

February 6, 2019
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 LOTTITO COMMITTEEMAN JONES COMMITTEEMAN MARINARI
MAYOR TROTTA DAVID LEUTWYLER, CDC ATTORNEY KELLY
MUNICIPAL CLERK WITHAM

Deputy Mayor Sorchik was excused.

Mayor Trotta asked everyone to rise for the flag salute. Pastor Genevieve came forward for the invocation.

Mayor Trotta reviewed the agenda. There is a resignation of a police officer and a swearing in of another police officer. We have some certificates of recognition. There are a few ordinances for introduction. The first is to exceed our cap bank which we do every year. Ordinance No. 2019-02 is being pulled from the agenda. Then we have 2019-03 which is a cleaning up of the positions in our town. It's just to get that started. Then 2019-04 and 2019-05 are both from the Pinelands. Word for word what the Pinelands insists we adopt. Tonight we introduce and then they are sent to the LUB for review. We can then adopt at our next meeting.

Trotta also reviewed the resolutions. They are pretty much our general resolutions. Resolution 2019-116 has to do with helping the school with their funding. They support Assemblyman Dancer, Assemblyman Clifton and Senator Thompson's respective bills. Plumsted isn't listed on that bill; Lotito was unsure why.

Trotta also advised that we are amending the temporary budget, just like every year. We are also doing some transfers of funds. The township hasn't used as much for snowplowing this year. The other items have to do with the Kenyon Drive emergency situation to repair the culvert. We have to declare the emergency and authorize the bids to prepare the road. One entrance to Kenyon is blocked off. There is a safety concern with that; the repairs need to be done. Leutwyler advised the road is barricaded.

Trotta said there is a draft resolution that came in today. In 2016, we supported some land to go into preservation and the county is doing it now. This is the property on 539 near Miner Motors; it's the back end behind the lot and that business. That resolution is also being added on to that. There will be one further resolution but that has to be discussed in the Executive Session.

There was discussion about Good Tree Farm. They paid years ago for a trailer permit but haven't done so in the past few years. The farm was granted an extension. A letter was sent to the committee by Mr. Moharram asking to have the \$400 be waived as there is still no electric or water at the trailer. He is unable to afford utility hookups and is unable to use the trailer as a residence. There is no certificate of occupancy. Riccardi confirmed that he recently had a hookup for electricity. The committee discussed how to handle this as it has been four years or more since he has paid the \$400 fees. Committeeman Marinari said that it is a tough time to be farming but he cannot support another year of waiving the fee. Marinari was hesitant last year to allow it but if Riccardi cannot verify there is a lot of production, then he cannot support it. Committeeman Lotito asked the alternative. It appears that he is unable to have a business there but the township cannot subsidize that. All of the committeeman agreed that farming is not an easy, very profitable business. But the consensus of the committee is to allow him 60 days to pay the \$400 fee. Mayor Trotta asked Witham to send a letter to Good Tree Farm.

Stacy Reed put in an application to close off Main Street to bring back Cruz Nights from May to September, one day per month. Trotta said that we have our sewer contract being awarded and may conflict with it. Peter Ylvisaker felt that the sewers may be done prior to the start of Cruz

Nights. As long as Reed understands that she may have to adjust for that construction. Trotta also brought up the fact that the road will have to be smooth enough; people with valuable antique cars may not want to drive on uneven roads.

Marinari spoke about mercantile licenses that will be about \$150. He asked we put it off until next month as there is a lot to talk about tonight. He hadn't spoken with all of the committee on their thoughts. Committeeman Lotito said one of his concerns is that there are people that work in this town that are not licensed. At the same time, it is hard to get people in to our town. His concern is to create another barrier to people coming in here to work. Marinari said that the license wouldn't be specific to landscapers only. It is for any type of business. If someone comes in to do work at a residence and they get hurt and aren't insured, that is going to be an issue. Committeeman Marinari said that if someone is saving a lot of money by choosing one contractor over another, they may not ask about insurance.

Marinari said that all businesses are being faced with competing with those not fully insured or licensed with the state. Do we try to help that situation by offering a license? Lotito said that if someone isn't insured, what is to say that same person will get a mercantile license. Marinari said that it is a matter of enforcement. There should be identification on the trucks. But if people don't get a commercial license, that would even save that person money. Marinari said perhaps we can look at it when there is more time.

Committeeman Jones asked about what businesses are included. Marinari said that rentals down the shore are becoming an issue and they need licenses as well. Marinari had a whole list of many businesses that would be included. All of these points are well taken. There will be further discussion about this at the March 6th meeting.

Trotta then moved to the budget discussion. CFO Madden gave an amended 2019 Salaries and Wages page. Madden highlighted changes. Amount raised by taxes remains the same; that represents the 2%. Surplus didn't change but local revenues did change. Cannot raise any revenues more than what was brought in 2018. A couple of grants were added. The amount anticipated from the trust fund was changed as well. That's all on the revenues.

Madden discussed salaries and wages had some changes that were highlighted. Police Department had a couple of changes with employee changes and holiday pays. There were some changes to the maintenance department employees. The total will fall in line with the budget.

The budget documents are next. When budget numbers came in, the inside cap has to stay within 2%. By doing the cap ordinance tonight, it allows you to go to 3.5% over what was spent last year inside cap; then there is a bank. Administration salaries and wages were reduced. Police department had a reduction in salaries and wages and holiday pay. Buildings and Grounds was cut \$8,000.

Madden then discussed outside cap and the shared service with the school for courtesy busing. As well as the Recycling Tonnage grant and the Body Armor grant. More money has been budgeted for engineering expenses due to road work. The capital improvement fund was increased for other roads that will need repair in order to cover the down payment for that work.

Madden then discussed Capital budget, \$160,000. She also mentioned the Open Space trust fund. There was also some discussion with the committee about public grounds maintenance. Madden also distributed a worksheet on the new \$15/hour minimum wage that will be going in to effect. The program is a step up from \$10/hr this year in July to \$11/hr next year until they get to \$15/hr in the year 2024. Mayor Trotta pointed out that we are fine for the next two years but then the following year we will have to increase from 2021 and on to keep up with the minimum wage for employees.

Madden brought up some budget challenges in the future. The inside cap amount and the appropriation bank. Some of that was used this year. The biggest challenge is that there are three employees that are getting married this year or having a child. That's a \$20,000 increase per employee if they opt for our insurance, potentially \$60,000. There are two with salary agreements that are over 2% and there are the steps in the police salaries. The good news is that the average home assessment is \$281,500 so the dollar increase on an average home is about \$24/year – just for the municipal. There were no questions from the committee.

Attorney Kelly read Resolution No. 2019-106 for Executive Session. The following matters will be discussed: personnel matters - a general maintenance laborer and under potential litigation, Hopkins Road.

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN MARINARI, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN JONES, RESOLUTION NO. 2019-106, AUTHORIZING THE CONVENING OF AN EXECUTIVE SESSION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT WAS ADOPTED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

The Committee returned from Executive session. They will be going into Executive again later.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Mayor Trotta read Jonathan Steinhauer's letter of resignation. Steinhauer has joined the NJ State Police Academy.

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

PRESENTATIONS:

The first presentation is to Mary Tedesco, a Girl Scout. Mary and her mom Deanna came forward to accept her Certificate of Appreciation for helping with the Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony on 12/1/18. Mary said that she sang at the Tree Lighting and she met Santa.

Certificates of Recognition for Mary Dancer and Elizabeth Dancer were mentioned but they were not in attendance.

The next presentation was a Certificate of Appointment for Michael Moeller.

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN MARINARI, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN JONES, RESOLUTION NO. 2019-117 - AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF MICHAEL MOELLER AS A PROBATIONARY (FULL-TIME) REGULAR POLICE OFFICER FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMSTED WAS APPROVED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

Moeller came forward with his parents. Assemblyman Dancer came forward to administer the oath of office. Moeller thanked his parents; his brother is overseas. He appreciated all of the support from his friends. He is happy to be here. Moeller's father said that he worked so long and hard for this; they congratulated him and are proud of him. Chief Meroney said that Mike has done an excellent job so far and the department is glad to have him on board.

The final presentation was to recognize former Municipal Clerk Dorothy J. Hendrickson. Trotta read a Proclamation for Hendrickson. Ron Dancer came forward and presented a resolution from the NJ State Senate and State Assembly. Dancer said that there is a joint resolution where 120 members came together. It is rare that they unanimously come together and agree but they did to commend and congratulate Dorothy for her years of service. Dancer spoke about their history and said that the best decision he made as a Mayor and the Township Committee was to hire Mrs. Hendrickson. Hendrickson then spoke about when she joined the township and has enjoyed all of her years. She thanked the current and past committees and friends she has made. Hendrickson introduced her family that all live in Plumsted. Dancer said that they went all through school together from the time they were young. Dancer went on to Peddie for high school and when he was leaving, Hendrickson started working at Peddie. Trotta mentioned that Hendrickson has agreed to be on the Fireworks Committee so she will still be part of the Township. Trotta said we would break for recess and go in to the lobby to see the sign dedicating the administrative wing of the building to her.

The committee returned from recess.

ORDINANCES: Introduction

Trotta said that this is to establish a cap bank and is done every year.

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN MARINARI, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN JONES, ORDINANCE NO. 2019-01 - AN ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14) WAS INTRODUCED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

The second reading and public hearing is scheduled for the meeting of March 6, 2019.

Trotta advised that we are just cleaning up this ordinance with positions within the Township.

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN MARINARI, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN JONES, ORDINANCE NO. 2019-03 – AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 40 OF THE GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMSTED ENTITLED “OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES” WAS INTRODUCED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

The second reading and public hearing is scheduled for the meeting of March 6, 2019.

Trotta advised the next two ordinances are word-for-word what the Pinelands wants us to add to the code book. If this is introduced tonight, it will be given to the LUB for review.

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN MARINARI, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN JONES, ORDINANCE NO. 2019-04 – AMENDING CHAPTER 14, LAND DEVELOPMENT, OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMSTED, COUNTY OF OCEAN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY WAS INTRODUCED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

The second reading and public hearing is scheduled for the meeting of March 6, 2019.

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN JONES, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN MARINARI, ORDINANCE NO. 2019-05 – AMENDING CHAPTER 15, ZONING, OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMSTED, COUNTY OF OCEAN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY WAS INTRODUCED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

The second reading and public hearing is scheduled for the meeting of March 6, 2019.

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. 2019-107 – AUTHORIZING THE REFUND OF A PLANNING/LAND USE BOARD BOND REFUND TO ADAM HENDRICKSON (BLOCK 55, LOT 181.04)

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-108 – ACCEPTING THE 2019 SAFE AND SECURE COMMUNITIES GRANT #19-1523 ADMINISTERED BY THE DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE, DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-109- ACKNOWLEDGING THE RETIREMENT OF TOWNSHIP ENGINEER JOHN J. MALLON

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-110 – AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF CHECKS FOR THE REDEMPTION OF TAX SALE CERTIFICATES

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-111 – AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMSTED AND EASTERN ARMORED CAR SERVICE

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-112 - AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 2019-70 DESIGNATING CUSTODIANS OF CHANGE FUNDS FOR VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-113 – AUTHORIZING PAYMENT FOR 2018 UNUSED SICK LEAVE

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-114 – AUTHORIZING THE EXCHANGE OF CONSTRUCTION CODE SERVICES

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-115 – AUTHORIZING PAYMENT TO HAINES TOWING FOR TOWING SERVICES FOR AN ABANDONED VEHICLE

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-116 – SUPPORTING SENATE BILL NO. 2825 (SPONSORED BY SENATOR SAMUEL D. THOMPSON, DISTRICT 12) AND ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 4245 (SPONSORED BY ASSEMBLYMAN RONALD S. DANCER AND ASSEMBLYMAN ROBERT D.

CLIFTON, DISTRICT 12)

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-120 – AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP CLERK TO ADVERTISE FOR THE RECEIPT OF BIDS FOR THE NJDOT FY2018 MUNICIPAL AID GRANT ROAD PROGRAM FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO IVINS DRIVE

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-121 - AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF UNUSED VACATION FOR JONATHAN STEINHAUER

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN MARINARI, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN JONES, THE AFOREMENTIONED RESOLUTIONS 2019-107 THROUGH 2019-121 ON PAGE 4 AND 5 OF THE CONSENT AGENDA WERE ADOPTED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

NON-CONSENT AGENDA:

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN MARINARI, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN JONES, RESOLUTION NO. 2019-118 - AMENDING THE TEMPORARY BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 2019 WAS APPROVED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN MARINARI, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN JONES, RESOLUTION NO. 2019-119 – AUTHORIZING A TRANSFER OF APPROPRIATIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF N.J.S.A.40A:4-59 WAS APPROVED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN MARINARI, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN JONES, RESOLUTION NO. 2019-122 - AUTHORIZING DEWBERRY ENGINEERS INC. AS TOWNSHIP ENGINEER TO MANAGE, ENGINEER AND OVERSEE ALL ASPECTS OF THE CONTRACT FOR THE EMERGENT REPAIR OF THE KENYON DRIVE CULVERT PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:11-6 WAS APPROVED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

Mayor Trotta read the title of the resolution regarding the contract for Kenyon Drive. Committeeman Lotito noticed the huge discrepancy between bids. He asked that our engineer, Walt Bronson from Dewberry came forward. Bronson explained the bids that were submitted. Two of the bids were very high; the third is in line with the engineer's estimate for the project. Bronson assumes that the two highest bidders were probably because they have other projects that would be delayed and they may have additional costs due to the time frame. Bronson said that they talked to Moslowski about the bid; there is no concern that he wouldn't be able to complete the project. Moslowski has done work in other municipalities and for this municipality. This bid is in line with Dewberry's estimate. Lotito thanked him for his response. Committeeman Jones asked about a time frame. Bronson said that it will take three weeks to get the material to do the work and then it should take about three weeks to do the work; weather permitting. Bronson hopes the road will be open in six to seven weeks. It wouldn't have the final asphalt paving until the asphalt plants are open. There should be activity there in the next few weeks. Trotta stated that we have used Moslowski a number of times and is pleased with their work.

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN JONES, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN LOTITO, RESOLUTION NO. 2019-123 - AUTHORIZING THE CONTRACT FOR THE EMERGENT REPAIR OF THE KENYON DRIVE CULVERT PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:11-6 WAS APPROVED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

ADD ON RESOLUTIONS:

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN MARINARI, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN JONES, RESOLUTION NO. 2019-124 – AUTHORIZING DAVID J. LEUTWYLER, GENERAL MAINTENANCE WORKING SUPERVISOR TO PROVISIONALLY APPOINT A PART-TIME GENERAL MAINTENANCE LABORER WAS APPROVED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN MARINARI, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN JONES, RESOLUTION NO. 2019-125 – AUTHORIZING MUNICIPAL ENDORSEMENT FOR THE OCEAN COUNTY NATURAL LANDS PRESERVATION PROGRAM WAS APPROVED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

MOTION TO CONSIDER:

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN MARINARI, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN JONES, THE FOLLOWING RAFFLES AND BINGO LICENSES WERE APPROVED: RAFFLES LICENSE NO. 2019-04 – ON-PREMISE MERCHANDISE RAFFLE 3/1/19 FOR NEW EGYPT POP WARNER FOOTBALL DANCE & CHEER; RAFFLES LICENSE NO. 2019-05 – OFF-PREMISE 50/50 5/4/19 FOR RARITAN BAY MEDICAL CENTER FOUNDATION; RAFFLES LICENSE NO. 2019-06 – OFF-PREMISE 50/50 BEEF & BEER 6/22/19 FOR NEW EGYPT BPO ELKS #2457; BINGO LICENSE NO. 2019-07 - 4/27/19 FOR MARTY'S PLACE SENIOR DOG SANCTUARY; RAFFLES LICENSE NO. 2019-08 – ON-PREMISE 50/50 4/27/19 FOR MARTY'S PLACE SENIOR DOG SANCTUARY; RAFFLES LICENSE NO. 2019-09 – TRICKY TRAY BASKET RAFFLE 4/27/19 FOR MARTY'S PLACE SENIOR DOG SANCTUARY; RAFFLES LICENSE NO. 2019-10 – OFF-PREMISE MERCHANDISE RAFFLE 3/22/19 FOR NEW EGYPT BPO ELKS #2457; RAFFLES LICENSE NO. 2019-11 – OFF-PREMISE MERCHANDISE RAFFLE 5/19/19 FOR MCKAIG TEST MULLEN AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY UNIT 455. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

REPORTS OF DEPARTMENTS AND PROFESSIONALS:

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN JONES, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN MARINARI, THE BILL LIST OF FEBRUARY 6, 2019 WAS APPROVED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

REPORTS SUBMITTED FOR COMMITTEE REVIEW: CONSTRUCTION REPORT – December 2018 and January 2019; TAX COLLECTOR REPORT – November 2018 and December 2018; FINANCIAL REPORTS – 2018 Annual Debt Statement, Revenue Summary by Month- December 2018; Abbreviated Summary Budget Account Status – December 2018; POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT – December 2018 and 2018 Annual Statistics; PLUMSTED TOWNSHIP BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS DISTRICT #1 MEETING MINUTES – December 3, 2018 and STATISTICS REPORT December 2018.

Mayor Trotta asked for any old business from the committee; there was none.

Mayor Trotta asked for any new business from the committee. Committeeman Lotito was asking about the letter received from Barbara Diblin. He was a little surprised about the issue with prayer coordination. Lotito wasn't aware there were any issues and that the committee may have made some decisions about prayer coordination. Lotito is asking what transpired with the invocation.

Committeeman Jones felt that prayer during the meetings is ok either way. He has no objection. Lotito said that it isn't a matter of having it or not; it is a matter of the coordination. Mayor Trotta agreed, there is no desire to terminate prayer. Committeeman Marinari said that Ms. Diblin has been good enough to volunteer for a number of years. There hasn't ever been a written rule for coordinating prayer from the township. Marinari didn't think there was a template in the past. Marinari knows that someone from the Presbyterian Church offered to help with this. Marinari is ok with a pastor coming to do the invocation or a moment of silence. Perhaps in the winter there could be two people in the event someone cannot attend due to the weather. If someone couldn't be at the meeting, there could be a moment of silence. The issue now is there is no protocol set. Marinari feels having two coordinators might work well as they may know different people. His understanding is that the township was going to talk to Ms. Diblin; he didn't know if that happened. The BA was going to facilitate a meeting but that hasn't happened just yet. Marinari said that a meeting may have resolved all of this.

Mayor Trotta said that when prayer was started several years ago, some thought that the Clerk Hendrickson or Leutwyler would coordinate prayer but they don't have time for that with their other responsibilities. And no one on the committee offered to do it. Trotta asked Leutwyler to contact Diblin to handle it. The township is grateful she did it. Trotta said there were many complaints about this coordination from one person. There appears to be a friction between the two of them. Trotta said that if there was a problem, prayer may have to be eliminated from their discussions initially with the attorney. Trotta said that since there were issues, he made a decision to change coordinators to another person. Leutwyler and Reilly-Privett met with the new person and hoped that any frictions go away and that prayer may continue without problems since the township feels it is a successful program. Trotta asked Leutwyler to contact Diblin to advise that a change was made. Trotta personally selected Ms. Diblin to start coordinating prayer; it was not a decision by the committee. Trotta was thankful for Ms. Diblin. But because of some issues, a change has been made. Again, Trotta said that he selected Diblin

and he was the one that selected someone new now. When Trotta met with Diblin recently, she agreed to assist the new coordinator in any way.

Committeeman Lotito said that he wasn't aware of any issues and then when Ms. Diblin approached him, he didn't know anything about it. Lotito thought the goal in the beginning was to have a resolution at that time to list the rules. Lotito thought a chaplain was going to be appointed but that didn't happen. Diblin didn't step into that job at the time. Trotta told Lotito that Diblin was asked initially.

Lotito felt that during meetings, we pass many resolutions. Trotta said that a resolution was not done at that time. If the committee would like to do a resolution for this, then that could be done. Lotito felt it would eliminate any problems like this. He would like to see a chaplain appointed. Trotta said a coordinator could be appointed and an assistant to the coordinator. Trotta said the resolution could be done at the next meeting. Trotta said that Murray is the new coordinator and Diblin could be the assistant.

Lotito still has an issue that Diblin was removed. He said that it is hard to find volunteers. Trotta asked Leutwyler if Diblin was made aware of any issues. Leutwyler said that he did talk to her very recently in December regarding a person that did the invocation that was not a pastor.

Lotito feels that the committee has to be careful about how they handle prayer at the township. A resolution would eliminate problems. Trotta agreed but said at the time, the committee did not want to do a resolution. Attorney Kelly said that this goes back to 2015 and the committee didn't want to do a resolution. Kelly said that a letter was going to be sent to all of the local congregations and ask if they would like to participate. At the time, it was necessary to have that coordinated, not someone from the township. Nothing was done in writing at that time; it was an informal process.

Mayor Trotta said that the one thing that was specified was that it had to be a member of clergy. Committeeman Marinari asked if the military base may have a chaplain that could help. Lotito would rather have a local chaplain. Lotito said that we don't want to burn any volunteers. It's important to communicate with them if there was a problem. Lotito doesn't feel it's fair to not talk to them about any issues and just remove them. Diblin is a volunteer and should be recognized for her help.

Trotta said that he is ok with a resolution with the basic rules of coordinating prayer. Kelly will work on that. Committeeman Marinari asked if he were to take on this task and coordinate rules and the process, would Diblin be willing to work with him. Diblin would be happy to work with Marinari and Lotito would be happy to support him with that. Marinari said there needs to be a boiler plate to work with.

There was no other business from the committee.

Trotta said that Leutwyler handed out information about an Eagle Scout project involving a sign and information about fishing. Marinari would like to see more detail as to what the sign has. Would there be a cover to prevent graffiti, etc? Leutwyler said that he will get more information.

Trotta announced that on February 28th, The Bank of Princeton will be having a ribbon cutting at 5:30. The building will be closed on Monday, February 18th for President's Day. There is a new bakery in town as well. Lotito said that Trotta is a very good baker.

No other business from the committee.

Trotta opened up the meeting for public comment. Barbara Diblin came forward. Diblin has enjoyed volunteering for this job and was happy that Mayor Trotta thought of her. Diblin hadn't gotten any complaints except one person through the committee. She believes she met any complaints that were given to her. She didn't understand why she is being replaced. Diblin never had any other complaints from any other pastors. Diblin recalled John Francis is ordained. Pastor Cuozzo could speak to that. Diblin prayed one time and that was the first time she was told it had to be a clergy member. She is a deaconess in her church but she found out at that time about being ordained so she understood that for future.

Diblin said there was never any real protocol or a resolution. Diblin said it only takes one person to coordinate. She has a list of pastors and rotates them so everyone gets the same amount of time. Each pastor had two meetings. Diblin was sick at the time when Leutwyler

asked her for a meeting so it didn't happen. Diblin first agreed at the library to work with the other person but Diblin just didn't feel good about her discussion with the Mayor so she wanted due process and just an understanding of what transpired since she didn't know what she did wrong. Diblin likes to clear the air and know what is going on and she is happy to work with Committeeman Marinari on any issues. Diblin feels that the people of the town all want prayer; especially in light of what is happening in our country.

Committeeman Marinari asked for a moment of silence at the March meeting while this gets resolved. The committee agreed. He will work with Diblin to get it worked out.

Pastor Cuzzo came forward. He had a question as to who is Ronnie Murray. Mayor Trotta said that he knows her; she was selected to be the new coordinator. Cuzzo asked if she was a resident. Trotta said that just as he asked Diblin to be the coordinator, he asked Murray to be the coordinator now. Cuzzo asked Leutwyler when Diblin was advised she would not be the coordinator any longer. Leutwyler didn't recall the exact date. Cuzzo wanted to state that Diblin has done a very good job. He also said that Francis is an ordained pastor. Diblin was very clear with Cuzzo that the person doing the invocation must be ordained. Cuzzo wanted to be a vocal supporter, just as he is a vocal supporter of the committee. He said that they pray for the committee and the town often. Cuzzo said that he was not yet contacted by Murray and was afraid that he was overlooked. Trotta confirmed that he wasn't overlooked; Murray was not going to start just yet as Diblin had meetings scheduled through February. Cuzzo is happy to work with Marinari. Cuzzo thanked the committee for answering his questions.

Trotta asked about how the new church building is going. Cuzzo said that it has been a lot more money than originally anticipated. They have their site plans now. They secured their bonding for permits. As far as funding, they put \$500,000 into the project and local contractors have put \$560,000 into it as well. Over a million in this project. Building will start this year. Glen Goebel of Compass Construction is the supervising contractor but he believes it could be done as soon as six months but he is saying ten months. It is an exciting time. Everyone in the township has been wonderful. Cuzzo again was so excited about the support of the contractors. He said they presented plaques to all that contributed.

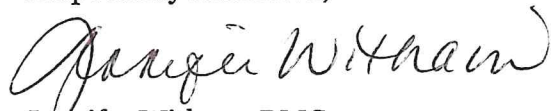
Trotta asked for any further public comment; there was none.

Trotta said that they would recess for an additional Executive session. Trotta doesn't anticipate any further action but it is always a possibility.

The committee returned from Executive; nothing further to be done.

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

Respectfully submitted,



Jennifer Witham, RMC
Municipal Clerk