

# JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP COUNCIL

## Budget/Regular Meeting

March 5, 2014

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 arrived at 7:00 p.m.	
Lori Harvin, Township Clerk	

Mrs. Harvin said, "Let the record show that Mayor Felter and Administrator James Leach are present. Also present is CFO, William Eagen, Recreation Director, Grace Rhinesmith and Buildings & Grounds Director, John Burns.

### Notice of Presiding Officer

Vice President Birmingham said, "This Budget/Regular Council meeting for March 5, 2014, 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 February 27, 2014."

### Salute to the Flag

Birmingham asked everyone to rise to salute the flag.

### Budget Meeting

#### Recreation Department

Request: Dial a Ride Vehicle	35,000.00
Request: Safety Fence	8,000.00
Request: Electronic Sign Boards – (Request: 97,500.00)	20,000.00
Request: Paving (Fireman's Field)	45,000.00

Rhinesmith stated that the items on the list are basically the items that are needed. The dial a ride vehicle is the second vehicle in a plan to replace all the vehicles over a period of 9 years. Fencing is being replaced at Camp Jefferson. An Electronic Sign Board is to be installed at the soccer field on Berkshire Valley Road, one this year as a trial. Eagen said there are sufficient funds for payment of half the sign board, the fencing and the water connect for Camp Jefferson. Dunham reiterated that there will be one sign board this year. Eagen said that once the Council approves the Budget, he will allocate this to Bond and Capital Improvement, then funds can be allocated from the Rec Trust. Eagen said that each year the Rec Trust takes ½ a tax point and that is about \$124,000 this year. A little more than \$100,000 is going to buy down the Lakeside Field note. Eagen said then there will be about \$20,000 plus some left over for some of the recreation capital items this year. Eagen said it was a 6-7 year note. Eagen said there is room to do the water project plus some other small projects through the Rec program. Eagen said he will look at the bottom line of everything and once the Council approves a project he will allocate the funds.

#### Buildings & Grounds

Request: 2014 Rack Body	(Remove) -53,000.00
Request: Toro Stand On Aerator	8,000.00
Request: Procore Processor	24,000.00
Request: Toro Workman HDX	29,000.00
Request: Heavy Duty Trailer	8,500.00

Burns stated he is looking to replace a 2000 Superduty Flat Bed that does not dump and has almost 110,000 miles. Burns said that he would like to replace that with a Rack Body which is great for brush. Dunham asked how many vehicles were replaced in the last few years and Burns said 3 vehicles were replaced. Dunham asked Burns to use a Mason Dump that is currently in the DPW which can be maintained by the DPW for one year. Utility has 3 mason dumps, 2 pick-up trucks and a flat bed. Leach said next year the town can make an early commitment to purchase this truck off a State Contract.

Burns detailed the additional items including the aerator, Procore processor,

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Toro Workman and trailer. Burns stated that his Department maintains the school fields. Burns said the Sports Programs have helped out with the purchase of clay and netting. Felter commented on Sports Organizations and Coaches taking some responsibility for the fields. Burns commented that he is receiving many compliments on the fields.

Felter said there should be a discussion about merging the Open Space and Recreation Trust Funds. Felter said that the residents have been generous to allow the creation of the funds. The Township has been very aggressive with the acquisition of Open Space. Leach met with the Open Space Board the other day, however, the Administration feels it is time to merge the 2 funds. Felter explained that with the way the funds are set up now, there are limitations on the way the funds can be used for both recreation and open space. Felter said the Council would still have to authorize the use of funds. Leach said to purchase land an Ordinance must be passed. Leach said any money spent out of the Recreation Trust is appropriated as part of the Budget. Leach said the town has to budget ½ of a tax point in open space in order to be eligible for Green Acres funds. The town has been very successful in leveraging Morris County Open Space against Green Acres funds. Leach said there is not a big threat of development anymore and the County is continually cutting the Open Space Tax. Leach said the land the town purchases goes on the town's Open Space and Recreation Inventory. Leach said that when this year's budget passes there will be \$545,000 in funds in the Open Space Trust. Leach said that the Council would have to authorize a referendum. The referendum would be on the November Ballot and then an Ordinance would be done after that referendum. The Ordinance would be done in 2015.

### **Turf Fields**

Felter commented that five or six years ago there was a discussion about funding turf fields. The Star Committee came before the Council and made a proposal about turf fields at Lakeside and the High School. Felter said the decision was made to go ahead with the field at Lakeside. Felter said that field has been a success and has saved the programs. Felter said the Star Committee is contributing money, along with other groups to light the fields at the High School and to redo/move the bleachers. Felter said the agreement has been that the town would build the turf field, out of the Rec Trust Fund, for use by the Recreation programs and the High School. An Agreement would be done with the School Board.

The Council asked the Administration for a report on the maintenance of a traditional field versus the maintenance of a turf field. Felter commented that the turf field can be used at all times during any weather. Felter said a list of the maintenance savings will be provided.

Rhinesmith and Burns left the meeting at 6:52 p.m.

Eagen sent he will send out a list of the Budget tally to date.

### **Recess**

The Council adjourned for recess at 6:54 p.m. and reconvened at 7:06 p.m.

### **Regular Meeting**

#### **Resolution**

##### **Appointment of Firefighter to Fire Company No. 1: Dennis M. Burns**

Birmingham asked Chief VanVeen to come forward along with Firefighter Dennis M. Burns. Mayor Felter administered the Oath of Office to Dennis. Birmingham thanked Dennis 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 Meeting**

**February 12, 2014 Budget/Regular All Members Present**

**Motion:** Merz, second Dunham

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### Municipal Building, Council Chambers

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

### February 19, 2014 Regular

### Vice President Birmingham Absent

**Motion:** Dunham, second Merz

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

### Council Reports

Merz had no report.

Sanchelli had no report.

Dunham reported that he attended the Open Space meeting last night along with the Administrator. It was very productive and the Administrator explained the strategy for the town for the future as far as the spending of Open Space money prudently. Dunham said he attended the Alonso meeting regarding fundraising. Dunham said that the family attended and it was reported that Aaron is doing ok but he has many surgeries ahead of him.

### Administrative Reports of Mayor and Administrator

Felter reported that he will be attending the luncheon for the seniors at Camp Jefferson tomorrow and all are invited.

### Miscellaneous/Public Portion

No one came forward.

### New Business

#### Ordinances for Discussion:

Ordinance #2-14: Riparian Zone

Ordinance #3-14: Steep Slope

Ordinance #4-14: Amendment to Septic Management, Ch. 436

Cohen explained that the Ordinances are necessary to be consistent with the Highlands Preservation area. Cohen said he will need to have discussions with Mr. Elam regarding these ordinances and the Council should take some time to really look at them prior to introduction. The Ordinances can have far reaching effects although they mirror the State Regulations. Cohen said most of the Riparian Zone Ordinance, mirrors the State Wetlands laws, however, this Ordinance is a bit more controlling.

Dunham asked about the expansion and replacement of septic systems in riparian zones. Cohen said that a new septic system cannot be put in but an old system can be repaired. Cohen said that right now under State Law, a new system cannot be installed. Sanchelli commented that an existing system can be repaired or rebuilt. Cohen said that right now a septic system cannot be installed within a certain number of feet of a stream and a Stream Encroachment Permit is needed from the DEP.

Leach commented that by passing these Ordinances, the Township will be able to pass certain waivers and/or exemptions on the local level rather than residents having to go to the Highlands. Cohen said that when the Ordinances are put on the Agenda, people will be concerned and there will be a public hearing. These Ordinances mirror the State Law. Cohen said there are certain decisions that have to be made and blanks that have to be filled in on the Ordinances. Cohen said he will set up a meeting with Mr. Elam to review the Ordinances before they come back to the Council.

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### Resolutions:

**Resolution #14-20:** Authorize Mayor and Administrator to Execute Agreement between the Township of Jefferson and OPEIU Local 32 Jefferson Township Blue Collar Unit for the Period 1-1-13 through 12-31-16 **(27-A)**

**Motion:** Dunham, second Sanchelli

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

**Resolution #14-21:** Authorizing the Renewal of Agreement to Participate As a Member of the Newark Watershed Coalition to Retain the Services of a Lobbyist **(27-B)**

**Motion:** Merz, second Birmingham

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

**Resolution #14-22:** Appropriation Transfer for 2013 **(27-C)**

**Motion:** Sanchelli, second Dunham

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

**Resolution #14-23:** Approval of Bills **(27-D)**

**Motion:** Dunham, second Merz

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

### Motion to Approve:

PO No. 14-00339 Headley Lumber Co. - \$26.94

PO No. 14-00415 Headley Lumber Co. - \$29.44

**Motion:** Sanchelli, second Birmingham

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

**Resolution #14-24:** Authorize Passage of Consent Agenda **(27-E)**

**Motion:** Merz, second Dunham

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

### Miscellaneous/Public Portion

No one came forward.

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**Adjournment** at 7:40 p.m.

**Motion:** Merz, second Sanchelli

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

**Dated:** March 5, 2014

Attested:

Approved:

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Lori Harvin, Township Clerk

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Richard W. Yocum, Council President