

JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP COUNCIL

Regular Meeting

November 9, 2011

Municipal Building, Council Chambers

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Roll Call

Present	Absent
Mr. Dunham	
Mrs. Merz	
Mr. Sanchelli	
Vice President Birmingham	
President Yocum	
Township Attorney, Lawrence Cohen	
Lori Harvin, Township Clerk	

Mrs. Harvin said, "Let the record show that Administrator James Leach is present."

Salute to the Flag

President Yocum asked everyone to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Notice of Presiding Officer

President Yocum said, "This Regular Council meeting for November 9, 2011, commencing at 7:00 p.m. has been properly noticed in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act by notice to the official newspapers of the Township on November 3, 2011."

Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

October 19, 2011 Regular President Yocum and Sanchelli Absent

Motion: Dunham, second Merz

Mr. Dunham	Aye
Mrs. Merz	Aye
Mr. Sanchelli	Not Voting
Vice President Birmingham	Aye
President Yocum	Not Voting

Public Hearing Upon Adoption For Ordinances on Second Reading and Final Hearing:

ORDINANCE #15-11: REFUNDING BOND ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$2,500,000 REFUNDING BONDS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF JEFFERSON, IN THE COUNTY OF MORRIS, NEW JERSEY IS OFFERED FOR ADOPTION ON SECOND READING AND FINAL HEARING.

Yocum opened the meeting up to the public for questions and comments specific to proposed Ordinance #15-11 and seeing no one come forward, he closed the public portion of the meeting.

Motion: Sanchelli, second Merz

Mr. Dunham	Aye
Mrs. Merz	Aye
Mr. Sanchelli	Aye
Vice President Birmingham	Aye
President Yocum	Aye

Council Reports

Sanchelli said that the Administration, DPW and OEM did a great job during the storm

Merz said she would like to thank everyone for all the work that was done during the storm. Merz said that she has some serious concerns regarding the response of JCP&L. Merz commented that the town had facilities and resources in place for residents, however, the information was not getting out. Some towns are looking to put the information on a dedicated radio station or a reverse 911 system. Merz said that

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she would like to be sure that a concrete method for communicating with the residents is put in place.

Yocum commented that he also sat in on multiple conference calls and officials were heard voicing concerns about unanswered calls to JCP&L representatives. Yocum said that JCP&L may have had a communication plan, however, the information was not given out to the proper people.

Birmingham said that Jefferson was fortunate with the way the DPW, OEM, Police and Fire Departments responded to keep the roads open. The schools were only closed one day. Birmingham reported that he attended Fire Company No. 1's annual children's Halloween Party and it was nice to see everyone enjoy themselves. Birmingham said he also attended the inspection for Fire Company No. 2.

Birmingham commented that he also listened to the conference calls and it was very disturbing to here the calls concerning dangerous situations and the reporting of continuing outages at intersections.

Yocum said he was pleased to see that barricades and blockages were removed as soon as problems on roadways were resolved. It was a great job in coordination and it helped ease some of the confusion that comes with detours and closed roads.

Dunham complimented the DPW on the fine work in getting the trees out of the roadways on Saturday night and Sunday. Dunham said he also feels that the roadway salt was used very wisely and strategically. Dunham reported that he attended Fire Company No. 1's Halloween Party and Company No. 2's equipment inspection.

Dunham said he would like to say a special thank you to OEM and Ed Mangold. Dunham commented that OEM and the Township provided JCP&L with a 4 page list on Tuesday delineating all the areas that needed attention, particularly those areas that had live wires down. Dunham asked the Administration to pass along a special thanks to the Police and Dispatchers.

Dunham commented that he saw County trucks and Sanchelli striping Berkshire Valley Road this week. It is a much safer road because of the new striping.

Dunham commented that JCP&L's plan is not working. Dunham said the crews were doing the best that they could, however, their Administration or Supervisors need to address the problem. Dunham suggested a meeting with JCP&L. Dunham said he agrees that the Township needs better communication and he suggested leaflets be placed out in the stores with information for the residents. Yocum suggested a pre-recorded message with updated emergency services information.

Administrative Reports of Mayor and Administrator

Mangold came forward and said he would like to thank the Council for the recognition of the Jefferson Township Emergency Services because they did a great job. Ed Mangold came forward and discussed the shortfalls in communication with JCP&L with the Council and Administration. Mangold explained that the situation was very frustrating because a four page list of issue had been compiled and all that was needed was approval. On Friday and Saturday, a crew from Con Ed and Ohio Energy was led around and everything was turned back on.

Mangold spoke about communication with the residents of the Township and said Emergency Management plans to put out an article in the Aim and Patch regarding emergency services. Mangold said in the future the Council Chambers will be staffed with operators to answer phones with information. Mangold said he has spoken to the Mayor about organizing a meeting with JCP&L since the local information is so much more accurate than their information. Yocum asked Mangold if he can report back to the Council at the next meeting on December 7 and Mangold said he will have the information for that meeting.

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Leach reported that the Township will be applying for a Community Development Grant for a generator to heat the common areas and power the elevators. Leach reported that the County has announced the Open Space Grant Awards today and the Township was awarded \$2,600,000 in grant funds for its applications.

- Neighborhood Re-Assessment

Leach reported that the Administration and Dunham met with the Tax Assessor to discuss declining property values and sales in certain areas. Leach explained that the Assessor has completed a study of sales and made a recommendation for a neighborhood based Tax Reassessment. In order to make application to the County Tax Board a Motion is needed from the Council.

Motion: Authorization to Apply to Morris County Board of Taxation for Partial Reassessment for Jefferson Township

Motion: Yocum, second Merz

Mr. Dunham	Aye
Mrs. Merz	Aye
Mr. Sanchelli	Aye
Vice President Birmingham	Aye
President Yocum	Aye

Miscellaneous/Public Portion

No one came forward.

Resolutions

Resolution #11-81: Certify Council's Review of 2010 Annual Report of Audit **(104-A)**

Motion: Sanchelli, second Dunham

Mr. Dunham	Aye
Mrs. Merz	Aye
Mr. Sanchelli	Aye
Vice President Birmingham	Aye
President Yocum	Aye

Resolution #11-82: 2011 Appropriation Transfer **(104-B)**

Motion: Sanchelli, second Birmingham

Mr. Dunham	Aye
Mrs. Merz	Aye
Mr. Sanchelli	Aye
Vice President Birmingham	Aye
President Yocum	Aye

Resolution #11-83: Approval of Bills **(104-C)**

Motion: Dunham, second Birmingham

Mr. Dunham	Aye
Mrs. Merz	Aye
Mr. Sanchelli	Aye
Vice President Birmingham	Aye
President Yocum	Aye

Bills pulled and voted on separately:

Purchase Order No. 11-03482 Headley Lumber in the amount of \$154.77

Motion: Yocum, second Merz

Mr. Dunham	Not Voting
Mrs. Merz	Aye
Mr. Sanchelli	Aye
Vice President Birmingham	Aye
President Yocum	Aye

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Purchase Order No. 11-03503 Municipal Alliance in the amount of \$581.14
Purchase Order No. 11-03473 Municipal Alliance in the amount of \$1,000.00

Motion: Yocum, second Dunham

Mr. Dunham	Aye
Mrs. Merz	Not Voting
Mr. Sanchelli	Aye
Vice President Birmingham	Aye
President Yocum	Aye

Resolution #11-84: Authorize Passage of Consent Agenda

(105-A)

Motion: Birmingham, second Dunham

Mr. Dunham	Aye
Mrs. Merz	Aye
Mr. Sanchelli	Aye
Vice President Birmingham	Aye
President Yocum	Aye

Miscellaneous/Public Portion

No one came forward.

Adjournment at 8:02 p.m.

Motion: Dunham, second Merz

Mr. Dunham	Aye
Mrs. Merz	Aye
Mr. Sanchelli	Aye
Vice President Birmingham	Aye
President Yocum	Aye

Dated: November 9, 2011

Attested:

Approved:

Lori Harvin, Township Clerk

Richard W. Yocum, Council President