

**JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP COUNCIL**  
MUNICIPAL BUILDING  
1033 WELDON ROAD  
LAKE HOPATCONG, NJ 07849  
973-208-6133  
[www.jeffersontownship.net](http://www.jeffersontownship.net)

**Regular Meeting  
June 15, 2016  
MINUTES**

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

This meeting is being held in compliance with Public Law 1975, Chapter 231, Sections 4 and 13, as notice of this meeting and the agenda thereof had been reported to the official newspapers of the Township on June 9, 2016 and posted in the municipal building.

Council President Sanchelli called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm in the municipal building.

**2. ROLL CALL**

	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
<b>Mr. Birmingham</b>	<b>X</b>	
<b>Mr. Dunham</b>	<b>X</b>	
<b>Mrs. Finnegan</b>		<b>X*</b>
<b>Vice President Merz</b>		<b>X**</b>
<b>President Sanchelli</b>	<b>X</b>	
<b>Mr. Wenner, Township Attorney</b>	<b>X</b>	
<b>Ms. Reilly, Township Clerk</b>	<b>X</b>	

Ms. Reilly called the roll. All Council members were present except for \*Councilwoman Finnegan, who arrived at 7:18 pm, and \*\*Council Vice President Merz, who arrived at 7:56 pm. Also in attendance were Township Attorney Richard Wenner and Township Administrator James Leach.

**3. SALUTE TO THE FLAG**

Council President Sanchelli asked everyone to rise and salute the flag.

**4. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

There were no special presentations.

**5. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Council President Sanchelli opened the public comment portion of the meeting with the consent of the Council and asked speakers to state their name and address for the record.

Gene Spaeth – 116 East Shawnee Trail

Mr. Spaeth said he and other members of the Lake Shawnee community had formed a committee and were petitioning the Postmaster for a zip code change from Wharton to Lake Hopatcong. He cited several reasons in support of the proposed change, including promoting a better community identity, postal efficiency, and convenience for residents, as the Lake Hopatcong post office is half the distance to the Wharton post office. He also mentioned that residents have expressed confusion as to where to vote and which municipality to call for services. Mr. Spaeth said that an affiliation with Jefferson also promotes positive property values since Wharton property values are on average twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) less than the property values in Jefferson. He stated that his group had created a website, [07885to07849.com](http://07885to07849.com), a Facebook page, and had sent articles to the local papers and that he was asking for Council support.

With no one else wishing to be heard, Council President Sanchelli closed the public comment portion of the meeting.

In response to Mr. Spaeth, Council President Sanchelli said Oak Ridge has the same issues and is constantly affiliated with Passaic County. He and Mr. Birmingham said they had proposed an Oak Ridge zip code change with the post office a decade ago and the response had been to open up a satellite post office. With the consent of Council, Council President Sanchelli asked the Clerk to contact Congressman Frelinghuysen's office and to facilitate a meeting between the Congressman, Council representatives, and members of Mr. Spaeth's committee.

**6. ORDINANCES – PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTE FOR ADOPTION**

There were no Ordinances listed on the agenda for public hearing and vote for adoption.

**7. COUNCIL REPORTS**

Mr. Dunham reported attending the Library Board meeting, as well as a meeting of the White Rock Lake Association, which he said was informative and hopefully productive.

Mr. Birmingham said he had attended the Court of Honor for Eagle Scout Jesse James Huselton. He also attended the Morris County League of Municipalities meeting in Mountain Lakes which featured a presentation by the Morris County Parks Commissioner regarding the trails grant. Mr. Birmingham said the deadline for grant submissions is September 1<sup>st</sup>, and that municipalities can submit requests for improvements to trails, including paving and trails designed for motorized vehicles.

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Mr. Birmingham stated that he also attended the Library Board meeting and that the steps/portico project is progressing. He mentioned that the Library Board awarded its two (2) annual one thousand dollar (\$1,000) scholarships but that unfortunately, the scholarship winners were unable to attend the meeting to receive their awards in person.

Mrs. Finnegan had no report.

Council President Sanchelli said he had also attended the White Rock meeting and that he expected more information to be forthcoming. He requested everyone spread the word about Jefferson Day on July 9<sup>th</sup>. He mentioned that he had spoken to former Council President Yocum, who is well and sent his best wishes.

On behalf of the Council, Council President Sanchelli offered condolences and prayers to the family of the two (2) year old boy killed by the alligator at Disney World.

**8. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS OF MAYOR AND ADMINISTRATOR**

Mr. Leach informed the Council that the Department of Transportation (DOT) was requesting a resolution of support for the two (2) projects it would be facilitating in Jefferson, the replacement of the bridge located at Cedar Terrace/Route 15 and the repairs to the Route 15/Berkshire Valley Road intersection. He requested that this resolution be adopted at the next Council meeting.

Mr. Leach stated that the Township's Health Officer, Cindee DeGennaro, would be sending out a press release and posting to the Township website information she had received from the Mosquito Commission concerning mosquitoes and the Zika virus.

Mr. Leach said the Township would be submitting a trails grant to extend the Prospect Point Road - Mason Street trail all the way to Liffy Island.

**9. NEW BUSINESS**

**-Resolution of Support for HR 343**

Council President Sanchelli described the parameters of this proposed Federal legislation, which would allow volunteer emergency personnel to claim a maximum annual federal tax deduction of six thousand dollars (\$6,000) for volunteer hours. He mentioned that Congressman Frelinghuysen is a co-sponsor of this legislation, which is currently stuck in committee. He thanked Mrs. Finnegan for bringing this issue to the attention of the Council, and asked the Council if there was consensus for passing a resolution of support. The consensus of the Council was to place a resolution of support on the next agenda in order to encourage the legislators to move this bill out of committee.

**-Emergency Services Discussion**

Mr. Leach reported that the current fire boat is over thirty-five (35) years old. He said the pump and motor work but that the structure of the boat is failing, and it has already been refurbished. He mentioned that a new boat would have a bigger pump and bigger hose connection as well as a front which folds down, which is quite useful for lake rescues.

Council President Sanchelli said the purchase of the boat was a necessity. He mentioned that boat would be used to provide aid for the surrounding municipalities of Roxbury, Mount Arlington, and Hopatcong, and that Mr. Leach is approaching the other towns in order to develop a mutual aid agreement. Mr. Leach said that he and Chief DeLoreto will be working together and speaking to the other towns.

Mr. Birmingham said that the Lake Hopatcong Foundation has raised a donation of ten thousand (\$10,000) dollars which will be used to offset the purchase of the boat. He mentioned that Assemblyman Bucco has introduced a bill which would allow New Jersey residents to take gross income tax deductions for charitable donations, such as a donation to the Lake Hopatcong Foundation. He said if such a bill passes, more people might be encouraged to make charitable contributions.

Mr. Leach recommended the Council fund three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000) toward the purchase of the fire boat. He told the Council that if any more than this amount is needed for the purchase of the boat, the balance will be deducted in 2017 from the fire department's annual fifty thousand dollar (\$50,000) capital contribution.

The Council consensus was to direct Mr. Leach to prepare a bond Ordinance in the amount of three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000) for the purchase of the fire boat to be utilized by Jefferson Township Fire Company #2 and that this Ordinance should be presented at the next Council meeting.

Council President Sanchelli stated that the Township also needed to buy two (2) ambulances and would be introducing bond Ordinances to fund these expenditures. He explained that the adoption of a bond Ordinance required four (4) affirmative Council votes. He also explained that Mr. Dunham and Mrs. Finnegan were rescue squad volunteers and eligible to receive Length of Service Award Program (LOSAP) contributions from the Township each year, and that after discussions with the legal counsel and bond counsel, it is advisable that they refrain from voting on purchasing ambulances for the squad in which they hold membership. Council President Sanchelli said that as an occasional driver and non-voting member of the Milton First Aid Squad who is not eligible to receive a LOSAP contribution, he does not have to abstain from voting on the purchase per an opinion rendered by the Township Attorney.

Council President Sanchelli said that the Township would be proposing two (2) Ordinances, one for the purchase of an ambulance to be operated by the Milton First Aid Squad (MFAS), and the other for the purchase of an ambulance to be operated by the Jefferson Township Rescue Squad (JTRS). He explained that presenting two (2) Ordinances allows the Township to move ahead with these purchases and to continue to provide quality emergency services to residents. He said that Mr. Dunham will abstain from voting on the purchase of the ambulance to be operated by the MFAS, Mrs. Finnegan will abstain from voting on the purchase of the ambulance to be operated by the JTRS, and there will still be four (4) Council members casting a vote on each purchase.

Mr. Leach recommended that the Council fund one hundred forty-five thousand dollars (\$145,000) toward the purchase of each ambulance. In addition, he requested the Council fund twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) toward the purchase of a generator for the MFAS. He said placing a generator at this location would allow the Township to utilize this facility as an emergency staging area in times of need. Mr. Leach said that if the cost of the ambulance was higher than the amount funded by Council, the additional funds would be deducted from the annual amount typically contributed to the rescue squad by the Township. Mrs. Finnegan said the JTRS had priced out a new ambulance at one hundred seventy eight thousand dollars (\$178,000).

The Council consensus was that there was no doubt about the need for emergency equipment and that it offered much benefit to the residents. The Council directed Mr. Leach to have two (2) bond Ordinances prepared for introduction at the next meeting, with one Ordinance funding the purchase of an ambulance to be operated by JTRS, and the other Ordinance funding the purchase of an ambulance to be operated by MFAS, as well as funding the purchase of a generator to be placed at MFAS.

**10. NEW BUSINESS - ORDINANCES – FIRST READING**

There were no Ordinances listed on the agenda for first reading.

**11. NEW BUSINESS**

Prior to the vote on the consent agenda, Mr. Leach explained that Resolution 16-93, Resolution Rescinding Previous Resolution 16-74 Regarding the 2016 FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant in the Amount of \$302,500.00, did not mean that the Township was losing grant funding. He said that this new resolution was necessary from a bookkeeping standpoint, as accepting the money in 2016 would affect the Township's surplus. Mr. Leach said that the money would be included in the 2017 capital Ordinance.

- **CONSENT AGENDA\* – Township Clerk**

**\*Matters listed on the Consent Agenda Resolution are considered routine and will be enacted by one motion of the Council and one roll call vote. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Council member requests an item be removed for consideration.**

**\*MINUTES:**

None

**\*APPOINTMENTS:**

None

**\*PERMITS/LICENSES:**

- **KENNEL PERMIT RENEWAL – July 1, 2016 to June 20, 2017**
  - Permit #16-1 Lake Hopatcong Kennel
  - Permit #16-2 Jefferson Township Pound
  - Permit #16-3 The Dawg House Bed & Bath, Inc.
  - Permit #16-4 Canine Country Club of the Lake
  - Permit #16-5 Clip Shoppe Groom & Board, LLC
  - Permit #16-6 Masonhaus Kennel
- **CAMPGROUND PERMIT RENEWAL– July 1, 2016 to June 20, 2017**
  - Permit #16-1 Sun-Air Lakeside Properties, Inc

**\*CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS:**

- 16-91 Resolution Authorizing the Payment of Bills
- 16-92 Resolution Authorizing the Transfer of Title to an Abandoned Motor Vehicle to Richie's Auto Repair, 25 Taylor Road, Wharton, New Jersey, 07885 in Satisfaction of Vehicle Storage Charges
- 16-93 Resolution Rescinding Previous Resolution No. 16-74 Regarding the 2016 FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant in the Amount of \$302,500.00
- 16-94 Resolution Requesting Approval of Item of Revenue and Appropriation Under N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 For the 2016 Municipal Court Alcohol Education and Rehabilitation and Enforcement Fund Grant In the Amount of \$1,752.51
- 16-95 Resolution Authorizing Contracts with Certain Approved Educational Services Commission of New Jersey (ESCNJ) Co-Op Contract Vendors for Contracting Units – Jesco, (1) 2016 John Deere 310SL Backhoe Loader
- 16-96 Resolution Authorizing Contracts with Certain Approved Educational Services Commission of New Jersey (ESCNJ) Co-Op Contract Vendors for Contracting Units – Jesco, (1) 2016 John Deere 35 G Compact Excavator
- 16-97 Resolution Authorizing the Renewal of Liquor License: Tomdi Inc. (Taphouse)  
Liquor License Number #1414-33-018-007
- 16-98 Resolution Authorizing the Renewal of Liquor License: I Said Corp (Mason Street Pub)  
Liquor License Number 1414-33-023-003
- 16-99 Resolution Authorizing the Renewal of Liquor License: Takis Seretis (Jefferson Diner)  
Liquor License Number 1414-33-006-010
- 16-100 Resolution Authorizing the Renewal of Liquor License: Big Fish Enterprises LLC (Alice's)  
Liquor License Number 1414-33-010-007
- 16-101 Resolution Authorizing the Renewal of Liquor License: Milton Pines (The Grill Room)  
Liquor License #1414-33-014-004
- 16-102 Resolution Authorizing the Renewal of Liquor License: Big Sky Corp (Black Bear Tavern)  
Liquor License #1414-33-019-008
- 16-103 Resolution Authorizing the Renewal of Liquor License: McKenna's Publick House  
Liquor License #1414-33-020-008
- 16-104 Resolution Authorizing the Renewal of Liquor License: Rusty Cleat, LLC (Windlass)  
Liquor License #1414-33-031-002

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- 16-105 Resolution Authorizing the Renewal of Liquor License: NMT, Inc (Berkshire Bottle Shop)  
Liquor License #1414-33-024-004
- 16-106 Resolution of the Township of Jefferson, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, to Authorize the Award of Contract for the 2016 Road Paving Program – RDE-16-1 to Mike Fitzpatrick Equipment Co.
- 16-107 Resolution Authorizing Change Order No. 1 and Approving Current Estimate No. 6 and Final Payment – Reivax Contracting Corp. for Mountain Shores Water Supply Service Area Upgrade, Contract No. UTL-13-1
- 16-108 Resolution Authorizing Assignment of a Tax Sale Certificate #12-00031
- 16-109 Resolution Authorizing Assignment of a Tax Sale Certificate #12-00032
- 16-110 Resolution of the Township of Jefferson, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, Authorizing the Separation Agreement and Release of Claims Between the Township of Jefferson and Glenn Peter
- 16-111 Resolution Authorizing Refund of Overpayment(s) of Recreation Fees
- 16-112 Resolution Authorizing the Renewal of Liquor License: Topsy Toms Tavern LLC (Charley's)  
Liquor License #1414-33-022-008
- 16-113 Resolution Authorizing the Renewal of Liquor License: Tiny's Inc. (Tiny's Tavern)  
Liquor License #1414-33-028-003
- 16-114 Resolution Authorizing the Renewal of Liquor License: Milton Inn, Inc.  
Liquor License #1414-32-005-006
- 16-115 Resolution Authorizing the Renewal of Liquor License: Patel Nakul  
Liquor License #1414-33-004-011
- 16-116 Resolution Authorizing the Renewal of Liquor License: New Club 15 Inc.  
Liquor License #1414-33-016-018

Council Member	By	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Birmingham	X		X			
Mr. Dunham		X	X**			
Mrs. Finnegan			X			
Vice President Merz						X
President Sanchelli			X			

\*\*Councilman Dunham abstained from voting on Resolution 16-91, Purchase Order #16-00290 &16-00391, Headley Lumber

**12. PUBLIC COMMENT – Presiding Officer  
Please state your name and address for the record.**

Council President Sanchelli opened the public comment portion of the meeting with the consent of the Council and asked speakers to state their name and address for the record.

With no one wishing to be heard, Council President Sanchelli closed the public comment portion of the meeting.

With consent of the Council, Council President Sanchelli adjourned the meeting for a brief recess at 7:45 pm.

**13. NEW BUSINESS**

Council President Sanchelli reconvened the meeting at 7:56 pm. Mr. Leach did not return after the recess.

- 16-69 Resolution Accepting and Approving the Annual Length of Service Awards Program (LOSAP) Contribution Report and Authorizing Payment of Purchase order #16-01566

Council Member	By	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Birmingham		X	X			
Mr. Dunham					X	
Mrs. Finnegan					X	
Vice President Merz	X		X			
President Sanchelli			X			

Council Vice President Merz thanked everyone who had played a role in the Primary Election and commended the Clerk's Office for an excellent job.

**14. ADJOURNMENT at 7:59 PM**

Motion made by Mr. Dunham, second by Mr. Birmingham to adjourn the meeting at 7:59 pm, with all members in favor signifying by "Aye".

**ATTEST: June 15, 2016**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Michele Reilly, Township Clerk

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Michael J. Sanchelli, Council President