

**MINUTES OF THE OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF
UPPER DEERFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND, HELD ON
THURSDAY, MARCH 1, 2012, AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING,
HIGHWAY 77, SEABROOK, NEW JERSEY, PURSUANT TO NOTICE**

Present were: James Crilley, John T. O'Neill, Sr., John Daddario, Bruce Peterson and Scott Smith all being members of the Township Committee. Also present were: Theodore Baker, Solicitor; Roy Spoltore, Township Administrator/Clerk; Teresa Warburton, Recording Secretary, Brian Murphy, Township Engineer, David J. Rogers, Streets and Recreation Supervisor, and Chad Ott, Chief of EMS.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman James Crilley and he read the following public meeting announcement.

“This meeting is called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Law. This meeting of March 1, 2012 was included in a list of meetings notice sent to The News of Cumberland County and the Press, Cumberland County Edition and advertised in said newspapers on January 11, 2012, posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building on January 6, 2012 and has remained continuously posted as the required notices under the Statue. In addition, a copy of this notice is and has been available to the public and is on file in the office of the Municipal Clerk. In compliance with the State Fire Safety Statutes, Chairman Crilley instructed those present how to exit the room in an emergency.

James Crilley gave an invocation followed by the flag salute led by Scott Smith.

James Crilley read resolutions honoring Fire and EMS Volunteers who were recently recognized by their departments as John Daddario presented framed resolutions to them. Honored participants included: David L. Rogers - 26 years of service, Gene Stoms – Dedication for years of service as Chief of Company #1, DJ Hymer – 2011 EMT of the Year, Paul Beckwith – 2011 Firefighter of the Year Company #2, Timothy Pierson - 2011 Firefighter of the Year Company #3. 25 years of service recipient Gary Hewitt was unable to attend. Chairman Crilley and the Committee thanked all the volunteers present for their service to the Township.

James Crilley, Chairman opened the meeting for public comment. Ernest Holt of Husted Station Road asked why people have to get permits for outdoor wood boilers. He added it would be nice if there was an ordinance that would not require residents to have to get permits for the outdoor wood boilers. Mr. O'Neill replied that outdoor wood boilers are covered under the NJDEP regulations and Uniform Construction Code requirements and a municipal ordinance would not supersede those regulations.

There being no further public comments James Crilley, Chairman called for the approval of minutes for the Meeting of February 16, 2012. On motion of John Daddario, seconded by Bruce Peterson, to dispense with the reading of the minutes, unanimously carried. On motion of Bruce Peterson, seconded by Scott Smith, to accept the minutes as received, unanimously approved 5-0.

James Crilley, Chairman called for a resolution entitled Payment of Bills in the amount of \$128,319.83. On motion of Bruce Peterson, seconded by John Daddario, to approve and adopt said resolution, unanimously carried 5-0 on a roll call vote.

INSERT RESOLUTION

COMMITTEE COMMENTS

John Daddario thanked Chad Ott and his squad for having the foresight to have a drill to removed students from a simulated school bus accident. Mr. Daddario noted there have been two school bus accidents where this training was invaluable and everyone did a good job.

Scott Smith had no report this evening.

Bruce Peterson reported that the Environmental Commission discussed the problem of trash blowing out of vehicles. The solicitor is reviewing the Township ordinance and State Statutes so that a flyer may be distributed at the convenience center to inform the public of the proper way to transport waste to the convenience center prior to an enforcement crackdown.

John T. O'Neill, Sr. stated that our grant writer Mark Blauer had asked for \$600,000.00 for two Small Cities programs and the Township received \$580,000.00. \$180,000.00 is for home rehabilitation and \$400,000.00 was to upgrade the infrastructure at School Village in Seabrook. Mr. O'Neill congratulated Roy Spoltore, Mark Blauer and Brian Murphy for a job well done.

Mayor Crilley stated that he and John O'Neill, Sr. attended the CDC meeting and the members were updated on the progress of the Regional Court System. He added that the finance committee has been working on the budget and an overview will be presented later.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Roy Spoltore informed the Committee that the Township will be able to leverage the Small Cities facility grant and the USDA water project to insure that all of the infrastructure improvements can be completed for School Village. The Committee agreed that Mark Blauer should begin data collection in the Hildreth track area of the Township as the next area to apply for a Small Cities facilities grant. A resignation letter was received from Sharon Campbell as an EMT effective March 14, 2012. On motion of Bruce Peterson, seconded by John Daddario, and unanimously approved to regretfully accept the resignation of Sharon Campbell. MBM properties requested that interest fees on property taxes and utilities be waived. The Committee discussed the request and on motion of Bruce Peterson, seconded by John Daddario denied their request to waive the interest on the taxes and utilities owed.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Brian Murphy stated that the permits for repairing Love Lane have been submitted to the state. Mr. Murphy informed the Committee that he had initiated discussions with DOT about improving the intersection of Parsonage Road and Highway 77. He added that he has had discussions with Atlantic Electric and the County Engineer regarding the removal of street lights that do not meet Township street lighting requirements on some county roads.

Roy Spoltore presented a summary of the 2011 financial statement to the Committee reviewing surplus, capital improvement reserves and trust fund balances. Mr. Spoltore then gave an overview of the draft budget, anticipated revenues, usage of surplus and the need for a local tax due to a loss of tax abatement revenues.

Ted Baker gave an overview of the anti-harassment and discrimination training he has conducted for Township employees and volunteers as required by the JIF.

At this time James Crilley, Chairman opened the meeting for additional public comments.

Ernest Holt asked how much money is available for open space acquisition. Roy Spoltore noted that there was \$180,000 in Reserve and another \$50,000 in the draft budget for open space.

Nancy Ridgeway of Irving Avenue asked if the Committee if they were willing to give up health benefits? Mr. O'Neill stated that the Committeeman have frozen their pay for the past four years and that each committeeman has been increasing their percentage of co-pay for the past four years that has always exceeded what the employees pay.

With no further public comments, James Crilley, Chairman called for a resolution Authorizing Closed Session to update the Committee on the status of a contract and two litigation issues. The Clerk read the resolution by title. On motion of Bruce Peterson, seconded by John T. O'Neill, Sr, to approve and adopt resolution, unanimously carried 5-0.

INSERT RESOLUTION

Bruce Peterson made a motion, seconded by John Daddario, and unanimously approved 5-0 to reopen the Township Committee meeting to the public.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, on motion of Bruce Peterson, seconded by Scott Smith to adjourn, unanimously carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Teresa L. Warburton
Recording Secretary

Roy J. Spoltore
Township Clerk