

**TOWNSHIP OF PEMBERTON
REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 20, 2011
6:30 P.M.**

FLAG SALUTE

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

ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Jason Allen
Ken Cartier
Richard Prickett
Sherry Scull
Diane Stinney

ABSENT

Also present: Mayor David Patriarca, Business Administrator Christopher Vaz, Township Solicitor Andy Bayer, Township Engineer Kelly Willis, and Township Clerk Mary Ann Finlay.

CALL TO ORDER

Council President Cartier called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

CLOSED SESSION

RESOLUTION NO. 105-2011

WHEREAS, SECTION 8 OF THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT, CHAPTER 231, P.L. 1975 PERMITS THE EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC FROM A MEETING IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES; AND
WHEREAS, THIS PUBLIC BODY IS OF THE OPINION THAT SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES PRESENTLY EXIST;
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PEMBERTON, COUNTY OF BURLINGTON AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AS FOLLOWS:

1. THE PUBLIC SHALL BE EXCLUDED FROM DISCUSSION OF AND ACTION UPON THE HEREINAFTER SPECIFIED MATTERS.
2. THE GENERAL NATURE OF THE SUBJECT MATTERS TO BE DISCUSSED IS AS FOLLOWS:
POTENTIAL LITIGATION
3. IT IS ANTICIPATED AT THIS TIME THAT THE ABOVE-STATED SUBJECT MATTERS WILL BE MADE PUBLIC WHEN THE MATTERS HAVE BEEN RESOLVED.

Motion by Scull and Stinney to approve Res. No. 105-2011. Scull, yes; Stinney, yes; Prickett, yes; Allen, yes; Cartier, yes. Motion carried.

Council President Cartier recessed the open meeting at approximately 6:31 PM to go into closed session, and then reconvened the open meeting at approximately 7:00 PM.

(Reference Note: Closed Session minutes are transcribed and filed separately and considered part of these minutes.)

Council President Cartier reported that there would be no formal action necessary pursuant to closed session.

CONSENT AGENDA

All items listed with an asterisk (*) are considered to be routine by the Township Council and will be enacted by one motion. Should a Council Member wish to discuss a consent agenda item separately, that item can be removed from the consent agenda and considered in its normal sequence on the regular agenda.

Council President Cartier opened the meeting to public comments on consent agenda items only. There being no members of the public indicating a desire to be heard, Council President Cartier closed the meeting to public comments on consent agenda items.

Councilman Prickett requested to have Resolution 112-2011 and PO 20101299 in the amount of \$2,114.93 on the Bill List removed from the consent agenda.

Councilwoman Scull requested to have Resolution 108-2011 and Resolution 110-2011 removed from the consent agenda.

Councilman Allen requested to have Resolution 107-2011 and Resolution 111-2011 removed from the consent agenda.

Council President Cartier noted that Administration has requested that Resolution 113-2011 and Resolution 114-2011 be pulled from the consent agenda. Councilman Prickett honored that request and had them removed from the consent agenda.

MEETING MINUTES

Meeting minutes as filed by Clerk for Regular March 16, 2011.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 106-2011

WHEREAS, THE 2011 SUMMARY MUNICIPAL BUDGET OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PEMBERTON WAS POSTED ON THE OFFICIAL BULLETIN BOARD IN THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING FOR A PERIOD OF AT LEAST ONE FULL WEEK PRIOR TO THE PUBLIC HEARING SCHEDULED FOR SAME; AND
WHEREAS, FULL COPIES OF THE 2011 MUNICIPAL BUDGET WERE MADE AVAILABLE FOR EVERY PERSON REQUESTING THE SAME DURING SAID WEEK PRIOR TO THE PUBLIC HEARING AND ARE NOW AVAILABLE TO ALL PERSONS ATTENDING SAID HEARING; AND
WHEREAS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH N.J.S.A. 40:4-8, AS AMENDED BY CH. 259 PL 1995, THE MUNICIPAL CLERK HAS CERTIFIED BY SCHEDULE A ATTACHED TO AND MADE A PART OF THIS RESOLUTION, THAT COPIES OF THE 2011 MUNICIPAL BUDGET WERE DELIVERED TO, AT MINIMUM, THE BURLINGTON COUNTY LIBRARY IN WESTAMPTON TWP., NEW JERSEY; TO THE BRANCH LOCATION OF THE BURLINGTON COUNTY LIBRARY; LOCATED IN PEMBERTON TOWNSHIP; THE BURLINGTON COUNTY COLLEGE LIBRARY LOCATED IN PEMBERTON TOWNSHIP; AS WELL AS POSTED ON THE TOWNSHIP'S OFFICIAL WEB SITE;
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PEMBERTON, COUNTY OF BURLINGTON AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY, THAT THE CONDITIONS SET FORTH IN N.J.S.A. 40A:4-8; HAVE BEEN MET, AND IT IS HEREBY DETERMINED THAT THE 2011 MUNICIPAL BUDGET SHALL BE READ BY TITLE ONLY.

RESOLUTION NO. 109-2011

WHEREAS, THE TOWNSHIP OF PEMBERTON, PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:11-36(2) MAY BY RESOLUTION OF ITS GOVERNING BODY AUTHORIZE THE PRIVATE SALE OF ITS PERSONAL PROPERTY NOT NEEDED FOR PUBLIC USE WITHOUT ADVERTISING FOR RECEIPT OF BIDS WHEN SUCH PROPERTY IS SOLD TO ANOTHER CONTRACTING UNIT (I.E., MUNICIPALITY); AND
WHEREAS, THE TOWNSHIP OF PEMBERTON OWNS HOCKEY EQUIPMENT THAT WAS PURCHASED IN 2006 FOR THE SUM OF \$1,000 BUT THAT EQUIPMENT IS NO LONGER NEEDED FOR PUBLIC USE BY THE TOWNSHIP; AND
WHEREAS, THE TOWNSHIP WISHES TO SELL THE HOCKEY EQUIPMENT TO BURLINGTON TOWNSHIP FOR USE BY ITS RECREATION DEPARTMENT; AND
WHEREAS, BURLINGTON TOWNSHIP HAS OFFERED THE SUM OF \$500 FOR THE EQUIPMENT; AND
WHEREAS, THE PEMBERTON TOWNSHIP RECREATION DIRECTOR BELIEVES THAT THE SUM OF \$500 IS A FAIR PRICE FOR THE HOCKEY EQUIPMENT.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PEMBERTON, COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AS FOLLOWS:

1. THAT THE BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR IS AUTHORIZED TO SELL THE HOCKEY EQUIPMENT, MORE SPECIFICALLY SET FORTH IN THE ATTACHED MEMORANDUM, TO BURLINGTON TOWNSHIP FOR THE SUM OF \$500 AND TO EXECUTE ANY DOCUMENTS NECESSARY FOR THAT PURPOSE; AND
2. THAT WE FIND THAT THIS SALE BEST MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PEMBERTON; AND
3. THAT A COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION SHALL BE FORWARDED TO THE PEMBERTON TOWNSHIP RECREATION DEPARTMENT.

NEW BUSINESS

Purchases at \$2,625.00 or over:

1. Public Works Dept.: Removal by D.W. Extreme Tree Service, LLC, of seven trees at locations throughout town, six of which are an emergency and near electrical lines, and one which is too large for DPW to do, in the amount of \$3,200.00.

Licenses and Permits:

1. 2011 New Jersey Ride Against Aids: Annual bike ride fundraiser from High Point to Cape May (through portions of township), 9/23-9/25/11.
2. One day liquor license extension of premises: JorMar, Inc. T/A Country Lakes Liquors Pub & Grill, 14th Anniversary celebration, 5/15/11 12PM-8PM at Pub, w/rain date of 5/22/11- extending licensed premises to back parking lot area.

BILL LIST

Approval by Council required for payment of vouchers on bill list dated 4/15/11.

Motion by Scull and Stinney to approve Consent Agenda as amended. Scull, yes; Stinney, yes; Allen, yes; Prickett, yes; Cartier, yes. Motion Carried.

OTHER RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 107-2011 - TABLED

Councilman Allen noted that the resolution is not clear if this request is for the lot next to the municipal building and if it is going to be used for the actual walk or just as a meeting place, explaining that if it's just the meeting place he would like to see information on traffic control and security. Mayor Patriarca advised that he had spoken to one of the employees at the church and was informed it was more a vigil at that location rather than a walk. Council President Cartier advised that there is time to get Councilman Allen's questions answered so he would suggest that the item be tabled.

Motion by Allen and Scull to table Resolution 107-2011 until clarification is received.
Allen, yes; Scull, yes; Prickett, yes; Stinney, yes; Cartier, yes. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 108-2011

RESOLUTION NO. 108-2011

WHEREAS, BENEFICIAL BANK HAD PREVIOUSLY POSTED A TWO-YEAR MAINTENANCE GUARANTEE BY IRREVOCABLE LETTER OF CREDIT #092, FOR CERTAIN IMPROVEMENTS FOR PROPERTY KNOWN AS BLOCK 799, LOTS 2.11 AND 2.02 WHICH GUARANTEE WAS POSTED IN THE AMOUNT OF \$375,904.50.

WHEREAS, THE TOWNSHIP ENGINEER HAS RECOMMENDED THAT THE MAINTENANCE GUARANTEE BE RELEASED; AND

WHEREAS, THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL DEEMS IT APPROPRIATE TO GRANT THIS RELEASE;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PEMBERTON, COUNTY OF BURLINGTON AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY, THAT THE TWO-YEAR MAINTENANCE GUARANTEE BY IRREVOCABLE LETTER OF CREDIT #092, OF BENEFICIAL BANK FOR MAINTENANCE OF IMPROVEMENTS TO PROPERTY LOCATED AT BLOCK 799, LOTS 2.11 AND 2.02, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$375,904.50 IS HEREIN AUTHORIZED TO BE RELEASED

Council President Cartier noted that he had requested Councilwoman Scull pull the resolution as he is an employee of the bank.

Motion by Scull and Stinney to approve Resolution 108-2011. Scull, yes; Stinney, yes; Allen, yes; Prickett, yes; Cartier, abstain. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 110-2011

RESOLUTION NO. 110-2011

WHEREAS, THE TOWNSHIP OF PEMBERTON ("THE TOWNSHIP") AND THE PBA LOCAL #260 (PBA) ENTERED INTO A COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT COVERING THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 2007 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2009; AND WHEREAS, THE TOWNSHIP AND THE PEMBERTON TOWNSHIP EMPLOYEES UNION LOCAL 2783 (AFSCME) ENTERED INTO A COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT COVERING THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 2007 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2011; AND

WHEREAS, THE TOWNSHIP AND COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS OF AMERICA, AFL-CIO, CWA LOCAL 1040 (CWA) ENTERED INTO A COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT COVERING THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 2007 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2011; AND

WHEREAS, IN RESPONSE TO THE 2% TAX LEVY CAP IMPOSED BY STATE GOVERNMENT COMBINED WITH A SUBSTANTIAL DECREASE IN FUND BALANCE AND OTHER REVENUES, THE MAYOR HAS SUBMITTED A MUNICIPAL BUDGET TO TOWNSHIP COUNCIL CONTAINING A FORCE REDUCTION THAT INCLUDES LAYING OFF THREE POLICE OFFICERS WHO ARE MEMBERS OF THE PBA, 10 EMPLOYEES WHO ARE MEMBERS OF AFSCME, AND TWO EMPLOYEES WHO ARE MEMBERS OF CWA, AND DEMOTING TWO EMPLOYEES WHO ARE MEMBERS OF AFSCME; AND

WHEREAS, AFTER MEETING WITH THE TOWNSHIP BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR AND DISCUSSING ALTERNATIVES TO LAYOFFS, THE UNIONS HAVE OFFERED TO IMPLEMENT CONTRACTUAL BENEFIT CONCESSIONS AMONG THEIR MEMBERS THAT WILL AVOID LAYING OFF MANY OF THE EMPLOYEES WHOSE JOBS WOULD OTHERWISE BE TERMINATED ON OR ABOUT APRIL 29, 2011; AND

WHEREAS, THOSE CONCESSIONS ARE DESCRIBED IN THE ATTACHED SIDE LETTER AGREEMENTS.

WHEREAS, THE BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR RECOMMENDS THAT THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL APPROVE THE ATTACHED SIDE LETTER AGREEMENTS.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PEMBERTON, COUNTY OF BURLINGTON AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY;

1. THAT THE MAYOR AND TOWNSHIP CLERK ARE AUTHORIZED TO EXECUTE THE SIDE LETTER AGREEMENTS THAT ARE ATTACHED HERETO.
2. THAT ALL OTHER WAGES, HOURS, AND OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT SHALL REMAIN IN FULL FORCE AND EFFECT, AND UNAFFECTED BY THE SIDE LETTER AGREEMENTS, UNLESS MODIFIED IN A SUBSEQUENT WRITTEN AGREEMENT BY THE PARTIES.
3. THAT THIS RESOLUTION SUPERSEDES RESOLUTION NO. 91-2011 AND RESOLUTION NO. 92-2011.
4. THAT A COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION SHALL BE FORWARDED TO THE UNIONS.

Councilwoman Scull noted that she requested this be pulled as she would need to abstain. Council President Cartier noted that these are resolutions authorizing the Mayor to execute the side letter agreements with PBA, AFSCME and CWA for the 2011 contract concessions.

Motion by Prickett and Stinney to approve Resolution 110-2011. Prickett, yes; Stinney, yes; Scull, abstain; Allen, yes; Cartier, yes. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 111-2011

RESOLUTION NO. 111-2011

WHEREAS, THE TOWNSHIP OF PEMBERTON WISHES TO APPLY FOR A PROJECT UNDER THE SAFE AND SECURE COMMUNITIES PROGRAM, AND

WHEREAS, THE PEMBERTON TOWNSHIP COUNCIL HAS REVIEWED THE APPLICATION AND HAS APPROVED SAID REQUEST, AND

WHEREAS, THE PROJECT IS A JOINT EFFORT BETWEEN THE DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY AND THE TOWNSHIP OF PEMBERTON, FOR THE PURPOSE DESCRIBED IN THE APPLICATION;
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PEMBERTON TOWNSHIP COUNCIL THAT

1. AS A MATTER OF PUBLIC POLICY THE TOWNSHIP OF PEMBERTON WISHES TO PARTICIPATE TO THE FULLEST EXTENT POSSIBLE WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY.
2. THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF NEW JERSEY WILL RECEIVE FUNDS ON BEHALF OF THE APPLICANT.
3. THE DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE RECEIPT AND REVIEW OF THE APPLICATIONS FOR SAID FUNDS.
4. THE DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SHALL INITIATE ALLOCATIONS TO THE APPLICANT AS AUTHORIZED BY LAW.

Councilman Allen advised that he requested this be pulled because the resolution notes the purpose is described in the attached application, however, the application was not attached. Mr. Vaz advised that the Chief was present however had to leave the meeting temporarily to respond to a call. It was determined to come back to this matter later in the meeting to give Mr. Vaz time to obtain the answer from the Chief.

RESOLUTION NO. 112-2011 TABLED

Councilman Prickett advised that this had to do with the Train Station and his concern was the cost for the downspouts and he would like to see a breakdown of the actual costs for material and labor. Ms. Willis advised that she can request that from the contractor, further advising that the Township could go out to competitive bid for this work but it would still have to go through the State Historic Preservation Office and it would not be covered under the grant and it would delay the project further. Councilman Prickett commented that he just feels like the contractor has them over a barrel with this and they can charge whatever they want. Council President Cartier asked if the light standards are in yet and was advised by Ms. Willis that they are not, however they are expected in shortly. Mayor Patriarca commented that he had questioned Ms. Willis regarding the downspouts and also feels it is an astronomical amount of money and explained that he spoke with a local contractor and they felt the price was high. Mayor Patriarca further noted that Administration would support dropping that change. Councilman Prickett noted that the lights are not up yet so they should be able to get breakdown by the next Council Meeting. Ms. Willis advised that she would get the information from the contractor. Councilman Prickett noted that from his point of view he is an advocate of the Train Station, but he doesn't like being held over the barrel and he is considering not supporting it and maybe you can communicate that with the contractor.

Motion by Prickett and Scull to table Resolution No. 112-2011. Prickett, yes; Scull, yes; Allen, yes; Stinney, yes; Cartier, yes. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 111-2011 Continued

Mr. Vaz advised that he had still not heard back from the Chief, however, he was able to find that it is a grant for salaries, for either a law enforcement officer or for a civilian employee provided that puts a law enforcement officer back out on the street doing law enforcement work and the Township has a history of receiving this grant in the past.

Motion by Allen and Scull to approve Resolution No. 111-2011. Allen, yes; Scull, yes; Prickett, yes; Stinney, yes; Cartier, yes. Motion Carried.

RESOLUTION NOS. 113-2011 and 114-2011 TABLED

Council President Cartier advised that these resolutions were requested to be pulled by Administration since the state had not approved our budget. Mr. Vaz advised they received the budget review worksheet and most of the items were routine however the State questioned the use of \$800,000.00 from their self insurance fund reserve as revenue. The State has requested that they apply funds in a different manner and they approved it that way very late in the day and there was insufficient time to do the calculations and redo the budget amendment resolution. Therefore, Administration requested that these resolutions be tabled and hold the public hearing tonight as advertised and then they will have the documents prepared and approved by the State for the next meeting. It was a consensus of Council to table both resolutions.

RESOLUTION NO. 87-2011A

Adopts the 2011 Municipal Budget.

Council President Cartier opened up the meeting to the public for public hearing on the budget. Council President Cartier asked Kirk Applegate to position himself to answer questions.

Claire Wadsworth, Browns Mills – 1. Noted that she decided not to take the Mayor up on his offer to meet regarding the budget being that the budget is now Council's and the budget process is public. Ms. Wadsworth went on to discuss and get clarification on the difference between spending that is inside the cap, outside the cap and capital improvements. Ms. Wadsworth presented to Council a portion of the minutes she had from March 14, 2009 and noted that in looking at the minutes it appeared that purchases can be made from the capital fund. Council President Cartier explained that they can be used for purchases on capital improvements. Ms. Wadsworth noted that in the minutes it appeared to her that the money could be used for purchases other than capital improvements. Council President Cartier requested that they move on since this discussion does not pertain to the 2011 Budget. **2.** Noted that she looked further into the purchasing of the two Tahoes and found two certified low mileage Tahoes at the Chevy Dealership on Route 38 and to purchase those would be a difference of \$14,000.00. Council President Cartier explained that it would have to go out bid unless it is under State Contract. Ms. Wadsworth asked if that process could happen. Council President Cartier noted that it could happen but now they would be looking at expenses for going out to bid so they would not save that entire \$14,000.00. **3.** Expressed that she was disappointed that some members of Council would not second motions to give the public the opportunity to hear discussion on spending items. She advised that she went through one of the budgets and was able to come up with \$8,000.00 in cuts based on spending in previous years. Council President Cartier asked Ms. Wadsworth to give her notes to Mr. Applegate for review.

Rich Koster, Browns Mills – 1. Commented on the repetitive notion that Council will only make cuts if it saves jobs and he feels that is poor stewardship and does not agree with that thinking. **2.** Expressed that the \$182,000.00 in the utility operating surplus should be used to fix the wells and that the expense of recreation is excessive at this time. **3.** Disagreed with taking out any more loans since they are already \$35 million in debt.

M. Scott Hamilton, Browns Mills – 1. Commented on the similarities between government and the insurance industry, the debt the town and the country is in and that tough decisions need to be made to say no to spending. He expressed concern over the direction the country is heading in and noted that many campaign promises were made five years ago and he has not seen them happen and sees their performance as very poor.

Tony Miehle, Browns Mills – 1. Expressed his disappointment in the residents expressing their opinions and not being heard and also the lack of discussion on motions made by one of the Council Members. He expressed that they all have a fiduciary responsibility to utilize the tax payers' money in the wisest way possible and they may not all agree on what the wisest way is, but they should do their due diligence and at least discuss it.

Leila Jankowski, Browns Mills – 1. Acknowledged that she does not know much about the budget but she heard this evening they are \$35 million in debt and does not think they should be borrowing any more money if they are in that much debt. **2.** She expressed concern over the laying off of two of the Township's Animal Control Officers and does not believe that one Animal Control Officer is sufficient for a town this size and informed Council that 37% of all animals brought to the County shelter come from Pemberton Township. She asked Council to reconsider laying them off and feels they could be put to better use educating the residents about taking care of their animals.

Claire Wadsworth, Browns Mills – 1. Commented that Animal Control would be the perfect opportunity to look into shared services with other townships.

Marisa Wilkins, Browns Mills – 1. Asked Council to consider the difference between wants and needs when looking at the budget. **2.** Questioned if Council had looked at making the recreation programs self-sufficient and was advised by Council President Cartier that they had increased the fees. **3.** Questioned their adoption of the budget if they have not gotten State approval and was advised that they are still legally obligated to hold the public hearing as it was advertised.

Seeing no other residents wishing to speak Council President Cartier closed this portion of the meeting to the public.

Council President Cartier noted that Council was informed they have not received their approval from the State so Resolutions 87-2011A, 115-2011 and 116-2011 he is requesting a motion to table these until such time as they hear back from the State. Councilwoman Scull asked if they were still going to have conversation about the budget. Kirk Applegate noted that technically the budget has been reviewed and as it stands presently it is approved by the State to be adopted and the next step is the state wants to see the amendment, review it and then they will give the authority to proceed with the adoption.

Motion by Scull and Allen to table Resolutions 87-2011A, 115-2011 and 116-2011.
Scull, yes; Allen, yes; Prickett, yes; Stinney, yes; Cartier, yes.

ORDINANCES FOR SECOND READING

ORDINANCE NO. 9-2011 (TITLE READ BY COUNCIL PRESIDENT CARTIER)
AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING SALARY, COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS
WITHIN THE TOWNSHIP OF PEMBERTON

Motion by Stinney and Allen to adopt Ordinance 9-2011.

Council President Cartier opened the meeting to the public on the ordinance and there being no residents showing a desire to be heard, Cartier closed the meeting to the public for comments on said ordinance.

Councilman Prickett questioned the purpose of the ordinance and Mayor Patriarca explained it was to compensate the Water Supervisor for his Water Operator License which the Township is required to have.

Stinney, yes; Allen, yes; Scull, abstain, Prickett, yes; Cartier, yes. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Approval for RFP/RFQ re-advertisement for Small Cities Housing Rehab Services.

Council President Cartier asked Mr. Vaz to explain what this is for and Mr. Vaz advised that an RFP/RFQ had been put out some time ago and only one response was received. Additionally there was consideration being given to having it done internally by one of the employees on the layoff plan, however that employee declined. At this time they are ready to go out to bid again and will be contacting the firms that provide these types of services to solicit more of a response.

Motion by Prickett and Scull to approve re-advertising the RFP/RFQ. Prickett, yes;
Scull, yes; Allen, yes; Stinney, yes; Cartier, yes. Motion carried.

BILL LIST

PO 20101299, Epson Powerlite 1915, in the amount of \$2,114.93

Councilman Prickett noted that he pulled this bill advising that it was an item budgeted for in 2010 and he understands it is a projector for Room #10. He questioned if this was really needed at this time, why it was not purchased in the year it was budgeted for and if this item has already been purchased. Mayor Patriarca advised that there were some issues with the purchasing process for this item and it took some time to get them straightened out and advised that the item has been purchased.

Motion by Scull and Stinney to approve payment of PO 20101299. Scull, yes; Stinney, yes; Allen, yes; Prickett, yes; Cartier, yes.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

Council President Cartier opened the meeting for general public comments.

George Petronis, Browns Mills – 1. Questioned the budget process regarding the amendments that would be needed for the union concessions and other suggestions made by residents. Council President Cartier noted it is his understanding that the amendments have to take place after the public hearing and the changes were not due to the concessions, they were due to where the State wants certain funds coming from and going to.

Marisa Wilkins, Browns Mills – 1. Shared that the projector was delayed in being purchased because the vendor lost the original paperwork and then ended up not accepting it and another vendor had to be located.

Monica Phillips, Presidential Lakes – 1. Advised that everything in her community looked very nice, there was a game taking place and the park is nice and clean, and she thanked Administration. **2.** Relayed that the Township put mulch at the entrance and she has cleaned that up some in front of the entrance. **3.** Again commented on the fire station signs on the side of Magnolia Road and would like to see them removed. Council President Cartier noted that he thought Ms. Willis from the Engineer's office was going to look into that. Ms. Willis advised that she was looking into Ms. Phillip's concern regarding the no passing zones noting that she drove that roadway the following morning and from an engineering stand point the passing zones are acceptable. Council President Cartier shared that they were just alerted this evening of a fatal accident along that roadway and Ms. Phillips advised that is where she was in her volunteer capacity. **4.** Expressed that it would be nice to have a bus or some type of transportation for the children in Presidential Lakes during school breaks so they could get to the library or something because they have nothing else to do. **5.** Reported that the cars at 200 New Hampshire Road were towed away yesterday. **6.** Expressed the need for drainage on her 100 Block of Tennessee Trail and asked Public Works to come look at it after a rain storm. Council President Cartier advised that he has visited the street and although he did see substantial puddles and he does not disagree that it needs to be fixed, he expressed that there are worse roads in the Township. **7.** Ms. Phillips advised she is waiting for the leaves to come back on the trees and will be back with her complaints about stop signs and wished everyone a Happy Easter.

Claire Wadsworth, Browns Mills – 1. Commented on the purchase of the Senior Citizen bus and asked if the Township looked into purchasing one of the used busses from the School District. Councilwoman Scull noted that the school busses in their town have high mileage and they are finished up when they are taken off the road, they are not in good shape at all, further noting that their School District does allow their Seniors to pay for buses for special trips when a trip requires more seats than the 14 passenger bus. Councilwoman Scull advised that the School District busses are usually done, mileage wise, before age. **2.** Questioned if the new bus would be gas or diesel and was advised that it would be gas. She questioned why they were switching to gas since she believes they get more miles per gallon out of diesel and Council President Cartier advised that he does not believe that is the case noting diesel is more expensive than gas. She advised she would investigate that on her own.

There being no other members of the public indicating a desire to be heard, the meeting was closed for general public comments.

Solicitor's Report

None

Engineer's Report

Ms. Willis reported that: **1.** Two roads were brought to ARH's attention by Public Works this week, North Road and Birmingham Road and they are looking into those problems. **2.** Advised that the road program is still underway and there has been some base paving on Brandywine Road and North Whitesbog Road is getting drainage installed and Kentucky Trail will be next. They are currently working on Lemmon Avenue Phase II. **3.** The gravel pack removal at Well #13 is finished and on Monday the well was brought back on-line briefly for testing. It is currently off-line and not contributing to the system until the test results come back, once it is, the permitting can be finalized. Council President Cartier asked if anything has been done with the Road Program for this year and he was advised that Administration was waiting on the budget, further noting that they are in year three of the five year program.

Planner's Report

Council President Cartier noted they all received a report in their packets and asked if there

were any questions for Administration to forward to the Planner. Mr. Vaz noted that the Planner asked about attending the meeting and Administration assumed they would just be dealing with budget matters this evening and advised him not to attend.

Mayor and or Business Administrator's Report

Mayor Patriarca: **1.** Mayor Patriarca advised that the brick laying for the new Police entrance has begun. Council President Cartier asked if the Mayor could update them on the actions of the Planning Board. Mayor Patriarca advised that they approved the Redevelopment Plan. Councilman Prickett questioned a vendor on the bill list, Wilson Web Services, and wanted clarification on their services. Administration advised that the company provides printing services for items such as their ax bills and forms for Public Works.

Council Comments

Diane Stinney – 1. Extended on behalf of Council to Council President Cartier and his family, their heartfelt sympathy in the loss of his father-in-law. **2.** She expressed having had a wonderful time at the seniors' prom noting there were many seniors there who enjoyed themselves. **3.** She wished everyone a blessed and safe Easter.

Rick Prickett – Commented on the serious accident on Magnolia Road and he would like to keep those involved in their prayers and hoped the best for those families.

Sherry Scull – 1. Felt the need to respond to the public budget hearing comments noting that it bothers her that some individuals think they do not take the matter seriously. She commented that it is easy to say “don’t spend” but then they have residents coming and asking to have their roads fixed. She advised that this Council and Administration has done everything they can to purchase items out of surplus rather than get further in debt and noted that this Council and Administration inherited a good portion of the \$35 million debt. She disagreed with lowering the taxes last year and now they have laid off six to seven employees, residents of the township. She further noted that there are maybe 15 people of 27,000 residents that come to the meetings and complain about raising the taxes; however she has had an awful lot of individuals say they would pay the extra taxes to keep the township residents working. She explained they are talking about a \$5 a month tax increase and if they look through past records they will see that this Council raised the taxes less overall than past Councils. She expressed that this problem is nationwide and there are local towns that do not pay a dime in local purpose tax but they use the State Police and they could cut the Police Department and save \$5 million, but that is not what the residents want. The Council has a responsibility to all of the residents and they have to look at the big picture, she knows they will not make everyone happy, but does not want them to think for one minute they are not respected and she appreciates all the effort that Ms. Wadsworth has gone through but Councilwoman Scull explained she is not going to take \$10,000 from here and \$20,000 from there because it is just going to mean cutting more jobs next year and she doesn’t think that is right because several people do not want to pay \$5 a month more in taxes. She commented on the tax cuts that the rich people are getting across the country and if everyone was paying their fair share there would not be this problem. **2.** She thanked Councilwoman Stinney for coming to the prom and advised the Mayor that the seniors were upset that he was unable to attend. **3.** Reported that the Veteran’s Committee has had a pin designed by Dorothy Amsden, a terrific artist from Browns Mills, they will be sold for \$5 each and she asked Council President Cartier to have a presentation at one of the May meetings. **4.** Thanked everyone for coming and hoped for better times so the Township is not in this situation next year.

Jason Allen – 1. Noted that he did some research on the bio-diesel fuel findings that Ms. Wadsworth presented to Council and advised that his findings showed that commercial bio-diesel tends to be more expensive than conventional diesel and it is challenging to find a distributor. Councilman Allen gave as an example that bio-diesel in California is only sold at 100 sites however conventional diesel is sold at 3,000 retail locations. He further explained that the best way for them to use bio-diesel is to do it themselves however that is an expensive process to put in place. He noted that he will do a little more research on his end to see if biodiesel would be beneficial for our area.

Kenneth Cartier – 1. Thanked Councilwoman Stinney for her sentiments and he will relay them to his family. **2.** Thanked everyone for coming out and expressing their concerns on the budget, noting that it has not fallen on deaf ears, and assured he agrees with some and disagrees with

others, but that is the nature of politics. **3.** Wished everyone a good night and drive safely going home.

Meeting adjourned approximately 9:01 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ann Finlay, MMC, Township Clerk