

The regular meeting of the East Amwell Township Committee was called to order at 7:38 p.m. Present were Mayor Dart Sageser, Deputy Mayor David Wang-Iverson, and Committee members Tim Mathews, Charles Van Horn, and Peter Miller. 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, 2014, and a meeting notice published in the Hunterdon County Democrat issue of January 9, 2014. An additional notice in the January 9, 2014, Hunterdon County Democrat stated that the regular January meeting was postponed until January 16, 2014. 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 14, 2014.

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

AGENDA REVIEW

Additional items of correspondence were added: 1/13/14 Letter and Article from Atty. Cushing on Hiring Practices; December 2013 Municipal Excess Liability Annual Report; 1/9/14 Notice from Hunterdon County re: 2014 Solid Waste and Recycling Services

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Christmas trees may be brought to the grit yard any weekday during January. All trim must be removed. The grit yard is also open on the first Saturday of the month from 9 a.m. – noon.

Reorganization Schedule for All Boards/Committees is posted on the bulletin board and on the website at www.eastamwelltownship.com

A rabies clinic will be held at the East Amwell garage on Saturday, January 18, 2014, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Contact pdymek@eastamwelltownship.com for more details.

Municipal Offices will be closed on January 20, 2014, in observance of Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday

East Amwell Township now has a Facebook Page. Follow us at [Township of East Amwell, New Jersey](https://www.facebook.com/TownshipofEastAmwellNewJersey).

Mr. Wang-Iverson spoke about problems with the new FB page and will be revising it with a new link available in a few days.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

December 12, 2013, Special Minutes (Interviews) were approved on a motion by Deputy Mayor Wang-Iverson, seconded by Mr. Mathews, and carried with abstentions from Mr. Van Horn and Mr. Miller.

December 12, 2013, Special Minutes (Resolution for Executive Session) were approved on a motion by Deputy Mayor Wang-Iverson, seconded by Mr. Mathews, and carried with abstentions from Mr. Van Horn and Mr. Miller.

December 12, 2013, Executive Minutes (Land Acquisition, Contracts, Personnel) were approved on a motion by Deputy Mayor Wang-Iverson, seconded by Mr. Mathews, and carried with abstentions from Mr. Van Horn and Mr. Miller.

December 12, 2013, Regular Minutes were approved on a motion by Deputy Mayor Wang-Iverson, seconded by Mr. Mathews, and carried an abstention from Mr. Miller, with one typing correction.

December 12, 2013, Executive Minutes (Land Acquisition) were approved on a motion by Deputy Mayor Wang-Iverson, seconded by Mr. Mathews, and carried an abstention from Mr. Miller, with one typing correction.

December 26, 2013, Regular Minutes were approved on a motion by Deputy Mayor Wang-Iverson, seconded by Mr. Mathews, and carried one abstention from Mr. Miller, and on page 3, last paragraph, first line, change “two” to “three.”

January 1, 2014 Reorganization Minutes were approved on a motion by Deputy Mayor Wang-Iverson, seconded by Mr. Mathews, and carried unanimously.

Under the Reorganization Minutes, Deputy Mayor Wang-Iverson wanted to add comments to clarify the minutes regarding the resolution to hire professionals. Mr. Cushing said clarification was one thing; changing the minutes another; he said that comments could be made now.

Deputy Mayor Wang-Iverson explained that relative to the resolution regarding contracts, this fact did not make the minutes regarding Mr. Mathews request to extend last year’s contracts and do an RFP. He said that the Township did not have a contract with Suplee-Clooney to extend, and he noted the importance of getting the auditor on board as soon as possible in an effort not to derail the Finance Department’s progress. Deputy Mayor Wang-Iverson said that in principle, he did not oppose doing RFPs, but in this case, he wanted to get Suplee-Clooney on board right away.

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

Rich Spiegel, 1 Mountain Road, spoke about taking opportunities when available. He felt that the reorganization day was a disgrace to the community when government appoints people to represent them, and the people do not show up on reorganization day – he found this hard to believe. Mr. Spiegel believed that government officials should set examples of trust, integrity, and leadership. He spoke about the Township Officials not showing bi-partisan support in their appointments. He mentioned people who traveled here from the County, who also agreed that they have never seen anything like this on reorganization day. Mr. Spiegel commented on doing something so long and believing it is right. He reminded the governing body that they cannot please everybody all the time, but if they pleased all some of the time, they would be doing their job. He hoped that the Committee would show more bi-partisanship and pay more attention to the new people on the Township Committee.

Mr. Spiegel spoke about the Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA) and the agenda that showed the Township Administrator item listed as “other” – he believed that this was a violation of OPMA since the public would not be aware of what items the Administrator would bring up during the meeting. He stated that any item would have to be presented to the Clerk for addition to the agenda, that in 2006 GRC rewrote their regulations, and that there were significant fines for individuals violating OPMA, which individuals should think about.

Motion by Mr. Van Horn, seconded by Mr. Miller, and carried unanimously to close to the public.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

AMENDED APPLICATION FOR PTO RAFFLE #13-03 – Change of Date from February 18 to March 17, 2014

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RESOLUTION #24-14

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell that they hereby accept the amendment to the application submitted by the East Amwell Township School PTO for Raffle #13-03, previously approved at the December 26, 2013, Township Committee meeting, changing only the date of the event from February 18 to March 17, 2014.

By Order of the Township Committee,

Dart Sageser, Mayor

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

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES/PUBLIC HEARINGS – NONE

SPECIAL DISCUSSIONS – NONE

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS - NONE

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

ADDITIONAL APPOINTMENTS: BOARD OF HEALTH AND OTHER BOARDS (See 1/1/14 Reorganization Minutes re: Board of Health Membership)

Attorney Cushing previously provided the Township Committee information about the membership requirements for the Board of Health, and Mr. Mathews withdrew his objection.

Motion by Deputy Mayor Wang-Iverson, seconded by Mr. Mathews, and carried unanimously to appoint Mr. Van Horn as the Alternate I on the Board of Health.

James Fredericks was interviewed earlier in the evening for a seat on the Environmental Commission; Mayor Sageser stated it was for a two year unexpired term. Motion by Deputy Mayor Wang-Iverson, seconded by Mr. Miller, and carried unanimously to appoint Mr. Fredericks to the Commission.

FARMLAND/OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

Chair Glorianne Robbi and Vice Chair Dick Ginman were present during this discussion.

VAN DOREN PROPERTY, B. 35/L.58 – POSSIBLE DONATION OF 8.5 ACRE PARCEL

FOSPC representatives explained a recent discussion between D & R Greenways and an executrix from the Van Doren family (Mr. Van Doren’s daughter). A map of the property and surrounding areas was presented. D & R Greenways recommended that the Township look at any environmental concerns – having an environmental site assessment may cost approximately \$1,000. There was a question of whether a survey would be needed; cost would be \$3,500 or so; the land is being donated, and Mr. Ginman commented on the significance of knowing property lines one way or another in this particular area; he did not feel a survey was necessary.

The property has a pipeline right of way on it, is a land-locked parcel off of North Hill Road, and is adjacent to the Higgins property of 400 acres, which New Jersey Conservation Foundation was pursuing conservation in recent years. Mr. Ginman provided specifics about the Higgins property, including the preservation of Higgins property in Somerset, the eventual preservation of the East Amwell section, the use of the property by hunters and by the Trail Association, etc. Properties south of the Van Doren property belong to Bryce Thompson and other individuals, and the Township also recently added the Polhemus properties for preservation in proximity to it.

FOSPC was asking the Township Committee to accept the donation of the property and to authorize \$1,000 for an environmental assessment. They were also asking for a donation of \$1,000 towards half of the appraisal costs incurred by the property owner.

Mr. Ginman further explained that D & R Greenways is the negotiator, and they want the Township to take title of the property. Mr. Ginman also mentioned previous surveys on the Lang and Omick properties. He also mentioned visiting the site in the past.

Mr. Cushing agreed that because of the pipeline, the Township should consider a Phase I environmental study.

Mrs. Robbi mentioned that D & R might cost share on the appraisal, mentioning some of D & R cost contributions. Mr. Ginman mentioned the “downside” of not doing a survey, citing the Scibilia property, but he said that these were different circumstances with the Township not providing any funding for the rights and that a deed would be drawn. D & R Greenways will do a title search and the closing. Taxes collected on the property are \$411, and the piece is not farm assessed. Mrs. Robbi commented on the possibility of someone purchasing and harvesting, and it was a good option at this time for the Township to preserve.

Mr. Miller asked why D & R would not be interested in the title. Mr. Ginman explained D & R’s preservation efforts, including Cattail Brook into Somerset County. The land does not fit in with their plans, although they offer guidance and partnership. It was further explained that the Township has worked with D & R Greenways from their beginning, i.e., their first statewide purchase was the Laporte Reserve, off of Mountain Road. Other land preserved by D & R is in Hopewell Township, along with trails in the Hunterdon County Park, and Borough of Hopewell; a map was shown for the benefit of the governing body. D & R Greenway works in Central and South Jersey, with New Jersey Conservation Foundation working as a counterpart and focusing in Central New Jersey. D & R Greenways is interested in conservation and preservation, and they like to assist, similar to Hunterdon Land Trust and other non-profits. Mr. Ginman mentioned work parties for building trails run by the D & R Greenways President.

Mr. Miller asked about Cattail Brook and D & R Greenways’ conservation efforts in the area. Mr. Ginman commented on funding coming from Green Acres at the State and the need for public access, hence, creation of public access trails on many properties. Mrs. Robbi commented on preservation for protection of water resources as well.

Deputy Mayor Wang-Iverson mentioned the hope of acquiring properties in the surrounding area; Mr. Ginman remarked about the Township’s interest years ago in the acquisition of the Higgins’ property, about 416 acres – the process has been delayed due to cost/negotiations.

Mr. Mathews spoke about the land-locked parcel with a \$21,000 assessment; he asked if the owners could use the assessment as a guide. He was told that the IRS would require an appraisal. Mrs. Robbi stated that the owner could sell the property, but she felt that clearing up the estate would be an easier route.

The Committee and the FOSPC representatives exchanged comments about the request, with the following highlights: it was agreed that an environmental assessment would be prudent; the request for contribution towards an appraisal was debated by some members, including the fact that the property owner would get the tax benefit of the donation; FOSPC members felt that contribution to the appraisal would be a show of good faith to this owner and future owners considering preservation; among other items.

The consensus was to accept the property as a donation, spend \$1,000 for an environmental assessment, skip the survey, and not contribute to the appraisal. The Clerk previously communicated with the Treasurer, and there is funding available through the Township Open Space fund for this.

Mr. Miller asked what would happen if something came up on the environmental assessment, asking if there was a contingency. Mr. Van Horn agreed that the intent is not to do a clean up on the property, and Mrs. Robbi added that the property is in the woods with no farmstead or farmhouse nearby.

Mr. Mathews made a motion graciously accepting the donation and funding the environmental assessment up to \$1,000. Mr. Cushing spoke about the need to create an ordinance to accept the property. He suggested that the Township Committee could approve a motion expressing support of accepting the donation, contingent with assistance from D & R Greenways and successful completion of the Phase I environmental assessment. Mr. Mathews changed his motion, based on the attorney’s advice.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell that they hereby support the acceptance of the donation, contingent with assistance from D & R Greenways and the successful completion of the Phase I environmental assessment by the Township.

By Order of the Township Committee,

Dart Sageser, Mayor

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Motion by Mr. Mathews, seconded by Deputy Mayor Wang-Iverson, and carried unanimously.

Mr. Cushing will prepare the ordinance when necessary.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATOR’S UPDATE:

1) Environmental Commission Secretary and Recycling Coordinator Positions: Mr. Matheny explained the retirement of the previous employee, who held both positions. The positions were posted on the website and bulletin boards with four applicants applying. All applicants were capable and were interviewed by the Clerk and the Administrator. Some candidates only wanted one position, and while they could be handled by separate individuals, Mr. Matheny tried to consolidate the jobs.

Maria Prendamano, a resident of East Amwell and PTO President at the School, was the candidate for consideration. A recommendation from the School Principal was very supportive. Mr. Matheny also outlined some of her career experience. The jobs are part-time with about 3 – 5 hours per month per position. The salary range is \$10.71 to \$21+, and the salary being recommended is \$15.00 per hour; there are no benefits, and they are one year probationary appointments.

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RESOLUTION #26-14

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of East Amwell that they hereby support the recommendation of the Township Administrator to hire Maria Prendamano as a one year probationary, part-time employee in the positions of Environmental Commission secretary and Recycling Coordinator; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the 2013 Salary and Wage Resolution, currently in effect, hereby be amended as follows:

Remove:	Recycling Coordinator Corboy	\$16.66/hr.
	Environmental Commission Secretary Corboy	\$16.66/hr.
Add:	Recycling Coordinator Prendamano	\$15.00/hr.
	Environmental Commission Secretary Prendamano	\$15.00/hr.

By Order of the Township Committee,

Dart Sageser, Mayor

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Motion by Mr. Van Horn, seconded by Mr. Mathews, and carried unanimously.
Ms. Prendamano will start as soon as possible with her first scheduled meeting on January 27. The Clerk will make sure that the Environmental Commission agenda is circulated prior to that time.

2) Correspondence from Bond Counsel and Planner re: Operating Under 2013 Contracts until RFP is Processed: Both professionals sent emails to the Clerk (Planner on 1/5 and Bond

Counsel on 1/7/14), indicating that they would continue under their 2013 contracts. Mayor Sageser commented on the fact that the Planning Board hires their Planner separately, noting that Mr. Banisch has not increased his rates since 2007. He suggested that the governing body could always ask the Planning Board to consider different options next year (noting that they have already appointed their Planner for 2014). He also noted that the Township has not used the Planner for any projects for a number of years. Deputy Mayor Wang-Iverson pointed out that the Board of Adjustment hires its professionals independently as well.

Mr. Matheny commented on using the current bond counsel, Andrea Kahn, for many years, and there was a question on how much service would be necessary in 2014, suggesting that an RFP could be prepared but not used in 2014.

Some discussion took place, with Mr. Mathews suggesting doing an RFP now and going out to the market to get better rates. Mr. Cushing also noted that the Planning Board and Board of Adjustment could hire independently of the Township Committee. Mr. Matheny commented on the process being an exercise since the other boards already appointed the Planner and the bond counsel may not be needed this year. Mayor Sageser noted that the Township did vote on the matter to draw up RFPs; Deputy Mayor Wang-Iverson noted that the Township Committee also agreed that they would look at an RFP for the auditor to do the 2014 audit, and he was ambivalent about bond counsel. Mr. Mathews mentioned the fee schedule attached to bond counsel's contract, stating that the fees may be market driven – he was supportive of preparing the RFP. Mayor Sageser agreed with going forth with the bond counsel RFP and in the longer range, looking at one or two professionals for next year, e.g., surveyor or engineer for 2015 – he commented on having six months or so to consider options.

Further discussion took place, with the Mayor indicating that the Planning Board has already hired the Planner, who hasn't raised his fees since 2007. It was up to the Planning Board to decide how they want to proceed in the future. Mayor Sageser agreed that looking at an auditor for next year and looking at bond counsel would be a good idea, suggesting looking at them at the end of the third quarter. Deputy Mayor Wang-Iverson also commented on looking at an auditor for 2015 to do the 2014 audit; he suggested looking at bond counsel "right away" and getting advice from the CFO about when to solicit for auditors. There will be no amendments to existing contracts at this time.

Mr. Cushing left the meeting at 8:45 p.m., stating that he would send an email to the governing body regarding an issue discussed in executive session.

NEW BUSINESS

HELL OF HUNTERDON BICYCLE TOUR Brian Ignatin, 2816 Windy Bush Road, Newtown, PA 18940, was present for this discussion.

Mr. Ignatin explained that he was back to ask for permission again to use local roads for their Hell of Hunterdon ride on March 22. Proceeds from the ride support D&R Greenways Land Trust, the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, and other agencies. The route is the same as last year's, with copies provided to the audience for their information.

Deputy Mayor Wang-Iverson asked about changing the name; Mr. Ignatin said no. The name is derived from a famous Paris-Roubaix professional race in France, and bicyclists love it. Mr. Ignatin briefly described the course through much of the Sourlands on mostly unpaved roads, including Wertsville, Rileyville, Mountain, Stony Brook, Snyderstown, Linvale, Mountain, Rocktown, and Wertsville Road again as the exit from East Amwell. Riders will be through East Amwell beginning at 10:40 a.m. with the last one exiting around 1:20 p.m. There were about 500 riders last year. Mr. Mathews asked about bicyclists riding too wide; Mr. Ignatin commented on advising bicyclists about rules but depending on each of them to comply. They are in communication with the State Police, and there were no incidents reported last year.

The bicyclists made sure that the roads were cleaned after the event last year, and they also participated in the Township's annual roadside clean up on Rileyville and Snyderstown Roads.

Motion by Deputy Mayor Wang-Iverson, seconded by Mr. Mathews, and carried unanimously to support the Hell of Hunterdon bicycle ride to be held on Saturday, March 22, 2014, using some of East Amwell Township's roads.

DISTRIBUTION OF DRAFT MINUTES – Discussion Led by Deputy Mayor Wang-Iverson

Deputy Mayor Wang-Iverson said that this issue came up at reorganization with a suggested change to resolution #04-14 about posting documents on the website. He would like to raise concerns about posting draft minutes on the website, which he believed was not a good practice. He commented about risks of having erroneous or contradictory information on the site, which is not good to the community at large. He spoke about extra work for staff with little or no value. He was in favor of posting draft minutes on the bulletin board, and if a resident was in need, the township staff could make them available. He would rather see only approved minutes on the website. It was unclear whether a previous Township Committee passed a motion to post the draft minutes or not, but he concluded that having draft minutes posted on line was not a good idea. He also checked with neighboring municipalities, who do not post draft minutes.

Mr. Van Horn spoke about misrepresentation in draft minutes, referencing a vote by Mr. Mathews that was incorrect in the draft, indicating that he supported something that he did not. Deputy Mayor Wang-Iverson again said that minutes would be posted on the bulletin board with hard copies available to the public in advance if they need it, and the audio is available immediately for purchase at a cost of 66 cents.

Mr. Mathews asked about putting audio files on the website; the Clerk asked the webmaster about this a long time ago, but the files the Township created did not meet the specifications for posting. She will check with the webmaster again about this.

Further discussion took place between the governing body members, with these highlights: minutes are posted on the bulletin board 48 hours before meetings; Deputy Mayor Wang-Iverson did not see any advantage by posting draft minutes to the website; Mr. Miller commented on past Township Committee members who approved the practice of posting draft minutes, stating that they must have perceived little risk – he was in favor of posting on the website for transparency, and the minutes would get amended at the meeting; Mr. Miller explained that more people would access the website than the municipal building to see them on the bulletin board; Deputy Mayor Wang-Iverson again commented on unofficial information being circulated that may be erroneous; Mayor Sageser commented on being able to download the minutes from the website two days before they are approved and reposted as final minutes – he agreed that residents would be more informed but could wait two days for the correct version – he said it was up to the Committee to decide how to proceed; Mr. Miller again commented on the importance of being transparent and getting information to the public as quickly as possible – he would be interested to hear the public's opinion; Deputy Mayor Wang-Iverson noted that the Township Committee is responsible for correcting or changing the minutes, not the public, adding his concern of circulating draft minutes and the non-valued extra work for staff; Mayor Sageser commented on having staff create minutes after a meeting and the possibility of getting cameras from cable companies to provide immediate public access to meetings; some members were in agreement that podcasts were a good idea; Mayor Sageser would like to have input from residents, including Frances Gavigan, from their perspective, and revisit the discussion.

It was noted that two other boards, Planning and Zoning, also post their draft minutes, and they have the power to decide how to proceed going forth.

The Clerk will check to see if there was a motion to post the minutes on the website, which would have to be amended if the process changed. Some comments were exchanged on whether to continue posting draft minutes and this time; they will continued to be posted until a further discussion is held.

Mr. Van Horn will check with his neighbors, who go on the website to read the minutes, for their opinion. Mayor Sageser mentioned notices from the webmaster when items are posted on the site, including minutes. More comments were exchanged about the topic, with Deputy Mayor Wang-Iverson stating that he would agree with the majority rule but again expressed his concern about non-valued work for staff.

Mr. Miller again commented on the benefit of the public to have the minutes longer in advance to review, not just two days before, commenting on having information 90% correct is more helpful than waiting for a couple of days before a meeting to see them. Mr. Mathews commented on the one example of incorrect information (an incorrect vote) attributed to him did not concern him – he was able to correct it at the regular Township Committee meeting.

Mayor Sageser agreed that further research would be done, feedback would be sought, and a decision would be made afterwards.

MEMORIAL PLAQUE FOR FORMER COMMITTEE MEMBER PATRICIA A. CREGAR

Deputy Mayor Wang-Iverson said he got the idea while walking at Sarah Dilts Park in Delaware Township, where they have a memorial to her. His suggestion was to put up a memorial plaque for Pat Cregar at Clawson Park for her contributions to the community over the course of time. He did a Google search and found a plaque for a cost of approximately \$1,000 for a 16-inch square. He wanted to discuss it first with the Township Committee and then bring it up to the family. The possibility of putting it by the flag pole was mentioned, and FOSPC members also discussed the possibility of planting a tree and putting it at the base of it. The intent would be to have a permanent remembrance of Pat for her impact on the township for such a number of years.

Mr. Mathews noted that there have been other members, such as Floyd Menchek, who was a Mayor and contributor to the Township. He asked how to decide whom to memorialize. Deputy Mayor Wang-Iverson commented on putting up a memorial plaque, adding that he wanted to recognize Pat for her contributions. He agreed that there may be other names to add. The Clerk also noted that (previous Township Committee member) Jack Balint was instrumental in establishing Clawson Park.

Deputy Mayor Wang-Iverson commented on having a memorial with names that can be added, such as the three mentioned to night. He asked that some thought be given to it. A suggestion was made to form a subcommittee to look into the history of East Amwell and develop criteria for inclusion. Mayor Sageser stated that the Township Committee will take this under advisement.

319(H) GRANT APPLICATION – REQUEST FOR RESOLUTION FOR SUBMISSION

Mayor Sageser explained that he was contacted by Engineer Dennis O’Neal, as Stormwater Coordinator, and told that there was 319 Federal funding available to the state under the Clean Water Act. Upon talking with Steve Souza of Princeton Hydro, he believed that it was an outstanding opportunity to receive between \$350,000 – 400,000 in grant funding. Princeton Hydro is willing to submit the application on behalf of the township “pro bono” and listed three possible areas to include. Princeton Hydro presented some examples of grant applications they have prepared, and they also did the work on the Sourland Regional Management Plan several years ago.

The possible areas for grant coverage included the drainage at Clawson Park, the playing fields at East Amwell Township School, and the municipal fields. The plan would call for about \$275,000 for the actual work, and a resolution was required, along with volunteer/staff match contribution, e.g., labor from the DPW and administrative assistance over a four to five year period. The application is due on February 21, and representatives from Princeton Hydro will be at the January 27 Environmental Commission to present (i.e., they could not attend tonight’s meeting due to other commitments).

Princeton Hydro would implement the program, unless the project had to be bid. Steve Souza believed that the project had a good chance of getting funding.

Mr. Mathews asked the relationship of the new Planning Board member, Maria Souza, to Steve Souza; it was noted that they are husband and wife.

Mayor Sageser said that more documentation would be sent by Dr. Souza, with a forty-five page document being sent to his email today. This information will be forwarded to the governing body for a decision at the next meeting, and all were encouraged to attend the January 27

Environmental Commission meeting. Dr. Souza intends to have a draft application by February 7 for review.

Comments were made about these types of federal grants through the state, including Princeton Hydro’s assistance in writing the grant application on the Township’s behalf with letters of support, volunteer labor and in-kind assistance. The project manager, if the grant is awarded, may have to be bid. Mayor Sageser spoke with Engineer O’Neal about this project, and he agreed that a professional services agreement might be awarded for the work, and he was supportive of Princeton Hydro doing the work, stating Dr. Souza would be instrumental in getting the grant.

This item will be on the next agenda, and Mayor Sageser will forward more information for dissemination.

LIAISONS FOR 2014

Mayor Sageser reviewed the list from last year and made some changes. Committee members reviewed the changes, and some switched responsibilities with other members. Mayor Sageser explained that there was no job description for a liaison, and there was no intent of “active hand-holding.” Mr. Matheny explained that employees like to know that there is someone on the Committee representing them and are aware of their concerns. He commented on Deputy Mayor Wang-Iverson’s “baptism by fire” in dealing with the finance department this year.

A copy of the 2014 Liaisons is as follows.

T.C. Member	Personnel Liaison	Committee/Task Liaison
Peter Miller	Zoning Officer Court Administrator	OEM Fire Company Rescue Squad COAH
Tim Mathews	Tax Assessor Tax Collector	Recreation Committee Summer Playground Animal Control Recycling Committee Local Public Assistance
Charles Van Horn	Deputy Clerk Building/Construction Town Engineer	Senior Citizens East Amwell School Historic Preservation Board of Health Clawson Park
David Wang-Iverson	Treasurer/CFO Auditor	FOSPC Board of Adjustment Website/Facebook Page Agricultural Advisory
Dart Sageser	Township Clerk Township Attorney Township Administrator DPW	Municipal Building Planning Board WQMP Environmental Commission Storm Water Management

BUDGET DATES TO BE SET

Deputy Mayor Wang-Iverson explained that the Treasurer/CFO is just closing year end 2013 and opening 2014. He suggested waiting for direction from the Treasurer/CFO for budget discussions. He also noted that the plan is to have an emergency budget to carry the Township through the middle of the year, i.e., through June, and a resolution will be approved in the first quarter of the year. Deputy Mayor Wang-Iverson met with the Treasurer/CFO last week, and he “is seeing the light at the end of the tunnel.” The extra assistant started last Friday, is working with Christine Rosikiewicz, and is making progress. The thought is to have this employee on board through the budget process.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Rich Spiegel, 1 Mountain Road, wanted to provide insight on past Township Committee matters, including recordings. He mentioned that the Township Attorney was also the attorney in the Town of Clinton, and in 2005, when discussions took place about websites, privacy acts, and municipal disclaimers. He said that East Amwell was one of the first to have a website. The attorney provided guidance at that time, which is available to the governing body in the files. Mr. Spiegel spoke about making live recordings as a draft of the meeting and about the clerk preparing draft minutes from the DVDs.

Mr. Spiegel also read from legislation, Senate Bill S-2019, regarding adequate notice of three days for posting on the public internet site. He read that the annual notice must also be on that site, and draft minutes must be available 72 hours prior to a meeting. He mentioned requirements to adhere to the Open Public Meetings Act, which were rewritten in 2005. He suggested that the governing body read this legislation.

Mr. Spiegel questioned notice of the executive session prior to the regular meeting; the Clerk advised him that there was an agenda posted on the bulletin board for that meeting.

Mr. Spiegel concluded by asking that the liaison list be posted on the bulletin board for the public.

Motion by Deputy Mayor Wang-Iverson, seconded by Mr. Miller, and carried unanimously to close to the public.

EXECUTIVE SESSION, if applicable

Committee members agreed that there was no reason for another session at this time.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

TREASURER'S OFFICE had no bill list for this meeting nor were there any resolutions.

TAX COLLECTOR HYLAND provided her December 2013 report, but no resolutions.

MUNICIPAL COURT ADMINISTRATOR HOOVEN presented her December 2013 report.

DPW SUPERINTENDENT SILVERTHORN presented the December 2013 Road Report. Committee members recognized the workload due to snow. They also received two deliveries of salt, and a question was raised about utilization.

NJ STATE POLICE- KINGWOOD STATION provided their December 2013 report. Committee members briefly discussed their presence in various locations, such as Lindbergh Road, Snyderstown, etc. A fatality on Route 202 near the Dunkin Donuts was mentioned, noting it was a person on a bicycle without reflectors at 9:15 p.m. Mr. Mathews commented on Ms. Gavigan's previous comments about this dangerous intersection. It was noted that there was a previous fatality at the same location several years ago.

CORRESPONDENCE

There were no comments on correspondence.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, motion by Deputy Mayor Wang-Iverson, seconded by Mr. Miller, and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:55 p.m.

Teresa R. Stahl, RMC/CMC
Municipal Clerk