

# JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP COUNCIL

## Regular Meeting

March 2, 2016

Municipal Building, Council Chambers

33

### Roll Call

#### Present

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

#### Absent

Mrs. Harvin said, "Let the record show that Administrator James Leach; Township CFO, William Eagen; Police Chief, William Craig and Township Auditor, Charles Ferraioli are present. Also present is Senator Pennachio and Assemblyman Jay Webber.

### Salute to the Flag

President Yocum asked everyone to rise and Salute the Flag.

### Notice of Presiding Officer

President Yocum said, "This Regular Council meeting for March 2, 2016, 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 February 25, 2016."

### Presentation of 2016 Municipal Budgets: Township Auditor, Charles Ferraioli

Ferraioli began his presentation by stating that the surplus has increased and is moving in the right direction. Ferraioli said that he will save his report for the Public Hearing on the Budget. If this Budget moves forward as it is today, the Township is looking at a tax increase on the average priced home at \$282,589 of \$30.32. The Budget increase is \$1.61 percent.

Merz said that from working with the Administration and working on Capital Projects; taking care of roads; equipment issues in the DPW; she can see that there is growth in every area; however, it is being done in a fiscally responsibly manner.

Dunham said that he concurs with everything that Merz has said and he would also like to thank Administrator Leach and CFO Eagen for the continuing good stewardship of the taxpayers finances in this town.

Leach said that this Budget includes the most aggressive road projects for paving and repairing of roads. Leach said that the debt ratio has dropped to 0.66% and the Township has a Bond Rating of AA+.

Birmingham commented that at the Morris County League of Municipalities meeting, Michael Darcy, the new Deputy Director of the NJLM, spoke about the Utility Franchise Fee. Birmingham said that a number of years ago the State diverted those funds. Birmingham said that there has been no increase in State Aid and at the same time the Highlands Act has tied the hands of the Municipality with regard to obtaining commercial ratables. Birmingham said that the increase of \$30 and low debt is a tremendous testimony to the fiscal responsibility of the Township.

Sanchelli said that the Budget process is always very tedious. Sanchelli complimented Ferraioli and Eagen. Sanchelli said that the best interests of the residents in the Township are always placed first.

Yocum introduced Michele Reilly as the new Jefferson Township Municipal Clerk who will be appointed in May after Lori Harvin leaves the Township. Yocum said that Michele Reilly was chosen after an exhaustive search and she will be a tremendous asset to the Township.

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March 2, 2016

Municipal Building, Council Chambers

34

Yocum announced that he will be leaving after 23 almost 24 years on this Jefferson Township Council. He has an opportunity in Southwest Florida. Yocum invited the Jefferson Township Police to join the meeting.

Yocum said he would like to thank the Jefferson Township Police Department for the job that they do.

### Joint Assembly Proclamation Presentation to Richard W. Yocum

Senator Pennachio and Assemblyman Webber came forward along with Councilwoman Debi Merz and Councilman Sanchelli. Senator Pennachio spoke about the years that Yocum has spent on the Jefferson Township Council and Assemblyman Webber read the Joint Assembly Proclamation honoring Councilman Yocum.

Council President Yocum received individual congratulations from the Council, Township Attorney Larry Cohen, Administrator James Leach and Police Chief William Craig.

The Council presented President Yocum with a custom engraved desk clock honoring him for his years (1993-2016) on the Jefferson Township Council.

James Perrier of the Milton First Aid Squad presented President Yocum with a plaque from the Squad honoring him for his years on the Township Council.

Chief DeLoreto of Fire Department No. 2 presented President Yocum with a plaque from the Fire Department honoring him for his years on the Township Council.

Kim Finnegan of the Jefferson Rescue Squad came forward and congratulated President Yocum on behalf of the Jefferson Rescue Squad.

Yocum said thank you to everyone who has made his years in Jefferson so memorable. Yocum thanked his fellow Council members. Yocum thanked the members of the Jefferson Township Police Department and said that he has the utmost respect for everything that they do. Yocum said that no one will be forgotten by him. Lastly, Yocum said that he must thank his family because he would not be able to do anything without them.

### Recess

The Council adjourned for recess at 7:45 p.m. and reconvened at 8:03 p.m. Yocum did not return to the meeting after recess.

### Appointment of Firefighter to Fire Company No. 1: Michael Agnes

Sanchelli asked Chief VanVeen to come forward along with Firefighter Agnes. Township Clerk Harvin administered the Oath of Office to Agnes. Sanchelli thanked Agnes for providing his services to the Township and presented him with a Certificate of Appreciation and a Township pin and pen.

### Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings

- February 10, 2016 Regular President Yocum Absent  
**Motion:** Dunham, second Birmingham  
Mr. Dunham Aye  
Mrs. Merz Aye  
Mr. Birmingham Aye  
Vice President Sanchelli Aye  
President Yocum Absent
- February 17, 2016 Regular & Executive Birmingham Absent  
**Motion:** Merz, second Dunham  
Mr. Dunham Aye  
Mrs. Merz Aye

# JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP COUNCIL

## Regular Meeting

March 2, 2016

35

### Municipal Building, Council Chambers

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

### Council Reports

Birmingham reported that Michael Darcy addressed the Morris County League of Municipalities regarding the Excise Franchise Utility Tax which the towns have tried for a number of years to get back as property tax relief. There is currently a bill before the Assembly. Birmingham said that if this goes back, there is \$364,000,000 that will go back to the towns and this will be the first increase in State Aid.

Birmingham said that he is pleased to see where the Town's finances are and to see the debt ratio drop.

Birmingham said that he spoke with the project manager for New Jersey Natural Gas. This project should be a nice advantage for White Rock and the project should run smoothly.

Dunham reported that he asked the Administration to look into a few road situations in town and both have been addressed.

Dunham said he would like to thank the Town employees who were here tonight to honor Council President Yocum tonight.

Dunham said that he is very proud to be on the Council. Dunham commented that the Administration and Council put time and effort into the planning for the funds and execution of the funds for the Budget.

Merz had no report this evening.

Sanchelli had no report this evening.

- **Motion:** Move Forward with the Purchase of:  
Four (4)- Ford Utility Police Interceptors and One (1) Chevy Tahoe

**Motion:** Merz, second Dunham

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

**Motion:** Cancel March 9, 2016 Budget Meeting

**Motion:** Merz, second Birmingham

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

### Administrative Reports of Mayor and Administrator

Leach reported that the Mayor and he met on Monday with the owner of the Pathmark building on Route 15. Leach said that there are preliminary plans for a Fresh Food Emporium and possibly a pharmacy.

Leach reported that the Traffic Officer and the County Traffic Engineer have coordinated the traffic light timing for the light on Route 15 and as of this morning there was no back up.

### Miscellaneous/Public Portion

Sanchelli opened the meeting up to the public for questions or comments.

# JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP COUNCIL

## Regular Meeting

March 2, 2016

Municipal Building, Council Chambers

36

Horace Chamberlain of Chamberlain Road came forward and stated that one of the trees in the back of the Acme is still alive. Chamberlain said that 16 new trees need to be planted to replace the ones that have died. Sanchelli asked the Administration to notify the Forester to visit the site.

Sanchelli closed the public portion of the meeting.

### Public Hearing

- **Notice for Discussion Declaring the Gypsy Moth a Public Nuisance**

Leach advised that the public will be notified prior to the spraying and this matter must be formally declared a public nuisance by the Council by resolution.

Sanchelli opened the meeting up to the public for questions or comments specific to the Gypsy Moth Public Nuisance Hearing.

Anne Augustyn of 41 Paderewski Drive came forward and asked where the spraying will take place.

Leach said that detailed maps of the spraying areas will be placed on the Township website along with information about the spraying agent.

Sanchelli closed this public portion of the meeting.

### New Business

- \* Outdoor Gathering Permit Camp Six, Inc., 37 Nolans Point Park Road, Outdoor Winter Festival to include: Vendors & Children's Activities March 26, 2016 11am to 4:00 pm

Reports: Police Chief; Health and Fire Official

**Motion:** Birmingham, second Dunham

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

### Resolutions

**Resolution #16-19:** 2016 Temporary Budget Amendment

(36-A)

**Motion:** Dunham, second Birmingham

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

**Resolution #16-20:** 2015 Appropriation Transfer

(36-B)

**Motion:** Merz, second Dunham

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

**Resolution #16-21:** Approval of Bills

(36-C)

**Motion:** Merz, second Birmingham

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

# JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP COUNCIL

## Regular Meeting

March 2, 2016

Municipal Building, Council Chambers

37

### Motion to Approve:

Headley Lumber P O No. 16-00401 - \$71.50  
Headley Lumber P O No. 16-00465 - \$84.87  
Headley Lumber P O No. 16-00547 - \$107.33  
Headley Lumber P O No. 16-00502 - \$2,190.78

**Motion:** Merz, second Birmingham

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

### Resolution #16-22: Authorize Passage of Consent Agenda

(37-A)

**Motion:** Birmingham, second Dunham

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

### Miscellaneous/Public Portion

Sanchelli opened the meeting up to the public for questions or comments.

Anne Augustyn of Paderewski Drive came forward and inquired about the vacancy on the Council and the filing of petitions for this vacancy.

Sanchelli stated that the vacancy is filled for this unexpired term with the nomination of three candidates by the Republican County Committee to the Council and the Council then chooses one of those candidates. Sanchelli explained that a petition may also be filed for a candidate to run on the ballot in the June Primary for the new term.

Sanchelli then closed the public portion of the meeting.

### Adjournment at 8:30 p.m.

**Motion:** Dunham, second Birmingham

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

**Dated:** March 2, 2016

Attested:

Approved:

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Maria Pivirotto, Deputy Clerk

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Michael J. Sanchelli, Council Vice President