

**Sunshine Statement:** Be advised that proper notice has been given by the Township Council in accordance with the sunshine law in the following manner. Notice advertised in the Burlington County Times and Camden Courier Post on December 29, 2015 and posted on the bulletin board on the same date.

**ROLL CALL:** Mr. O'Connell, Ms. Pangia, Mr. Schwartz, Mrs. Kolodi and Mr. Catrambone were present.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Mr. Paris, Mayor, Mr. Long, Solicitor, Mr. Hatcher, Administrator and Ms. Eggers, Municipal Clerk.

**ADIRONDACK ENERGY**

Lou Magazzu apologized for not having a power point this evening; however, he did provide copies of the presentation. Mr. Magazzu stated that in 2012 their company did an audit of the Waste Water treatment facility. Mr. Magazzu stated that what they initially did in 2012 was actually reviewed twelve months of electric bills and also twelve months of a unit of measurement or MGD which means "millions of gallons per day" and evaluated where there were inefficiencies within the system. Specifically the headworks and blower showed inefficiencies. They were the two areas where they feel their equipment would help. They evaluated how many gallons per month and how many kilowatt hours were used which was 2,694 kilowatt hours per MGM. The monthly energy bills show a cost of \$34,000. Another audit would need to be done since these figures are based on 2012 but they do not expect to see much of a difference. The audit would be free. They calculated a monthly energy costs of \$34,553 and an annual cost of \$414,638 and project an energy savings to the Township of 10.11%. The annual savings would be \$41,908. Equipment costs would be \$99,630, which they believe would be paid for in 2.38 years.

The report also showed how many trees are saved, gallons of gas, etc. They provided data to back up the pictures in the report. The final pages showed how many projects they have done and the energy saved. Mr. Magazzu reported that Cinnaminson and Evesham bought their system and they have already paid for their systems with the savings.

The next page of the presentation shows what the boxes look like, how they are positioned and where they are located. They would work with a Township electrician to determine where the boxes would be placed. Mr. Magazzu gave a list of references for the Township to check. They also included letters of reference. Mr. Magazzu went on to say that part of what they do is make the client's system work more efficiently. By increasing the efficiency, the load is reduced which in turn reduces the bill. Mr. Magazzu thanked Council for allowing him to give his presentation. The cost will be about \$110,000 for the whole system (around 8 boxes).

Mr. Catrambone asked Mr. Hatcher to check some of the references that were provided. Council approved them to perform the second audit. They system usually shows a 9% savings and that will be put in writing. However, they usually exceed their expectations. There are no grants available

for this project yet. The audit will take about 9 – 12 hours but only 3 to 4 hours of physically being on site.

Mr. Magazzu stated that they will be ready with the audit in two weeks and perhaps come to the next work session.

### **ABANDONED AND VACANT PROPERTY DISCUSSION**

Mr. Catrambone stated that we have all heard the presentation on some of the options that are available to the Township on abandoned and vacant properties and the list of affected homes was provided by Faith Bass. Mr. Catrambone stated that he has asked the attorney to tell us where we are with the three ordinances concerning properties in distress and any other suggestions he might have. Mr. Catrambone asked Mr. Long to give Council what he has and then Council can ask questions.

Mr. Long stated we have ordinances in place regarding general maintenance standards, the Creditor Responsibility Act regarding foreclosure properties and registration by owner for any building leased or rented.

Mr. Catrambone asked if the Creditor Responsibility Act was the one that was passed last year around this time and that is in place. Mr. Long stated yes it is in place. Mr. Catrambone stated that around March 1<sup>st</sup> we should have more staffing in place and be able to enforce this ordinance more efficiently.

Mr. Long stated that after the presentation on December 14, he worked with Mr. Hatcher on some of the suggestions such as the Abandoned Property List Ordinance and these ordinances are being worked on now and have not yet been enacted on by Council. The ordinance would establish a Department or Official that would make a list of abandoned properties and once the list is created, it would be published and after all the appeals were exhausted and the list would become final. Then the municipality can act on those abandoned properties by doing things as going to early tax sales, or buying the property at market value.

Mr. Schwartz asked if the ordinances in the packet is a sample ordinance or one that was actually put together for consideration.

Mr. Long said that they are ordinances that they drafted for Council to consider. Mr. Long stated that the second ordinance is the vacant property registration ordinance. The ordinance will require owners of vacant properties to register the properties and the fees start at \$500 for the first year and \$1,000 for the next year and eventually you get up to \$3,000. Secondly, it would establish maintenance requirements. Also, they would need to post signs regarding contact information.

The third is a rather aggressive ordinance where the property is not vacant but they have renters that may not be the best neighbors. This ordinance basically calls for if there are two quality of life violations in a six month period, meaning police called out or disorderly conduct, harassment or public drunkenness that would force the landlord to start the eviction process on the tenant.

Mr. Catrambone asked what would happen if we could not reach the landlord.

Mr. Long stated that you could then put that property on the vacant property list.

Mr. Schwartz stated that he has some questions regarding the draft ordinances. One is the section about reporting to the Mayor and Council by the vacant property officer or official. Mr. Schwartz would like to see that timeframe be more often than every six months especially in the early stages. The other issue is the definition for vacant. In that definition there it states that a property that was for sale, rent or actively being marketed should not be considered vacant. Mr. Schwartz stated that maybe we should remove this from the definition.

Mr. Long stated that the language has to be reasonable but he will tweak the language the best he can.

Mr. Schwartz stated that ordinance provides for 80% of the all fee income be used to carry out municipal activities with respect to vacant and distressed properties. He asked if that amount is outlined in the statute.

Mr. Long said that legislative intent is that municipalities do not make money but cover administrative fees to a reasonable extent. That was just a number that they choose.

Mr. Schwartz asked if there is any way we could use those funds for other improvements such as road and sidewalk repairs in the area where these homes are located.

Mr. Long stated that we could not use the funds for general road improvements but it is a good question as to whether we could use it in specific area.

Mr. Schwartz stated that he wants to make sure that the wording does not limit us in any way.

Mr. Catrambone asked if there are any restrictions on how the fees could be used.

Mr. Hatcher stated that the questions came up in a seminar at the League of Municipalities and there was no answer to the question as no one has challenged it yet.

Mr. Long said he would bring back some suggestions to expand on the ordinance.

Mr. O'Connell said that the ordinance does say under the 80% of all fee income "including but not limited to Code Enforcement" but then it goes on to abatement of nuisance conditions, stabilization, rehabilitation" so it does go into several other issues and not only Code Enforcement.

Mr. Long said he will try to make the language as flexible as possible so we are not backed into a corner.

Mr. Schwartz asked about the second year re-registration fees are the same as the first year and wouldn't we be more inclined to raise the second year. Mr. Schwartz would like to see a progressive rate.

Mr. Catrambone said that if Council is in agreement, then we will have the attorneys tweak the ordinances. Mr. Catrambone asked if we have received a proposal from the third party agency or we are still waiting on the proposal.

Mr. Schwartz stated that maybe Council can discuss at the next work session we could have input from Mr. Long and Mr. Hatcher regarding whether we want to consider hiring an outside agency or doing this in house.

Mr. Catrambone stated that we would have to prepare a Request for Proposals. We could potentially discussed what Council would like to see in that request.

Mr. Long said he would come up with an RFQ for the next work session outlining how Township wants to handle this issue and give Council something to discuss. Mr. Long stated that his professional opinion is that the Township hire an agency that focuses in this area. He feels it would be very time consuming to do in in-house.

Mr. Catrambone said that we do expect to have a little more staff as of March 1, 2016 and we already started with the first ordinance that is in place. We need to move forward on ordinances and get the additional staff in place which is about 5 or 6 weeks away. Mr. Catrambone asked if we have a list of foreclosed properties.

Mr. Hatcher said we have a list of those that filed with the Township.

Faith Bass stated that she has a list prepared and it is up to 125 homes.

Mr. Catrambone asked how we would get that list.

Mrs. Bass answered that as soon as the process is in place she will release the list. Ms. Bass stated that there has to be a Vacant Property Officer to handle those files.

Mr. Catrambone said that he wants to be honest with Ms. Bass and he feels that the Township is being held hostage as she has this information and the Township has to prove themselves in order to get the information.

Ms. Bass asked what Council would do with the list since there is nothing in place yet.

Mr. Hatcher said we are talking about two different things, Mrs. Bass has a vacant property list and we do not have that ordinance yet. All we have is the foreclosure list.

Mr. Catrambone asked if we could have the files that deal with foreclosed properties and would fall under the Creditors Responsibility Act.

Ms. Bass stated that said she will turn over the list when she knows someone is in place to handle to files.

Leslie Ralff, 105 Greenbrier Road, stated that the house across the street from her has been vacant for nine years and the bank does not do anything. The grass does get cut but other than that nothing is done about that property. Kids do get into the house as they broke the lock on the sliding doors. Someone needs to be on top of the bank.

Ms. Bass stated all these homes are not foreclosed but they are in the hands of the banks. They are called "zombies". A lot of these homes have been through bankruptcy or trying a loan modification and still could not keep up the payments. Ms. Bass said that a majority of the homes

on the list are “zombies”. Ms. Bass stated that maybe she can compromise and she can provide the list of address that she has compiled.

Mr. Catrambone stated that would be great. Any information she can provide would be helpful. Mr. Catrambone suggested that Ms. Bass and Mr. Hatcher work together to get a list that the Township can work with and continue to keep Council informed.

Mr. Schwartz asked if in two week Council will review the ordinances.

Mr. Catrambone stated yes if will be on the agenda for review.

### **ARCH STREET PROPERTY**

Mr. Catrambone asked Mr. Hatcher to update Council on the Arch street property.

Mr. Hatcher stated that this property went to court and there were three charges with \$1,000 fine on each charge against the homeowner. More importantly, there was an agreement with the homeowner that the Township can enter onto the property to have it cleaned up and place a lien on the property. We have an estimate of a little less than \$1800 for the cleanup. Once we do that then we will be contacting the POD Company to have it removed. We also have permission to remove the cars but the Public Defender asked they be removed to our yard for thirty days prior to going to the towing company. The towing company will charge for storage to the point where the charges would be more than the worth of the cars. Once Council gives authorization to spend the \$1739.87, we can set this cleanup in motion.

Councilman Schwartz asked if we could go into the property. Mr. Hatcher stated that for now it is exterior only.

Myla Rogers, 202 Arch Street, asked what the cleanup entails. Will the brush, trees, etc. be included?

Mr. DeSanto stated it will be just debris, no yard trimmings or grass cutting. They will just remove all the debris, trash and cars.

Mrs. Rogers stated that you cannot get down the sidewalk because of the overgrown brush.

Mr. Hatcher stated that we will check on that and see if it is something that Public Works can handle.

Ms. Rogers asked if the house will stay boarded up. Councilman Catrambone answered “yes”.

Mr. Hatcher stated that they are following the court’s procedures and this is the first step which is cleaning up the debris on the outside.

Ms. Pangia made a motion to authorize the cost of \$1739.77 to clean up the exterior of the property at 312 Arch Street and tow the cars to the Municipal Building for thirty days. Mr. O’Connell seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Mr. O’Connell, Mr. Schwartz, Ms. Pangia, Mrs. Kolodi and Mr. Catrambone voted Aye  
Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Motion Approved

### **SNOW PLOWING/SEWER EMPLOYEES**

The next item involves the Fire Department and those present were called out on a call so Mr. Catrambone said we will come back to that item.

### **WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENTS – TENBY CHASE SWIM CLUB**

Mr. Catrambone stated that although Tenby Chase Swim Club is a private club, the Township received grant money to correct some drainage issues on our property adjacent to the swim club. Mr. Catrambone asked Mr. Winckowski to fill Council in on the specifics.

Mr. Winckowski stated that he met with representatives from the Tenby Chase Swim Club and they are going to put a stone channel or pipe along the edge of the parking lot. Mr. Winckowski stated that the representatives from the Swim Club would like that pipe go along in the open space portion but PSE&G will have to consent. If PSE&G does not consent the Swim Club will have to consent to allow the pipe to be on their property. They have received quotes which are all under the bid threshold. Mr. Winckowski stated that this will not be a permanent fix and somewhere down the line the parking lot will be repaved which will help the water to flow.

Dave Reissman, 700 Fifth Street asked if they looked into a permanent fix.

Mr. Winckowski stated that repaving the parking lot will be the final step.

Mr. Winckowski stated that he will have more precise numbers will be ready for the next meeting.

### **FEE ESTIMATE 2015 ROAD PROGRAM**

Mr. Catrambone asked for a motion to table a fee estimate for the Road Program at this time.

Ms. Pangia made the motion, seconded by Mr. Schwartz to table this discussion to the next work session. . All were in favor, motion approved.

### **REQUEST FOR BOND RELEASE – THE GRANDE AT RANCOCAS CREEK**

Mr. Winckowski stated that we have received a request for the release of several bonds for the Grande at Rancocas Creek. The first request is to release the maintenance bond for Single Family Section 5 & 6 which has expired years ago. Mr. Winckowski recommended this be release.

Mr. Winckowski stated that the second bond is for Single Family sections 2, 3, and 4. Pennoni Associated denied the bond release in 2011 because 85 Stoneham Drive had some severe erosion problems. Supposedly there was a deal worked out to mitigate the issue with a retaining wall but it was never done. It may not even be a bondable item. Mr. Winckowski recommended that Council deny the bond release at this time until this can be reviewed. They have also requested the release of various bonds for sewer improvements throughout the Grande. Since this was done under the Sewer Authority, he has not reviewed the file. Mr. Winckowski does not see any problems with releasing the bonds for the sewer improvements but wants to review the file first before issuing a

report. He advised Council to deny the release of the sewer bonds until the review is complete. The resolutions can be adopted at the next meeting because Council has 45 days from receipt of the letter to deny or release the bond. The maintenance bond can be released because you do not need formal approval for maintenance bond release. Once they have the denial, he will set up a meeting with D.R. Horton to discuss the issue. They will also need to post additional escrow.

Mr. Long stated that he agrees with Mr. Winckowski and will have resolutions drafted for the next meeting.

Mr. Paris stated that if something is not done the homes will be lost.

Mr. Winckowski said if a bank owns it, they should be made aware of the situation

### **NEW OWNERS/ SEWER**

Mr. Catrambone stated that new owners are adjusted to the minimum billing. They will be put on the public meeting for approval.

Ms. Pangia made a motion, seconded by Mr. O'Connell to put these New Owners on the public meeting for approval to the minimum billing. All were in favor, motion approved.

### **TOWING CONTRACT**

Mr. Catrambone asked that this discussion will be tabled for this evening.

Mr. O'Connell made a motion, seconded by Ms. Pangia to table the towing contract discussion. All were in favor, motion approved.

### **ONEDA AVENUE**

Mr. Catrambone stated that they we are looking for an endorsement to indicate that the correct spelling is Oneda Avenue.

Mr. Long suggested that a Resolution be done endorsing the spelling so the homeowner will have something in writing.

### **RANCOCAS CREEK GREENWAY TRAIL**

Mr. Hatcher stated that he and Mr. Winckowski met with Matt Johnson who is coordinating this through the Open Space Acquisition Park Development and Steve Lennon of the Taylor Design Group and basically they are looking to do a greenway trail from Amico Island all the way over to Laurel Run Park. The planning is in the very early stages. They are actually looking for red flags that the governing body may have issues or concerns and bring it to their attention. There is still a long way to go with this in terms of permitting. They do want an area along River Drive dedicated for a bike path.

Mr. Winckowski stated it would not be a problem for the berm to be paved.

Mr. Catrambone stated that he sees a red flag considering that we have the distinction of being bisected by Route 130, the most dangerous road in New Jersey. The bike path will cross Route 130.

Mr. Winckowski stated that they are looking to go under the bridge. There will be a path along the bridge on the east side. The plan also shows options for a tunnel and a boardwalk.

Mr. Winckowski stated that it is a state right-a-way and they will cross it the best way possible.

Council's main concern is about safety.

Sissy Workman asked Council to explain the areas that will be included.

Mr. Hatcher stated that this is in the very early stages and the County we will come back to the Township sometime in the future.

### **E-WASTE CHARGES**

Mr. Catrambone stated that information was provided to Council that TV's and CRT monitors will no longer be picked up at no charge. The charge would be twenty-eight cents per pound.

Mr. DeSanto stated that every month to month and a half we recycling approximately 7,000 to 9,000 pounds.

Mr. Hatcher stated that if the Governor signs the E-Waste bill there will not be a problem but it is still on his desk. If the bill does not pass and we continue to accept TV's, we will be losing about \$3,000 per month. The residents can also take them to the County where they would be accepted for free.

Mr. DeSanto suggested to let it go for a month or two and see how it works out and then come back to the table and revisit it. This is to be put on the agenda for the first work session in February.

Council agreed to also discuss the possibility of charging a fee for these items.

### **CONSTRUCTION CODE OFFICE/ CLERICAL ASSISTANCE**

Mr. Hatcher stated that we are looking for part time help in this department. We did not have any transition time with the new hire. There is significant more action taking place in the Construction office and with the new housing developments we need additional clerical assistance in that department. The person in mind is willing to come in two days week and has full knowledge of the Construction Code office. She could help train the person in place now to improve their processing and also add some additional help. Council had no objections. Mr. Hatcher said it would be in the 2016 budget.

Ms. Pangia made a motion to bring someone in for two days a week up to \$15,000 in the Construction Code Office, seconded by Mrs. Kolodi. All were in favor, motion approved.

## **GIRLS/BOYS STATE**

Mr. Catrambone stated that sponsoring an individual to attend Boys State and Girls State is something we have approved for several years. These are very worthy programs.

Ms. Pangia made a motion, sectioned by Mr. O'Connell.

Roll Call: Ms. Pangia, Mrs. Kolodi, Mr. O'Connell, Mr. Schwartz and Mr. Catrambone voted aye.

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Motion approved.

## **457(b) PLAN/LOAN**

Mr. Hatcher stated that this is a deferred compensation plan and we have an agreement that needs to be approved by the State; however, the State does not require any amendments to allow for loans from the plan. There was an individual who wanted to take out his money under "hardship" but did not qualify for a hardship. The administrator of the fund suggested that we add a loan provision which is allowed and does not require any additional work by the State and basically it is just an amendment to our existing plan. If Council is in favor, Mr. Hatcher can sign a document saying that they administer everything and we are not involved. There is no cost to the Township.

Mr. Schwartz made a motion to allow loans through the deferred compensation plan, seconded by Ms. Pangia. All were in favor, motion approved.

## **LT. WILLIAMS – FBI ACADEMY**

Mr. Catrambone stated that it is an honor that one of our Lieutenants was invited to attend the FBI Academy for a ten-week session. This would give Lt. Williams background in law, behavioral science, forensic science, terrorist and many other aspects.

Mr. Hatcher stated that our current Chief attended many years ago and it is quite an honor to get the invite. Since it is a ten-week course he would be gone for ten weeks attending the academy. Mr. Hatcher stated that he wanted to touch base with Council for their feelings on the matter. Mr. Catrambone asked while the Lieutenant was away, would that put an undue harm, hardship or additional cost on the Township.

Mr. Hatcher stated that there would not be any additional costs but obviously the Chief and other Lieutenant would be picking up additional work during that time.

Mr. Schwartz asked if it would inhibit the patrol function.

Mr. Hatcher stated that it would not.

Mr. Catrambone asked if there were any issues from the legal side.

Mr. Long stated that this training would be very beneficial to the Township.

Mrs. Kolodi asked if he have any responsibility to teach the other members of the Department when he returns.

Mr. Hatcher stated that it will be a great asset to the attending officer but he does not feel that a session would be set up for others in the department. His leadership should definitely be improved upon his return.

Mr. Catrambone feels that the Lieutenant would have some insight on criminal minds that may not be taught at the Police Academy but would be a tremendous asset to the Township. Mr. Catrambone sees this as a plus for the Township.

Mr. Schwartz made a motion to approve sending Lt. Williams to the FBI Academy, seconded by Mr. O'Connell. All were in favor, motion approved.

### **PUBLIC WORKS SATURDAY HOURS**

Mr. Hatcher stated that that Council discussed having the Public Works yard open from 8:00 am to noon to accept things from residents. Especially branches when it is a time that we are not picking up branches. The cost would be \$4500 per year.

Mr. DeSanto stated that he gets calls from residents who say that the department closes at 3:00 pm and they are not done work until 5:00 pm so the time is not convenient.

Ms. Pangia made a motion to allow Saturday hours from 8:00 am to Noon, seconded Mr. O'Connell seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Pangia, Mrs. Kolodi, Mr. Schwartz, Mr. O'Connell and Mr. Catrambone voted aye.

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Motion approved

### **SCHNEIDER ELECTRIC**

Mr. Hatcher stated that he talked to Chris Russo over the summer and they had Schneider Electric do an audit for the School District. They then came to the Township and did a quick look and review. We do not spend a significant amount of money on energy compared to the school district but they would be willing to do an energy audit at no cost. There is no commitment on the Township's part but they would need authorization to get our information from the utilities and then give us a report.

Ms. Pangia stated that Schneider Electric was not the low bid at the school and shed asked if we can contact the other bidders.

Mr. Paris asked why the low bidder was not accepted.

Mr. Hatcher stated that he will reach out to Chris Russo to get the particulars.

Mr. Winckowski stated that Schneider Electric may have been the lowest responsible bidder.

Mr. Hatcher stated that this can be put off as it does not have to be decided now. This will be put on another work session when all the information is available.

### **SNOW PLOWING/SEWER EMPLOYEES**

The Fire Commissioners were not back but Mr. Catrambone stated that Council should proceed. Mr. Catrambone stated that the Fire Commissioners had come to Council and asked to do a shared service for the plowing of their driveways and parking lots for stations 231 and 232. Mr. Catrambone stated that Council wanted to see how it would work and what impact it would have on our ability to plow our streets. Mr. Catrambone stated that Delran is the gold standard for snow removal and the residents have grown accustomed to that quality of work and Council does not want to impede that. Mr. Catrambone stated that the Fire District is a separate tax entity and have their own tax and budget that is approved by the voters and managed by the Fire Commissioners but this does not mean that we do not want to see what the Township can do. Mr. Hatcher was asked to come up with some options to determine if it was viable and if we could use Public Works and if that was not viable or what other options were available and at what costs. Mr. Bauer entered the meeting.

Mr. Hatcher stated that Council received a memo from Jerry DeSanto concerning the Public Works Department doing the plowing and it was determined that would impact how we deliver services using the current manpower. The other avenue looked at was having Sewer employees use our equipment and plow the Fire Departments. There were two sewer employees who said they may be interested to respond to a call. If we had a storm we would call out one of the employees to plow. Mr. Hatcher stated that it was determined to be \$4,000 to \$5,000 for the manpower and \$2,000 to \$3,000 with respect to salt and sand. Mr. Hatcher stated that he looked at 2014 and 2015 and averaging it out, the Township is looking at \$6,000 to \$8,000.

Mr. Paris said that if this were to happen and the sewer employee did not show up, then the expectation would not be that the Public Works Department took over.

Mr. Catrambone asked if we had enough equipment and the answer was yes. Pickup trucks would be used for plowing.

Mr. Hatcher stated that we did not add any costs for use of equipment.

Mr. Schwartz said that he realizes that the Public Works Department is lacking in manpower and they just cannot keep up with all the work. However, Mr. Schwartz feels that the fire department is a public safety entity and it is just part of what we have to do. Mr. Schwartz stated that it makes sense to him that the Fire Stations get plowed and also that Public Works is understaffed and feels another employee should be hired.

Mrs. Kolodi asked if we could just try to do it with the money that the Fire District has available.

Ms. Pangia stated that their budget is for professional services and not just plowing.

Mrs. Kolodi suggested using the Sewer Employees and maybe revisit this again and discuss hiring someone for Public Works, if it is needed.

Mr. Catrambone stated that it would cost the Township approximately \$7,000 to plow the two fire stations parking lots using the sewer department employees on a trial basis to see how it goes but not having the Public Works as a backup because we do not want to impede them. Also, if down the road we desire to hire a full time PW employee because we see a need and no longer use a sewer employee, we are still going to charge them \$7,000 or whatever it costs so what we are talking about is if \$7,000 is a palatable price for the fire district to pay.

Mr. Hatcher stated that of course Public Works needs more men. The number that we have is really a product of the 2% cap. If another PW employee were hired, we would lose something in the budget. This was done with other departments also as five years ago we had thirty two police officers and now we have thirty. We used to have seventeen Public Works employees and now we have fourteen. It all has to do with the 2% cap.

Ms. Pangia asked if we are charging the Fire District a fee even if we do not get snow. The answer was only if we plow.

Mrs. Kolodi stated that she believed the costs would be based upon the snow storms. If it did not snow much the cost would be less than \$7,000.

Mr. Hatcher said if we do a shared service, he can show a revenue and an appropriation.

Mr. Catrambone asked if we were to budget for this we would have to raise \$7,000 in taxes and then we would be reimbursed by the Fire District.

Mr. Hatcher stated we would not show a revenue if you do not enter into a contract and we would need to raise \$7,000 in the budget. It would be similar to what we do with Public Works and estimate what the overtime would be and put that in the budget. If it does not get spent, it goes to surplus.

Mr. Long suggested a Shared Services agreement.

Mrs. Kolodi asked if the Fire Department has a budget and do they budget for snow removal. Mr. Catrambone said they budget for professional services. Mrs. Kolodi asked if they budget for professional services as part of the maintenance of the fire station, and if that comes out of tax dollars, are we double taxing the residents to do this. The answer was technically yes.

Mr. Schwartz stated that the Township did plow the fire stations and then they stopped doing it. This was many years ago.

Mr. Paris asked if that the new fire station is much bigger than the old one and will take much more time to plow. Years ago, it was a small parking lot that needed to be done.

Mr. Bauer stated that he will be meeting with the state and he can ask if snow removal can be an emergency expenditure which means it would not be in the budget. Mr. Bauer stated that he knows that everyone wants to make this work and he understands that if the sewer employees do not come out, then the fire district will do something else. If it works out and everyone comes to an agreement then all is good.

After additional discussion, Ms. Pangia asked if we could agree to have Mr. Hatcher and Mr. Bauer work out the details and then come back to Council with what they agreed to. Council agreed.

Dave Reissman, 700 Fifth Street asked what liability the Township has with plowing the fire house if they could not get out.

Mr. Long stated that we have insurance and with the Shared Service agreement there will be a Plan B.

Mr. Catrambone reiterated that Mr. Hatcher and Mr. Bauer will sit down and see if they can come up with a viable option that is agreeable to both parties.

Bob DePersia, 62 Cornell Drive, asked if there is a slip and fall liability with having the Township plow the fire station property.

Mr. Long stated that there is always that chance but as long as you are using your best efforts and have insurance, it should not be a problem.

Myla Rogers, 300 Arch Street, asked if sewer is taxed separately from the fire department.

Mr. Catrambone stated that the Sewer Department is a department in the Township that has a separate budget but it is all part of the township.

Mr. O'Connell stated that there are so many variables and the biggest one is how much snow we are going to get and he agreed with Mrs. Kolodi's comment of trying it for a year and then revisit the issue.

It is agreed that Mr. Bauer and Mr. Hatcher will get together and work out a plan and if it snows in the meantime, the fire department will handle it.

## **REPORTS**

**Mr. DeSanto, Public Works Superintendent** – Mr. DeSanto reported that the Public Works Department picked up about 600 Christmas trees to date and will continue until the end of the month. Mr. DeSanto also thanked Council for the new leaf pickers which are working out awesome. A lot of towns are coming down and asking for a copy of our specs.

Mayor Paris thanked Mr. DeSanto for suggesting the purchase.

Mr. Catrambone asked Mr. DeSanto what we can do about the houses that but branches out by the curb as that will cause a problem if it snows.

Mr. DeSanto stated that he has handed out at least seventy five letters to the residents that had branches out and most of them have been cleaned up. Mr. DeSanto will go back and check of any remaining branches.

**Mr. Parento, RAC Chairman** – Mr. Parento stated that at their monthly meeting it was brought up to host a bus trip for residents similar to the Senior Citizen bus trips. A suggestion was to do a trip

to New York to see a show. The trip would be open to all the residents. Mr. Parento stated that the Easter Egg hunt is coming up soon and they are beginning to prepare. Mr. Parento also asked if he could meet with Council concerning the members of RAC. Mr. Parento was advised to give the Municipal Clerk the names of any members that are not showing up for meetings.

**Jeff Williams, Supervisor of Sewer Department** – Mr. Williams reported that 5<sup>th</sup> Street is progressing and the Sewer Department is keeping up with the cold weather maintenance and everything is flowing.

**Ms. Eggers**- No report

**Mr. Hatcher** – No report

**Mr. Winckowski** – Mr. Winckowski reported that they will go out to bid soon for the Swedes Lake project.

**Mr. Long** – Mr. Long asked to discuss the request from a resident to vacate a portion of Mulberry Street. The street becomes unimproved and then connects with the circular driveway that belongs to the resident. The property on the other side is a commercial property. Mr. Long stated that Council would have to have the Engineer go out and determine if there is any possible use that the Township would have for the property. If there is no use for it, then vacate it and half of the property would go to one neighbor and the other half to the neighbor on the opposite side. Once the Township gets the report from the Engineer, then an ordinance can be drawn up.

Mr. Schwartz asked does the road have to be split between the two neighbors.

Mr. Long stated that it has to be offered to both but one can refuse to take their portion. There will be the 200' notice and a public hearing. It was asked who is taking care of the property now.

Charles Eiler, 16 Mulberry Street, stated that he and his wife have been taking care of the property.

Mr. Winckowski stated that there is a concern with making nonconforming lot and that is why a survey needs to be done.

**Ms. Pangia** – No Report

**Mr. Schwartz** – No Report

**Mrs. Kolodi** – No Report

**Mr. O'Connell** – No Report

**Mr. Catrambone** – No Report

**Mr. Paris** – Mr. Paris asked if Timber Creek could be responsible in their sewer application for upgrades to the pump station on Clay Street.

Mr. Winckowski stated that they would keep that in mind but there have been no sewer applications to date.

## **PUBLIC PORTION**

Mr. Schwartz made a motion to open the meeting to the public. The motion was seconded by Ms. Pangia. All were in favor, motion approved.

Elvina Wilson, 18 Little Avenue stated that she saw on Channel 28 Bulletin Board on several occasions that Burlington County Freeholders serve hot lunches to any senior in Burlington County. Mrs. Wilson wanted to know if Council could notify the officers of the Delran Seniors to contact their Freeholders to give the Delran Seniors the ability to get a hot lunch at their Seniors' meeting.

Mr. Parento was asked to mention it to Mr. Grockenberger, the president of the Delran Seniors to call the Freeholders.

Myla Rodger stated that she heard Delran is being put in a high risk rate through their car insurance. She asked what can be done.

Mr. Catrambone stated that he saw the post saying that Geico has raised the rates for drivers living in Delran. Mr. Catrambone stated there is nothing that Council can do about that. Route 130 is a state road and Delran has no authority. Our police officers can enforce the speed limit but we have no authority to put up signs.

Ms. Rodgers brought why Route 130 in Cinnaminson is well lighted compared to Route 130 in Delran.

Mr. Catrambone stated that it is a state roadway and any improvements to the road would be done by the State.

Council agreed to send a letter to the state outlining the concerns.

Ms. Rodgers brought up having a crosswalk across Hartford Road to the High School.

Mr. Hatcher stated that the police have looked into having a crosswalk there and in three days only one person crossed over.

Mr. Winckowski stated that this should be brought to the attention of the school board.

Ms. Pangia made a motion to end the public portion of the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Schwartz. All were in favor, motion approved.

Mr. Schwartz made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Pangia. All were in favor, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Jamey Eggers, Township Clerk