

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 Dart Sageser, and Committee members Patricia Cregar, Tim Mathews, and David Wang-Iverson. 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 1, 2013, and a meeting notice published in the Hunterdon County Democrat issue of January 10, 2013. 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 January 8, 2013.

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

AGENDA REVIEW

Under the Township Administrator's Update, remove item 1 Snack Shack (already discussed at a prior meeting).

Add the following correspondence: 1-8-13 copy of Hunterdon County SWAC Report from Will Harrison and 1-10-13 League of Municipalities memo on Technological Support through the League.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. The Grit-yard is now open the first Saturday of the month from 8:00 – 11:00 a.m. for residents to bring branches/brush for chipping and to pick up mulch.
- B. Reorganization Dates for all boards/committees are listed on the bulletin board.
- C. Municipal Offices will be closed on January 21 in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday
- D. 2013 Dog Licenses are now due. A \$25.00 late fee will be charged per dog licensed on March 1, 2013 and thereafter. There is a free rabies clinic at the municipal garage on Saturday, January 19, 2013, from 1 – 4 p.m.
- E. The Recycling Committee announced that they will accept Styrofoam, in addition to their regular items, at their February 2nd depot, held on the municipal lot from 8 a.m. – 11 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

December 13, 2012, Regular Minutes were approved on a motion by Deputy Mayor Sageser, seconded by Mrs. Cregar, and carried with Mr. Wang-Iverson abstaining and Mr. Mathews abstaining after the point when he left the meeting.

December 13, 2012, Executive Minutes were approved on a motion by Deputy Mayor Sageser, seconded by Mrs. Cregar, and carried with two abstentions, Mr. Mathews and Mr. Wang-Iverson.

December 27, 2012, Regular Minutes were approved on a motion by Mrs. Cregar, seconded by Deputy Mayor Sageser, and carried with one abstention, Mr. Wang-Iverson.

January 1, 2013, Reorganization Minutes were approved on a motion by Deputy Mayor Sageser, seconded by Mrs. Cregar, and carried unanimously with one correction on page 15, middle of the page, remove reference to Thomas Decker professional services agreement.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC (for Comments from the Public for Items Not on the Agenda—limited to 15 minutes)

Lt. Kasey Dienes, Commander of State Police Barracks at Kingwood, was present at this time. He will be attending the Township Committee meetings, and he apologized for not attending the December 27th meeting. He asked if the Township Committee had any questions about the December report, noting that the two criminal mischief complaints were family related. He stated that there were 294 burglaries last year in East Amwell, and he reported that while no progress, there is still investigation on the burglaries reported last quarter. He mentioned that it was reported on NJ.com today that the police have made an arrest of a resident on Wertsville Road in connection with the 2011 armed robbery of the Shell Station across the street.

Lt. Dienes said that “it was quiet in December,” and he asked if there were any questions. The Mayor and Deputy Mayor thanked Lt. Dienes for coming.

Dick Ginman, 125 Mountain Road, commended the Township Committee employees and/or the contractor who did brush removal on his road, stating that “they did a wonderful job...never knew they were there ... no debris was left ... did a fabulous ... fantastic job,” and kudos to the private contractor and DPW.

Mr. Ginman also commented on seeing JCP&L activity by hiring a company to look at telephone poles and noticed Comcast laying lines on Route 31.

Peter Miller, 42 Manners Road, was here as a follow up to the last meeting, asking if anyone watched the DVDs he left. Mayor Kneski found it to be “very interesting” with a two-fold emphasis, to have schools perform various “shooting” drills similar to fire drills and to monitor types of things children watch and monitor their games, etc. Mayor Kneski commented on the upcoming meeting at the Board of Education, which he will attend, hoping also that the school will address “shooting drills.”

Mr. Mathews agreed with the points in the film, adding that it also pointed out that similar to fire prevention, this is the responsibility of many who “have a vested interest,” i.e., that everyone have the same awareness, not just the school. The Mayor agreed with him.

Lt. Dienes spoke about State Police involvement with the schools, including having lock down drills. He referenced a news article in today’s Hunterdon County Democrat regarding Hunterdon County Prosecutor Kearns and what his department is doing, i.e., taking the lead and unifying protocols in the schools. Lt. Dienes plans on attending the Board of Education meeting. He spoke about having two troopers assigned to the schools, based out of the Delaware Regional High School. Troopers attend school drills and review them. He spoke about involvement at the Board of Education, County Department of Education, Prosecutor’s Office, teachers, and communities, commenting on the public not fully aware about lockdown drills going on and importance of public education. Lt. Dienes explained that troopers are at the schools once a day with varying routines.

Mr. Mathews asked about the “dedicated troopers” for the schools; they oversee seven schools at 40 hours per week per trooper, i.e, 80 hours for two officers for the remainder of the school year. All troopers are familiar with the schools to be familiar with the school environment in case of emergency.

Mr. Miller mentioned a group called “Amwell Citizens for Enhanced Security,” adding that the group feels that there should be sufficient police presence to deter crime and that increased response time is important. He mentioned that it was not apparent to the parents that the police were present. He further mentioned issues being brought forth to the school board concerning extra security at the school, adding that the parents would like to know more about resources available to them and the importance of sustainability going forth and the need for increased awareness.

Mayor Kneski mentioned the Prosecutor’s Office and Sheriff’s Office being involved and plan to provide information to residents here and in surrounding municipalities. Mr. Miller mentioned the need for a plan for sustainability, knowing there would be a cost associated with it, adding

that the parents/children want “a safe haven.” Their interest, from citizens’ perspectives, is what can be done for enhanced security.

Mr. Miller asked that the governing body return to him the DVDs he provided last month. Lt. Dienes said that he was available at the Barracks from 7 a.m. – 3 p.m. daily.

Andrea Bonette, 17 Ridge Road, appreciated the monthly reports from Kingwood Barracks and asked that they be posted on the website. The governing body agreed to have them posted. Lt. Dienes commented on the importance of community watch, suggesting residents contact him if they have any questions about this.

Motion by Mrs. Cregar, seconded by Deputy Mayor Sageser, and carried unanimously to close to the public.

CONSENT AGENDA – None

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES/PUBLIC HEARINGS

Introduction of Ordinances:

ORDINANCE 13-01 AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2012 SALARY AND WAGE SCHEDULE FOR MUNICIPAL COURT

The ordinance will allow for salary adjustments for municipal court personnel in conjunction with the shared services agreement and joint court ordinance discussed at the end of last year.

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ORDINANCE #13-01 AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2012 SALARY & WAGE SCHEDULE FOR MUNICIPAL COURT

BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell that the 2012 Salary and Wage Schedule be amended as follows:

Effective retroactively to January 1, 2013, the following additional salary adjustments will be in effect for services rendered under the Shared Court Agreement with Franklin Township. The salary adjustments shall only remain in place for so long as the Shared Court Agreement with Franklin Township remains in effect. If the Shared Court Agreement is terminated for any reason, the salary adjustments identified below would be automatically rescinded.

Judge	\$ 4,000.00
Prosecutor	\$ 4,000.00
Court Administrator	\$ 5,000.00
Public Defender	\$ 500.00

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that this ordinance takes effect upon publication by law.

By Order of the Township Committee,

Peter Kneski, Mayor

Attest: _____
Teresa R. Stahl, RMC/CMC
Municipal Clerk

Introduced: January 10, 2013
Adopted:

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Motion by Deputy Mayor Sageser, seconded by Mr. Mathews, and carried unanimously to approve introduction of the ordinance.

The ordinance will be published in the January 17, 2013, issue of the Hunterdon County Democrat, and the public hearing is set for February 14, 2013, at 7:30 p.m.

Resolution Amending the Temporary Capital Budget:

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Resolution # 22-13

TEMPORARY CAPITAL BUDGET RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Township of East Amwell desires to constitute a 2013 Temporary Capital Budget of said municipality.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell as follows:

SECTION 1. A 2013 Temporary Capital Budget of the Township of East Amwell is hereby constituted by the adoption of the following schedule:

PROJECTS SCHEDULED FOR 2013

<u>Project</u>	<u>Estimated Costs</u>	<u>Method of Financing</u>		
		<u>Capital Improvement Fund</u>	<u>Other Funds</u>	<u>Debt Authorized</u>
Acq. of a DPW Tractor	66,000.00	3,400.00		62,600.00
Acq. Of a DPW Boom Mower	<u>54,000.00</u>	<u>2,600.00</u>		<u>51,400.00</u>
	<u>\$120,000.00</u>	<u>\$6,000.00</u>		<u>\$114,000.00</u>

SECTION 2. The Clerk be and is authorized and directed to file a certified copy of this resolution with the Division of Local Government Services, Department of Community Affairs, State of New Jersey, within three days after the adoption of these projects for the 2013 Temporary Capital Budget, to be included in the 2013 Permanent Capital Budget as adopted.

By Order of the Township Committee,

Peter Kneski, Mayor

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Motion by Deputy Mayor Sageser, seconded by Mr. Mathews, and carried to approve the resolution. Some comments were exchanged about the life expectancy of the vehicles, with Mr. Wang-Iverson highlighting information from the Treasurer that vehicles have a five year length while mowers have a 15 year life. The resolution was adopted unanimously by roll call vote: Mr. Wang-Iverson, yes; Mrs. Cregar, yes; Mr. Sageser, yes; Mr. Mathews, yes; Mr. Kneski, yes.

ORDINANCE 13-02 BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ACQUISITION OF A TRACTOR/BOOM MOWER FOR AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF EAST AMWELL, IN THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT OF \$120,000 THEREFOR, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$114,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF.

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ORDINANCE #13-02

BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ACQUISITION OF A TRACTOR/BOOM MOWER FOR AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF EAST AMWELL, IN THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT OF \$120,000 THEREFOR, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$114,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EAST AMWELL, IN THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, NEW JERSEY (not less than two-thirds of all members thereof affirmatively concurring) AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The improvements or purposes described in Section 3 of this bond ordinance are hereby authorized to be undertaken by the Township of East Amwell, in the County of Hunterdon, New Jersey (the "Township") as general improvements. For the improvements or purposes described in Section 3, there are hereby appropriated the sums of money therein stated as the appropriation made for each improvement or purpose, such sums amounting in the aggregate to \$120,000, including the aggregate sum of \$6,000 as the down payments for the improvements or purposes required by the Local Bond Law. The down payments have been made available by virtue of provision for down payment or for capital improvement purposes in one or more previously adopted budgets.

Section 2. In order to finance the cost of the improvements or purposes not covered by application of the down payments, negotiable bonds are hereby authorized to be issued in the principal amount of \$114,000 pursuant to the Local Bond Law. In anticipation of the issuance of the bonds, negotiable bond anticipation notes are hereby authorized to be issued pursuant to and within the limitations prescribed by the Local Bond Law.

Section 3. The improvements or purposes hereby authorized for which the bonds are to be issued, the estimated cost of each improvement or purpose and the appropriation therefor, the estimated maximum amount of bonds or notes to be issued for each improvement or purpose and the respective periods of usefulness are as follows:

Purpose	Appropriation and Estimated Cost	Estimated Maximum Amount of Bonds or Notes	Period of Usefulness
a) Acquisition of a tractor	\$66,000	\$62,600	5 years
b) Acquisition of a boom mower	\$54,000	\$51,400	15 years
TOTALS	<u>\$120,000</u>	<u>\$114,000</u>	

The improvements or purposes described above include all costs necessary therefore or incidental thereto. The excess of the appropriation made for each of the improvements or purposes aforesaid over the estimated maximum amount of bonds or notes to be issued therefor, as above stated, is the amount of the down payment for each purpose.

Section 4. All bond anticipation notes issued hereunder shall mature at such times as may be determined by the chief financial officer; provided that no note shall mature later than one year from its date. The notes shall bear interest at such rate or rates and be in such form as

may be determined by the chief financial officer. The chief financial officer shall determine all matters in connection with notes issued pursuant to this ordinance, and the chief financial officer's signature upon the notes shall be conclusive evidence as to all such determinations. All notes issued hereunder may be renewed from time to time subject to the provisions of the Local Bond Law. The chief financial officer is hereby authorized to sell part or all of the notes from time to time at public or private sale and to deliver them to the purchasers thereof upon receipt of payment of the purchase price plus accrued interest from their dates to the date of delivery thereof. The chief financial officer is directed to report in writing to the governing body at the meeting next succeeding the date when any sale or delivery of the notes pursuant to this ordinance is made. Such report must include the amount, the description, the interest rate and the maturity schedule of the notes sold, the price obtained and the name of the purchaser.

Section 5. The Township hereby certifies that it has adopted a capital budget or a temporary capital budget, as applicable. The capital or temporary capital budget of the Township is hereby amended to conform with the provisions of this ordinance to the extent of any inconsistency herewith. To the extent that the purposes authorized herein are inconsistent with the adopted capital or temporary capital budget, a revised capital or temporary capital budget has been filed with the Division of Local Government Services.

Section 6. The following additional matters are hereby determined, declared, recited and stated:

(a) The purposes described in Section 3 of this bond ordinance are not current expenses. They are improvements that the Township may lawfully undertake as general improvements, and no part of the costs thereof has been or shall be specially assessed on property specially benefited thereby.

(b) The average period of usefulness, computed on the basis of the respective amounts of obligations authorized for each purpose and the reasonable life thereof within the limitations of the Local Bond Law, is 9.50 years.

(c) The Supplemental Debt Statement required by the Local Bond Law has been duly prepared and filed in the office of the Clerk, and a complete executed duplicate thereof has been filed in the office of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services in the Department of Community Affairs of the State of New Jersey. Such statement shows that the gross debt of the Township as defined in the Local Bond Law is increased by the authorization of the bonds and notes provided in this bond ordinance by \$114,000, and the obligations authorized herein will be within all debt limitations prescribed by that Law.

(d) An aggregate amount not exceeding \$24,000 for items of expense listed in and permitted under N.J.S.A. 40A:2-20 is included in the estimated costs indicated herein for the purposes or improvements.

Section 7. The Township hereby makes the following covenants and declarations with respect to obligations determined to be issued by the Chief Financial Officer on a tax-exempt basis. The Township hereby covenants that it will comply with any conditions subsequent imposed by the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), in order to preserve the exemption from taxation of interest on the notes, including, if necessary, the requirement to rebate all net investment earnings on the gross proceeds above the yield on the notes. The Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to act on behalf of the Township to deem the obligations authorized herein as bank qualified for the purposes of Section 265 of the Code, when appropriate. The Township hereby declares the intent of the Township to issue bonds or bond anticipation notes in the amount authorized in Section 2 of this bond ordinance and to use the proceeds to pay or reimburse expenditures for the costs of the purposes described in Section 3 of this bond ordinance. This Section 7 is a declaration of intent within the meaning and for purposes of Treasury Regulations §1.150-2 or any successor provisions of federal income tax law.

Section 8. Any grant moneys received for the purposes described in Section 3 hereof shall be applied to either to direct payment of the cost of the improvements or to payment of the obligations issued pursuant to this ordinance. The amount of obligations authorized but not issued hereunder shall be reduced to the extent that such funds are so used.

Section 9. The chief financial officer of the Township is hereby authorized to prepare and to update from time to time as necessary a financial disclosure document to be distributed in connection with the sale of obligations of the Township and to execute such disclosure document on behalf of the Township. The chief financial officer is further authorized to enter into the

appropriate undertaking to provide secondary market disclosure on behalf of the Township pursuant to Rule 15c2-12 of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Rule") for the benefit of holders and beneficial owners of obligations of the Township and to amend such undertaking from time to time in connection with any change in law, or interpretation thereof, provided such undertaking is and continues to be, in the opinion of a nationally recognized bond counsel, consistent with the requirements of the Rule. In the event that the Township fails to comply with its undertaking, the Township shall not be liable for any monetary damages, and the remedy shall be limited to specific performance of the undertaking.

Section 10. The full faith and credit of the Township are hereby pledged to the punctual payment of the principal of and the interest on the obligations authorized by this bond ordinance. The obligations shall be direct, unlimited obligations of the Township, and the Township shall be obligated to levy ad valorem taxes upon all the taxable real property within the Township for the payment of the obligations and the interest thereon without limitation of rate or amount.

Section 11. This bond ordinance shall take effect 20 days after the first publication thereof after final adoption, as provided by the Local Bond Law.

By Order of the Township Committee,

Peter Kneski, Mayor

Attest: _____
Teresa R. Stahl, RMC/CMC
Municipal Clerk

Introduced: January 10, 2013

Adopted:

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Motion by Mrs. Cregar, seconded by Mr. Wang-Iverson, and carried unanimously to introduce Ordinance 13-02: Mr. Wang-Iverson, yes; Mrs. Cregar, yes; Mr. Sageser, yes; Mr. Mathews, yes; Mrs. Cregar, yes.

The ordinance will be published in summary form in the January 17, 2013, issue of the Hunterdon County Democrat, and the public hearing will be at the regular meeting on February 14, 2013, at 7:30 p.m.

Public Hearings – None

SPECIAL DISCUSSION – None

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS – None

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

FARMLAND/OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION COMMITTEE Vice Chair Richard Ginman was present at this time.

1) Memorandum of Understanding – Rambling Pines Trails (see 1/8/13 Memo from Attorney Lorraine Staples): Ms. Staples reviewed the revised document from the last meeting and found some minor corrections. Mr. Cushing suggested as a next step, the Township Committee could approve a resolution to authorize the Mayor and Clerk to sign the agreement, subject to the recommended corrections. Mr. Mathews asked about sequencing. Mr. Ginman explained that the memorandum was based on a sample from another project, that they have been in contact with the state, and it is assumed that they will accept the form prepared, once it is sent

to them. The insurance agent reviewed both the original and second draft agreeing that the insurance requirements were adequate.

The item, once corrected, will be on the next agenda with a resolution to authorize the Mayor's signature.

ADDITIONAL APPOINTMENTS TO 2013 BOARDS/COMMITTEES

1) Recreation Committee: Two candidates were interviewed earlier this evening for positions on this committee. Motion by Mrs. Cregar, seconded by Mr. Wang-Iverson, and carried unanimously to appoint Peter Fick and Maria Souza as members of the Recreation Committee.

Mayor Kneski commented on earlier discussions about the number of members on the committee, i.e., with seven members, four are needed for quorum. He asked Mr. Cushing about authority to reduce the membership. Mr. Cushing said that a Recreation Commission is defined statutorily, but a Recreation Committee is the Township's own creation as an advisory committee. He asked some questions, such as whether they had a budget or were they purely advisory; when told that they do have a budget, he believed that the Recreation Committee should be created by ordinance. Mayor Kneski reiterated the problem of not having enough members to hold meetings, and he asked about reducing from seven members to four or three. A suggestion to prepare a resolution for a committee of five members and two alternates would still lower the quorum to three members. Mr. Cushing again felt that an ordinance should be written for the Recreation Committee since the members expend funds. The governing body and Mayor were more inclined to proceed with a resolution. The Clerk will get background information on the history of the committee and have a resolution for the next meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE:

1) Curbside Tree/Branch Removal Update: Work began on December 26 and was completed on January 9, with Mr. Matheny saying that "Rutgers did an excellent job." The DPW was also able to assist since weather conditions were not severe. Deputy Mayor Sageser commented on the "Brophy crew" doing quick work and using blowers to clean up debris, noting more brush by the side of the road this week. Mr. Matheny explained that the debris from the storm is being monitored (for reimbursement), and the intent was to go through the township only once.

2) Request from Recreation Secretary Rosikiewicz/Direction on Egg Hunt: The secretary sent an email on January 9 asking whether the Township Committee wanted to go forth with the hunt on March 23, assigning her the work as an employee while she will try to recruit volunteers. Mr. Mathews asked about assigning a role of Recreation Director to Ms. Rosikiewicz to organize events; however, it was noted that a committee should be in operation shortly to assist. In the interim, the Township Committee agreed that the event get started.

3) NJSP - Kingwood Station December 2012 Monthly Report: This item was discussed earlier in the meeting.

4) Status Update on Ringoes Sidewalk Project: This project is still out for bid and should be awarded at the end of January. The Township received an extension from the NJ DOT to award. Deputy Mayor Sageser asked about the archeological dig in the area; Mr. Matheny said that it took place, and clearance to continue the project was given (i.e., no historical issues). Mr. Mathews mentioned a question about who would pay for the dig; Mr. Matheny said that the County wanted reimbursement, but this has not been pursued. Mayor Kneski asked about the slate in the area; Mr. Matheny said that it would be kept for future projects. Mayor Kneski acknowledged files kept by (previous Mayor) Andrea Bonette, commending her on getting the project moving forward. Mr. Matheny commented on the County widening the road also, stating that "it has not been easy for them either."

5) Letter of Appreciation to Charlie Soos for Years of Service on OEM: Mr. Matheny explained that Mr. Soos has been working with OEM since 2002 or 2003, and he is moving out

of the area. He commented on working with Mr. Soos during emergencies and non-emergencies and "he is phenomenal," stating that "he serviced the community well." He would like to prepare a letter for the Mayor's signature. Mayor Kneski also extended his personal appreciation to Mr. Soos for his involvement during last year's hurricane, providing guidance during the emergency. He extended his appreciation to Mr. Soos and the entire OEM team. A letter will be prepared for signature.

6) Preliminary Discussion on Summer Playground (See 10/17/12 Revenue Report from Treasurer Baldino): 2012 Summer Playground Supervising Director Kathy Veith was present at this time. Mr. Matheny explained that Mrs. Veith wants direction on whether the playground will continue this year, and this may be a consideration during budget discussions. The Treasurer's report showed expenses and revenues (a fee was charged last year). There was good attendance, and Mrs. Veith did a survey with "overwhelmingly positive" results. There was \$6,000 budgeted for the program last year with revenues of \$4,880, with a net cost to the Township of \$2,166.95. Mrs. Veith was looking for guidance on whether the program would continue in 2013 so planning can begin. There was a consensus of agreement by all Township Committee members that the program should continue.

7) Raritan Township Police Report for December 2012: There were 12.5 hours with 12 summonses written.

8) Request from Clerk for 3 week absence: Employment policies require the governing body to approve absences longer than 2 weeks. The Clerk is going to Florida but will be in contact with the office on a regular basis. Motion by Mrs. Cregar, seconded by Deputy Mayor Sageser, and carried unanimously to approve the absence.

9) Requested Amendment to Animal Control Officer's (ACO) Contract (See 1/8/13 Email from Delaware Township Re: Supplying Cell Phone to ACO): Mr. Matheny noted that the contract was approved by all participating municipalities, but at a recent Board of Health meeting in Delaware, they made a request that the ACO have a cell phone. Mr. Matheny did not support the idea, e.g., no record of where the employee was responding, no dispatch, no record of calls, etc. All were in agreement that Nate Barson is performing duties well with no complaints from residents. There was no support for use of a cell phone.

10) Raritan Township Traffic Patrol: Mr. Mathews asked if there was an update on the contract with Raritan; Mr. Matheny said that it was still month-to-month with no update. Mr. Mathews asked about the cost; it will be prorated at \$15,000 at this time.

2013 CONTRACT FOR AUDITOR CHARLES CASE (see 1/1/13 Minutes for Background and 1/7/13 Addendum to Contract)

Mr. Case provided an addendum showing breakdown of hourly rates for employees. There was some discussion between members, who asked what discretion the auditor used in applying the range of rates for work performed. Mr. Wang-Iverson felt that the explanation was better than what was presented earlier.

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RESOLUTION #23-13

WHEREAS the Township of East Amwell has a need to acquire accounting services as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 or 20.5); and

WHEREAS, the Treasurer has determined and certified in writing that the value of the acquisition of the service will or may exceed \$17,500; and

WHEREAS, the anticipated term of the contract is one year (and may be extended as approved by this governing body); and

WHEREAS, each of the agencies has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certified that employees have not made any reportable

contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Township of East Amwell in the previous one year, and that the contract will prohibit the agency from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract; and

WHEREAS sufficient funds are available in the 2013 Temporary Budget and will be made available in the 2013 Municipal Budget for the Township of East Amwell (as required in N.J.A.C. 5:30-5.4).

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

The Mayor and Township Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute contracts with the following persons and firms for the year 2013:

Charles M. Case, a Registered Municipal Accountant, of WithumSmith & Brown

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Business Disclosure Entity Certification and the Determination of Value be placed on file with this resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that notice of this action shall be printed in the January 17, 2013, issue of the Hunterdon County Democrat.

By Order of the Township Committee,

Peter Kneski , Mayor

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Motion by Mr. Wang-Iverson, seconded by Mr. Mathews, and carried unanimously to approve the resolution.

UPDATE FROM MAYOR KNESKI ON MAYOR'S SUMMIT WITH JCP&L IN MORRISTOWN ON JANUARY 3, 2013

Mayor Kneski said it was an interesting meeting with a number of mayors in attendance. He said that JCP&L is moving forward a step by providing mapping to all municipalities showing substations and circuit lines so that municipal leaders would be better prepared to advise residents about customer outage in a given location. They will also use Twitter and Facebook to provide more public awareness. He stated that the company is looking at community infrastructure, i.e., probing at poles to look for rot, etc.; they seem to be willing to work with communities to upgrade systems as best they can, including providing mapping; and they are upgrading vehicle equipment so that the drivers can go directly to the site, know where the problem may be, and assist. Mayor Kneski also mentioned that mayors, on whole, raised concerns about being provided misinformation during the hurricane and passing this inaccurate information along, causing public outcry.

Mr. Wang-Iverson asked about the inaccurate information, and Mayor Kneski explained problems during the storm with getting misinformation, passing it along to the public, only to find out later that it was incorrect, e.g., being told power would be on in 1-2 days and not getting it for 4-5 days. There was no real direct communication with technicians; by providing laptops to the line trucks, better communication will be available to be passed along to municipalities. He further explained that there is no automatic way for JCP&L to know that residents are without power unless they call into the system to register.

Mayor Kneski felt that JCP&L was moving in the right direction, and the general comment at the meeting was that there be a proactive involvement with BPU with more oversight of JCP&L, i.e., they lack the oversight and "forceful hand" to make the utilities do their job. There will be a series of meetings with BPU, and the BPU has promised "more strict oversight in power outages." Mr. Mathews asked if JCP&L will now be able to come to a local meeting to speak with residents. Mayor Kneski said that the company will still hold off for now since there are

more BPU meetings to be held; he believed that they would come to communities after information becomes more factual.

Further discussion took place amongst the governing body, including the fact that the BPU is the regulatory authority. Mr. Cushing said that they may order the electric company to do a series of things, which may necessitate JCP&L to ask for a raise in rate to do; if so, the BPU will have to approve if JCP&L shows that they have expenses to meet to improve. Some comments were made about capital equipment improvements made by PSE&G, and whether or not JCP&L would ask for rate increases for items that FEMA would already paid for.

Mr. Mathews mentioned the process in place after storms in 2011, with small improvements and some progress; he asked that dialogue with JCP&L representative John Anderson be restarted. Mayor Kneski will reach out to Mr. Anderson. Mr. Mathews continued by asking whether the plan in place in 2011 was destroyed since Hurricane Sandy; was the plan being amended; and what was being done.

Some discussion took place about what would come out of discussions with the BPU, including whether rate increases would be forthcoming. Mr. Cushing commented on a political process and the need to keep pressure on the BPU, suggesting that legislators be asked to attend meetings and ask what is being done at the legislative level to give BPU more control on over-sight of the utilities. Mayor Kneski commented on discussions at the meeting with the BPU Commissioner, who said that they could levy fines, adding that the Governor instituted a stiffer fine of \$100 a day; the BPU realized that their hands were tied in terms of penalties, but putting pressure on legislators to enact larger penalties, e.g., \$25,000 per day, may be an option. Mr. Cushing felt that \$25,000 may not be a realistic incentive for the utility company. He commented on inviting Senator Turner to a meeting.

Mayor Kneski will ask Mr. Anderson to attend an AAR committee meeting, if the company allows him to attend; the Mayor will keep the governing body posted.

NEW BUSINESS

2013 TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE LIAISONS

Mayor Kneski provided a draft copy of the proposed liaisons for review. Some changes were made between members, and a copy of the final version will be distributed. Mayor Kneski explained the function of the bridge ad hoc committee, which is now dormant, and this committee may be recalled, if needed. Motion by Mrs. Cregar, seconded by Deputy Mayor Sageser, and carried unanimously to approve the 2013 Liaisons, as redrafted.

T.C. Member	Personnel Liaison	Committee/Task Liaison
Dart Sageser	Zoning Officer Building/Construction Township Engineer	Local Public Assistance Planning Board Fire Company COAH Environmental Commission
Tim Mathews	Tax Assessor Tax Collector Auditor	Recreation Committee Animal Control OEM Summer Playground Rescue Squad Recycling Committee
Patricia Cregar	Deputy Clerk	Senior Citizens East Amwell School Historic Preservation FOSPC Clawson Park
David Wang-Iverson	Treasurer Court Administrator	Board of Adjustment Board of Health Website Agricultural Advisory

		Bridge Ad Hoc Committee
Peter Kneski	Township Clerk Township Attorney Township Administrator DPW	WQMP Municipal Building Traffic Storm Water Management Meszaros Project

REQUEST FROM COMMITTEE MEMBER WANG-IVERSON TO DISCUSS IMPLEMENTATION OF SOCIAL MEDIA ACCOUNTS FOR THE TOWNSHIP

Mr. Wang-Iverson was interested in the implementation of social media accounts, such as Twitter and Facebook, and he asked if there was any other interest among the Committee. He felt that they would be useful tools. He reviewed the information from Morris Enyeart at City Connections, and he felt that the statistics about age range coverage may be broader than what was reported. He believed that these types of accounts could provide real time updates in emergencies, and he felt that the Township Committee and the Administrator could be responsible for posting.

Mr. Wang-Iverson was willing to take the lead and get more details. He has discussed this with Mr. Matheny, and some issues include archiving, posting and responses to posts, etc. The Nixle program subscription numbers were mentioned, around 140, and this program will remain as another tool.

Mr. Matheny cautioned about posts on Facebook, with “harassment” going along with it and legitimacy of posts. Mr. Mathews suggested exploring the options, noting constraints. Mr. Matheny also commented on the need for maintenance of the sites, commenting on his experience at a previous position, when the Police Department handled updates in emergency situations. He explained that OEM went to Nixle during the storms (maintained by a third party); his only caution with any site would be proper maintenance and overhead to do it.

Mr. Cushing asked how the site would operate, cautioning about posts from the outside. Some discussion took place on what was intended. Mr. Cushing mentioned first amendment issues, i.e., if there were a central posting place, the municipality could not discriminate against entries, and he cautioned about outside posts. Mr. Wang-Iverson felt that the site could be used to “engender community involvement” by including items such as photos from the egg hunt, etc.

Mr. Cushing suggested getting more information about sites from the League of Municipalities.

REQUEST FROM COMMITTEE MEMBER WANG-IVERSON TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE SPECIAL MEETING TO EXPLAIN REASSESSMENT RESULTS

Mr. Wang-Iverson mentioned many questions from the public about the subject when he was campaigning in the fall. He suggested that Assessor Busher do a presentation at a special meeting to explain how the reassessment was done and the impact on the residents, allowing an hour or so for questions and answers. Property cards will be sent out the beginning of March, and the governing body was in agreement that a meeting should be held before residents receive their assessments by mail. The possibility of coordinating the meeting with a budget meeting was also mentioned.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Nancy Cunningham, 14 Wertsville Road, felt that a meeting regarding the reassessment was an excellent idea, adding that it would be helpful and useful. She mentioned seeing road construction signs on Wertsville Road near the bridge area. Mr. Sageser explained a report from a resident at the Planning Board meeting that the County is compelled to do work in 2013 to keep the grant, that no “real work” will be done until 2014, and the only activity going on is brush cutting.

Ms. Cunningham commented that it is standard, best practice for non-profits and government agencies to change auditors every 5 to 7 years, and she strongly encouraged the Township

Committee to “move on after 30 some years with the same auditor,” stating it “was totally inappropriate.” She believed that the Township had the entire year to consider the change.

Andrea Bonette, 17 Ridge Road, commented on a proposed rate increase of 40% for basic Comcast, suggesting that the Township take a stand about this, especially in light of the basic cable increase for senior citizens. Mr. Mathews mentioned his frustrations with the company, wishing Verizon would be made available to residents. The Clerk mentioned recent communications with Verizon, and their stance is still that they would not be here in the near future. Reference was made to MPR as a new company broadcasting over the web.

Mayor Kneski asked the Clerk to prepare a letter for his signature vehemently objecting to the increase.

Motion by Mrs. Cregar, seconded Deputy Mayor Sageser, and carried unanimously to close to the public.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There were no items for executive session. Mr. Cushing updated the governing body that the Scibilia property is close to closing, and some final documents are being reviewed by the attorneys. Mr. Cushing left the meeting at 9:15 p.m.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

TREASURER’S REPORT:

Amendment to the Temporary Budget

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A M E N D E D 2 0 1 3 T E M P O R A R Y B U D G E T

RESOLUTION #24 -13

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-19 provides that where any contract, commitment or payments are to be made prior to the final adoption of the 2013 budget, temporary appropriations should be made for the purpose and amounts required in the manner and time therein provided, and

WHEREAS the date of this resolution is within the first thirty days of January 2013, and

WHEREAS, the total appropriation in the 2012 budget, exclusive of any appropriations made for interest and debt redemption charges, capital improvement fund and public assistance, is \$1,714,674 and

WHEREAS, 26.25% of the total appropriations in the 2012 budget, exclusive of any appropriations made for interest and debt redemption charges, capital improvement fund and public assistance, is the sum of \$450,102.

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 shall be the Temporary Budget for the Township of East Amwell for the year beginning January 1, 2013, and that a certified copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Treasurer for her records:

EAST AMWELL TOWNSHIP TEMPORARY BUDGET - 2013

	2013	AMOUNT
General Government	Salaries and Wages	17,500 17,000
	Other Expenses	6,000

Mayor & Committee	Salaries and Wages	4,000
	Other Expenses	200
Municipal Clerk	Salaries and Wages	21,000
	Other Expenses	2,000
Financial Adm	Salaries and Wages	14,500
	Other Expenses	3,000
Auditor	Other Expenses	3,000
Revenue Adm	Salaries and Wages	8,043
	Other Expenses	1,500
Assessment of Tax	Salaries and Wages	7,039
	Other Expenses	2,500
Legal	Other Expenses	7,500
Engineering	Other Expenses	2,000
Historic Sites	Salaries and Wages	200
	Other Expenses	400
Agricultural Advisory	Salaries and Wages	150
	Other Expenses	50
Planning Board	Salaries and Wages	4,500
	Other Expenses	4,500
Zoning Bd Adj	Salaries and Wages	7,800
	Other Expenses	1,500
Affordable Housing	Salaries and Wages	1,500
	Other Expenses	500
Liability Insurance	Other Expenses	50,000
Workers Comp	Other Expenses	18,000
Group Insurance	Other Expenses	40,000
Police	Other Expenses	5,000
Emergency Manage	Other Expenses	300
Uniform Fire Code	Salaries and Wages	200-700
	Other Expenses	100
Municipal Prosecutor	Salaries and Wages	3,500
Streets & Roads	Salaries and Wages	65,000
	Other Expenses	30,000
Solid Waste Collect	Salaries and Wages	500
	Other Expenses	1,000
Buildings & Grounds	Other Expenses	6,000
Vehicle Maintenance	Other Expenses	6,000
Public Health	Salaries and Wages	3,192
	Other Expenses	1,000
Environmental Health	Salaries and Wages	490
	Other Expenses	300
Welfare Adm	Salaries and Wages	654
	Other Expenses	300
Recreation Services	Salaries and Wages	500
	Other Expenses	1,000
Electricity	Other Expenses	3,500
Street Lighting	Other Expenses	1,500
Telephone	Other Expenses	2,500
Fuel Oil	Other Expenses	2,500
Gasoline	Other Expenses	4,038
Recycling Enhancement Act	Other Expenses	100
PERS	Other Expenses	52,914
Social Security	Other Expenses	13,202
Defined Contribution	Other Expenses	150
Contribution to Deferred Comp	Other Expenses	480
Municipal Court	Salaries and Wages	12,000
	Other Expenses	2,000
Public Defender	Salaries and Wages	800
Stormwater Permit-Public Health	Other Expenses	500

TOTAL TEMPORARY BUDGET 2012	450,102
MAXIMUM PERMITTED BY LAW	450,102

DEBT SERVICE

Green Trust Loan Program P&I Payments	17,419.98
Payment of Bond Principal	380,000.00
Payment of Bond Interest	69,823.75
TOTAL DEBT SERVICE TEMPORARY BUDGET	467,243.73

By Order of the Township Committee,

Peter Kneski, Mayor

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Motion by Mrs. Cregar, seconded by Mr. Mathews, and carried unanimously.

Bills of the evening were approved on a motion by Mrs. Cregar, seconded by Mr. Wang-Iverson, and carried unanimously. The Clerk explained two bills lists with the corrected figures for the year end open space closings being incorporated.

TAX COLLECTOR HYLAND presented her December 2012 report but no resolutions.

COURT ADMINISTRATOR HOOVEN provided her December 2012 report.

DPW December 2012 Road Activities Report was acknowledged, with Mr. Mathews appreciating the “more detailed” report. Committee members and the Administrator discussed the Department “being right on top of things” and good job they are doing, including filling potholes, chipping, etc.

CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence was noted without comments.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, motion by Mr. Wang-Iverson, seconded by Mrs. Cregar, and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 p.m.

Teresa R. Stahl, RMC/CMC
Municipal Clerk