

JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP COUNCIL

Regular Meeting

June 1, 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."

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 June 1, 2011, commencing at 8:00 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 26, 2011."

Appointment of Firefighter to Fire Co. No. 1: Jake G. Bakera

Felter administered the Oath of Office to Jake and Yocum presented Jake 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.

Resolution Commending Councilwoman, Debi Merz, as she is awarded the Governor's Jefferson Award, Community Pillar (64-A)

Yocum read the Resolution Commending Debi and presented her with flowers.

Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

May 11, 2011 Regular All Members Present

Motion: Dunham, second Birmingham

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

May 18, 2011 Student Gov/Regular President Yocum Absent

Motion: Merz, second Birmingham

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

Public Hearing Upon Adoption for Ordinances on Second Reading and Final Hearing:

- o Ordinance #12-11: ORDINANCE VACATING A PORTION OF ARIZONA AVENUE IN THE TOWNSHIP OF JEFFERSON, COUNTY OF MORRIS AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY IS OFFERED FOR ADOPTION ON SECOND READING AND FINAL HEARING

Yocum opened the meeting up to the public for questions and comments specific to Ordinance #12-11 and seeing no one come forward, he closed the public portion of the meeting.

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Motion: Birmingham, second Dunham

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

Council Reports

Dunham reported that he attended the Utilities Advisory Board Meeting. The UAB members are interested in becoming involved in the Sustainable New Jersey Committee. Dunham attended the Statewide Insurance Fund training for PEOSHA and found it very informative and interesting. Dunham said he attended the Emergency Drill last Wednesday which was very informative and worthwhile. Dunham said the students devoted their attention to all that was going on at the drill. Felter said that he heard some students and parents comment on how good the program was and it was greatly appreciated.

Birmingham attended the Memorial Day Service at the VFW #245 and it was very moving. Birmingham said he attended the Morris County League of Municipalities meeting which was held at the Morris County College Planetarium. The County has renovated the Planetarium with 90 percent private funds through endowments and contributions. Birmingham reported on a program called MC Urgent, which is Emergency Alerts for Morris County. Birmingham said he will pass the information along to the Administration. Leach said he will have Mangold investigate the Program.

Birmingham said he has spoken to Shawn Hopkins regarding the home assessments in town. Birmingham said that he spoke with a number of other towns this evening at the League meeting and every town seems to be in the same position with home assessments being higher than the current market value. Birmingham asked about a reassessment to avoid an increase in tax appeals. Leach said that permission has to be obtained from the State Tax Courts. Leach said that Hopkins talked about a reassessment every 3 years and one was done in 2009. Cohen said he is paying attention to this matter along with Hopkins.

Merz said that with regard to the Mock Accident, she would like to thank the Police Department and the Emergency Services for their coordination with the schools to reinforce the timely message. The Municipal Alliance is a supporter of this type of education. Merz said she would like to follow-up on an idea that was discussed 4 or 5 years ago to put memorial plaques on roads that were named after the two Vietnam Vets that died in action. Leach said that the signs can be made in-house.

Sanchelli said that the police presence was noticed in town and it was good because it made people slow down. Sanchelli asked everyone to remember his mother-in-law, Kitty Culp, in their prayers as she is presently in the hospital.

Yocum reported that he has concluded his 12th trip of 2011 and he is finished traveling until the Fall. Yocum said that he did not have to miss too many meetings, however, he regrets missing Student Government Day.

Administrative Reports of Mayor and Administrator

Felter said that on Memorial Day, he spoke at the Legion Post #245 about dedicating and naming the turf field, the Veteran's Memorial Field. Felter explained that it is the most important field in town and it is long overdue. Felter proposed the dedication of the field for November 11, Veterans' Day. The Council agreed and a formal Resolution will be done at the November Council Meeting.

Felter reported that the response to Operation Slow Down has been very good. Many stops have been made and people appreciate the information. An effort was made yesterday to crack down on cell phone use and 66 summonses were written in one day.

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Felter reported that there is a plan for a walking path around the Lakeside field. Felter reported that a meeting is scheduled for June 18 for a walk of the Brady Property. Merz asked about a path on the turf field itself because the material would be very useful for walking and strollers. Felter said that there are a few issues that have to be addressed first, however, it is on the schedule.

Felter reported that a Memorial is being created at Lakeside for Gig. There is an area between the turf field and the new parking lot. Trees will be planted and some benches and picnic tables will be placed in that area. Felter said it is in the planning stages and it will probably be finished in the Fall. Birmingham asked about the placement of memorial benches along the trail. Felter said that there are many Eagle Scout Projects being done. There are good locations for benches along the Brady Property Trail because it will be a couple miles.

Leach reported that the footings were poured for the cat isolation room at the Animal Shelter. The walls and block will be placed on Monday.

Miscellaneous/Public Portion

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

Mr. and Mrs. Hardy of 882 Berkshire Valley Road came forward. Mrs. Hardy stated that the Letter of Violation was served on the neighbors and an Application to the Board of Adjustment was picked up regarding this matter. Leach said that the ordinance being used is a Zoning Ordinance and zoning violations are open to interpretation by the Board of Adjustment. The Board of Adjustment can make an interpretation of the Zoning Ordinance and also grant a Variance. Leach said that this matter could also be decided by the Court. Cohen said that the Court would determine if the Ordinance is being violated.

Mrs. Hardy said that there has been harassment since this matter was addressed. Leach suggested that a log be kept and the Police should be contacted. Cohen said that any criminal activity should be reported to the Police Department. Leach asked the Hardys to phone him and he will set up an appointment with one of the ranking police officers.

New Business

- Discussion: Amendment to Limousine Ordinance

Yocum asked the Council if they are satisfied with the recommendations of Chief Craig. Cohen said the current ordinance requires insurance and the Chief noted that the background check requirements are taken care of by the State. The Chief recommended a provision stating that if there are any violations, the License can be revoked. There should also be a clause requiring the Licensee to meet State requirements. Sanchelli suggested that Cohen speak to Chief Craig before preparing the Amendment. Yocum asked about the housing of the vehicles and clarification that the principal place of business should be the place where the vehicles are dispatched. Cohen said the Ordinance states the owner must have his/her place of business located in Jefferson Township. Harvin said it was recommended that the company dispatch from Jefferson and not just receive mail at a location in Jefferson. Birmingham said Dover has this in their ordinance. Dunham said there should be some presence of the business in town. Sanchelli said there have been licenses issued for companies that do not have a presence in town, only a mail drop. Cohen said that the town has some control if it is issuing the license. Birmingham stated that Jefferson should not be used as a hub in order to get lower insurance premiums. Yocum suggested that Cohen have a discussion with Chief Craig and then come back to the Council with the proposed amendments on June 22. Cohen said that he will do that, however, Chief Craig has not addressed the issue of maintaining a business in town. Yocum asked Cohen to speak with the Chief about that issue.

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Resolutions

Resolution #11-51: Authorizing the Issuance of Not Exceeding \$9,413,333.00 Bond Anticipation Notes **(67-A)**

Motion: Merz, second Dunham

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

Resolution #11-52: Renewal of Liquor Licenses for Licensing Term 7-1-11 To 6-30-12 **(67-B)**

Motion: Yocum, second Merz

Sanchelli noted that the Liquor License committee is scheduled to meet with one of the establishments prior to the June 22 meeting to discuss any past and present violations through the ABC.

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

Resolution #11-53: Approval of Bills **(67-C)**

Motion: Sanchelli, second Dunham

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

Resolution #11-54: Authorize Passage of Consent Agenda **(67-D)**

Motion: Birmingham, second Dunham

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

Miscellaneous/Public Portion

No one came forward.

Adjournment at 8:56 p.m.

Motion: Sanchelli, second Dunham

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

Dated: June 1, 2011

Attested:

Approved:

Lori Harvin, Township Clerk

Richard W. Yocum, Council President