

June 3, 2015
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 LOTITO	COMMITTEEMAN WYSONG	COMMITTEEMAN MARINARI
DEPUTY MAYOR SORCHIK	MAYOR TROTTA	ADMINISTRATOR DANCER
CLERK HENDRICKSON	ATTORNEY KELLY	DAVID LEUTWYLER, CDC

Mayor Trotta asked for a moment of silence.

Mayor Trotta reviewed the agenda. He said there would be a couple of draft resolutions added to the agenda; one is to extend the Court in Lakehurst. Administrator Dancer said it was suggested that the amended agreement between the Township of Plumsted and the Borough of Lakehurst be extended through the court date as determined and scheduled by Judge Murray. He noted that Judge Murray may not have a court session July 1 and may schedule it towards the middle to the latter part of July, which would be Resolution No. 2015-191.

Trotta said there was a draft resolution which would be discussed during Executive Session regarding vacation pay and two draft resolutions supporting Assemblyman Dancer's Assembly Bills. Resolution No. 2015-193 was in support of Assembly Bill 4501, which would require BPU to allow public comment at public meetings, establish requirements for public meetings concerning installation of Natural Gas Conductors and Related Facilities. Resolution No. 2015-192 was in support of Assembly Bill 4503, which would prohibit the placement of certain Intrastate Natural Gas Pipelines with 100 feet of buildings, which Mayor Trotta said this was currently a regulation of the BPU but it was not a law. He explained this could be waived but when it becomes law, it would be harder to make the change. Resolution No. 2015-182, which is already on the agenda, was in support of Assembly Bill 4455, which would require gas companies to use existing right-of-ways when constructing new transmission lines where practicable and to seek consent of municipalities prior to initiating certain projects.

Committeeman Lotito asked Assemblyman Dancer how the Township benefits from these resolutions. Dancer explained that the advantage of having municipalities do a resolution of support is that there is a greater likelihood that would build support across the State when municipalities and local government officials deem it important and appropriate for public comment on the installation of gas lines that have not previously been approved for a municipality. They want the public to be able to ask questions of the BPU Officials and the BPU, itself is not subject to the open public meetings act. They are not required or allow public comment, you can go to the meeting but cannot ask any questions or give comments. He said he felt that the BPU should be subject to the Open Public Meetings Act requirements for public comment.

Dancer said with respect to installing a natural gas line with a pounds per square inch pressure of greater than 250, which is generally a transmission line, not a service line, there is a present regulation for public safety that they locate a proposed pipeline no closer than 100 feet from any building with a certificate of occupancy. However, because it's a regulation, there is a catchall in the regulation that says, in the event the applicant or utility desires to reply for relief of any of the aforementioned regulations, they may go to the BPU and make a request or waiver. When you codify a regulation and put it in the Statute, put into Law they can't get a waiver on the 100 foot if it is in the Law, it would have to be located outside of the 100 feet for public safety. Dancer noted that it was just codifying their own public safety regulations and we know that there were areas where this is proposed that are under the 100 feet and, for public safety, the BPU should be granting waivers for that. These bills are for public safety, transparency, accountability and public participation in the process perspective.

Committeeman Lotito asked about the timeline on these bills. Dancer said they were introduced in the Legislature and depending on how it goes in the month of June, whether they are fast-tracked or put on the back track, will be determined because of the summer recess. He said there was some hope because there was also talk about calling about a special session prior to September. Otherwise it would be in the Fall. He noted that construction was estimated in the latter part of the year if it were to be approved, but that was subject to a process and these bills could have some bearing on that.

Committeeman Wysong said regarding Bill No. 4455, what determines where practical and how much teeth the Bill will really have. Dancer said that utilities are necessary and essential and the bill is saying that to the maximum extent, a utility would have to demonstrate to the BPU that it has performed its due diligence to co-locate utilities within existing right-of-way corridors. He explained that there was a Jersey Central Power & Light transmission line and there were a lot of other existing utility corridors around our State. Rather than just carving municipalities up with more and more utilities, you must perform your due diligence and demonstrate to the BPU you have examined and exhausted all possible alternatives coming into a community going through their residential section, disrupting school bus routes, etc. The onus would be on them to demonstrate to the BPU that there was no other alternative.

Mayor Trotta said the next item for discussion was Assembly Bill 4235 regarding Transparency Tax of 2015, which permits municipalities to issue two separate property tax bills for taxpayers, as far as fire districts, schools districts and county governments to share in the burden of property tax assessment refunds. Mayor Trotta said he checked with the Tax Collector who felt it was important that all entities share in the tax appeal refund burden but did not believe that a bill written is the easiest way to accomplish this task. She also said there would be extra expenses for paper, printing and postage. She felt two bills was not the way to do this as it is too much extra cost to the Township and in her opinion, the Committee should not endorse the bill.

Committeeman Marinari said there may be another way this could be done where there could be public input rather than government. Committeeman Lotito said in terms of the requirements of reporting, why is it submitted by mail rather than done on line, which Mayor Trotta noted that not everyone has access to on line. Committeeman Lotito asked if there was an exact determination of the additional cost, which he was told no. He continued by saying there was software to make it more efficient and do something on a single sheet of paper. He felt that was a big benefit because of what this Township has been through with tax appeals and how we had to go into debt to cover those shortfalls. He felt something needed to be done, this may not be the perfect solution, but he felt there was more of a benefit in terms of mitigating some other portions. He said what does it cost the taxpayer in terms of interest and bonds and loans compared to what it would cost for paper, printing and postage.

Administrator Dancer said that every bill that was introduced in the Legislature goes to a Committee Room which is the first step. There is a requirement for every bill for a fiscal note and it will be evaluated as to what the potential cost would be. He continued by saying at the time it would be posted for the Committee Hearing there would be a fiscal note that would shed light on the practicality from a financial perspective about the merits of the bill. Dancer noted that this bill had not been introduced or posted yet.

After further discussion, the Committee felt there was not enough information and decided to pull Resolution No. 2015-186 from the agenda and revisit it at a later date.

Committeeman Wysong questioned whether a resident could receive their tax bill on line. Mayor Trotta said the Tax Collector was looking into something where the bills would be available on line, but didn't know if that would serve as the only bill or it would be to only look at it. This would be checked into.

Mayor Trotta asked if there was anything else for the workshop portion of the meeting. There was none.

Attorney Kelly read Resolution No. 2015-162 for Executive Session.

ON MOTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR SORCHIK, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN MARINARI, RESOLUTION NO. 2015-162, A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMSTED, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE CONVENING OF AN EXECUTIVE SESSION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT WAS ADOPTED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

Mayor Trotta called the Regular Session of the meeting to order with the Flag Salute and introduced the professionals at the dais.

MINUTES:

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN MARINARI, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN WYSONG, THE WORKSHOP/REGULAR/EXECUTIVE SESSION MEETING OF MARCH 4, 2015 WAS APPROVED AS SUBMITTED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES WITH DEPUTY MAYOR SORCHIK ABSTAINING

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN MARINARI, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN WYSONG, THE SPECIAL SESSION MEETING OF MARCH 16, 2015 WAS APPROVED AS SUBMITTED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES WITH COMMITTEEMAN LOTITO ABSTAINING

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN MARINARI, SECONDED BY DEPUTY MAYOR SORCHIK, THE SPECIAL SESSION MEETING OF MARCH 23, 2015 WAS APPROVED AS SUBMITTED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES WITH COMMITTEEMAN LOTITO ABSTAINING

CORRESPONDENCE:

Mayor Trotta said the Committee received an email from resident Luisa Eric-Carr asking if the Fire District began their balance billing for out of town residents they provide service to. He said to his knowledge, they have started that balanced billing process. He did not know how much has been collected but it was being done. They have changed billing companies and are now proceeding with an accreditation process.

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-185 – ADOPTION OF THE 2015 MUNICIPAL BUDGET (Public Hearing was conducted and closed at the regular meeting of the Township Committee on May 6, 2015)

Mayor Trotta said at that time, the Committee had decided to hold off on adopting the budget because our CFO was out of town. They wanted to find out if State is in court with the pension payments they have to make and the fear was that if the court said they had to make those higher pension payments, the municipal aid would be cut and this would cause a problem with our budget. He noted that if the Supreme Court said the State Government must contribute more to pensions then we would be able to look at both sides of our budget and make adjustments as necessary. This will enable the Township to approve the budget at this meeting.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE, OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMSTED, COUNTY OF OCEAN, THAT THE BUDGET HEREIN BEFORE SET FORTH IS HEREBY ADOPTED AND SHALL CONSTITUTE AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE PURPOSES OF SUMS THEREIN AS SET FORTH AS APPROPRIATIONS AN AUTHORIZATION OF THE AMOUNT OF \$1,890,870.29 FOR MUNICIPAL PURPOSES AND \$156,672.59 FOR OPEN SPACE, RECREATION, FARMLAND AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION TRUST FUND MONEY.

ON MOTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR SORCHIK, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN MARINARI, RESOLUTION NO. 2015, A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMSTED, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, ADOPTING THE 2015 MUNICIPAL BUDGET. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES

ORDINANCE: Second Reading and Public Hearing

Mayor Trotta opened the public hearing for Ordinance No. 2015-05 which was an ordinance to establish salaries. He explained that there was one salary item with a slight change, which was the Tax Collector high number changed from \$36.91 to reflect what the Township was actually paying. He asked for public comment. There was no public comment.

ON MOTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR SORCHIK, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN MARINARI, THE PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCE NO. 2015-05, 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 CLOSED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN WYSONG, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN MARINARI, ORDINANCE NO. 2015-05 WAS ADOPTED ON SECOND AND FINAL READING. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

ORDINANCE: Introduction

Mayor Trotta said Ordinance No. 2015-06 was added to the agenda. The ordinance would provide for various Capital Improvements and other related expenses and appropriates \$1,500,000 in bonds or notes of the Township of Plumsted to finance same.

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN WYSONG, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN MARINARI, ORDINANCE 2015-06, AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMSTED, COUNTY OF OCEAN, NEW JERSEY, PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS AND OTHER RELATED EXPENSES IN AND FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMSTED AND

APPROPRIATING \$1,500,000 THEREFOR, AND PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF \$1,500,000 IN BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMSTED TO FINANCE THE SAME WAS INTRODUCED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES

Mayor Trotta said the second reading and public hearing will be scheduled at the next regularly scheduled Township Committee Meeting on July 1, 2015, but noted that there may be a slight change in the date.

Administrator Dancer wanted it noted that there was a Supplemental Debt Statement on file with the Municipal Clerk.

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. 2015-163 – AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND TOWNSHIP CLERK TO SUBMIT AND EXECUTE AN APPLICATION FOR PERMIT OF PUBLIC FIREWORKS DISPLAY TO THE PLUMSTED TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT #1 – OFFICE OF THE FIRE MARSHAL (PAID FOR BY PRIVATE DONATIONS)

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-164 – AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A PURCHASE ORDER TO PAY PYROTECNICO AS TOWNSHIP PYROTECHNICS EXHIBITOR FOR THE JULY 4TH CELEBRATION, PAID FOR THROUGH CONTRIBUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-165 – APPROVING THE PUBLIC DISPLAY OF FIREWORKS AT THE NEW EGYPT SPEEDWAY

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-166 – AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND TOWNSHIP CLERK TO EXECUTE THE AGREEMENT FOR THE 2015 ROCKIN' FIREWORKS BANNER

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-167 – APPROVING THE UTILIZATION OF UNUSED VACATION TIME FOR JASON P. REILLY

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-168 – AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 2015-84 REAPPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE PLANNING/LAND USE BOARD OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMSTED

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-169 – AUTHORIZING THE RENEWAL OF A CONTRACT WITH AETNA FOR EMPLOYEE DENTAL COVERAGE IN 2015 FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMSTED

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-170 – PROVIDING FOR A DEDICATION BY RIDER WITH PRIOR APPROVAL FROM THE DIRECTOR OF THE DIVISION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES (JULY 4TH CELEBRATION)

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-171 – ACCEPTING THE TAX COLLECTOR'S STATEMENT OF UNCOLLECTABLE TAXES FOR THE 2015 TAX YEAR PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 54:4-91.1

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-172 – AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF AN APPLICATION FOR STATE AID TO MUNICIPALITIES UNDER THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION STATE AID TO MUNICIPALITIES (DISCRETIONARY AID)

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-173 – AUTHORIZING MUNICIPAL ENDORSEMENT FOR THE OCEAN COUNTY NATURAL LANDS PRESERVATION PROGRAM

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-174 – TO AMEND RESOLUTION NO. 2015-16 AUTHORIZING THE LIST OF AUTHORIZED SIGNATURES FOR PLUMSTED TOWNSHIP CHECKS

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-175 – DESIGNATING CUSTODIANS OF CHANGE FUNDS FOR VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-176 – AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDER #1 TO AN AWARDED CONTRACT TO RUSLING PAVING & CONCRETE, LLC FOR THE OCEAN COUNTY CDBG GRANT PROJECT FY2014-CT-1524-14

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-177 – AUTHORIZING THE REFUND OF PLANNING/LAND USE BOARD ESCROW BALANCE TO OLIVE R. GRANT, BLOCK 54, LOTS 7.01 AND 8.01

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-178 – AUTHORIZING THE REFUND OF PLANNING/LAND USE BOARD ESCROW BALANCE TO LEONARD AND FRANCES GRILLETTO, BLOCK 73, LOT 11.01

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-179 – AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF CHECKS FOR THE REDEMPTION OF TAX SALE CERTIFICATES

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-180 – AUTHORIZING THE MUNICIPAL TAX COLLECTOR TO PREPARE AND MAIL ESTIMATED TAX BILLS IN ACCORDANCE WITH P.L. 1994, C.72

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-181 – AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN THE RENEWAL AGREEMENT IN REGARD TO BLOCK 40, LOT 10

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-182 – SUPPORTING ASSEMBLY BILL 4455 REQUIRING GAS COMPANIES TO USE EXISTING RIGHT-OF-WAYS WHEN CONSTRUCTING NEW TRANSMISSION LINES WHERE PRACTICABLE AND TO SEEK CONSENT OF MUNICIPALITIES PRIOR TO INITIATING CERTAIN PROJECTS (Sponsored by Assemblyman Ronald S. Dancer, District 12)

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-183 – AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT BETWEEN CODA PRODUCTIONS AND PLUMSTED TOWNSHIP FOR THE JULY 4TH CELEBRATION, PAID FOR THROUGH CONTRIBUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-184 – AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT INTERLOCAL SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH PLUMSTED TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS FOR THE PERIOD OF JULY 1, 2015 – JUNE 30, 2016

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-187 – REQUESTING APPROVAL FOR THE INSERTION OF A SPECIAL ITEM OF REVENUE AND APPROPRIATION PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A.40A:4-87 (OCEAN COUNTY DEPT OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS – TOURISM GRANT)

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-188 – AUTHORIZING AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2015 BUDGET TO ALLOW FOR THE CHANGE IN TEXT OR TITLE PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A.40A:4-85 (OCEAN COUNTY DEPT. OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS – TOURISM)

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-189 – REQUESTING APPROVAL FOR THE INSERTION OF A SPECIAL ITEM OF REVENUE AND APPROPRIATION PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A.40A:4-87 (OCEAN COUNTY RECYCLING REVENUE SHARING PROGRAM GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,307.62)

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-190 – REQUESTING APPROVAL FOR THE INSERTION OF A SPECIAL ITEM OF REVENUE AND APPROPRIATION PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A.40A:4-87 (OCEAN COUNTY JOINT INSURANCE FUND SAFETY GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$250.00)

THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS WERE VOTED ON SEPARATELY BY ONE MOTION.

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-191 – EXTENDING THE SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH THE BOROUGH OF LAKEHURST TO PROVIDE MUNICIPAL COURT SERVICES

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-192 – SUPPORTING ASSEMBLY BILL 4503 WHICH PROHIBITS THE PLACEMENT OF CERTAIN INTRASTATE NATURAL GAS PIPELINES WITHIN 100 FEET OF BUILDINGS (Sponsored by Assemblyman Ronald S. Dancer, District 12)

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-193 – SUPPORTING ASSEMBLY BILL 4501 WHICH REQUIRES BPU TO ALLOW PUBLIC COMMENT AT PUBLIC MEETINGS, ESTABLISH REQUIREMENTS FOR PUBLIC MEETINGS CONCERNING INSTALLATION OF NATURAL GAS CONDUCTORS AND RELATED FACILITIES (Sponsored by Assemblyman Ronald S. Dancer, District 12)

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-194 – AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF VACATION TIME PURSUANT TO THE PERSONNEL POLICY ORDINANCE

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN MARINARI, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN LOTITO, THE AFOREMENTIONED RESOLUTIONS READ BY TITLE ON THE CONSENT AGENDA WERE ADOPTED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES

MOTION TO CONSIDER:

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN MARINARI, SECONDED BY DEPUTY MAYOR SORCHIK, THE FOLLOWING BINGO AND RAFFLES WERE APPROVED: RAFFLES LICENSE NO. 2015-20 FOR AN ON PREMISE GIFT AUCTION FOR AMERICAN LEGION McKAIG-TEST-MULLEN POST 455; AND RAFFLES LICENSE NO. 2015-21 FOR AN OFF PREMISE 50/50 FOR AMERICAN LEGION McKAIG-TEST-MULLEN POST 455. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES

REPORTS OF DEPARTMENTS AND PROFESSIONALS:

ON MOTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR SORCHIK, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN MARINARI, THE JUNE 3, 2015 BILL LIST WAS APPROVED AS SUBMITTED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

REPORTS SUBMITTED FOR COMMITTEE REVIEW:

CONSTRUCTION REPORT – APRIL, 2015; AND TAX COLLECTOR’S REPORT – APRIL, 2015

OTHER BUSINESS:

Mayor Trotta asked for old or new business from the Committee.

Committeeman Lotito said in terms of police interview equipment, Chief Petrecca had put in a requisition to put in a system to help record interviews and noted that they were using a system which is outdated and not well suited for this purpose. He did speak with him and hoped to speak to a vendor and review the system and make sure they receive exactly what is needed. Lotito said in the past, they have had a lot of issues with the technology in getting the information out which jeopardizes what they do in making their case. He mentioned that the Township’s responsibility would be about \$6,500.

Committeeman Lotito spoke about doing something with the Township’s website. He said the Committee would have to come up with a host in order to accommodate the website currently in the Township. In order to do things in house CDC Dave Leutwyler or Department Heads will do things on the system. There was discussion regarding recycling a server that was at the Police Department. Since the Police Departments equipment was recently upgraded the Township could use it as a DMZ. This would be a protected area of our infrastructure and could be used publicly to serve our website. He said he spoke to the vendor there would be a cost of about \$700 to \$800 to set up and start putting websites on it and having people inside utilizing it. He said the cost of the concept management system was not included and there was a piece of software that he uses in his business that he would give to the Township to use in consideration of his tenure here and also to the costs to the Township. He said in the past they have done many things in the Township on a pro bono cost, at no cost to the Township, because we need certain technologies. He said he would be willing to continue with that and help set that up. He thought that the amount was a bit pricey in terms of having someone do it, so he was contemplating looking at getting something in the cloud that would have a lower monthly fee. He wanted to bring this to the Committee’s attention to see if anyone had any ideas of owning something here, where the benefits would be pay for it once and it stays until we retire it. He said if something was done in the cloud there would be more up time. Currently it is on Amazon and have it in a very distributive environment which is regional across the US it is very responsive and highly available which we would lose all those types of things. He wanted to bring this to the Committee’s attention for discussion in the future.

Committeeman Marinari wanted to congratulate the new Planning/Land Use Board Members who was in the audience, Bob Bowen, Alternate #3 and John Neyenhouse, Alternate #4. Mayor Trotta thanked them and welcomed them aboard. Committeeman Marinari also said Resolution 2015-184 regarding the Shared Service Agreement for SRO’s was a vitally important program as the officers become very familiar with the students and the students with them. He felt this was something to look at and continue. He also said on a more somber note the Girls Softball lost their game for repeating State Champions in Softball. They are a great group of kids and the Committee was proud of them. Mayor Trotta noted that last night was Senior Awards.

Committeeman Lotito wanted to bring to the Committee’s attention about going paperless with the agendas. He said Ron Dancer, as Assemblyman, was putting forth legislation that would clarify the role of paperless agendas in municipalities and wanted to know where it was at this time. Dancer said he did introduce legislation, but first had Office of Legislative Services research with respect to the Open Public Meetings Act. He said the Open Public Meetings Act has not been updated to reflect the electronic age with respect to having a paperless agenda. He said there was a gray area where Office of Legislative Services felt that it be best to have legislation drafted and introduced to explicitly approve in the Open Public Meetings Act a

paperless agenda for those who want to exercise that option. The bill has been introduced and referred to the Local Government Committee, however it has not had a hearing and felt it may not be heard until the Fall. He had a letter from Office of Legislative Services which he forwarded to Committeeman Lotito earlier and would see that the rest of the Committee received that letter.

Mayor Trotta wanted to let everyone know that the July 4th Fireworks were scheduled for July 11th. The Fireworks are not paid for with taxpayer dollars but with the generosity of businesses in the area. Three sponsors were in attendance that make monetary contributions, New Egypt Flea Market, PBMA and Big Woods. He said in addition to the normal contributions, the township has received pledges from the New Egypt Marketplace and the New Egypt Agway this will enable the Township to double the size of the fireworks from a 10 minute show to a 20 minute show and will make the finale bigger. He noted that at 4PM there would be all sorts of vendors, food, rides for the children and entertainment from the Chicklets and headliner, the Happenings.

Committeeman Marinari said, removing Big Woods from the conversation, the only way the Township can continue to provide these types of events is to have business owners like Jamie Bohonyi from Agway and Christian Nevers from New Egypt Marketplace step forward, both gentlemen gave sizable contributions along with the PBMA, consisting of about 35 members, all contributed with their dues which generated their ability to donate to the fireworks. He said once or twice a year please shop locally to help the small businesses. Today the small businesses are suffering so please help them a little bit so they can continue these events.

Mayor Trotta opened the meeting to the public.

Barbara Diblin, 12 Terrace Avenue, said when she was at the meeting for National Day of Prayer, she was happy to receive the Proclamation and the Committee's support for it. She stayed for the meeting, which she usually doesn't do, there was a invocation that was talked about. She was happy to hear about it and that there was the possibility of having a prayer for the Municipal Meeting in our town. She noted that she grew up in Allentown and her father was on the Committee for years. She wondered if it could be considered for the spoken word of prayer for every Township Meeting. She spoke to other people and brought support for this to the meeting. She read from a document from Gary Kasporaf the Russian opposition figure and former world chess champion at St. Louis University on May 16th graduation. "Every day we make choices large or small, individuals, companies, entire nations. Are those choices guided by the values we treasure? Are we loyal to the principles of individual freedom of faith, of excellence, of compassion of the value of human life or do we trade them away bit by bit for material goods for quite life to pass the problems of today on to the next generation. These moral values are also the values of innovation and the free market by the way. It is no coincidence that these founding American values created the greatest democracy in the world and also the greatest economy in the world. In the Sermon on the Mount Jesus urged his believers to be a city on the hill, a shining example to the world of freedoms used to describe America by John F. Kennedy and Ronald Regan. He saw that America from the other side of the Iron Curtain and can tell you that it mattered and it matters still. If America is to continue as a light of the world, it will be up to you and your generation to hold fast to these values and not to trade them away for a safe and stagnate status quo. Risk is not only for entrepreneurs. Risk is for anyone who will fight for these values in their lives and the world every day." She said since prayer is opened at the Supreme Court, Congress and State Legislatures, she felt it should be a natural for us to acknowledge that we need help and need God the maker of Heaven and Earth to help us in making our decisions large or small. In listening to the news on TV, it is serious place that we live in now and very concerning. She thought of 911 that there wasn't any problem with anybody saying pray because we all felt when those who died in those buildings and airplanes that we need Gods protection and help and wisdom every day because gold can never replace God's wisdom. She was grateful to our town that they care and put so much time in, she understands everything that was written and appreciate it very much. They as a body pray for our town, our State and our Country because it wasn't just National Day of Prayer but every day. She keeps her eyes on the faith that she has in God to fix, help and protect things. She thanked the Committee for their time.

Lenny Grilletto, of Highbridge Road was asking the Committee to have an up and down vote on a resolution to have prayer before every forum at the beginning of the meeting.

Deputy Mayor Sorchik said to Barbara Diblin that since she was not there when it was discussed, thankfully, she read Mr. Kasporf's statement. He said all he was reflecting on was several of the rights our founding fathers set forth. Thankfully, we live in a country where we don't have to ask permission from the government to have a prayer and that was his position that we don't need a resolution. If we want to start a meeting with prayer we can, but we don't have to codify it and the other point he tried to make when he spoke to the group was every time you allow government to grant us permission they also can take that permission away. So his position was

that he was not adverse to any of that but I am adversed to codifying it simply because he did not want someone else later on saying we cannot do it. That is why the resolution was pulled and tabled at that time. We did not want to deal with that perspective.

Mr. Grillette said if we can't have that done unless we disregard that what do we have. If we are afraid to take a stand to stand up for God. He said July 4th is coming celebrating the Declaration of Independence. We get our rights from the creator God and he was willing to stand up and fight, and if people are going to fight then let them fight. If we desert God, he will desert us.

Cathy Cliver of 6 Maple Avenue said like Barbara said we are so grateful for the ability to do this and some of the things that Barbara mentioned and read, she heard at one point that if we don't stand for something we will fall for anything. That doesn't mean that any of us are an organization of some sort. They are people who love God. We go to different churches. They see things that are happening in our nation and if you want to kill frog the best way to do it is put him in a pot on stove and warm comfortable water and just start turning it up a little bit at a time and you cook him. This is very subtle, well now it's not as subtle, things are becoming more blatant. She said they are so grateful for this town and our nation. They know how serious things are and they understand and don't want something forced on anybody. God did not force himself on us. God revealed himself to us and then it's our decision if we are going to live for God or not. They are not arrogant people and know that sometimes media makes it appear that Christians are arrogant people and mass killers, etc. She said we are not like that when they love God, the opposite we love people because they know God loves people whether their serving God or not. He loves everybody so much. She put an article in the newspaper, the New Egypt News, and am so grateful that she is allowed to do that. She said they see things and hear things that have happened so far and it seems like very subtlety things have been taken away. And being politically correct, all the pressure on people, especially the people who really love God, there is a lot of pressure on people to stand back and be quiet and that is dangerous. The people that came to this nation, they wanted a place where they could worship God freely and they want to see that protected and want that to be able to continue. They have been praying for this town for a long time and were so grateful, they are not arrogant, they don't want to force their way, they do not have their own agenda, they just care about what God cares about, that is it. They just want to know the ability to seek God, the people that wrote the Constitution, they sought God, which is an amazing document, it wasn't because they were not geneses, it was because they sought God. The Bible says do not lean on your own understanding but acknowledge God in your ways and he will direct your path and that was what they were doing, seeking God. When there was a problem that arose, they would take time out and ask God what he wanted. She said he was the creator, we are not. He knows what is best. She said she appreciated being able to say these few things and there are many people in our town that love the Lord. She said she knew she was speaking for them too because when you really love God, you heart is soft and grateful they don't take for granted what we have here and they don't want to see anything jeopardized because there is a battle raging. She said thank you again for listening and letting them have the opportunity to share this and each one of you are appreciated. She said some people can say we pray for you and maybe not do it. They don't say that, if we say we are praying for you, we are praying for you. They do not have their own agenda. They just want what God wants. She said it was her understanding that New Egypt, was named out of the Bible.

Sherri Lotito of 1 Lauren Lane asked if this was not going to be codified and not put it in a resolution, are you going to set aside at the beginning of each meeting a specific time because you didn't tonight. The Committee said they did at 7PM Workshop Session there was a moment of silence because that is when the meeting starts and they start deliberating on things. Deputy Mayor Sorchik said they were not objecting to prayer. She felt that it should be done at the 8PM Regular Session as opposed to the 7PM Workshop Session.

Committeeman Lotito said he keeps hearing that was not consistent with the intent and purpose of the resolution. He said he was responsible for putting the resolution together and wanted to explain what his intent and purpose was. It was not to codify anything. He said from the beginning that we have the right to do this. In our society today there are many people believe we don't and there are many people that love to put words or mince words into what our Constitution says and loves to take our history and revise it and people say you know you can't do that because there is a separation of Church and State. That language is not in our Constitution. The first amendment says Congress shall not establish or prohibit the free exercise of thereof and the whole intent and purpose behind the prayer resolution was to say, we want to exercise this right and we want to make a policy that says we are not going to venture in establishing a church here in Plumsted. Even going back and looking at the Federalist papers, the reason for the separation of Church and State came out in the first place was Thomas Jefferson was writing a response to Adams who was the Governor of Connecticut who was concerned about codifying a law without having the protection that in his state they could not freely in government or otherwise exercise their ability to religion. In terms of saying that we are going to make statement because we want to codify into law our right, no Supreme Court did

that. He said that in the resolution it stated it had already been done twice and when you look at the language all they did was re-assert what has been the common practice, what has been the spirit and what has been the intent of what we were doing. He said in this Township, and rightfully so, we are up here and today just codified or passed an ordinance, approved our budget and even looked at a bond proposal to help fund to pave the way to do our sewer system and we are extremely sensitive to cost and legal issues and all of those kinds of things. He said if we do this, we would draw attention to ourselves and why should we do that. Another thing in looking at the terms of looking at the process of what was trying to be done here, he felt a resolution was not needed but at the same time Barbara said something that resonated with him. She mentioned the Spoken Word and his intent was when he sat up there to have someone to speak over me. And when they speak over him, he wants them to speak over him in the name of the supreme creator so they can lead him and guide him. Benjamin Franklin, a senior statesman and founder of this country, said in a letter to President George Washington and said why aren't you guys praying and quoted the Bible, unless the Lord build a house those that build it labor in vain and further stated that we did this when they did the Declaration of Independence and fought the Revolution and codified the Articles of Federation and said why are we stopping this now. Moving forward through that he said that was the intent and purpose on this and his thought would be, we did table the resolution at the last Workshop Meeting, because he has that right, we all have the right and he would say that in terms of your response, he thanks everyone for coming out sharing their concerns and standing up for this issue because it is an important issue. I know that when we say things sometimes and we try to stand out or stand up for certain things, sometimes there is a risk at that. He appreciated everyone coming to the meeting and mustering the courage and fortitude and sharing their comments and also appreciated what Len had to say. His thought was he would still like to see a resolution and would still be highly in favor of us moving our moment of silence up to the time we would do the public meeting and treating that as a moment of prayer according to the guidelines we've established inside of our resolution. He said Denis labored over this refining it and reviewed the work he initially started and he actually received the help from the person that took the case in New York into the Supreme Court and he helped us put something in place that navigate this to the place where we want to be with it. Not only that, he assured us that they would be available to help us in event if anything happened. He asked the question, what is the damage. If we start to do this someone said they want us to stop, and we say OK we would stop, what are the damages, what can they do to us. He was told there was nothing you can do you mitigated it and complied. He said from a legal perspective and other things we don't need to have Denis come and defend us. We can decide to back it off with a moment of silence or be more judicious about how we do that may be there are other venues and other ways to do that. He wanted to say it out loud as a clarification and share his part on this matter and also to present it to his colleagues at the dais.

Wayne Cook of 5 Shevchenko Avenue. Cream Ridge appreciated what Vince shared, it meant a lot. He said he had been doing a lot of thinking and praying over this since Barbara brought this to him. He thought the point came down to, whether it needs to be a resolution or not, is really not the issue, but when we standby for the decision to pray as a group allowed. If it was a legality worrying about someone on the Committee leading it, then a suggestion would be that a volunteer from the community whether it be one of our pastors or spiritual leaders that would come and pray with you before each meeting. He felt was very important about the Spoken Word. He said Jesus said that if we acknowledge him, he will acknowledge us before the Father, but if we don't lift his name up before the world, he will not lift us up before the Father. This country has the greatest blessing of any nation of the world 275 years we became of the super power of the world unlike any nation in the world. That only happened because 52 of our 55 founding fathers were active in their churches and believed in submitting themselves and this country to God. They left the leadership not for themselves but to God and nothing has changed from that time until now. If we want to move forward and continue as a nation, as a community that is strong, positive, and as influential amongst everybody taking care of everybody, the only way we can do that is if we follow the guidance of the one who created us. He strongly believe that it has to happen before meetings whether it is led from someone on the Committee or invite a pastor from the community to lead it. He said if you call it a moment of silence and the work God or Jesus is not heard, we are not doing anything in that manner. We would be making personal supplications of the Lord but not public supplication. God wants to hear his name lifted up not because he is a proud God, but because he deserves it and is worthy of it. He wants to know do we actually put him in that place of King of Kings and Lord of Lords over us. Is he the one who really leads out lives and guides us in our daily walk. This is where he comes from and truly believe the Committee does a unbelievable job and he loves his town. He said he has lived here longer than he has any lived anywhere in his life and have met some fantastic people here. He loved watching how this community not only influences itself but has a touch around people all over the County. People know New Egypt, we have a former Mayor who represents us in the State and this happens because God has a hand upon us and he did not want to see that let go. He wanted to lay his heart out so they understood that he truly believe Jesus is our Lord and Savior and if we lift him up vocally in front of everybody, he said they don't it because they are looking to be prideful because they want to acknowledge the one who has given them the right to

acknowledge him and we are willing to let him guide this community. No one can stop us where they are headed or what we will accomplish. If we leave him out or if we leave it a moment of silence and leave his name out, he will leave us out. He said you can walk around this town and Gods name can be proclaimed anywhere and people acknowledge it. People will let you do it and recognize it, but if you stop the leadership of God and be the leadership of him here in this room over our government, ultimately sooner or later we will lose it in our community. He did not want to see the hand of God taken away from this community. He thanked the Committee for all they do.

Fran Grilletto of High Bridge Road said she agreed with everyone here for their gratitude for the Committee's leadership and the love they have the town. You open the building so that the community can be here and pray for our country. Some of political organizations open with prayer. She said the bottom line what they are asking right now, we need you to be courageous. We need you to be speak the Word of Prayer, a moment of silence is really not a courageous way to pray because it offends no one, because it says nothing and there is no word spoken and you are safe. Who is going to call you out on a moment of prayer but when you speak of prayer you put yourself as David the Warrior and stand out and speak for God and he does not reward those who speak his name, he rewards them and gives them guidance and wisdom. He doesn't force it on anyone, he gives it to those who ask for it. If you don't ask, he is not going to lay it in your head. It's hard, she has listened to the budgets and millions of dollars unpaid tax bills and the worry how to meet the school budget, how to get a sewer to the town so we can have a vibrant community. These are problems that are insurmountable. We need help and not just from men. We need God's help to point us in the right direction to give us those answers that may be they are laying somewhere hidden where we are not attuned to but he knows the answer to it. She was asking the Committee because they were men of courage, you donate your time, give up part of your family time to be here. You meet in Executive Sessions, and are on other Committees. She said it was a wonderful sacrifice and she acknowledged that sacrifice. She said the Committee needs God's help to help them because they are under tremendous burdens now. You can't carry them. He said cast your cares upon him and He will care for you. Ask Him to carry those burdens and to guide you and he will carry them and guide you.

Frank Hurley of Long Swamp Road said he sits in his circles and complain about the Democrats and Obama and how he is trashing our Country and how our County is going down. We have all this to say and the reality is that God gives a leader that is suited for the people and reality is that we sit back and say how can we say we have such a leader. How do we have such a person running an office. He is for abortion, gay marriage and appears to be a Muslim and claims to be a Christian. He is trashing our Country but we look back and say God gives us a leader that represents the people. He read a scripture Jeremiah Chapter 29, Verse 11, "for I know the thoughts that I think toward you said the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil to give you a future and hope then you will call upon me and go and pray to me and I will listen to you and you will seek me and find me when you search for me with all your heart. I will be found by says the Lord and I will bring you back from your captivity. I will gather you from all of the nations and from all of the places where I have driven you say the Lord and I will bring you to a place from which I have caused you to be carried away captive." We want to abandon God, God is going to abandon us.

Ellen Taylor of Story Street said she believed the Committee has good hearts and she believed they will pray before the meetings. She had and read a scripture from the Book of Matthew. Ask and you shall receive, seek and you shall find, knock and it shall be opened. She said it was a promise from our God and wanted to ask for prayer on behalf of our children. She works for the School District and they have really good students but there are students that are really hurting. We need to pray for them. We need to be responsible for the next generation and she knows that Gods hands will be upon us.

Chris Hoffiter of Bordentown wanted to interject a little something. Mr. Dancer shared an office with Mr. Malone in Bordentown City and thought he was in the same unit in the Air Force as Committeeman Wysong. He said we went through some turmoil. He said he was on a Veterans Committee in town and went through a tough period over an issue they were having in town and it made the newspapers, Fox News, whatever can be done to smear somebody it was kind of in there over this seemingly innocuous decision that needed to be made. He said the only reason he was there before the Committee was that in that whole situation in the City Council Meetings he went to, he never saw a God in those meetings. He saw a lot of hatred from a lot of people and the reason he was prompted to come to this meeting is that there is a God in this place even with the silent prayer or whatever, God is here. He was shocked that he could just walk in and notice the difference. He said that when God leads you, it does make a difference because there is goodness in it and there is goodness in this room and it is because is God leading it, he can see it here. He did not see any hatred from anyone in the meeting. This should be a contentious issue you would think. He was not suggesting that folks in his town that run the place are bad people, they are not. He said the people on the other side of the argument, there was no love in it, because there was no God in it. He was there to say there was a difference. And the decisions

the Committee makes if there are God driven, they do make a difference. There is goodness in it and there is goodness in this town. He said he did not need to remind anyone of this, but it is all truth. He said thanks for listening and God Bless.

Committeeman Wysong wanted to echo Committeeman Lotito's comments by thank you for coming out tonight and appreciate the comments. He said he was out of the Country last meeting when this particular resolution was discussed and tabled at the Workshop Session. He said he was disappointed to hear that when he returned. His question to everyone was the public out in force like they were here at this meeting when the resolution was being considered and talked about, which he was told no. Committeeman Lotito said the only thing that was done was a presentation for National Day of Prayer by Barbara Diblin and it was done during Workshop Session. He said he was disappointed and told his colleagues on the Committee that he was in support of open prayer in this meeting. He has worked with Committeeman Lotito on the resolution when he brought up the idea. It was something he had thought about over the last couple of years when he was sitting on the Committee why we don't seek divine guidance before each meeting. He said this was not a dead issue to him and there will be further discussion between him and his colleagues. He thanked everyone for coming out and raising this issue.

There was a comment regarding prayer from the church or church member or a Committeeperson and Committeeman Wysong noted that the Township had chaplains appointed by resolution. He believed if the Committee decided to go in that direction and have open prayer that we would ask our chaplains and if they were not available, ask other pastors in the Township.

Barbara Diblin asked when it would be known when a prayer resolution is done. Mayor Trotta said it was tabled and no further date has been set at the present time. Committeeman Wysong said he could not say when because dialogue is needed; and due to the Open Public Meetings Act, only two Committee people can discuss matters without calling a meeting. He felt there would be more discussion and whether it would be done by resolution, or as Deputy Mayor Sorchik stated without codifying it. Committeeman Lotito suggested doing a workshop session to discuss it openly and freely and have public comment and see where the political will was to do or not to do that.

Mayor Trotta asked for any other comments from the Committee or public. There was none.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy J. Hendrickson, RMC
Municipal Clerk