

**GREEN TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE  
MARCH 11, 2013**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The March 11, 2013, meeting of the Green Township Committee was called to order at 7:06 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mrs. Peralta read the statement of adequate notice.

**ROLL CALL:** Present: Mr. Bilik, Mr. Conkling, Mr. Kurzeja, and Mrs. Phillips

Also present: Clerk/Administrator, Mrs. Linda Peralta; Township Attorney, Mr. Richard Stein; Deputy Clerk, Mrs. Patty DeClesis; DPW Supervisor, Mr. Watson Perigo

Absent: Mr. Chirip

Mrs. Phillips made a motion to excuse Mr. Chirip.

Seconded: Mr. Bilik

Discussion: None

|               | AYE | NAY | ABSTAIN | ABSENT |
|---------------|-----|-----|---------|--------|
| Mr. Bilik     | X   |     |         |        |
| Mr. Chirip    |     |     |         | X      |
| Mr. Kurzeja   | X   |     |         |        |
| Mrs. Phillips | X   |     |         |        |
| Mr. Conkling  | X   |     |         |        |

**RESOLUTIONS OF RECOGNITION: ROGER MICHAUD AND BRUCE MUELLER** – Mayor Conkling announced a resolution recognizing Mr. Roger Michaud for his 12 plus years as a valuable member of the Township Committee, serving in many capacities. Mayor Conkling also announced a resolution recognizing Mr. Bruce Mueller as a valuable member of the Environmental Advisory Committee for 18 plus years.

**DISCUSSIONS:**

- a. **Security of Municipal Building – Proposal from T&R Alarm** – Mayor Conkling explained that the Committee has been discussing various options of additional security for the municipal building. The first proposal from T&R Alarm includes an upgrade to the current alarm and security systems. The second proposal includes installation of doors and bullet-proof some walls. Mayor Conkling explained that the Township would need to go to public bid for anything over \$17,500.00 or for a quotation over \$2,650.00. Mrs. Peralta suggested asking T&R Alarm for a further breakdown of the cost of each item in the second proposal. The Committee agreed. The Committee feels this is a huge investment and would like to look at less expensive and more cost effective alternatives. Mrs. Peralta will contact Mr. Sansone.
- b. **Escrow Agreement for Housing Trust Fund** – Mr. Stein stated there is no change since the last discussion. There has been no response from the League of Municipalities. Mr. Stein will work with Mrs. Peralta to draft a responsive letter to the DCA with a statement to wait for a decision from Supreme Court before moving forward. The Committee agreed.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

- a. Resolution 2013-50 –Refund Driveway Escrow – Valentino
- b. Resolution 2013-51– Authorize CFO to Cancel Balances in the General Cap Fund
- c. Minutes ready for approval – February 25, 2013, regular minutes

Motion: Mrs. Phillips

Seconded: Mr. Bilik

Discussion: None

|               | AYE | NAY | ABSTAIN | ABSENT |
|---------------|-----|-----|---------|--------|
| Mr. Bilik     | X   |     |         |        |
| Mr. Chirip    |     |     |         | X      |
| Mr. Kurzeja   | X   |     |         |        |
| Mrs. Phillips | X   |     |         |        |
| Mr. Conkling  | X   |     |         |        |

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**OLD BUSINESS:**

- a. Resolution 2013-48 – Setting Tax Rate for Open Space for the Year 2013

Motion: Mr. Bilik  
 Seconded: Mr. Kurzeja  
 Discussion: None

|               | AYE | NAY | ABSTAIN | ABSENT |
|---------------|-----|-----|---------|--------|
| Mr. Bilik     | X   |     |         |        |
| Mr. Chirip    |     |     |         | X      |
| Mr. Kurzeja   | X   |     |         |        |
| Mrs. Phillips | X   |     |         |        |
| Mr. Conkling  |     | X   |         |        |

- b. Resolution 2013-49 – Maintain Surplus Fund Balance

Motion: Mrs. Phillips  
 Seconded: Mr. Bilik  
 Discussion: None

|               | AYE | NAY | ABSTAIN | ABSENT |
|---------------|-----|-----|---------|--------|
| Mr. Bilik     | X   |     |         |        |
| Mr. Chirip    |     |     |         | X      |
| Mr. Kurzeja   | X   |     |         |        |
| Mrs. Phillips | X   |     |         |        |
| Mr. Conkling  | X   |     |         |        |

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- a. Resolution 2013-52 – Budget Approval

Motion: Mrs. Phillips  
 Seconded: Mr. Bilik  
 Discussion: None

|               | AYE | NAY | ABSTAIN | ABSENT |
|---------------|-----|-----|---------|--------|
| Mr. Bilik     | X   |     |         |        |
| Mr. Chirip    |     |     |         | X      |
| Mr. Kurzeja   | X   |     |         |        |
| Mrs. Phillips | X   |     |         |        |
| Mr. Conkling  | X   |     |         |        |

Final Adoption of the Budget is scheduled for April 8, 2013.

- b. Ordinance 2013-04 – Salary (Introduction) Mayor Conkling stated the public hearing for this ordinance will be held on April 8, 2013

Motion: Mrs. Phillips  
 Seconded: Mr. Bilik  
 Discussion: None

|               | AYE | NAY | ABSTAIN | ABSENT |
|---------------|-----|-----|---------|--------|
| Mr. Bilik     | X   |     |         |        |
| Mr. Chirip    |     |     |         | X      |
| Mr. Kurzeja   | X   |     |         |        |
| Mrs. Phillips | X   |     |         |        |
| Mr. Conkling  | X   |     |         |        |

- c. Resolution 2013-53 –Opposing Proposed Early Voting Process for Certain Elections

Mrs. Peralta explained that many towns are passing resolutions opposing the proposed legislation for early voting. This will require expanded hours (10 hours per day for 15 days prior to Election Day). Mr. Stein further explained that every town will incur extra expenses due to the expanded voting hours and will need to compensate employees.

Mrs. Phillips made a motion to approve the resolution opposing the early voting process.

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Seconded: Mr. Kurzeja  
Discussion: None

|               | AYE | NAY | ABSTAIN | ABSENT |
|---------------|-----|-----|---------|--------|
| Mr. Bilik     | X   |     |         |        |
| Mr. Chirip    |     |     |         | X      |
| Mr. Kurzeja   | X   |     |         |        |
| Mrs. Phillips | X   |     |         |        |
| Mr. Conkling  | X   |     |         |        |

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Mrs. Peralta noted the following:

- Application from Mrs. Diana Fox for membership on the Recreation Advisory Committee – Mayor Conkling asked for the opinions of Mr. Bilik and Mrs. Phillips since they are on the Recreation Committee. Mr. Bilik and Mrs. Phillips feel Mrs. Fox would be an excellent candidate and add new prospective to the Recreation Committee. Mrs. Phillips is concerned that adding Mrs. Fox to the Committee would create an even number of members, therefore may be a problem for voting purposes. Mrs. Phillips is also concerned of trying to bring in extra funding for the town by advertising local businesses. The issue is should the Recreation Advisory Committee be looking into ways to raise funds or providing recreation activities for the residents. Mr. Stein explained the Statute states the number of members is set by the Mayor. The number is a range of members (5-9). Mr. Stein suggested reviewing the Ordinance. The Committee will hold discussion later in the meeting after reviewing the Ordinance.
- Request from Mr. Donald Cichocki to house his ultralight aircraft at Trinca Airport – Mr. Cichocki is looking to possibly keep his aircraft at Trinca Airport and hangar space if available. Mayor Conkling stated hangar space is not available. There was discussion on an appropriate fee per month. The Committee agreed on \$100.00 fee for per month. Mr. Cichocki would like to put up a fabric covered Quonset hut to house the aircraft. Mr. Stein suggested checking with the Construction Official whether any permits would be required for the structure. Mr. Stein also stated the fee would be set by Ordinance which can be introduced at the next meeting. The subcommittee will meet with Mr. Cichocki to discuss further.

Mr. Bilik made a motion to approve the request to locate the aircraft to Trinca Airport.

Seconded: Mrs. Phillips  
Discussion: None

|               | AYE | NAY | ABSTAIN | ABSENT |
|---------------|-----|-----|---------|--------|
| Mr. Bilik     | X   |     |         |        |
| Mr. Chirip    |     |     |         | X      |
| Mr. Kurzeja   | X   |     |         |        |
| Mrs. Phillips | X   |     |         |        |
| Mr. Conkling  | X   |     |         |        |

**MATTERS FROM THE GOVERNING BODY:** None

**MATTERS FROM THE TOWNSHIP CLERK/ADMINISTRATOR:** Mrs. Peralta noted the following:

- Several more resolutions from towns opposing the early voting process.
- Follow-up letter from Mr. Fracasso regarding an occurrence with Green Township Volunteer Fire Department Chief Bill Rafferty. Mr. Fracasso has had no response from the Fire Department. Mayor Conkling explained that the Fire Department is a separate entity. Mayor Conkling asked Mrs. Peralta to resend the letter previously sent on 12/4/12 asking the Fire Department to review Mr. Fracasso’s letter of 11/9/12, handle internally and respond. Mr. Fracasso inquired as to when the Committee thought he would get a response from the Fire Department. Mr. Stein explained that they are an independent volunteer agency the Township cannot tell them what to do. The Clerk has been directed to resend the letter to the new officials asking them to have the courtesy to respond to Mr. Fracasso. A suggestion was made to resend the letter to the President of the GTVFD in addition to the new Chief.
- Second Amendment to the Joint Municipal Court Agreement – Mr. Stein prepared the amendment based on the consensus of the Joint Court Committee. Judge Dana suggested taking a 5 year average and lock

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in for a 3 year period going forward. Mr. Stein asked the Committee to review prior to sending to the other towns. Mr. Stein will send letter with amendment to the other towns for their review.

Mrs. Phillips made a motion to approve the amendment to the Joint Court Agreement

Seconded: Mr. Kurzeja

Discussion: None

|               | AYE | NAY | ABSTAIN | ABSENT |
|---------------|-----|-----|---------|--------|
| Mr. Bilik     | X   |     |         |        |
| Mr. Chirip    |     |     |         | X      |
| Mr. Kurzeja   | X   |     |         |        |
| Mrs. Phillips | X   |     |         |        |
| Mr. Conkling  | X   |     |         |        |

- Mrs. Peralta informed the Committee that a dog census will be conducted this summer. There is money in trust to cover expenses for licensing, Rabies Clinic, Animal Control Officer and a dog census that is to be completed every 2 years. The last one was done in 2008.
- The estoppel period for the Multipurpose Bond Ordinance will end on March 20. Mrs. Peralta asked the Committee what order they would like to use for the projects. Mrs. Peralta would like to purchase a township car immediately since the town currently does not have a car. Mr. Perigo distributed a price list and information for a new Ford Expedition that can be purchased through the Morris County Co-Op. After discussion the Committee would like Mr. Perigo to research a lesser vehicle that would meet the criteria of the bond ordinance but at a lower cost. Mr. Stein stated that leasing a vehicle is not favorable. Mayor Conkling asked the Committee to be prepared to make a decision at the March 25, 2013, meeting. The Committee continued discussing the order of projects. Mayor Conkling suggested purchasing generators for the DPW and Municipal Building and salt shed. Mr. John Miller, Township Engineer, will be asked to attend the next meeting to discuss the parking lot and recreational fields. Mr. Perigo is also working on a new DPW truck. More research needs to be done on the roof of the municipal building.

**MATTERS FROM THE DPW SUPERVISOR:** Mr. Perigo informed the Committee that the roof of the Tranquility Post Office is in need of repair. There are missing shingles and tar is falling down. Mr. Stein stated that in an emergency, depending on the circumstance the Township generally does not have to bid and can take action immediately. Mr. Perigo will obtain quotes for repairs.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS AND/OR QUESTIONS:**

- Mr. Dennis Russell, 17 Woodsedge Court, Belvidere, informed the Committee of his intent to file suit against Green Township. Mr. Stein advised that since Mr. Russell has filed notice of court claim and set his desire to file suit against the Township the Committee should not respond to his questions.
- Mrs. Josephine Fracasso, 111 Hibler Road, questioned the purpose of extra security for the municipal building, is it needed because of the municipal court and should the cost be shared with the other towns. Mayor Conkling explained the reason is to protect the employees of the building. Mr. Stein explained the municipal court is already secure and meets all the requirements. Mrs. Fracasso also questioned the need of an SUV as opposed to a smaller vehicle for Township purposes. With the cost of gas, it may be more logical to rent an SUV when needed for elections. Mrs. Fracasso also questioned if the ultralight aircraft is the type of plane that Andover has complained about with regards to noise. Mayor Conkling thought the complaints were from the sky divers however this is no longer being done.

Mrs. Peralta read the Ordinance of the Recreation Committee membership. The members are appointed by the Mayor. Mr. Stein stated that he believes that the Statute states a range of 5-9 members. He will confirm and get back to the Committee at the next meeting.

Mrs. Peralta informed the Committee that Clean Communities Day will be held on April 27, 2013. Student Government Day will be held on May 13, 2013.

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**ADJOURN:**

Mrs. Phillips made a motion to adjourn at 8:49 p.m.

Seconded: Mr. Bilik

Discussion: None

|               | AYE | NAY | ABSTAIN | ABSENT |
|---------------|-----|-----|---------|--------|
| Mr. Bilik     | X   |     |         |        |
| Mr. Chirip    |     |     |         | X      |
| Mr. Kurzeja   | X   |     |         |        |
| Mrs. Phillips | X   |     |         |        |
| Mr. Conkling  | X   |     |         |        |

\*ALL RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES ARE ATTACHED TO AND MADE PART OF THESE MINUTES

\_\_\_\_\_  
Linda Peralta, RMC  
Clerk/Administrator

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Approved