

# JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP COUNCIL

## Regular Meeting

December 5, 2012

Municipal Building, Council Chambers

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### Roll Call

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

Mrs. Harvin said, "Let the record show that Mayor Felter and Administrator James Leach are present this evening."

### Notice of Presiding Officer

President Yocum said, "This Regular Council meeting for December 5, 2012, 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 29, 2012."

### Salute to the Flag

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

### Proclamation and Resolution for Gold Award Recipient: Amanda Swajger

Amanda Swajger came forward along with her family. Mayor Felter presented the Proclamation honoring Amanda on the achievement of her Gold Award. Council President Yocum read the Resolution recognizing Amanda's accomplishment. Amanda was presented with a Township pin and pen.

### Presentation by Jr. Women's Club of the Proceeds from the Wrobo Run to the Challenger League

Elizabeth Hordyk, Suzanne Walters and Kim Reid came forward and presented a check from the annual Wrobo Run to the Challenger League.

### Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

November 7, 2012 Regular Meeting Sanchelli Absent

**Motion:** Birmingham, second Merz

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

### Council Reports

**Motion:** Change Start Time of 12/19/12 meeting from 7:00 pm to 6:00 pm

**Motion:** Merz, second Sanchelli

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

Sanchelli said that the DPW did a great job clearing roadways after the storm. Sanchelli said the tree lighting was fantastic and the setting was beautiful. A large number of children came out to see Santa Claus on Saturday and the program was very well run. Sanchelli thanked the Milton First Aid Squad for the fast response to his home on Sunday and the transport of his daughter to the hospital.

Merz said she would also like to thank the Recreation Department, the Recreation Advisory Board, the DPW, Arts Committee and the Historical Society for all the events that took place over the weekend. It was a wonderful way to kick off the holiday season. Merz commented that these events are a success because of the

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many volunteers. Merz said that she would like to remind everyone that the Wish Tree is out in the lobby. The Wish Tree is being promoted by the Recreation Department to help the families in town.

Merz said she would like to specifically thank the citizens of the town who are not paid to do something but went out of their way to lend assistance during the storm, whether it was something small or large. Merz said Emergency Services all went above and beyond. The CERT Team was present from the beginning to the end. The Police Department was there for the citizens of the Township. Merz said that everyone in the municipality rises to the challenges.

Merz thanked the members of Connect which is part of the Municipal Alliance for the Suicide Awareness Walk on Sunday. Merz said it was a moving program for anyone who has been touched by suicide to know that there is hope.

Birmingham said he would like to echo Merz's comments on Superstorm Sandy. Birmingham said that the residents of the Township were given the impression that we are all going through this together. Birmingham complimented OEM, Police, Fire and DPW on the coordination of services during the storm and aftermath of the storm.

Birmingham reported that the Morris County League of Municipalities had a meeting of the Executive Board to plan the 5 meetings for 2013. Birmingham said the League of Municipalities has been in effect for 35 years and it is basically all volunteers. The League has had a major affect on legislation in Trenton.

Birmingham reported that he attended the Library Board Meeting 2 weeks ago. Their generator will be ready to go in the event of another power outage.

Birmingham said that Christmas in the Village was a great success and he enjoyed a couple of the concerts. Birmingham reported that the Menorah Lighting is being held this Sunday at 3 p.m.

Yocum said that the celebrations that took place in town were very well done and he thanked the Arts Committee for allowing him to be the Master of Ceremonies at the Tree Lighting.

Yocum said he would like to thank the OEM people for their outstanding efforts and the professionalism shown by their group.

### **Administrative Reports of Mayor and Administrator**

Mayor Felter said he would like to thank Rhinesmith, Burns and their staff for the Tree Lighting and Santa's visit. The Arts Committee did a great job with the Christmas in the Village event.

Administrator Leach reported that there will be a DOT meeting on December 11 at 6:00 p.m. at Camp Jefferson concerning the Route 15 overpass project which is scheduled to start in January.

Leach said that Ordinance 18-12 Amending the Jefferson Township Municipal Code, adds an appropriate civilian authority that the Police Chief reports to. Leach explained that in Jefferson's form of Government, that authority would be the Director of Public Safety. This Ordinance corrects the Code to add the language and brings the Code into conformance.

Felter reported that the construction on Route 15 South in Rockaway Township is in conjunction with Pondview Estates at Morris. The site still does not have water, however, the road work is being done. Third lanes are being added and a detention basin is being added in the center.

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### Miscellaneous/Public Portion

No one came forward.

### New Business

#### Hurricane Sandy Report on Storm/OEM Response

(108-A)

Deputy Chief Craig, Deputy Coordinator Ed Mangold, Deputy Coordinator Andrew Schmidt came forward. Craig presented the Council with the OEM's Hurricane Sandy Report detailing the storm and relief/recovery efforts. Craig said that there the volunteer hours totaled 7,333 and he is very proud to be an employee and a resident of the Township when he sees this type of volunteer response. There were no injuries to any first responders or DPW members throughout the storm. There was one storm-related death to a Township resident. Nine Township vehicles were damaged by falling debris; 26 homes had major structural damage; over 100 homes had minor to medium structural damage. Warming Center locations had to be temporarily moved due to the Election. There was a total of 34 of Honeywell Instant Alert messages sent out. A total of 2,035 residents visited the Comfort Centers; 281 residents utilized the showers at the Park. Craig estimated the storm-related costs at about \$400,000.

Craig said a debriefing was held with various department heads last week. In the future there will be a better deployment of Township resources. Craig said that OEM is in the process of obtaining an inventory of resources from every department. Felter said that in the future all equipment will be under the control of OEM.

Felter said he would like to thank Craig, Mangold and Schmidt. Felter said that every morning there was a meeting which included Wilsusen and Mickey DeLoretto. The team worked well together. Felter thanked the Council for providing the equipment that was used during the storm. Felter thanked Grace Rhinesmith, Pam Graham, Linda Hamer. Felter said he would like to thank the teachers who actually overloaded the phone lines with their response when the instant alert went out for volunteers. Felter thanked Administrator Leach, Joanne Meyer and Kathy Valva. Felter explained that Meyer and Valva took turns manning the Township cell phone and all the calls when the Lightpath went down. Felter thanked the DPW for the fantastic job they did opening roads and the amount of work they got done. Felter thanked the Fire Departments and the use of their buildings. Felter thanked the Rescue Squads. Felter said the State Forest Fire Service did some tree removal for the town and he thanked them. Mangold said the OEM is compiling a list of people and organizations to thank. Felter said he would like to thank Falcon Auto and Fredericks for the help with the fuel. Felter thanked Tuttle and his staff for keeping the Utility up and running. Felter said he is proud to be the Mayor of this town.

Sanchelli said that neighborhoods should organize during emergency situations to help each other. Sanchelli commented on the use of the Warming Centers and the 2 establishments, Evergreen Restaurant and Texas Roadhouse that donated food to the Warming Centers.

Merz said she is interested in hearing some of the things that the Administration and OEM would like to put in place moving forward; such as more education for the community and perhaps overnight shelters. Craig explained that the town usually reaches out to the Red Cross for a shelter. The town had warming stations and there were Red Cross shelters at Mennen Arena and Hopatcong High School. Craig said the town offered rides to the overnight shelters with the Dial-A-Ride van. Felter said he would like to thank Hopatcong for the use of the shelter. Felter thanked Scott Dobbs and Linda Ackerson for transporting residents back and forth to the shelter. Felter said the nearest pet shelter was at Mennen.

Yocum said he is sure the Council will be receiving updates on the OEM plans. Yocum said there was good communication and coordination among all the first responders, OEM and Administration in Jefferson Township. Yocum said that his

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concerns over deployment of equipment have already been addressed by the OEM and he is confident that the plan that has been put into place will work.

Cohen said that anyone who has had substantial structural damage has to apply by the deadline to receive a reduction in their taxes for the year as a result of the permanent damage.

Leach reported that as of today, the exact figure is \$362,000. Leach said that Eagen has contacted the Township Auditor and there are a few options during an emergency but then an appropriation has to be done to pay the bills that were encumbered during the storm. Leach said that the recommendation will be at the next meeting for an emergency appropriation for \$400,000. There can be a one to five year payback for that appropriation and the recommendation is a three year payback. Leach said he recommends that when the FEMA money comes in next year, it be used to pay the appropriation. The paperwork will be to the Council prior to the meeting.

### Proclamation Recognizing CERT Team Members

(109-A)

Felter asked the CERT Team to come forward lead by Linda Hamer and Pam Graham. Felter presented the Proclamation recognizing Jefferson Township's Citizens Emergency Response Team.

### Ordinances for First Reading

ORDINANCE 17-12: ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 130 OF THE JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL CODE ENTITLED "VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC" AND MORE PARTICULARLY SUBSECTION 130-33 ENTITLED "SCHEDULE VIII: STOP INTERSECTIONS" IS OFFERED FOR ADOPTION ON FIRST READING WITH SECOND READING AND FINAL HEARING SCHEDULED FOR DECEMBER 19, 2012

**Motion:** Merz, second Sanchelli

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

ORDINANCE 18-12: ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 7 OF THE JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL CODE ENTITLED "ADMINISTRATION OF GOVERNMENT" AND MORE PARTICULARLY SUBSECTION 7-37 ENTITLED "DIVISION OF POLICE" BY ESTABLISHING AN APPROPRIATE AUTHORITY IS OFFERED FOR ADOPTION ON FIRST READING WITH SECOND READING AND FINAL HEARING SCHEDULED FOR DECEMBER 19, 2012

**Motion:** Merz, second Sanchelli

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

### Resolution

**Resolution #12-94:** Resolution to Approve 2011 Corrective Action Plan

(109-B)

**Motion:** Sanchelli, second Birmingham

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

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**Resolution #12-95:** Resolution Canceling Various Reserves

(110-A)

**Motion:** Merz, second Sanchelli

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

**Resolution #12-96:** Resolution Renewing Liquor Licenses for 2012-13 Licensing Year

(110-B)

**Motion:** Merz, second Sanchelli

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

**Resolution #12-97:** Approval of Bills Previously Approved Nov. 20, 2012

(110-C)

**Motion:** Birmingham, second Sanchelli

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

**Resolution #12-98:** Approval of Bills

(110-D)

**Motion:** Sanchelli, second Yocum

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

**Resolution #12-99:** Authorize Passage of Consent Agenda

(110-E)

**Motion:** Birmingham, second Sanchelli

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

### Miscellaneous/Public Portion

No one came forward.

**Adjournment** at 8:21 p.m.

**Motion:** Merz, second Sanchelli

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

Dated: November 7, 2012

Attested:

Approved:

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Lori Harvin, Township Clerk

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Richard W. Yocum, Council President