

JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP COUNCIL
Student Government/Regular Meeting
May 18, 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, Larry Cohen	
Lori Harvin, Township Clerk	

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

Also present are Student Government representatives.

Ed O'Brien	Evelyn Moo
Eimy Soto	Agatha Winiarski
Isha Karchwala	Kim Harvin
Alexandra Vana	Alexandria Taveras
William Caruso	

Salute to the Flag

Vice President Birmingham asked everyone to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Notice of Presiding Officer

Acting Student Government President Eimy Soto said, "This Student Government Day/Regular Council meeting for May 18, 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 May 12, 2011."

Proclamation for Parents Who Host – Lose the Most

(61-A)

Birmingham asked Merz and Terri Tate to come forward for the presentation of the Proclamation for Parents Who Host – Lose the Most. Student Government Mayor representative, Ed O'Brien, read the Proclamation and presented it to Municipal Alliance members, Merz and Tate. Merz said that the Mayor, Police Chief and Municipal Alliance have joined with the schools to support this Program.

Appointment of Firefighter to Department No. 2: Richard T. Mack

Felter administered the Oath of Office to Mack and Birmingham presented Mack with a Certification of Appreciation along with a Township pen and pin. He thanked him for providing his services to the Township as a firefighter.

Recess

The Council adjourned to view Fire Department No. 2's new Fire Boat at 7:14 p.m. and reconvened at 7:20 p.m.

Proclamation and Resolution for Eagle Scout: Jonathan Pierantozzi

(61-B)

Birmingham asked Jonathan to come forward and Ed O'Brien read the Proclamation recognizing him for his achievement. Eimy Soto read the Resolution congratulating Jonathan and presented him with a Township pin and pen. Birmingham said that he and the Council recognize the commitment that this has taken and he is an example to the young people of Jefferson Township.

Council Reports

Sanchelli had no report.

Merz said that she was able to attend this morning and it was very enjoyable getting to know the students and listening to their opinions.

Dunham reported that he attended the Library Board meeting yesterday and he also had the opportunity to attend the Student Government Day Program this morning.

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Birmingham thanked Schwarz for organizing the students. Birmingham said he was very impressed with how involved the students were with the Program. Birmingham said that this year the students put together a resolution. Eimy Soto explained that the Student Council members decided to work on an outline of a Program for High School Seniors to educate on the dangers of texting while driving and the importance of following the Provisional Drivers' License restrictions. Birmingham stated that the students had excellent communication and debate amongst themselves.

Merz said she feels that the Department Heads and Mayor would agree that the students put work into this Program and there is knowledge that they acquire as a result. Merz said that the Council members spent 2 hours with the students and addressed some real situations that the Council is facing. Merz asked the students to feel free to contact her with any suggestions or ideas concerning the information that was presented to them.

Each student commented on their day and the experience.

Felter thanked Pam Garv and the Clerk's Office for coordinating this Program. Felter commented that the students were great.

Administrative Reports of Mayor and Administrator

Felter reported that one of the biggest complaints in town is speeding. Captain Wilsusen and his Sergeants are instituting a program called Operation Slowdown. Patrols will be instituted to combat speeding and unsafe driving. Felter said that the purpose is not just to write tickets and when a driver is stopped educational information will be handed out.

Leach commented that the Student Government Day Program has been changed over the years through the suggestions of the students that participate. This year the students suggested that a list of brief job descriptions be made available to the students prior to the event.

Mark Schwarz said he would like to thank the Council and Administration. This is a great opportunity for the students at the school.

Proclamations for Student Government Day

Felter read the Proclamation for Student Government Day and the students were presented with their individual Proclamation, a Township Pin and Key as well as a pen.

Miscellaneous/Public Portion

Birmingham opened the meeting up to the public for questions or comments. Mark and Linda Hardy of 882 Berkshire Valley Road came forward. Linda Hardy detailed an on-going issue with a neighbor and the poultry farm that is being operated on the property. Hardy stated that the property owners were notified last September that this was a zoning violation, however, chickens and a couple roosters remain. Hardy explained that from 4 am onward, throughout the day, roosters crow incessantly. Leach said he is aware of this situation and he has spoken to the Municipal Prosecutor. In the past, the Judge has ordered the removal of roosters from property. Leach said the issue is the R-30 residential zone and having a poultry business is not a permitted use. Leach said he will have a notice sent out, followed by a summons if there is not compliance.

Michael Stewart of 73 West Shawnee Trail came forward and commented on the proposed police action. Stewart said it is a great idea and he suggested that good, safe drivers should, when possible, be stopped and recognized.

Stewart said the speed limits at the joining of Edison, Espanong and Brady Road are very confusing. Stewart said the speed limit should be merged into one.

Mr. Scott came forward and made general comments.

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Birmingham closed the public portion of the meeting.

Resolutions

Resolution #11-49: Approval of Bills (63-A)

Motion: Sanchelli, second Dunham

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

Resolution #11-50: Authorize Passage of Consent Agenda (63-B)

Motion: Merz, second Sanchelli

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

Miscellaneous/Public Portion

No one came forward.

Birmingham commented that with the cooperation of the Township DPW, the Library is scheduled to have the old solar panels removed.

Merz reported that on Monday evening the Municipal Alliance hosted Ashley Craig, who is a freshman from High Point High School. Craig presented a program on Students Against Being Bullied. Merz said the presentation was excellent and the program is in place at High Point High School. Since it was so well accepted, Craig anticipates the beginning of Students Against Being Bullied clubs in more high schools. It is also the hope that this curriculum will go nation-wide. Merz reported that Principal Mundi and the student assistance counselors were in the audience and were very pleased with the presentation. Because of the State mandate for bullying curriculum, Craig has been invited to do a presentation in Jefferson schools.

Adjournment at 8:35 p.m.

Motion: Merz, second Birmingham

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

Dated: May 18, 2011

Attested:

Approved:

Lori Harvin, Township Clerk

Richard W. Yocum, Council President