

JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP COUNCIL

Regular Meeting

December 7, 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, Howard Vex	
Lori Harvin, Township Clerk	

Mrs. Harvin said, "Let the record show that Mayor Felter is present. Also present is acting Administrator, Chief Financial Officer, William Eagen.

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 December 7, 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 December 1, 2011."

Appointment of Firefighter to Fire Department No. 2: Salvatore Cottone, III

Yocum asked Chief Jardines and Firefighter, Salvatore Cottone, to come forward. Mayor Felter administered the Oath of Office to Salvatore and Yocum presented him with a Certificate of Appreciation and a Township pin and pen, for providing his services to the Township.

Proclamation and Resolution for Girl Scout Gold Award, Meghan Chrobock (106-A)

Yocum asked Meghan to come forward along with her family. Mayor Felter read the Proclamation honoring her on the achievement of her Gold Award. Merz read the Joint Senate-Assembly Resolution recognizing Meghan on receiving her Gold Award. Yocum presented the Resolution congratulating Meghan and presented her with a Township pin and pen. Meghan detailed her Gold Award for the Mayor, Council and audience.

Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

November 9, 2011 Regular

Motion: Sanchelli, second Merz

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

Resolution

Resolution #11-85: Executive Session – Possible Litigation/Contract Negotiations – Lake Swannanoa Agreement

(106-B)

Motion: Sanchelli, second Merz

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

Recess

Council adjourned into Executive Session at 7:19 p.m. and reconvened into Open Session at 7:33 p.m.

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Discussion

- Agreement By and Between the Township of Jefferson and the Lake Swannanoa Homeowners Association

Yocum commented that over the past several months, the Council and the Township Attorney, Mr. Cohen, have been going over the contents of a proposed loan agreement with the Township being a co-signer. Yocum said that the Council feels the document reflects an agreement at this point. This evening the Council will take an action to send the document back to the Lake Swannanoa Homeowners' Association for their signature. The Council will execute the Agreement after it has been executed by the Lake Association. Yocum explained that the Agreement contains a paragraph pertaining to NJ State Statute directing the Tax Assessor to prepare a report on the assessment process. Yocum said that prior to any final decision on assessments, meetings will be held for the public to have input on the process. Yocum commented that this has been a long and difficult process.

Yocum opened the matter up to the public for discussion.

Perry of 21 Seneca Trail came forward. Perry had questions about the Agreement and who had input into the Agreement.

Reid of 10 Yuma Trail came forward. Reid commented that many of the residents are not represented by the Lake Association.

Molnar of 15 Violet Trail came forward. Molnar commented on the loan and how it will be repaid.

Manasia of 22 Abenacki Trail came forward. Manasia commented on the amount of the loan.

Ecker of 7 Cree Trail came forward. Ecker commented that he understands the Council is only preparing a co-signing agreement at this time.

Joel Minch of 5 Pueblo Trail came forward and asked if the beginning of this process means other residents besides members of the Lake Association could be assessed. Yocum said the Agreement states that the Township Tax Assessor will be asked to prepare a report for an assessment for benefits. The Council shall then fix an amount for the assessment.

Molnar came forward and asked about who will pay for attorneys for this matter.

Yocum asked if any other members of the public would like to come forward with a question or comment and seeing no one come forward, he closed the public portion of the meeting.

Motion: Authorize Township Attorney to Transmit the Agreement by and Among the Township of Jefferson, the Lake Swannanoa Homeowners Association, and the Swannanoa Sentinel Society to the Lake Swannanoa Homeowners Association for Execution

Motion: Yocum, second Dunham

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

Recess

Council adjourned for Recess at 8:05 p.m. and reconvened at 8:15 p.m. Yocum and Sanchelli did not return to the meeting.

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Council Reports

Merz reported that Christmas in the Village was very well attended and she was especially pleased to see that the road did not have to be closed and the event went very well. Merz said it was great to have so many activities going on over the weekend and a variety of activities coming up including, the Menorah Lighting on December 23. Merz reported that the kick-off was held for Mental Health Awareness and a remembrance ceremony was held for people from Jefferson that have passed because of suicide.

Dunham reported that he attended the Fall Festival and Haunted House event at Camp Jefferson. It was very well run and Dunham said he would like to thank everyone that was involved. Dunham said the new fence at the Senior Center looks great. Dunham commented on the new road striping on Weldon Road. Dunham reported that he attended the League Conference and many valuable seminars. Dunham said he attended Christmas in the Village and the Christmas Tree Lighting and it was very well attended. Dunham commented that the decorations at the Municipal Building are very nicely done. Felter said the displays at the Municipal Building celebrate diversity. Dunham said he attended the new business opening of the J Town Pub at the Jefferson Diner. It is a very nice establishment.

Dunham reported that the Utility Advisory Board met on November 21 and the Board asked how the new septic management program is working out and if the White Rock Filter Building is being built. Felter will provide an update next week.

Birmingham commented that the drainage and paving on Holland Mountain Road was done very well. Birmingham inquired about the striping on Berkshire Valley Road and Felter said he will contact the County about the spots that are coming up. Birmingham asked if the passing lane was removed purposely and Felter said he will check on that issue. Birmingham said the Christmas in the Village event and concerts were wonderful and well attended. Birmingham reported that he spoke with a vendor in Atlantic City concerning the drop off and recycling of small appliances such as; air conditioners and dehumidifiers. This company actually provides bins for these types of appliances and pays for the metal.

- Motion: Change Start Time of December 21, 2011 Meeting from 7:00 pm to 6:00 pm

Motion: Dunham, second Merz

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

Administrative Reports of Mayor and Administrator

- Lake Hopatcong Commission Appointment: Mark Fisch, Commissioner, Unexpired Term ending 12/31/12

Motion: Birmingham, second Dunham

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

Felter said he would like to thank Rhinesmith, Burns and the entire Recreation Department staff for the assistance with the Christmas Tree Lighting. Felter announced that a grant has been received to assist with DUI enforcement during the holiday season. Felter announced that a 4500 pound piece of steel from the World Trade Center will be arriving next week. A Memorial display is being planned for a location behind the Veterans' Memorial.

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Miscellaneous/Public Portion

Kathy Valva of 10 Overhill Terrace came forward and read a letter from the JTHS Band Parents Association. Valva thanked the Township for the support of the Marching Band.

(109-A)

NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READING

ORDINANCE No. 16-11: ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE 18-08 ESTABLISHING SALARIES, HOLIDAYS, BENEFITS AND CERTAIN JOB REGULATIONS OF OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF JEFFERSON, COUNTY OF MORRIS, STATE OF NEW JERSEY IS OFFERED FOR ADOPTION ON FIRST READING WITH SECOND READING AND FINAL HEARING SCHEDULED FOR DECEMBER 21, 2011.

Motion: Dunham, second Merz

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

Resolutions

Resolution #11-86: Resolution Approving the Granting of Temporary Access Easements to Public Service Electric & Gas Company

(109-B)

Motion: Dunham, second Merz

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

Resolution #11-87: Resolution to Approve 2010 Corrective Action Plan

(109-C)

Motion: Dunham, second Merz

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

Resolution #11-88: Resolution Authorizing Approval of Release of Closed Session Minutes

(109-D)

Motion: Dunham, second Birmingham

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

Resolution #11-89: 2011 Appropriation Transfer

(109-E)

Motion: Birmingham, second Merz

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

Resolution #11-90: Approval of Bills
Bills pulled and voted on separately:

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Purchase Order No. 11-03833/Headley Lumber Co. - \$1,960.41

Purchase Order No. 11-03801/Headley Lumber Co. - \$43.51

Purchase Order No. 11-03788/Headley Lumber Co. - \$210.23

Purchase Order No. 11-03767/Headley Lumber Co. - \$179.49

Motion: Birmingham, second Dunham

Mr. Dunham Not Voting

Mrs. Merz Aye

Mr. Sanchelli Absent

Vice President Birmingham Aye

President Yocum Absent

Resolution #11-90: Approval of Bills

(110-A)

Motion: Dunham, second Birmingham

Mr. Dunham Aye

Mrs. Merz Aye

Mr. Sanchelli Absent

Vice President Birmingham Aye

President Yocum Absent

Resolution #11-91: Authorize Passage of Consent Agenda

(110-B)

Motion: Dunham, second Birmingham

Mr. Dunham Aye

Mrs. Merz Aye

Mr. Sanchelli Absent

Vice President Birmingham Aye

President Yocum Absent

Miscellaneous/Public Portion

No one came forward.

Adjournment at 8:48 p.m.

Motion: Dunham, second Merz

Mr. Dunham Aye

Mrs. Merz Aye

Mr. Sanchelli Absent

Vice President Birmingham Aye

President Yocum Absent

Dated: December 7, 2011

Attested:

Approved:

Lori Harvin, Township Clerk

Richard W. Yocum, Council President