

**STILLWATER TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**MINUTES**  
**March 19, 2013**  
**Regular Meeting**

A REGULAR MEETING of the Stillwater Township Committee was called to order by Mayor Gross at 6:00 p.m. noting the meeting date, time and place were duly published in the New Jersey Herald and posted at the Town Hall and advised those present that this meeting was being held in compliance with provisions of P.L. 1975, Chapter 231, Sections 4 & 13.

Roll Call was taken and the flag was saluted.

PRESENT: Mayor Gross, Committeewoman Chamblings, Committeeman Fisher, Committeewoman Straway, Deputy Mayor Scott, Acting Municipal Clerk Lynda Knott, and Attorney Michael Garofalo.

**Executive Session:**

After the reading of the following Resolution to enter into Executive Session, a **motion** was made by Mr. Fisher, seconded by Mrs. Straway and unanimously carried by roll call vote to adopt the resolution permitting the Committee to go into Executive Session at 6:00 p.m.

WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975 permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting under certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Stillwater, in the County of Sussex and State of New Jersey as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from that portion of this meeting.
2. The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows: Personnel: Construction Official position, TACO position, Recycling Center; Public Safety: Chamblings Horse Show
3. As nearly as can now be ascertained, the matter or matters to be discussed at this time will be disclosed to the public when such matters are resolved.

There being no further business to attend to, a **motion** was made by Mrs. Straway, seconded by Mr. Fisher to conclude the Executive Session at 7:08 p.m., unanimously carried by roll call vote.

**Regular Session:**

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**ALL MATTERS LISTED BELOW ARE CONSIDERED ROUTINE IN NATURE AND WILL BE ENACTED BY ONE MOTION. THERE WILL BE NO SEPARATE DISCUSSION OF THE ITEMS. IF ANY DISCUSSION IS DESIRED, THAT PARTICULAR ITEM WILL BE REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA AND WILL BE CONSIDERED SEPERATELY ON THE REGULAR AGENDA.**

**Minutes:** March 5, 2013

**Resolutions:**

**2013-035** Supporting Participation in Sustainable Jersey Certification Program

**2013-036** Mayor's Acceptance of the Resignation of Rita Bernstein as Technical Assistant

**Reports:**

**Building Department:** February 2013

**SCBOH:** February 2013

**Tax Collector:** February 2013

**Emergency Rescue Squad Monthly and Daily Calls:** February 2013

**Zoning Board of Adjustment:** January 28, 2013 Minutes

Mr. Scott made a **motion** to approve the Consent Agenda pulling Resolution 2013-035 for discussion and including the minutes of 3/5/13 as amended, seconded by Ms. Chamblings.

**Roll Call Vote:** Ms. Chamblings, yes, Mr. Fisher, abstain, Deputy Mayor Scott, yes, Mrs. Straway, yes, Mayor Gross, abstain

**Bill List Cycle #6:** \$250,843.59

Mr. Scott made a **motion** to approve Bill List Cycle #6, seconded by Mr. Fisher.

**2013-037** Resolution Authorizing the Payment of Bills

**Roll Call Vote:** Ms. Chamblings, no, Mr. Fisher, yes, Deputy Mayor Scott, yes, Mrs. Straway, yes, Mayor Gross, yes

Ms. Chamblings voted no as she did not review the individual bills prior to the meeting.

**AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:**

Add - Resolution 2013-038 Allocation of \$4,362 to Stillwater Municipal Alliance for the Provisions of Substance Abuse Prevention Programs and Authorization to the Freeholder Director and Clerk to Execute the Agreement

Add - 2013-039 Authorizing the Purchase of an Ambulance for the Stillwater Township Rescue Squad to Replace the 2006 Ford E350 for \$68,500, covered in total by insurance.

Add - Zoning Officer – Memo, re: Resident interested in obtaining a reverse mortgage and requesting for township rehab loans to become subordinate

Add - COAH Loan Approval

Add - Renovation Plans

**Memo – Zoning Officer, re: Subordinate Rehab Loan:**

Following a summary of the matter by Attorney Garofalo whereas a resident has applied for a reverse mortgage and is requesting the township rehab loans to become subordinate, Mrs. Fisher indicated the home was appraised at \$129,000; the cash out is \$82,000; and the resident owes Stillwater Township approximately \$18,000. If the Township requires the resident to pay off the loan, the money will go back into the fund to help other residents. She explained if it proceeds to a reverse mortgage, the Township would be taking a third or fourth position and there is a chance it may never be paid back.

After further discussion and consideration, the Committee felt the loan should be paid back to allow the funding to be used toward other families in need. Mr. Fisher made a **motion** authorizing the Zoning Officer or Clerk to contact the loan officer indicating Stillwater will not be subordinating on the loan and payoff statements will be provided with payment due at closing, seconded Mrs. Straway.

**Roll Call Vote:** Mr. Fisher, yes, Deputy Mayor Scott, yes, Mrs. Straway, yes, Mayor Gross, yes, Ms. Chamblings, yes

**Open Public Session:**

**At this point, this portion of the meeting was opened to the public on agenda items only.**

**Mark Quick, 141 Silver Lake Road, Frelinghuysen** indicated Frelinghuysen rejected Sustainable Jersey as they felt it may be related to the UN and surrendering property rights. Mr. Quick reviewed Resolution 2013-035, expressing concern with the Committee supporting an organization tied to the UN. Mrs. Straway explained this issue has been under consideration for several years and recently Randall Solomon, Director of Sustainable Jersey, along with one of the founding mayors of the program, provided a public presentation which satisfied those questions asked and a letter was also provided by Mr. Solomon indicating property rights would not be violated. There is no direct link between Sustainable Jersey and United Nations Agenda 21, and the program was initiated to provide funding and resources to the municipalities. Mrs. Straway noted Frelinghuysen received a \$10,000 grant from Sustainable Jersey which was used to construct a bike path. Mr. Quick expressed further concern with a large company like Walmart donating funds and its motive for doing so. Mrs. Straway stated many large companies have a philanthropic section to their business. She noted Hardyston received a \$25,000 grant and constructed an incredible municipal garden. Mr. Quick implored the Committee to postpone their vote on the issue and conduct further research. Mrs. Straway explained Stillwater has voted in favor of the matter and the vote tonight is to establish a Green Team and she noted Stillwater has limited resources and limited opportunity for economic growth and development.

Ms. Chamblings thanked Mr. Quick for expressing his concerns and she provided a brief history on the issue. She explained the Environmental Commission has agreed to proceed cautiously toward certification. At this point, Ed Szabo, Environmental Commission member, indicated Art Ondish of the League of Municipalities, who is also a founding mayor of the program, has also agreed to provide a letter indicating property rights would not be violated. Ms. Chamblings stated she is in favor of moving forward with the Sustainable Jersey program and noted the Township can stop pursuing the program at any point.

**Deborah DeLuca, 79 Birch Parkway, Byram** asked for clarification on the benchmarks and qualifying levels. Mrs. Straway explained there are two levels of certification: bronze and silver, based on a point system awarded for different actions taken. Many of the actions have already been done as a part of daily business. Ms. DeLuca stated her understanding is that the higher the level attained the more restrictions imposed on property. She asked if the Green Team is opened to the public. Ms. Chamblings indicated there are eight members, two from the Committee and the remaining are residents. Mrs. Straway added there is no budget for the Green Team and no money spent.

**Kathy Draghi, 1016 Route 619** asked if any participating municipalities have opted out of the program and if so, why. Mrs. Straway stated there are two reasons for opting out, public pressure or lack of progress toward certification.

**Pete Mahler, 905 Old Tannery Road** provided an update on the transfer of the Courthouse Building back to the church. The church has agreed to take the building back and donate it to the Samaritan Inn for use as office space and a food pantry. Mark Hontz has been hired as the church attorney. Ten day notice was provided to the membership to hold a special charge conference where approval was provided allowing the church to resume ownership of the building and donate it to the Samaritan Inn. Inspections have been conducted and inspections, survey and title search will be shared by both parties. An estimate of \$750 was provided by Up and Above to address the leaks in the belfry and Mr. Mahler noted the church attorney has asked the Township Attorney if the municipality would assume responsibility for the repair. Mr. Mahler stated there are two outstanding issues: one the evidence remaining in the basement and the easement. He has been working with the Zoning Officer regarding the easement and she has conducted an inspection. Mr. Mahler asked the Committee for a two-week extension to finalize the survey.

**Attorney Garofalo** provided his perspective on the matter, stating it appears that once the \$750 repair is done the closing could take place shortly thereafter; ultimately it is the decision of the Committee.

**Sam Seamans, 918 Ridge Road** stated the Courthouse Building has been in the possession of the township for 43 years and it has been a great benefit and cost savings to the municipality. He provided a brief history on the use and vacancy of the building and noted the contract signed between the town and the church 43 years ago indicated the township would be responsible for any repairs. Mr. Seamans spoke about repairs needed in the past and the deterioration of the building due to the lack of the Committee at that time addressing the matter. He asked the Committee to consider granting the church's request for additional time. **Pete Mahler** added that the township had been discussing the building for the last two years and the offer to return it to the church was not made until November. The church has since moved on it as fast as possible, requesting a 30-day extension, which at this time is not feasible.

Mr. Scott made a **motion** to grant a 14-day extension to April 4, 2013 for the handing over of the deed, seconded by Ms. Chammings.

Mrs. Straway asked for clarification on why the extension was necessary as the building is no longer owned by the township. Mr. Garofalo explained he is trying to reach a result that is acceptable to both sides and felt both sides were working in good faith. Mr. Fisher agreed.

**Roll Call Vote:** Ms. Chammings, yes, Mr. Fisher, yes, Deputy Mayor Scott, yes, Mrs. Straway, yes, Mayor Gross, yes

**Jeanette Ando, 944 Hampton Road**, stated she is trying to purchase property located behind her home, however Blossom Trail is located between the two. She was directed by the prior Township Attorney to have a survey done and then was notified by the town that it was not necessary. Attorney Garofalo reviewed the matter and indicated the township is permitted to sell township property to private citizens without going to auction or bid as long as the property is one-eighth or less the size of the minimum lot size in that zone. The Andos reside in the 7.5 acre zone and the township could sell them up to one-acre in a private transaction. The Committee reviewed the location of the property, and Mayor Gross stated the Committee would move forward with an ordinance vacating the road and the Andos should provide a configuration indicating the location of the one-acre parcel.

**There being no further members of the public wishing to speak, this portion of the meeting was closed.**

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Mr. Scott:** Planning Board will meet on March 20, 2013 and the DPW was out all night with the storm.

**Mrs. Straway:** Mrs. Straway attended a seminar sponsored by Laddey, Clark & Ryan on the Affordable Care Act. The Stillwater School Board will meet on March 25, 2013 and Kittatinny has moved its task force meeting to April 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Ms. Chammings:** The Environmental Commission met and the Township Committee must address the Sustainable Jersey Resolution 2013-35, providing support and establishing a Green Team. Ms. Chammings made a **motion** to adopt Resolution 2013-35, amending it to include Dana Mooney, CFO, as part of the Green Team, seconded by Mrs. Straway.

Resolution of the Township of Stillwater  
2013-35

Resolution Supporting Participation In Sustainable Jersey  
Municipal Certification Program

WHEREAS, the Township of Stillwater strives to save tax dollars, assure clean land, air and water, improve working and living environments as steps to building a sustainable community that will thrive well into the new century; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Stillwater hereby acknowledges that the residents of the Township of Stillwater desire a stable, sustainable future for themselves and future generations; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Stillwater wishes to support a model of government which benefits our residents now and far into the future by exploring and adopting sustainable, economically-sound, local government practices; and

WHEREAS, by endorsing a sustainable path, the Township of Stillwater is pledging to educate itself and community members further about sustainable activities and to develop initiatives supporting sustainable local government practices; and

WHEREAS, as elected representatives of the Township of Stillwater, we have a significant responsibility to provide leadership which will seek community-based sustainable solutions to strengthen our community;

WHEREAS, that to focus attention and effort within the Township of Stillwater on matters of sustainability, the Township Committee wishes to pursue local initiatives and actions that will lead to Sustainable Jersey certification.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Stillwater, that we do hereby establish a Green Team Advisory Committee consisting of eight members who shall be residents, or employees of Stillwater Township, appointed annually, but whose initial term of appointment shall be through December 31, 2013.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Green Team Advisory Committee shall have the following goals and objectives:

1. Through the implementation of Sustainable Jersey Action Items achieve Sustainable Jersey certification for the Township of Stillwater.
2. Make further recommendations as to which Sustainable Jersey Actions Items to pursue beyond the Township of Stillwater certification.
3. Make reports to the Township Committee as to the progress of the Green Team Advisory Committee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Stillwater that the following persons are hereby appointed to the Green Team Advisory Committee for 2013:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Type</u>
Kathy Fobes-Jacoby	Citizen
Patty Klimek	Citizen

Michael Nystrom	Citizen
Ron Hornung	Citizen
Matt Lifschultz	Citizen
Amy Schwartz	Citizen
Anita Straway	Citizen
Lisa Chamblings	Citizen
Dana Mooney	Citizen

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Stillwater, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey that they do hereby concur with the appointments herein for the year 2013.

**Roll Call Vote:** Ms. Chamblings, yes, Mr. Fisher, yes, Deputy Mayor Scott, yes, Mrs. Straway, yes, Mayor Gross, yes,

Ms. Chamblings reported Mr. Szabo is working on an ANJEC grant application for \$1500 for maintenance of trails, invasive species, promoting habitat enhancement of open space lands, and displays for public events. The EC is also working on no littering signs. Stream water testing results were reviewed and a tree ordinance is being proposed.

Ms. Chamblings attended the Water PAC meeting and asked Ms. Knott about their request for a consent resolution sent by certified mail to the municipality in December. Ms. Knott indicated she responded in December indicating Stillwater has no infrastructure. She noted the letter was not sent by certified mail and if it was it would have been addressed to the Mayor and she did not receive it. Ms. Chamblings stated if a consent resolution is not done by March 20, 2013, then consent would have to be provided to the NJDEP. She explained the PAC Committee must prove to the NJDEP that it provided notice to the municipalities for the hearing on the new approved sewer management plan. She explained providing a consent resolution would indicate the township is not opposing the plan. Stillwater Township had six facilities that were notified they may be affected at some point in the future. In response to questioning on why this was not brought up earlier, Ms. Chamblings stated she informed the Committee at the January 22nd meeting that a public hearing on the matter would be held on February 13<sup>th</sup> at the Freeholders Meeting Room. She was not told a consent resolution was needed as it was sent to the township and was not her responsibility. Ms. Knott indicated several municipalities are not consenting and she offered to provide that information to Ms. Chamblings. Ms. Chamblings was concerned the matter was not addressed by this point when many municipalities have already provided their consent. Attorney Garofalo stated legally there is no need to send a resolution and lack of doing so would be an indication that the municipality has no objection. Ms. Chamblings stated the township would be contacted by the NJDEP inquiring why they have not responded. Attorney Garofalo stated the issue could be addressed at that time if necessary.

Ms. Chamblings provided correspondence to Mr. Fisher to forward to the Recreation Commission regarding the Queen of the Fair contest.

Ms. Chamblings expressed disappointment that the items she requested at the last meeting were not included on the agenda.

**Mr. Fisher:** The lead recycling worker has resigned. Based on a memo received from Brian Hendershot and Keith Whitehead, Mr. Fisher made a **motion** to promote Frank Steele to lead worker at the Recycling Center at a rate of \$10.79 with a three-month probationary period, pending review by Mr. Hendershot and Mr. Whitehead for permanent appointment, seconded by Mr. Gross. Mr. Fisher asked for the vacancy at the Recycling Center to be advertised.

**Roll Call Vote:** Ms. Chamblings, yes, Mr. Fisher, yes, Deputy Mayor Scott, yes, Mrs. Straway, yes, Mayor Gross, yes

**Mayor Gross:** The Zoning Board meeting has been cancelled. The Tonnage Grant Annual Report was filed with the State to determine future funding; and an email has since been received indicating the State transferred all tonnage funding to their general account and it may not be available this or next year. Mr. Gross felt the same could happen with Green Acres and the selling of state-owned property and Mrs. Straway added the PILOT funding is also in danger.

Mr. Gross reported the Committee interviewed John DeJager for the position of Construction Official, two days per week, three hours each day, at a rate of \$42 per hour, \$13,104 per year. If needed in the future, the township would offer Mr. DeJager an additional two hours.

Mr. Scott made a **motion** to hire John DeJager as Construction Official, as noted, seconded by Mr. Fisher.

**Roll Call Vote:** Ms. Chamblings, yes, Mr. Fisher, yes, Deputy Mayor Scott, yes, Mrs. Straway, yes, Mayor Gross, yes

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

##### **Courthouse Building:** Up and Above Estimate

An estimate was provided by Up and Above in the amount of \$750 for the repair of the belfry at the church. Mr. Gross felt the repair was not the responsibility of the township and Mr. Fisher asked if the leak was ongoing or just one time during Hurricane Sandy. Mr. Mahler stated it is leaking in two places due to the flashing not being properly installed. Mr. Fisher expressed concern as Up and Above installed that flashing. Mrs. Straway felt that since it was installed 10 years ago it should not be an issue and she made a **motion** to accept the estimate from Up and Above in the amount of \$750 to repair the belfry, to be paid at the closing, seconded by Ms. Chamblings.

**Roll Call Vote:** Ms. Chamblings, yes, Mr. Fisher, yes, Deputy Mayor Scott, yes, Mrs. Straway, yes, Mayor Gross, yes

**Water District Levy:**

This item will be reviewed by the Township Attorney and added to the next agenda.

Ms. Chamblings made a **motion** to table the Water District Levy, seconded by Mr. Fisher.

All were in favor.

Mrs. Straway felt the Water District should be contacted for clarification on the levy and annual payment.

**Snow Plowing:** Fairview Lake Lane East

A letter was received from a resident inquiring if the township would plow Fairview Lake Lane East. Attorney Garofalo referred to the Kelly Bill referenced by the resident. He stated according to that bill, it is stated very specifically that the municipality does not have an obligation to provide snow plowing services unless the roads are up to municipal standards. Two options could be considered; the private association could improve the roads or the township could levy a special tax assessment on that specific neighborhood; otherwise there is no implication of the Kelly Bill. A letter will be provided to the resident by the Clerk responding to the inquiry and providing a copy of the pertaining ordinance.

**Town Hall Renovation:**

Mr. Fisher presented the final plans for the renovation, adding a vestibule and moving the main entrance door. Following review, Mr. Fisher made a **motion** to approve the renovation plan, seconded by Mr. Scott.

**Roll Call Vote:** Ms. Chamblings, yes, Mr. Fisher, yes, Deputy Mayor Scott, yes, Mrs. Straway, yes, Mayor Gross, yes

**NEW BUSINESS**

**ORDINANCE 2013-002 FIXING SALARIES FOR 2013 (Public Hearing April 26, 2013)**

Mr. Scott made a **motion** to introduce Ordinance 2013-002, seconded by Mr. Fisher.

**Roll Call Vote:** Ms. Chamblings, no, Mr. Fisher, yes, Deputy Mayor Scott, yes, Mrs. Straway, yes, Mayor Gross, yes

Ms. Chamblings indicated she voted no as review of the employees according to Appendix C of the Personnel Policy has not been conducted.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**Replacement Ambulance:** Resolution 2013-39

Mrs. Straway made a **motion** to adopt Resolution 2013-39, seconded by Mr. Fisher.

TOWNSHIP OF STILLWATER  
SUSSEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY  
RESOLUTION 2013-039

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF AMBULANCE FOR THE STILLWATER TOWNSHIP RESCUE SQUAD TO REPLACE THE 2006 FORD E350

WHEREAS, the 2006 Ford E350 Ambulance was in an accident and deemed “totaled”, following an insurance inspection; and

WHEREAS, the 2006 Ford E350 Ambulance is in need of replacement; and

WHEREAS, a 2008 Ford F450 Ambulance was found to be a suitable replacement by the Stillwater Emergency Rescue Squad and the Statewide Insurance Fund; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE Township Committee of the Township of Stillwater the following:

1. Acquisition of 2008 Ford F450 Ambulance will be fully funded with insurance proceeds received from Statewide Insurance Fund
2. That the new 2008 Ford F450 Ambulance is being purchased from Community Emergency Corps, Inc., Ballston Spa, New York for \$68,500.00.
3. A copy of this Resolution will be delivered to the Chief Financial Officer

**Roll Call Vote:** Ms. Chamblings, yes, Mr. Fisher, yes, Deputy Mayor Scott, yes, Mrs. Straway, yes, Mayor Gross, yes

**Municipal Alliance:** Resolution 2013-038

Mrs. Straway made a **motion** to adopt Resolution 2013-38, seconded by Mr. Scott.

TOWNSHIP OF STILLWATER  
SUSSEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY  
RESOLUTION 2013-038

ALLOCATION OF \$4,362.00 TO THE STILLWATER MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE FOR THE PROVISION OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION PROGRAMS AND AUTHORIZATION FOR THE FREEHOLDER DIRECTOR AND CLERK TO EXECUTE AGREEMENT

WHEREAS, there exist a need in Sussex County to provide abuse prevention programs to its residents; and  
WHEREAS, the New Jersey Governor’s Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse (hereinafter referred to as “Council”), pursuant to N.J.S.A. 26:2BB-1et seq and N.J.A.C. 17:40-1.1 et seq, has awarded a grant to the County of Sussex in response to the Request for Proposal submitted by the Sussex County Division of Community and Youth Services for the Southwestern Municipal Alliance Coalition; and

WHEREAS, funding in the amount of \$4,362.00 for this Agreement covering the periods of January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2013 to provide substance abuse prevention programs for the residents of Sussex County, is subject to adequate funds being appropriated in the 2013 County budget; and

WHEREAS, the Stillwater Municipal Alliance Coalition consists of volunteers from the Township of Stillwater.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Chosen Freeholders allocates \$4,362.00 to the Southwestern Municipal Alliance for the provision of substance abuse prevention services; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Freeholder Director and Clerk of the Board of Chosen Freeholders are authorized to execute the Agreement for these services; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution and Agreement be forwarded to George Meyers, the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse, P. O. Box 345, Trenton, NJ 08625; Anita Straway, Committeewoman, the Stillwater Municipal Alliance, Township of Stillwater, Municipal Building, 964 Stillwater Road, Newton, NJ 07860; Stephen R. Gruchacz, Sussex County Department of Human Services; Nicholas Loizzi, Sussex County Division of Community and Youth Services; Sussex County Treasurer; Robert Maikis, Sussex County Division of Finance; and Laurie Gallant, S.C. Office of Fiscal Management.

**Roll Call Vote:** Ms. Chamblings, yes, Mr. Fisher, yes, Deputy Mayor Scott, yes, Mrs. Straway, yes, Mayor Gross, yes

**At this point, this portion of the meeting was opened to the public.**

**Roy Knutsen, 921 Main Street** asked about replacement of the dilapidated "Drug Free School Zone" sign located on Main Street. The Committee indicated the sign is located on a County road and is under their jurisdiction. The Clerk will contact the County Road Department regarding removal of the sign.

**Ed Szabo, 978 Route 521** warned the public that the bears are out; Paradise Fishing Club will spend \$5,000 stocking trout in Swartswood Lake – the club will stock 200 and the State will stock 3,000; and Sheriff Strada will be the guest speaker at the Taxpayer's Association meeting to be held on Thursday, March 21<sup>st</sup>, 7:30 p.m. at the Municipal Building. Mr. Szabo asked Mr. Gross if a second letter, from Art Ondish, League of Municipalities, was received regarding Sustainable Jersey and property rights. Mr. Gross stated it had not been.

**Karen Staudt-Cartabona, 914 Lotus Terrace** spoke about the kennel she owns in Swartswood where she raises Borzoi show dogs. She provided a brief history on the kennel and its licensing requirements. This year when licensing the kennel she received a letter from the Zoning Officer indicating each dog must be individually licensed. Ms. Cartabona provide a copy of the ordinance (429-5; 429-7) which indicated licensing of each dog is not required if a kennel license is obtained. Ms. Cartabona stated that all of her dogs are show dogs, part of the business and breeding, and any dog in the kennel can be sold at any time. She asked the Committee for clarification on why she is being asked to license each individual dog when it does not concur with the ordinance. Attorney Garofalo felt judgment should be deferred to the Zoning Officer for interpretation.

**Robert Cartabona, 914 Lotus Terrace** stated when they first moved here over 20 years ago, they owned over 60 dogs, approved as a kennel. They now have 32 dogs, it is not a hobby kennel, it is a business averaging between \$20,000-\$30,000 in sales. Insurance, kennel inspection, payment of corporate taxes, and water testing are all required, costing in excess of \$4,000, not including maintenance of the dogs. Collars cannot be kept on the dogs due to the danger of getting caught on the dog runs and each dog is microchipped.

**Louis Cartabona, 1119 Fifth Avenue, Alpha Boro,** asked when the kennel license would be issued since payment has been made and deposited. The Clerk will follow-up on the license issuance.

**Lee Hammond, 904 Maple Lane** expressed concern with the excess grit placed on his road and he asked that it be picked up rather than pushed to the side. He felt there was a liability issue related to placement of the grit and sliding problems; and he was concerned about the wasteful cost. Mr. Hammond also expressed concern with cell tower companies being required to search out municipal properties prior to location on private property. He felt the Committee should revisit the ordinance as towers should be placed where they are best suited. Mr. Scott indicated if a tower is placed on municipal property all residents benefit. Mr. Gross stated over 130 municipal properties were reviewed for placement of the Nextel tower and none met their coverage needs. Attorney Garofalo noted the ordinance does not require placement on municipal property only preference.

**Louis Cartabona, 1119 Fifth Avenue, Alpha Boro,** a newly elected official in Alpha Boro commended Ms. Chamblings on how respectfully she handled the contention and different views presented during the public session this evening.

**Anita Klein, 924 Stillwater Road** suggested providing the statute regarding a road takeover to the resident from Fairview Lake Lane. The Committee indicated this was done.

**There being no further members of the public wishing to speak, this portion of the meeting was closed.**

**Attorney Report:** None

**Correspondence:** Mayors' Advisory Correspondence is available in the Correspondence Binder at the Municipal Building.

There being no further business, Mr. Scott made a **motion** to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mrs. Straway. In a voice vote, all were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Wunder