

JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP COUNCIL

Regular Meeting

December 15, 2010

Municipal Building, Council Chambers

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Roll Call

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

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

Salute to the Flag

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

Notice of Presiding Officer

Council President Yocum said, "This Regular Council meeting for December 15, 2010, commencing at 6:00 p.m. has been properly noticed in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act by notice to the official newspapers of the Township on December 9, 2010."

Morris County Freeholders Presentation of Open Space Funds for Ventimiglia Property Acquisition

Morris County Freeholder, Jack Schrier, came forward and explained that the Ventimiglia property is a desirable location for preservation since it is one of the largest undeveloped tracts of land in close proximity to the lake. Schrier presented Mayor Felter with a check from the Morris County Open Space Preservation Trust Fund in the amount of \$850,000. Mayor Felter thanked the Freeholder Board, James Leach and the Open Space Committee. Felter said it is great to see a piece of property that was approved for 16 homes that has now been preserved.

Schrier announced that this is his last month on the Freeholder Board after 12 years and that Jefferson has been very helpful to him. Schrier explained that the Open Space Preservation Funds are contributed by every town in Morris County. The people of the Morris County Trust Fund have agreed that this is a desirable piece of land and it adds to the quality of life in Morris County.

Leach said he would like to compliment the County's Open Space Planning Department and their staff. Leach said Barbara Murray is very conscientious and helpful. Leach then thanked Eagen and Carol Fett for the extra work and effort on the grant application. Yocum said he would like to thank Schrier for the passion he has had for the environment and open space preservation.

Presentation of Check from Thomas Wear Memorial Swim Event to Jefferson Township Animal Shelter

Regina Mikowski, Bridgette Hobart and Bob Janesko came forward and presented a check to Mayor Felter in the amount of \$7,070. Hobart announced that the event was awarded the 2012 National Bid. Felter thanked Mikowski, Hobart and Janesko for organizing this event and donating the proceeds to the Shelter. Felter said that renovations are currently being done at the shelter and in the Spring there will be a ceremony at the shelter. Yocum said that the generosity of this organization over the past couple years has had the largest economic impact on the shelter.

Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings

December 1, 2010 Regular Meeting President Yocum Absent

Motion: Birmingham, second Merz

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

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President Yocum

Not Voting

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Council Reports

Merz said she would like to wish her fellow Council members, the Administration and the residents a Merry Christmas and to those who celebrated Hanukah, hopefully it was a happy one. Merz then said she hopes the New Year brings health, happiness and prosperity to everyone. Merz said she was happy to see so many people at the Menorah Lighting. There was very good attendance at all the festivities. Recreation, the DPW and the Police Department all did a great job working with the Administration.

Birmingham commented that the Township will be looking into co-oping energy costs at the beginning of the year and this will cut the energy costs for the Township substantially.

Birmingham said that the Christmas in the Village Event was great and he suggested sending letters of thanks to the pastors of the Churches who offered the use of their facilities. Birmingham commented that it is the 20th anniversary of the municipal band with Mr. Tummilo volunteering.

Birmingham reported that the Census reports are in and stated that Jefferson has increased in population by 9.8 percent. Leach commented that each year Wharton does the project in Morris County charting the tax base.

Birmingham wished everyone a happy, prosperous New Year.

Dunham reported that he attended the Christmas Tree lighting and said he would like to thank all the employees who decorated the facilities. Dunham said he attended the Christmas in the Village celebration and he was proud to be a resident of the town when he saw how things were done so well and safely.

Dunham said he attended the energy presentation by Veridian Energy which was very informative. Dunham said he would like to congratulate the Administration on staying open and looking to save the town and taxpayers money.

Dunham said he collected some bedding for the animal shelter last week.

Dunham participated in the White Collar Union reopener last week with Administrator Leach.

Dunham said he would like to thank the Administration for the appeal for the food pantry. After speaking with the Director of the Health Department, she has said the response was great and people are availing themselves of the pantry.

Dunham commented on the snowstorm the other night, and said that the schools opened on time and there was a lack of accidents on the road. It was an accomplishment for the DPW and Administration to keep the roads safe.

The new chairs arrived at the Sr. Center and it is money well-spent. They are easy to maintain and are of much lighter weight.

Yocum said he would like to comment on the wind storm that hit back in November. He was on the phone with Mayor Felter several times during that storm and it amazes him how quickly OEM, DPW, the Fire Department and all the necessary personnel respond so quickly.

Yocum said that there was a great turn out to all the events that took place in the town.

Yocum thanked the Administration for the drainage on Squirrelwood and Timberwood Lane.

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Yocum said he would like to thank the Administration for making themselves so accessible and dealing with issues so quickly.

Dunham said that thinking about saving the taxpayers' money, the new phone system in the building will do just that. Dunham said he would like to thank the Administration and particularly Captain Wilsusen for taking care of the recent change over. Leach commented that there was no capital outlay for the new phone system and all the equipment is owned by the provider. The new system should save about \$22,000 per year.

Yocum said that he participates in a toy and food drive every year. This year the toy drive was named Aiden's Angels after a little boy who was struck and killed by a car on a beach in Florida. Yocum said that the families being helped are mostly the families of servicemen or women and the generosity of the people in Jefferson is truly amazing.

Administrative Reports of Mayor and Administrator

Felter thanked Rhinesmith and her staff as well as Burns and his staff for all the preparations. Felter commented that Rhinesmith is running the toy drive and this year there are 46 families being helped. Felter said he would like to thank the Middle School students who have donated well over \$1,000 in gift cards.

Felter reported that the Trails Committee will probably begin holding meetings near the end of January.

Felter wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy, Prosperous New Year.

Leach reported that the Energy Audit Grant has been approved. A supplement will be filed along with the RFP's for the engineering firms. Leach said the contract will be awarded sometime next month.

Leach reported that the chairs for the Senior Center were purchased with funds from a Community Development Grant. The next phase is the replacement of the furnaces in the building.

Leach said he would like to thank the staff in the building. There is a good working relationship between the Administration and the Council and that is why the town runs so well.

Yocum said he would like to publicly thank Harvin and Pivrotto for the smooth transition in the Clerk's Office.

Miscellaneous/Public Portion

No one came forward.

Resolutions

Resolution #10-103: Authorize 2010 Appropriation Transfers

(133-A)

Motion: Merz, second Dunham

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

Resolution #10-104: Authorize Execution of Developer's Agreement with Route 15 Properties, LLC, a New Jersey Limited Liability Company

(133-B)

Motion: Merz, second Birmingham

Mr. Dunham	Aye
Mrs. Merz	Aye
Mr. Birmingham	Aye

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Vice President Sanchelli Absent
President Yocum Aye

Resolution #10-105: Approval of Bills (134-A)

Motion: Dunham, second Birmingham

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

Resolution #10-106: Authorize Passage of Consent Agenda (134-B)

Motion: Birmingham, second Yocum

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

Miscellaneous/Public Portion

No one came forward.

Adjournment at 6:50 p.m.

Motion: Merz, second Yocum

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

Dated: December 15, 2010

Attested:

Approved:

Lori Harvin, Township Clerk

Richard W. Yocum, Council President