

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

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Shevelew at approximately 7:30 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 and bulletin board of Shamong Township.

Roll Call and)	Mr. Sean Gray	A
Absentees)	Mr. Kenneth Long	P
Noted)	Mr. Martin Mozitis	P
	Mr. Christopher Norman	P
	Mr. Jonathon Shevelew	P

Mayor Shevelew opened the meeting to the public for comments and questions, there being none, he closed the meeting to the public.

**On motion of Committeeman Norman, seconded by Committeeman Long, it was moved to approve the minutes of February 23, 2010 as submitted. A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes.**

Brian Monaghan, our Risk Management Consultant, was present and reported Shamong Township had a good year in 2009 with no claims and earned a gold medal in the JIF Safety Incentive Program and was awarded \$1300. Mr. Monaghan reported he attended all the safety meetings held in Shamong and they were very good meetings, wherein, they were well attended by all departments, covered material and topics, and were done within 30 minutes. He stated Cheryl Beaumont was sighted at the Safety Breakfast for honorable mention for her efforts to make the court room safer in Shamong. He also reported Shamong has the lowest deductible available since we are EPLI compliant since the Administrator got all the paper work in on a timely manner and it was approved. The results of all these safety efforts brought the JIF's over all loss ratio to 87% and Shamong's to 24% for the period 1/1/2006 to 12/11/2009. There has been no claims to date so Shamong's assessment has went up only \$158.00, as well as, Shamong was awarded a dividend of \$9,500.00 about six months ago. Mr. Monaghan stated he looked at the standard market awhile ago and it would be about the same without the \$9,500.00 dividend. Mr. Monaghan said the JIF health insurance fund is on hold right now.

**On motion of Committeeman Long, seconded by Committeeman Norman, it was moved to form a sub-committee to STRAC to assist with community volunteer efforts to oversee park and open space areas. This committee will consist of the Mayor, a member of the STRAC committee, the advisor for both IMMS and Seneca, the President of Student Council from IMMA and Seneca, and the Vice-President of student council from both schools, being a total of eight members. A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes.**

**On motion of Committeeman Mozitis, seconded by Committeeman Norman, it was moved to approve the following employees to attend seminars for training and/or**

**CEU's for their position; James Renwick, Tax Assessor, Marci Hamilton, Assistant to CFO, Cheryl Beaumont, Court Administrator, and Roseann O'Donnell, Building Technical Assistant. A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes.**

The Administrator explained a resident would like to sell or donate their property to the township or State of New Jersey being block 4.01, lot 9 which is .10 acres. The Administrator asked the Tax Assessor to reach out to the State and see if they had an interest since it would probably cost more to process the closing than the property is worth & the land is adjacent to land owned by the State of NJ.

**On motion of Committeeman Norman, seconded by Committeeman Mozitis, it was moved to waive the fees for a Street Opening Permit to the Stony Creek Beautification Committee who will be improving the 3 entrances to the Stony Creek Development. A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes.**

**On motion of Committeeman Norman, seconded by Committeeman Long, it was moved to approve a Maintenance Bond for the Valenzano Winery in the amount of \$52,571.87. A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes.**

The Administrator reported we are awaiting the Pinelands Commission to draft an ordinance on the Pinelands CMP Cluster rule for development. Committeeman Norman reported he read that part of the clustering requirements is designed to make affordable housing accessible on smaller lots within the environmentally sensitive areas of the State.

The Administrator reported she received a letter from the Lenape Regional District making the Townships aware of the Seneca Senior Send-off of which the township contributes \$2,500 to every year (\$1,500 from STASA grant and \$1,000 from township). The Administrator reported in prior years the township donated \$1,500 to Seneca and \$1,000 to Sequoia and will look into the ratio of students at each school for this year's donation.

The Administrator reported on the following tax appeals; block 8.01 lot 17.01 current assessed value is \$239,400 want it reduced to \$199,400, block 9.02 lot 19 current assessed value is \$561,400 want it reduced to \$411,760, and block 27.01 lot 6.04 current assessed value if \$265,900 want it reduced to \$205,900.

The Administrator reported the Pinelands Commission wants to do a study of wildlife and wet plant species on township land off Tuckerton Road which runs behind several homes on Meetinghouse Court. The property is land locked but access can be gotten off Meetinghouse Court between two homes.

The Administrator presented the Committee with a draft of the spring newsletter for their review and approval. She reminded the Committee it will be put on the web site and copies will be placed at some local businesses for residents to obtain a copy. By doing it this way a savings of approximately \$3,000 per year will be saved. The Committee was in agreement with doing it this way.

Mayor Shevelew stated he understands Governor Corzine signed a bill that allows the townships to change the speed limit on roads without going through the State and Committeeman Norman understood it to be that way also. Mayor Shevelew suggested the Committee members think about areas in the township that need the speed reduced and bring it to the next township meeting for discussion.

The Administrator reported there will be a Proclamation on the agenda for the April meeting on Sexual Assault Awareness.

The Administrator explained block 28.01 lots 4.01, 4.18, and 4.19 had originally been on the zoning map since the mid 80's as Agricultural Production but when the zoning map was colorized and Remington, Vernick and Arango checked with the County and Pinelands Commission the Pinelands had it as Preservation. She explained the office checked in past records and could not find anything to back up the original zoning map stating agricultural. She also explained she asked the Pinelands for a letter of opinion on the zoning and verbally they agree it would qualify as agricultural but she is waiting for the letter of opinion before starting the process to have it changed.

**On motion of Committeeman Long, seconded by Committeeman Mozitis, it was moved to approve the IMMS "Act Locally Club" to adopt the Griss Mill Area at Indian Mills Lake for clean up. A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes.**

The Administrator reported on the budget stating that Shamong will lose approximately \$144,000 in State aid in accordance with Governor Christie's cuts in funding to townships. The Administrator spoke with the Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Christensen, and he reported their budget will lose \$631,000 State aid money which will give them a \$791,000 deficit. As of now they expect a 10.25 cent tax rate increase to the residents which is approximately \$200 per the average home. The Administrator reviewed different things that have been done to reduce overhead at the municipal building over the last year realizing a savings of approximately \$37,000, and stated that due to increased permit fees an estimated \$15,000 in revenue was realized. The Administrator explained the Governor is mandating every employee to pay 1.5% of their salary towards health and she spoke with the CFO on how this would affect a single coverage versus a family. The Administrator reported the building office expects to see an additional \$15,000 in revenue in 2010 due to the increase in fees and based on last years permit volume. She reported the State is asking the townships to introduce their budgets by March 31<sup>st</sup> or soon after. Mayor Shevelew asked if we received any figures from the auditor on reserve for uncollected taxes and the Administrator reported the cash surplus that is available to use this year if \$1,655,000 and the final reserve surplus number will not be available until the audit is completed. Mayor Shevelew suggested getting the figures from the auditor as soon as possible to allow the Committee to work on the budget.

**On motion of Committeeman Norman, seconded by Committeeman Long, it was moved to approve Resolution 2010R-34 refund of taxes on a redemption in the amount of \$49,410.75 for block 29 lot 1.11. A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes except for Committeeman Mozitis who abstained.**

**On motion of Committeeman Mozitis, seconded by Committeeman Norman, it was moved to approve Resolution 2010R-35 salary for STASA. A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes except Committeeman Shevelew who abstained.**

**On motion of Committeeman Mozitis, seconded by Committeeman Long, it was moved to approve Resolution 2010R-36 Farmland Preservation by Burlington County amendment. A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes.**

**On motion of Committeeman Long, seconded by Committeeman Mozitis, it was moved to approve Ordinance 2010-02 an ordinance authorizing a special emergency appropriation under N.J.S.A. 40A:34-53 for the preparation and revision of the municipal tax maps after second reading and opened to the public for comment, which there was none. A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes.**

The Administrator reported she received an ordinance from the Burlington County Recycling Department and the Township Solicitor is reviewing it before introduction on April 6<sup>th</sup>.

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

The Administrator reported on the following items; an e-mail from Cheryl Stollsteimer outlining the great job done by the Public Works Department during the winter months and recent rainstorms was also shared with the Public Works staff, Office of Emergency Management reported \$2,691 of labor and equipment expenses were reported to FEMA relative to the March 12-14 storm and an additional \$3,786 was reported on behalf of the Indian Mills Volunteer Fire Company for possible re-imburement, South Jersey Enduro Riders have notified the Township of the 2010 Curly Fern Enduro Ride scheduled for March 28<sup>th</sup> throughout Shamong, Tabernacle, Washington and Waterford Townships, Open Space Plan revision – 2 residents have requested to have their properties removed, 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Pine Barrens Jeep Jamboree is scheduled for May 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>. The Administrator stated she has to report for Jury Duty on April 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>.

The Administrator reported the Building Code Office revenue for January was \$3,316 and February was \$2,592 bringing the total year- to- date at \$5,902. The Tax Collector's report showed she collected \$2,984,522 in February and there is no court report since the Court Administrator is out on medical leave. The Administrator reported she received 18 resumes for the part-time fire sub code official position and the Administrator and Building Code Official will be conducting interviews within the next week and will report their findings back to the Committee.

Mayor Shevelew opened the meeting to the public at which time Mrs. King spoke on the 1.5% that employees will pay for insurance from their salaries and she thought a better way would be to pay a percentage of the insurance cost. Mrs. King also commented on the article in the Central Record where it said no one had a big power outage because she was without power for over 20 hours. The Administrator explained the article did say some people were out of power for 5 hours and 20 hours, so it did cover almost everyone. There being no further comments from the public, the public portion of the meeting was closed.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Attest:

Susan D. Onorato  
Municipal Clerk