

# JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP COUNCIL

## Regular Meeting

July 13, 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	Arrived 7:18 p.m.
Lori Harvin, Township Clerk	

Mrs. Harvin said, "Let the record show that Administrator James Leach is present and Mayor Felter will arrive shortly."

### 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 July 13, 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 July 7, 2011."

### Proclamation and Resolution for Retirement of Beth Recksiek, Tax Collector (73-A)

Yocum asked Beth Recksiek to come forward and Leach said a few words complimenting Beth on her skill, compassion and work ethic. Leach read the Proclamation congratulating Beth on her retirement. Yocum read the Council's Resolution honoring Beth as she retires. Beth was presented with a gift and flowers.

### Jefferson Day Arts Committee Presentation

John Focacci and Carol Punturieri came forward and spoke about Jefferson Day and the great success the event was this year. As representatives of the Arts Committee they thanked the Council and Administration for the support and presented 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary mugs.

### Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

June 22, 2011	Regular	Sanchelli Absent
<b>Motion:</b> Birmingham, second Dunham		
Mr. Dunham		Aye
Mrs. Merz		Absent
Mr. Sanchelli		Not Voting
Vice President Birmingham		Aye
President Yocum		Aye
June 29, 2011	Special	Yocum and Dunham Absent
<b>Motion:</b> Sanchelli, second Birmingham		
Mr. Dunham		Not Voting
Mrs. Merz		Absent
Mr. Sanchelli		Aye
Vice President Birmingham		Aye
President Yocum		Not Voting

### Closed Session Minutes for Approval Only, Not for Release

June 22, 2011	Sanchelli Absent
<b>Motion:</b> Dunham, second Birmingham	
Mr. Dunham	Aye
Mrs. Merz	Absent
Mr. Sanchelli	Not Voting
Vice President Birmingham	Aye
President Yocum	Aye

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

ORDINANCE NO. 13-11: ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 309 OF THE JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL CODE ENTITLED "LIMOUSINES IS OFFERED FOR ADOPTION ON SECOND READING AND FINAL HEARING.

Yocum opened the meeting up to the public for questions or comments specific to proposed Ordinance 13-11 and seeing no one come forward, he closed the public portion of the meeting.

**Motion:** Sanchelli, second Dunham

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

### Miscellaneous/Public Portion

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

Rich Bodenman of 62 Brady Road came forward and said he would like to address the problem at Brady and Cherry Roads. Bodenman said that there are frequently accidents in front of his home because of speeding. Leach said that this has been ongoing and the Police are aware of the problem. Reflectors have been put in the middle of the road along with more speed limit signs. Yocum asked Leach to have the Traffic Safety Officer investigate this matter and report back with recommendations.

Cohen arrived at 7:18 p.m.

Ray Lomax of 37 Garnet Drive came forward and said he was before the Council a year ago describing the problems with Garnet Drive. Lomax detailed ongoing road and drainage problems. Lomax said that last Fall the Township did some repairs and widened the road, however, those repairs did not extend the entire length of the road. Lomax said his area was not completed. Lomax asked when the repairs will be completed along with proper drainage. Leach commented that thousands of dollars of work was done on Garnet Drive last year. Cohen said that many years ago a title search was done and it is not a Township road. Leach reported that the portion of the road that Lomax is speaking about is scheduled for more work this year. Leach said that he will have Spano come out to speak with Lomax in the next few days.

### Council Reports

Sanchelli said that Jefferson Day was fantastic and he enjoyed the parade. Sanchelli said that as he drives around town he can see that the DPW is doing a very good job.

Felter arrived at 7:36 p.m.

Birmingham said that Jefferson Day was the best in 25 years and the crowd was amazing. Birmingham said that Jefferson, unlike many other municipalities does not employ a grant writer, yet the town is always applying and accepting grants. On today's agenda there is \$2.7 million in grants. Birmingham suggested that the town partner with the Historic Society to look into historical fund grants for individual homes or sites. Felter said that the Administration would certainly work with anyone that would like to put in a grant. Birmingham commented on the paving project for Berkshire Valley Road which will be scheduled for the summer. Leach said there will be a preconstruction meeting as soon as the bid is awarded.

Dunham commented on the notification the Council received concerning the Governor's additional funds being released to schools. Dunham asked if the Township

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will be advised how the Board of Education will be handling the additional funds. Felter said he received a call from the Governor's Office last week and at this time, no one knows what kind of conditions and/or guidelines will be attached to the funds. Leach commented that estimated tax bills have been mailed out. Leach said when the school utilizes the funds in accordance with the State guidelines, the adjustment that is made to the school budget will affect the tax rate. Then the State certifies the town's tax rate and the final tax bills will go out.

Dunham asked the Administration for a status on the fuel budget. Leach commented that the change to a lower octane is providing a savings. Leach said the estimate for motor fuel costs was \$286,000 and right now \$122,000 has been spent at the half way mark of the year.

Dunham asked the Administration for the status on the repair of catch basins. Leach said he had the DPW prepare a 3 part report for Council which lists the catch basins and the status.

(75-A)

Dunham asked for an update on the new cat quarantine room. Leach said it is progressing on schedule. Yocum said he stopped in to see the shelter and he was very happy. Yocum said he appreciates the Administration following up on this project. Yocum said that the improvements that have been made to the shelter and the vehicle over the past 2 years are commendable. Dunham said he would like to thank Mangold, Spano and the Office of OEM for the quick attention that was given to the Windsor Drive flooding. Felter commented that a meeting is planned with the Board of Education regarding some drainage problems there and at another school.

Dunham said the grounds around the Municipal Building looked very nice for Jefferson Day and he thanked the Administration. It was a great day to be proud of Jefferson Township.

### Administrative Reports of Mayor and Administrator

Felter said he would like to thank everyone who was involved with Jefferson Day. The day was a great success from the weather to the British Invasion Band that played to the new tents that Council President Yocum suggested. Felter said he was late this evening because he was attending an emergency Lake Commission meeting. The Commission will continue harvesting weeds for another week.

Leach reported that the Route 15 overpass is going to be rebuilt and a meeting will be held on Friday.

### Old Business

- Zoning Ordinance Amendment: Prohibited Uses

Leach said this was discussed a few years ago and recently there was a situation with chickens. There is no ordinance controlling the kind or amount of animals that can be kept on residential property. Leach clarified that the issue with a zoning law is that pre-existing situations are grandfathered. Some towns have general animal control ordinances. Leach suggested putting a Committee together to review possible ordinances and then have the Planning Board review them. Yocum said the Committee should include a couple residents, a member of the Council, a member of the Planning Board and a member of the Administration. Yocum asked if any Council members would like to sit on the Committee. Sanchelli volunteered to be the Council committee member. Leach said he will get the meeting set up with the other Committee members and Sanchelli.

### New Business

#### Public Hearing

2011 Applications for Open Space Trust Fund for Acquisition of the following parcels:

Hunter's Glenn	Compton Gobel Road	Shawnee Meadows	State Rt.15 North
Block 336, Lot 48	551 ± acres	Block 273, Lot 4	95 ± acres
Block 273, Lot 1	30 ± acres	142 E. Shawnee Trail	

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Block 273, Lot 2	37 ± acres	Block 281, Lot 14	.237 ± acres
Block 273, Lot 3	17 ± acres	\$600,000.00 grant	
Block 272, Lot 1	108 acres		
Block 271, Lot 12	95 acres		
Block 273, Lot 2.05	.2 acres		
Total	833.2 ± acres		
\$2,000,000.00 grant			

Leach displayed a map of the two parcels and explained the features of the property. Leach said the estimated cost for the Shawnee Meadows property will be \$900,000 with an application for \$600,000 to Morris County Open Space Funds and a request for \$300,000 from State Green Acres. Hunter's Glenn will be split and the Township will acquire 281 acres and 567 acres will be titled to the State of New Jersey Green Acres as part of the Berkshire Valley Wildlife Hunters Preserve. Leach said the estimated cost for the Hunter's Glenn property will be \$4,600,000 with an application for \$2,000,000 to Morris County Open Space; \$600,000 from the town's Green Acres funds and an additional \$2,000,000 from the State.

Felter said he would like to thank Kathy Haake from the Trust for Public Land and Lisa Stern from Green Acres for their assistance. Felter said that these properties are a great addition and a good split between the Township and the State. Leach said that the only out-of-pocket expense from the town's Open Space Trust would be the soft costs, meaning engineering, surveying and legal fees. Felter explained that the \$300,000 and \$600,000 are from the town's Green Acres or Planning Incentive Grant. Felter said the other Green Acres money is direct acquisition money.

Yocum opened the meeting up to the public for questions or comments specific to the acquisition of Shawnee Meadows and allowing the Administration to move forward on the Grant Application. No one came forward.

Yocum opened the meeting up to the public for questions or comments specific to the acquisition of Hunter's Glen and allowing the Administration to move forward on the Grant Application.

Arthur Messmer of 56 New Jersey Avenue came forward and said he is the past president of Jefferson Sportsman which is the gun club that has been leasing the land for about 30 years. Messmer said that the Club is curious as to what is happening and if Mr. Baker is in agreement. Felter said there is an option that the Trust for Public Land was able to acquire from Baker. Felter said he will keep the Club updated on the progress.

Yocum closed the public portion of the meeting.

### Ordinances for First Reading

ORDINANCE NO. 14-11: ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A REDEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR CERTAIN PROPERTIES LOCATED ALONG ROUTE 15 IN THE TOWNSHIP OF JEFFERSON, AND AMENDING ORDINANCE NUMBER 10-09, ESTABLISHING THE REDEVELOPMENT AREA-3 ZONING DISTRICT (RA-3), BY ADDING THE PROPERTIES INCLUDED IN THIS ORDINANCE TO THE RA-3 ZONE. CHAPTER 490 OF THE LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF JEFFERSON IS AMENDED TO INCLUDE THE PROPERTIES IN THIS ORDINANCE IN THE RA-3 ZONE, AS THE ZONING DISTRICT FOR REDEVELOPMENT AREA 3 IS OFFERED FOR ADOPTION ON FIRST READING WITH SECOND READING AND FINAL HEARING SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 7, 2011

**Motion:** Sanchelli, second Dunham

Mr. Dunham

Aye

Mrs. Merz

Absent

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Mr. Sanchelli Aye  
Vice President Birmingham Aye  
President Yocum Aye

### Resolutions

**Resolution #11-64:** Approval of Bills, Removal of: (77-A)

**Removal of:** PO 11-01816/Current Fund/Headley \$211.41  
PO 11-01816/Water Cap/Headley \$167.50  
PO 11-02045/Water Op/Headley \$42.47

**Motion:** Dunham, second Birmingham

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

### Approval of:

PO 11-01816/Current Fund/Headley \$211.41  
PO 11-01816/Water Cap/Headley \$167.50  
PO 11-02045/Water Op/Headley \$42.47

**Motion:** Yocum, second Birmingham

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

**Resolution #11-65:** Authorize Passage of Consent Agenda (77-C)

**Motion:** Birmingham, second Dunham

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

**Resolution #11-66:** Renewal of Liquor License 1414-33-003-005 for Licensing Term 7-1-11 to 6-30-12 (77-D)

**Motion:** Dunham, second Birmingham

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

### Miscellaneous/Public Portion

No one came forward.

Adjournment: 8:22 p.m.

Dated: July 13, 2011

Attested:

Approved:

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Lori Harvin, Township Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert Birmingham, Council Vice President

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