

**TOWNSHIP OF PEMBERTON  
SPECIAL MEETING**

**MARCH 14, 2009**

**9:00 A.M.**

Council President Stinney announced that notice of this meeting was given in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act and led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by roll call.

**PRESENT**

Ken Cartier  
Tom Inge  
Richard Prickett  
Sherry Scull  
Diane Stinney

**ABSENT**

Also present: Mayor David Patriarca, Business Administrator Chris Vaz, Township Auditor Kirk Applegate, Township Clerk Mary Ann Young

Chairman Stinney called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

**BUSINESS FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR FORMAL ACTION, AS ADVERTISED: For the purpose of discussing the 2009 Municipal Budget as presented by the Mayor. Formal action will be taken which may include the introduction of the 2009 municipal budget upon completion or of the review process.**

Mrs. Stinney informed Council will attempt to cover as many departments today as possible and will continue where we left off at each following meeting until Council is done. Council has the option and flexibility to go through any section of the budget in the order they determine is appropriate given the length of time needed for each sections decision. There will be a general public comment portion open to the public at approximately 11:30 am unless Council is just nearly done with a section at that time. Council will conclude that section then immediately open it up for public comments then. Before we proceed with Council's review of the budget, Mrs. Stinney would like to introduce the Township's Auditor, Kirk Applegate, who will be giving us a brief overview of the budget status as it stands now and information that will be helpful in completing Council's review and making determinations for budget introduction.

Mr. Applegate advised the budget estimates package was provided to Administration and Council. Mr. Applegate explained the package and started with the cover sheet which recaps all of the information for all of the subsequent pages and brings it to the front in a recap version. The second page goes over the 2008 revenues and the 2009 proposed budget. The third page talks about the budget expenditures in the summary format. There is a schedule of the Township's fund balance or surplus. Mr. Applegate advised he uses those terms intermittently; they mean exactly the same thing. The last page provides an analysis of the changes in the spending side of the budget. Mr. Applegate moved to page 3, Summary of Appropriations. The state of New Jersey has imposed a cap on the spending side about 15 years ago that is based on the index rate. This year's

index rate is 2.5% so the Township is allowed to raise the inside of cap appropriations by 2.5%. Through an ordinance adopted by Township Council, that amount can be increased to 3.5%. It's easier to describe the appropriations that are outside of cap with the understanding that everything else is inside of cap. The outside of cap appropriations include inter local service agreements, capital improvement fund, debt service, grants, judgments and items like that. Everything else basically the operations, which are salaries and wages, are subject to these caps, 2.5 and/or 3.5%. The 2.5% spending cap gives you the ability to spend \$18,682,000. By increasing that by the additional 1%, you add \$182,000 to that. There are a couple of add-ons that the state permits. One is if there is new construction and new assessments, you are allowed to increase your spending for those and that amounts to \$113,000. Then there is the 2007 and 2008 cap banks. These are funds that we didn't go to the maximum amount in 2007 and we didn't go to the maximum amount in 2008. It allows us to put that in to reserve and we can use that now. The 2007 bank will expire; it only allows us to go to 2008 and then to the 2009 budget and then it goes away. The budget that he has worked with was the original budget submitted by the Mayor. Council has made a few cuts and they are not represented in these numbers. The cuts Council has made so far are not that significant to change this conversation. The total amount allowed to have inside of the cap appropriations is \$18,358,863. That is the maximum amount that Council can go to. Mr. Prickett clarified within cap. Mr. Applegate agreed. The number in the negative, \$1,201,200.53, is the amount that you are under the cap by in summary form. Council has been presented a budget that is \$1,201,200.53 under the spending cap. The other items that are listed on the left hand side of the Outside of Cap Items are pension, one grant that is in the budget that we know of today, judgments, capital improvement fund, debt service, a couple of emergencies that we are still raising, one being the special emergency for \$70,000 and the reserve for uncollected taxes. The one item he wanted to touch on is the pensions. Mr. Applegate advised that as of today, we still don't know what is going to happen with the legislation regarding the pensions. There are a couple of dynamics that are going to come in to play with this. As we're told today based on past statutes, the Police and Fire pension is now going to go inside of cap. What they do is they allow you to bring on an add-on for the amount of the cap you've spent last year. In our case, it's about \$681,000 so the cap will increase by that amount. The budget is \$838,000 for this year so the cap is going to take the hit for that difference. Because we are so far under, it's not an issue. The other issue is the deferral of the pension plan and the payments of those monies. That has yet to be determined if it's going to be approved or not. The legislation has been revised as of Thursday and is supposed to go for a vote on Monday. Once that happens, you will have the option if you like to defer. The budget as you have it has no pension deferral in it. You have the full pension liability for Pemberton Township at this point. Mrs. Scull stated it is her understanding if it is deferred; we will still have to pay it but will have the option to put it in next year's budget which would increase spending there. Mr. Applegate advised that what he was told originally was that half of the deferral would have to be raised next year. In that case, in theory you would have one and one half times the pension liability in next year's budget. They're not doing you any favors; they are just allowing you to push the liability off a little bit. Mrs. Stinney asked Mr. Applegate what the complete pay off is each year, is it 212. Mr. Applegate responded that he didn't understand. Mrs. Stinney continued the deferred payment, each time you defer payment off. Mrs. Scull stated it still has to be paid by 2012 and asked if that is correct. Mr. Applegate replied yes, as it was. There has been speculation that it will be a one year deal and there are a lot of rumors out there and how true they

are, we don't know at this point. It's been pretty hush, hush. Mr. Prickett asked about the \$838,000 and the cap would take the hit so the \$1,200,000 would be reduced by the \$838,000 if they chose to take the full pension write off provided that the legislation let us do that. Mr. Applegate answered not necessarily. They allow you to add last year's expenditures to the cap. The hit to the \$1.2 million would only be about \$150,000 because you get a plus for \$681 and you get a subtraction for \$838. Mrs. Scull stated they will up the cap. Mr. Prickett stated they will up the cap by \$800. Mr. Applegate commented that they call them special add-ons to the cap. When they originally did the deferral, the 20% rule, at the end of the fifth year everything was supposed to revert back to inside of cap. This is the end of the fifth year for Police and Fire. Next year will be the fifth year for public employees' retirement. That is supposed to come back in to cap also. How these rules will change that, he doesn't know at this point. He is taking the premise that it's going back in to cap until he hears differently. We are so far under the cap that it's really not a budget issue at this time for Pemberton Township. Mrs. Scull asked if the pension proposal includes Police and Fire and Public Employees or just Public employees. Mr. Applegate replied both. Mr. Cartier stated it shows that we are using what was left from the 2007 and 2008 cap bank. Since we are so far under the \$1.2 we are under this year using those figures, would it not behoove us to save that \$400,000 for 2008 for next year. Mr. Applegate replied that this document is telling us the maximum amount that we can raise. In the case the Township is in now, we will retain the \$408,000 2008 cap bank and create a 2009 cap bank because we are so far under. He was trying to tell the maximum as the highest that you could go. If you add the \$172 and the \$409 it equals about \$580 and you are so far under, you're actually going to lose your 2007 cap bank and you will create a 2009 cap bank. Mr. Applegate advised to always, always, always do the ordinance increasing the spending to the 3.5%. Even if you don't spend it. That creates the cap bank. If you don't do the ordinance, you don't automatically get the cap bank. We want to at least have the ability to spend that money in the future if we need it. We don't want to tie our hands just because we didn't adopt an ordinance that gives us that flexibility. Mr. Applegate referenced the last page, Analysis of Appropriation Changes. This schedule is going to provide major areas of the Township budget comparing the original 2008 to the proposed 2009 budget. The reason why he is stressing original 2008 is because we probably added close to half a million dollars worth to the budget last year through budget amendments during the course of the year. He wanted us to be able to compare apples to apples and that's why he brought it back to the original introduced budget in 2008. Mr. Prickett asked Mr. Applegate to explain that. He is not following the adding of half a million dollars. Mr. Applegate explained Chapter 159's are budget amendments that proceed during the course of the year that allow you to amend the budget. 95% of those are grants. When Council and the Mayor prepare the budget at the beginning of the fiscal year, you may not know those grants exist. They will come in during the course of the year and the only way to spend those funds is to amend the budget and that's the process of a Chapter 159 and he is sure Council has approved resolutions awarding Chapter 159s and amending the budget. Mr. Applegate gave an example of the 2009 budget that Council has today does not include Clean Communities because we don't know the amount yet. If after the budget is adopted, we get notification that the Township of Pemberton is going to get Clean Communities funds, we will then amend that budget by doing a Chapter 159 resolution. To include those in these figures would be inflating the 2008 budget and showing a difference that was less than what was actually compared to the 2009 budget. He didn't want to get in to that part of it so he pulled those out. The only thing really

missing is the grants. Mr. Applegate continued that the schedule starts off with the Salaries and Wage lines comparing the 2008 budget to 2009 and the overall increase is \$168,000. It's about a 1.8% increase. That number is homogenized. It is showing the contractual increases which are probably running between 3 to 3.5% plus it is less people who have retired. There are some lost wages and some additions. The overall is the \$168,000. The other expenses, the purchasing of paper, supply lines, health insurance, etc., are decreased by \$66,000 when you compare the 2008 to the 2009 budget. Social Security is up \$30,000 and that is a function of increased salaries; that's a math equation. You have to pay 7.65% of all salaries up to a certain limit and that's why that increases. Unemployment which is a minor number of \$100 is the same in both budgets. Pensions show the increase of the \$221,000. Capital improvement funds is down by \$230,000 and the reason is in the 2008 budget there were two grants; one for Norcross Lane and one for Springfield Road that totaled \$230,000. The down payment money that is in the 2009 budget is exactly the same as what is in the 2008 budget. Debt Service is up \$152,000. The primary reason for that is there is now a bond anticipation note to fund some of these projects and we have to pay the interest on those capital projects. Judgments are up \$425,000 from 0 in the year before. The Reserve for Uncollected Taxes is a math calculation that he does. This provides funds to the municipality in order for the municipality to pay their school tax and county tax even if they don't collect 100% of the taxes billed. If thinking about the budget process, the budget has to balance. The revenues have to equal the expenditures. In order to generate more tax dollars they include an expenditure called the reserve for uncollected taxes. That drives the expenditure side up which means you have to raise more revenue to make this balance and that's the basic philosophy behind it. The calculation is not that complicated but is not worth going through it at this point in time. Mr. Applegate explained it takes in to account the school tax, county tax, municipal tax, rate of collections and a process to multiple all of these together to come up with this figure. The last number broken out separate is Grants to show that there is a \$64,000 increase which is minor. The budget that Council has been given accomplishes everything at a minimum level. Salaries are up minutely, other expenses are down. The other items, we really can't control such as pension, debt service, judgments. Those types of items are in there and are the major increases that have to be dealt with this year. Once we understand and have calculated the amount of expenditures, we now have to balance the budget. Page 2 shows where the revenue side comes in. By statute, you are only allowed to anticipate revenue in the subsequent year's budget to the amount that you realized in the previous year. For example, the licenses, alcoholic beverages had \$13,318 realized in 2008. That is the most that you can put in to the 2009 budget. In 2009, we have \$13,000 anticipated as a revenue. A couple of them took some hits this year. Interest and costs on taxes was anticipated to receive \$200,000 and we only received \$171,000. We have a \$30,000 decrease there. Interest on investments realized \$301,000 compared to a budget of \$250,000 but we were still down on our investments. In the previous year, we received \$361,000 on interest and investments. That's a function of two items, one obviously is the interest rate that is available to us and the fact that you don't have as much cash on hand to invest sitting in the accounts to earn interest on. The revenues are all projected on the maximum amounts that you are permitted to have. The numbers for state aid were adjusted yesterday to what we received per our notification yesterday. We were up about \$4,000 in state aid. No great shakes, but the good news is we didn't lose money. Mr. Applegate brought two items to Council's attention. Other Special Items has a \$500,000 revenue that is Liquidation of Reserve for Due from General Capital Fund. A couple of years ago the Township had a number of projects in the General Capital

Account that we didn't go out and get the bond anticipation for. We didn't provide the cash to pay these bills. What happened was the current fund loaned the money to the general capital fund. Now we have the bond anticipation note as mentioned earlier and that money has been returned to the current fund. That's why the surplus fund balance is where it's at today. We utilized \$500,000 of it last year and we had a \$1 million return on top of that that generated most of the current fund surplus this year. That's a lost revenue at this point. We don't have that available to us for 2009. That line is 0 for that particular line account. We made up for that by using more surplus. The surplus line Fund Balance Anticipated at the bottom of the page went from \$2,680,000 in 2008 to \$3.2 million in 2009. We are utilizing almost that \$600,000 again but it's just called something different. Instead of being the interfund, it's now called fund balance because that is where it is now accounting wise recorded. Mr. Prickett stated we used Township funds to fund projects before we got the anticipation notes. This year we are using the anticipation note money to repay the fund. Mr. Prickett asked Mr. Applegate is that is for about \$1 million. Mr. Applegate answered it was actually \$1.5 million and that's where the \$500,000 that was used in the budget last year comes out of that so that leaves us a net of \$1 million and that is \$1 million returned to surplus during 2008. Mr. Prickett commented he thought Mr. Applegate stated something about it couldn't be used this year. Mr. Applegate answered the title can't be used because the interfund no longer exists. We no longer have this due from the general capital due back to the current. We are using that money because we are anticipating the fund balance now. That's the increase of the \$600,000 which is basically using that \$1 million that came in that brought our surplus up to our \$3.9 million level. That was the main contributor to get the surplus as high as it is. There is another page that goes to the fund balance and he'll talk about that later. Mr. Prickett expressed that last year we dissolved some old bonds that were capital bonds for capital projects and we put that money in a capital fund and used it for capital items like buying different things for example, a Durango. He understood last year that you can't take money from a capital fund and use it as general surplus; however, this year what he is hearing and maybe this is the difference. Since we use money from our general fund to fund the bonds or fund these projects and we are getting that money back and putting it back in to the general fund, is that the difference between the two. Mr. Applegate stated the one comment Mr. Prickett made is not correct. You are capable of using general capital surplus in the current fund budget and we're doing that if you look on the first line item under other special items is the general capital surplus. Last year the budget had \$100,000 of that surplus anticipated as revenue and this year we're using \$300,000 of it. To address Mr. Prickett's other point; the money that was sent to the capital account was really just a loan. The Township kind of gave itself its own loan. When it comes back and that loan is repaid, it goes directly to surplus. It loses it's identity of being capital money and it becomes general current fund money at that point. That's what we are anticipating as the fund balance. Last year when the budget was put together, the state said you must liquidate these interfunds so the 2008 budget included a line called liquidation of reserve. To make it simple, if you hadn't loaned that money to the capital account, that line item of \$500,000 in 2008 would have been called fund balance anticipated but because it wasn't in that pot of money, they called it liquidation of reserve from the capital account. It's the same money; it's just a different title; that's really all it is. Since we have since sent the money back from the general to the current, it's now called fund balance and that is what we are utilizing here to balance this budget out. Not balance it completely but provide the majority of the funding at this point. Mr. Prickett expressed that was his understanding from last year's budget proceedings that you

couldn't use capital surplus in the regular budget and asked Mrs. Eden if she remembered any of that discussion last year. Mr. Applegate informed we actually did use \$100,000 of capital last year. Mrs. Eden advised Mr. Prickett that you can use it as revenue and that's what we did last year. Last year we used \$100,000 and this year to balance this budget we are using \$300,000. We also had ordinances last year that we actually paid cash for the projects as Council directed so that we didn't bond. Mr. Prickett added from the capital surplus and that is what he is thinking here and that was a capital improvement and that's why he remembers us talking about it being used as a capital improvement. Taking from the capital surplus and putting it in to a capital improvement. Mr. Applegate indicated that you have the option to do either. Mr. Prickett noted that he didn't realize that last year and he is glad that Mr. Applegate clarified that with him today. Mr. Applegate reminded that in the 2008 budget there was a line item called deferred charges for unfunded improvement authorizations. What that means is there was a capital project that you never had the cash for; you never borrowed it and never provided for it. In last year's budget you provided for it and that's the main difference in the deferred charge line this year, the \$184,000. We provided that cash to pay for those projects that were completed last year. That's the main decrease this year; we don't have to do that; we have no unfunded improvement authorizations at this point. There are three or four different dynamics that were in the 2008 budget that all were related to the capital fund. Mr. Prickett thanked Mr. Applegate. Mr. Cartier noted that Mr. Applegate commented earlier that we can only anticipate as revenue what was realized last year. Mr. Cartier expressed that he doesn't want to end up with a \$200,000 problem but under energy receipt tax.....Mr. Applegate interjected and informed it is excluding state aid. State aid is a given and if it wasn't for yesterday, we would have been talking about state aid in a very vague conversation. Today they came out with the numbers yesterday and told them these are the numbers Pemberton Township will receive. We know we're going to get the \$2.2 million and we know we're going to get the \$1.3 million. So we are allowed to anticipate those. The same thing holds true with grants. If you have a grant that is more than what you received last year, you can still anticipate the higher amount this year. He was just really talking about the local revenues that are on hand. Mr. Applegate conveyed the challenge being faced by all municipalities in New Jersey now are what is called the 4% levy cap. It was a statute that was approved two years ago that limits the amount of tax dollars that you are allowed to ask the residents to pay. The 4% is an in theory only number and there are exceptions to that and they are called add-ons or waivers. Most towns are in a situation where they are budgeting for one year. Pemberton Township has the luxury of being able to budget not only for this year but also planning for next year because you have surplus. Pemberton is one of the few towns that he does the audit for that has surplus anymore and should consider themselves lucky. What that provides Pemberton Township with is the flexibility to allow you to make decisions rather than the budget itself driving the decisions for you. Mr. Applegate has towns that are not permitted to raise the taxes that they need to fund their budget which leaves them with one decision and that's cutting expenditures. Council has the ability at this point in time to not only plan your 2009 budget but to make some decisions that will affect the 2010 budget. Mr. Applegate referred to page four, Schedule of Fund Balances. Mr. Prickett asked Mr. Applegate if the surplus that we will have for this year is \$800,000. Mr. Applegate agreed and added that does not include any add-ons to surplus that will occur during 2009. The Township will not be at \$800,000 next year and hopefully will be in the area of \$2.5 million. What we are left with; the only way to replace surplus anymore is to add excess revenues. When you prepare a budget and run

the revenues as high as you possibly can, there will be no excess revenues so surplus is not going to go up on the revenue side of this. One of the biggest items that most municipalities have that replaces surplus is their prior, prior year's budget that wasn't spent. In Pemberton's case, the money that comes to your 2009 budget year will be the money that was left over from the 2007 budget. It works in a two year cycle. Normally we replace about \$1.2 million of unspent funds back to fund balance. If you think about the process, as you tighten the budget spending wise, there is going to be less money left over at the end because you still have to run the town. Expenditures aren't going down; the budgets are getting smaller and you're probably still going to pay the same amount that you paid last year to run Pemberton Township. That money is going to be smaller than it has been in the past so surplus isn't going to come back up to as high a level as you're used to seeing. Mr. Applegate informed those are the two components that you have to deal with. In order to offset that, the plan is to leave as much surplus available that you can control. That way you don't have to replace as much to get back up to the level that you are used to having. Mr. Applegate referenced page four the Schedule of Fund Balances and in 2006 there was \$3.3 million in fund balance starting the year of 2006. The Township utilized \$2 million of that to support that year's budget. It's a little bit of a roller coaster; Pemberton was as low as \$3.3 million in 2008 but is back up to \$3.9 million at the end of 2008 to be used in 2009. The reasons for that increase are the million dollars that came in from capital. That is no longer going to happen that is what is called a one shot revenue and will not be here again next year where the surplus is going to go up next year because of that. It's gone; you don't have it anymore. Mr. Cartier commented that Mr. Applegate stated that he hopes we will be at \$2.5. Right now after this we will only have \$800,000 so we are going to have.....Mr. Applegate informed that you will replace some with your unspent 2007 budget. There was \$1.2 million come in from unspent budget funds. If it's at a million, then you will be at \$1.8 million and then you'll have some excess revenues that will generate \$300,000-\$400,000 and hopefully you will do a little better and get to \$2.5 million. It's a flat out, stone cold guess of what is going to happen. You have to plan the best you can. As you get closer to June, the CFO can probably tell you how much is going to come back in from the old budget. Because you usually don't spend anything after the first three or four months against that old budget. You can have that number fairly early in the game; at least a good estimate of that. Mr. Prickett asked if that would be the 2007 budget that we would know we would have for surplus in.....Mr. Applegate interjected coming in 2009 yes. The other thing Council should consider is unique ways to raise money. One of the municipalities he audits is going to approach the ShopRite in town and ask them to put their logo on the water tower and pay a rental fee. That would be recurring revenue that the Township could benefit from year after year after year. Building budgets on one time revenues which is where most municipalities are now is dangerous. Because you have to replace that revenue with something else; something completely different. For example, Evesham Township sold their golf course one year. That's only a one time deal and you can't sell that golf course again. So the following year they are scrambling to come up with more money to replace that. That is the challenge that Council has now. Mr. Prickett asked how far you can go with that. Mr. Prickett noted that Mr. Applegate mentioned putting advertisements on water towers which he thinks is a great idea and asked what else you can do. Can you buy buildings and rent them out. Mr. Applegate informed he has a municipality that has 21 homes that they have purchased over the course of the year and rents them out. Mr. Prickett asked if you can buy shopping centers and rent them out. Mr. Applegate replied that he doesn't know where the line is and suggested Mr.

Prickett talk with the state people as they are the ones that ultimately give the approval. Mr. Applegate added that the town he is talking about is an old military town similar to Pemberton and they had cookie cutter homes and as the military people left, they purchased those homes and now rent them out to upstart families so there is a rental revenue. Obviously there is an operational cost to that because you have billings and collections and people to maintain the homes and items like that. Mr. Prickett commented that he is aware of the Tom's River school district that has their own complex, indoor stadium that generates funds and the Administration building rents office space out and it's a terrific idea. Mr. Applegate added it is time to be creative for all municipalities not just Pemberton Township. The levy cap has significantly tied your hands. You just can't go to the residents and say please pay this and we'll keep the town running. The residents don't like to hear it but there are possibly cuts in service. You may not have fireworks; those are the things that the residents appreciate, but those are the first things to go because when Council weighs the option of collecting trash, providing Public Works, fireworks are the things that get cut first. Mr. Prickett remembered a few years ago when fireworks were cut and there was a group that was started, fireworks for Pemberton, and they managed to help fund the fireworks for that year. That's a possibility and he knows in some Townships there is an organization that does that on a year by year basis. Mr. Applegate agreed. Mrs. Stinney stated those are some of the things, good Mr. Prickett that maybe he can sit down with the Mayor and discuss. Mr. Applegate expressed you are taking the cost to the municipality and placing it somewhere else. Whether it's outside organizations or donations or whatever it may be. Mr. Applegate asked why you think these great complexes are sponsored by Wachovia, or Citizens Bank. They get the money from outside sources. Mr. Prickett asked if there is a limit on establishing trust funds for such donations. We have an imagination kingdom trust fund and he tried to start a cat neutering and spaying trust fund but that wasn't acceptable. Mr. Applegate informed the state makes that determination and you would have to send your application to them and they would decide whether or not it falls within the statute. Mr. Applegate offered to put together a list of an off handed number of them that have already been approved. Mr. Prickett expressed he would love to see that list. Mr. Applegate asked if he is referring to too many trusts here or just having trust accounts. Mr. Prickett explained that he had donated some money for the establishment of a trust fund to spay and neuter cats. That money was rejected because it was said that we couldn't establish a trust fund for that purpose at that time. Mr. Applegate informed they have a specific list at the state that they go by. Sometimes they'll step out of that box and give you an approval and they usually through a local finance board notice will tell you when they do that so that everyone can take advantage of that. Mr. Applegate expressed there is a list that the state has of approved dedicated by riders and he can obtain that. Mr. Prickett commented there is another trust fund for the K9 unit to fund maybe new K9 dogs and maybe food and special needs for the K9 dog and suggested coming up with some kind of a trust fund to cover animal's period in Pemberton Township. Mrs. Stinney expressed to Mr. Applegate that she doesn't want to get too far off and wants to make sure that our residents have an opportunity at 11:30 to question some of the things that we need to cover. While we appreciate him coming to talk about those things she is sure that Council can sit down through the Mayor and talk about those things and how to formulate trust funds and those things like that of interest per Council member. Mr. Applegate referred back to the Schedule of Fund Balances and in 2008 there was \$3.3 million available and used \$2.6. In 2009, there was \$3.9 available and we're using \$3.2. They both work out to be about 80%. We're using the same amount percentage



wise from one year to the next. The line underneath that state 10% of the budget is a benchmark. A lot of his clients ask what is a good amount of surplus to have in our coffers at this point. 10% of the budget is one of them that he likes to use and 10% of the budget is \$2.4 million and you only have \$780,000 so you are well under the amount. Some towns use three months worth of average expenditures which works out to be a higher number than the \$2.4 million. The importance of fund balance like he stated before to provide the ability to manage your own budget. The second thing it does is provide you with cash flow. You only collect a majority of your receipts, your major expenditures, your taxes, four times a year; February, May, August and November. In between those times, the municipality runs low on cash. We still have to pay the school taxes; we still have to pay the county taxes. Those two entities normally don't care how much money we have in our bank accounts. If the cash flow gets so low that we can't pay those bills, Council has a decision to make. How do we get money in to our coffers to pay those expenditures. There are three ways of doing it. One is to borrow it from another fund. If you have unspent capital projects funds you can borrow that money from your capital account and use that to pay your operating bills. It has to be repaid by the end of the year. It has to be put back in to the capital account. The second way is to prepare estimated tax bills. Where you don't know exactly what your tax bills are going to be because of the delay in adopting the budget at the state level and the rate is not certified, the CFO's office and the tax office would put together an estimated bill for all of the residents and mail it out prior to their real bills. Obviously there is an additional cost incurred for the municipality to be able to accomplish that; postage and the printing of the bills and not counting the time of the employees. The third way is to float or sell a tax anticipation note. It's not different than a bond anticipation note except that it has to be paid back by March of the succeeding year. Again, with additional costs; you have to pay interest on that when you borrow. You can see your options aren't all that great. That's why surplus becomes critical in today's budgeting economy environment. Mr. Applegate then referenced page one and how all of this comes together and how it affects the tax rate as it stands today. The top part of page one shows all of the revenues recapped comparing one year to the next. It shows the inside and outside of cap expenditures at the bottom, the grants, capital projects and total budget. As it stands today, utilizing \$3.2 million in surplus, we have to ask the residents to pay 9.5 cents on the tax rate than they paid in the previous year. If your home is assessed at \$100,000, that increase is going to be \$95.45. You can maneuver around, utilize more surplus which will decrease the taxes, you can utilize your entire surplus and decrease the taxes down to probably 2 cents, you can run all of your revenues as high as you want and you would have no tax increase. What that will do is handcuff you for next year. You will not have the ability to get under the 4% levy cap and you won't be permitted to raise the amount of taxes you need to keep your services at the level you have today. That's the important of fund balancing today's environment. It gives you that flexibility. He's not saying this year's budget will be easier than next year's. Next year's will be more difficult because you won't have \$3.2 million to put in your budget next year and we're going to have to make up that revenue or decrease the spending side. It's not a pretty picture. Mr. Prickett stated to Mr. Applegate that he is trying to make a prediction; an estimate of what next year's budget is going to be like. He knows that Mr. Applegate doesn't have a crystal ball and Council doesn't have a crystal ball but with all of these things in consideration is there any way to come up with some kind of a rough estimate as to what next year's budget would be like. Mr. Applegate answered that's where he came up with the \$2.5 million that would come back and it's based on historical trends. He doesn't know how much of the

2007 budget was spent in total over the year and a couple of months. He can easily look at that probably now since it's almost the end of March. Mr. Applegate advised the CFO stated she is done charging back to that budget so you would know how much is left over and that would be a surplus replacer. That would add to the \$780,000 that is left. Let's say it's \$1 million and that would give you about \$1.8 million. He can look historically how much your revenues return fund balance and he estimated that to be about \$800,000 and that's how he got to the \$2.5 million. Even if he is off a few hundred thousand here or there, you're not going to have \$3.9 million. Mr. Applegate expressed you are unique in the fact that you can plan a little bit for next year's budget and a lot of municipalities can't. They are struggling to get through this year's budget with no regard to next year because they are in crisis management at this point. As it stands with this document, you are about one penny under the maximum amount that you can raise; it's about \$95,000. If you were to go to the maximum which would now be a 10.5 cent increase, that \$88,000; you wouldn't be at \$780,000 you would be at \$860,000 because we don't need the surplus to support that. If you were to sell a piece of land during the course of the year, you know that is going to come back directly and increase your surplus. If you were to get an agreement with ShopRite to put something on your water tower, again that would come back to surplus. They are not items that we know about today. The other thing we don't know about is the uproar that is going to occur this year at the local level if that's going to have any impact on the state people. His guess right now is no. The Governor is playing hardball at this point. He has already sent a letter to the Local Finance Board telling them not to approve waivers and allow these towns to raise more than the 4% levy cap calculation. Whether that is adhered to, he can't speak to that either. The plan is working. What the state wants to do is working; it's making towns use their surplus to get under the levy cap. Ultimately you will have a budget that you will have to cut expenditures and he doesn't know when that day is because you can't get under the levy cap. The perception at the state is, we're fat. We have too many employees. We have the same service from one town to the next; combine them. That's what their goal is. Their goal is to force the little towns to merge with the big towns. Their goal is to make the government work leaner instead of having five fire trucks, only have four, instead of having twenty dump trucks, only have fifteen. That's the goal and you have to realize that. This year we are able to prepare a budget that you have the ability to continue your services with the budget as it is presented. He is fearful that there will be a time where you won't have that ability. Mr. Applegate expressed hope that he has given Council some information that helps them make some decisions. They are not easy decisions and Pemberton Township is probably one year away where most towns are today. Mr. Applegate referenced the Courier Post, Berlin Boro is laying off five policemen. Winslow Township is going to ask their employees to take two weeks off without pay. There are a lot of things going on out there that these towns are addressing and you're only going to hear more and more now that the budget process has to be completed by March 31<sup>st</sup>. Mrs. Stinney thanked Mr. Applegate for taking time out of his schedule to come forward and explain this budget process with the Council and residents. It is something that we have never and asked Mr. Prickett since he served four years before her three year term if this has ever happened before. Mr. Prickett answered last year he doesn't believe the auditor came out last year but in the previous Administration, the auditor came out every year. Mr. Applegate stated it's a new environment, it's a new budget environment and Council has to have the information in order to make educated, valuable decisions for the town. Mrs. Stinney agreed. Mr. Prickett commented that it would be nice to have Mr. Applegate come out more than once a year. Some of the things that we just talked

about are invaluable to the survival of this community; to explore those it seemed like maybe we were getting off track but he doesn't think they were. Because we do have to look at sustainable revenues instead of one shot deals. Mrs. Stinney again thanked Mr. Applegate for coming out to explain this to the residents. Mrs. Stinney commented as she said earlier, sometimes people can come forward and say things that truly mislead people in the wrong direction and she does understand the steps that he walks at the state level and the municipalities that he just explained here this morning that are basically in the predicament and actually across the country this is occurring. Mrs. Stinney is truly grateful and is sure that she speaks for the residents that the clarity is more than we had on Wednesday so she is grateful. Council President Stinney asked Council if they have any other questions to help them make better decisions, they could perhaps forward an email to Mr. Applegate because she would like to give the residents an opportunity to ask some questions that they may not have had an opportunity to ask in the prior weeks that Council has formed here. Mr. Prickett stated he does not agree with Council President when she said when the public comes up they make misleading statements.....Mrs. Stinney interjected with who makes.....Mr. Prickett continued that Mrs. Stinney used the word misleading.....Mrs. Stinney commented that what she is saying is and let her just first.....Mr. Prickett continued with he wants to finish what he has to say and then Mrs. Stinney can then.....Mrs. Stinney advised Mr. Prickett that then she will address him and to go right ahead.....Mr. Prickett continued that his concern however it was stated, the word was mislead and he doesn't think people intentionally try to mislead anybody; the public that comes up to the dyas. They might not have the information necessary to get their questions formulated and answered and that's why it is so important to have the auditor here. Mr. Prickett expressed he sees a genuine interest in public comment in getting to the facts and getting and understanding of the government. He just wanted to comment about misleading. The other thing he wanted to ask was when there is a tax increase of maybe 9.5 cents or 9.8 cents, how does that affect the amount of taxes collected. Pemberton Township has a \$400,000 deficit in taxes collected this year and by increasing the taxes by 9.5 cents, and Mr. Applegate does not have a crystal ball but is there anything historically that when you increase taxes that uncollected taxes go up. Mr. Applegate advised that the rate of collection hovers right about 96% so any number that you have of that 9.5 cents, 96% of that will not be collected. That equates to about \$300,000 in this year's budget with the reserve going up. You can look one page one, the amount to be raised and see where budgetarily we are asking for \$859,000 more. In a good year, we'll collect 96% of that increase but that doesn't handcuff the town because we're actually billing more than what we actually need so that will offset itself. Mr. Applegate expressed he hopes that answered Mr. Prickett's question, he is not sure. Mr. Prickett replied he is not sure either. Mr. Applegate added that he is available anytime and he can come to any meeting most times as long as he doesn't have a conflict with another municipality and he is always happy to come up and meet. Mr. Prickett commented that we should further explore potential revenues in the town as sustainable and should make a stronger effort than just a ten minute discussion to do that. Mr. Prickett thanked Mr. Applegate and added that he is very informative. Mrs. Scull did not have any questions. Mr. Inge referenced page four, employee wages and noted that Mr. Applegate stated that some Townships are asking employees to take two weeks off without pay and he heard the Governor is trying to get unions to accept two holidays taking them without pay. Mr. Inge asked if our employees are asked to possibly take two holidays off without pay and perhaps don't take a pay increase and keep their pay increase to the 2008 budget, would that help for next year's budget as far as employees laid off. Mr. Applegate

replied his answer is going to be a hedge; it can assuming you keep all of the revenues the same. That way, if you decrease your expenditures and use fewer surpluses, you would have more available for next year. If you decrease the expenses, the salaries line, and you decrease the amount of taxes that you raise, no it will not because you haven't retained any of that surplus at that point. You decreased the revenue and you have decreased an expenditure and there will be no increase to fund balance. If you decrease an expenditure and you use less surplus, the taxes rate will stay the same, the 9.5 cents in your case and you will have a bigger base to build the surplus on. Mr. Applegate reiterated it is a hedge answer and it could go either way depending on how you approach it. If you decrease the taxes and leave the surplus the same, you will have no impact on surplus whatsoever. If you decrease the salaries and you decrease the amount of surplus, you'll still generate the tax revenue that will come back for surplus. It can be done and yes that can save depending on how you structure your budget. Mr. Applegate stated most of these towns are doing that in lieu of laying people off because they are over the levy cap. It has nothing to do with their spending cap. The town he is speaking of is \$1.4 million under their spending cap. They are \$1.2 million over the levy cap. Mr. Applegate commented that you'll say that doesn't make any sense but it's because they lost revenues. They don't have fund balance anymore to balance their budget and they had a one time revenue in there last year for \$700,000 that they no longer have. You can see the dynamics of how this is working. You can cut expenditures but if you're losing revenues, you're going to get killed. It's going to make it impossible to do your budgets. That's exactly what the Governor wants to happen. Mr. Inge stated he doesn't see this town bringing any rateables in this town in the next couple of years. Mr. Applegate stated that is a unique challenge for Pemberton without a doubt because you don't have the ability to generate it based on business income at that point. That's why it is all the more important to manage the fund balance the best you can. Mr. Applegate stated to be honest, if you get through next year, the following year you will not be able to because your fund balance is not going to be able to come back unless something dramatically changes between now and then. No matter how well you manage it. It used to be he would come to a meeting and they didn't do a one year budget, they did a three year budget. They looked out three years ahead and tried to anticipate where we would be then so that we didn't have tax rates that went up, down, up, down and tried to keep it on an even plain. That was managing. That's what municipalities used to do and we can't do it anymore. It is impossible. We can't do it. Mr. Inge asked Mr. Applegate if he is saying that even if we cut our spending, we still should keep the 9.5%. Mr. Applegate answered that is his philosophy to go as high as you possibly can under the cap levy because it will only benefit you later on. If you were to half the amount of taxes you raised this year, you're not going to have the ability to pick up that half next year and what you need to run the town because it's capped. The Governor has squashed your ability to do that. There were years in the past where you could do that. You could decrease taxes and the following year, you could raise the taxes as high as you liked. In today's economy, it is so bad you want to do the best you can for your residents. You want to have the least amount of impact on their lives as you possibly can. In the past, you could do that. You could wait for the economy to rebound and then you could tax them higher then. You can't do that now because of this cap. You don't have the ability to do it. We try to plan the best we can and suggestions like yours of maybe asking for unpaid holidays will help next year. Mr. Inge thanked Mr. Applegate. Mrs. Stinney wanted to clarify a couple of things, misleading con \_\_\_\_\_, we could sit here and nitpick all morning long Mr. Prickett and make words say or mean whatever we want. Actually what she is

saying is that when residents come forward and make statements some times they are kind of misleading and circulated differently than what it was intended to mean. She is grateful again while Mr. Applegate is here to explain some of the process that we're going through right now and perhaps he can come back in June and we can look at 2007. Mrs. Stinney stated to Council that they do have the option to go through the Mayor and she encourages them all the time to talk with the Business Administrator and speak with the professionals and get those questions answered so Council can make intelligent decisions. Mrs. Stinney again thanked Mr. Applegate and wanted to make that clarification. Council President Stinney asked Council if it's okay with them that some of the residents may want to take advantage and she'll put a cap on it and ask Mr. Applegate something, Council has taken up close to a good hour and would Council mind if we open the meeting up for the residents to come and ask a question or two. Mr. Prickett stated he thinks it would be terrific and we should do that. Mrs. Stinney noted one second to Mr. Prickett and added that he is one Council member and to hold on a second. Mr. Prickett stated to Mrs. Stinney that she asked the question and he is just responding to her. Mrs. Stinney commented that she is not finished and she is finishing and to hold on and be respectful this morning. Mr. Prickett and Mrs. Scull are inaudible. Mrs. Stinney asked Mr. Cartier, Mr. Inge and Mrs. Scull if they agree to open the meeting to the public. All replied yes. Mrs. Stinney noted that she heard Mr. Prickett's decision and then opened the meeting to the public to direct their questions to Mr. Applegate and asked Mayor if that is good. Those wishing to comment were:

**Dean Nicholas:** 1. He is a resident and also the President of Local 2783, our AFSCME employees which is the largest union that is here. From what he understands from Mr. Applegate, it doesn't sound like it would be advantageous to Council or to the residents to cut positions. A lot of our departments are already under staffed. We're talking about 19 more people being laid off which would in turn cause less revenues to come in because these people would probably lose their jobs and eventually lose their homes because they are probably the main breadwinner in their homes and being fortunate to be employed by the Township and their medical benefits for their kids which would probably cost them their college educations and their jobs maybe. Mr. Nicholas asked what would be the best way for Council and them to work to save jobs and actually get us where we need to be. Because their main goal as the leaders of this Township and the employees of this Township is to provide our residents with the best services that we possibly can and the best way that we can with what we have. Speaking for himself and where he works, a lot of the equipment is old and they are keeping it running and are doing what they have to do without causing an extra burden upon the Township. As the President, he can relate to the members and hopefully with Council's help, save their jobs and plan for the future. Mr. Nicholas asked what would be the best road and best avenue to do that. Mr. Applegate stated the best avenue would be to deal with the Mayor and the professionals to come up with creative ways to do that. Mr. Applegate referred to Mr. Inge's statement of days off without pay. Cost cutting is definitely advantageous. Cost cutting could include salaries which you don't want to do, obviously. There's a fine line between buying new equipment and the cost to maintain old ones. Those are the things that you have to come to Administration with, with ideas. They are open to them and he has had a couple of meetings where some things were discussed such as shared services and how one department can help another department with supply purchases and things like that. In your conversations with the town, health insurance is an important issue not only to the people that work here but also to the people that are paying for it. It's going through the roof and over the last ten years

it's unimaginable how much that cost. Mr. Nicholas informed that concessions were made this year working with management. Mr. Applegate suggested continuing to have those conversations either as a department or as a group of departments with anyone up here. Mr. Applegate stated he can't tell him what to do; he is not management; he is an advisor but there are ideas that you might here from another town just like he's done tonight referring to the advertising on the water tower. It's going to take a team effort to make this work and he's not sure that's even going to make it work because the economy is just that bad and the Governor is doing what he can to control the state spending, county spending and local spending. Mr. Applegate noted the Governor is playing hardball and he wouldn't want his job. It's going to be communication and everybody can come up with some ideas. Whether they're feasible or not has to be determined. Mr. Nicholas thanked Mr. Applegate. Mrs. Stinney thanked Mr. Nicholas for coming forward and advised that his comments are duly noted. It's rough and very, very hard all over. She as a Council member thanks his organization or department for the sacrifices that he has made through Administration. As he said, we all have to tighten our belts somewhere down the line. Mrs. Stinney noted the Mayor cut his salary by 20% and a couple of other Council members did that. She chose to go the highest amount to cut and that was through her insurance through the Township. We all have made sacrifices and while she can say they are truly grateful for the sacrifices that they are continuing to make because it is a rough storm that we're riding. Mrs. Stinney remarked that the President commented the other day that we are in the eye of a storm. She reiterated that they are grateful for all of the sacrifices that everyone is truly making and she couldn't sit there by herself and say that she has not seen sacrifices across the board and she is grateful in the services that they render to our Township. Mr. Nicholas thanked Mrs. Stinney and added that is all that they are working for and we need to work this together. It's gone to be Council, upper management, lower management and the employees. We are only as strong as our weakest link and we all have to make sure that we don't have a weakest link to give these residents what they deserve. We need to do that together as a team; we need to do this together to get through it and save as many jobs as we can. Even through attrition and the jobs that aren't being filled, we're really not talking about 19 positions, we're talking about 30 positions that are gone right now because of people that are not being filled in the Police Department and Public Works. There is one individual with 17 years in one office that is already undermanned that may be losing their positions. Mr. Nicholas asked how do you replace that. How do you give a resident the due justice that they need when you take someone who has been diligently working for them for 17 years and take them away. How do you give that back and how do you replace that. You can't. Mrs. Scull stated no. Mrs. Stinney commented the room was full of people on Wednesday that suggested those things and he can refer to the minutes later on but she doesn't know but she is grateful. Mrs. Scull thanked Mr. Nicholas for his comments and she agrees with everything he has said so far. Mrs. Scull continued that you can't take a 17 year employee out without creating a lot of horrible feeling out there. Mrs. Scull added that we are doing everything we can, she hopes, to ensure that does not happen. Mrs. Scull replied to Mr. Nicholas' question about what they can do with mail in prescriptions and save an awful lot of money. Council was told that only three employees in the Township use that service. To have some kind of a little get together with the staff and have someone there to explain how to use it can save the Township quite a bit of money. Mrs. Scull conveyed if she pays through mail order she is paying \$5.00 for three months and if she went to the drugstore it would be \$45.00 for the three months and that's a big savings. She doesn't know what the employees mail in is,

but it has to be somewhat helpful. Many of the employees are taking time off instead of doing overtime and that saves a lot of money and Council does appreciate the efforts that the staff is making to work with Administration and the Mayor and Council to help solve this problem. Personally, she doesn't mind paying an extra \$8.00 a month to keep 19 people employed and in their homes in Pemberton. Mrs. Scull advised to look at the big picture. We've saved a lot of money for our tax payers over the years by being an Abbott district to run our schools. That's benefited the Township employees and a lot of times they don't understand that. We all need to work together to make sure we continue to get the Abbott funding for our schools because otherwise that's going to be dumped on tax payers backs and continue to work with Council and the Board and she appreciates their efforts. Mrs. Scull thanked Mr. Nicholas. Mr. Prickett advised he would also like to address Mr. Nicholas. Mrs. Stinney stated to Mr. Prickett he will and to hold on a second. Mr. Nicholas stated that is a very good point there. Since our new local has taken over and locals in the past, they have opened the great door between our unions, the CWA unions and our upper management talking as far as Mr. Vaz goes. They have a very open communication and it seems to have worked out very well. They are able to take it back to the membership and take it to Mr. Vaz and they brainstorm. It's TQL, total quality leadership and it's something that they need desperately. Mrs. Scull agreed. Mr. Nicholas continued that any ideas that Council has that filter down to them and they can take to their membership and it would be greatly appreciated. Mr. Nicholas noted Mrs. Scull comments on prescriptions that not only saves the employees money but also saves the Township money and that is an aspect they can look at and work on at their end. Without knowing that, they always knew it would save money but the overall picture they might not have realized and by explaining that now, he will make sure that goes back to their membership and they will discuss it. Anything like that is appreciated on their side and anything they can help Council do to save jobs and make this community better, they appreciate the same back in return to them. Mrs. Stinney commented that's wonderful. Mrs. Stinney thanked Mr. Nicholas for his comments and asked Mrs. Scull if she was finished. Mrs. Stinney thanked Mrs. Scull for bringing that idea up and added that she spoke with the Mayor about how they were going to have a little get together to show some of the ideas that were presented the other night such as prescription. Mr. Prickett stated to Mr. Nicholas that all of the Council members do appreciate what the AFSCME union does and what the AFSCME employees do for the Township and for the municipality. Mr. Prickett wanted to make sure Mr. Nicholas was aware that it's more than one or two people that feel that way; it's the whole Council that feels that way. Mr. Prickett was glad to hear what Mrs. Scull said as far as the prescription drug benefits that employees should be looking at to reduce costs. It was a great suggestion and a great reminder of what was talked about the other night. He was also very glad to hear that there is a dialogue with Administration on how they can do things to make the budget work a lot easier for the residents of Pemberton Township. That they are having a dialogue about taking whatever days or however they do that. This is the first time he has really heard there was a dialogue with Administration. Because of the form of government that we have, Council doesn't hear too much from the employees and so it is very refreshing to have president of the union come up before the Council and talk about these things and have a dialogue. Mr. Prickett would like to see him do this if allowed and it's possible, come up more than once a year, once during the budget hearing and suggested he come up on a quarterly basis and give Council some insight in to how the union is functioning and how the employees are doing within the Township. Mr. Prickett is not sure that will happen but it would certainly be edifying from his perspective to

have that insight in to the workings of the union and the employees within the town. Mr. Nicholas advised he would have to take that back to his union body and discuss that with members of his union and if that is their wishes, then that is what they will do. Mr. Prickett advised he would appreciate that. Mrs. Stinney commented that she loves the dialogue and for so many years there has not been that dialogue with Administration and that's how sometimes government gets so disgruntled and you have to have that check and balance. You call, she sees, they talk and that has to happen. Mrs. Stinney asked Mr. Inge if he had a question or anything he wanted to say. Mr. Inge advised he can offer some advice and some of the reasons the residents say that we should cut Township employees because when residents go to work in the morning and they go to the local WaWa's and see almost half of the Township vehicles at WaWa at 7:30 in the morning when they start at 7:00 and that's big problem. That's where they get a lot of complaints about. People taking vehicles home for lunch instead of employees bringing their lunch, they shouldn't be allowed to go home and make their lunch at home, sit there with a Township truck and eat lunch and then decide when they come back to the Township. You have vehicles where we hear leaf pick up and vehicles are in Browns Mills, their trucks are full and instead of them heading towards the Township, they are heading towards their houses. These are the complaints that Council hears and this is one of the biggest reasons that Township residents complain about the amount of employees that we have. It's a shame that it's only a few employees but it makes it look bad for all of the employees. He doesn't think there are any complaints about the work ethics of the employees. There are jobs that they do and they are seen out there in the summer time in 100 degrees and they are out there cutting and doing the fields and stuff and cleaning up the Township. That's what you hear about and that's one of the biggest problems. Another thing is when it is stated the unions are working together but when there was a union that was asking for outrageous pay increases and retroactive pay and everything, residents didn't look too highly on that either. Mr. Inge conveyed that is a big problem and that's one of the reasons there are a lot of residents coming in and saying that we should be cutting jobs where we never had that happen before in the Township. That's the real reason for the uproar with a lot of the residents in this Township. It's not when they go in to the tax office and there is an employee that's been there 17.5 years, built a house in the Township 5 years ago because she likes this Township and she shouldn't be held accountable for that. Unfortunately the residents don't see that. Mr. Inge wanted to bring that to the attention so when you go back and the same thing when you hear the government; the two vacation days off without pay. Mr. Inge suggested that not only for this year but you have to look to protect yourself next year and the year after. The most important thing to all of the employees in this Township is their health benefits. Because the employees in this Township, their health benefits are probably ten times better than their spouses health benefits and they usually use the Township's health benefits because they are so good. We have to look at that and we want to make sure that you can not only save for this year but you have to look out for their jobs next year and the year after. So you guys have to figure out and maybe that two days this year taking off and holding their pay for the 2008 instead of taking the increase or whatever the increase would be for 2009, if that would help. If it's not going to help, he wouldn't suggest the employees do that. From what Council understands, if that would help then that might be a very important thing to do is go back immediately and talk to the rest of the union and the other unions and then maybe that's a way that we can keep your jobs. He doesn't think anybody on Council said at the last meeting that they wanted to cut jobs. Mr. Inge reminded that he stated at the last meeting that he would like to see the Administrator go back and he was



corrected that it's not the Administrator's but it's the Mayor's budget, go back and come back with a zero percent tax increase. Mr. Inge noted that he never made a statement that he wanted the Mayor to lay off employees. Mr. Inge wanted to make sure that is clear and what they have to do is look at possibly two days off because like the auditor stated, next year will be very tight. The following year is basically going to be impossible to not cut. Who knows, if we start now maybe we can keep a few more years. We do have some employees in the next couple of years might be able to retire and that might bring it down and that will help if we don't replace those employees and replace those positions with a higher pay, jobs could be saved that way too. Mr. Inge noted that's what we have to do and stated to Mr. Nicholas that when he goes back, tell the union members that it's not that the residents don't appreciate the service, they just have a problem with like he said it is very obvious when people are going to WaWa in the morning and that is the biggest complaint when there are all of these trucks sitting there with employees and they know that they start working at 7:00 and ask how could they be taking a break at 7:30. Nobody on the outside works like that and that's the thing they have to keep in their mind that maybe the residents are not saying anything to a person in particular but they are definitely complaining about it. It wasn't more than two weeks ago that someone came up and complained and that same person has complained before about it and if they are doing it in public, you know they are doing it when they see us on the street. That's one of the reasons he thinks why there are residents coming out and saying maybe we should lay off. Mr. Nicholas thanked Mr. Inge and reiterated what he said earlier is that is why communication is needed between Council, upper management and the unions. These problems that exist out there, they need to work together as a team to resolve the problems in the best way they can as far as the WaWa thing that is something that is definitely going to be worked out. As far as the medical, they did make concessions on the medical for the next five year contract that we have. We went to a five year contract because the contract was constantly falling on an election year which put a burden upon the outgoing and a burden upon the ingoing Council and/or Mayor so they decided to go with a one year, five year so that we're a year past that and everybody has a chance to get their feet wet and we can work together the way we should on that. As far as the furloughs go, there was a concern brought up about that if you take twelve days off without pay, it would affect your pension and you would have to buy those days back. It is saving the Township money, but it's putting another burden some place else. If it can be a vacation day without pay or something that will not affect the employee's pension, there might be a concession that might be able to be made there. But if it's going to directly affect their pension and it's done for four or five years, then we're talking about sixty days that's bad towards the pension. Mr. Inge stated he is not sure how that works but he was going by what the Governor was trying to do so they could save some jobs. The vacation days wouldn't affect the pension at all. Mr. Nicholas stated that is something we need to work on and find out. There have been suggestions of taking comp time instead of overtime and there was a whole list that they submitted to the Mayor and Administrator to try and save positions, jobs and money for the Township. The union is definitely trying on their end and they've gotten a very good response from Administration on their end and now they need to put the whole pie together. Mr. Inge remarked that the biggest thing is most employees are saved this year but you definitely want to start looking at next year and the year after. Mr. Nicholas stated that's why they need to work so much more together because it not only reflects on them but it reflects on the people and the leadership also. The leadership is only as good as they are and they are only as good as the leadership. Mr. Nicholas suggested remembering that too.

Mrs. Stinney and Mrs. Scull agreed. Mrs. Stinney thanked Mr. Nicholas again. Mrs. Stinney noted that she heard what Mr. Inge commented on the people complaining and she thinks this is one of the roughest Mayors this Township has ever had. She is sure Mr. Nicholas as a leader could probably contest to that. The Mayor is strict and he holds the gun. Mrs. Stinney conveyed that she hears so many things out in the Township and she is grateful that people pick up the phone and call and the Mayor checks it out. When she goes to church where over 300 and some people are residents here and she walks in the door and they grab her and say thank you, thank you, thank you for the workers that you have here in this Township. Mrs. Stinney is grateful. There is a song that she sings in church called Grateful that brings tears to her eyes and she thinks about the gratefulness, the things that we have here, the people that we have working in our Township and she truly is grateful. When she walks in her church service door on a Sunday and someone grabs her and says that person that is back there in the Tax Assessor's office and apologized for not remembering her name, she is truly, truly grateful. Mrs. Stinney noted she will keep quiet because she'll sing that song. Council President asked the public if there is anyone else that wanted to come forward and address Council. Mr. Cartier noted the public is addressing the Auditor. Mrs. Stinney noted she got a little carried away and thanked Mr. Cartier for the correction. **Marge Howardell: 1.** She is a staff representative out of Council 71's office and handles 14 different other locals and also realizes all of the problems like Council said are going through. She appreciates the open door policy that has been established here at the Township. The members are very grateful for that and any suggestions that Council 71 could put together will also be submitted to the office so that we all can work together and keep everybody working. Mrs. Stinney thanked Mr. Howardell. **Donna McBreen: 1.** Has a been a Township resident pretty much for her entire life. She asked for clarification when it was stated about raising the taxes this year, if Council decides to go under the amount, the 9.x, that would be bad actually for next year and asked if she is correct in understanding that. Mrs. Stinney and Mrs. Scull answered yes. Mrs. McBreen continued that no matter what else happens, it will end up being.....Mr. Applegate interjected and stated you can't do this in a vacuum obviously if you cut expenditures then you will be in the same position. If everything stays the same as it is right now and you decrease the amount of taxes, the only way to accomplish that and to balance the budget, is to use more of the surplus. For example, if using \$3.2 million now in fund balance to balance the budget and using 9.5 cents as a tax increase. If you wanted to make it 8.5 cents, you would have to use \$88,000 more of the fund balance, so now you would be using almost \$3.3 million. That money would not be available for next year to use in the 2010 budget. If you go the opposite way, if you were to go to 10.5 cent increase, you would use \$88,000 less of fund balance, bringing us down to 3.1. Now you would have almost \$900,000 available for next year's budget, because you have to assume it's going to be spent. These budgets are so tight; it's going to go away. That's the dynamics of it. There are other revenues and that is a very simplistic example and because of the other revenues being as high as they are, we can't anticipate any more of those. If you do cut expenses and you kept the 9.5 cents, the fund balance would go up because you would have more left over today for then. Mrs. McBreen thanked Mr. Applegate. **Cindy Williamson: 1.** Mrs. Williamson is a life long resident in the Township and also a 17 year Township employee. She has dedicated a long time to this Township as an employee; she enjoys working here and hates the thought of being laid off. Five years ago, she built a brand new house in the Township and she had to be a resident in order to keep her job. She is paying over \$6,600 in taxes; more than her fair share. Mrs.

Williamson doesn't think the lay offs are an answer to the problem. She wished the Township would look a little bit more toward getting some of the Township owned properties. We've been collecting information from people that are interested in purchasing Township owned land for about two years and they have yet to have a land sale. Mrs. Williamson suggested that more can be done about bringing in businesses and rateables in to the Township. It seems like the Council or the Township itself likes to block development in this Township. Mrs. Williamson conveyed that would really be the answer to bringing in more tax dollars; allow more developing here instead of putting a block on it. Mrs. Stinney thanked Mrs. Williamson and stated if the developing comes, we have our eyes open and they go through the process. Mrs. Williamson commented that she realizes there are a lot of restrictions and as an example the WaWa with some of the issues that were going on about developing and there are some developers that were interested in the Township off of North Pemberton Road. Mrs. Stinney encouraged Mrs. Williamson to come out to some of the Planning Board meetings and to get other residents to come out and be a voice and let them know that we just don't have the revenues here in Pemberton Township. Mrs. Williamson noted Sybron is pulling out. Mrs. Stinney reiterated the revenues are just not here and when it gets to Council it's at a different level or it's just about really done through the Zoning and the Pinelands and the Planning Board and those sorts of things. Mrs. Stinney again encouraged Mrs. Williamson to do that and also thanked her for building here, her life here in Pemberton Township and being a resident and employee for so many years. Mrs. Williamson noted that hopefully she'll be able to stay.

**Lisa Eden: 1.** Mrs. Eden is a 15.5 year employee and her son is also an employee here as well. Mrs. Eden addressed Mr. Applegate that Mr. Inge has suggested a zero percent increase on the taxes. She states that Mr. Applegate is a paid professional and Administration has hired him to be that paid professional. She would assume that a zero percent increase on the taxes is not something that he is recommending. Mr. Applegate replied that is correct and added unless it is done through cutting expenses. Mrs. Eden stated even if they cut expenses this year and don't raise the taxes to bring in the revenue, next year we are looking at a bigger problem. Mr. Applegate replied correct. Mrs. Eden commented that as a resident and as an employee, we all know that taxes need to be increase. We don't want to do it but food increases, gas increases and taxes are going to have to increase. Mrs. Eden doesn't know who is recommend a zero increase other than Mr. Inge but asked the Council if Mr. Applegate is the paid professional, why is Council not listening to him and his recommendations. Mr. Inge answered that this is the first time that he has had the opportunity to hear the Auditor speak about the budget and Council received this document this morning. Mr. Inge stated that was one of his questions earlier today if Council didn't approve the 9.5 would it help us next year or would it hinder us next year. Mrs. Eden asked Mr. Inge if that logistically as a businessman in the Township himself, has he never had to raise his prices. Mr. Inge replied it depends; certain things you can raise your prices and certain things you can't. Because if you do, you have to make sure; with competition from another person that has the same type of business. Mrs. Eden commented if you don't within a certain amount, you are never going to survive. Mr. Inge stated to Mrs. Eden if she wants to look at it that way to look at Medford. Now there are houses selling in Medford for \$220,000 and two years ago you couldn't buy a house in Medford for under \$320,000. Pemberton Township on the other hand has houses selling for \$220,000 two years ago and now houses on average are selling for about \$180,000. Before we used to get a lot of military and now we don't. For the difference of about \$40,000 and its unfortunate, more of the military are buying out of Pemberton Township; they are buying in other Townships. Mrs. Eden asked

what is Pemberton Township doing to draw them to it. They are building the mega bases; they are increasing the people that are moving in because they are bringing more and more people. Mr. Inge replied we have to be more business friendly and that's what we have to be. Mr. Inge reiterated we have to be more business friendly and bring things in to the Township. Mrs. Eden stated we have to bring in more things for the kids as well and added that anyone that has kids here that play sports, knows that they have to go out of the Township for anything that those kids want to do especially during the winter time. Mr. Inge answered that he has the same thing. His daughter had her birthday party and they had to go to a skating rink out of town. So you only have maybe three or four kids in her class that are going to travel out of town and a lot of parents have the same problem. When they want to have events for their children, they have to have them out of town. You don't have that many kids that go to school that are able to attend these events. Where if we had something like that in the Township, it would help the business and it would also help the residents by having something close and that way you would have more of a relationship with the other parents where your kids go to school at. Mr. Inge commented on the zero percent and stated if Council does approve the 9.5 and we spend more than what we're going to spend, we're still going to have a problem. Mrs. Eden conveyed she understands that and it's definitely something that Council and Administration and employees all have to work on. It's not just saying we're going to do this; we're going to raise your taxes and avoid the lay off and just pretend that the problem doesn't exist until next year. It's something that is going to have to be an on-going job and there are many, many things that you can look at. Council, Administration, Administration to bosses, bosses to employees where you are spending things that are needless. We can all attest and if there are residents complaining that there are people that are working are at the WaWa at 7:30, that should go back to their boss and their boss needs to handle that. If you are losing your job because you're not doing your job, that is different than losing your job because you don't want to raise the taxes. That's completely different. Mrs. Eden commented if she is not doing her job, by all rights fire her. But when she is doing her job and the people that are not at the WaWa's who would be losing their job because residents are complaining because employees are at the WaWa. Mrs. Eden noted that probably nine out of ten of those people are not on that list. Mr. Inge agreed. Mrs. Eden commented that she is right because there is one in her office and there are many people in this building that are ready to lose their jobs because they are on that list and it has nothing to do with the term that they have served here. It all is about when they went in to their office. You have somebody from 17 years over people that would save their jobs that have been here for 3 years which is a whole other story. Mr. Inge remarked that there are people that just started last year full time that jobs are saved. Mrs. Eden agreed and added that the employees at the WaWa, the residents need to know that it's not everybody and when they see those people at the WaWa, by all means call immediately because there's a number and there has to be a boss at 7:00 back there. There is a public number for Public Works. If it's the Police Department or whoever it may be, that boss needs to take care of it that day. If it happens once, you get a warning. It would be the same thing with them, if they didn't abide by the personnel and procedures manual, they get warnings. If they don't abide by it, they lose the job and it doesn't matter who is behind you whether you have the union or civil service behind you, if you're not performing your job, you lose it. But to tell people that they're going to lose their jobs because you want a zero increase on taxes and she understands. She has been a resident all of her life and her families all live here. Her kids live here, her son works here and her son bought a home here. Because Council doesn't want to raise the taxes and

people don't want to raise taxes because they see trucks at the WaWa is ridiculous when there is a professional, the Auditor, telling you that you need to raise the taxes. Mr. Inge stated you need to cut expenditures also. Mrs. Eden conveyed he is beating a dead horse in her office, because they get the hand me downs of everybody. They go to the mail room and if there are binders or whatever there is there, they take it in to their office. Mrs. Eden suggested to Mr. Inge to come in to the court room and the court office and tell her that they are over spending in their office and she can tell you they are not. They have bought fans out of their own pockets, staples out of their own pockets and have bought many things in their office and she is sure but she doesn't go in to the other offices because hers is a secured office so they don't come in to hers, but she is sure there are many, many other employees that have done the same. Whether Mr. Inge sees it or not is irregardless. They have had it so hot in that office that it is sweltering hot and she is walking around in the dead of winter because it's 100; it feels like the Bahamas. They make a joke if you want to go on vacation, come to the Court office during the winter time because it's the Bahamas in there. They go and buy fans so they don't overheat. They didn't ask the Township to purchase those fans for them and they could have but they didn't. Mr. Inge asked Mrs. Eden if they asked them to turn down the heat. Mrs. Eden answered they have and it has something to do with the whole heating system which is a whole other story. Mr. Inge replied that is a cost. Mrs. Eden conveyed she understands that and that's a cost that the Council before screwed up on and she doesn't know if any of the current Council was here. Mr. Inge indicated that if it is still going on, it should be addressed and taken care of especially when there are fuel prices over \$4.00 a gallon. Mrs. Eden commented they regulated the heat back there and it may have something to do with the fact that there are no windows in their office. The heat issue may be that because no body else's offices are that hot. When Mr. Inge is saying it's an expenditure on fuel, she doesn't know how it's an expenditure on fuel when it's just her office. Mr. Inge commented there are zones and if it is just her office there are zones that can be turned down and that would produce more heat in the other areas. Mrs. Eden advised they have taped off the heat ducts in her office and she reiterated that it is not a heat expenditure. Mrs. Eden stated that her department does cut back and are doing their share as well and they don't spend and they try not to spend. Mr. Inge commented that he appreciates that. Mrs. Scull stated they are tax payers. Mrs. Eden added she is a tax payer and everybody in her office is a tax payer. Mr. Inge stated he is a tax payer too. Mrs. Eden conveyed that she understands that and they as tax payers know and if Mr. Applegate is the professional, they all know that the taxes are going to go up. They have to go up. Everything around the country is going up. There is no way to say if Mr. Applegate is recommending a tax increase and whatever the interest and whatever the rate is to be worked out that is something Council has to deal with with Mr. Applegate and go by his recommendation because you are paying him to be the professional and to guide you. Mrs. Eden advised that to say there should be a zero tax increase is ridiculous and absolutely unrealistic. That is something that needs to be stressed to the entire community of Pemberton Township. It has nothing to do with, they were told and she wasn't told that Mr. Inge said or Mrs. Stinney said and they were told that the residents on Wednesday night were going for lay offs as opposed to a tax increase. Mr. Inge indicated he was giving a suggestion why they were going that way. Mrs. Eden conveyed that she understands that but her point is that people being laid off is not going to change the fact that you need the tax increase and that is something that the residents should have been told. You can't expect a zero tax increase. There was no tax increase last year. She understands that people are saying you promised us if we

elected you and we all know that it's a promise to get in to office.....Mrs. Stinney interjected and stated to Mrs. Eden to watch it.....Mrs. Eden continued that realistically to come on....Mrs. Scull commented that she didn't promise.....Mrs. Eden added that every resident that votes knows that sometime within that period of term there is going to be a tax increase. You cannot hold that to somebody and say over the next four years that you are in office, you promised us that you wouldn't raise our taxes. Mr. Inge commented on last Wednesday's meeting.....Mrs. Eden interjected that she did not attend and can only tell you what she was told and it was not directly that so and so said. Mr. Inge asked if they told her what Council people asked for lay offs and if that was mentioned. Mrs. Eden answered no, it was said that Council would take in to consideration and that is what was going on here. Mr. Inge informed that he doesn't recall anybody suggesting there would be any lay offs. Mrs. Eden stated she didn't say that anybody said that. She stated that she was told that the residents suggested it. Mr. Inge commented as long as she is not suggesting that is what Mr. Inge said. Mrs. Eden replied that she 100% did not say that and didn't say that anybody on Council said that they were suggesting lay off. She stated she said that lay offs were being suggested by the residents as opposed to a tax increase. But when Mr. Inge stated today that he suggested a zero percent tax increase and that's where that is coming from. Mr. Inge confirmed agreed he said that. Mrs. Eden continued that it is Mr. Applegate who clearly said that he is suggesting an increase and asked Mr. Inge why he would not listen to Mr. Applegate that you're paying and have brought in as a whole and he is trying to make things \_\_\_\_\_. Mr. Inge stated that like he said before Mrs. Eden or anybody got up here, his question to Mr. Applegate was about the 9.5 cent increase if that would help. Mrs. Eden replied that it would. Mr. Inge commented that was Mr. Applegate's suggestion was to him that it would help if we had that in there then to have the zero percent because it would affect us next year. Before when he said come back with a zero, that information wasn't given to him. Mrs. Eden asked Mr. Inge if he is still standing on a zero percent increase. Mr. Inge replied if they can show him that they can keep the expenditures down even if they have this money available and are going to keep the expenditures down and not use this money, then he would consider that. Mrs. Eden stated to Mr. Inge that he is a part of the if they; not just them and all of Council is a part of the if they because when things go on in the Township, we all know that we can suggest until we are blue in the face. Mr. Inge stated that he wants to see that Council is going to keep taxes as low as possible for the residents of the town and that's what he wants to see and he wants to make sure that we're not going to have a major problem next year. That's why one of his suggestions was that the unions try to work something out now and don't wait until next year. Mrs. Eden commented that her union is and they have been meeting on a regular basis and they are. Mr. Inge continued that he doesn't know that and that's why he is giving suggestions to possibly do this. He is just trying to look out because he has a lot of friends that work in this Township and he is trying to look out for the residents and the employees. Mrs. Eden remarked that they are not only employees but also residents. Ninety nine percent of them that are in the AFSCME union are residents and they like being residents. So when you are representing the residents in a whole, he needs to represent them as well and to have them laid off.....Mr. Inge interjected that he thinks he has been doing that and thinks he did that by telling her why the problems people have and that's why he said that. Mr. Vaz interrupted that Mr. Applegate has another appointment. Mrs. Stinney conveyed to Mrs. Eden that that we're talking about is right now the fate of the Council. The Mayor has done his job per law that he has given Council and Council now is that this budget is in the fate of. Mrs. Stinney reiterated that the

they are the five Council members right up in here, right now, whether it be today, tomorrow or next week, they are the they now. Actually, it was a courtesy to have Mr. Applegate here, in reality since the Mayor has given Council his budget, when it was presented to Council now it is Council's budget and they don't even have to be here. Mrs. Eden stated to Mrs. Stinney on her comment, when she is representing and reviewing the budget and remembers that these people that would possibly be losing their jobs are also residents of the Township that will not be able to pay their taxes so therefore you are going to be losing revenue as well. We do work on skeleton staffs and they don't complain if somebody is out. You pick it up and do your job. Do the best job you can and try to help in any way that you can. Mr. Prickett asked to ask Mrs. Eden a question before this ends.....Mrs. Stinney interjected that she would like to let Mr. Applegate go. Mr. Vaz reminded that Mr. Applegate has another appointment to go to. Mrs. Scull informed she has a question for Mr. Applegate. Mr. Prickett stated he does too and he asked first. Mrs. Stinney informed Mr. Prickett to make sure it's to Mr. Applegate and not to Miss Lisa. Mr. Prickett commented that a question came up as far as where Council could decrease the 9.8 cent increase or 9.5 or whatever it is and Mr. Applegate made a comment that it would be okay to decrease that amount through cutting expenditures just so you don't decrease surplus and asked if that is what he just said. Mr. Applegate agreed. Mr. Prickett continued that it would be possible to decrease through cutting expenditures the 9.5 cents and thus look out for those residents in our town which possibly are the majority.....Mrs. Stinney interjected and asked Mr. Prickett if he didn't know that by now. Mr. Prickett asked Mrs. Stinney why she interrupts him while he's talking and he didn't interrupt Mrs. Stinney. Mrs. Stinney commented that Mr. Applegate has to go. Mr. Prickett stated to Mr. Applegate that is what he wanted to find out and if he needed to go.....Mr. Applegate replied that there are two things he would like to say on that; one is if you are going to cut for every penny it's \$88,000 and just keep that in the back of your head. Secondly, as you squeeze the budget tighter and tighter and tighter and you spend at an appropriate rate comparable to the prior years you will have less money left over at the end so that now that money won't add to surplus at the same rate as in the past. Mr. Prickett stated but that is what he just said that you can cut the expenditures and that's the priority; the priority is to keep everything the way it is. Mr. Applegate commented the priority is to do the best we can for next year, if we can do the best we can for this year. It's a double edged sword, what you do for this year will affect next year. Mrs. Stinney wanted to make it perfectly clear while Mrs. Eden is here, she is sure that Mr. Applegate and his firm has worked on this budget before it was presented to Council working collaboratively with the Mayor and our Business Administrator so what is in the budget is basically the recommendation of a collaborative group of people who really know what is going to happen this year and for next year as well. So now, again, this budget is in the Council's fate and she thanked Mr. Applegate very much and asked Mrs. Scull quickly. Mrs. Scull asked Mr. Applegate in his professional opinion if there is really any way to cut 9 cents out of the budget without doing lay offs. Mr. Applegate replied it's a difficult task. Mrs. Scull asked if it would be almost impossible. Mr. Applegate stated you would have to eliminate probably a service. Mrs. Scull asked a lot of services. Mr. Applegate continued if there are employees involved with that service, it's inevitable at that point. \$800,000 is a lot of money to have to cut out of a budget when you're looking at and he would imagine in the past you have already tightened on the OE expenditures and have continued to do that by showing a \$66,000 decrease this year. Mrs. Scull agreed. Mr. Applegate agreed that you are running out of non-salary items to go after. Mrs. Scull stated salaries are the biggest part of the budget

so therefore to cut, the only place to get that kind of money is usually out of salaries. Mrs. Scull conveyed she says that out of thirty years of experience with budgets that's where you have to go to get that kind of money. Mr. Applegate explained the support for that is the Governor asking for furloughs from his employees because he realizes the salaries make up the majority of these budgets anymore. As you squeeze the OE expenditures, you're left with nothing left but the employees and their benefits. Mrs. Scull thanked Mr. Applegate. Mrs. Stinney thanked Mr. Applegate and asked Mrs. Eden if she is done with her questions with Mr. Applegate. Mrs. Eden answered yes. Mayor Patriarca asked to comment on the union representation here today. The Mayor stated that he knows that Mrs. Eden meant supervisor or management and not boss because he knows she believes like he does that we all only have one boss. Mrs. Eden apologized. The Mayor continued that there have been some comments made about the unions today; would like to see more union representation at the meetings and of course Administration has no issues with that and does not control that as long as it's union issues but what he would like to say on that is that Administration has continuously dialogued with the unions and have been working hard on this particular issue trying to come up with ways and the AFSMCE union has been very proactive in this and very supportive in this situation and understand and are trying to save their members' positions. The Mayor stated they are dialoging and if a particular Council member and some have asked these questions; are we talking to the unions and getting solutions or trying to; other Council members don't elect to dialogue with Administration so they wouldn't know these things and can't expect the unions to come to them or with this or go to the unions and should be asking Administration. Administration could have easily cleared up the fact that yes they are dialoging. The Mayor reiterated that this particular union is working with Administration. Comments on the lay off, the lay offs by Administration was a lay off plan. All they did was put a plan together in anticipation of not being able to meet the cap and having to take drastic measures. They had to initiate that plan and they have explained that before. He as the Mayor had to make some tough decisions, elected in this position that's part of what he is supposed to be doing here. Services in this town are appreciated by the residents; he recognizes that and appreciates these services because he also receives them. One factor and why he maybe didn't elect to cut jobs and elected to raise taxes, to raise taxes can sometimes be the kiss of death of a politician which he doesn't claim to be; he's in a political position but the fact that he decided that the services were more important in this town and that the employees especially in these hard times cannot afford to be losing their jobs and maybe the fact that he has known them for a whole lot of years now and is quite friendly with them. He couldn't make that decision to say we will lose employees; we're going to cut employees. The Mayor advised he elected as the Mayor to submit a budget with a tax increase. A substantial tax increase maybe if you consider \$95.00 on \$100,000 considerable compared to the resident losing their job. He will say that over the last three years taxes were raised if leaving the 9.5 in, about 15.35% roughly. The three years prior to that, we raised taxes 19.16% so we are down a little bit in the percentage on the tax increases; what we've done, our spending and Mrs. Eden is absolutely correct and he chuckled because he knows some of the stories of her office where they are buying things on their own and not that we want them to do that but they do this as employees; they sacrifice; they sacrifice everyday. The issues that were brought up, certainly Mr. Inge has the option of discussing resident's complaints of what our employees are doing. Our employees certainly aren't going to sit up here and defend themselves; that's an Administrative and employee issue and Administration will address issues as they come up in that regard. It's a tough



decision and is not something that they just said we're going to lay off or we're going to raise taxes. They had to weigh a lot of things in to this and we heard residents come to the microphone and lay people off and let's back up a little bit to that particular meeting. If he recalled, maybe three residents actually got up to say lay people off. Three residents is a very, very small percentage of the residents of this town. Certainly you may hear more on the streets because other people are being affected in their jobs also and they may be getting laid off and they may be a little scorned and feel that way but he has yet to hear the residents get up to the microphone and say cut the leaf pick up, cut this recreation program, I don't want to come to the window and have somebody there to service me. Nobody is coming up and saying cut our services. They create the expenses that we are seeing in this budget. We enjoy these services and if you enjoy these services we have to pay for them. Mayor Patriarca added that is why he chose to raise the taxes as opposed to cutting the employees. As Mrs. Stinney stated, it's in their hands and how this budget turns out will be Council's decision. Mrs. Stinney commented that Council should have asked him for his state of the state address on his budget. Mrs. Stinney added that she thinks the newspaper justly did that. Mayor Patriarca replied she'll get that when they can actually determine what the state of the municipality is. Mrs. Stinney thanked the Mayor and thanked Mr. Applegate. Mrs. Eden asked if Mr. Prickett's question is for her. Mr. Prickett replied he just wanted to clarify that question. Mr. Cartier interjected that he suggests if there is anyone else that has a question for Mr. Applegate. Mrs. Stinney advised the public to please come forward. **Veronica Williamson: 1.** She is a sophomore at Rutgers University and wanted to figure out what's going on here for her own personal clarification. She is the daughter of Cindy Williamson. Miss Williamson commented that it seems the punishment for the crime seems unfit. We're having such a drastic change for something that has been accumulating for over so many years. She hears what Mr. Applegate says that eventually taxes will have to increase. Mr. Applegate commented that what has changed over the last ten years is that there was always a spending cap. Governors years ago said you're only allowed to spend x amount of dollars and it used to be 5% and now it's 2.5%. What has changed in the last two years is the present Governor has said you can only raise taxes so high. That's the difference. He has been in towns where taxes have been raised 40 cents in order to maintain services. You can't do that anymore. The best that town may be able to do now is 5 cents and that's as high as they are allowed to do. That's the biggest difference between what has happened in the past and what has happened today. There are a lot of issues that are facing Council right now. If these rules were to change tomorrow, the game has changed. It's like they implement rules as they go along. That's the biggest issue being we can't really plan for next year because maybe the rules will change again. If every Mayor, every Council goes to their state representative and they yell and scream and that one representative takes the bull by the horns and he goes and tries to change legislation that says okay 4% was an arbitrary number and let's make it 10, you wouldn't be having these conversations. They would be able to raise taxes 20 cents, 21 cents and then you would be having the conversation is that too high. Then you get back to Mr. Inge's stance and say maybe that's too much. The issue that has come up is that the state didn't believe that people like these guys sitting up at that podium were controlling their budget. They thought it was all running amuck. It's not true. Mr. Applegate advised he can tell Miss Williamson right now with full faith, that if he came and recommended a 25 cent increase to Administration, they would say no way. Because they are not going to do that to their residents. Miss Williamson commented that she understands that but it just seems that 19 people being laid off is such a drastic thing to happen even if you

don't raise taxes and you lay off these people, would you have to raise taxes next year anyway or are you saying that you can't really predict that now. Mr. Applegate responded that he can't predict that but that is a valid statement that she just made. The reason everybody focused on salaries at this point is because in order for them to have a zero increase which was bantered about at the meeting, you have to save over \$800,000. Over the course of the last six or seven years, they've already squeezed the other operating expenses; the non-salary type items. They've already gotten them so low, that if they budget \$100, they are probably spending \$99.99 and they are not buying fans. Eventually you run out of other places to cut and that's why unions are making concessions on their health insurance. Because the health insurances have gone up so dramatically that the municipalities aren't able to absorb the cost. Now let's say the unions start kicking in for their health insurance so the town doesn't have to pay for the whole amount eventually you end up with nothing but salaries. Everything else has been cut to the bear bones; you have to run the town. If we are at that point right now where \$800,000 has to be salaries, he can't speak to that. If the Mayor were to find \$100,000 and another line account say health insurance, liability insurance or whatever it is, it may only be 14 employees. But eventually, you run out of places to cut. Miss Williamson responded with say incremental changes such as employees go two weeks without pay or they have holidays where they work and they don't get paid and then maybe no more WaWa visits in the morning and then taxes are raise, incremental changes like that instead of such a drastic change like laying off 19 people who aren't going to WaWa, would that work, these little incremental changes or would you eventually get the same position years ahead. Mr. Applegate answered the way the rules are today, it's a short term fix. What they want to have happen is they want to have Pemberton Township, Lumberton Township, Hainesport and all of the surrounding towns, join forces and save money that way. They are really pushing that. There is grant money available for studies for these things. The Governor is doing one now. Mr. Applegate replied Miss Williamson is right and has a very good sense of what's going to happen here. If it doesn't happen today, it may happen next year and it may happen the following year unless the rules change; that's the one dynamic. We wouldn't be in this position if we didn't have this levy cap. We would be arguing about tax rates and how much the Council wants to raise taxes and then that becomes a philosophical dilemma at that point, how much burden do you want to put on the residents. Then it could be, they might say we don't want to raise taxes 15 cents, we're going to lay off five employees and only raise taxes ten; it could be a combination. Mr. Applegate commented that he thinks Miss Williamson is right on and understands this as well as most people do. Miss Williamson asked about how it is decided who gets laid off and is that because the people working here are state. The Mayor answered it is mandated by the Department of Personnel on the manner of which you can let people go by department and seniority within that department. There are two factors involved. You have to work off of seniority but you have to work within the department and you can't get creative and say we'll move this person over in this person to alleviate that person from leaving and then work off of the bottom and still off of seniority; they won't accept that. Whatever it is with your plan, we have to work within that state mandate that DOP provides. Miss Williamson commented that it seems very unfair and it seems very indiscriminate. Mayor Patriarca advised Administration does not disagree and when they heard those rules when they were putting this plan together, they were shocked as much as anyone else because this is not something that has been experienced here and they looked in to it and had to relook in to it to try to clarify it because it did not make sense when we are looking at employees with 15 or 17

years, it just didn't make sense. These are the state rules and we don't make those rules. This is something that has to be argued out obviously at the state level and should be changed at that level or just get rid of DOP all together. Mrs. Stinney thanked Miss Williamson and wished her well in her endeavors. She sounds to be a very, very bright young lady. Mrs. Stinney gave kudos to her parents and grandparents and all of those who had a part in her upbringing because it does make a difference in our society and she is a prime example coming forward asking the questions and contributing to understanding what it takes to run our town. Mrs. Stinney congratulated her and didn't want to put her on the spot but the Business Administrator and Mayor's doors are always open. Call her, she is always available. She loves it when she sees the young people come forward and ask those great intelligent questions. Mrs. Stinney asked Miss Williamson to pass that along to her neighbors and those that grew up with her here in Pemberton Township to help them understand how Pemberton is actually being operated. Mrs. Stinney thanked Miss Williamson again and wished her a wonderful day. Mr. Cartier stated he has listened to everyone's comments.....Mayor Patriarca asked if Mr. Applegate can leave because he has another appointment. Mr. Cartier answered yes; he can leave as he doesn't have anything for Mr. Applegate. He stated earlier that he didn't have anything to say but there have been some comments that he would like to address. Mrs. Stinney asked Mr. Cartier if Council could take a five minute break first.

Mrs. Stinney convened the meeting at approximately 11:19 am for a short break and reconvened the meeting at 11:31 am.

Mr. Cartier commented to Mrs. Eden that she has never seen her eyes so big. Mrs. Stinney referred to her earlier statement according to our open public meetings act law, we have to have public portion. She understands that we have not had an opportunity to browse through any portions or sections or departments whichever one you choose to select in the budget but by law, we now have the portion opened as advertised for public hearing, public comment and they can come forward and say whatever they want. It would be the decision of the Council to have another open portion for the public to comment. Mrs. Young informed we are only required for one.....Mrs. Stinney interjected that she knows what the requirement is and thanked Mrs. Young. Mrs. Stinney thanked Mr. Cartier as she interrupted him and before the meeting is opened up, he has a statement. Mr. Cartier thanked Mrs. Stinney and stated it is unfortunate that some of the employees that were here before have left because this is more directed towards the employees. There have been some comments made and it is unfortunate that Public Works is the face of the employees of this Township and for 90% of the residents of this Township; the only people that they ever see are the Public Works department because they don't come to this building. They send their mortgage payment in with their taxes to their mortgage company and their mortgage company pays their taxes or whatever else it might be. They have no other reason to come to this building. It's either the Police Department or Public Works are all they ever see as far as the employees of this Township. Council realizes that's the aura that these residents are getting. They are seeing the Public Works department sitting at the WaWa at 7:30 in the morning and he's going to say and the Mayor and Business Administrator will tell you, he's probably the biggest complainer of that. It's by-monthly and at one point, it was every week for three months straight that he complained about that because that's what the residents are seeing that we are allowing happen. They have always protected him from that but no more; he is out there now. Mr. Cartier informed he is the biggest complainer of these Public

Works employees sitting at the WaWa at 7:30 in the morning after starting work at 7:00. That's the aura that the residents are getting. It's unfortunate that you guys are being lumped in with that but that's what they are seeing. The people in this room know differently and that's why we have residents coming out to Council meetings complaining, lay them off, and don't raise our taxes because they're seeing this. This Council never once said that we are in favor of laying off employees. There was a plan that was presented for worse case scenario by the Administration and he is not trying to throw them under the bus, they are just trying to prepare the Township and the Council for a worse case scenario of this Township. They presented Council with a budget that does not lay off any employees. It took months, two months to figure out and this budget is two months late getting to Council, and they did it. Yes it does have a 10 cents tax increase to round off but it does save every job which this Council said, we are not in favor of laying off employees. Back in the end of January and beginning of February they said that and asked if he is correct. Mrs. Stinney stated she guesses. Mr. Prickett is inaudible. Mr. Cartier advised that no one on Council said they are in favor. They will do whatever it takes to save jobs. Mrs. Stinney stated she is just sorry and knows what she went in to the Mayor's office and said and shut the door and she and the Mayor had a long, long conversation so she can only say what she indicated to the Mayor that under no uncertain terms would she look at a 17 year employee and do whatever you can and however you can do it and as the Chair, she wanted to reiterate when Mr. Cartier said about Council not wanting the 19 people, it was the newspaper and some residents that came forward here, just a selected few, that indicated that and then it was the newspapers that went back and said lay the 19 people off. Mrs. Stinney informed she knows who called and she got to the root of that. A few of the residents in the Township did that and it was the newspaper that did that and then the people ran with that, 19, 19, 19. Mrs. Stinney apologized to Mr. Cartier. Mr. Cartier stated Mrs. Stinney is right and the point he is trying to make is that most of the residents don't see the people that are sitting out here today. They don't see them out and about doing the job on the road, in the buildings, on the grounds, cutting the grass. They don't know the employees that are in this building doing the job everyday that aren't sitting at the WaWa at 7:30 in the morning. Mr. Prickett asked Mr. Cartier if he could respond to one of the things he said and that has to do with Council knowing differently.....Mrs. Stinney interjected that she would see if Mr. Cartier is finished and confirmed that he is. Mr. Prickett continued that to a degree Council does know differently because they come in and pay their taxes, might go in the Assessor's office, might go in to Administrative offices but when it comes to Public Works, we feel differently but because of this form of government, we don't actually know what's happening in public works or what's happening in the Police Department; we're kind of like a citizen in the town; we see kind of what they see for the most part. Mr. Cartier agreed and added that the point he is trying to make is that they are the face of the employees because most people, Council aside, don't come in to this building twice a month, once a week; they never come in to this building. All they ever see are the Police out on the road or the Public Works out on the road, and that's what they are basing their opinions on as to why they want people laid off because they are just sitting around at 7:30 in the morning. Mr. Prickett remarked that's why it was so nice to see the President of the AFSCME Union come out today and talk with Council as well as the members. It gives Council a better perspective of the employees in this town. Mrs. Stinney stated that is why the President stated this morning and she agrees 175% that we have to have that open door dialogue and because of our form of government, it does not allow us to go back and forth to interfere with the day to day operations of

those supervisors. We have to rely on our Administration to get those questions answered and find out what is going on because of our form of government. If we don't follow that form of government and start going after supervisors, I want you to tell me this, you tell me that and now you have created a problem. You've created a big problem because our form of government does not allow us to interfere with those day to day operations. She tries to keep an open door policy dialogue with Administration and saw how former Councils got nothing done, screaming and hollering and walking out of meetings, and all of those sorts of things. None of that has happened; Council has sat here for going on three years and they may not always agree and they may cross one another, some of them show courtesy and say they are sorry and apologize because of the dialogue that they have and that they should have for the respect of the people of the residents of this town. Mrs. Stinney has always encouraged the Council to have that open door dialogue. She asked if she receives special treatment and answered no. Then asked if Ken Cartier receives special treatment and answered no and hears the Mayor say sometimes that he has an appointment with Mr. Cartier because he's going over the bill and he wants to know page by page by page. That's good and what Council is suppose to do as representatives of the residents of this town. Council owes the residents as elected officials to have that open dialogue with Administration because of the certain form of law.

Mrs. Stinney opened the meeting to public comments. Mrs. Stinney stated if she doesn't have the answers, she always says she will get the answers. Mrs. Stinney commented that some residents that come and say alright, Miss Stinney I'm going to put you on the spot, how about so and so. Mrs. Stinney replied that she doesn't have the answer here and spoke of a website that goes around in Pemberton and she doesn't go on that mess but they say oh Miss Stinney, she doesn't know anything; she doesn't have the answers. Mrs. Stinney advised that she is not going to blob everything out and is just going to make sure that if she does not have those answers and she does not perceive to have the answers and doesn't think anyone walking on this earth has all of the answers. She will get the answers for you. She doesn't show case, doesn't say she wants to know everything and had one resident who came up and stated you people don't even ask questions. Mrs. Stinney replied she doesn't ask questions and she stays here in this Township. She has to go get a job though but she stays here. She is a recipient of a lay off since April of last year, 2008. Mrs. Stinney noted that she stated to the Council members when they say here's my 20% or whatever, we never know what situation a person is in but yet we dog them or down them or whatever words we want to use. We knock them down and we don't care what situation they're in. We don't care about the next person and that's why we have our society the way that we do now because it's about me, I, and me. Those wishing to comment were: **Kelly Cantwell: 1.** She is a Township resident and a Township employee. Mrs. Cantwell is an employee who would be on the list if there were to be a lay off. She is a mother, wife and grandmother. Mrs. Cantwell previously worked at a job for ten years and chose to leave there and come here. She remembers when she was interviewed to work here and was asked where she thought she would be in five, ten, fifteen years and she responded right here. She vested in this Township and wants to continue to work in this Township. As the Mayor stated at the last meeting that he believes there were only three residents that came forward and said they were in favor in laying employees off, she wanted to come forward and be a part of the many that came forward who are not in favor with the lay off. She agrees with Mrs. Eden, Mrs. Williamson, Miss Williamson and Mr. Nicholas and with what Mrs. Stinney just stated about looking out for one another. We are to due unto others as we

want done unto ourselves. We all need to come together and do what's best for all of us. Mrs. Stinney thanked Mrs. Cantwell for her comments. **Dean Nicholas: 1.** Asked Mr. Inge and Mr. Cartier what kind of rebuttal do they give the residents when they come up to them with their complaints. How do they handle it from their professional view to the residents. What are your answers to them when they say they are seeing somebody at the WaWa or somebody here or there and how do they handle that. Mr. Cartier replied he directs it to the Mayor or Business Administrator because that's where that responsibility lies. He'll take that concern to the Business Administrator or Mayor. Mr. Nicholas asked Mr. Cartier if he personally stated that he is a complainant of this. Mr. Cartier answered yes. Mr. Nicholas asked Mr. Cartier if he ever goes out to the job sites and watch where the guys work their lunch hour and don't get paid for it or come in off of a job late after 3:30 and don't ask for the overtime. Do you also take the time to do that or do you just go to the WaWa's in the morning. Mr. Cartier answered no, he personally has a job that he has to report to and he is not allowed to stop during his time that he is being paid for to get coffee or donuts or whatever. Mr. Nicholas asked Mr. Cartier what time he starts work. Mr. Cartier replied 8:00 in the morning. Mr. Nicholas stated they are authorized to take two 10 minute breaks during the day and a half hour lunch and if they decide to take their 10 minutes in the morning on their way to the job site and don't take another one until they go to lunch and then stop at WaWa in the afternoon to take their other 10 minute break, then where is the problem. Mr. Cartier replied that he would have to agree with Mr. Inge that the perception of the residents of this Township know that these employees start at 7:00 and they are breaking at 7:30. That's the problem; it's the perception of it. They don't understand that contractually they are entitled to a morning break, an afternoon break and a lunch. Mr. Nicholas asked Mr. Cartier if he ever conveyed that to the residents when they question him about why they might be there. Mr. Cartier answered no. Mr. Nicholas continued that they might be going to a far off distance area to work and may not have an opportunity to get something and they stop and take their 10 minute break then and don't take it later on in the day. There are two sides to every coin. Mrs. Scull stated that's right. Mr. Inge commented that they are just trying to give examples of the problem as to why people are saying this. Common sense will tell you, jobs on the outside and he has employees that work for him before and he used to have quite a few employees. If they started working at 7:00, no way would they take a 10 minute break at 7:30 and that's just like the people that are leaving this Township that are residents of this Township are going to their jobs. They know when they get to work and if they go to work at 8:00, they are not going to take a break at 8:30. There's no way their boss would let them do that. No way. If you're going to a job that might run you late, it's not going to be an everyday thing and it won't be the same employees everyday that are doing this. That's what you have to look at. It's not his job to tell the workers what to do and he has nothing to do with Administration and nothing to do with the employees. But he is trying to let you know why these things are being said. Mr. Inge noted Mr. Nicholas is a resident of the Township and has been a resident of the Township and he knows that. It's the same thing with state employees. People say state employees don't do anything all day. He works with union guys and knows that his guys can outwork union guys without a doubt. But there are some union guys that are very, very good but they have to work.....Mayor Patriarca asked the Council President for a point of order. In the interest of...this is more of an Administrative thing that the employee and Council member should not be dialoguing in actually combating over an employee issue. This topic in the interest of time for the budget and in the interest of the employee, they should not be discussing the employee policies,

procedures and practices and debating that with a Council member. Mrs. Stinney advised that she recognizes the Mayor's point of order but Mr. Nicholas did come forward and asked the pursuant question.....Mayor Patriarca advised Mr. Nicholas not to pursue that type of conversation. He is advising Mr. Nicholas now not to.....Mrs. Stinney interjected that he wanted to know what the Council members say to the residents when the residents come to make that complain. Mrs. Stinney asked Mr. Nicholas if he is asking what these Council members do. Mrs. Stinney advised Mr. Cartier stated he calls the Mayor and if he would allow Mr. Inge to address what he does when a resident comes to him, she would appreciate it and we will let that go towards you.....Mayor Patriarca advised that he doesn't want this to get in to a debate with the Council and the employee as to what the employee's functions are and what the employee does in the course of their days work. For the employee's sake, we don't .....Mrs. Stinney interjected that she respects that. Mr. Inge advised that he doesn't have anything to do with what you guys do and he is just trying to give suggestions of what is said in the Township. That's all he is trying to do. He has no animosity between the employees of the Township and is just trying to give you guys some guidelines.....Mrs. Stinney interjected and stated to Mr. Inge that he just asked him one simple question.....Mr. Prickett commented that he would like to.....Mrs. Stinney stated that she would like to and asked Mr. Prickett to wait a minute, just one second here.....Mr. Prickett informed he would like to have an opportunity to.....Mrs. Stinney is overtalking Mr. Prickett and informed him he will get his opportunity. Mrs. Stinney stated to Mr. Nicholas that his question to Mr. Inge is a simple question that when the residents come to him to complain about a truck or a bus or anything, anywhere when they know that the time starts at 7:00 and they want to know about 7:30 and that's the question he asked Mr. Cartier. Mrs. Stinney asked Mr. Inge if would just answer his question and then we'll leave that other dialogue over to the Mayor and to Mr. Nicholas about who outworks who. Mrs. Stinney stated to Mr. Inge, what you tell the residents; that are all he wants. Mr. Inge stated when they say they saw a resident at someone's house, take the number of the vehicle, the time and call Administration and give them the vehicle number and tell them this vehicle is here all of the time. Mrs. Stinney asked Mr. Nicholas if that answered his question. Mr. Nicholas replied yes. Mrs. Stinney deferred to Mr. Prickett. Mr. Prickett stated to Mr. Nicholas that he asked the question if any Council members or at least Mr. Cartier or Mr. Inge had visited the workers at the work site and asked Mr. Nicholas if he said that. Mr. Nicholas replied he did. Mr. Prickett advised he would love to be afforded that opportunity to do that. He has gone out with the Police on patrols and that was a wonderful experience to see how they function on a daily basis and the intensity of what they do. Mrs. Stinney interjected and asked Mr. Prickett what he would do with that information. Mrs. Stinney then asked Mr. Prickett how he would know how they work; they have to work under supervision. She would not want somebody to come in to her job and say I want to see.....Mr. Prickett stated to Mrs. Stinney that she is interrupting him again. Mr. Inge stated to Mrs. Stinney that she is. Mrs. Stinney stated to Mr. Inge that he doesn't have to sing the same song Mr. Prickett is singing. Mr. Inge again stated to Mr. Inge that she is interrupting him. Mrs. Stinney stated she is sorry. Mr. Prickett stated he isn't able to get his questions in without the Council.....Mayor Patriarca interjected and stated he can answer that question for him that he addressed to Mr. Nicholas. The Mayor stated to Mr. Nicholas to not answer that. Mrs. Stinney again stated she is sorry. Mr. Inge commented it is ridiculous. Mrs. Stinney commented it is not ridiculous. Mr. Inge stated to Mrs. Stinney that it is ridiculous, she interrupts Mr. Prickett all of the time. Mrs. Stinney asked Mr. Inge what is ridiculous. Mr. Inge

stated to Mrs. Stinney that she goes ahead and preaches up here for 15 or 20 minutes and tells everybody else they have to hurry.....Mrs. Stinney interjected that she doesn't have her license to preach. Mr. Inge conveyed that she should get it because she sure does enough of it. Mrs. Scull interjected and stated to Mr. Inge that he does a lot of interrupting too. Yelling out and making comments and it shouldn't be happening by anybody. Mrs. Stinney stated it really should not be. Mrs. Stinney apologized to Mr. Prickett so he has his...she was just looking out for an employee.....someone came from her job.....that's a little job and informed Mr. Prickett to go right ahead. Mr. Prickett replied that he is not sure where Mrs. Stinney was going with that but when he was out with the Police on one of their patrols what he was able to see was their interaction with the public and the area they covered within the Township. To see how professionally they deal with the residents was so meaningful to him; they certainly became an ally in his book. What he is trying to also say is if he could go out with Public Works and see what they do, and noted he is not sure where Mr. Nicholas works in the Township at the moment and he has never seen him in his job and he would like to do that, if he is in Public Works, to see what he does during the day and see how hard he works would be very gratifying to him. Not that he is not an ally now but he would be a more dedicated ally appreciating what AFSCME Union people do as well as the other unions. The concern here is as you have heard the Mayor interjected; you can't get involved in daily work or daily activities. Coming along as an observer isn't necessarily getting involved in managing daily work within the Township. It's a Council person that gets to see the operation so that when it comes time to working through the budget and approving the budget and being accountable, Council is accountable to the residents. If Council had that opportunity to see what happens on a daily basis, they could with total conviction say to the residents, they are doing a great job. He says it every time with the Police. The domestic situations the Police deal with and what he has seen how they deal with a domestic situation is outstanding. Mr. Prickett reiterated he would like to be able to do the same with the AFSCME union and the members that work in the AFSCME union. He has seen a number of people in their offices, in the Tax Assessor's office, in the front office and how effectively they work and he can vouch for them. That's the concern here. When he tries to get a view of what you guys are doing, he is always afraid that he is going to get a letter from the solicitor that hey you are interfering with daily activities. Mr. Prickett advised that he has received those letters before. Mr. Prickett stated he is so glad Mr. Nicholas is here today and wants to thank him for that. Mrs. Stinney thanked Mr. Prickett and thanked Mr. Nicholas. Production speaks for itself and it helps her make her decisions when it comes to the budget. Production, she sees and she hears. Mrs. Stinney stated she is not preaching. Mrs. Scull asked Mr. Nicholas if she can answer the question and she feels left out. Mrs. Scull stated that officially if somebody complains to her, she lets the Business Administrator and the Mayor or our Clerk know so she can give the information to the right area. Although, her comment to the resident is support of our employees because she knows what they do all the time. She sees it everyday when she goes by and knows the leaves were picked up and sees them picking up trash and vehicles are running. Mrs. Scull stated it is very dangerous if a Council member were to say, oh really, the car is at their house and it could be they were in the area and they had to make a potty run. Things happen and if they're home having lunch and they're in the area, it's a little bit different if they're driving from Pemberton, working in Pemberton and drive all the way home in our truck to have lunch. That's all Administration and the Council should be supportive of the employees with the public. Mrs. Stinney thanked Mrs. Scull. Mr. Nicholas thanked Mrs. Scull. **William Doherty: 1.** Mr. Doherty has about 17 years accumulated here.



Suggested to buy the Public Works people a coffee pot and that would solve that problem. He has been here during the budget meetings and he has serious concerns with the budget. Mrs. Stinney thanked Mr. Doherty for his presence. Mr. Doherty conveyed if Mrs. Stinney has any problem with anything that he may be saying whether it is the Mayor or Council, to stop him and he'll try to answer the concerns. His great concern is where and how money is spent. Mr. Doherty informed that he had a position at one time when he had retired and moved to Florida as being a Council member for a term and a Vice Mayor for a term. He pretty much knows what you go through to put a budget together. In the system he was in the Town Manager presented the budget to the Mayor and Council. That's how it worked down there and he knows that is different here and he is not saying that one that he was involved in is better than the one that we have here. He wouldn't dispute that. He reiterated that he is aware of how the budgets are put together. One of the biggest things as Council people is the choices that we make and that the choices that we make are the right choices. Hopefully through the conversation that he has that he can help Council make some of the choices that he feels that are of his concern. On behalf of the Mayor and Mr. Vaz, they have given Council enough material to help make some good choices. The more information Council has, the better it is for them to make those right choices. To our Mayor and Mr. Vaz, he gives them the kudos for the time and effort and everything that they've put in this budget and how they have put it together and the length of time that it took to put it together. The budget is what the people want and some are here and have been here to know that the budget is one that we can all live with. Mr. Doherty's concerns have always been regardless of where he has lived has been the first responders, and he has spoken with the Mayor about this, whether they are the firemen or first aid responders. They have always been a top priority of his concern. He has been involved with the volunteer services since 1951 when he went in to the fire company of the town that he was born and raised in and he is still active in those services. They are the ones who are out there everyday protecting us and putting their lives on the line making sure we are being protected. He knows some people say that they see the Police riding up and down the streets. That's their job and that is what they are supposed to be doing but people will complain about that. Some say they never see our police; it's only once in a while. From the research that he has done and he has researched all of his concerns he will be talking about; we are suppose to have 59 policemen and women but only have 55. He asked the Mayor why and the Mayor informed he felt that was all the town needs at this time. Mr. Doherty does disagree with the Mayor on the staffing of the Police Department. He has heard from different sources that the Mayor has little respect for our Police Chief and if that is so, he stated to the Mayor that he is serving the people and not himself. He is only saying that because this is what he has heard in the research that he has done. He can't say that he personally knows that there is a difference between the Chief and the Mayor but can only say what he has heard in his research. If that is so and you have to put away your personal differences and give the department the needs it must have. Cutting back a department that is protecting us and our community is not in my opinion serving the people that elected him to be Mayor. Mr. Doherty stated he knows the Mayor will say he had to crunch numbers for the budget and his answer to that is he can go back over the budget as it has been presented since he has been here and show where departments in his opinion have a lot of items that can be reduced or some probably even eliminated. He hopes when this budget is voted on for the year of 2009 that all of the elected officials will have gone over the budget and listened to the people and makes the necessary changes. Mr. Doherty commented on one other thing that has been discussed and he didn't hear any answer to the question or

at least one that was understood and that is the twelve supervisors who have received the salary increase along with back pay. There were some comments today from some people that were displeased with the employees and what do we do about it. It is not Council's concern, it is their supervisor's concern who should be talked about but yet they were all increased with their back pay as well and he is not debating as to whether they were entitled to what they had received. His question is why wasn't the entire supervisor's given the same raise. Why only 12 and why wasn't the Chief of Police included in the mix. Is it again because of a personal thing between the Mayor and the Chief. Mr. Doherty emphasized that he hopes not and if you're going to be in politics the first thing you must learn to agree to disagree and that's one of the first things he had to learn and he learned that a long time ago. Some of us can do that but some others have a lot of problems trying to do that. If you are ever going to move ahead in this municipality, you are going to have to learn to agree to disagree and move on from that. Mr. Doherty wanted to make it clear that he is not here protesting for the Chief of Police or any individual. He only met the Chief twice and both times were in here so he doesn't really know him. Mr. Doherty expressed he is concerned about the department and the Chief is the head of the department so he is the guy he has to stand out and wave the flag out. The only Police that he really got to know in his years here is Chief Bill Hahn when he was Chief and he has been long retired. He doesn't really know the Chief personally but his great concern is the first responders. The Chief is in charge of the Police Department and if there is a national disaster here he is certainly the guy that will be in charge of all of those first responders responding to whatever the disaster may be or whatever the situation may be. He sees where all of the needs of the first responders can be met without any tax increases above what has been presented now and he certainly doesn't disagree with the increase that is going to be voted on. Mr. Doherty suggested Council to go back and look at some of the line items and see some of the things that can be changed. He has to say that in time that he has been here while going over the budget and going back over certain items, he hasn't heard anybody making any changes in how the budget has been presented to this point. If he was to look at this budget now as to the information that he has had that he has been here, Council is in favor as it is presented to them now. It is their obligation to go back in to the budget and see where they can make changes. He is not saying that the changes they are going to make is to do away with anything or anybody but they can certainly shift things around as to where a greater need is needed and he gets back to his main concern the first responders who are responding whether it is a fire, an accident, a robbery, a break in, a dope raid and they need the equipment to protect themselves. They put their lives on the line everyday; we don't. We probably do when we take a ride in the car because you never know if somebody is going to run in to you or what. These people are out there and they respond first. He is more familiar with the fire department than he is with the Police Department because he still serves as a state officer for the fire service but he was a reserve Policeman for eleven years in Florence where he was born and raised and he knows what some of those people have to go through. They certainly should be entitled to the equipment that they need. He also wrote a list of some of the things that he thinks that our first responders need. Mr. Doherty didn't need to go over that list with Council as they should be pretty well aware of what that is. There are a few items on there that certainly Council is going to have to vote on because of the budget. He knows that we need automobiles and he spoke to Mayor about this and he informed there were four budgeted last year and there are three budgeted this year and don't know if they will get them. Mr. Doherty stated a budget is a list of numbers for you people to work with. That

doesn't mean that every line item on the budget that you've given us that that money is going to be spent. It's just a guide for Administration as to how Council elects them to spend the money. It's a guide and only a list of numbers. Mr. Doherty noted that Auditors are doom and gloom people. They will never give you a good picture of expenses. It's always a gloom part of the monies that have to be spent. It's always the gloom part of the monies that have to be spent and how you're going to get it. He has never met an auditor yet that when you get done talking to him you can smile and say hey; thanks you really did us a big job. They don't do that, that's not in their critique. Anyhow, he along with others has been expressing concerns to the Council and the Mayor. We heard them this morning for an hour and a half, we heard them Wednesday night and when we had the budget meetings. Their concerns and he hopes he is wrong that their concerns as residents are not Council's concerns. Council may say that is not true that the residents concerns are their concerns. He says this because as he said earlier, in the budget meetings that he has attended; he hasn't seen any one member of Council change one thing on any line item. The Mayor and Mr. Vaz and their staff have put this budget together and it is his opinion that none of Council has disapproved any of the line items. He wasn't here for the whole meetings because he has had to leave on account of his wife's illness and some things could have been changed after he left but he doesn't know. He is just giving what he has seen and what he has heard and he hasn't seen any changes that Council wanted to make in any line items that Council has discussed. Mr. Doherty expressed to Council to not just hear them, listen to them and make their concerns Council's concerns. We all have to make our community a better community to live in. He thinks in all sincerity Council all wants to do that but we have to do that together if we're going to survive and be a great community to live in and we have to do it together and we have to show other people. We have to have some source and the Mayor had mentioned this once before and he mentioned it in the paper that we have to look for a new source of income. That's Council's job and responsibility and the people elected you to do that. He is sure there are a lot of ways out there that we can encourage people to come here and not discourage people. Mr. Doherty stated this is the first he has ever met Mr. Inge but he is under the impression that he is the one that bought the library and fixed that up and was going to have a business come in there and for whatever reason he is not going to say the reason that he heard because it would be hearsay and he doesn't want to participate in the hearsay but if it's true then he thinks Mr. Inge got a raw deal. We want businesses here and we have to encourage you to build here and not just Mr. Inge but encourage people to come here. We want contractors to come in here; we have so many empty spaces and empty grounds around here so we could build all kinds of homes around here if we can encourage the people to get here. That's the Mayor's job and Council's job to do that. If we can do that to get them people in here to build like they would certainly like to see that happen, he doesn't think we would have to be here debating whether we're going to increase taxes five cents, ten cents or fifteen cents or whatever it's going to be or whatever it has to be. We all have to do it together. He doesn't see that great togetherness here that some of the people talk about but they have to be a part of Council as well as Council has to be a part of them. They have all elected Council to do a good job and it's his opinion that he thinks they are all doing a good job and he just wanted to express his concerns to the Mayor and Council that of those people of whom put their lives on the line everyday when they answer a call, when they drive a vehicle whether it's in good condition, drivable or not, if it would pass inspection if his car has to pass inspection to drive it on the street then the Police cars and the trucks and the other things that we have should be made to pass inspection and do the same thing. If

not for the safety of others, at least for their safety. Mr. Doherty thanked Council for allowing him to express his opinions to them and whether they adhere to them or not is entirely up to them. Mr. Doherty suggested Council to remember one thing, when the first responders respond; it could be to their house. One of the things the Mayor talked about was the contract services we have with the EMS. Mr. Doherty noted they were debating whether they were worth the money or not an increase or not and he has had to have them respond to his home three times. All three times, the first people who arrived there was the Police Department and the Policemen had taken the vital signs and had her on oxygen when the emergency services came in and they were excellent. They did an excellent job; both the Police Department and the emergency people because he was concerned about who they were. Mr. Doherty conveyed that the Mayor explained to him that it was a contract service that they had to get in to and he understands that. He mentioned to the Mayor that they are doing a good job and he complemented them and if he could give them the kudos he would certainly give the EMS people the kudos and also the Policemen who respond and had heard signs all done three times and they ended up taking her to the hospital and she spent quite a bit of time there. He thanked the Police Department and the emergency people that responded and for the Mayor explaining that to him. Mrs. Stinney thanked Mr. Doherty. Mayor Patriarca asked to reflect on some of Mr. Doherty's comments to the Mayor's opinions or thoughts. Mrs. Stinney conveyed she will yield to the Mayor but she needs him to keep it brief as there are more people to come forward. Mayor Patriarca stated he did not have a conversation with Mr. Doherty where he said there were enough Police Officers and thinks it actually went more towards we could use twenty more Police Officers and that decision, we had 59 Officers in the 2008 budget and he expressed the fact that the two additional officers that would have been put on had to result from an ordinance that was never introduced by Council in 2008. So we couldn't put those two officers on and two officers left, 56 and 57 and the budget left us with four officers that weren't filled. As a result of recent reports by the Chief of Police whom he does have respect for contrary to the hearsay that Mr. Doherty has heard on the street and it is hearsay, although they may disagree on issues, he does have respect for the individual. The report from the Chief is that crime was down 20% so they had to factor in if we put these officers in the budget, when could they get on the street and it wouldn't happen realistically in 2009 and as opposed to losing individuals that we currently have working here, we elected to take away positions that were funded, 56 and 57. Positions 58 and 59 were never approved by ordinance so we couldn't do them. That's how we arrived at those positions being moved. We are looking in to options through the stimulus package and paying for additional officers, 56 and 57 may be able to occur through stimulus money. For the Chief's raise, the Chief received a raise equal to most of the supervisors. Most of the supervisors did not receive 12% raises, 11% raises whatever one or two may have received in that supervisor's contract. Most received the 4% and the Chief received that equal raise. That was non-contractual employees also because the Chief is not in that union that Mr. Doherty is referring to as far as supervisors. That is a supervisors union and the Chief is not in that union; he is non-contractual and we afforded him what we gave most of the supervisors the same type of raise. Contrary to his belief, they do have a union and we have to respect that. The Mayor commented that he believes we need 20 more officers but we can't fund 20 more officers. Mrs. Stinney asked if anyone else wanted to address Council during this public portion time. **Duayna Yoast: 1.** Would like to address Council regarding the issue of dirt bikes, illegal dirt bike and quad activity. She lives on Split Rock Road and bought her house four years ago. When she and her husband drove through Browns Mills,

they noticed it was a struggling community. The old Acme Shopping Center was abandoned and neglected, the stores in that strip mall less than thriving. The roads needed attention. In many areas it was evident that this was a community that had lost hope. And yet, they found many things that were charming about Browns Mills. Little bright spots that made them believe there was an effort to revitalize this town. They like that it was quiet, not a lot of traffic, a place where people could raise their children safely. All important aspects for a military family. They ignored Marlton, bypassed Burlington and dismissed Mount Holly. They bought a house in Browns Mills and invested in this town and were excited to move in. Right away, they became acquainted with the illegal quad and dirt bike activity on their street. Despite the fact that the area across the street was posted, no trespassing, the trails were being used as if it were a sanctioned recreational area. All hours of the day and night, the noise, the dust, the discarded trash infiltrated our existence. This was a serious problem. They had a one year old; it was interrupting his naps and bed time. When they questioned their neighbors, they just shook their heads and said get used to it. No one will help them solve this problem. It's been going on for quite a while. Not wanting to believe that, they called dispatch on a day when there was a lot of activity. Finally later than evening after everyone had taken their toys home, a patrol car passed by. This became a pattern. Sometimes the Police would come to the house and ask questions. Occasionally they would even park right along those access areas and wait as if the four wheelers and quads would come to them. There were even a few weekends when they unloaded bikes of their own to go and catch these guys. Nothing happened; nothing changed. During the time she became the most involved in calling dispatch they began to have problems at their own house. Vandalism to their phone line on several occasions; extra trash dumped in their yard, bottles smashed in their driveway. As the mother of a young child, she'll admit that she became afraid that they were being retaliated against so she stopped calling. The vandalism stopped. They became hopeful when D.R. Horton had plans to build a 55 plus community in Browns Mills. There was talk of fencing off the area across the street to deny the illegal activity but D.R. Horton was blocked at several points and with the down turn in the economy, it looks like it won't happen now. Spring is coming and with the return of the robins comes the quads and dirt bikes. Last week they emailed the Mayor about their concerns. The Mayor forwarded their email to the Chief of Police who responded right away saying they were aware of the problem and were working on it. She wanted to believe him but four years of no results speaks so much louder than words. She was less than hopeful. This very week there was budgeted money for a simple fence to be erected across the access points. Genius. This was the very solution they have asked for all along; some way to block access. She gets a call yesterday that a Council member did not approve and said the fence would be ugly. This Council member got the money for the fence removed from the budget. Mrs. Yoast lives on Split Rock Road and wanted to tell you what is ugly. The trash left by these people. Of course, they have no qualms about breaking the law so why would they care about leaving trash. Another thing that is ugly is the dust that films her house from the clouds across the street every time they go racing in and out of there and do their circles and all of the things that create the noise and the dust. The noise is uglier still and it can be so loud that it interferes with telephone conversations. They can't enjoy their own yard because it sounds like they live next to a race track. It makes it difficult for their child to go to sleep at night and even wakes them at two and three in the morning. She asks herself, what they are doing over there in the woods at this time of night even in bad weather. It can't be good. All of those things are uglier than a simple fence. The ugliest thing of all is fear. Fear that the Police in

her community are simply unable to unwilling to solve this problem. Fear of retribution if she presses the issue. Fear that she lives in a community whose Mayor and Council and Police force claim to work on her behalf and yet by their actions and even by their votes ignore her voice and look the other way on a problem that affects everyone that lives in her part of Browns Mills. You may think that this is their problem; just the ones who live along Wissahickon and Split Road, but you are wrong. They have friends in the military that are looking for places to live while they are stationed here and how can they recommend to them or anyone else to come to a town that dismisses its own citizens. She is asking that her Mayor, her Council and her Police force not look away. Hear us, listen to us; give us our voice back. Give us hope that we are a community trying to become strong and not a community that looks the other way. Give us hope because a town without hope is a town that is dying. She does not want to live in a town that is dying. Mr. Prickett stated to Mrs. Yoast that this was not in the budget; at the last meeting it was not pulled from the budget.....Mrs. Stinney interjected and stated she really needs to ask Mr. Prickett to hold his comments right now. This is public portion comment and Mrs. Yoast this is the portion where the public has the opportunity and willingness to come forward and say whatever they need to say. We won't get in to a dialogue right now with you and there are some comments that she is sure that some of the Council members would probably like to explain about the situation but this is the public's portion to come forward and say whatever they want. Mrs. Stinney noted with request to Mr. Prickett, we can ask those questions or address those issue once the public has had their due process of coming forward to speak their opinion without being interrupted with a dialogue. Mrs. Yoast stated she appreciates that and welcomes anyone to talk to her about that because this has been an on-going problem and it looks like it's going to be and she is tired of being afraid. Mrs. Stinney thanked Mrs. Yoast. **Christine Kallil: 1.** Wanted to talk about the fence on Split Rock Road. It is really needed and there is a big problem with the ATV's, the noise and pollution, the kids running around with their ATV's with adults at 1:00 am, at 3:00 am and God knows what they go in and out of the woods for. Who knows, maybe drugs. That's not right to have those activities in our neighborhood. They pay a lot of taxes there because they are Lake Front and they need some services here from the Township. Denying that for the residents without any reason more than esthetics; they are the ones living there, looking at those woods, looking at the trash and pollution. Having a fence will prevent a lot of accidents; a twelve year old boy two years ago went in and started a fire and within five minutes they had two acres burning just with his ATV going in and out. All of their houses would have been in jeopardy if this fire wasn't put out as soon as possible. It is private property. They were waiting for D.R. Horton to put up a fence or do whatever, they said they would take care of that, they know the problem and now we don't have D.R. Horton so the residents are asking the Township to step in and do something. Mrs. Kallil doesn't think \$5,000 is too much. This is all Country Lakes that is asking for that and more people are coming now to talk about it. Mrs. Kallil thanked Council for their consideration and asked for it to be put back in the budget. Mrs. Stinney thanked Mrs. Kallil for her comments. **Kelly Cantwell: 1.** Wanted to make an acknowledgement on the record. We have given the Mayor and Business Administrator credit for the budget but she would also like to extend credit to Mrs. Linda Eden for her many, many, many hours and time that she has put towards the budget. Mrs. Cantwell thanked Mrs. Eden. Mrs. Stinney thanked Mrs. Cantwell. Mrs. Stinney commented that as she said, the production speaks for itself.

There being no additional members of the public wishing to comment, Mrs. Stinney closed the meeting to public comment. Council President Stinney informed Council will in order provide their comments on perhaps what they have heard thus far. It certainly can't be on the budget because they haven't had an opportunity to do that. Mrs. Stinney started with Mr. Cartier and advised that then it will be Mrs. Scull and Mr. Prickett and Mr. Inge. Mr. Cartier commented to Mr. Cartier that he is not stepping on his toes and had every intention of addressing this himself. Mr. Prickett thanked Mr. Cartier. Mr. Cartier informed that the money that was requested for a chain link fence was never in the budget. It was a request from Administration to add it to the budget and this Council chose not to do that. For the most part, he was the only one that addressed the issue. He did call the fence unsightly and asked for other recommendations. Mr. Cartier noted that he stated he was in support of putting the money in there but not for a chain link fence. He did just this Thursday night, request from the Planner to find them different solutions or materials to put up there other than a chain link fence. Mr. Cartier advised he does believe a chain link fence is unsightly and he can't support that. Someone from the audience is speaking but they are inaudible. Mr. Cartier commented that he has the same problem at his house and they are up and down his road all the time. He understands what they are going through but he can't support a chain link fence. Mrs. Scull stated that unfortunately she was very ill Wednesday evening and missed that budget evening which broke her heart. Mrs. Scull continued that she thinks we should listen to the residents out there. It's been an on-going problem and she lives in Country Lakes and is aware of what goes on there and it would be beneficial to have some sort of fence there. She would like to see something rustic or whatever as long as it would stop the problem in the area of the household. She can understand and she missed that conversation and she understands the chain link fence might not look that great, however, she does think Council should consider before the budget is finalized and asked if the money could just be put in there and tell them we don't want chain link. Mrs. Stinney advised Mrs. Scull that Council did have the option of going back and forth and \$5,000 was cut from Council for some type of furniture and.....Mrs. Scull stated Council had cut \$11,000 before the other day. Mrs. Stinney continued that just like Mr. Prickett says in his open comments and she feels the same way and is sure each Council member does, that they do have that option to go back to departments and visit those departments. Perhaps if it is Council's desire to go back and visit that if it's the desire.....Mr. Cartier interjected that he honestly doesn't believe that a chain link fence would last. As he pointed out to the Mayor, he said five minutes and the Mayor said less than five minutes and they would be right through the fence again. They were his two concerns, the unsightly issue and the fact that he doesn't believe that a chain link fence would last and that is why he can't support a chain link fence. There has to be some more permanent options to resolve this issue as he asked the Planner to do. Mrs. Stinney stated on Mr. Cartier's defense, he did approach the Mayor about the chain link fence and asked if there was another option and the Mayor had mentioned another fence or another type of fence that would exceed a little more than the \$5,000 that they were asking to be placed in that budget and maybe she is wrong as she sees the Mayor shaking his head and he will have his opportunity too but she believes the Mayor said there were some other options as the chain link fence because he said it only took a second to clip the links. Mr. Cartier stated there are plenty of other options; it's just the cost factor. Mrs. Stinney thanked Mrs. Scull for allowing her to \_\_\_\_\_ on her comments and stated the same to Mr. Cartier. Mr. Prickett asked Mrs. Stinney if it is his turn. Mrs. Stinney replied if that is the order that they said. Mr. Prickett commented that if we are going to add money to the budget or to this specific line,

he thinks instead of adding money to the budget, Council should take it from an area Lake Management where the money has not been used over the years for that line. He would be in favor of transferring if Council is going to do this, the \$5,000 from the Lake Management in to the specific project because it hasn't been used in the past for treating aquatic plants or anything else. Council talked about rip wrap covering the bridge area or one of the areas. Mr. Prickett noted there is already money in the budget for fencing of some sort. Mr. Prickett believes the money is there and Administration could use that money to put the fence in. Whatever kind of fence would be most appropriate. For example, last year the Council decided that geese chasers were not appropriate for the community; they weren't doing their job so Council took geese chasers out of the budget. Somewhere along the way, Administration then funded geese chasers and then we had geese chasers and that money actually came out of this Lake Management from that line. Mr. Prickett is in support of addressing that problem. He thinks the money is there and we have ways instead of adding money, increasing the tax rate right now our cents from 9.5 or 6 or 8; whatever it is up to 10, we can find it within the budget. He doesn't think any of these things are going to be solutions unfortunately. Mr. Prickett read something that he sent Mr. Kallil who sent him an email yesterday describing this problem and this is his response to Mr. Kallil. "Perhaps the best way to get a handle on the ATV problem in County Lakes and throughout Pemberton Township is by contacting our legislature and members of the senate environmental committee by March 16<sup>th</sup>, which is Monday, and asking them to support bill S2055 which is sponsored by Senator Bob Gordon. This bill would protect your private property from illegal riding of off road vehicles. Bill A823 and S2055 would establish mandatory registration and tagging of off road vehicles in order to help conservation officers, law officers and residents hold riders responsible for their damaging activities. The bill also increases fines for illegal riders, creates stricter penalties for repeat offenders and helps to establish a fund that can be used to create in the creation of an ORV park and maintaining these parks to support those legal responsible riders. The senate environmental committee is scheduled to vote on off road vehicle legislation on March 16 and the full assembly will likely vote on the same day. It is critical that the legislators hear from you at this key moment so our efforts will pay off. I would ask you to contact the committee members and he has a list of their phone numbers as well as to contact our legislators, Dawn Marie Addiego, Scott Rudder and Phil Haines. We need to do this since you have your civic associations and you need to reach out to all of those folks and contact these legislators as this could be the solution. I think they are lobbying against it but this is the best way to go at it". Someone is talking from the audience and they are inaudible. Mr. Prickett replied we don't have that legislation at the moment and this would require insurance and it would give them more tools. They would have to be insured and registered and that would all help our enforcement officers. Mr. Prickett informed the bill numbers are A823 and S2055. Mr. Prickett informed if you send him an email he will be glad to send you all of the information. Mr. Prickett also has a copy with him and suggested it be copied and distributed and asked Mr. Vaz if he could do that so residents could get this. Mr. Vaz replied yes. Mr. Cartier informed he would like a copy of that. Mrs. Stinney asked Mr. Prickett if he is done. Mr. Prickett advised he is and thanked Mrs. Stinney and added that he appreciated.....Mrs. Stinney noted that what she would like to say so that we are not back and forth with the dialogue because she knows one person may say you might to address what the next one, we still have and she thanked Mr. and Mrs. Kallil for those pictures and comments that she emailed them back. Mr. Inge thanked all of the employees that came out and spoke up today and he does think that they do a good job for the Township and



would like to say continue on and he has a question for Council President. Mr. Inge stated this is a Council meeting and asked Mrs. Stinney if he is correct. Mrs. Stinney answered yes, this is our work shop, and it's a Council work shop. Mr. Inge commented that what he didn't understand is that she gave the Mayor permission to speak to a resident when they made a comment but didn't give Mr. Prickett that same opportunity to speak to a resident concerning something that he had to say. Mrs. Stinney replied that Council is at a work shop and what she did was she allowed, she yielded to the Mayor and we went in form for Council to speak because she wanted to make sure that all of the residents had an opportunity to speak and she sees quite a few heads nodding and that's how they did it. Mrs. Stinney continued that if he would like for us to do something as she said earlier to him and Council as a whole, this work shop is different than a Council meeting; this is called as she reads each meeting.....Mr. Inge interjected that he understands what it is and he knows what this is and his question to her is why doesn't she give Mr. Prickett the same courtesy that she gave the Mayor. Mrs. Stinney replied because in a few minutes, he is going to have that. Mr. Inge commented in a few minutes the Mayor could have had the same. Mrs. Stinney replied to Mr. Inge that its okay, it's alright. Mr. Inge stated that it's not okay because this is what he's talking about; she might say its okay but it's not okay. Mrs. Stinney stated okay, we can agree and not agree.....Mr. Inge continued that she can do what she wants to do when she wants to do it. Mrs. Stinney stated she is trying to keep Chair.....Mrs. Scull asked for a point of order. Mr. Inge stated to Mrs. Stinney to be fair about it and that's all he is asking. Mrs. Stinney thanked Mrs. Scull and informed Mrs. Scull has called a point of order and you have to respect that. Mrs. Scull stated that she just has a question and asked Mrs. Stinney if she could go back since we are on the budget about the geese chasers and asked why they were hired back when there are cheaper ways to deal with the geese. There are silhouettes out there, one of the things she saw at the league of municipalities that she brought back about a little thing that can be pulled from lake to lake and it will put sound out there that is very inexpensive compared to what we pay for geese chasers and asked if anybody looked in to those items instead of paying for the dogs. Mr. Vaz replied he thinks Mr. Prickett was talking about last year's budget first of all. Mrs. Scull recalled the geese chasers were taken out and didn't know that they were paid for. Mr. Vaz explained that at some point the Director of Recreation got a little concerned about the water quality and they had to act very quickly. There is money in the recreation budget this year that we will probably hopefully get to today. The Recreation Director might have geese chasers listed as the entity as the solution but it doesn't mean that is the solution and it is just reserving the money. Mrs. Scull thanked Mr. Vaz and Mrs. Stinney. Mrs. Stinney asked Mrs. Yoast to come forward as she had said there was something else that she had forgotten. Mrs. Stinney advised this is just a work shop and Council is working really different and haven't closed this portion up so this is a work shop and are allowing and this is how they get the answers. Mrs. Yoast thanked Mrs. Stinney. Mr. Inge stated he guesses he was finished with his comments since.....Mrs. Stinney stated she didn't hear....Mr. Inge continued that he thought he was speaking and then Mrs. Scull cut in and then the Business Administrator cut in and then.....Mrs. Stinney apologized and stated to let Mr. Inge finish. Mrs. Scull apologized to Mr. Inge. Mr. Inge stated as far as the fencing, he does agree with Mr. Cartier in that if you do put a chain link fence up the sections will be cut out of it before the following weekend and when they find out that fence is there, they're going to just like they found out that somehow you were making calls and then you had things done to your property and things are going to be done to that chain link fence and it's going to be very easy for them to

remove links and just take that section of the top rail out and then they can go right through. Mr. Inge commented that he is now finished. Mrs. Stinney conveyed that she is just trying to keep us from moving back and forth because she knows sometimes even herself when something is said it may ring a bell and she's not preaching but it may ring a bell that she should have said this or forgot to say this but this was an item that was added to the budget and this is what we are here for. To have that open dialogue and she is grateful for that. **Duayna Yoast: 1.** She appreciates the comment that Council recognizes there is a problem and that something should be done. Her frustration lies in two things. When Council says everything they suggest is hopeless, it leaves her to feel that nothing will be done as it has not in the entire time she has been there because you feel like what's the use. What we need is somebody who is going to say let's do something. Let's not dismiss it because you think it's not going to work and if you truly believe it's not going to work, let's not only look at something that you think will be a better solution but actually do it. Let's get this out of the talking stage, let's get this out of the debate and let's do something that is going to keep our area safe and clean and quiet. We need to invest in Browns Mills. We need people to want to come here. We have a huge thing happening with military. We want these families to pick Browns Mills. We want them to say this looks like a nice place to live. Right now she has many people that ask her and she cannot recommend it. She is only one of many military families. Mrs. Yoast stressed to believe her that they listen. When they ask the first thing they are going to do is talk to the people they know that are there. If she says something and then they tell their friends, it is an impact. She does not want to argue and does not want to point fingers. What we need are results and we need somebody to do something to accomplish this and solve this. When she made the comment that she loved what Council said about writing in and she would love that to pass and will get right on that and will do whatever she can to put her voice so that it's heard. Yet on a local level, there are already no trespassing signs and that's illegal. Whether or not they are registered and whether or not they can or can't be is a mute point. These are people that are trespassing and there are citizens that are calling in and citizens that are taking pictures and showing the faces of these people and nothing is being done. That's where she has to relay on her Mayor and Council and her Police Department and if they don't do it she is going to say something and she is going to make sure that everybody else knows that they are not doing it. She is the first one to commend somebody that is doing a job well done but she will certainly let you know if she thinks you are not. Mrs. Stinney thanked Mrs. Yoast. Mrs. Stinney stated she will conclude with her comments. Mr. Cartier asked to be able to comment. Mrs. Stinney asked to be able to finish with her comments and while she appreciates everyone who has come forward and this is the proper time to come forward and say we need this. Wednesday night she totally disagreed with Mr. Prickett when he said if you needed it in the budget why wasn't it added in the budget, the \$5,000. That wasn't the answer and certainly was not the answer. We see these pictures here and she read the emails. She is not in the area and agrees with Mr. Cartier and Mr. Inge where they said the \$5,000 would just be a temporary band aid on a chain link fence where they may come and cut through that fence. She is grateful that they sent through those pictures over because she couldn't visualize the areas that she was talking about. The pictures came over and she thanked her again for them. There was money that was cut out of Council's budget, line item 205700 of \$5,000. Why that money is sitting there she disagrees and that's just her opinion and she is certainly, we as a Council as a whole will have that opportunity to go back and say where, should we, should we not, should be concur to setting up a fence and so on and so forth. She does believe that the fence and when she sat in

the Mayor's office before she received the email, her mouth dropped and she could not believe that the encouragement was for and the children running around the road and the Mayor asked what was the matter and she said what if a car comes around the corner and here they all are on a bicycle and she said oh, my gracious. While she believes and agrees after seeing those pictures that something has to be as ASAP. That's just her and that's her philosophy. Mrs. Stinney just wanted to give a comment out on that asked if any other Council members wished to continue to dialogue on this that is fine as this is a work shop and this is what we have. We have the dialogue at a work shop so we can make those intelligent decisions and those safe decisions on what is best for the residents of this town. Mr. Cartier commented that he doesn't believe that the problem is hopeless. There is an answer and he honestly believes that or else he would not have asked the Planner this past Thursday to come up with a solution other than the chain link fence. The first words out of his mouth were let's put a berm. Mr. Cartier advised he stated that won't work and what more does an off road vehicle look for but something to jump. Mr. Cartier advised the Planner is looking in to it and he did express the need to have this answer in a timely fashion so we can get it in to the budget. Mr. Cartier reiterated that he doesn't think it's hopeless and he is working on it. Mrs. Kallil is trying to speak from the audience and is inaudible. Mrs. Stinney explained that what happens when we have that audience dialogue and up here dialogue and she is not trying to be rude or ridiculous; she is just trying to make sure that if someone wants to come in and say can they hear the tape of what one is saying that we will be able to in order have that and so that is why she is trying to prevent the dialogue from the audience up here to the Council so that we are all heard in a decent and orderly way. Mrs. Stinney yielded to Mr. Prickett. Mr. Prickett yielded to Mrs. Kallil and added that when she is done, he would like to make some comments. Mrs. Stinney advised Mrs. Kallil that she did see her husband's hand up. **Mrs. Kallil: 1.** Thanked Mrs. Stinney for her answer and Mr. Prickett also for responding to his email. Mrs. Kallil noted they were asking to extend the guard rail from both sides and this cannot be cut or do anything to it. Mrs. Kallil that was their proposals to the Mayor in their emails. **Mr. Kallil: 1.** Thanked everyone and when he sent his email to everyone he stated he wanted to extend the steel rail and didn't say chain or anything to be cut. This is not going to be cut. He is looking for a steel rail. Mr. Cartier stated he believes that could be the answer and now we are looking at the financial aspect. How is expensive is that guard rail and that is what he is asking the Planner to look in to. Mr. Kallil informed he is an engineer also and he doesn't think it's going to be too costly; it already exists and needs to be extended. It could solve the problem and the safety issue. On the other hand, at 1:00 in the morning they run around and with that noise he wakes up and asks how he is going to go to work the next day. He pays his taxes because he goes to work. Mr. Kallil asked Council to please consider and do their best. Mrs. Stinney thanked Mr. Kallil. Mr. Prickett noted to respond to Mrs. Yoast and probably others, he doesn't think it's hopeless. It's certainly a tough, tough situation that the Township has been facing for the last, from the time he has been on Council going on seven years and he knows even before that. Mr. Prickett informed he does know that the Police have had a program where on Channel 19 they advise people of the quads and other vehicles being illegal and what the consequence is. They have brochures that they've handed out in the past and he is not sure what they are doing right now. For a while there maybe Mr. Kallil could concur with him that that program did work for a while. Mr. Prickett commented that is the most effective way with the resources we have, the manpower, the Police cars, being observant, being parked there in the areas where the quads go. He is not sure what the program consists of and he is not sure what

decisions they make to make it effective. That's their professional judgment and he certainly feels the same about the steel guardrail and their recommendation on that in that way and he certainly would support that. Mr. Prickett noted that also sounds like if we had a steel guardrail there that would resolve the question as to whether it could be cut. Mr. Prickett expressed he has been with the Mayor and walked through the community and have talked about extending the steel rail a number of years ago. He is surprised actually that this hasn't been done by now. Mr. Prickett spoke of the legislation and he is asking everyone to come out and call their legislators. Hopefully if that was passed, they would have license tags that the riders could be identified with and that idealistically would keep people from getting intimidated and threatened with their lines cut and other horrible things from happening. It seems like the program starts in the spring of every year. Someone is speaking from the audience and can't be heard. Mrs. Stinney commented that we want to have a dialogue just so that we can make sure that everyone is on record. If we should happen to change this budget or whatever we want to make sure that everyone is heard. Someone is speaking out again and can't be heard. Mrs. Stinney asked them to come forward. Mr. Cartier asked Mrs. Eden if the guardrail or something like that could be a capital project. Mrs. Eden answered it would depend on the cost and it would have to have a useful life of five years or more. Mr. Cartier stated obviously a guard rail would unless it's run over. Mrs. Eden added it would also depend on the new bond laws and we would have to check it out; it would be over five years so it could. Mr. Cartier asked Mrs. Eden to look in to that for him. Mrs. Stinney asked Mr. Prickett to continue. Mr. Prickett didn't know where he was and added that he's been interrupted so many times. Mr. Prickett continued that the money is in the budget and he doesn't think we should be adding this to the budget; we should be transferring it from one area to the other where it hasn't been used. That is his position on that and he doesn't particularly like being put in the position of what is being portrayed as a solution against adding money to the budget because he doesn't think that situation really has to be. Mr. Prickett commented that it is a political situation and not a reality one. Again, he would support extending the guardrail if we could find it within the budget. He is a bit reluctant to take it from the capital budget to borrow for this when he thinks it is already in the budget. Mr. Prickett stated the Police Department as they did in the past need to activate their program again and get moving on that and maybe as Mr. Doherty stated, maybe they don't have all of the resources they need. Mr. Doherty brought up a list of things that he has not seen but maybe need to be funded in the budget; maybe we need to transfer some money from some other areas to fund those items that might be needed to make this ATV program more effective. Mr. Prickett thanked Mrs. Yoast for coming forward. Mrs. Eden asked how much guardrail we are talking about. Mr. Cartier answered it is at least 2,000 feet. Mrs. Stinney stated to the Mayor that she asked him to be summoned in here since he was out on that job so he could ask some of these questions. Mrs. Stinney expressed they were talking about the steel guardrail and the Mayor had a couple of options and asked him to refresh her memory. Mayor Patriarca apologized as he thought the Business Administrator was covering this and continued that Administration looked in to the options for this project and the chain link was the most inexpensive way to go. Guardrail runs approximately \$450 a section and they are twelve foot sections. We would need at least four times as much if not more than what it would cost to put chain link in. Mayor Patriarca stated that he didn't make the comment that chain link could go in five seconds rather he was referring to a chain that was in Presidential Lakes protecting the park but it was a chain and they cut one end, pulled it through the rails and cut the other end and stole the chain. Our Police Department did catch them. They

went out and found that chain at a recycling place and did catch the individuals. He doesn't know that they could pull a chain link fence out that easy in a residential area that is constantly watched by residents and he would differ with that comment. Mrs. Yoast commented that as far as whether it is in the budget or was the budget, to her way of thinking that is not important to her and she just wants it accomplished. If the money is pulled from somewhere else that's fine. She is not asking for something to be added to the budget if it's already there because after all, this is her money that we're spending. Be wise with it and as far as the type of fence, the guardrail would be a wonderful thing. Other options that the forest service uses are just large stumps that you cement in to the ground every so many feet. Anything like that would definitely stop the ATV's and if it was narrow enough and dirt bikes could not get through, that would be lovely. Mrs. Yoast expressed that she loves the idea of more patrols, but as it was mentioned on another topic, one of the problems is that we don't have enough Policemen to cover what is needed anyway and she is not foolish enough to think that the Township is going to constantly patrol her street for this issue when there are other issues that are equally important to the community thus equally important to her. It is one solution that she would like to see as often as possible. More than anything, if we can have something there so that we don't constantly need the Police constantly patrolling so they can just come by when they normally would. That would be the best solution. The other thing we are all wondering is they've been told before that they're important and it will be taken care of and go away, they're find; they would like to know how they can be involved in the solution and how they can make sure this is something that is really something that the Township is paying attention to until it gets done. What can they do to help get this accomplished. Mrs. Stinney asked maybe in other sections of the town or something like that. Mrs. Yoast answered no, so that they are involved in the process so that she knows that there is a timeline that by a certain date they want to get it done. They need to have something that is not just out there because there are a lot of things on Council's plate and this can very easily what is very important to the residents can slip through the cracks. Not because you don't say it's important today as there are so many issues. Mrs. Yoast asked how she can make this not slip through the cracks. Mrs. Stinney asked the Mayor if the stumps Mrs. Yoast mentioned was one of the options. Mayor Patriarca replied they were not considered because realistically they would have to be put two and one half feet apart at the most and there would have to be an awful lot of stumps in to keep a vehicle from going through because you could put the poles in but without something between the poles you need to have something that is going to keep the vehicles out. Mrs. Scull asked the Mayor if there was a committee set up after everyone was elected for issues in the Township where residents meet once a month to discuss.....The Mayor replied the Citizens Advisory Committee. Mr. Prickett commented that was for code enforcement. Mrs. Scull stated this is code enforcement. Mayor Patriarca advised it wasn't well responded to and Mr. Prickett had attempted on many occasions with another member to try and keep that going and there wasn't a lot of attendance unfortunately because it could have been something addressed. Mr. Prickett conveyed that he appreciates that Administration did try to revive that committee this year. He has attended the advertised meetings but that's a year or two down the road unfortunately. Mr. Prickett noted that we should continue to make that effort. The Mayor agreed. Mr. Cartier stated to Mrs. Yoast to answer her question it is to hold Council to the fire. He knows the Kallils and they both have his email and they can email him daily if they like and he will provide progress reports and keep them up to date. Mr. Cartier continued that when they stop being satisfied with that to come out to the

Council meeting and hold him to it then and he won't let this go. Mrs. Yoast advised she will do that and added that this is an important issue on very many levels and it is difficult for her to stand here and do this because her husband is in the military and he's not always home. She is home alone with their child and she has to be careful, she needs something done and needs Council to keep her safe. Mrs. Stinney conveyed when she sat in the Mayor's office and he showed her those pictures before she got to her computer, her mouth dropped. She informed that she said to the Mayor, what if a car was coming around that corner. It's for the safety of all and it's a dangerous, dangerous thing. It certainly is. Mrs. Yoast thanked the Council for their attention. Mr. Inge stated he could provide an example to solve this and it's not just in Country Lakes, it's in Presidential Lakes and Browns Mills. If you can get a committee together, a group of residents; the steel guardrail, there is no way the Township can afford a budget with that in there but they could if they can get prices for material such as from Diamond M Lumber because they do carry 3x12, round posts and if the Township can purchase it and have the committee volunteers as long as we have the Township Engineer's approval, get residents to come out and install them similar to Imagination Kingdom. Mrs. Yoast advised there are at least three or four people that would spend the time if they are provided with the material. Mr. Inge stated there are a lot of businesses in this town and they have equipment that would dig the holes. Administration has to get numbers because they have to make sure there are no underground gas lines or sewer lines and there.....Mrs. Yoast interjected that is a good suggestion and they would be happy to do that. Mr. Inge continued that we couldn't just do one little section and we have opportunities to do other sections in town. Mrs. Yoast conveyed if the people in that area wanted it done, that would be a good way to determine who it was really a problem to. Mrs. Yoast reiterated they would be happy to do that on her street. Mrs. Stinney asked the Mayor if he could work with the Kallils.....The Mayor interjected that Administration will certainly address all of these issues but they have looked at.....Mrs. Stinney stated like a committee. Mayor Patriarca continued that Administration has looked at these options and was just hoping we could get on with the budget and reiterated that Administration is looking at these issues and Mr. Inge's suggestion is one that Administration did look at. The price of the wood was considerably higher than the chain link. The chain link was the cheapest option and that's why they put it in. The Mayor reiterated that Administration will continue to try and address that problem and it's a matter of funding it and that's a budget issue. Mrs. Stinney stated for the committee to sit down and work diligently with the Mayor with these options such as what Mr. Inge and Mr. Cartier suggested and come back with those solutions. Like she had stated earlier, Council has taken \$5,000 out of their budget. Mrs. Yoast agreed that it is definitely easier to cut through the chain link and get through but there are people that live there. This is not border patrol along Mexico where there are thousands of miles where no body is paying attention. They are paying attention. If there is somebody there with wire cutters cutting a chain link fence, they are going to see and pay attention. If we can do something stronger and better she is all for that but if we can only afford a chain link and if that is the only option, then certainly let's try that. There will be enough people taking pictures of somebody cutting it and calling the Police and saying this is happening and they can be prosecuted and maybe that's how we catch them and she doesn't care how it is accomplished. They as citizens are willing to be involved. They are not saying this is our problem; you fix it and do it now. Let them know what they can do and let's get it accomplished together. Mrs. Stinney conveyed Council hears her. Mrs. Yoast thanked Council and added that she will take Council up on that and she will be watching them and emailing them. Mr. Prickett asked the Mayor what line he

wanted to put the money in. There is Maintenance of Parks and Beaches in Building and Grounds. Mayor Patriarca informed it should go in to Streets and Roads where the guard rail is and he is not sure of the line off the top of his head. Mr. Prickett conveyed guard rail supplies 5804. The Mayor noted it should go in to that particular line and Council did cut \$5,000 from their budget for a desk and that would be a good trade off without changing the adjustment in the budget and transferring that in to.....

Motion by Prickett to transfer \$5,000 from line 2-02911 to line 5804.

Mrs. Stinney apologized and stated Mr. Prickett is just so out of order here it's ridiculous. Mrs. Scull asked what line we are doing. Mr. Prickett informed it's on page 48. Mrs. Stinney asked the Mayor for Mrs. Young's.....Mr. Prickett interjected it is 02911 Lake Management.....Mrs. Stinney asked Mr. Prickett please and don't be ridiculous. It's the word Mr. Inge used and she likes that word. Mrs. Stinney noted that Council has not had lunch and its okay. Mrs. Scull added she was just going to mention that. Mr. Prickett asked if there was a second. Mrs. Stinney commented she is not finished and Mrs. Young hasn't even gotten the information. Mrs. Stinney asked the Mayor what his recommendation is and she knows it's Council's budget but he asked for the \$5,000 to go over in to that and his recommendation and asked Mrs. Eden if she's with her and he said to go from Roads. The Mayor confirmed and added that it should go to Streets and Road and he had just referred back to the \$5,000 that Council took out of Council's budget without changing the budget if that is the desire then they could have left everything else status quo and just put that money in to the guard rail. Mrs. Stinney asked Council for comments to have that \$5,000 from Council's budget 110, line item 2-05700 of \$5,000 to be transferred over. Mr. Cartier asked Council to hold on as he asked for some suggestions from the Planner who promised to get them back to him before the end of the budget process and it's not something that has to be done today. Mr. Prickett stated that is fair enough. Mrs. Stinney replied okay. Mrs. Scull agreed. Mrs. Stinney and Mr. Cartier are speaking at the same time and I can't make it out. Mrs. Scull commented that Council hasn't gotten to a department yet but it is 1:15 pm and apparently Council will be here for quite a while and asked for a half hour lunch. Mr. Cartier asked what the plan is. Mrs. Stinney conveyed it was mentioned at a prior meeting that Council has until the 31<sup>st</sup> to complete the budget. Mrs. Scull commented that Council doesn't have to do it by then. Mr. Cartier advised we have been extended. Mrs. Stinney confirmed we have been extended by the state and Council can go through the budget as necessary and perhaps Council could do a few departments today and maybe conclude at 3:00 and asked Council. Council discussed taking a break.

Mrs. Stinney convened the meeting for a short break at approximately 1:17 pm and reconvened the meeting at 1:41 pm.

### **FLEET MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT #315**

Council President Stinney advised Council is on page 50 of 91. Mr. Cartier, Mr. Inge and Mrs. Scull did not have any comments. Mrs. Stinney advised this department is not in the supplemental book. Mr. Cartier, Mrs. Scull and Mr. Inge informed there is a page in the supplemental book. Mr. Prickett stated clothing allowance has doubled on page 50 of 91 and asked for an explanation why it has more than doubled. Mr. Vaz explained it is \$200 times four. Mr. Prickett stated then last year it was \$200 times one and a half. Mayor Patriarca explained last year the supervisor was not in that last year because the contract wasn't settled and

one employee wasn't calculated in on the clothing allowance. Mrs. Stinney informed Council is now on page 51 of 91. Mr. Prickett asked what are fees and permits. Mrs. Eden informed they are DMV titles, registering of vehicles and things like that and it's approximately \$20.00 per vehicle to change titles. Mr. Prickett asked about line item 05900, the GPS system for \$30,000. Mayor Patriarca informed that is in the supplemental book as a separate item and it is a program that Administration is hoping to bring in to the system that would put a GPS system in every vehicle in the Township and it has a multitude of purposes. The primary purpose is safety to know where all of the vehicles are at any time. Administration has been in dialogue with the schools and hoping to continue that dialogue and bring that in to the school district also. This was something that was done in Gloucester to where every bus had that in there and if there is a disturbance on a bus, the operator can just push a button and it would go to a patrol vehicle if not all of them and alert the officer that there is a problem on that bus and the officer would know exactly where that bus is. It also has other functions contrary to the hearsay that has been going on about this that Administration is looking to watch what everybody is doing and that does play in to this when you issue a work order an individual now will now think they have to drive from A to B in the shortest most responsible route as opposed to going around the whole town to get to B and not that he is saying that occurs but it could occur and it would provide efficiency along with the fact that.....Mr. Prickett interjected and asked the Mayor if this system would tell the employee what the most direct route is to get to the.....The Mayor answered it won't tell the employee what the most direct route but it would tell the supervisor if they were to question it, why did it take the employee a half hour to get from here to Presidential Lakes and they could bring it up on the system and see where the employee went or if the employee was sitting down at the WaWa having a 7:15 break or if the employee was home at lunch longer than they were suppose to. If the question came up as to why was the employee doing this, it would give the supervisor the ability to check on that and it also has some other safety factors built in to it to where if a vehicle exceed the speed limit on a road, it can be programmed to alert the supervisor and go right to the supervisor's computer that this particular vehicle is exceeding the speed limit on a particular road and then that can be addressed. It has safety elements built in to it but it also has the accountability whether the enforceable accountability or just implying that somebody is watching you to make the employee more accountable for their performance. Administration is looking at it in a multi fashion system as opposed to just saying we want to watch where you're going; we need to answer to the public as to what you are doing all day. It has a lot of capabilities. On the Police Department's end, it has the ability to block out viewers on anybody's end so the Police Department obviously would be monitoring their own vehicles and then they could even limit that as opposed to having a shift supervisor say monitoring a detective vehicle and maybe that would only be for Lieutenants and Chiefs and in that respect Administration because they may be doing investigations and may not want other people to see where they are at. It has a lot of capabilities. Mr. Prickett stated to block it out. The Mayor continued there are ways to control who watches and there are Administrative controls that would determine who watches what type of vehicles as opposed to Administration being able to watch every vehicle in the Township which he would highly recommend against and he believes the Police Department would have a legal defense to argue because they could run undercover operations and that is the only vehicle Administration is not proposing to put in the actual undercover vehicles but it would include every Police Officers vehicle including Detectives which are currently not in the system. They have an old system now that is very inadequate and doesn't show them



anything. Anytime Administration asks for a report on a particular incident whether it's an accident a patrol vehicle has, they can't get an accurate report because it can't be done with the old beta program that they acquired years ago. Mrs. Stinney stated to the Mayor that this may be a silly question.....Mr. Prickett commented that he would like to finish and while listening to the Mayor he has some questions to follow up. Mrs. Stinney commented to go ahead. Mr. Prickett informed he has some questions about it being used for Public Works and also has some questions since the Mayor went in to the Police area. With a lot of the computer equipment we have in the vehicles now, it reduces our liability. The cameras, the recording and the computers also are good tools for the Police so that they can protect themselves; hopefully know who they are dealing with before they get out of the car. Mr. Prickett asked if this GPS system can in any way reduce the liability for the Police and can it be used as a tool in that respect. Mayor Patriarca informed it can and the items Mr. Prickett referred to he agrees wholeheartedly and has advocated this with young officers many times in the past. These are tools to use to their advantage and he has seen them work like the cameras and recording systems and so forth to exonerate officers which are not so much as watching them. If a report were to come in that an officer may have done something in a certain area or so forth, this could exonerate that officer to say that officer's vehicle was not even in that area. They weren't there or we were involved in an accident in a non-emergency situation possibly and no the officer wasn't exceeding the speed limit because now it shows us what that vehicle was doing. Mr. Prickett asked if the equipment that is in the vehicles now record the speed limit. Mayor Patriarca advised it will if the lights and sirens are on; in emergency situations it is programmed to that and again, it is not completely accurate. It is quite an older system and he was using it when he was in New Orleans. It has some functions but they are very limited functions. It's not so much the functions that it produces real time as opposed to the reporting functions that it lacks. The program is very weak in the reporting area to be able to get information from. Mr. Prickett asked if software would be a little better in this. Mr. Vaz answered it would be a lot better. The Mayor conveyed they actually did an on-line demo and the company actually did a demo for Miami Beach and they were able to show us what was going on in Miami on the streets with the vehicles and so forth in real time. It's got a whole lot of power as far as recording and reporting and so forth. Administration is looking at this as something that could reduce our liabilities in not just the Police but all of the areas to show that we are taking a pro-active stance towards monitoring what our vehicles are doing and also on the accountability end to the public that they have heard over and over again not only at these meetings but at Council meetings. Mr. Prickett expressed concern about that and sees this as being a plus but also sees that you could use this selectively. Mr. Prickett asked if there was a way to assure that this is used across the board and not just to perhaps get somebody. Mayor Patriarca acknowledged the concern and added that was also a concern that came in with the Police Department when they first got that system many years ago that we just wanted to know how fast they were going and they were going to be charged for speeding and this and that. The Mayor conveyed the system has been brought up to show areas of concern where maybe something was happening with a vehicle and an officer but not one incident where discipline action was taken because it was expressed and this is not intended for discipline action. That ability is there and if it's rightfully deserved it's the responsibility of Administration to take that action but to selectively do it. The individual being selected would have that option to show if the selection is going on and.....Mr. Prickett interjected and stated this leads him to another question in that respect and asked how long that information would have to be kept. Mayor Patriarca explained it's not so much

that it has to be kept but rather it would be the desire to keep it and then that depends on the storage capability. What we are willing to store, how much hard drive we are willing to store because it is all kept digitally and we would determine how long of a period we would keep it whether it be one month's worth, two month's worth, three month's. Mr. Prickett asked if it would be within this building. The Mayor answered yes, it would be kept in the system on a hard drive and it could overwrite itself after whatever time frame and we set for that process. Mr. Prickett asked if that information would be available for an OPRA. Mayor Patriarca stated as long as it is not a sensitive information he would say yes; as long as it is not in a Police manner that would jeopardize an investigation, he would say yes it is public information and then within reason as to how quick it would be available as far as Police because you don't want to give up information as far as patrol patterns and so forth where someone can say I want a month's worth of information this month in Presidential Lakes to see that maybe there's no officers in there at a certain time of day and then that's when I go do my burglaries. Mr. Prickett asked if we know that for a fact and added that it sounds like that makes sense and that's the way it should be but.....Mr. Vaz interjected that for a fact there is a public safety exception in the OPRA for those types of things. That doesn't eliminate on our end the ability to have a report printed to show us but it would prevent the public from OPRAing the information. Mr. Prickett noted that the Mayor mentioned reports and for example with Public Works we have a computer program that orders are put in and are disbursed and it keeps track of when it is finished and how much time is involved in that and can you generate reports from a system like this that would be job specific so that you could better calculate how much jobs cost in travel, time on scene and is that something easy enough to do or would you have to sit down and spend hours. Mr. Vaz answered it is easy. The Mayor answered vehicle specific and you could bring the vehicle aspect in to the report and the pub works could bring the employees time involved in the operation to marry the two together to say this is what it takes to do this particular job. We have data showing what transportation to and from a particular job would be throughout a year and then what the actual hours in the job would be. In short, we would be able to put them together and generate a report. Mr. Prickett asked if the two programs would be compatible where they could share information and provide a report. Mr. Vaz replied he doesn't know if they would be able to share it in the sense of electronically but the information from the GPS could then be plugged in to the pub works. Mr. Prickett thanked Mrs. Stinney for the time. Mrs. Stinney replied it is a budget hearing and he can have all the time he wants. Mr. Cartier did not have any questions. Mrs. Stinney asked where this would be fully monitored. Mayor Patriarca explained the signal would go to the system which would be in the new server that we are working on and it would be maintained there but the access to that information would be limited for example Administration would have access to all of the vehicles except Police, Police would have access depending on who they are to Patrol Sergeant and that would be the Chief's option who he gives access to and he may give a Sergeant the access to just a Sergeant and the patrol vehicles and he may give the Lieutenants the access to all of the vehicles and maybe not investigative vehicles and then he may not give anybody access to his vehicle. The Mayor reiterated that would be the Chief's decision. Mr. Vaz advised they are looking at four access points; they are looking at purchasing four licenses with the program so the Police might be one or two, Administration might be one, DPW might be the fourth and then user name and password would get you in to the information and mapping. Mr. Cartier asked what are the chances that the information from the system could end up coming back to haunt the Township. The Mayor asked in what respect.

Mr. Cartier answered litigation. Mayor Patriarca answered if someone had done something wrong and it was recorded, sure someone would be able to say here's the proof that someone did something wrong but he doesn't know that that's Administration's function to say when someone does something wrong that they want to be able to hide from the fact and say no, you have to prove it. It's not a matter of whether they prove it or not; it's whether someone did it or not. If someone did it, then the person that is coming in to bring litigation against us has that right to have that information and if we have it somewhere, they should be able to say your guy did it wrong and we should be able to say you're right. Mr. Vaz added that most of the newer vehicles are built with these computer chips now anyway and the good P.I. lawyers know they subpoena the so called black box in the car like the airplanes have and they can get the rate of speed and all that. The only difference is that's not something that gives us the abilities that the system gives us. Mrs. Scull asked if it is her understanding that if we put cameras on our streets because we were talking about this in UEZ grants and that could then be connected by the Police cars. Mayor Patriarca stated that is another area outside of this particular system and that's another area that we would also allow access by the Police. Mrs. Scull asked if we get that then they can see what's going on. The Mayor agreed and added that it's wherever we have the camera but this has nothing to do with that. Mr. Vaz conveyed he is very familiar with Patterson's system because he had to defend it before PERC and they have people that actually sit in a room and watch the computer monitors because they have a lot of cameras around the city in the downtown area and they have a whole room where a person is actually assigned to monitor the live version of the cameras and not everybody does it that way. Mrs. Scull commented like we do in the schools where you can see every door in the building to see who's coming in and who's going out. Mr. Vaz confirmed. Mayor Patriarca noted as much as he wants to see this in our vehicles for our accountability, he equally wants to see this in our schools and our schools incorporate this in to their school buses for safety issues with the schools so that these drivers know that they are just a button away from a Police Officer. Pushing a button will bring an officer right to their location when they have an issue and there have been issues on buses that we know of. They can't get an officer, they have to radio it in and it's got to go to the Police. This will alert them and they know there is a bus at this location and there is a problem. Mr. Prickett asked the Mayor if he is intending to put one of these in every vehicle that is used. Mayor Patriarca explained their objective is to put it in all of the vehicles in the Township except undercover vehicles. The Mayor continued if we have to put it in the grader, whatever we take out on the road. Mr. Prickett asked if they were cheap enough to do that. Mayor Patriarca replied no, and this is the price that we worked out to be able to get a really good handle on it. What they are looking to do is the Police vehicles have these GPS systems in them already.....Mr. Prickett asked if they were the new ones. The Mayor continued all of the patrol vehicles but they are older systems and what we're looking to do is they'll be fine without all of the other software going through them but we are looking to put new hardware in the patrol vehicles and give them the fastest modems and then the older ones will be transferred to the vehicles that are only utilized for that tracking function and don't have all the rest of the computers in it and we've been assured by the company that those modems are more than sufficient and we can put them in other vehicles and still get the results that we are looking for. Mr. Vaz explained this is a purchase of 40 new modems. The Mayor added there are probably a dozen or more that we currently have and as the system is getting set up and needs to grow, if we have to do more next year but this will give us a really good handle on the vehicles that we currently have in operations. Mrs. Stinney

asked the Mayor about the process of training those that are driving the vehicles that they are installed and is there any type of training that they would have to be aware of when they turn it on, as soon as they start the car. Mayor Patriarca answered it would be designed as the patrol cars are now that when you start the vehicle and the vehicle goes live, the system goes live and it's a beacon that is sent out all the time and it's nothing for the operator to have to deal with so the operator won't be involved in it at all. They won't be turning anything on and off. When they turn the car on and when they're moving, that vehicle will be monitored and the only ones that will be able to look at that would be the supervisor. Mr. Vaz gave Mrs. Stinney an example using his cell phone through Sprint, his wife can be at their home now and she can actually sign on to their account through Sprint and Sprint will pull up a map and the five phone numbers attached to their account and she can double click on his phone number and it will show her that he is at 500 Pemberton Browns Mills Road and then if he gets in his car as long as his phone is on, she can follow him on the screen by refreshing the screen every five seconds. The only difference is, it doesn't have the recording capabilities that this system does. This system works on similar technology but much faster and better technology than the cell phone technology. Mr. Vaz commented his wife knows where he is all the time. Mr. Prickett asked Mr. Vaz if she bought that for him. Mr. Vaz replied that he actually bought it for his ten year old daughter and that was the reason he even gave her a phone was because of the safety feature of having the GPS attached to it. Mrs. Scull noted that she will get one for her husband. Mr. Prickett commented that this discussion is terrific for this new project but the public, as he said with the cameras in town, he is not totally dedicated to purchasing this especially when it comes down to the purchase order, the discussions, the Council meeting; he wants to hear what the public has to say about it. There are a lot of good things in here and he is interested in reducing our liability and protecting our Police. Accountability is good too and that seems to be a very good thing. Noted that Mrs. Scull just mentioned big brother and Pembertonians are very concerned about big brother and he respects what they have to say and he looks forward to their comments when Council talks about this at a Council meeting and votes to purchase it. Mr. Vaz conveyed it will actually have to be bid because there is not a state contract for this particular software and hardware so there would have to be a formal bid process because it's over the bid threshold. Mrs. Scull commented that she didn't mean Administration would be big brother but this is another example nowadays where the technology is so strong and you never know who is watching. Mr. Prickett added that next year in the budget the chips will go in the scouts. Mrs. Scull replied yes. Mayor Patriarca asked if that is where they are putting them. Mrs. Scull asked Mrs. Young to not put that in the minutes. Mrs. Young suggested telling that to the transcriber. Mr. Cartier commented on page 51 of 91, line 202500, and referred back to the 2007 budget book and this was the line he questioned in his first year why we weren't doing more in house repairs on our vehicles and why we were sending so many out. We ended up cutting that request of \$40,000 to \$33,000 and in 2005 the actual was \$33,000, in 2006 the actual expended was \$25,000 rounded off and 2008 again it was that, in 2007 it was \$37,000 and 2008 it's at \$34,000. An increase to this line is requested again. Mr. Prickett asked what he is talking about. Mrs. Scull replied she didn't know. Mr. Cartier informed he is on page 51, the first line. Mrs. Stinney added 202500. Mr. Cartier added Maintenance of Motor Vehicle and Machinery. Mayor Patriarca commented the request came in a little higher than this and Administration cut it but the request was higher because of the age of their vehicles. The vehicles are getting older and we're starting to see things happen. Transmissions are going more frequently and we just lost one on a truck this past

snow storm. They are expecting things to start happening more. We're seeing some repairs to the fire vehicle that were unexpected; the squirt inspections and so forth. They are basing this on the years that we've had these vehicles. Our dump trucks are quite old now and so forth and they expect more problems. Mr. Inge asked if an employee was hired last year for this department so it would cut down on that. Mayor Patriarca replied there is an employee working in this department, a laborer that was brought in and helping with that department on keeping up with the vehicles but there are still only four people for the amount of vehicles we have in the town. They are doing it, it's just that some of the stuff they can't do; they rarely do a transmission job that is usually sent out, the bigger stuff. Certain radiator jobs we don't use the glass work when they have to replace windshields and so forth, radiators sometimes we'll put in, and it depends on if it can be done here. Mr. Cartier pointed out that this line over the last five years, we haven't even approached \$40,000 and Administration is asking for a \$4,000 increase over last year. Mr. Vaz added it's over the budgeted amount and it's actually \$11,000 over what we spent. Mayor Patriarca commented we had a better year than expected on vehicles that are aging but our vehicles are aging. Mr. Cartier commented that we've had a better year than expected over the last five years. Mayor Patriarca added that's five years of vehicles that are getting older. You can roll the dice and they are just planning for the inevitable. Mrs. Scull stated if you cut the money out and they don't spend it, we've taken it out of surplus then. We could cut this and put in \$34,000 and take the \$10,000 out but then that won't be there in surplus next year if they don't spend it. Mr. Cartier stated we could cut \$10,000 out of here and there's another \$10,000 to put a fence up in Country Lakes. Mrs. Scull commented that maybe we'll be able to look at transfer down the road. Mr. Cartier conveyed \$10,000 was not his number and he was looking more at \$6,000. Mayor Patriarca informed he can only express on behalf of the supervisors in Public Works that put this number together that Administration has actually worked on and reduced based on their recommendations that this number not be reduced because of the vehicles that we are running and what they anticipate for the upcoming year.

Motion by Scull to approve Department 315 as presented by the Mayor.

Motion dies for lack of second.

Motion by Cartier and Prickett to reduce Department 315, line 2-02500, Maintenance of Motor Vehicles and Machinery by \$4,000 to take it to last year's level. Cartier, yes; Prickett, yes; Scull, no; Inge, yes; Stinney, no. Motion carried.

Motion by Cartier and Prickett to approve Department 315 as amended. Cartier, yes; Prickett, yes; Scull, no; Inge, yes; Stinney, have indicated to that line item and yes on the other lines in that department. Mr. Prickett noted that this is preliminary approval and he would be more than glad to come back and review the departments after Council gets through the budget. Mrs. Young verified Mrs. Stinney's vote of yes. Motion carried.

#### **ANIMAL CONTROL DEPARTMENT #0340**

Mr. Cartier asked if there is a sheet in the supplemental book. Mayor Patriarca informed no. Mrs. Stinney asked to make a statement since Council is on the salaries. Council received a letter on March 5, 2009 that simply states that the Burlington County Animal Shelter is in full support of Council not having to reduce the Animal Control department. Again there are other entities and she likes

to refer to other entities because the Burlington County Times certainly is other entities and before Council actually really had an opportunity to sit down and go over the budget as a whole, Council received this letter from the desk of the Freeholders lobbying here for our budget not to reduce any one's position. Mrs. Stinney finds it very offensive that the Board of Chosen Freeholders and its employees would again entertain how Council is to run this department here. While she understands what part of this was saying, she called a Freeholder and couldn't understand but his comment to the Freeholder was maybe perhaps the department of Animal Control out at the county could share some of this funding here and give us some of their monies and one of the responses was that we could do shared services. That's just another dart that is thrown in to Pemberton and she just wanted to make that perfectly clear that she has faith in the Administration and this Council to do what we need to do for the residents of this town and that we will see that it serves the residents of this town. Mrs. Stinney wanted to make that clear and make it for the record. She doesn't care how they use it but she found it very offensive and then here they are promoting and signing off on something that was just simply a plan. She was so upset how the Burlington County Times just flip flopped off of information that they would take any information from any old body without proper documents. Mrs. Stinney checked with the Mayor to see if anybody sat down and talked with him; no they didn't they just go and use the tax payers dollars and she informed she said to the Freeholder that how dare you use my tax payers dollars on sending out information telling us what we really need to do. Mrs. Stinney asked for some of their money and she wanted that to go on record. Mr. Prickett asked Mrs. Stinney to clarify and added there was a letter sent by the Board of Chosen Freeholders.....Mrs. Stinney continued there was a letter sent by the Board of Chosen Freeholders, County of Burlington and it was directed to Christopher Vaz and it says, "Dear Mr. Vaz, I am writing with concerns that I have regarding an article that appeared 02/25 in the Burlington County Times. The article reported that Pemberton Township is considering eliminating two Animal Control positions". Mrs. Stinney informed this came off of their letterhead and continued, "During my experiences in investigating complaints involving animals in Pemberton Township, Animal Control Officers Sharon and Debbie and Beth have always proven to be great assets to both the municipality and to the health department. All three Animal Control Officers are prompt and reliable, works well with the public and all staff. Pemberton Township delivered 1341 animals in Burlington County Animal Shelter in 2008 with the next highest community having 761 drop offs. Pemberton Township has shown a consistent trend as a community with the highest amount of animal cases involving ACO and shelter.....Thank you for allowing me to.....Please feel free to contact me, the Health Officer, Robert Gogats. Sincerely, Richard Litton, Senior Public Health Investigator, Burlington County Health Department". Mr. Prickett asked if that is a response to one of the articles in the Burlington County Times. Mrs. Stinney replied she guesses that's where they said they received their information. What bothers her is and everyone is entitled to their opinion what they feel of others and she certainly respects that but to come out off of the tax payers again from the Freeholders, she resents that. Mrs. Stinney asked Mr. Prickett if she answered his question. Mr. Prickett replied yes and thanked Mrs. Stinney. Mrs. Stinney asked Mr. Prickett if he received the letter. Mr. Prickett answered he did and read it today but the way she described it he was a little confused and wanted her to clarify for him and she did and he thanked her. Mrs. Stinney advised Council is now on page 53 of 91. Mr. Prickett had a question about salaries, expended \$119,000 last year and this year Administration is requesting \$130,300 and asked why the increase. Mr. Prickett informed \$119,898 was expended and \$126,000

was budgeted. He understands the \$126,000 to \$130,300, a \$4,000 increase. Mr. Cartier advised there was an employee that was injured. Mr. Vaz advised somebody was charged a comp. Mr. Prickett noted that is what he wanted to know. Mr. Cartier advised he only knows that because the employee came in to the bank he works at to cash her checks. Mr. Inge asked what the overtime is for. Mayor Patriarca replied it's for when they get called in on an evening shift or a weekend if they have an animal that the Police Department runs in to on the street or they happen to shoot which has happened in the past and Animal Control has had to come in and take that animal to the hospital and things of that nature when they occasionally get called in. Mr. Inge stated it's not when they work the weekends. Mayor Patriarca replied no, that is covered in shift differential.

Motion by Cartier and Prickett to approve Department 340 as presented by the Mayor. Cartier, yes; Prickett, yes; Scull, yes; Inge, yes; Stinney, yes.  
Motion carried.

### **PUBLIC ASSISTANCE DEPARTMENT #345**

Council is on page 55 of 91. Mr. Prickett asked if the first house is for Providence House. Mr. Vaz answered yes. Mrs. Eden advised there was a request for an increase and they are basically a quarter behind billing so we haven't received the fourth quarter for 2008. Mr. Prickett stated Domestic Violence had \$500 budgeted last year and \$51.41 was expended. He thinks they need that money and doesn't understand why they didn't use it last year. Mrs. Eden informed there is approximately \$300 left in a domestic violence grant and in order to use the grant instead of budget money, she has been attempting to put all of the charges to the grant. When that grant runs out this year, this is where their pages and any kind of supplies will be charged. Mr. Prickett asked how much that grant is for and if it's for more than \$500 or like a \$1,000. Mrs. Eden informed it was for about \$1,200 and came in during Mr. Schaumberg's time and just sat there for a while. Mr. Prickett wondered if \$500 was enough and that was the one area that he would love to see some of that money transferred from the last transfer. Mr. Cartier asked Mrs. Eden if in her experience over the last two years, that department has needed more than \$500. Mrs. Eden answered no and added the only bill she sees for the domestic violence team are the pagers. If they have mailings, it would go through the mail and confirmed with Mr. Vaz that if they needed office supplies they would come in to the office and ask for things. Mr. Cartier asked for the monthly cost of their pagers. Mrs. Eden replied approximately \$60 a month and she can go back and check. Mr. Cartier noted that even with that number it is \$720 so Council doesn't want to reduce this. Mr. Cartier added at \$60 a month, that's \$720. Mr. Prickett conveyed he doesn't want to reduce it and wants to entertain adding and he understands they give out maybe things to the victims of domestic violence; kits of some sort. Mrs. Eden advised she has had no requests for anything in quite a number of years. Mayor Patriarca stated what Mr. Prickett may be referring to are things that are supplied through the county and so forth. The main function that they do is to seek temporary housing for the victims to get them to the Providence House and that is the only cost generation in this particular budget outside of the pagers which is minimal. Mr. Prickett wants to make sure the record shows that he is not for cutting and he is for increasing. Mr. Cartier apologized and stated he misunderstood. Mr. Prickett continued that they do excellent work and he bumps in to people all the time that tell him that they are a part of the domestic violence team and he is very gratified to see that we have so many wonderful volunteers. Mrs. Stinney conveyed to add kudos on that they work very strongly with the county and she has several people that are involved in that throughout the church

that she attends. She hears through the county that Pemberton works diligently and very, very hard. Mrs. Stinney recalled a couple of cases when the day care center that was in operation at the county had been involved with the county and those from Pemberton came forward and she hears a lot, a lot of good things about this. Mrs. Eden informed as of December 31<sup>st</sup> in that grant she apologized, there is \$666.00. Mr. Inge asked Mr. Inge if the mediator is paid for by the county that usually comes in to the Township when they have the court. Mrs. Eden answered to the best of her knowledge; they receive no bills for that so she does believe it's a county function. Mr. Inge asked that is for domestic violence when they are usually.....Mrs. Scull conveyed they are used for a lot of things. Mrs. Eden informed she doesn't believe they charge the victims when they come and accompany them to court and she hasn't seen a bill for it. Mr. Vaz explained the victim representation is through the county victim witness program and their staff and mediation services which is a court service that is provided. Mr. Inge asked if that is provided through the courts. Mr. Vaz replied yes. Mr. Inge stated that is the key thing because it's not charging the residents because that seems to be one of the big problems when people do have disputes, it's a money issue that is even hindered further and it's great that the courts pick that up.

Motion by Scull and Prickett to approve Department 345 as presented. Scull, yes; Prickett, yes; Cartier, yes; Inge, yes; Stinney, yes. Motion carried.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION DEPARTMENT #355**

Council is on page 56 of 91. Mr. Cartier remarked that we had just recently done an ERI. Mayor Patriarca informed no that this is an NRI, National Resource Inventory, that we are looking to do through a grant that ANJEC. The program is done by the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission and they have some samples from Lumberton and Vincentown that they did for them. We have to fund it but at the end of the game it will cost the Township \$4,000 to get a very extensive natural resource inventory of the Township. There are grants available through the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission and through ANJET that will fund most of this. For the minimal amount that we'll end up putting out, it's a very informative document. Mr. Cartier noted he knows what an ERI is and back to his question, he thought we had just done one of these. Mr. Prickett stated Mr. Cartier is looking at him like he would know and he expressed he is not on the Environmental Commission. Mr. Cartier expressed to Mr. Prickett that he would and he is planning. Mr. Prickett replied no, they did a recreation inventory and his question to the Mayor being on the Planning Board, isn't this document required to be a part of the master plan. Mayor Patriarca replied part of the element is this and in the master plan currently, they are relying on the Pinelands Commission study that was done which encompasses in a general to things that we have in this town but also in all of the Pinelands and it probably covers most of the things and this particular study would be town specific and it would go in to the history of the town and the environmental issues in the town and all of the natural resources just for Pemberton. If anyone is interested in seeing one of the samples that they did for Vincentown or Lumberton, he has them in his office. They are very detailed and they enlighten you on what your town is made up of. Mr. Prickett asked if this would also cover the area out of the ten percent of the Township that is outside of the Pinelands. Mayor Patriarca replied yes this would be for the entire Township. The Mayor advised when it first came to us, he presented this to the Planners who said they could never provide this service for this price and the fact that there are grants that will cover this up to where the town will end up only spending \$4,000



at the end of this, they highly recommended that we pursue this and get this done. Mrs. Scull stated we have it at \$12,000 just in case we don't get the money. Mayor Patriarca noted it is at \$12,000 because it has to be funded and it's a reimbursement grant. Mr. Cartier stated basically that \$3,500 is to fund everything else but you just don't know where it's going to go yet. The Mayor replied we don't know but he can tell you that we have some individuals involved in the Environmental Commission that have stepped up the plate and we'll start seeing some real changes in that area this year. They were a little more active last year and combined with the Clean Communities and they are very enthused about getting things moving in the Township and are working with him on the Advisory Board for lake management. The application for the NRI report is due by the 31<sup>st</sup> of March right around the time the budget is due. Council did not have any further questions.

Motion by Cartier and Scull to approve Department 355 as presented by the Mayor. Cartier, yes; Scull, yes; Prickett, yes; Inge, yes; Stinney, yes. Motion carried.

Mr. Cartier recommended and added he knows it goes against what he said at the beginning but maybe skip Recreation and Senior Services due to the time as we set a time limit of 3:00 this afternoon and it's only 25 minutes away and those two departments will take a little bit longer. Mrs. Stinney verified that Mr. Cartier wants to skip Recreation, skip Senior Services.....Mr. Prickett asked about Municipal Court. Mrs. Stinney continued that Mr. Cartier is making the suggestion and asked Council if it works for them. Mr. Inge, Mrs. Scull and Mr. Prickett agreed. Mrs. Stinney advised Council will be moving on to Municipal Court and Recreation and Senior Services will be skipped today.

#### **MUNICIPAL COURT DEPARTMENT #0490**

Council is on the salaries and wages, page 77 of 91. Mr. Prickett asked if this is also in the supplemental book. Mr. Vaz informed it is. Mr. Cartier questioned the vacation Court Recorder position that is funded and asked if that position was filled last year. Mr. Vaz answered it was actually temporarily filled and there were times when they were able to get somebody to come in and do the sound recording. As part of the pre-lay off action, that person had to stop at least on a temporary basis had to stop working. Council is now on page 78 of 91. Mr. Prickett asked Mr. Vaz if he knows how much the court brought in this year. Mrs. Eden advised it was over \$400,000. Mr. Prickett stated the overall budget is \$356,965 so the fine money that came in as every year that he can remember is more than the cost of this department. Mrs. Scull commented that is a good thing. Mr. Prickett conveyed he saw furniture and furnishing and didn't know what was there and he thought this is for the court system and he would let it slide and then he checked it out and it's for a copier so either way he was okay with it. Mr. Vaz stated it was in the information that Mr. Applegate provided this morning. \$420,000 was actually realized in the court in 2008. Mr. Prickett thanked Mr. Vaz. Mayor Patriarca informed it is page 2 under revenue. Mrs. Stinney stated the money was put back in for the court recorder. Mr. Cartier noted that Mr. Prickett had touched on the furniture and he wanted to get this cleared so we don't end up with the same problem that we had last year with the purchase of book cases. Mr. Cartier asked if this is for the purchase of a copier. Mayor Patriarca asked if it is \$5,700. Mr. Cartier replied yes. Mayor Patriarca noted that we just went to a new contract if they want a new copier. Mr. Prickett asked if there was a line item for equipment. Mr. Cartier informed it should be underneath purchase of office equipment. Mr.

Prickett asked if it should be transferred. Mr. Prickett added that Mrs. Young wouldn't appreciate Council sitting on the copier in the back room. Mrs. Young asked if it is her sitting on it. Mr. Prickett replied no, Mr. Cartier or himself and remarked of those pictures sometimes on TV of people sitting on the copier. Mrs. Stinney asked the Mayor where we are with the security monitors, cameras and whatever is mandated for our courts here. The Mayor replied we certainly aren't putting the cameras in the building here right away until we work on the court reconstruction, the capital project. He and Mr. Vaz are meeting with the architects next week. They are coming in with a plan and they came in and looked everything over and are coming in next week. The Mayor advised they will address that afterwards and their thoughts were that they would incorporate this UEZ system as the base system that would provide the hardware and initial cameras downtown and then they could marry everything else in to that system and it would be cheaper than trying to buy the hardware through the budget funding if it is bought through the UEZ funding. Mrs. Stinney conveyed when she came on Council and she will continue to sing that same song and it's just that where we are, the location and it's so dangerous and the Mayor and she have gone over this and over it and argued about it and she understands but she is still singing the same song. Mr. Prickett remarked no wonder the Mayor isn't able to get those other things done. Mr. Cartier asked about his question regarding furniture and furnishings if that would be better fit and is it being done as a correction or a transfer. Mr. Vaz replied whatever is easier for Council. Mayor Patriarca advised some departments have it under 0260, maintenance of equipment. The Tax Collectors has it less than 2600. Mr. Cartier advised that is maintenance of office equipment. Mrs. Eden is speaking but is too far away from the microphone. Mrs. Stinney advised 2-058. Mr. Prickett asked if that line will go from.....Mrs. Scull interjected from \$500 to \$2,500. Mr. Cartier added and the line above will go down to zero. Mrs. Scull indicated that makes sense and that was a correction. Mr. Cartier asked Mrs. Young if she was able to keep getting that straight. Mrs. Young replied yes.

Motion by Cartier and Prickett to approve Department 490 as corrected. Cartier, yes; Prickett, yes; Scull, yes; Inge, yes; Stinney, yes. Motion carried.

### **UTILITIES DEPARTMENT #300**

Council is on page 39 of 91. Mrs. Scull saw on the internet companies that are out there pushing solar lights. Mr. Vaz advised now they get all kinds of good tax advantages for pushing it and it's like a little nudge from the federal government. Mr. Cartier commented these are traffic signals though. Mrs. Scull stated she knows. Mr. Prickett informed they have converted those traffic signals to LED lights. Mrs. Scull added that should help us. Mayor Patriarca informed Administration is looking at companies to look at solar options for the town. Mr. Vaz just met the other day with a vendor. Mr. Vaz replied a presentation needs to be done at a Council meeting and maybe the first one in April. Mrs. Stinney noted when Council gets through the budget, they'll entertain that and thanked the Mayor for looking in to that. Mrs. Stinney informed some of the things they do everyday.....Mr. Prickett interjected that he would have had this done.

Motion by Cartier and Scull to approve Department 265 as presented by the Mayor. Cartier, yes; Scull, yes; Prickett, yes Inge, yes; Stinney, yes. Motion carried.

Mrs. Scull commented that she can go home and tell her brother-in-law that his dumb idea wasn't so dumb after all. Mr. Prickett stated it was dumb because he didn't get a patent. Mrs. Scull agreed. Mrs. Stinney stated she is being told we skipped fire hydrants. Mayor Patriarca informed Council did that at another meeting and Council is now on Department 302. Mrs. Stinney commented that she is going to share a joke with Council. When the Mayor has her voice in here, she really thinks and she is going to take a picture and they shut the door. Mayor Patriarca stated he's not going to say doors don't.....Mrs. Scull commented we know why. Mayor Patriarca commented he had to shut it the other day when Mrs. Scull was in. Mrs. Stinney commented the Mayor is behind closed doors. Mrs. Scull stated the girls told her they were going to look for her boot prints after she left to see if it was on the back side. Mr. Vaz added they found one on his back side. Mrs. Scull commented he might find another one tomorrow. Mr. Prickett asked if they have a panic button in there they can press to get help. Mayor Patriarca stated he'll get that with the GPS as he might need that. Mr. Prickett stated they could have that hooked up to his house and he could come and rescue them. Mrs. Scull informed he would come rescue you. The Mayor asked if its rescue or replace and he doesn't know which one it is. Mr. Prickett added that's an idea and he hasn't thought about that; he can see what the office is like. The Mayor added we have been here too long. Mr. Prickett stated to Mr. Vaz that he can stay.

#### **DEMOLITIONS DEPARTMENT #302**

Mrs. Scull stated we didn't demolish anything last year. Mr. Prickett commented that we didn't demolish enough. Mr. Vaz informed it was charged somewhere else. Mayor Patriarca informed we did work but found a creative way to charge it some where else. Mr. Prickett asked if Council wanted to hear how creative Administration was. Mayor Patriarca informed some has been charged to the UCC because they are involved in this and there will be a large amount of demolition this year and some is in Public Works so they will be able to utilize this line item and we'll have UCC when the Construction Official deems some building should go. Mr. Vaz advised there is \$10,000 here and there is \$50,000 in UCC. Mr. Prickett stated it is usually what we budget about \$50,000, \$60,000. Mayor Patriarca commented this gives us different options so if Public Works is working on something they have an option to charge here and Administration has been trying to steer the rest of them to UCC. Mr. Prickett asked how much work do you have to go through before you actually demolish the building. Administratively what do you have to do in order to get the bulldozers on the site. Mr. Vaz replied the most important thing is the Construction Official has to basically make the decision that it's unsafe and needs to come down that it's uninhabitable. Once he does that there are notices sent via certified mail to the owners and notices to any lien holders. It's really just paperwork. Mrs. Scull asked if we demolish the houses that are burned out from fire because the one on her street was burned out she doesn't know how long ago. Mr. Vaz replied unless it's an imminent hazard, we like to give the insurance companies the opportunity to close their investigation. Sometimes there is an arson investigation going on at the same time. Until we are notified by the county arson folks that they are done and we are satisfied that the insurance company won't be prejudice but there might be a time where it's an imminent hazard and neither one of those players will matter if it's that dangerous. The Mayor informed we did that on June Road this past year because of that, but we would like to give the option to the insurance company to first let them expend their funds. We notice them that they must take this down and then when they don't, then we'll take it down. We've also gotten more

responsible in the charging of when we take something down and the loader gets flats because it happens on those types of operations something punctures a tire and this particular year it happened on two tires. Instead of charging the maintenance line of DPW and replace the tire as we normally would, we charge that to the demolish line and if it's in a UCC project, we are able to charge that tire to the UCC project. We're talking an \$800, \$1200 tire and it adds up.

Motion by Scull and Prickett to approve Department 302 as presented by the Mayor. Scull, yes; Prickett, yes; Cartier, yes; Inge, yes; Stinney, yes.  
Motion carried.

### **SOLID WASTE DEPARTMENT #305**

Mrs. Stinney commented on an email Council received yesterday from Mr. Bayer. Mr. Prickett informed he and Mrs. Scull are dealing with allergies where they are sitting. Mrs. Scull commented there is saw dust or something coming from somewhere. Mayor Patriarca commented he doesn't know about that and informed the Solicitor provided notice that the Township won the case on the Solid Waste contract that was contested by South Jersey and Republic is going to be our new service. This rate reflects the new contracted rate. Mr. Cartier advised it was dismissed and we didn't win. Mayor Patriarca commented that we would have lost if they had won so he likes to look at it as we win. Mr. Prickett asked if we can go back and reduce the judgments. Mr. Vaz answered no that was a different....Mr. Prickett continued for the expenses for potential litigation. Mrs. Scull commented she is sure they are going to hit us somewhere else. Mrs. Stinney noted \_\_\_\_\_ is looking for a department. Mayor Patriarca replied no because we got a bill and it's not cheap for that litigation. Everyone was talking at the same time.

Motion by Cartier and Scull to approve Department 305 as presented by the Mayor. Cartier, yes; Scull, yes; Prickett, yes; Inge, yes; Stinney, yes.  
Motion carried.

Mrs. Stinney informed she did send her appreciation to the solicitor for handling that.

### **ELECTRICITY DEPARTMENT #430**

Council is on page 64 of 91. Mrs. Stinney asked if this is a it is what it is type of thing. Mr. Vaz replied unfortunately. Mr. Prickett asked why you don't turn the lights out more. Mr. Cartier agreed and commented that he was just thinking that and he has been in a lot of businesses lately that make announcements throughout that they are dimming lights to save on utility costs and this and that. Mrs. Stinney commented on the fluorescent, energy saving lights which these are. Mr. Prickett asked if this is really electricity for the Township of is this for street lighting. Mr. Vaz replied that is a different one. Mr. Prickett stated street lighting is on the next page. Mrs. Eden notified that this is electricity bills for all of our buildings and not just the municipal building. Mayor Patriarca remarked that some of our buildings probably do need energy audits and for instance the Library is unbelievably high in not only the electric but also the heating costs and so forth. Its \$2,500 for a month and that seems way too high. Administration is looking at options and they have been meeting with individuals to come up with options such as solar. Mrs. Stinney asked if there is some type of grant money out there too as opposed to solar. Mr. Vaz informed the EPU offers a grant for that and you have to cash match to do it. If Council is doing it before the budget is introduced, he can get the information and one thing to be aware of is they do the study for you and then the next step is

will there be a capital project to make the improvements that they recommend. That's the hard part for most municipal governments right now. To be told that they have the problem and here's how to solve it but to not have the money to do that. Mrs. Stinney agreed. Mr. Prickett remarked it sounds like one of the stimulus bill projects. Mr. Vaz agreed and added the capital project part. Mr. Prickett added made federal government buildings green and asked how much do you think that would cost, a ball park. Mr. Vaz answered for us it was a 25% match and it wasn't an extraordinary amount of money and he has it in his office actually and he's been sitting on it. It would be a few thousand dollars. Mr. Prickett asked if \$2,000 would be the match. Mr. Vaz replied no, it would be a little more than that but not much more and it was under \$5,000 for our end. Mrs. Scull asked if that can be done with in kind services. Mr. Vaz answered no, this was actually dollars and the companies that do the service are on state contract and the state is encouraging towns to use one of those vendors so that the project can get done a lot faster. Mr. Vaz informed he can scan and email the information to Council. Mrs. Stinney asked Mr. Vaz if there is some type of mandate that certain types of lighting be in each building for how you can see and added that on a school board level years ago before they went through a similar situation of changing the lighting there was a mandate that each school would have a certain type of percentage of lighting. Mr. Vaz didn't know about a mandate but does know there is a national standard. Mrs. Stinney stated we are in compliance with that. Mr. Vaz replied he didn't know if we are in compliance and that would be one of the things the energy audit does.

Motion by Cartier and Scull to approve Department 430 as presented by the Mayor. Cartier, yes; Scull, yes; Prickett, yes; Inge, yes; Stinney, yes. Motion carried.

### **STREET LIGHTING DEPARTMENT #435**

Council is on page 65 of 91.

Motion by Cartier and Scull to approve Department 435 as presented.

Mr. Prickett asked why this has gone up. Mrs. Eden answered more street lights. Mr. Prickett asked how many more. Mrs. Eden replied she doesn't have a track of that. Mayor Patriarca answered he is not sure exactly how many more but there is probably one more he is looking to put in. The only one that he has requested that he hasn't signed yet is for the bus stop in front of Sunbury Village. If you drive by you can see that it has been cleared out and he intends to put a street light there facing the opposite way not over the road so that it will illuminate that particular bus stop because he has noticed that is a very well used but it's not a very well kept bus stop so he wanted to clean that area up. Mr. Prickett asked how many lights we have. The Mayor answered a lot. Mr. Prickett asked if anybody has been out to evaluate them and it is a big task but it seems to him there's a place you might be able to save. The Mayor asked to evaluate them as far as whether they are on or off. Mr. Prickett stated evaluate them whether they are on or off and whether they are doing their purpose. Mayor Patriarca explained that he did just meet with Jersey Central last week and was told that they will do an evaluation of what we have now and what type of lighting that we have and see if we should be switching over to some of the sodium lights as opposed to what we have to try and save some money. They are looking in to that for us on our current account as to what we have, how many lights and so forth. Mr. Prickett wondered if some lights weren't needed and he knows most of them probably 95% of them are but if there are a

couple that aren't that would be a savings. Mr. Prickett recognized Mrs. Scull and her comment with solar lighting and added that he has heard more about that this year. Mayor Patriarca replied that he asked Jersey Central about that when he met with them and they don't currently provide solar and he even thought of a little turbine and wind generating electric on top of each pole but they don't currently provide anything like that. Mrs. Scull commented that they don't want it. Mr. Prickett remarked maybe they do. PSE&G is getting ahead of the game on that but Jersey Central hasn't been forced by whoever is forcing them to do this yet. Its coming and they are all going to be forced to do certain things such as solar. Mr. Prickett commented that the reason being that they can only generate so much electricity. Mayor Patriarca remarked this gives them the credits to go that route and bring in certain .....Public Service is doing like 1% of their system right now and are trying to push for solar fields and generations and so forth. Jersey Central has not been pushed in to that yet. Mr. Prickett remarked then we will get a sun generating bill. The Mayor reiterated that we are looking in to the options and he is waiting for a report from Jersey Central on our current lights to see if we can convert lights to save energy because we do have some of the older systems. There may be lights in some areas that aren't traveled as much. Mr. Prickett indicated it is good to hear and hopefully something is being looked at with that and thanked the Mayor.

Cartier, yes; Scull, yes; Prickett, yes; Inge, yes; Stinney, yes. Motion carried.

Mrs. Stinney advised before the meeting can be adjourned Council has to discuss when they would like to advertise the next budget workshop. Mr. Vaz asked if there is already one planned for Monday. Mrs. Stinney replied no, Mrs. Young has to have enough time to advertise. Mr. Cartier suggested the next weekend. Mr. Inge stated Saturdays are killing him and taxes. Mayor Patriarca advised next Saturday is March 21<sup>st</sup>. Mr. Prickett informed there is another Saturday in the month and asked Mr. Inge if he has taxes to do. Mr. Inge answered he has tax issues he has to take care of this coming weekend. Mr. Prickett asked if starting the meeting later would help. Mr. Inge stated the afternoon would be fine. Mr. Cartier asked if we could start at noon. Mr. Inge replied that would be fine. Mr. Cartier answered that works for him. Mrs. Scull is okay with the 21<sup>st</sup> and the 28<sup>th</sup> is not good for her. Mrs. Stinney announced she will not be around on the 28<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Cartier asked Mrs. Stinney and Mrs. Scull if they were going to the.....Mrs. Stinney replied she'll be there but she made an engagement with a group of children and she is not canceling that again. Mrs. Scull replied she'll be back Saturday night but she'll.....Mr. Cartier commented how convenient. Mayor Patriarca asked Council if they want to set another date after that during the week as a second date to advertise in case we do a meeting and we need a second one. Mr. Cartier stated we're going to need another meeting; if we don't introduce next Saturday, there won't be another Council meeting after that. Mayor Patriarca remarked you won't introduce until the Council meeting and asked if that is correct. Mr. Cartier asked what Council meeting. Mrs. Stinney answered no, Council would have to introduce.....Mrs. Scull interjected that Council would have to introduce next Saturday. Mrs. Stinney announced by the 21<sup>st</sup>. Mr. Cartier stated if Council doesn't introduce next Saturday.....Mr. Inge asked if Thursday evening alright. Mr. Cartier stated there is not another Council meeting until after the deadline. Mr. Prickett commented he needs to see his calendar because he has too many things.....Mr. Vaz stated he knows Council wants to meet the deadline but the state is truly not expecting the.....Mr. Cartier interjected if Council waits

until the first meeting in April.....Mr. Vaz replied it will not be a problem. They said as much in the last finance.....Mr. Cartier interjected and we're not applying for extraordinary aid. Mr. Vaz replied the recommendation is not to and when you look at the criteria, we are far off of the criteria. Mr. Cartier replied he knows that and things change in a week. Mrs. Stinney confirmed Council will meet on the 21<sup>st</sup> from 12:00 noon to how long it would take. Mrs. Scull commented as long as we don't get hung up in public comments for four hours again we should be good and we should be able to finish it. Mayor Patriarca commented if it is advertised as a work shop.....Mrs. Young stated it doesn't matter, you'll still have to have public comments. The Mayor asked even in a work shop. Mrs. Young answered all Council special meetings have to have public comments. Mayor Patriarca asked and if you advertise the second meeting as a contingency to save on advertising costs, do you have to advertise the canceling. Mrs. Young replied correct. The Mayor commented that you are not saving any money. Mr. Vaz stated you have to just fax the notice and they may not publish it because you may not be in the publication deadline. Mrs. Young informed she would have to notify the paper within 45 hours. Mrs. Stinney advised Council will pick the 21<sup>st</sup> and then the 24<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Cartier stated no, Tuesdays don't work for him. Mrs. Stinney asked about the 25<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Prickett asked if it would be possible to pick this on Wednesday night or do it over email because he doesn't have his calendar and Mrs. Scull doesn't have her calendar. He can commit to next Saturday but.....Mrs. Scull asked if we advertised for Monday night. Mr. Cartier answered no. Mr. Prickett asked if Council could set something tentative for the second date. Mrs. Stinney answered yes, tentatively for the 25<sup>th</sup> and what they are trying to say is save money and they could always pull it back and asked if that is what the object is. Mrs. Stinney remarked tentatively the 21<sup>st</sup> at 12:00 to accommodate Mr. Inge and anybody else that has something to do. The 25<sup>th</sup> would be Wednesday night at 6:00 or 6:30. Mrs. Scull answered Mr. Cartier can't be here until 6:30. Mrs. Stinney asked Mr. Cartier if 6:30 is okay. Mr. Cartier answered he can't be here until 6:30. Mrs. Stinney announced 6:30 and that's a tentative save costing and Mr. Prickett will call in to see how those dates fit over.....Mr. Prickett commented he guesses that will work.

Motion to adjourn by Cartier and Scull at approximately 3:08 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Mary Ann Young, MMC  
Township Clerk

