

ANDOVER TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

TOM WALSH, MAYOR  
MICHAEL LENSAK, DEPUTY MAYOR  
DOLORES BLACKBURN  
PHIL BOYCE  
JANIS Mc GOVERN

MARCH 11, 2013

BUDGET WORKSESSION – 6:30 P.M.

REGULAR MEETING BEGINS AT 7:30 P.M.

The regular meeting of the Andover Township Committee was called to order at 6:31 P.M. by Mayor Walsh, followed by a salute to the flag.

ROLL CALL: Present: Ms. Blackburn, Mr. Boyce, Mr. Lensak  
Ms. Mc Govern, Mayor Walsh  
Also present: CFO Magura

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT Statement of compliance with Chapter 231, P. L. 1975 was made by Mayor Walsh.

2013 BUDGET WORKSESSION

Mayor Walsh asked CFO Magura to give a brief overview of the budget. She stated that copies of the draft budget were made available to the public. This budget has an increase to the average homeowner of \$78.57. Since preparing this budget, we have firmed up the court personnel issue and \$10,000 can be removed from that budget salary and wages line item. Mr. Boyce stated the average home is now less than it was a year ago at \$246,334. Ms. Magura stated the budget is guided through assessed evaluations and the reason they are declining is because of successful tax appeals. She added that the declining home value makes the tax point worth less. This year the tax point is at \$61,000. We need to raise almost \$200,000 in this budget. For every \$25,000 cut in this budget, the average homeowner tax cost is decreased \$9.85. Mr. Boyce stated it would be great to keep the increase in the \$54 range as last year's increase. We are looking for about a \$50,000 cut.

Ms. Mc Govern began the discussion with the DPW budget. She said she regrets now voting for the \$1600 cost for WeatherWorks. She asked to have this reconsidered in the next year's budget. She then questioned the litigation line item asking if that could be reduced. Mayor Walsh stated we have some pending litigation and before he joined the Committee in 2005, legal line items were over \$250,000. This line item was cut drastically, budgeting \$94,000. Last year \$115,000 was budget and that was cut another \$21,000. He said we need to be very careful not to cut that line too much. Ms. Magura added that if we receive a huge amount of legal bills this summer and we don't enough money in the line item to cover that cost, we would have to do an emergency appropriation that will have to be funded in the next year's budget, in full. We have to be very careful, especially with legal.

Mayor Walsh stated we can consider cuts, but we have to be careful because even if we can transfer in November, there won't be anything to transfer from. Looking at the history, the budgets have decreased over the years. He added that much of the strategy has come from the CFO in implementing changes in spending. In the past we have been a municipality of use it or lose it. Now we have balances earmarked for a larger purchase in their department down the road. She then asked about Public Works – Other Expenses. Mayor Walsh said that Vehicle Maintenance costs cover all municipal vehicles including fire and police. Mr. Boyce asked about the overtime in salary and wages in public works which Ms. Magura explained was because of the use of Open Space monies.

## Budget Worksession Meeting

## 2013 BUDGET WORKSESSION (CONTINUED)

Ms. Mc Govern questioned the DPW line item for Salary and Wages, Open Space, there was nothing charged in 2012. Ms. Magura stated that amount was moved from the Open Space, weaning off that tax each year. She said we may have to use about \$20,000 this year depending on how the year goes.

Mayor Walsh went through the DPW budget line items, explaining the cuts made in a variety of areas. Asphalt costs are up due to the cost of oil.

Mr. Boyce questioned the decrease in advertising and it was explained that though it is under Clerk, all municipal advertising is covered under this line item. Mr. Boyce looked at Township engineering where we budgeted \$15,000 last year and we spent \$9300. We are now budgeting \$12,000. He proposed taking that number to \$10,000. All agreed. They continued to reduce the budget, taking funds from a variety of line items and Mayor Walsh concluded the reduction by another \$25,000 for a total of \$50,000. Ms. Magura stated with these reductions the rate per household is now \$58.87.

**PUBLIC PORTION** At this time Mayor Walsh opened the discussion to the public. Ms. Gillespie stated in reviewing the draft she found areas where there is a great deal of money spent, understanding that some can't be helped. She questioned the benefits and asked if there is a plan which is less expensive. Mayor Walsh stated with our claims history at this time we cannot get anything cheaper. She said when it comes time to negotiate future contracts; this is something that needs to be part of the negotiations. She spoke about cafeteria type plans with a determined amount of money to be used by each employee. She then asked about the other insurance coverage. Ms. Thompson stated we are getting the best value as part of the Joint Insurance Fund. Ms. Gillespie then asked the Committee members who accept health benefits to only take coverage for themselves and not their families. That move could save a great deal of money in the budget. Ms. Magura explained the difference between single and family is about \$5000 per person.

She then spoke about the recreation programs sponsored by the Township, stating that we spend a great deal, including maintenance of all the fields. Mayor Walsh said children participate in all sports provided by the municipality and it keeps them occupied and out of trouble. He added that the line item also includes the parks themselves, swings, tennis courts and basketball courts. There is something in the recreation budget for everyone. He mentioned the trail is also a part of this line item.

Mr. Boyce added that we don't want to cut too deeply and cut services to the residents. The award winning play area needs to be maintained and we want to make sure we don't remove quality of life to our residents. She said we have to cut back.

Gail Phoebus stated that we are spending \$48,800 on dental insurance which should be revisited. She added that the fee for garbage and recycling services at \$400,000 is a great deal of money. She suggested doing something similar to what Hardyston and Lafayette Townships do. She urged the Committee to seriously look at this cost. Mr. Lensak stated we are already looking at alternatives to the current process. He and DPW Supervisor Dickinson are planning a visit to Vernon to speak with them on their process. He said the DPW has lost one employee through retirement and another with resignation. To ask them to take on a large endeavor such as garbage and recycling we will have to look at additional personnel. Before doing so we need to make sure it is the right thing to do. Mr. Boyce added that we are in the middle of a five year contract with Blue Diamond and cannot renegotiate unless the tipping fees increase. The present contract saves the township \$144,000 a year over the previous contract over the course of five years. If we cancel this contract the residents would have to get their own service. Ms. Mc Govern stated the current

contract cost the residents anywhere from \$35 to \$40 per month. Ms. Magura said she pays \$92 every two months for her garbage pickup.

Budget Worksession Meeting

PUBLIC PORTION (CONTINUED) Mr. Boyce stated that the Committee cannot make a decision on a garbage contract based on what Ms. Phoebus pays for her contract at the golf course. He said he has to look out for 6000 residents who elected him.

Seeing no other hands, Mayor Walsh closed the public portion of the Worksession.

Mayor Walsh stated the unions were invited to attend this evening's Worksession and the Committee has been asking for the unions for their support regarding the tax receipts of \$350,000 that are due this municipality. He asked them and their unions to get involved and write the governor's office stressing the need of these funds by all municipalities. This money will save jobs in all municipalities. He read a letter from the State patting themselves on the back for preserving funding to the towns by not cutting their State Aid. He read the letter into the record. He also read his response to the Governor's office. He read a response stating that Christie is the first governor in decades to reduce the size of government, implement hard property tax caps, reform pension and benefit obligations for towns and cap interest arbitration awards. He asked why isn't the State on the same two percent CAP that the municipalities are on. He wrote back to the Governor's aid stating that he does support most of the Governor's actions but instead of continuing the back and forth dialogue, he invited the Governor to Andover Township to see how we do business in this Republican laden township. Then they may not break their arms to pat themselves on the back. There was no response to the last writing. He asked again for the unions to do their due diligence and reach out to Trenton.

Mr. Lensak agreed that the unions should reach out and help the town and themselves as well. There is nothing else in this budget to cut.

ADJOURNMENT Mayor Walsh moved to adjourn the Worksession at 7:43PM, seconded by Mr. Lensak and carried unanimously.

RECESS CALLED AT THIS TIME

REGULAR MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:55PM.

Attorney Semrau arrived at 7:50PM.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA Mr. Lensak moved to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Mr. Boyce and carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS Mr. Lensak moved the following consent items be approved, seconded by Mr. Boyce and carried unanimously.

\*CONSENT AGENDA:

\*OTHER BUSINESS:

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS FOR PAYMENT

(See Insert Attached to These Minutes)

ACCEPTANCE OF THE TAX COLLECTOR'S FEBRUARY 2013 REPORT  
\$3,422,599.32 - YEAR TO DATE \$4,954,563.12

CONSENT AGENDA (CONTINUED):

RESOLUTIONS:

#R2013-56 RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ANDOVER, COUNTY OF SUSSEX  
AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO ISSUE A TAX REFUND TO US BANK CUST  
FOR CRESTAR CAPITAL, LLC IN REGARDS TO THE REDEMPTION OF TAX SALE  
CERTIFICATE # 11-00002 SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES FOR BLOCK 38, LOT 16 IN THE  
AMOUNT OF \$40,628.16

#R2013-57 RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ANDOVER, COUNTY OF SUSSEX  
AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A  
SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH THE SUSSEX COUNTY  
MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR THE  
PROVISION OF CERTIFIED RECYCLING PROFESSIONAL SERVICES TO CERTIFY  
AND SUBMIT THE 2012 RECYCLING TONNAGE REPORT TO NJDEP

#R2013-59 RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ANDOVER, COUNTY OF SUSSEX  
AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO AUTHORIZE ANDOVER TOWNSHIP TO  
PARTICIPATE IN THE SELF-EXAMINATION OF THE 2013 MUNICIPAL  
BUDGET

#R2013-60 RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ANDOVER, COUNTY OF SUSSEX  
AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO ISSUE A TAX REFUND TO US BANK CUST  
FOR CRESTAR CAPITAL, LLC IN REGARDS TO THE REDEMPTION OF TAX SALE  
CERTIFICATE #12-00008 SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES FOR BLOCK 112.01, LOT 3 IN  
THE AMOUNT OF \$44,731.63

(See Inserts Attached to These Minutes)

\*APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

FEBRUARY 11, 2013 REGULAR MEETING  
 FEBRUARY 11, 2013 EXECUTIVE SESSION

REPORT FROM THE FIRE CHIEF Chief Steinwand was present and gave his report for the month of February. The department responded to a total of 15 events. He then stated that the Venison Dinner is coming up this month and they expect another successful fundraising dinner this year.

REPORT FROM THE RESCUE SQUAD LIAISON Rourke Day was present and gave his report from the Lakeland Emergency Squad for February which included 59 calls, 27 in Andover Township. The data was presented to the governing body via email and the information is also available on their website.

REGULAR AGENDA

PUBLIC PORTION Gail Phoebus was present this evening as Freeholder Phoebus. She spoke about a Bill that is sitting in the Assembly. She explained this Bill wants to take short sales into consideration on your usable numbers when filing a tax appeal. This action will be devastating to both the municipalities and the homeowners. Those numbers can devalue the homes surrounding the short sale homes.

RESOLUTION

#R2013-61 RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ANDOVER, COUNTY OF SUSSEX  
AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY OPPOSING ASSEMBLY BILL A-3780

Mr. Boyce moved to approve this Resolution as presented, seconded by Mr. Lensak and carried unanimously.  
(See Insert Attached to These Minutes)

PUBLIC PORTION (CONTINUED) Ms. Phoebus continued to say that the Freeholders have authorized a study be done on the jail and the entire judicial system in the County. The study was awarded at the cost of \$150,000 which was funded through cancelling unused capital fund balances. They met with the prosecutors and public defenders. They will also meet with municipal judges. The jail is 40 years old and built for 88 inmates. As of today it houses 191, normally they are around 219. She continued to explain that out of the 191 there are 150 waiting for pre-trial. It costs the County over \$30,000 an inmate a year. She said the Freeholders would like to see how the system can be improved by moving the inmates through the pre-trial process quicker and hopefully reduce the number housed at the jail.

Stan Christdlous asked for an explanation regarding Resolution #R2013-58. Mayor Walsh stated the Committee will open discussion of the Resolution at that time it is discussed.

Linda Golonski asked about the budget, stating that tonight is only the introduction. That was confirmed. She stressed that the Committee should make certain that this is the direction they would like to see before voting on the introduction. She recalled last year's process and stated she did not want to see \$7000 wasted in a budget amendment procedure. She then spoke about the Recreation programs and she is in favor of the programs. She said that everyone pays taxes to support these programs but the teams that play do more damage to the fields. Mayor Walsh stated that a fee is charged to every league for field maintenance and it's been done for a number of years.

Ms. Golonski then commented on a parcel of land years ago that she said went a period of time without paying taxes and she wanted to make sure procedures are in place so that all properties are on the tax rolls. Following a short discussion Mayor Walsh and Ms. Thompson recalled the property in question and stated that this property was always on the tax rolls but had filed for bankruptcy. The township had to wait a period of time before they could file action, acquire the land and subsequently sell the property to the State as a park parcel. Ms. Thompson reassured her that all properties are on the rolls, filed by block and lot by the assessor's office. Mayor Walsh further stated that funds acquired through that sale had to be earmarked strictly for recreation purposes.

Attorney Semrau also stated that through the years we have had members of the Committee ask about certain properties, whether or not they qualified for exemption. We had the tax assessor confirm these properties and last year there was an executive session discussion about exemptions to make sure they were all in line. A report was run confirming the status of these properties. He stated someone brought up a case in another municipality to take a look at exemptions to make certain everything is being done to collect the proper taxes.

She then spoke about the FIN CREDIT concept that Newton and Sparta are taking action on. Mayor Walsh stated that at first look it seemed like a great idea but as they look closer it isn't as promising. Ms. Golonski stated that it is a great idea and could only work if the entire County took part in the program. Mr. Lensak stated the company was charging a 25% commission which is outrageous and a money maker for the company itself.

PUBLIC PORTION (CONTINUED) James Woodstrom asked how many properties are listed as Farmland Assessed. Ms. Thompson stated she will check with the tax office and get back to him in the morning.

Seeing no hands, Mayor Walsh closed the public portion of the meeting.

ORDINANCES: INTRODUCTION

NO. 2013-03 TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK FOR 2013

“ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40-45.14)”

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Andover, that Ordinance #2013-03, entitled as above, be passed on first reading, to be published in the New Jersey Herald and the public hearing to be held on April 08, 2013 at 7:30 P.M. local prevailing time, or as soon thereafter as the matter can be reached in the Municipal Building, 134 Newton-Sparta Road, Roll call vote:

Ms. Blackburn – yes	Mr. Boyce – yes
Mr. Lensak – yes	Ms. Mc Govern – yes
Mayor Walsh – yes	

RESOLUTIONS

#R2013-59A RESOLUTION OF THE ANDOVER TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE TO  
INTRODUCE THE 2013 MUNICIPAL BUDGET AS AMENDED PER THE DISCUSSION  
HELD DURING THE BUDGET WORKSESSION

Mr. Lensak moved to introduce the budget as amended, seconded by Ms. Mc Govern. Mr. Boyce started the discussion on this Resolution by saying we go through this process every year and every Committee member would like nothing more than to have a flat or decreased budget. He said it is impossible to do that and maintain the services that residents expect from the town. This year's tax rate will be \$58 per average homeowner, \$.16 a day. He then thanked Mayor Walsh for his work on the budget. Through the past several years we have combined positions, created shared services, done layoff procedures and in the process we have saved the town about \$500,000 to \$600,000 a year. We have not harmed services to the town in the process. He mentioned CFO Magura's appointment through shared services which eliminated a full time CFO. He then mentioned the combination of the Clerk and Administrator positions, which were once both full time separate positions. He spoke about the Land Use Board Administrator shared service which was full time in the past. These moves have been done out of necessity. He fully supports this budget as it was amended.

Mayor Walsh explained that CFO Magura has a plan in place to fund a new fire truck down the road instead of bonding for it. Mr. Lensak also spoke about the town paying down its debt in every budget. He also thanked Mayor

Walsh and Ms. Magura for doing a phenomenal job with the budget. Mr. Boyce mentioned how well each line item looks as compared to the 2012.

The Resolution passed unanimously.  
(See Insert Attached to These Minutes)

RESOLUTIONS (CONTINUED)#R2013-58      RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ANDOVER, COUNTY OF SUSSEX  
AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING THE EMPLOYMENT SEPARATION  
AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF ANDOVER AND STEPHEN D. MURRELL

Mr. Boyce moved the foregoing Resolution as presented, seconded by Mr. Lensak. Attorney Semrau explained the purpose of this agreement regarding Sgt. Murrell's retirement intent. Following several meetings in Executive Session, this matter is brought before the Committee tonight for consideration of action. This separation agreement is with the consent from the Police Chief. This is a long term agreement with an effective date of retirement of August 1, 2014. He will continue serve until that time but in the meantime, this agreement will able him to utilize his sick and vacation time to avoid a lump sum payment for this time. According to the Police Chief, the time he is taking off will not result, whenever possible, in additional overtime. The Chief will step in to avoid overtime. If there is an emergent matter, and if he is not out of State, he will come in and work.

Mayor Walsh stated he has serious concerns over this because he doesn't believe it is a good arrangement for the town. Mayor Walsh stated the agreement outlines the use of sick leave first and if he were to retire now, we would owe him \$24,000 in sick leave reimbursement at 50%. He stated that in the agreement he will be taking 1,041 hours of sick time at 100% and not working. That nets \$48,000 in addition to lose of coverage, service. He added that this move will allow the only sergeant to be off and have an officer fill in as a shift supervisor. Mayor Walsh reminded everyone that there was a request made to promote sergeants. He will also accrue additional sick and vacation time until his retirement in 2014. Mayor Walsh stated his vacation leave amounts to \$14,856 taken last, which is at 100% anyway. He will be paid dollar for dollar on his comp time balance as well, taken last. Mayor Walsh read from the opinion provided by the township's labor counsel stating that he has serious concerns about entering into such an agreement. Though it is legal to give him sick leave as a form of terminal leave, it is troublesome because he is not sick, but receiving sick leave while still on payroll. He continued to read that he doesn't understand to paying one for one for sick leave now as opposed to two for one at retirement does not cost the township. He added the opinion further states he does not think we can enter into an agreement requiring an employee to retire at a certain date. Pension regulations clearly state it is the employee's choice. Beyond that it could be determined as an illegal early retirement. Mayor Walsh stated that though it is stated in the agreement that this action will not set a precedent for future employees, it still sets a precedent. Sgt. Murrell will receive 40 days of sick time without the need of a doctor's note after 10 days. This is a dangerous precedent to set adding how do you enforce our policy with regard to sick leave and doctor's notes after 10 days for everyone else.

Mr. Boyce stated every time such a request as this is made, we as a Committee must evaluate the proposal and consider whether or not this is good for the town. He stated this action will save the town money when he leaves. Attorney Semrau stated there is also an option for Sgt. Murrell to take terminal leave at his pleasure, which will cost the town in additional overtime because it would be in his control and not the Chief's. The Chief added that there are no guarantees that additional overtime won't happen. Mr. Lensak reiterated that we have the assurance from the Chief that this is an agreement he feels comfortable with. Mayor Walsh stated that he is uncomfortable with this action and doesn't see anything good coming from it.

At this time Mayor Walsh opened the discussion to the public.

Stan Christdlous asked why we would do such a thing. He said though Mr. Boyce stated the township doesn't have to pay at the end of his career a lump sum check, has anyone done a study to compare what it would cost the township with this plan versus a payout at the end of his career. Mr. Lensak said that if we were to pay him next year, it could add up to about \$70,000 to \$80,000. Mr. Boyce said the number could vary based on the amount of time used before then.

RESOLUTIONS (CONTINUED)

#R2013-58      RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ANDOVER, COUNTY OF SUSSEX  
AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING THE EMPLOYMENT SEPARATION  
AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF ANDOVER  
AND STEPHEN D. MURRELL

Mr. Lensak stated he did the numbers and we are paying him for being on the job, trying to get his balance down to zero dollars. If we don't do this, he can basically take the time when he wants and cause additional costs to the town. With the agreement, we can control his leave and have him take it when it wouldn't cost the town overtime monies. Mr. Christdlous stated if this plan is approved today, from today until retirement, how many dollars does it cost the township and if it is not approved, what is the cost of doing that. He added that if the Committee doesn't have that information, they are not qualified to vote on this Resolution.

Mr. Lensak stated he doesn't have the exact numbers in front of him tonight not expecting this to be an issue. This agreement has been discussed for several months in executive session.

Attorney Semrau stated from a numbers state point it is difficult sometimes to quantify because of the variables. We don't know what the officer is going to do between now and his retirement date. He spoke about terminal leave which means he can take all his time and then retire. If that happens, it will cost the town additional compensation time to fill that shift, another \$70,000. Mayor Walsh stated if he takes his time, as of today, it comes to \$42,636, 50% of his sick time. He added at 100%, as in this agreement, the total is then \$66,636. Attorney Semrau added that there is still the cost of his absence from the department. Mr. Boyce added that the Chief has a budget for overtime and he must work within that budget. Mr. Christdlous requested the numbers from the Committee. Mr. Lensak and Ms. Mc Govern stated they have seen the numbers; they are not with them this evening. She added this issue has been discussed over the course of several meetings. Ms. Mc Govern also stated that as many numbers that are crunched, there is still a degree variable because there is no way to tell how many days will be accrued during the next year and one half.

Chief Tagliatela asked to clarify one issue. Officer Murrell came to him with this request. He stated his biggest concern is that he has control over the use of the time. Under this agreement he agreed that he would only take, at the Chief's direction, off during week nights. He is not allowed to use this time during the weekends. He said that in the agreement he has the ability to request he work in the event there is no coverage. He agreed to do that if he is in State upon the request. Ms. Phoebus asked who would be in the supervisory capacity in the Sergeant's absence. He replied a senior officer would take that role.

Following this long discussion, Mayor Walsh asked for the roll call on this motion.

Ms. Blackburn– yes

Mr. Boyce – yes

Mr. Lensak – yes

Ms. Mc Govern – yes

Mayor Walsh – no

(See Insert Attached to These Minutes)

COMMITTEE REPORTS

MS. MC GOVERN. She reported on the Board of Education meeting held on March 5<sup>th</sup>. The new superintendent started and she is present this evening. Vicki Pede was introduced to the audience. She expects a very good working relationship with Ms. Pede and the school district. Ms. Pede said a few words to the audience and thanked DPW Dickinson for his assistance during the recent storm.

Ms. Mc Govern stated she attended the Senior Citizens' meeting. They will celebrate a St. Patrick's Day with a luncheon next Wednesday. She mentioned a variety of events and speakers scheduled to attend their meetings in the coming months.

COMMITTEE REPORTS (CONTINUED)

MR. BOYCE. Mr. Boyce mentioned the time change this past weekend and the need to change the clock on the wall.

MS. BLACKBURN. She reported the Environmental Commission met last week and gave themselves kudos on the success of the farmers' market. They discussed the proposed rain garden project planned for behind the Barn. They hope work will begin later this month. Most of the product is being donated so the cost will be little if any. The garden itself was designed by a group from Rutgers and has now become an Eagle Scout project.

MR. LENSAK. He read an article about the Newark School District laying off more than 100 administrators and they will have the principals absorbing the duties. This is something he has had a problem with in our municipality with the school district being a bit top heavy. He then welcomed two new School Board members who were present this evening. He spoke about the High Point District who decreased their school tax with a 2.9 increase in funding and Andover Regional received a 5.9 increase. He says he looks forward to see a healthy decrease in the school tax this year.

He then spoke about the use of Ipads by the Township Committee. He referenced a newspaper article in which Wayne just did that in an attempt to be paperless. He then spoke about the Economic Development meeting held on February 15<sup>th</sup>. Rick Melfi was renamed the Chair and John Carafello, the Vice-Chair. A presentation was made by Agchoice. They requested a follow up meeting with the Mayor and Chair of the Environmental Commission. There was discussion regarding the Marlboro tax incentive program, which we discussed, we are not a big fan of the program. Dale's Market is looking to open in April this year. Jump Airport was sold to PSE&G. The DuPont Rubber Fab property was sold but no information on what is planned with that property. Mayor Walsh heard the property may be used as office space.

MAYOR WALSH. He reported on the recent hotel/motel tax receipts for the month of February totaling \$1282.48. We have about \$18,000 from 2012 and since the inception of the Ordinance, we raised about \$70,000. Thanks was given to Attorney Semrau for this idea. He then spoke about the Transit Authority regarding a meeting with the town. There was no response but a package was received with regard to the Arts Council meeting. We keep calling and asking about the status of the station and no response has been given to that question. They are only interested in meeting with us regarding ideas for the station's art work design.

He stated that they have been working on the budget and in the next few weeks they hope to bring a Capital Budget before the Committee.

Reporting on Recreation, he was approached by adults interested in starting a basketball program as in the past. The gym is available for the program but insurance is an issue again. He asked the Committee if they would consider endorsing this program as a township recreation program. Attorney Semrau stated there would not be any additional cost for this coverage. Once the roster is established, it will be presented to the Committee for consideration at the next meeting.

REPORT FROM THE CLERK/ADMINISTRATOR She reported that the County Department of Engineering, Eric Snyder is requesting municipalities to endorse the County's amendment to the Water Quality Plan before they send it to the State next week. Following a short discussion it was decided that this matter be referred to Engineer Cory Stoner who had worked on the Township's portion of the plan for his advice and recommendation.

REPORT FROM THE MUNICIPAL ATTORNEY He stated with regard to the agreement with Mr. Murrell, it has also been signed off by the FOP Lodge #177 stating that this is not to be considered any past practice or set any precedent, nor could it be utilized in any future contract negotiations. The Township Committee had requested that this be a condition of the agreement.

At the last meeting he was asked to contact Service Electric with regard to the Board of Education's difficulties with internet access. He wrote to them and is awaiting a response. He stated the agreement did call for basic cable service at no charge for all municipal and school properties but it was silent as to internet type access.

There was also a question about a complaint process with the installation of the new power lines. He stated he will forward that to Ms. Thompson for the website.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETINGS: March 25 & April 08, 2013  
6:30PM Executive Session  
7:30PM Regular Meeting

ADJOURNMENT No further business appearing before the Committee at this time, Mr. Boyce moved the meeting be adjourned at 9:24 P.M., seconded by Ms. Ms Govern and carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tom Walsh, Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Vita Thompson, R.M.C.  
Clerk/Administrator