be used for timbering for their own farm use. Mr. Watson spoke about D & R Greenways' plan to add to the Cat Tail Brooke Preserve, which is a great forest area. There are additional lots that they would like to acquire, but all agreements are subject to appraisals.

Mr. Watson commented that it "was wonderful" to work with East Amwell Township on projects, mentioning a "star party" this coming weekend. He commented again on making connections to their trails, that the two proposed lots will help, and that the concern is protecting the environment.

Comments were made about researching deeds to determine easements for drift-ways; Mr. Watson explained that easements in the past, including the Van Doren easement, were done "on a handshake" as a recognized right. D & R Greenways will work with them to access the wood lot for repairs on their farm, and they were also ask if they were interested in selling. Mayor Kneski commented on language in deeds with a right to some form of access, which may allow for development, albeit via the Zoning Board. Mr. Ginman speculated that the price of the property might be higher if there were formalized rights of way. Comments were exchanged between the Mayor and Mr. Watson on the potential of the property owner to accept a contract or not.

Mr. Mathews asked about the agreements signed by the Polhemus family and D & R Greenways; the request tonight was whether or not East Amwell Township would approve the purchase. The plan is not to use Green Acres funding for the smaller purchase because of the application process involved. If East Amwell does not commit, D & R Greenways will look for funding

elsewhere. D & R Greenway would rather purchase both parcels, not just one if East Amwell is not interested; the idea is to acquire 10 acres of land for \$50,000 to be preserved forever. There are no formal trails on the property, but the area would be open to the public. There have been discussions with FOSPC about getting more formal trails in the area.

Mayor Kneski asked how the acquisition would tie in with the Master Plan. The map of the area was discussed, including the proximity to the Higgins property, both East Amwell and Somerset sections, along with property owned by Bryce Thompson in Somerset. Further negotiations may be on-going for Hunterdon County properties in the vicinity. Access to the proposed properties could be through South Hill or Lindbergh Roads, and Mayor Kneski concluded that the connectivity of the lots near other preserved land is a part of the Master Plan's goals and achievements.

FOSPC members detailed conditions on the Higgins parcel with respect to wetlands and wooded areas.

Action to be taken included a motion by the Township Committee with an intent to commit funds using the Open Space Trust Fund account and prepare a spending ordinance. Some discussion took place on using Green Acres appraisers for the site, but not using Green Acres funding since the process would be too complicated for a small acquisition. D & R Greenways is handling negotiations and appraisals at no cost to the Township. Comments were exchanged about appraisal values and what would happen if they were less than \$5,000 an acre; Mr. Watson indicated that the property owners could then opt out of the deal.

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**RESOLUTION #97 -12**

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell that they hereby express their intent to approve funding up to \$25,000 for the preservation of Block 35, Lots 51 and 52, in East Amwell Township and partnering with D & R Greenways Land Trust on a 50% basis for the purchase.

By Order of the Township Committee,

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Peter Kneski, Mayor

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Motion by Mr. Sageser, seconded by Deputy Mayor Cregar, and carried unanimously by roll call vote: Lenox, yes; Cregar, yes; Sageser, yes; Mathews, yes; Kneski, yes.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE

- 1) Resolutions to Appoint Karen Baldino as PERS Officer and Authorized Signature on Accounts:

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**RESOLUTION #98 -12**

BE IT RESOLVED that the East Amwell Township Committee hereby appoints Karen Baldino as the PERS Officer for East Amwell Township, removing her predecessor, Jane Luhrs, from this position.

By Order of the Township Committee,

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Peter Kneski, Mayor

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**RESOLUTION #99-12**

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell that they hereby amend Resolution 16-12 to remove the name Kathryn Monzo, Treasurer, and to include the name of Karen Baldino, CFO/Treasurer, as an authorized signature on certain Township checks.

By Order of the Township Committee,

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Peter Kneski, Mayor

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

2) Opening of Grit Yard During Recycling Depots: The Recycling Committee is not interested in moving the depot to the grit yard but would be willing to unlock the gates during the monthly depot. The Committee briefly discussed the issue of having an unattended yard where people may be inclined to dump materials that the Township would have to pay to have them removed. Mr. Sageser suggested having people come to the depot to get the key to the grit yard as a gatekeeper process. The Committee noted that there have only been two complaints about the locked yard. The consensus was to leave the yard open for a couple of months on recycling day. Mr. Matheny was cautioned to make sure that the DPW locks the buildings on site, if possible.

3) Water Fountain Claim: The claim for the damaged water fountain was forwarded to the insurance company. A plumber has also been contacted for an estimate for the repair.

4) Clawson Park Drainage: The DPW did work on the west side of the park, and water run off is going into retention areas as should be. Engineer O'Neal has been contacted about estimates for using stamped or colored blacktop for the project, which will increase costs. Engineering costs for regarding the area around the flagpole will also have to be included in the revised estimates. Mr. Sageser asked if the area would require drainage pipes; Mr. Matheny did not believe so.

5) 8/6 Email from Engineer O'Neal and 7/31 DOT Notice of Extension for Sidewalks Project Award: Mr. Matheny explained that the approved NJ Department of Transportation (DOT) extension was approved to carry the contract award date through January 2013. Mr. O'Neal is in contact with Hunterdon County Engineering about this. They are also working with the NJ State Historic Preservation Office on approvals for an archeological dig at the corner of Wertsville Road. The hope is that the County will pay for this since it is their road widening plans that are affected.

6) Raritan Township Police Report for June 2012 (20 Hours/38 Summonses): Information was acknowledged without comment.

7) Holiday Tree Lighting: Mr. Matheny explained that there are no volunteers for the tree lighting ceremony since there is a lack of membership on the Recreation Committee. Secretary Christine Rosikiewicz agreed to oversee the program if she was paid to do so. Mr. Sageser asked if there was money in the Recreation budget; Mr. Matheny felt that there was sufficient funding. Motion by Deputy Cregar, seconded by Mr. Mathews, and carried unanimously to continue the tree lighting program and pay Ms. Rosikiewicz to run the event.

8) Policy Manual Change to 2.12 – Dress Code and Uniforms: A request to change the policy manual to allow jeans in the office was presented by staff. They are currently allowed to wear them on Fridays, but they were looking to have a policy change to allow them any day. Committee briefly discussed this and agreed as long as appropriate jeans were worn (no rips, no pajama jeans, no tight jeans, etc.) Motion by Ms. Lenox, seconded by Deputy Mayor Cregar, and carried unanimously to change the policy manual to reflect that appropriate jeans are allowed any day of the week.

9) Computer Upgrades: Mr. Matheny spoke with Treasurer Karen Baldino about getting a

new computer; there is funding available in a capital ordinance to do so.

Ms. Baldino asked about changing the finance system from First Byte to Edmunds, which “is a standard in the industry.” She is very familiar with Edmunds and felt that it was “more up to date ... and a good system to go with.”

Mayor Kneski spoke about the First Byte system, noting that if used to its full capacity, it does a ledger and has more expanding capabilities. Ms. Baldino spoke about difficulties with using First Byte, noting that the system had not been used for auto updates on the general ledger and had no revenues on it. She also felt that there were a lot of areas that First Byte does not do but Edmunds would do, and “it was more antiquated than Edmunds in doing updates and getting information faster.” She explained a problem with entering purchase orders (PO) and never being able to identify vendors until the PO prints and also needing code numbers to enter items, i.e., if you have a wrong code number on the PO, you don’t know until after you print. Also, accessing the list of vendors is more difficult with First Byte. Edmunds also allows saving 10 years of information in one directory; if you need a new directory Edmunds will provide the Township with another one. Edmunds also has a good search engine, which would be quicker and more efficient for the department and help with preparation of the Annual Financial Statement.

Mr. Sageser asked about transferring information from one system to another. Ms. Baldino commented on her willingness to set up the new system. Mr. Mathews asked if Edmunds was on a cloud or installed on site; Ms. Baldino will find out about this. Ms. Baldino also said that Assistant Treasurer Andrews would be working on finance on any given day, and Edmunds would be able to “hook the computers together for simultaneous work.”

Some discussion took place about networking office computers for collaborative work and for backing up systems. The need for wiring for the network was briefly mentioned.

Mr. Mathews commented on records not being kept up to date last year, mentioning the use of the First Byte System. He suggested that perhaps a hosted version of Edmunds might be helpful in allowing access through the internet on laptops.

A suggestion was made to have Edmunds provide a demo for the Township Committee; some members agreed that this would be a good idea. Mr. Sageser asked how much was invested in the First Byte system. Mr. Matheny said that the system has been used a length of time and there is an annual fee to subscribe. He mentioned that Treasurer Luhrs kept a lot of spreadsheets with First Byte; while this was “not wrong,” it was more manual. Mr. Sageser accessed Edmunds’ website and read information about their market share in government programming.

Mayor Kneski asked if the governing body had any other suggestions for Ms. Baldino. Ms. Lenox noted that when she met with Ms. Baldino, she agreed to attend quarterly meetings to present information to the governing body.

Mr. Mathews reiterated his previously made suggestion that there be a finance subcommittee, not a single liaison, to work with the Treasurer/CFO.

Mayor Kneski asked that Ms. Baldino discuss the suggestions with her staff and the Administrator to “see what works.”

**MESZAROS PROPERTY:** At this time, Mayor Kneski advised Mr. Mathews that another reason why Larry Tatsch is working on the Meszaros property is because he is also a member of the Board of Health, and the Mayor requested that he work on the project because of his expertise and knowledge about this property from the Board of Health.

**SUPPORT FOR 5/17 SENATOR PENNACCHIO LEGISLATION ON TRANSPARENCY IN GOVERNMENT (See June and July 2012 Minutes for Background):**

Mr. Mathews spoke with Senator Pennacchio’s staff about impacts to the municipalities. The legislation would require the state to provide municipalities with templates and software if they

are required to post anything to the web. Mr. Mathews thought that the legislation was admirable and asked for support.

Mr. Sageser looked at the League’s position on the legislation, and they opposed it, mostly because municipalities are already utilizing the web for information. The League is reluctant to support more state mandates. There have only been 10 municipalities that have supported the legislation to date. Mayor Kneski suggested continuance of monitoring the legislation.

Mr. Mathews agreed that it was more for state items than the municipality, and he was supportive of legislation for more transparency in government. Mr. Sageser agreed to seek more information from the League of Municipalities on the crux of their objection to the law.

**RESOLUTION TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION**

This item is usually held until after Open to the Public. Mr. Sageser asked why it is put under Unfinished Business. The Clerk explained the layout of the agenda at reorganization; however, further agendas can show a new category, Executive Session, after Open to the Public.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**SUGGESTION FROM TONI ROBBI TO HOST A LIBRARY BOOK RETURN BOX ON THE MUNICIPAL PROPERTY**

Glorianne Robbi, 144 Lambertville-Hopewell Turnpike, said that she spoke with the South County Librarian about the possibility of having a book drop-off here at the municipal building; the Librarian agreed to speak with the Library Director about this. Mrs. Robbi explained that if a person lives in South Raritan or in East Amwell, they will now have to drive 4.5 – 5 miles each way to the new location in West Amwell. The South County Library has two book returns, and having one located at the municipal building would make it convenient for drop-off of books, which usually go back to the main library in Flemington for circulation. Mrs. Robbi felt that the Library Director may not respond to a resident’s request unless the municipality asks for the box to be located on their site. It was agreed that the Clerk should write a letter to the Library stating there was a consensus of the Township Committee members that they would like to have a drop box located here at the municipal building.

**RECEIPT OF 2011 AUDIT FROM WITHUMSMITH & BROWN**

The audit was distributed to the governing body members tonight, and the resolution of receipt will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

Mayor Kneski commented on setting up consent agenda items, which are usually at the beginning of the meeting. Township Committee members will vote on all items at one time.

**RELEASE OF MAINTENANCE BOND FOR CIFELLI, B.. 35.01/L. 33.03 (See email from Planner and Engineer Dated 7/16/12)**

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**RESOLUTION #100-12**

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell that they hereby approve the release of the two year cash maintenance bond posted by Guilio Cifelli for B. 35.01/L.33.03, based on approval of the planner and engineer in their emails dated 7/16/12.

By Order of the Township Committee,

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Peter Kneski, Mayor

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ABC SOCIAL PERMITS FOR THE RIDGE AT BACK BROOK

RESOLUTION #101-12

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 Social Affairs Permits being granted for the following events to be held at The Ridge at Back Brook, 211 Wertsville Road, Ringoes, NJ 08551:

St. Peter’s University Hospital, 254 Easton Ave., New Brunswick, NJ 08903 for an event to be held on September 10, 2012

The Midland Foundation, 94 Readington Road, North Branch, NJ 08876 for an Event to be held on September 24, 2012

NJ Coalition of Auto Retailers, 856 River Road, Trenton, NJ 08628 for an event to be held on September 27, 2012

By Order of the Township Committee,

Peter Kneski, Mayor

2013 MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE PROGRAM APPLICATION

RESOLUTION #102 -12

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell that they hereby authorize the Mayor to sign the agreement to participate in the 2013 Municipal Alliance Program.

By Order of the Township Committee,

Peter Kneski, Mayor

Motion by Deputy Mayor Cregar, seconded by Ms. Lenox, and it was carried unanimously to approve all resolutions.

REQUEST FOR FIELD USUAGE BY SPECIAL OLYMPICS FOOTBALL TEAM

The Clerk explained that she did not hear back from the football coach about dates and insurance information. The Soccer League was willing to work with Special Olympics to provide them some time to use the fields for night practices if they could schedule their games on Monday or Friday nights. Motion by Deputy Mayor Cregar, seconded by Ms. Lenox, and carried unanimously to approve use of the field by Special Olympics if the Administrator is able to work on schedule coordination and to obtain an insurance certificate from them.

Deputy Mayor Cregar commented that teams should be reminded to pick up their trash after games, mentioning that she is aware of a resident who has spent hours picking up materials from the fields. Mr. Matheny will make sure that teams know about this requirement.

CLAWSON PARK DOG PARK

The letter from Attorney Cushing about a potential donation from a property owner for the creation of a dog park in East Amwell Township was discussed. Committee members mentioned that dog parks are usually created in cities where dogs don’t have a place to run, and a question was raised whether there was a need to have one. Other issues, besides the need to have a dog park, such as insurance and fencing, were also discussed. The Committee agreed that they would like to entertain the donation, however, further information must be obtained on what was

being proposed and whether or not Green Acres (i.e., State funds used to create the park) would allow a dog park. Ms. Kopen will bring this information back to Attorney Cushing. Mr. Mathews commented that “we might want to approach the owner to see if there was any synergy between the work required to the paths we were discussing, the upgrades to the paths, and any synergy with a dog park, connecting to the paths. I am not recommending money toward the creation of paths.”

**DONATIONS FROM J C P & L**

Mr. Matheny spoke about conversations with John Anderson at JCP&L and proposed donations. JCP&L may be to consider a donation of \$1,500 to costs of the generator or purchase of trees for Clawson Park. Another possibility mentioned was to make the donation towards Clawson House, and there is a trust fund that could accept a house donation. Another suggestion was to have power supplied to the house. Mr. Mathews also suggested a contribution to a wireless hub and technology for energy saving benefits to the township and to improve technology at the municipal building. Mr. Matheny will bring these suggestions back to Mr. Anderson for consideration. Mr. Mathews also asked Mr. Matheny to determine if this was an annual donation from JCP&L; Mr. Mathews may ask Mr. Anderson himself.

Mayor Kneski commented on JCP&L and blown fuse issues and power diversions as a source of recent outages. Some discussion took place on JCP&L not having a rate increase because they are not doing upgrades, while other providers are increasing their rates to pay for them.

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

Cassie Qian, 3 Iron Horse Drive, introduced her husband (married last Sunday), commented on seeing dogs at Clawson Park now on leashes and hoped that dogs would not run loose without leashes at the park. She stated that this is her first time at a committee meeting, commenting on past leaders sitting in power in 1865 and having the current committee sharing that same vision as those in 1865 and making East Amwell a beautiful place. She loves farmland and loves living in East Amwell. She said that she would be attending more committee meetings and asked about bringing her 19 month old baby to the meetings; the Committee agreed that Mrs. DeCandia could bring her child along.

Glorianne Robbi, 144 Lambertville-Hopewell Turnpike, spoke regarding JCP&L and power shortages, including blown fuses. She appreciated the offer to make a donation to the Township, but what she really wants is a secure power source, and “\$1,500 doesn’t cut it.” Mayor Kneski mentioned a subcommittee formed to meet quarterly with JCP&L representatives to share information and receive updates on infrastructure. He spoke about improved communications with the company as a major step. He also mentioned that JCP&L will be using Hunterdon Central High School as a staging area during future outage events instead of staging in North Jersey or in Pennsylvania for a quicker response time in emergencies.

Mr. Mathews suggested that Mr. Matheny pull permits for generators at a cost of \$10,000 – 15,000 each as an indication that the community has invested more than JCP&L has in terms of the cost of having power.

Mrs. Robbi also commented on checking with the public advocate about the lack of investment by JCP&L as a reason for lack of improvements. Mr. Mathews commented on the practice of using incorrect sized fuses in the past, which cannot be easily replaced without disrupting service; engineers are looking at this situation.

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

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**RESOLUTION TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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**RESOLUTION #103-12**

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 COAH Contracts, personnel matters, and to receive advice from the Township Attorney; 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,

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Peter Kneski, Mayor

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Motion by Mr. Mathews, seconded by Mr. Sageser, and carried unanimously to approve the resolution to enter into executive session at 9:33 p.m. Mr. Mathews asked for a three minute recess.

Executive session began at 9:36 p.m. Attorney Kopen left during executive session at 10:05 p.m.

The regular session resumed at 10:45 p.m.

**EMPLOYEE PERMISSION TO TAKE COURSE**

A discussion on a request from Christine Rosikiewicz to take a course was discussed in executive session. (For the record, a Rice Notice was given to this employee.) A motion was made by Mr. Sageser to approve \$500 for a course in Category B. If the class is taken during normal work hours, she will continue to be paid at the rate for the position she is paid for during those hours. She will not be paid for non-office hours to accommodate the course, and no mileage will be paid. Mr. Mathews seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

ASSISTANT TREASURER ANDREWS presented the bills of the evening and a statement of cash on hand. Three new bills were added to the previously distributed bill list, i.e., AT&T bill of \$136.12 (on page 13) and Tractor Supply (on page 9) for \$39.99 and \$113.97 for an addition of \$290.08.

Motion by Deputy Mayor Cregar, seconded by Mr. Mathews, and it was carried unanimously to approve payment of bills of the evening.

Mr. Mathews spoke about a good discussion in executive session concerning the budget process and asked that a footnote be made to consider a general education account to allow for changes in the policy manual.

Mr. Sageser asked if a decision was made about the Edmunds program; some committee members commented favorably. Mr. Mathews again asked if it was available on the cloud. Mr. Matheny spoke about state purchasing processes.

Treasurer's Resolutions:

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**RESOLUTION #104-12**

FORM OF RESOLUTION REQUESTING APPROVAL OF ITEMS OF REVENUE  
AND APPROPRIATION - NJS 40A:4-87

Township of East Amwell Hunterdon  
County, New Jersey

Certified to Director of the Division of Local Government Services

WHEREAS, NJS 40A:4-87 provides that the Director of the Division of Local Government Services may approve the insertion of any special item of revenue in the budget or any county or municipality when such item shall have been made available by law and the amount thereof was not determined at the time of the adoption of the budget, and

WHEREAS, the Director may also approve the insertion of an item of appropriation for equal amount;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell in the County of Hunterdon, New Jersey, hereby requests the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to approve the insertion of an item of revenue in the budget of the year 2012 in the sum of \$1,566.70, which is now available from the 2011 NJ Recycling Tonnage Grant in the amount of \$1,566.70.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the like sum of \$1,566.70 is hereby appropriated under the caption Miscellaneous Revenues-Public and Private Revenues Offset with Appropriations: NJ Recycling Tonnage Grant; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Clerk forward two certified copies of this resolution to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services for approval.

By Order of the Township Committee,

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Peter Kneski, Mayor

+++++ Motion by Deputy Mayor Cregar, seconded by Ms. Lenox, and carried unanimously to approve the resolution.

TAX COLLECTOR HYLAND presented the July 2012 tax collection report.

All other reports were acknowledged without comment.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

There were no comments on correspondence.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, motion by Deputy Mayor Cregar, seconded by Ms. Lenox, and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 10:47 p.m.

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

