

Shamong NJ 08088

July 29, 2009

The Shamong Township Committee held a regular meeting on the above date at the Municipal Building.

Mayor Sean Gray called the meeting to order at approximately 8:01 p.m.

The Clerk stated please be advised that proper notice of this meeting has been given in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act in the following manner. Written notice has been faxed to the Burlington County Times, published in the Central Record and posted on the official website & bulletin board of Shamong Township.

The Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call and)	Mr. Sean Gray	P
Absentees)	Mr. Martin Mozitis	P
Noted)	Mr. Christopher Norman	P
	Mr. James Schroeder	P
	Mr. Jonathon Shevelew	P

Mayor Gray opened up the meeting to the public; there were no further comments from the public, so the meeting was closed to the public.

On motion of Committeeman Shevelew, seconded by Committeeman Schroeder, the minutes of June 9, 2009 as submitted and July 1, 2009 were approved with corrections. A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes.

Mayor Gray opened the discussion on having the public hearing and approval on the 2009 Shamong budget. The Mayor first wanted to thank the Township Committee members for their hard work and time over the past few months it took to complete it. Mayor Gray also wanted to express appreciation to the Financial and Accounting Advisors for their advice and counsel on the budget. Before opening it up to the public, the Mayor asked if there were any questions or comments from the Committee members regarding the budget that was introduced on July 1st. There were no further questions or comments from the Township Committee, so the discussion was opened to the public. There were no further questions or comments from the public, so the meeting regarding the public hearing for the 2009 Shamong budget was closed.

On motion of Committeeman Schroeder, seconded by Committeeman Norman, it was moved to approve the 2009 Budget. A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes.

An update was given by the Township Clerk on the Mercury found in a well on Grassy Lake Road by the Burlington County Board of Health. The Burlington County Board of Health have completed their testing on several surrounding wells and found no additional Mercury in them, they have closed the case and anticipate doing no additional work; unless any other area homes report findings of Mercury. Mayor Gray asked if this was a one time

finding and also were there any differences in the depths of the wells being tested. The Township Clerk stated none were reported.

The Township Clerk reported that the Atsion Road Sections 10 and 11 is due for a release of the Maintenance Bond. The time frame that the road work was completed was between 2006 and 2007. Rick Arango, Township Engineer is reviewing it and will make recommendations to the Committee on the release of the Maintenance Bond. Norman Welsh also reviewed that section of road and found no area that would concern him to maintain the maintenance bond on that section of roadway.

Arcadia Publishing has given a copy of a book, "Images of America" for Shamong. This was a book put together with the help of George Flemming, who also wrote the book "The Brotherton", which gave a lot of the history for this area. The Township Clerk commented on the great pictures that are in the book and stories that are shared from surrounding areas as well. George Flemming is looking for the opportunity to sell the book and stated that there is no minimum order and that the book can be purchased at a 40 percent discount, which would gain a \$9 dollar profit. The Township Clerk suggested making this a fund raiser for the Historical Society since they contributed to the book. It was stated by the Township Clerk that the Shamong Diner has been selling books also. Committeeman Shevelew suggested that Mr. Christensen be contacted to see if they would be willing to sell it through the Home & School Association.

Mayor Gray opened the discussion on the 2010 Gypsy Moth egg mass counts. The annual letter sent from the Department of Agriculture was read by the Township Clerk, stating that in order to be part of the Gypsy Moth treatment program for 2010, the Township would have to be part of the Gypsy Moth egg mass count this fall. The Township Clerk informed the Committee that they have till August 21st to either request to be part of the Gypsy Moth count or decline participation. Once the request to decline is stated the Township will not be able to re-enter the program for 2010. The Mayor wanted to know if there was any cost involved in participating in the Gypsy Moth egg mass count. The Township Clerk said that there is no cost involved for the count and that it usually is conducted in September or October. It was agreed upon to have the mass count conducted.

On motion of Committeeman Norman, seconded by Committeeman Mozitis, it was moved to approve the Resolution 2009-53 establishing salaries of certain township positions. A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes.

The Township Clerk reported on the 2008 Annual Audit which was completed and submitted by the auditors on June 30th. And was received on July 1st and circulated and advertised on the 16th of July. The Proof of Action notice has been completed and turned in by the Chief Financial Advisor. The Township Clerk informed the Committee of the significance of signing the Proof of Affidavit form. Every year this form is a requirement for the audit process and signing the form certifies that you have personally reviewed and are familiar with those sections of the audit titled comments and recommendations. Committeeman Mozitis questioned the charges for the anticipated budget for the Construction Code Official, which was anticipated \$60,000 and realized \$43,000 and the Mobile Home state deeds which were going to go down, the anticipated was \$30,000 and the realized was \$35,000. The Township Clerk explained that the anticipated budget is a

projection of what the revenues will be. These numbers are meant to be conservative because if the revenue is not made on the conservative side it will become a shortage. The Township Clerk acknowledged that the Construction Code Office did not make there revenue from last year. Committeeman Shevelow commented that it was understandable with the slowing of construction and permits being issued. While the Court exceeded their anticipated revenue, which was from the incline of tickets from last year the Township Clerk reported. The Township Clerk reported that the interest number will always be conservative and also the second number for the interest number for investments. Committeeman Mozitis had a question on Custodial Risk, the recommendation that it should be put in another fund according to some. The Township Clerk stated that they follow the Unit Government Protection Act standards every year. Committeeman Mozitis read how the collateral pool is held by the bank and it is not in the Township's name, that it states that is required when it is not. The Financial Officer explained that while it is not clear what impact that has, as long as the state says every six months that, that bank is allowed to be used by the Financial Officer, it is allowed and it is qualified under the Unit Government Protection Act. The Financial Officer stated that it is just being pointed out that it is not held in the Township's name. The Mayor wanted to know how many banks are being used. Kathleen stated that the Township is using four banks at this time. Committeeman Shevelew wanted to know if they are meeting the state's requirements. Kathleen replied that yes the Township is meeting the requirements and to let the Township know that, that pool is not being held individually. The entire pool is only being held for Township and Municipality funds. In light of this clarification, Mayor Gray wanted to revisit the Certification of the Annual Audit. Committeeman Mozitis stated that it was noticed how much money went to County open space. Committeeman Mozitis felt with the economic times that farmers would be more apt to sell the development rights. Committeeman Schroeder commented that while Committeeman Mozitis brought up a good point the fact was that Pinelands is only interested in purchasing the development credits on farms that have a high risk of development.

On motion of Committeeman Norman, seconded by Committeeman Mozitis, it was moved to approve the Resolution 2009-54 Approval of the 2008 Annual Audit & Affidavit. A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes.

On motion of Committeeman Schroeder, seconded by Committeeman Norman, it was moved to approve the introduction of Ordinance 2009R-003 An Ordinance of the Township of Shamong Fixing Annual Salaries to be Paid to Certain Designated Officers of Said Township. A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes.

On motion of Committeeman Norman, seconded by Committeeman Schroeder, it was moved to approve the attached Bill List. A roll call vote showed all members showed all members present voting yes.

The Township Clerk reported that Committeeman Shevelew and she met with the Pinelands Commission in regards to the project on Stony Creek ball fields. The Township Clerk stated that Pinelands should be getting back to the Township on the4 requirements to

conduct a cultural and environmental study. The Pinelands will need to review the request and file to see if it can be removed from the list and give what other items that are required to be met. The Township Clerk reported that Mark Tarantino will be the Prosecutor for the Municipal Court. Mark has worked with the Shamong Court in the past and will be replacing George Morris. Mr. Tarantino has been held in high regard with his colleagues and with the three Municipalities that he has served as Prosecutor. The Township Clerk gave a report on the Court Administrator's partnering with Tabernacle and Medford Lakes. Cheryl Beaumont and the other Court Administrators have collectively found a way to trim some cost, by ordering their supplies in bulk. Committeeman Schroeder wanted to bring up the subject of private security, realizing that nothing would be done at this time. Committeeman Schroeder talked to other officials in several towns that have exclusive state coverage and they have cautioned against releasing the State Police from their contract. Committeeman Schroeder stated that he wouldn't be against adding a private guard conducting the metal detector, pointing out that it might save a dime, spending a dollar. The Township Clerk pointed out that the Court Administrator's concern was more about safety and posed the question if having a retired State Policeman would make a difference in the attitudes of the other active Policeman. The Clerk then presented the following reports: The Tax Collector's report Year to Date collections of \$7,783,815; Building Office Report for June of 137 permits and Year to Date 280 inspections with the year to date revenue of \$39,686; and the Court Administrator' Office through June shows \$114,247 in revenue and the amount staying with the Township is \$27,721. The Mayor opened it up to the public for any questions or comments. There were no questions or comments from the public; the meeting was closed to the public.

The Mayor stated the committee would need to go into an Executive Session, stating that the Committee may or may not take action at this time.

On motion Committeeman Shevelew, seconded by Committeeman Schroeder it was moved to approve to open the meeting to the Executive Session on a matter of Employee Policy. A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes.

On motion the Committeeman Norman, seconded by Committeeman Schroeder the meeting was adjourned. A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes.

Attest:

**Susan D. Onorato
Municipal Clerk**