

August 1, 2018
Municipal Building
121 Evergreen Road
New Egypt, NJ 08533

The Workshop Session of the meeting of the Plumsted Township Committee was called to order by Mayor Trotta.

STATEMENT: “This meeting is being held in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act. It was advertised for publication in the Asbury Park Press and posted on the bulletin board.”

THOSE OFFICIALS PRESENT WERE:

COMMITTEEMAN JONES COMMITTEEMAN MARINARI DEPUTY MAYOR SORCHIK
MAYOR TROTTA BUSINESS ADMIN PEZARRAS DAVID LEUTWYLER, CDC
ATTORNEY KELLY ACTING MUNICIPAL CLERK WITHAM

Committeeman Lotito attended via telephone. Committeeman Marinari came into the meeting at 7:15 pm.

Chief Meroney and Lieutenant Reilly were also in attendance.

Mayor Trotta asked everyone to rise for the flag salute. He asked Reverend Gutacker to come forward for the invocation.

Trotta reviewed the agenda. He said there is a second reading and public hearing on the changes to the Nonprofit Youth-Serving Organizations ordinance. There is a salary ordinance that is being introduced and there is a draft ordinance on longevity.

Trotta said that every year the state asks the township to answer questions about best practices. Every year it gets harder and harder for the township to get an approval score. The township is only allowed to have a certain number of “no” answers. If the township goes over that number, the state will take away some of its state aid.

In anticipation of this year’s questionnaire, which is coming up shortly, there is a proposal to freeze longevity for those township administration employees who currently receive longevity and to eliminate longevity for employees who do not currently receive longevity. He said that longevity has already been eliminated in the police department. This will enable the township to say “yes” to that question and will hopefully keep it within the one-hundred percent state aid number.

Trotta said if the township has to make other adjustments, it will, but this will definitely provide the township with another yes answer. At this point in time, there are three employees who are eligible for longevity and according to this ordinance they will continue to receive their longevity. The employees are Kelly Creighton, Maureen Francis and Cyndi MacReynolds. It is his recommendation that the ordinance be introduced tonight. He asked for any comments on the ordinance.

Committeeman Jones had no comment.

Committeeman Lotito asked if longevity will be frozen at the amount it is for this year. Trotta said they will still get whatever longevity they are entitled to. It is the same as what was done with the police. They get the longevity that they are currently entitled to; they will just not receive any future increases in longevity. That means the longer employees are here, the more longevity they will receive until they reach the cap.

Lotito asked how long the freeze would be in effect. Trotta said this would be until the township committee decides to change it. That is the only way the township will get another yes. Unless longevity is frozen, the township cannot answer yes to that question. If the township answers no, it is in jeopardy of losing state aid.

Lotito asked how much state aid would be affected if the township answered no. Trotta said that he cannot say exactly what the amount would be, but the township needs every cent it can get from the state. He said, for example, if a person does not complete a financial disclosure

statement, the township will lose state aid. This is the type of thing the state does. They try to punish you by taking money away.

Business Administrator Pezarras said the questions change from year to year, so you do not know what new questions they are going to come up with. A lot of the questions on last year's form were questions for things that the township had no control over. For example, if the auditor was busy and did not get a financial document into the state on time, the CFO could not certify that it was there on time. It would have been through no fault of the township. That is what the township is trying to guard against.

Trotta said there are certain questions that are on the questionnaire year in and year out. Longevity is one of them. It has been on the questionnaire since the first year. The state is not going to take this question away.

Lotito asked how it will impact the employees who are due longevity. Trotta said it will not impact them at all. They will still receive longevity. Lotito asked if anyone is due for an increase this year. Trotta said no. Lotito said so then, it will not affect them immediately.

Trotta said that the police have been on longevity freeze for at least four years. The state forced the township put longevity in the previous PBA contract. The ordinance is just making the administrative side even with the police. The township tries to keep the two sides even when it can on all work rules and benefits.

Jones asked if longevity starts after seven years. Trotta said that was what was put in many years ago.

Trotta asked if the committee was in agreement to introduce the longevity ordinance today. Committee members answered yes. That will be Ordinance 2018-13.

Trotta said there are general resolutions on the agenda. There is a resolution for courtesy busing. The township can pay the school if it signs the agreement with the township. An agreement has not been signed yet. The township hopes to get that taken care of. There is a resolution for unexpended balances that are being cancelled from some grants that were received by the township.

Trotta said that for Resolution 2018-238, the township is acknowledging it has received the application from Wawa on Route 539 to change its current wastewater treatment facility. It is not an approval. The township is notifying the state that the application has been received and is aware of it. The township does not do anything with wastewater treatment. It is done by the county and the state. The resolution is just a formality.

Attorney Kelly said that Wawa will also submit an amended site plan application to the Land Use Board as well. It is part of the process.

Jones asked if Wawa has a well. Trotta said they do have a well, but the application is for sewage.

Trotta said that Resolution 2018-241 relates to some land that is owned by the county in which students from Pyne worked with the county, the township and Ron Dancer to develop a park with trails in it. The county is advising the township that it has to maintain the property for them. The county is not going to maintain it. Leutwyler has looked at the property. The students will do what they can and the township will pick up the slack.

Leutwyler said that it is a nature trail, which means the trail is supposed to be kept natural. There is a small stone driveway in the parking area that needs to be taken care of. The township will empty the trash and carry it out if the students are not able to do it.

Trotta said the committee will take a recess for the Board of Health before the bill list. The Board of Health is meeting due to the retirement of Dorothy Hendrickson.

Trotta asked if there were any other comments. There were none.

Attorney Kelly read Resolution No. 2018-234 for Executive Session. The following matters will be discussed: under personnel: personnel matters—business administrator/tax collector

position; under contractual: UFT BOE; and under potential litigation – Code Enforcement/Land Use issue/Noble Estates Homeowners Association.

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN JONES, SECONDED BY DEPUTY MAYOR SORCHIK, RESOLUTION NO. 2018-234, AUTHORIZING THE CONVENING OF AN EXECUTIVE SESSION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT WAS ADOPTED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Mayor Trotta read Joan Gruca's Letter of Resignation as TACO and Land Use Board Secretary.

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN MARINARI, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN JONES, THE RESIGNATION OF JOAN GRUCA WAS ACCEPTED WITH REGRETS. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES

Trotta said that the issue of any money owing to her will be taken up at the next meeting.

ORDINANCES: Second Reading and Public Hearing

Trotta said the next item on the agenda is the second reading and public hearing on Ordinance No. 2018-11.

Trotta opened the Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 2018-11. There were no public comments.

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN MARINARI, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN JONES, THE PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCE NO. 2018-11 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMSTED, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 43A, OF THE GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMSTED ENTITLED “NONPROFIT YOUTH-SERVING ORGANIZATIONS” WAS CLOSED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES

ON MOTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR SORCHIK, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN MARINARI, ORDINANCE NO. 2018-11 WAS ADOPTED ON SECOND AND FINAL READING. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES

ORDINANCES: Introduction

Mayor Trotta said Ordinance 2018-12 will be introduced tonight. The ordinance makes adjustments to the salary ordinance. Trotta said that the new “Longevity” ordinance language needs to be added to the ordinance on page 3, two paragraphs before section 2.

ON MOTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR SORCHIK, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN MARINARI, 2018-12 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMSTED, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AMENDING AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED “AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH SALARIES FOR VARIOUS OFFICIALS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMSTED, COUNTY OF OCEAN, NEW JERSEY REGULATING THE MANNER OF PAYMENT OF SAME” WAS INTRODUCED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES

The second reading and public hearing is scheduled for the meeting of September 5, 2018.

Mayor Trotta said Ordinance 2018-13 amending and supplementing Chapter 47, Section 26 of the General Ordinances, entitled “Longevity,” will be introduced tonight.

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN MARINARI, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN JONES, 2018-13 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMSTED, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 47, SECTION 26 OF THE GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMSTED, ENTITLED “LONGEVITY” WAS INTRODUCED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES

The second reading and public hearing is scheduled for the meeting of September 5, 2018.

CONSENT AGENDA:

THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS ON A CONSENT AGENDA ARE CONSIDERED ROUTINE AND SHALL BE ENACTED BY ONE MOTION. SHOULD ANY MEMBER OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE SEEK SEPARATE DISCUSSION OF ANY ITEM, THAT ITEM SHALL BE REMOVED AND DISCUSSED SEPARATELY. THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS WILL BE VOTED ON IN ONE VOTE.

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-235 – AUTHORIZING A PAYMENT TO THE PLUMSTED TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR THE 2011-2012 (PARTIAL) AND 2012-2013 COURTESY BUSING SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENTS

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-236 – AUTHORIZING CANCELLATION OF UNEXPENDED BALANCES, GRANT RECEIVABLES AND APPROPRIATED GRANT RESERVE BALANCES AS RECOMMENDED BY THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-237 - APPROVING THE PUBLIC DISPLAY OF FIREWORKS AT LAURITA WINERY AUGUST 18, 2018 (RAIN DATE AUGUST 19, 2018)

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-238 – AS TO TREATMENT WORKS APPROVAL /ALTERATION (TWA) FOR THE WAWA FOOD STORE LOCATED ON COUNTY RT 539

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-239 – AWARDING A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT TO DAVID G. ROBERTS OF DGR PLANNING AND DESIGN

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-240 – REQUESTING APPROVAL FOR THE INSERTION OF A SPECIAL ITEM OF REVENUE AND APPROPRIATION PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A.40A:4-87 (COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT – FY2018)

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-241 – AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A PROPERTY MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT THROUGH THE OCEAN COUNTY'S NATURAL LANDS AND OPEN SPACE PROGRAM

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-242 – AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF CHECKS FOR REDEMPTION OF TAX SALE CERTIFICATES

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-243 – AUTHORIZING THE REFUND OF A RAFFLES LICENSE FEE TO INSPIRE NJ DBA PEOPLES PANTRY

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN MARINARI, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN JONES, THE AFOREMENTIONED RESOLUTIONS 2018-235 THROUGH 2018-243 ON PAGE 2 OF THE CONSENT AGENDA WERE ADOPTED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

MOTION TO CONSIDER:

ON MOTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR SORCHIK, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN MARINARI, THE FOLLOWING RAFFLES AND BINGO LICENSES WERE APPROVED: RAFFLES LICENSE NO. 2018-17 – ON PREMISE RAFFLE, NEW EGYPT POP WARNER FOOTBALL, DANCE AND CHEER; RAFFLES LICENSE NO. 2018-18 – BASKET BINGO, COOKSTOWN VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY LADIES AUXILIARY #1; RAFFLES LICENSE NO. 2018-19 – ON PREMISE MERCHANDISE RAFFLE, COOKSTOWN VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY LADIES AUXILIARY #1; RAFFLES LICENSE NO. 2018-20 – ON PREMISE 50/50, COOKSTOWN VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY LADIES AUXILIARY #1; BINGO LICENSE NO. 2018-21 – AMERICAN LEGION MCKAIG-TEST-MULLEN POST 455; RAFFLES LICENSE NO. 2018-22 – CASINO NIGHT, INSPIRE-NJ PEOPLES PANTRY; RAFFLES LICENSE NO. 2018-23 – ON PREMISE 50/50, INSPIRE-NJ PEOPLES PANTRY; RAFFLES LICENSE NO. 2018-24 – TRICKY TRAY, INSPIRE-NJ PEOPLES PANTRY

Trotta said that the committee is taking a recess to open up the township's Board of Health. The Board of Health is actually taken care of by the county, but there are some formalities that have to be taken care of due the retirement of the Municipal Clerk.

Mayor Trotta called the regular session of the meeting to order.

REPORTS OF DEPARTMENTS AND PROFESSIONALS:

Regarding the Bill List of August 1, 2018, Committeeman Marinari asked if PO # 16-00152 for T&M Associates is for the paving of Hopkins Road. Trotta said yes. Marinari asked Leutwyler if

Kevin of Total Lawn Care has provided the township with the information that Marinari requested. Leutwyler said he left a voice mail for Kevin and he has not answered his voice mail. Marinari asked if Kevin has provided his work orders. Leutwyler said no. Marinari said that he will be voting no for PO # 18-00192 for Total Lawn Care & Landscaping. He thinks he has gone far and above defending this business, understanding the conditions he has worked in. If you go around town, it does not look good. The reports at the last Recreation Committee Meeting were not stellar for him. Leutwyler said he agreed.

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN MARINARI, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN JONES, THE BILL LIST OF AUGUST 1, 2018 WAS APPROVED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES WITH COMMITTEEMAN LOTITO ABSTAINING AND COMMITTEEMAN MARINARI VOTING NO ON #18-00192.

REPORTS SUBMITTED FOR COMMITTEE REVIEW: FINANCIAL REPORTS - Revenue Summary by Month – June, 2018; Abbreviated Summary Budget Account Status – June, 2018; POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT – Revised May, 2018; PLUMSTED TOWNSHIP BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS DISTRICT #1 MEETING MINUTES – June, 2018; PLUMSTED TOWNSHIP MUA MEETING MINUTES – June, 2018

Mayor Trotta asked for any old business from the committee.

Deputy Mayor Sorchik said on page 2 of the Fire Commissioner's minutes, under "LEA Report," it states that Fire Inspector Joe Paolo discussed ongoing issues with the township and that he would like to meet with the township committee. Paolo also said that they are still not getting all of the plans they should be getting for review. Sorchik asked what kind of plans the township submits to the Fire Commission.

Trotta said he thinks Paolo is talking about events. Paolo does not like the fact that the layouts are done several days before the actual event. For example, Peter Ylvisaker does his vendor layout for New Egypt Day a couple of days before the event and then sends a copy to the fire department. Trotta said he is assuming that is what it is about because he knows Paolo was upset about that.

Sorchik wondered if Paolo contacted anyone on the township committee. Trotta said no, the committee has been trying to contact the fire department and have been getting nothing back from them. Trotta said he does not know what is going on there. Sorchik said he will follow up with them. It is difficult to meet with them because of meetings being held on the same night. Sorchik said he will confirm with them.

Trotta said the May 2018 report from the police department was amended to change one of the numbers that was on it.

Sorchik commented on sign boards for the police. Chief Meroney said that one message board is going and they are looking at getting a second one.

Sorchik said he saw a sign about a drill for active shooters. Meroney said that an active shooter drill will be conducted by members of the police department on August 2, 2018 from noon until approximately 8:00 pm in front of the Middle School. Security officers from the school will also be there to meet with police officers. The public will be informed about the drill via Nixle alert.

Marinari asked if there are any grants available for the signage. Meroney said their 966 grant hearing was held last week. They qualified for some traffic cones and barricades and one portable radio. The message board would have taken up all the grant money available to them.

Meroney said they were able to get one message board from Certified Speedometer. It is refurbished with a year warranty. Certified Speedometer provided it at a very good price. The police are looking to get another one from another agency that is willing to transfer it over to them. They just have to make sure it is worth repairing.

Sorchik congratulated them on their grant.

Marinari said that when the county put signs up on Route 539 last summer it slowed some people down on that road. He thinks it is vitally important that the township controls that road. Meroney said they have been moving the sign around town. It was on Evergreen Road.

Marinari said that it would be good to have it every once in a while on the weekend on Route 539.

Trotta said Rockin' Fireworks was held a few weeks ago. All reports were that it was a very good night. He was there all day, as were many others. The township received a lot of compliments. Planning has started for next year.

Sorchik said this was something that was brought up at the last meeting. He asked if the township could put a letter on Facebook and the township's web page thanking the volunteers for their work at the fireworks. Everything was done by volunteers. He said they deserve recognition for coming out and giving up their Saturday to help set up, clean up, etc.

Sorchik asked if he should write a letter. Trotta said that Sorchik could do that and then he would add names. The sponsors and volunteers were going to be invited to the meeting tonight but there was not enough time to invite them, so it will be done at the September 2018 meeting. The township does want to publicly recognize them for their efforts. Not only is it done by volunteers, but no tax dollars are spent. It is all done by donations.

Mayor Trotta asked for any further business from the committee. There was none.

Mayor Trotta asked for public comment. Attorney Kelly read a document outlining the parameters for comments from the public.

Jean Horner, 200 Longswamp Road, New Egypt, New Jersey, spoke about Main Street. She said she does not like what she is seeing. "Her family has been here for nine generations, which has nothing to do with today, but I have always been proud of New Egypt. Right now, it is a disgrace. Planting a few flowers on Main Street does not make a nice Main Street. I am downtown almost every day. I have ten grandchildren. I was here before about the halfway houses, Section 8. I know the people who rent these places are guaranteed their money. The people who are coming in here are not good people. There was a child predator a few hundred feet from the school. What in the hell is this town coming to? There is a city bus that drops off and picks up people every day on Main Street. Have you seen the clientele that comes off that bus? It ain't New Egypt. I talked to one of the cops a few weeks ago because I love this town and asked him what to do. He said to come here and complain. I have done it before. I have a lot of support. They are not here tonight, but there is a lot of support."

Horner continued, "This is a small town. This ain't Trenton. A lot of people know each other and a lot of people are family here. It is an embarrassment. We have a nice winery and then you have people walking up and down Main Street smoking cigarettes 24/7 a day. The guys ain't working. It is disgraceful. Kids are walking from the high school into town. Elementary school kids are walking around, and you have these people walking around. If something happens to one of her grandkids, it will be a sorry day in hell because I will get locked up and be happy. There are kids that like to go fishing at the lake...you know what I am talking about...you have all seen it...I do not know who on the committee lives here in New Egypt ...I do and I see it. I do not like it. The committee can do something about it. Where else is someone supposed to go to make a complaint? I work...my husband works...my grandkids work. I have one working at DeWolf's Farm. My grandkids ain't walking up and down the street all day long. Why in the hell do we have grown people sitting on porches and walking up and down Main Street drinking coffee and smoking cigarettes all day? It is a small street. Allentown does not look like that. Allentown is a one street main street and it looks nice. They put a lot of pride in their town. I do too. There are a lot of people in this town that do. We better start cleaning this town up or we are going to have more (curse) trouble than we know what to do with. We do not have enough cops to handle the clientele that is coming off these buses."

"I will tell you right now...there was one I followed on Main Street...when my grandson was in the Primary School and I was picking him up from the Primary School...there was a bunch of guys...I am not going to mention race or anything like that...they were in the car in front of me. They made a dead stop because there was all these other guys on the streets and they are asking them questions. I was beeping the horn. I almost hit them. They are giving me the finger. I had grandkids in my truck. I do not have to put up with this baloney on Main Street and neither does anybody else. I think we all better start paying attention to what is happening to this town. I love it and I have a lot of family that loves it...and a lot of friends...there has been a lot of talk on Facebook. I do not know if the committee has seen it or read it, but there is. We are not going to come in and raid the committee meeting, but it is a lot of people that's complaining. I am proud and I love New Egypt and I will be damned if I am going to see this town go down

because of a few damn landlords who want to rent to Section 8 and halfway houses. I know we can't prevent it, but I think the committee can do something about it. If not, we will have to find somebody who can do something about it. I have grandkids and they are staying in this town and I do not want them looking at what I'm seeing. That is all I have to say."

Sorchik said he has no idea who gets on and off the buses. Everyone on the committee lives in this town. Horner began to comment. Trotta told her that there can be no back and forth. She has made her statement and must allow Sorchik to talk.

Sorchik does not know who gets off the bus. He does know that the Executive Officer and the Chief of Police are here at the meeting. He asked them if there are consistent complaints. Has this been an issue that the police have had to deal with? Sorchik said he is looking at the police call sheet. It does not give locations. There were 500 calls for service last month; 3 threats and 1 suspicious person.

Meroney said that officers do patrol Main Street. They will take a look at it and see what Ms. Horner is talking about and if there are any violations that the police can take care of.

Marinari said he has talked to the Mayor about it before. He asked Meroney if there is any way to have police on foot during those periods of time when people are getting on or off the bus. Trotta said that the bus goes through town all day long. What he has seen outside of town also, i.e. by the Wawa, the bus just stops wherever. There are no set bus stops. It is constant all day long.

Marinari said he is thinking the time people get on and off the bus is from 6:00 am to 8:00 am. He does not know about the evening. He understands there are not a lot of police to do something like that. Maybe they can come up with a way of having a little more concentration of officers in the area. If someone is on public property and they are not breaking any laws, he does not think the police can say anything about it.

Meroney said if they are waiting for a bus and they are not committing a crime, there is not much that the police can do about it. He said that he and the Lieutenant will look at it and see what can be done. Marinari said maybe we are just talking about a few hours in the morning.

Meroney said he is aware of the two locations that the bus stops on Main Street. It stops at the clock and at the Wawa. They will take a look at it. If there is no crime, there is nothing that can be done. Marinari spoke having the police there as a deterrent. Trotta said maybe make it random like they did with the school buses.

Sorchik said the other thing Ms. Horner brought up was about a child predator. Notifications are regulated by the State if someone has been adjudicated as a child predator. Meroney said there are three tier levels. A person's restriction depends upon their tier level. If they are not supposed to be in a school zone, that is guaranteed by the State. There is an officer who is in charge of Megan's law in the township. He meets with them monthly to make sure they are on track. All of it is regulated by the State. It is approved by the parole board. Everything is through the State. The Megan's Law officer is in contact with the Prosecutor's Office and State Parole Office if someone is not verified. The officer has already charged two or three people for not being registered properly and for being in the wrong place.

Lenny Grilletto, 41C Highbridge Road, New Egypt, NJ, spoke about Ms. Horner's comments about different groups, including those in Section 8 housing. He said not much can be done about Section 8 housing. If they are residents, they are residents. As a realtor, a landlord cannot reject a Section 8 housing rental. Then he said she spoke about "another group that gets off the bus." That is his concern. What are they doing here? Why would you come to New Egypt to go to Wawa? There are other Wawa's. Maybe the police could notice what they are doing. Are they looking to sell drugs there to the kids in schools? That concerns him as to why they are getting off here in New Egypt. There are no bars here. There are no go-go places, no strip joints. That concerns him. Maybe the police could be around in plain clothes to see what is going on. Section 8s are here, they are loitering...you have that and you have halfway houses. Unfortunately, there is very little you can do with that. The police used to handle the Department of Human Services. Why can't the police get some allocation money? People used to be in institutions...but that is another story. He mentioned that to Ron Dancer also. But this other group is a problem that disturbs him...why they are getting off here.

Trotta thanked Mr. Grilletto and said the Chief is going to look into it. Meroney said they will take a look at the bus schedule and see what can be done about it. He said as far as him being in plain clothes, everyone knows him, so it really would not work. Lieutenant Reilly said that what he has observed is that it is a lot of day workers who are being picked up, i.e. landscapers, etc.

Brandy Simmons, 330 Warwick Drive, New Egypt, NJ, said what we are looking for is that this is a communal place that we want to keep communal. In actuality, to say that there is not much that the township can do about it, that is the hardship. The presence needs to be there. She does not necessarily agree with plain clothing. She thinks police should be there in full uniform with a taser and a gun. It is about showing the presence of the community to say we are not going to stand for our community to break down because you get off a bus and come into a place like this and try and mistreat us inappropriately. In actuality, it just needs to be a presence. It does not need to be all of us complaining to you either. It needs to be a communal effort and we need to come up with solution-oriented ideas versus just saying "everybody else has to do something." She is here tonight, left her children at a neighbor's house so she could be here and be a part of the community and say "I will do something." She said, you want me to walk around? I'll put on a shirt that says "I am a trainee." She has seen them do that at high schools before and cities where they have trainees. Trainees are great. We have plenty of kids here who are more than happy to walk around in a shirt that are proud of their community, that would stand up for us and make sure that our community feels safe. So it is not about saying "we want you guys to do something." We are here because we want to do something too. So finding community solution oriented action items, not just saying "do something please."

Meroney said that there is a police and public safety website drop down on the township web page. His email and phone numbers are on there. If you see something like that, let us know. Meroney said the Lieutenant was also talking the other day about starting something like a neighborhood watch. The police are also in the process of hiring a new police officer because we lost one of our officers. Meroney said he hears what she is saying and will take a look at it.

Simmons said that the community is in an uproar. There have been 275 comments on one Facebook post alone. Making something like that well known on that page is where we go. Trotta said the township will not be posting on the happenings page. There is an official Plumsted Township Facebook page. You can look up the Plumsted Township page. Things are put out on that page when there are meetings, etc. The township also has an email alert system. If you go to Plumsted.org, you can sign up for email alerts that will go into your in box. The Chief has other things that he does, i.e. Nixle.

Meroney said Nixle is an alert system on cell phones that the township has through the police department. All you have to do is text your zip code to "888777." It provides traffic alerts, etc. to citizens.

Trotta said that the Chief and the Lieutenant have recently been put into those positions, but they have been running the department since July 2017. He has to say that we have turned around a lot of issues in the last year as far as making things better for them and for the township. These two gentlemen deserve a lot of credit for that. They have really come up with some different ideas and your idea, as you heard, has already been thought of and they are going to be working on it.

Jenny Rich, 200 Longswamp Road, New Egypt, NJ said she has lived here her whole 33 years of life. She loves New Egypt. She teaches in Allentown/Upper Freehold and she talks about people running through fields of flowers. She loves this town. Her husband fell in love with it. She loves the school here. She wants to raise her kids here. She is the youngest of five kids. She was the first one to go to New Egypt. When she was in high school, they would always walk downtown. Go get a bite to eat before the Friday night football game, before practice. They were always downtown on Main Street. You do not see any of that anymore. She has nieces and nephews in the high school and they have said that they are sometimes afraid to walk on Main Street because of the Section 8 housing and some of the clientele that is coming out of there. That really upsets her because it was so great to have such a small town to walk to Main Street, support the businesses there as kids. Come back to have practice, have a game. It is really saddening to her.

Marinari said we are told as a body in the United States, "If you see something, say something." You can tell the caliber of police in the township. These guys are excellent. If you see something...if you see someone get off the bus and they look like they are dealing or doing something that is wrong, call and report it.

Rich said she saw a suspicious person walking on Archertown. Once she got home, she called the police.

Marinari said she is not going to hear any negativity from anyone in the police department or anyone on the committee. If you see something suspicious, make note of it and contact someone. If they are doing something they should not be doing there, then report it. It will not alleviate it because that is the world we live in today and that is what we deal with. If it is reported, it will lessen the extent.

Jody Pittman, 45 Moorehouse Road, New Egypt, NJ asked if dormitories are allowed in the township. Trotta said dormitories are not allowed in Plumsted. They would have to be granted a variance by the Land Use Board. Pittman said he was unsure and wanted clarification.

Trotta asked if there was any other public comment. There was no further public comment.

Mayor Trotta asked if there was any further business. There was none.

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN MARINARI, SECONDED BY DEPUTY MAYOR SORCHIK, THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Witham
Acting Municipal Clerk