

WEST AMWELL TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING
November 3, 2010

CALL TO ORDER AND STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT

The regular meeting of the West Amwell Township Committee was called to order at 7:10 p.m. Present were Mayor Molnar, Deputy Mayor Frank P. Masterson III, Committeeman George Fisher, Committeeman-elect Zachary Rich and Attorney Philip J. Faherty III. Also in attendance were Jason Fuhr, Sean Pfeiffer, Hal Shute, Cathy Urbanski, Drew Mumich, Patricia Gribbon, Howard Hope, and John Cronce.

Mayor Molnar announced that this meeting is called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act. Notice of this meeting was included in the Resolution faxed to the Lambertville Beacon, Hunterdon County Democrat and Trenton Times on January 1, 2010, was posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building on said date and has remained continuously posted as required under the Statute. A copy of this notice is and has been available to the public and is on file in the office of the Municipal Clerk.

The meeting was recorded via digital recording system and a copy of the CD is on file in the Office of the Municipal Clerk.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE AMERICAN FLAG

Master Drew Mumich led the assembled group in the pledge to the nation's flag.

AGENDA REVIEW BY TOWNSHIP CLERK

The following items were added: 9. Unfinished Business: Bruce Gage letter; 10. New Business: Resolution to Cancel Taxes; Calton Speed Study; HC Municipal Officer Dinner. Deleted was 10.D. Raffles.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The following announcements were made:

- Parks & Recreation's Open Gym, Mondays 7:30-9:30 p.m. thru Nov 30th @ South
- Daylight Savings Time Ends 12:01 a.m. November 7th, Set Clocks Back One Hour
- ~~Public Information Center on Rt 31 Resurfacing Project, Nov. 9th, 4-7 p.m., East~~
~~Amwell Township Municipal Building~~ **POSTPONED**
- Municipal Offices Closed November 11th in Observance of Veterans Day
- Hazardous Waste Collection, County Complex Rt 12, November 13th, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
- Municipal Offices Closed November 25th & 26th for Thanksgiving
- Regular Twp Committee Meetings for Remainder of Year – December 1st & 29th
- Please Come to the Table if You Wish to Address the Committee
- Kindly Turn Cell Phones Off During Meeting

Additionally noted was that Citizen Leadership forms are available for anyone desiring to be considered for open committee/board slots.

PRESENTATION OF MINUTES

The minutes of the following meetings were unanimously approved on motion by Fisher, seconded by Masterson. October 6, 2010 Regular; October 6, 2010 Closed Session; October 15, 2010 Special; October 15, 2010 Closed Session; October 27, 2010 Special; October 27, 2010 Closed Session

The following Closed Session Minutes were unanimously approved for release on motion by Fisher, seconded by Masterson.

3/19/08 Personnel	2/03/10 Purchase, Lease or Acq. of Real Prop.
6/4/08 Personnel #1	2/20/10 Protect. Safety & Prop. of the Public
6/12/08 Personnel	3/03/10 Purchase, Lease or Acq. of Real Prop.
8/20/08 Personnel	3/03/10 Protect. Safety & Prop. of the Public
9/17/08 Purchase Lease or Acq. of Real Prop. #6	3/29/10 Protect. Safety & Prop. of the Public
10/1/08 Purchase, Lease or Acq. of Real Prop. #2	4/05/10 Protect. Safety & Prop. of the Public
10/1/08 Purchase, Lease or Acq. of Real Prop. #3	4/13/10 Personnel #1
12/10/08 Litigation #2	4/13/10 Personnel #2
12/30/08 Personnel	4/13/10 Personnel #3
1/21/09 Protecting the Safety & Prop. of the Public	4/13/10 Personnel #4
7/15/09 Litigation #1	4/21/10 Protect. Safety & Prop. of the Public
8/12/09 Litigation (Fair Share Housing)	5/05/10 Personnel
12/09/09 Protect. Safety & Prop. of Public (Police Study)	5/05/10 Protect. Safety & Prop. of the Public
12/30/09 Purchase, Lease or Acq. of Real Property	5/05/10 Purch., Lease or Acq. of Real Prop. #1
12/30/09 Protecting the Safety & Property of the Public	5/05/10 Purch., Lease or Acq. of Real Prop. #2
1/28/10 Personnel (Interview)	8/04/10 Purch., Lease or Acq. of Real Prop. #1

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC/TOPIC NOT ON THE AGENDA

Master Mumich, a Tenderfoot Scout in Troop #49, approached the Committee for permission to hold a November food drive. He would like to hold similar events during the fall of each year. The plan is to hand out flyers on November 13th and collect canned food on November 20th. (This was subsequently changed to November 6th and 13th, respectively.) Master Mumich reviewed the safety precautions that will be exercised and noted that the scouts will be accompanied by fathers and/or scout masters during both activities. Approved.

Jason Fuhr asked about the duration of the DRJTBC sign at the intersection of Rocktown-Lamb & Mt. Airy-Harb. Roads; who is responsible for its removal; and, when. It was explained that there is still road work being funded by the Commission but that an inquiry will be made to the Township Engineer.

Howard Hope stated that the STOP sign near his home is too far in from the intersection and needs to be moved further down the road. Road Supervisor Hoagland will be asked to check the placement.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE AND/OR PUBLIC HEARING AND/OR SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Municipal Alliance: Mr. Fuhr provided an update on activities. These included: 1) that the County Alliance will be sponsoring a 'turn in your drugs' day for old medicines as these should not be flushed; 2) there were 14 applications for Alliance mini-grants of which 12 were granted. These were for such things as bullying, decision making, drunk driving, drug and alcohol prevention, etc. Over \$18,000 was given out. The Alliance had another successful year and gave out more money than in the past. However, the grants require matching funds from the receiving parties. The next meeting will be held at 11 a.m. on the 22nd in the municipal building. Mr. Fuhr also noted that renewal time is approaching and that he will continue to serve.

Public Hearing: Ordinance 12, 2010 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 109 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST AMWELL, HUNTERDON COUNTY, NEW JERSEY – Stream Corridor Protection

Proof of publication in the October 14, 2010 issue of the Hunterdon County Democrat was presented. The ordinance has been posted and available to the public since its introduction at the October 6, 2010 Township Committee meeting and mailed to surrounding municipalities and the Hunterdon County Planning Board. The Ordinance has been reviewed by the Planning Board, found consistent with the Master Plan and adoption recommended. Mr. Molnar read the Ordinance by title and opened the public hearing.

Hal Shute came forward about some grammatical issues and suggestions. He also questioned whether there's a traceable record of what was before when items are deleted and replaced. Mr. Shute was advised that Ordinances are permanent records and are kept, as adopted, in a separate book. Therefore, the history is maintained.

Sean Pfeiffer noted that because of the time of decision law, it is important to keep/maintain a history and requested clarification on the permanent retention of certain documents. Mr. Pfeiffer was advised that all ordinances, resolutions, minutes and agendas are permanent records.

Hearing no further comments, the public hearing was unanimously closed on motion from Fisher, seconded by Masterson.

Fisher moved for adoption of the Ordinance, as edited/corrected, and Masterson seconded. Roll Call: Fisher-aye, Masterson-aye, Molnar-aye

Introduction: Ordinance 13, 2010 (see attached)

The following ordinance was read by title and introduced on first reading:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 109 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST AMWELL, HUNTERDON COUNTY, NEW JERSEY - Signs

Mr. Pfeiffer relayed that flashing signs are not permitted by ordinance; that Quick Chek has an application on file and, therefore, subject to what is currently in place; and, will have to come in for variance.

Fisher moved to introduce the Ordinance on first reading and Masterson seconded. Motion

carried unanimously. The public hearing will be held December 1st.

Introduction: Ordinance 14, 2010

The following ordinance was read by title and introduced on first reading:

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 41 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST AMWELL, COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY – Public Records, Access To

BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of West Amwell that the Chapter 41 be amended as follows:

Section 1

§ 41-7. Procedures and fees for purchasing copies of public records.

- A. Standard-sized paper documents (up to 8 ½ x 11): \$.05 per page; Legal-size paper documents (8 1/2 x 14 and larger): \$.07 per page

§ 41-7 B. Document fees. Fees shall be charged as follows for the following documents

- (7) Delete

§ 41-7 C. Other reproduction of documents.

- (1) Copy of meeting computer discs shall be \$.80 each
- (3) Oversized paper copies (exceeding 8 ½ x 17) shall be the cost of reproduction (will vary with size requested) plus a special service charge to coverage mileage based on \$.42 cents per mile to cover reimbursement of employee use of personal vehicle.
- (4) A special service charge will also apply if a request for copies involves an extra-ordinary expenditure of time and effort to accommodate the request. This charge will apply whenever the nature, format, manner of collation, or volume of a government record embodied in the form of printed matter to be inspected, examined, or copied involves staff time over 15 minutes. The charge will be \$16/hour prorated to a minimum of one quarter hour.

Section 2

All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent with this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

Section 3

Upon adoption, this Ordinance will be incorporated into and become part of The Code of the Township of West Amwell.

Section 4

This Ordinance shall take effect after final adoption and publication according to the laws of the State of New Jersey.

Molnar moved to introduce the Ordinance on first reading and Masterson seconded. Motion carried unanimously. The public hearing will be held December 1st.

SPECIAL AND/OR STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Open Space

- *Kilmer Project*: Mr. Pfeiffer relayed that the **closing** took place on October 13th after a long

completion process but that everyone was happy at the end and things ran smoothly. The final purchase for the land was \$282,000. A **reimbursement for soft costs** still has to be compiled. The CFO will need to research back 6 years as there were several appraisals done on the property.

- *Toll Project*: Lawson Excavating has removed the buildings and the mayor, John Cronce and he visited the property. The environmental consultant, Gould, went to sign off but per the **visual inspection letter** noted that roof tiles were still to be found. The contractor was contacted and got the tiles picked up. Another site visit with Gould will be scheduled for Friday so that the paper trail can be cleared. The contractor will also be asked to attend so that the issues in the letter can be resolved.

A **letter** dated November 2, 2010 was received from Lawson Excavating, Inc. stating that the site was cleaned to the best of their ability and is free and clear of any asbestos or related debris. Overall, there was not much found that would be of potential liability. A copy of the **test report** from EMSL Analytical, Inc. was also received. A copy of both items was requested by Mr. Pfeiffer. **Weight slips** have been turned over to Clerk's office.

John Cronce reported that for the past three weeks he has been monitoring the **gate** and has found it down—driven through—several times. There's a sign hanging from the chain but that was broken and subsequently fixed. Monday night the chain was down again and the post bent. Once again, he repaired the damage but just recently found the chain down with the post out of the ground. Something heavier is needed to stop trespass as the property is otherwise open for dumping. He suggested that a post with a cable and reflectors be installed and a key provided to the Township, the police department, and the fire company. Mr. Cronce also inquired if the Township Committee had given permission to Kilmer or McCloughan to cross the property to get to their property. It was relayed that no permission has been granted except to Mr. Zeng. Mr. Pfeiffer added that he received a phone call last year about access; suggested that the party send a letter to the Township; and, noted that the property was scheduled to be auctioned. A brief discussion ensued about legalities surrounding access; the power line easement; and, making contact with Kilmer and McCloughan about the inability to cross township property. Mr. Cronce will handle the latter and will let Lt. Bartzak know to keep an eye on the situation. Mr. Molnar relayed that Road Supervisor Hoagland will **board up the house**. He'll also be approached about **clearing the brambles** around the pond.

Another issue is that no **demolition permit** was applied for and a County sign off is also needed. The check for payment is to be held until all is cleared up.

A USDA **Soil Conservation Plan** is required for the property and the request was signed by Mayor Molnar.

Mr. Pfeiffer relayed that there's an application for Breen Color, property that is adjacent to the Township's property, in front of the Zoning Board. Variances are required and there are set back issues. The variances involve two, 1 story buildings to be 30 feet off the property line and the removal of vegetation. He inquired if a representative of Open Space could attend the meeting and ask for screening along the property line. He realizes that Breen is a ratable but he wants to make sure that the Zoning Board is aware of the situation. Basically, the question is that since this is a preserved farm and the new buildings would be visible to it, can the applicant be required to screen. The consensus was that although this is a Zoning Board determination, it would be okay for Mr. Pfeiffer to bring up the concern.

- *Discussion re: Green Acres Grant Funding/Future Projects*: A letter was received advising that a 2004 balance of \$36,723.41 will be cancelled. However, the \$450,000 for new acquisitions will be retained but if 2008 and 2009 funding is not used by the end of 2011, this too would be cancelled. Mr. Pfeiffer noted that Kilmer came in \$150,000 under estimate due to there being 20 acres less originally thought. Over the years he has been told to apply for Green Acres money and to put all projects on the list. However, with the State letter, progress will have to be made or the funds lost. An analysis of all projects where landowners have expressed interested; the pros and cons of each; a rough estimate of costs, without actual appraisals; and, the anticipated Township cost share was presented and reviewed. Mr. Pfeiffer offered that he is looking for direction. One suggestion was to reach out to Bernie Meader concerning the former Roebling property. Although this would be primarily a farmland preservation deal, the woods could be a Green Acres possibility. Several other properties were mentioned in passing and it was noted that with there being no development going on that certain landowners may be more receptive at this time. It was re-iterated that the money has to be expended by the end of 2011 or lost. However, funding can be applied for later. Mr. Pfeiffer also noted that his research has verified that the funding cannot be used for park development; it has to be acquisition. Direction was given to try Salada; speak again with Kaluzny as the door will close; knock once more on Ludwig; and, Bowers. The latter is attractive due to connection between Silvi and United Water property, although there would still be two lots to be added in order to make the link. The owner(s) will be determined.

- *Authorization to Post August & September Minutes on Website*: Approved

- *Open Space Invoices*: The Lawson Excavating bill for \$32,249.00 and the \$2,784.50 invoice from Cortes and Hay for Kilmer work were **approved for further processing**.

- *Project Status Updates*: A contract was given to the family for **Gulick III** in October. The Township has an option on the property and the Freeholders will award survey work soon. A July 2011 closing date is anticipated. The application prepared for **Nunn** contained several blanks although County staff thought it was in good shape. Next steps include mapping that will be undertaken by Rick Steffy; the application will be sent to the Ag Advisory chair for signature, under oath; and, finally, the application gets sent to the State for approval prior to appraisal award.

- *Report on Meeting with the County Concerning the Municipal Grant*: Cathy Urbanski reported that the grant was delivered to Kevin Richardson who indicated that it looked good. However, he then proceeded to relay that more was needed! This extra work was accomplished and delivered and the money should be here by the end of the year. Mr. Pfeiffer offered that the County already had all the information that was being requested.

Mr. Pfeiffer added that **updated appraisals** are required by the SADC for the Toll property before it is auctioned. Appraisers Heffernan and Schaible were contacted, as they were originally involved, and their prices were \$1900 and \$2000, respectively. Appraisal work approved. Requisitions will be submitted to the CFO in order to proceed.

Environmental

- *Authorization to Post September Minutes on Website*: Approved. Mrs. Urbanski commented that the minutes are not getting on the website and that there are a lot of folks who keep track via this method. Mr. Molnar stated that Dennis Cox is looking for snow plowing in exchange for something like IT work. Brief discussion on difference between IT and website needs ensued. Mrs. Olsen suggested the Assessor be consulted on the website as he has indicated interest.

- *Permission to Display "Invasive Species of the Month" in Municipal Building*: Mrs. Urbanski would like to display these 'wanted' posters in the municipal building and on the website. She's also considering using the list serve at the school and posting them at the trash collection depot. Approved.

- *Recommendation to Set Standards on Alternative Energy*: There are currently no standards for alternate energy installations. Mrs. Urbanski relayed her opinion that the meeting at the Zoning Board will be a 'zoo' because of the lack of standards. The Environmental Commission was asked to comment on the initial application and had done so but the application has since doubled in size. There are no height restrictions in place and there will be a big negative impact on the Calton development in regard to visual issues and has asked the Planning Board to set up a committee to look into solar installations. Mr. Pfeiffer commented that this is a Master Plan goal but that there's not a lot of money available as all as been allocated for the recreation and circulation elements. The solar issue is going to need the involvement of the Planner. However, if there is expertise on the Environmental Commission (like that expended on the Stream Corridor ordinance), he would welcome their input. Planning Board members could be involved as well, if needed, prior to handing it over to the engineer and planner for review. He stressed that this is something that has to be addressed and that with the statutory changes this year, there may not be any model ordinances available. Solar is new; the conditional uses portion of the land use code is vague; and public utilities are permitted under the conditional use category. He welcomes Cathy's assistance, if authorized, and a budget is needed. Mrs. Urbanski offered that there are probably some ordinances out there but with solar being considered 'inherently beneficial,' all that can be done is set standards. The consensus of the Committee was for this initiative to proceed.

Ag Advisory

- *Permission to Post Hunt Articles on Website*: Approved

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Block 12 Lot 14 & Water Buffalos, Next Steps – The Local Public Contracts Law has provisions that might have applicability. Attorney Faherty will research and advise as to options. Mayor Molnar instructed the Clerk to read a letter from resident Bruce Gage, which was accomplished. Mr. Fisher stated an objection in that he was of the opinion that the purpose of the letter was to humiliate the Township. His research found that the average time on the market was 115 days and that the last seven houses sold took 150 days. The statements in the letter were incorrect and the dates were incorrect. Mr. Molnar commented that he looks at the sales each week and sees only a couple. However, For Sale signs are all over and he feels that real estate is on life support. A brief exchange with committee-man elect Rich ensued but the consensus was to move on. Disposition of the water buffalos was put on hold.

SHREC Update – Mr. Fisher reported that this effort is moving forward and that the next meeting will be held next Thursday. The consultant has a recommendation and two contractors have answered the RFP. There is also an option to self-finance.

Consideration of Resolution Requesting HC Freeholders Engage in an Analysis of All Police, Fire and Rescue Services – This item was on the agenda at the last meeting but no action was taken, although there appeared to be support for the idea.

RESOLUTION #144-2010
REQUESTING THE HUNTERDON COUNTY FREEHOLDERS ENGAGE IN AN ANALYSIS OF
ALL POLICE, FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES

WHEREAS, the cost of operating school districts generally represents the largest component of property owners' overall property tax bills; and

WHEREAS, in other States it is common for police, fire, and rescue services, as well as schools, to be operated by county rather than municipal government; and

WHEREAS, there are twenty-six municipalities in Hunterdon County; and

WHEREAS, State policies favor the sharing of services among public entities; and

WHEREAS, for those municipalities that maintain local police departments, the cost of operating local police departments generally represents the largest part of the municipal component of the overall property tax bill.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Township of West Amwell, in the County of Hunterdon, that the Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders is hereby encouraged to engage in an analysis of all police, fire and rescue services and school districts within Hunterdon County to determine whether any significant economies or efficiencies could be gained through the operation of said services by Hunterdon County rather than individual municipalities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a true copy of this resolution shall be sent to the Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders and every municipality located within the County.

Fisher motioned to adopt the Resolution and Masterson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Freeholder Walton Letter on Shared Services – Contact information for department managers for possible shared resources was provided and reviewed. The Clerk stated that she had called about the possibility of office cleaning but that no return call had been received. Other items identified as possibilities were: tub grinder, recycling truck, QPA, IT, and pesticide application training. The Clerk will follow up.

Possible Dates for Special Meetings for November – The Committee agreed to meet on November 10th at 4:15 p.m.

Resolution to Enter Closed Session –

RESOLUTION #145-2010

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 Committee of West Amwell Township, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from discussion of and action upon the hereinafter specified subject matter.
2. The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows:
CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS
3. It is anticipated at this time that the above stated subject matter will be made public when the matter has been resolved.
4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Motion by Fisher to approve the Resolution, seconded by Masterson, and carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Letter from Police Dept re: Boan Donation – Patrolman Goccia forwarded a letter from retired police officer Wayne Boan. Mr. Boan stated that he had completed firearms qualifications for members of the Police Department. In addition, he donated all range time, ammunition and targets.

The Clerk was directed to send a letter of appreciation to Mr. Boan on behalf of the Township Committee and residents.

QPA Discussion – As of 1/1/2011, the bid limit drops to \$17,500 (from \$26,000.00) for municipalities without a QPA. An outreach will be made to the schools and County to see about a possible shared service opportunity.

Consideration of Resolution Supporting Arbitration Reform With Award Caps –

RESOLUTION #146-2010

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING ARBITRATION REFORM WITH AWARD CAPS

WHEREAS, it has now been **three** months since the Governor signed the new 2% levy cap into law; and

WHEREAS, the League had asked the Governor and the Legislature to delay action on the cap until after they had agreed on management reforms and mandates relief items that would make that cap workable; and

WHEREAS, our request was ignored; and

WHEREAS, all around the State, responsible municipal officials have begun planning their 2011 budgets, which, at this point, **MUST** account for the new cap, and be based on the assumption that meaningful management reforms and mandates relief initiatives will **NOT** be in place, and also be based on the further assumption that next year's State budget will not provide statutorily required revenue replacement funding; and

WHEREAS, though Mayors and governing bodies will do whatever they can to prevent negative outcomes, property taxpayers should anticipate service cuts, and local government employees should expect lay-offs; and

WHEREAS, while these consequences may be unavoidable in 2011; going forward, the situation can only improve **IF** serious reforms are enacted and unfunded mandates are relieved or repealed; and

WHEREAS, attention to the Binding Interest Arbitration mandate should top the list of State priorities for meaningful property tax relief; and

WHEREAS, the primary driver of local government costs has been the inexorable increase in employee salaries; and

WHEREAS, over the past 30 years, the salaries of police and paid fire personnel have risen faster than all others, though other personnel have also seen higher than CPI increases in salary rates, just at a slightly lower rate; and

WHEREAS, this has occurred primarily as the result of the 1977 legislation mandating binding interest arbitration to settle contractual disputes; and

WHEREAS, having approved an inflexible 2% cap on the property tax levy, State policy makers need to recognize that any arbitration awards with a total economic impact of more than 2% will force cuts elsewhere in local budgets; and to fund increased public safety compensation, in excess of the 2% cap, municipalities will need to cut services, salaries and/or personnel in other departments or reduce the number of uniformed personnel; and

WHEREAS, even those actions will not satisfy the public's hunger for reduced property tax burdens; but will only slow the rate of growth; and

WHEREAS, we have, accordingly, advocated for a hard 2% cap on the total economic impact of any arbitration award; and

WHEREAS, such a cap is included in the provisions of S-2310 and its companion measure, A-3283; and

WHEREAS, nothing short of that can assure local elected officials that they will be able to continue to provide adequate public services to their citizens; since without that cap, other services will be the first to be cut; but over time, even public safety service levels will decline, as fewer and fewer police officers and firemen and women consume more and more of the levy limited local budget; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of West Amwell Township does, hereby, support the provisions of S-2310/A-3283, which require the arbitrator to cap the full economic impact of the award at the 2% limit; and be it, further,

RESOLVED, that we would urge our State Legislators to oppose and the Governor to veto any arbitration reform initiative that does not impose a 2% cap on the total economic impact of any future arbitration awards; and be it, further,

RESOLVED, that copies of this Resolution be forwarded to Governor Christie, to our State Senator Michael Doherty, to our Representatives in the General Assembly, John DiMaio and Erik Peterson, and to the New Jersey League of Municipalities.

Fisher motioned to adopt the Resolution and Masterson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution to Cancel Taxes on Block 8 Lots 20 & 36 –

RESOLUTION #147-2010

WHEREAS, there is a total balance due of \$1,606.03 on Block 8 Lots 20 & 36 that must be canceled from the record now that West Amwell Township is the owner of the property

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Committee of the Township of West Amwell, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey to instruct the Tax Collector to cancel the tax amount of \$61.51 due on Block 8 Lot 20 and \$1,544.52 due on Block 8 Lot 36 for a total of \$1,606.03.

Molnar motioned to adopt the Resolution and Masterson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Calton Speed Study – According to information received from Rob Martucci of Van Cleef Engineering, an engineering study must be performed in order to determine speed limits for the roads in the development. Speed limits are set based on the results and certified by a licensed engineer. A traffic engineering firm would have to be engaged to complete the required traffic counts and speed studies. Centex cannot be asked to install speed limit signs until the study, recommendation, certification and ordinance are completed. This information would then be submitted to the Commission of Transportation for concurrence. The Clerk was directed to request a price for the work.

Hunterdon County Municipal Officer Association – Susan Craft of the SADC will discuss Solar, Wind and Biomass Energy on Farms, etc. at the next meeting of the Association to be held at the American Legion in Flemington. Cost is \$25 per person with a RSVP date of November 24th. Mr. Fisher is contemplating attendance. Mr. Pfeiffer referred the Committee to the draft regulations that were sent out earlier.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Mr. Pfeiffer noted that there was Planning Board discussion concerning a new engineer and inquired if existing professionals had been notified of the fair & open process for new contracts. He was advised that all current professionals had been advised of same via e-mail. Also noted

was that the sales figure in the book for the Toll property is incorrect. Assessor Gill will be so informed.

Mr. Hope inquired if the Township is looking for a recycling truck as the leased one from Lambertville was junk. He also asked if recycling would continue. Mr. Hope was given an affirmative response on both questions.

Mr. Shute inquired about the frequency of closed session minutes release and if they are posted on the website. For the former, this is usually accomplished twice a year; the latter has not been practiced but could be considered going forward.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Treasurer –

RESOLUTION #148-2010

WHEREAS, certain Capital Improvement appropriation balances remain dedicated to projects now completed; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to formally cancel said balances so that the unexpended balances may be returned to each respective Capital Improvement Fund, Capital Reserve, or credited to Surplus, and unused debt authorizations may be canceled;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of West Amwell, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, that the following unexpended and dedicated balances of the Capital appropriations be canceled:

Project	Amount Canceled	Canceled to
Ord 18-07 Rocktown-Lamb Rd Sec 11	\$30,012.78	Deferred Charge Future Taxation- Unfunded
Ord 04-08 Rocktown-Lamb Rd Sec 12	\$25,856.95	Deferred Charge Future Taxation- Unfunded
	\$ 4,398.09	Capital Surplus
Ord 04-09 Rocktown-Lamb Rd Sec 13	\$143,258.91	Deferred Charge Future Taxation- Unfunded
	\$ 3,854.77	Capital Surplus
Ord 06-2003+10-2005 Connaught Hill	\$100,000.00	Small Cities Green Acquisition Grant Receivable
	\$180,000.00	St NJ Grant Receivable-DCA Small Cities Block Grant
	\$137,850.00	Capital Surplus

Fisher motioned to adopt the Resolution and Masterson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION #149-2010

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-58 permits appropriation transfers during the last two months of the fiscal year between line items of the municipal budget, and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that certain line items are in excess of the sums needed and certain line items have insufficient funds to complete the operation of the fiscal year,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of West Amwell, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, that the following transfers be made between the Budget Appropriations as follows:

	From	To
General Administration: Other expenses	\$ 1,000.00	
Engineering Costs: Other Expenses	\$ 1,500.00	
Liability Insurance: Other Expenses	\$ 1,500.00	

Police: Salaries & wages	\$13,000.00
Telephone: Other Expenses	\$ 1,000.00

Tax Assessment Administration:		
Other expenses		\$ 1,000.00
Municipal Prosecutor: Other expenses		\$ 8,000.00
Vehicle Maintenance: Other expenses		\$ 5,000.00
Public Health Services: Other expenses		\$ 2,000.00
Gasoline: Other expenses		\$ 2,000.00
Total	\$18,000.00	\$18,000.00

Fisher motioned to adopt the Resolution and Masterson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Presentation of Bills for Approval: Fisher motioned to approve the evening's bills for payment, seconded by Masterson, and carried unanimously. The Clerk was directed to hold the Lawson payment.

Treasurer Report, Statement of Cash and Revenue Report: Appropriations through November 3, 2010 were provided and reviewed. As of this date there is a cash total of \$3,308,183.88 between the operating and capital accounts. Revenue reported for October 2010 was \$148,154.00.

Tax Collector – The monthly report for October 2010 was received showing receipts in the amount of \$446,796.83.

Construction – The September 2010 Permit Fee Log details, Monthly Activity Report-Permits (8), Payment Audit Report, Monthly Activity Report-Certificates (17 + 8 UCCARS), and Certificate Log Detail were received for PermitsNJ. Deposits for the month totaled \$1946.00. Mr. Fisher asked that revenue receipts to date be obtained. Mr. Molnar relayed that the department is currently \$400 in the black.

Police – The August and September 2010 Monthly Reports showing 200/215 incidents, 82/96 summonses and 00/00 warnings were received.

Roads – The Road Log of DPW activities for the month of September 2010 was received.

Zoning Officer Report -- The September 2010 report of activities was received. Numerous phone calls, interpretations and electronic correspondence were noted. Deposits for the month for issued permits totaled \$180.00

Fisher motioned to accept the Treasurer, Tax Collector, Construction, Police, Roads and Zoning reports, with Masterson providing the second. Motion carried unanimously.

The Committee entered their previously approved Closed Session at 9:50 p.m., returning to Open Session at 10:04 p.m.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Fisher questioned the affect of the MEL letter on the Township. It was explained that the MEL, and the JIF's, has decided to purchase commercial insurance rather than continue to self insure because of the costs associated with a series of adverse court decisions. The correspondence as listed on the Agenda was ordered filed.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 10:05 p.m. on motion from Fisher, seconded by Molnar.

Respectfully submitted,

Lora Olsen, RMC
Township Clerk