

Shamong NJ 08088

July 1, 2009

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

Mayor Sean Gray called the meeting to order.

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 the meeting to the public; there were no further comment from the public, so the meeting was closed to the public.

On motion of Committeeman Norman, seconded by Committeeman Schroeder, the minutes of May 26, 2009 were approved as submitted. A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes.

Kathleen Phelan, CFO reported that the state has adopted their budgets, they aren't making any changes. Mayor Gray asked if this budget, as purposed, would result in a reduction of the local purpose tax about half from what was last year and the Administrator confirmed Mayor Gray and stated the local tax rate would drop 3 cents. The total local purpose tax is about \$111,000.00 which represents the loss of state aide. Mayor Gray also commended the Committee on preserving the funds by not treating the Gypsy Moths this year. After more discussion on the budget Mayor Gray asked if anyone had any questions or comments for the CFO, Township Clerk or anyone on the Committee. The Township CFO advised the Committee members to introduce the budget. Ms. Phelan stated the budget requires a waiting period of 28 days to have a public hearing and then could be adopted July 29th if we reschedule July's workshop.

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

After the vote Mayor Gray thanked everyone and Kathleen for all her hard work.

Mayor Gray opened the discussion on the renewal NJSP Contract for Municipal Court Security. The Mayor asked about the prospect of bringing in some form of private security arrangement. Cheryl Beaumont, Court Administrator, reported the point that it could save a lot of money. But the big issue was that you might have a law suit down the road because of having private people. The Court Administrator reports that a lot of courts are using private people to secure their courts. Ms. Beaumont says she can have 2 people to secure the court for the price of 1. She feels it would be much safer having one person operating the metal detector and one watching what was going on. The Township Clerk posed that the Township is responsible to insure the outside security people. Mrs. Onorato also stated that they had a time issue to renew the contract for the NJSP due July 1, 2009. The Mayor understood and appreciated the Court Administrator's concerns, but countered that having a person in uniform has a presence and can be intimidating verses a person dressed in regular clothing. Committeeman Schroeder asked what kind of certification and professional qualifications they would have and also what other municipalities have private security rather than State Troopers. Ms. Beaumont replied saying Burlington Township uses a private service and Woodland Township has a gentleman in the lobby and a State Trooper in the courtroom. She also stated that Riverside and Delran use private security service. Committeeman Schroeder wanted to know what the savings are as a result of using a private company. It was recommended by Mayor Gray that they make a motion on the State Police contract due to the time restriction. He recommends leaving this item open for discussion at a later date.

On motion of Committeeman Schroeder, seconded by Committeeman Norman, it was moved to approve the NJSP Contract for Municipal Court Security. A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes.

Next was the report on the CFO's request for educational re-imbursements. The Township Clerk reported that it is a Government Finance Officers Conference being held September 23rd and 24th. CFO's for the license will be earned and we will be splitting the cost of \$222.50 with North Hanover fifty-fifty.

On motion of Committeeman Shevelew, seconded by Committeeman Norman, it was moved to approve the request for educational re-imbursement for the CFO. A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes.

An update was given by the Township Clerk on the Paris Grant funding that was jointly entered into with Burlington County municipalities and been rewarded \$200,000 in a shared service. There are 34 municipalities in total who share in this grant. In conjunction they are holding a seminar presentation which is hosted by RICOH Imaging. It will also be done in conjunction with Camden County municipalities, who already have been through this and can give them insight into what they have experienced going through this process. And with the exception of time and travel there is no cost. The date of the seminar is Friday, July 24th.

On motion of Committeeman Shevelew, seconded by Committeeman Schroeder, it was moved to approve the Seminar hosted by RICOH Imaging. A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes.

On motion of Committeeman Shevelew, seconded by Committeeman Schroeder, it was moved to approve the nomination of Dave Taylor for 2009 Pine Barren's Festival Volunteer of the year. A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes.

The Township Clerk gave an update on the Pineland's policy for COAH. We have been informed by Pinelands Commission there is no action on the resolution related to the affordable housing. They are waiting for further guidance from the Attorney General's Office as the commission rules on the affordable housing matters and everything is on hold until then.

Staying with the topic of Pinelands, the Township Clerk gave an update on the wastewater treatment systems & Forestry, Wetlands Management, & a Pilot Program for Electric Transmission Right-of-Way Maintenance Quarterly JIF report review. They have two meetings coming up, which no formal action will be taken at that time. The first one is on Wednesday, July 15th at 7pm in New Lisbon and the other one they are requesting if there are any comments or testify on the hearing, submit it before hand. The time frame for this is up to August 14th to submit any comments.

On motion of Committeeman Shevelew, seconded by Committeeman Schroeder, it was moved to approve the Quarterly JIF report and Workers Compensation Exit Interview recommended by JIF/MEL. A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes.

The Township Clerk notified the committee that the lease on the Pitney Bowes mail machine is getting ready to lapse. The cost is \$35.00 a month for the current machine and they are going to update the machine, and the cost would be \$37.00 a month and the term would be increased to a five year lease to keep the payments down.

On motion of Committeeman Norman, seconded by Committeeman Schroeder, it was moved to approve the contract with Pitney Bowes. A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes, except Committeeman Shevelew who abstained.

The reviewing of the Shamong Township sign ordinance was the next order of business. This ordinance would govern the use of professional as well as temporary signs. The Township Clerk had made mention that the township does have an ordinance in place, that was printed out for review. Committeeman Schroeder wanted to compare Berlin's ordinance to the ordinance here in Shamong. He than reported that Berlin has a philosophy that when one needs a sign put up they apply for a permit for a small fee, at which time the sign would be able to stay up for 30 days. After 30 days, Public Works would take down the sign and hold for 30 days at which time a fee is assessed for the time that it was there. If it is not picked up and you have not paid the fine, the next time

you want to apply for a permit, it will be denied until the fine has been paid. Committeeman Schroeder stated that he didn't have strong feeling either way; he just thought that it might be good to take a look at how they handle their sign ordinance. The Township Clerk notified the committee that Shamong does have an ordinance fee in place. The fee for a sign is \$10, which is primarily for a large permanent sign, not ones that are staked into the ground. Committeeman Schroeder stated that the most dangerous intersections are the ones inundated with the most signs. He feels that it's very distracting to have the signs surrounding the intersections and suggest that maybe the Township would be wise to take a look at the ordinance and enforce it more. Committeeman Shevelew stated that there should be no signs permitted to be put up on Township right of way, but would permit signs placed on private property. Committeeman Schroeder asked the question about non-profit organizations that wished to put up signs. Committeeman Shevelew replied by saying that they would be exempt from any fees. All committeemen agreed that it should only be commercial signs affected. The Mayor thought that they should articulate how Doug, the Township Solicitor, should write up the revised ordinance. The Committee agreed to ban signs at all public right of ways, unless they are non-profit organizations. Committeeman Schroeder also suggested that political signs should also be included in the ban on Township property and at intersections. Committeeman Shevelew agreed stating that signs would only be permitted on private property, not on Township property or intersections. The Township Clerk is going confer with the Township Solicitor on how this ordinance should be written with the suggestions stated above along with directional signs realtors put out.

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

The Township Clerk gave reports on the following; the Emilio Carranza Memorial Service will be held on July 11th, at 1pm. The Annual E-JIF Inspection completed and passed with final score of 100%. Recommendations have been received from Birdsall Services Group including constructing a roof over the oil collection tank and a water-tight container to drop off of oil filled containers after hours. PSE&G notified the Township that they have applied for a general permit with DEP to trim trees along power lines. Burlington County Board of Health notified the township & residents near Grassy Lake Road that a well has tested positive for Mercury. Wells from surrounding properties have tested negative to mercury. There is 1 remaining well for which results will be reported to the Township when available. The American Cancer Society's Bike-A-Thon will be held July 12th. The State Bureau of Vital Statistics will be holding training classes in our building on October 2, 9, 16 & 23, 2009. Tax Collector's report total taxes for the year and YTD May 31st of \$7,637,156.86. The Building Code Office's report total fees collected through May of \$28,981.00 and total permits of a 104 with total Inspections of 206. The Court Administrator's through May 2009 is showing a total of revenues received of \$99,944.62 and the total disbursements coming back to the Township are \$23,956.54.

Before opening it up back to the public, the Mayor wanted to discuss the motion to cancel the next meeting scheduled for July 7th and reschedule July 28th's meeting for July 29th.to provide adequate notice for the budget.

On motion of Committeeman Shevelew, seconded by Committeeman Schroeder, it was moved to approve to cancel July 7th's meeting and reschedule July 28th's meeting to July 29th. A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes.

Mayor Gray opened the meeting to the public at which time Cheryl Beaumont, Court Administrator, inquired about a pay raise for this year. She appeals to the Committee, while she is very thankful for the job and realizes that this is a great place to work; she also realizes that the 3% raise lets the employees know that they are appreciated and that it would not hurt the Township if they were to grant the raise. Mayor Gray thanks Ms. Beaumont for her concerns and for coming out to the meeting and ensures her that it is appropriated in the budget shows the support of the Committeemen; he feels they are in a position to have further discussion prior to a salary resolution to the extent that the Committee desires to have further discussion. Mayor Gray says that they will take her concerns very seriously and that the Committee appreciates everything the employees do.

Mayor Gray closes the meeting to the public and makes a motion to adjourn.

On motion of Committeeman Schroeder, seconded by Committeeman Mozitis, it was moved to adjourn. A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Attest:

Susan D. Onorato
Municipal Clerk