

**TOWNSHIP OF PEMBERTON
REGULAR MEETING**

**April 1, 2015
6:30 P.M.**

FLAG SALUTE

Council President Allen 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

Norma Trueblood
Diane Stinney
Sherry Scull
Letha Jackson
Jason Allen

ABSENT

Also present: Business Administrator Dennis Gonzalez, Solicitor Andrew Bayer, and Township Clerk Amy P. Cosnoski.

CALL TO ORDER

Council President Allen called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION

Resolution No. 88-2015 Authorizes Council to go into Closed Session.

Litigation/Contract Negotiation – Browns Mills
Shopping Center

Purchase Negotiations - 31 Bank Street, 34 Juliustown
Road and 50 Juliustown Road

Motion by Jackson and Trueblood to adopt Resolution 88-2015. Jackson, yes; Trueblood, yes; Stinney, yes; Scull, yes; Allen, yes. Motion carried.

Council President Allen advised that there would be no action 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.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

Council President Allen opened the meeting to the public for comments on the Agenda.

Jack Tompkins, Pemberton – 1. Questioned Resolution 90-2015 for Emergency Temporary Appropriations, and asked what the appropriations were for and asked Council not to approve this and to only approve what is necessary. Suggested starting of furlough some employees. Councilwoman Scull explained this is due to not having an approved budget and to cover needed everyday expenses. Mr. Gonzalez confirmed this was correct and explained the process on the need for a Temporary Budget until authorization is given to Council by the DCA to approve the final Budget. Mr. Gonzalez advised that both Council and Administration do not have the authority to furlough employees as there is lawful due process. Council President Allen noted that the CFO provides the dollar amounts. Mr. Gonzalez confirmed that to be correct.

Seeing no other residents wishing to be heard, Council President Allen closed the meeting to the public.

Councilwoman Stinney pulled Resolution 90-2015 and 98-2015 from the Consent Agenda. Councilwoman Scull pulled page 16, PO 15-00752 from the Bill List. Councilwoman Stinney pulled page 7, PO 5-01-25-265-000-201 in the amount of

\$4,977.03 from the Bill List.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

MINUTES FILED BY CLERK

Regular Meeting, March 18, 2015.

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS

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| 89-2015 | Authorizes emergency temporary appropriations in 2015 Municipal Water Budget. |
| 90-2015 | <i>This Resolution was pulled from the Consent Agenda and considered later in the meeting.</i> |
| 91-2015 | Authorizes cancellation of property taxes on property qualifying for Veterans Property Tax Exemption for Birch on Block 746, Lot 8. |
| 92-2015 | Authorizes cancellation of property taxes on property qualifying for Veterans Property Tax Exemption for Vanvliet on Block 741, Lot 19. |
| 93-2015 | Authorizes cancellation of property taxes on property qualifying for Veterans Property Tax Exemption for Layton on Block 627, Lot 13. |
| 94-2015 | Authorizes refund of tax overpayment to Dexter and Delma Hawkins on Block 82, Lot 33. |
| 95-2015 | Authorizes refund of tax overpayments on property qualifying for Veterans Property Tax Exemption to Frances Annunziato on Block 637, Lot 5. |
| 96-2015 | Authorizes refund of tax overpayments on property qualifying for Veterans Property Tax Exemption to Wells Fargo on various blocks and lots. |
| 97-2015 | Authorizes refund of tax overpayments on property qualifying for Veterans Property Tax Exemption to Corelogic on various blocks and lots. |
| 98-2015 | <i>This Resolution was pulled from the Consent Agenda and considered later in the meeting.</i> |

BILL LIST

Approval by Council required for payment of vouchers on bill list dated 3/27/2015

NEW BUSINESS

- *a. NJ State Fireman's Association Membership Application for Jonathan Bredbenner with the Pemberton Township Volunteer Fire Co.
- *b. 2015 Used Automobile Licenses
 1. Garden Homes Management Corp.
- *c. Purchases over \$2,000
 1. Public Works Department – Purchase of repair services on Patrol Vehicle #1811 from Fante's Auto Body, Inc., in the amount of \$2,698.34.
 2. Recreation Department – Purchase of Referee, Scorekeeper and Timekeeper services and trophies and awards for 2015 Youth Basketball Program from Westampton Recreation in the amount of \$5,021.89.
 3. Recreation Department – Purchase of newsletter compilation, editing, printing, sorting and mailing services for 12,000 full-color newsletters from Burlington County College in the amount of \$5,242.20. *Original approval at March 18, 2015 meeting was based on incorrect quote.*

Motion by Scull and Stinney to approve the Consent Agenda as amended. Scull, yes; Stinney, yes; Trueblood, yes; Jackson, yes; Allen, yes. Motion carried.

RESOLUTIONS

- | | |
|---------|---|
| 90-2015 | Authorizes emergency temporary appropriations in 2015 Municipal Budget. <i>Pulled from the Consent Agenda</i> |
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Councilwoman Stinney noted the problem she has is with the "other expenses" as it reminds her of miscellaneous expenses and gave the example of Buildings and Grounds other expenses of \$60,000.00. Questioned what the "other expenses" were. Mr. Bayer advised that "other expenses" is listed on every line item. Councilwoman Stinney stated that she would like to see a better explanation as to what this was for. Mr. Gonzalez advised that the line items in the resolution mirror those that are in the budget and further explains the Council does not adopt a budget with specific expenses listed, they are all listed as "other expenses." and that line item covers everything other than salaries and wages.

Motion by Stinney and Scull to approve Resolution 90-2015. Stinney, yes; Scull, yes; Jackson, yes; Trueblood, yes; Allen, yes. Motion carried.

98-2015 Authorizes the transfer of Police Canine 'Bandit' to Justin Kreig. *Pulled from the Consent Agenda*

Councilwoman Stinney asked if there was a replacement Police K-9 in the Budget. Mr. Gonzalez advised there is money in the budget for a replacement but that the Mayor has not made that decision yet. Council President Allen asked what the reason would be for not replacing the dog. Mr. Gonzalez noted that he would discuss this with the Mayor and provide Council with an answer on where they intend to go with another dog. Councilwoman Stinney stated she is interested and stated that this has been an asset to the town and hopes the Mayor sees fit to replace this dog with another K-9. Councilwoman Scull agreed with Councilwoman Stinney's comments and added that the K-9 has been extremely important and one of the best decisions they made of money spent. Stated it is discouraging that it is even a consideration not to replace him with the continued situation between Administration and the Police and to her is just another way to show who has the authority. Commented that she hopes the best interest of the residents is taken into consideration and the K-9 gets replaced. Noted that on page one under recitals, there is a typo regarding Ettinger that needs to be corrected. Advised that she has appreciated how hard Justin has worked and the time and effort that goes into being a K-9 handler. Stated she is thankful for the great job that Bandit has done here in the community.

Motion by Stinney and Scull to approve Resolution 98-2015. Stinney, yes; Scull, yes; Jackson, yes; Trueblood, yes; Allen, yes. Motion carried.

ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION

ORDINANCE 7-2015

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PEMBERTON AMENDING CHAPTER 41 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PEMBERTON, ENTITLED 'POLICE DEPARTMENT,' SECTION 41-15, CHAPLAIN.

Motion by Trueblood and Jackson to Introduce Ordinance 7-2015. Trueblood, yes; Jackson, yes; Scull, no; Stinney, no; Allen, yes. Motion carried.

Councilwoman Scull added that rumors on the street today is the reason she is opposed to this introduction since it will be up for approval in a couple of weeks and hopes that what she heard today is nothing more than a rumor. Councilwoman Stinney noted that at the last meeting she highlighted how important it is to bring in other clergy and she received a call today and hopes what she heard is not true. Councilwoman Jackson stated she is unaware of any rumors and apologized to the public for not being at the last meeting. Commented that what she read from the minutes, it seemed as though the residents were for this program and she doesn't see anything wrong with diversity. Commented that Council should be voting on things based on facts and not rumors. Councilwoman Stinney agreed with Councilwoman Jackson and stated she learned a long time ago to let rumors be rumors and stated she addresses facts and not rumors. Councilwoman Scull noted her voting has nothing to with whether or not she believes in having a diverse group of people as chaplains but rather her sensitivity towards the issues between Administration and the Police Department at this time and she is not sure she will vote for anything ordinance wise until the nonsense stops.

BILL LIST

Councilwoman Stinney questioned Page 7, Fire Contract Service. Mr. Bayer noted that this was related to the settlement agreement approved for the Pemberton First Aid Building and as part of the agreement to pay their expenses, up to \$6,000. Advised their

total expenses were \$4,977.03. Noted that there was a closing a week ago and the closing is contingent upon the Township paying the money as agreed upon and they could not be paid until Council approved them on the bill list. Council President Allen asked if there could be more expenses on top of this amount. Mr. Gonzalez added that they have all of their bills with the possibility of one more from JCP&L but will not exceed the \$6,000 limit and if the Township does have to pay this it will be on the next bill list.

Motion by Stinney and Trueblood to approve bill 5-01-25-265-000-201. Stinney, yes; Trueblood, yes; Scull, yes; Jackson, yes; Allen, yes. Motion carried.

Councilwoman Scull stated she needed to abstain from the bill on page 16, 5-05-55-500-000-431, PO 15-00752 in the amount of \$99.00.

Motion by Stinney and Jackson to approve PO 15-00752. Stinney, yes; Jackson, yes; Scull, abstain; Trueblood, yes; Allen, yes. Motion carried.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

Mr. Bayer reported: 1. No report.

MAYOR'S AND/OR BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Dennis Gonzalez reported: 1. No report.

Councilwoman Scull questioned when they could expect the reports on the request from Council regarding the Police and Administration. Mr. Gonzalez advised he did provide one report and would be getting another answer to them prior to the next meeting. Discussion ensued on providing all the answers in one report versus several and it was a consensus of Council that getting the answers as they are available in several reports was acceptable to them. Mr. Gonzalez noted he would make the effort to get the information to them as soon as possible. Councilwoman Stinney requested the sign at the Public Works yard be changed to reflect the new hours. Councilwoman Stinney further noted a resident advised her that the Township no longer provides notary services. Township Clerk, Amy Cosnoski, explained the service was stopped for all notary requests that are not Township business related due to issues arising from notarizing documents prepared by individuals, however they do notarize Township documents. Councilwoman Stinney asked Mr. Bayer to look into the legality and benefits of having a notary.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

Council President Allen opened the meeting to the public for general comments.

Reverend Guy Glass, Browns Mills – 1. Noted that he shared his support for the statute change for additional Police Chaplains and commented on his only concern being training that is needed for the exposure they will have. Reverend Glass advised he has served in the position for 5 years and he has opened his facility and home for the officers and noted he has not received a salary or stipend and is not asking for one. Adding he was informed that he no longer a Police Chaplain for the department and expressed his concern over the position becoming part of the tension between the Police and Administration. Reverend Glass requested Council take steps to not allow those that serve in the position in the future to be cast aside so easily. Council President Allen questioned Mr. Gonzalez on there not being a Chaplain. Mr. Gonzalez advised there is an existing ordinance that allows the Mayor to appoint a Chaplain and the new ordinance allows for the Mayor to appoint multiple Chaplains to serve the needs of the Police, noting he does not agree with Reverend Glass's characterization of what occurred, noting the Chaplain term is an annual term and subject to renewal. Mr. Gonzalez advised he will provide a full report to the Council regarding what was discussed with the Police Chief regarding training and the inability to expend funds when no appointment has been made. Councilwoman Jackson questioned if something happened would the Police be able to go to Reverend Glass if they choose. Councilwoman Stinney questioned when the appointments are made. Reverend Glass advised he was informed an email was received advising that reappointment was not necessary each year unless he wan un-appointed. Reverend Glass noted that any Chaplain not appointed should not respond to an incident, noting they would not be covered under the Father Judd Act. It was noted that a Chaplain could be appointed under the current ordinance until the new ordinance, if passed goes into effect. Councilwoman Scull expressed

Reverend Glass is not appointed as of right now which leaves the Police Department with no Chaplain and wonders why this has happened and if there is an intent to appoint Reverend Glass again with the other Chaplains. Councilwoman Scull extended her apologies to Reverend Glass. Mr. Gonzalez advised he will convey Council's sentiments for the reappointment of Reverend Glass.

Norma Waters, Pemberton Heights - 1. Handed out a statement to Council and thanked Council and the Mayor for all of their work and worry during these trying times. Gave her impression on the Townships history of military housing that has been decommissioned and developments that did not flourish as hoped. Advised on the driving out of residents and the closing of businesses. Commented that the Council and Administration are not to blame for that, but that they need to come together to make critical decisions about how to save the town and not stand by hoping for a miracle as bandages will not work. Stated no matter what they decide they will be criticized as criticism thrives in democracy. Stated they all deserve respect and caring for carrying the burden of these decisions. Asked all to participate in a symbolic ribbons project in support of the Adoption of these elected officials of the town and explained what it represented to her. Stated that the Mayor and five Council members represented everyone in the town and that no matter how people voted, these are the people elected and they belong to all residents. Asked that the town encourage and support them which would uplift the residents as well. Stated if the residents keep their words about the town and elected officials loving, they carry a blessing to the town. Gave five points on the meaning of these ribbons and then explained the ribbons project and how it can be represented by placing ribbons on refrigerators, mirrors, fences, trees, or inside of a book or bible. Thanked everyone for caring and asked for all to tell everyone about the ribbons.

Anne Quinn, Country Lakes – 1. Commented that hearing about the absence of a Chaplain angered her. Stated she is the daughter of a retired Police Officer and commented on her father seeing things and dealing with things that tore him apart. Noted that it was the Chaplain that helped and understands what the officers go through. Noted that Reverend Glass needs to be reappointed immediately as the Chaplain. Commented there is nothing wrong with having multiple chaplains. Commented that the power struggle she sees meeting after meeting continues to grow and all at the expense of the residents, the Police and the Chief. **2.** Urged the Council to not approve the budget until the issues between Administration and the Police have been resolved. **3.** Commented that she heard there was another lawsuit filed by the female Police Officer for discrimination. **4.** Stated she once again asks that a Police Director not be put in place and if there is one that it be Chief Jantas as he is more than qualified to do the job just as Reverend Glass is qualified to do the job as Chaplain. **5.** Commented how dare they play politics with the Police officers lives and the life of the Chaplain. Commented that everyone is upset and she is upset because she cares and that the Mayor doesn't care what the residents think. Council President Allen advised the residents that this was not something that Council was aware of and does not have control over as they just heard this tonight and asked Mr. Gonzalez to get back to them as soon as possible.

Debbie Lihou, Browns Mills - 1. Stated that this was her first meeting and she was a little nervous but what brought her out was the issue with the female Police Officer. Advised she is a 22 year veteran of the Federal Bureau of Prisons and has lived in Browns Mills for about 20 years. Stated she had zero bad things to say about the Police Department and respects all of them. Noted that every time they had to come to her home for the aide of her elderly mother they were nothing but helpful and respectful. Commented that she has written several letters thanking them. Stated she would not want their job and thinks what they are doing to this officer is appalling. Stated she has a hard time believing that there has not been another female employee of the Township that, regardless of department, has not had some type of modified duty over the course of the years due to pregnancy and said that all hands are needed and she should not be penalized for being pregnant.

Jack Tompkins, Pemberton – 1. Handed out a statement to Council that he had prepared. **2.** Commented on the Chaplain issue and said that he was upset about it and stated to Councilwoman Stinney that she said she doesn't vote based on rumors but then said she wouldn't vote for introduction of the ordinance because of a phone call she received, so her vote was swayed because of one phone call which he thought was unique. Stated usually if he is voting he is thinking of more than one phone call and he would have voted differently on this regardless of the phone call.

Stated he thinks that Council should review the verbiage on the ordinance as he has heard numerous times that they have no authority and have seen them almost willingly give their authority away. Commented that when writing the ordinances they give themselves some authority. **3.** Advised on a Supreme Court ruling regarding a pregnant UPS worker and the Supreme Court ruling in her favor. Stated good for her but bad for him because this lawsuit will cost him millions and the officer is right. Stated that Council sat and voted but had no authority and Administration did what they do. Stated it seems like there is a lot going on with Administration and the Police Department, and advised on some of the issues. Commented that Council needs to take some action and his first thought would be to ask for the Business Administrator's resignation as a first step. Stated that Council passed an ordinance with a residency requirement and if there is an ordinance then enforce it and lead by example.

Fred Moorehead, Browns Mills - 1. Commented on National Politics and the accusations that Republicans are waging a war on women but there are nothing but Democrats here. Stated if you allow a pregnant Police Officer to exhaust her sick leave and personal days because she is pregnant and the excuse is that it didn't happen on the job, he would have to say that most pregnancies don't happen on the job. **2.** Stated he does not want to put motives on peoples behavior but judges what they do, and stated it is hard not to put a motive on what has been going on between the Police and Administration. Stated that if you destroy the moral of the organization that is responsible for safety and the well being of the people then you are attacking everyone and this is all that is coming out of this Administration. Commented on the pettiness of the locker room lawsuit and the reasons behind it. Stated that in the military a woman gets pregnant and they figure out a way to keep her on the job and they do have to shake things up to do it but that is management. Stated he has heard more times then he cares to repeat that Administration has no responsibility for the day to day operations of the Police department, and said what is more day to day then staffing and they interfered with that. Stated he doesn't know where we are going in this town but this is God awful. Stated the environment is poisonous and the communication is broken down that Council didn't even know they didn't have a Chaplain. Asked how Council could have an Administration that doesn't even make them aware of the Chaplain issue. Asked why Administration would treat the Chaplain this way after his 5 years of service at no cost to the town. Commented that all it is, is another moral booster lost by the Police Department and they should be ashamed of it. **3.** Agreed that the Business Administrator should leave but he doesn't think it is his fault as he believes he is the Mayor's puppet. Councilwoman Stinney noted they voted to keep the Officer on the job. Mr. Moorehead said he heard them and every time something comes up they say they have no power. Commented he believes they have more power then they know.

Rick Prickett, Pemberton - 1. Asked if Council checked the purchase orders before they approve the bill list. Noted that they are available in the Finance office. Stated that Council should be going to the CFO's office before the meeting to see what is on the purchase orders. Councilwoman Stinney commented on not being able to speak to the CFO. Mr. Prickett commented that they should go to the Clerk's office to review them. **2.** Commented on Council voting on a Green Acres application for \$1.5 million dollars as half a grant and half a loan. Asked if this had been received and how they would finance the \$750,000. Councilwoman Jackson advised she would look into this **3.** Commented on some ethical concerns with actions by the Council and noted Councilwoman Trueblood voted on an item that some might consider an ethical conflict. Noted he believes the Solicitor should be advising Council and provide information as to why it would or would not be a conflict. Noting he is not saying whether Councilwoman Trueblood was right or wrong, but feels there should be an explanation for the public as to why or why not this was a conflict and would like to see Council get yearly training on conflict and ethical issues.

Mike Tamn, Mount Holly - 1. Confirmed he does not live in the Township anymore but lived here for 50 years and still has many friends and volunteers his services to the town. Asked if there was any law that prohibits him from coming here. Mr. Bayer noted that this is a public meeting and anyone can speak. **2.** Commented that he asked questions at the last meeting and they weren't addressed in the propaganda sheet on the township website and questioned if Council approved what was on the website. **3.** Commented on the bins that were built out back that were made with materials from the railroad station without the Trusts permission

and if it encroached on wetlands and if a permit was obtained by from the Pinelands Commission. Mr. Bayer noted the questions regarding the railroad ties were addressed during the court proceeding and Mr. Tamn advised this occurred prior to the court proceeding. Discussion ensued on the items Mr. Tamn was referring to. Mr. Tamn questioned Council President Allen of his knowledge of the environmental concerns as he works for the Department of Environmental Protection and Council President Allen advised that just because he works for the department does not mean is aware of everything that happens in it. Council President Allen asked Administration to look into Mr. Tamn's claims. Mr. Gonzalez noted he is not sure of what Mr. Tamn is talking about. Council President Allen requested Mr. Tamn to put his question in writing to Administration. Mr. Tamn noted minutes are being done so his question is in writing. 4. Commented on the Chaplain position and noted the Mayor is not doing his job if he has not appointed a Chaplain and questioned if Reverend Glass would be a hold over in the position. Mr. Bayer advised that is usually related to statutory positions. 5. Commented on the election this past November stating it is very confusing how a Mayor with discretionary powers could be elected with less than 50% +1 of the vote. 6. Commented that the town should revert back to the committee form of government to make it more transparent as all 5 committee people have equal powers and there is no dictator. Stated that under Titles 19:40:69A-25, 19:40:69A-25.1 and 19:40:69A-19 it is a simple process to revert back and you need 20% of the voters to vote. Noted that the Business Administrator would handle day to day operations. Commented on Council having more access to information and being held accountable for departments. Councilwoman Scull asked what the timeline was for the reversion of government. Mr. Tamn stated they could get a petition going in 90 days and then file it. Councilwoman Stinney stated it would be needed 75 days before the election. A discussion ensued on the different forms of government and corruption. Mr. Tamn stated this form of government breeds corruption and that Mayors were more concerned with their power than with the people they represent.

America Phillips, Presidential Lakes – 1. Questioned why the Mayor is not at the meetings. Council President Allen advised that he is not required to be at the meetings. Advised that by Township ordinance the Business Administrator is required to attend these meetings. 2. Ms. Phillips stated she was shocked to hear that the K-9 will be leaving us and that there is no backup money to replace him and asked what the reason was. Councilwoman Scull stated that the money is there but that they do not know if the dog will be replaced. 3. Commented on things going on between the Mayor and the Police Department. Questioned how the lawyers let this lawsuit with the pregnant officer happen. 4. Asked Mr. Bayer how much money in lawsuits the taxpayers are paying out. Mr. Bayer advised he would have to research this. 5. Asked what is going on with the Browns Mills Shopping Center. Mr. Bayer advised there is no litigation going on but Administration is talking to developers and stated when they go into Closed Session it is listed as Litigation/Potential Litigation because of the ongoing issues with the owner of the property, Mr. Berardi. Councilwoman Stinney asked if there were any property violations on his property. Mr. Bayer noted that would be a question for Code Enforcement. Mr. Gonzalez noted that Code Enforcement has been out there and no violations were issued because none were found. 6. Ms. Phillips asked what is going on with the locker rooms. Mr. Bayer advised there is a claim in litigation regarding the locker rooms. 7. Commented on coming up to drop off her leaves, in a truck she borrowed, and had over 20 bags and was late by less than 20 minutes they would not let her in because they were closed. Stated she talked to Administration and was told that they would not open the gate for her. Commented that the Administrator needs to start packing his bags and go somewhere else because what he did in Trenton and Edison he will not do here in Pemberton Township.

Rick Prickett, Pemberton - 1. Commented on the Solicitor saying that by Township ordinance the Business Administrator is required to be at the meetings. Stated that if that is the case you can write ordinances dictating what the Business Administrator and Mayor can do and he feels that is not correct but rather the basis is that State Law requires his attendance. Stated all should be accurate in their words as this has caused many of the misconceptions over the years. Mr. Bayer stated he will research this information. Councilwoman Stinney stated the Business Administrator is here by the order of the Mayor and he does not do anything unless he is ordered to do so by the Mayor.

George Petronis, Browns Mills - 1. Asked to confirm if there was money in the current budget to replace the K-9. Mr. Gonzalez noted that there is money in the proposed budget for 2 dogs. Mr. Petronis asked if the budget is passed and approved, the taxpayers will be taxed to provide the money for the dogs. Mr. Petronis noted that this is something that was requested by Administration but the same Administration has not made up their mind about replacing the K-9 and questioned how many items are in the budget that Administration has not made their mind up about yet. Mr. Gonzalez advised he does not understand the specific question. Mr. Petronis repeated his question regarding Administration requesting money but not deciding what they are going to spend it on. Mr. Gonzalez noted that this is the nature of a government budget advising it is a spending plan as you have to plan for the year but things may change and expenditures have to change based on what may occur over the year. Mr. Petronis noted this budget sounds like it has a few more uncertainties than he is comfortable being taxed for.

Council President Allen seeing no other residents wishing to be heard, closed the meeting to Public Comments.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS:

Councilwoman Scull – Stated she attended a JIF workshop last month and the topic was discrimination and pregnancy was part of this. Stated that after the workshop she asked Mr. Gonzalez if they were sure they were not in violation of the law and he advised he was positive that we were well within our rights. Asked Mr. Bayer if he would get an opinion on this as well as he is the attorney and she has heard that there was a similar case on the base and that officer won. Commented that she hates all of the negativity going on and it continues month after month, week after week and day after day. Stated that Council voted for the officer to come back and that there are people that think Council can pass an ordinance that controls any kind of policy. Mr. Bayer advised they can not. Councilwoman Scull stated she is tired of being beat up all of the time over things they have no authority over. Commented on Council not being notified of situations and being told many times they will be told what Administration thinks they need to know when they need to know it. Stated she is tired of hearing that the Council can do something about it if they wanted to. Asked Mr. Bayer to look into what Council can do to fix the situation. Stated they cannot tell the Mayor he has to attend meetings. Stated she feels the intent is still for individuals to work together but that is not happening. Noted she wants everyone to work together for what is best for the Township. Thanked everyone for coming out and to have a safe Easter holiday.

Councilwoman Jackson - Wished everyone a safe holiday and thanked everyone for coming out and for their comments.

Councilwoman Stinney – Commented on speaking of not working together and was embarrassed that she is unaware of the webpage and what is being put on it and when. Thinks that it is important that someone could have noticed the time change for Public Works and that someone could have had the decency enough to send someone out there right away to change the sign so the people were aware. Stated she has never seen anything like this. Advised she served 13 years on the Board of Education and although they may not have always agreed, they got along and she is embarrassed. Addressed the issue of making a decision on one call and stated that one call is enough for her and that it was before Council and no one seemed to know about it. Commented on the Chaplain issue and thinks it is a wonderful thing to have. Commented on not being allowed to talk to employees unless given permission. Stated that is what is going on is heartbreaking and is sorry to the public. Noted that Mr. Tamn has been the historian for the County and the Township and thanked him for what he has done. Thanked Ms. Waters for her kind words and things she says to Council. Commented on having a positive for each negative. Stated it is tearing her apart to hear her community like this. Commented on the Engineer and how the public will know what is going on when they are not here anymore. Commented on Council President Allen having so much on his chest. Thanked everyone for coming out and for their kind words and to have a blessed weekend. Commented to Reverend Glass that she hopes nothing happens with our Police Officers and there is no one to jump in and do something because you just never know with what is going on with this Country.

Councilwoman Trueblood – Thanked everyone for coming out and thanked Ms. Waters for the beautiful ribbons that represent a lot and especially the Adopt a Ribbon Project. Thanked Mr. Prickett for the words he said and that she does not think it is unethical and is something she had believed in many years ago that there should be more Chaplains to help. Stated that she holds Reverend Glass in highest regards and thanked him for what he has done for this Township. Stated she does not think it was unethical for her to introduce because she believes in it.

Council President Allen – Thanked everyone for coming out and for their comments. Thanked Ms. Waters for her prayers and for the remarks she read and the very powerful and meaningful words. Stated that the two sentences that stood out to him were to about blessings for the town and regardless of decisions there would be criticism to Council. Asked Mr. Gonzalez to get Council an answer on what a reason would be for not getting a K-9.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Amy P. Cosnoski

Amy P. Cosnoski, RMC
Township Clerk