

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

Mayor Gray called the meeting to order 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.

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 for comments or questions and Steven Miller stated the public was there to get information on the Open Space Plan. Mayor Gray explained the plan was developed by a consultant who identified properties that met the general needs of the plan. Mayor Gray stated the committee explained in prior meetings that the township has no intention of acquiring residential or farmland property unless the homeowners approach the township and want to negotiate a deal. The township is interested in vacant property only with no homes on it. Committeeman Schroeder explained if the property is on the map it makes it easier for the township to acquire the land if a person wants to sell. Committeeman Schroeder stated there are a couple of farms in town where the people do want to protect it long term as a family farm and the Committee is open to that as it preserves the Indian Mills nature of who we are. He said it is not the intent of the Committee to take anyone's property. Committeeman Norman explained the Open Space element is a part of the Township Master Plan and it is looking at the long range plan. For instance, if someone has a tract of open space and is looking to sell, would the township be interested because it is adjacent to another large tract of open space. Committeeman Shevelew stated there were statements made at the last meeting specifically noting that it was not the intention of the township to acquirer any property that is not from a willing property owner who wants to sell his property. Mayor Gray explained the plan has to include a property that met the specs of an Open Space Plan and that is why all the properties are on there, but it does not mean that the township has any intentions of acquiring all properties. Mayor Gray explained the Planning Board will be approving the plan so any resident who has questions should attend the Joint Land Use Board meeting and he is certain they will have the same response. Mrs. King asked if an owner of a vacant lot could be made to sell his/her property and Committeeman Shevelew explained the township can legally take property under eminent domain. Mrs. King said she understands the township is trying to reach its

goal so the State will pay more money but, when do you reach a point that you're buying property and the pay back time is too long to benefit from the monies spent. Mayor Gray explained the plan has been designed to be able to receive matching county and state funds once a property is identified by the township stating they want to purchase it. Committeeman Shevelew explained the main issue is for the township to reach their 60% goal in the pilot program so the State will pay \$20 an acre instead of \$10 an acre to the Township. Committeeman Shevelew explained that each year the State has been cutting state aide to the point where soon the township will not receive any state aide so, if the township can reach their goal of 60% and get the additional funds it will make up for the loss of state aide and the tax payers won't be responsible to make up the difference. The Administrator explained an Open Space tax was put in place by the voters in 2004 which the township can use to purchase land and the county has a match of 25% and the State has a program of up to 50%. She stated part of qualifying for those funds is being part of the Open Space Plan. She also explained a lot of the properties that are on the Open Space Plan were already on an Open Space Plan that the township had internally but it had to be certified by a Land Planner in order to qualify for funding. The Administrator reported this is part of the Master Plan and the Joint Land Use Board did advertise the hearing which was last Tuesday and they will be advertising for the second hearing on November 17th. Mr. Abrams asked if the Township reached their goal and got the \$20 an acre where would they apply that money and Mayor Gray explained it would go into the general revenue account to off set the lose of state aid funds. Mrs. Reinhart asked if it would be possible to get a copy of the first addition of the Open Space Plan to compare it to the second addition and Mayor Gray explained the first was a draft and he would check with the solicitor to see if that is a public record. Mayor Gray explained the only change made was discussed at tonight's meeting which was to make it clear it is not the intention of the committee to acquire property with existing dwellings. There being no other comments the meeting was closed to the public.

On motion of Committeeman Schroeder, seconded by Committeeman Norman, it was moved to approve the minutes of September 22, 2009 as submitted. A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes, except Committeeman Shevelew who arrived late to that meeting.

On motion of Committeeman Shevelew, seconded by Committeeman Schroeder, it was moved to approve the minutes of September 25, 2009 as submitted. A roll call vote showed Committeemen Shevelew, Schroeder and Gray voting yes, Committeemen Norman and Mozitis abstained.

On motion of Committeeman Shevelew, seconded by Committeeman Schroeder, it was moved to approve the Tax Collector's request to attend the NJLM from November 17 – 19 at a total reimbursement of expenses for \$100.00. 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 Registrar/Clerk's request to attend the NJLM from

November 17 – 19 at a total reimbursement of expenses for \$150.00. A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes.

On motion of Committeeman Shevelew, seconded by Committeeman Schroeder, it was moved to change the last meeting date scheduled for December 15 to December 22, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. requested by the CFO. A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes.

On motion of Committeeman Shevelew, seconded by Committeeman Norman, it was moved to appoint Susan Onorato and Committeeman Christopher Norman for the 2009 RFP/RFQ Sub-Committee. A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes.

The Administrator reported on the 2010-2011 Employment Practices Liability Program requirements explaining the Personnel Policy Manual and Managerial Policy Manual needs to be reviewed every two years as a requirement of the JIF. In doing this it helps the township maintain a lower premium rate and qualifies for a higher dividend rate. The last review was done in 2008 and the next one will be due by May 1, 2010. The Administrator is currently reviewing the manuals and making the changes that the JIF is recommending. When it is complete the Administrator will forward a copy to the Committee for their review and then the solicitor. The Conscientious Employee Act will need to be recirculated, as well as, train managerial and supervisory personnel. This is handled by the JIF and training classes will be available starting November through December which the employees will participate in. The solicitor will sign off on the Personnel Policy Manual and the policy will need to be readopted. The Administrator reminded the Committee of the Elected Official's seminar on January 28, 2010 which will qualify the township for a \$250 credit towards our JIF premium for each person in attendance.

On motion of Committeeman Norman, seconded by Committeeman Schroeder, it was moved to approve Resolution 2009R-80 Refund of redemption of tax lien on block 35.02 lot 47 a total of \$15,801.24. A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes.

The Committee reviewed and discussed Resolution 2009R-59 Objecting to the Pinelands Commission imposing a Septic System Management Plan on the township and Committeeman Norman asked Freeholder, Mrs. Reinhart who was in attendance, what is the County's position for the sub-delegation of the responsibilities to all the townships in the county in this era of shared services when there is already a Board of Health with the expertise to review septic systems. He feels the residents of Shamong might want to know why they are creating a new bureaucracy in a small town. Mrs. Reinhart explained the old septic systems in our area and others have not been maintained or cleaned out so there is a lot of contamination. Therefore, they feel if these steps are taken people will be more vigilante in taking care of their own systems. She feels the townships should get together with the county and come up with a better program that is agreeable to everyone. Mrs. Reinhart said she will reach out to Mr. Robert Gogats at the Health Department.

Committeeman Shevelew asked if the county keeps records on all septic systems and Mrs. Reinhart said they keep records on calls they get on faulty systems. Mayor Gray asked Mrs. Reinhart if she was opposed to these mandatory inspections and fees on the septic systems and Mrs. Reinhart stated at this time she has not really studied it enough to say whether she is for or against it. She feels they have identified a problem and there needs to be a solution, but not to say that is the solution. Committeeman Norman expressed we are still coming out in one of the worst economic times and the last thing a home owner needs is a mandatory septic inspection and they may have to replace the system but there is no way they can pay for it. **On motion of Committeeman Shevelew, seconded by Committeeman Norman, it was moved to approve Resolution 2009R-59 Objecting to the Pinelands Commission Imposing a Septic System Management Plan. A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes.**

The Administrator explained the Committee had an ordinance in front of them that Mr. Heinold drafted on the "Sunset Law". This is for the Committee's review and Mr. Heinold will be at the November 4th meeting for any questions or comments before it is heard on first reading.

The Administrator reported on the following issues: another Community Service volunteer has been scheduled to clean the interior of the municipal building starting November 2nd, on November 15th from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm computer and television recycling along with free confidential file shredding will be offered to County residents in Westampton, the Pinelands Commission is meeting on October 30th to review Proposed Comprehensive Management Plan amendments relating to septic management and they will review public comment and discuss options, the Indian Mills Volunteer Fire Company would like the Township Committee to reach out to any of our legislatures relative to securing a funding source for the State of New Jersey to add a battery backup to the existing traffic light at Route 206 and Tuckerton Road, 2010 Budget packets will be sent out to department heads for review as soon as the September 30, 2009 numbers are available, and the Administrator noted Mr. Arango wanted the Committee to be aware the Township has received an additional \$180,000 in State Funding for Phone II of Old Indian Mills Road Project bringing the total to \$360,000.

The Administrator reported the Building Sub-Code Office submitted their year-to-date figures and they have collected \$55,625, 528 inspections completed and 187 new permits to date.

The Administrator reported that the Court Administrator's report for September shows total revenue taken in at \$13, 816.63, after all fees sent to the State of New Jersey and to the Park service, Shamong Township collected \$4,166.87 for the month, and year-to-date is \$162,411.41 turning \$41,129.11 back to Shamong Township.

The Administrator reported the Tax Collector collected \$2,898,209.07 in the month of September and year-to-date \$11,888,675.38.

Mayor Gray opened the meeting to the public at which time Mrs. Reinhart wanted everyone to be aware of the H1N1 swine flu that killed a 17 year old boy from Rancocas Valley High School. She suggested people go on line to the County sight (www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/) for information on the H1N1 flu vaccine and gave the following information on the clinics; November 6th for children six months to five years, pregnant women and caregivers of children six months or less (children six months to five years that receive the shot need to return Friday, December 4th from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. for a second dose), November 13th for healthcare workers with direct patient contact, 18-24 year olds and adults age 24 to 65 with underlying medical conditions, and November 20th for all of the above and for school age children that missed their school clinic or their school is not vaccinating (children 6 months through the age of 9 that receive the vaccination will have to return on December 18th from 2 – 6 p.m. for a second dose).

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