

Minutes of the Agenda Meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Commercial, held on Monday, July 13, 2015 at the Township Hall, 1768 Main Street, Port Norris, NJ

Those present:

Judson Moore	Mayor
Fletcher Jamison	Committeeman
Ronald L. Sutton, Sr.	Committeeman
Thomas Seeley	Solicitor
Hannah E. Nichols	Township Clerk
Edward Dennis	Engineer
Clint Miller	Public Works Supervisor
Heather Sparks	Deputy Clerk

Mayor Moore presided and called the meeting to order with the announcement that the meeting had been advertised, that the meeting was being electronically recorded and being held in full compliance of the Open Public Meeting Act. Mayor Moore asked everyone to rise for the Flag Salute and the Lord's Prayer.

Mayor Moore said we do not have the state police present tonight but I do have several individuals for presentations tonight that are not on the agenda because the agenda had already been prepared. Mayor said he would like to call on Leah Tonge, of the Family Success Center first because she has another meeting at the school.

Ms. Leah Tonge said that she had contacted the Cumberland County Health Department and had filed an application and been approved for a mobile license for the Haleyville Community Center.

Committeeman Sutton asked if there had been an inspection and was a certificate issued.

Ms. Tonge said that there had been and that she had given Cindy Tawes a copy of the certificate.

Committeeman Sutton told Ms. Tonge to see that a copy of the certificate be given to Hannah, the Township Clerk.

Ms. Tonge said that two chiefs had donated a commercial size stove for the community center and that she would like to have cooking classes there.

Mayor Moore said he would like to see the center used 24/7 but he said Cindy Tawes is the coordinator of the facility and that everything needs to be taken to Cindy. Mayor made comment that there is a lot of vacant property and that a garden program might be considered if Family Success Center wanted to start some type of garden club.

Ms. Tonge said that there are dance classes on Friday evening, and that National Night Out will be held at the Haleyville Community Center with games, raffles, prizes, pony rides, petting zoo, food.

Mayor Moore thanked Ms. Tonge and stated the Family Success Center is doing a great job and that everything is shaping up with the Jehovah Witness facility, that English has been there and the septic and well situation is in good condition and approved, and things can get started there.

Ms. Tonge said that she has gotten approval that she will not lose two of her staff as planned. That they have been approved and therefore she will have staff available for the new building. Also she has gotten concrete donated for the leveling of the floor.

Mayor said that will be a great help in the expense of bringing the building into compliance as a Family Success Center. He thanked Ms. Tonge for all of her efforts.

Mayor Moore said I would like to call on Kevin Young who had approached the township about a Youth Enrichment Program, which the township committee was in full support by amending our salary ordinance for a Recreation Coordinator in the amount of \$6,000, we purchased liability insurance in the amount of nine hundred and something, the school was in favor of the program and it looked like everything was a go.

Mr. Kevin Young said he and his wife Pamela were very enthused when they presented the Commercial Township Youth Enrichment Program to the committee back in May. He said he couldn't believe that there would be so many obstacles to overcome in putting a program together that would enhance the lives of our youth. Mr. Young said as an educator at the Port Norris Middle School he has seen how family home environment, relationships and poor social skills, affect the students academically and physically and plays a very large part in our students lack of self-esteem. Mr. Young said our program is to bring activities which will bring hope, physical and mental wellbeing and this will reduce negative behaviors in school as well in our community. Mr. Young said all of this sounds very good, very worthwhile for our students but requires many things to make it work. We would need the use of Commercial Township recreational facilities, need sports equipment, the use of Port Norris Middle School's Gym in order to incorporate sports and social skills into our program. We will need money for salaries, liability insurance, transportation for the individual students of Laurel Lake who want to participate in the program, uniforms, volunteers, (pending background checks, these cost money but because we are working with students, background checks are a requirement). We would hope to use Port Norris Middle School Gym, Commercial Township Recreational Center and Sports Fields, equipment, food and snacks. All of the fore-mentioned items would be a necessity, we didn't realize when we did the original presentation how difficult it would be to ascertain these items and put the program on, but my wife and I feel dedicated to this program, we feel that it is a very worthwhile program that will benefit all of those that participate from the student to the instructors, to the volunteers.

Mayor Moore said he felt that the township had stepped up to the plate with the salary, insurance, but now we can see that there is much more involved. Mayor said we have a recreation committee and there might be a possibility that they would be more than willing to help raise money, volunteer, get the word out. Mayor told Mr. Young to contact the clerk and she can setup any meeting you would want just let her know the date, time and place. Mayor thanked Mr. Young and told him that his presentation was enlightening and that it would certainly benefit the youth of our township and the committee will look forward to working with Mr. Young and his wife to implement this exciting summer Youth Enrichment Program.

Committeeman Jamison said as far as the township we have been behind you one hundred percent and you know that anything that we can do, we are here, we've shown that from the beginning, when it involves the kids I'm always involved and you know that and if there is anyone in the audience that wants to join in with Mr. Young you can contact me or anyone of us on the committee or contact Hannah and let us know what you want to participate in or how you want to help.

Mr. Young asked does the township have a recreation committee.

Committeeman Jamison said we do have a recreation committee but I can't tell you when we had our last meeting.

Mayor Moore said at the end of last year I believe.

Committeeman Jamison said just let me know when you want to have a meeting and I will have Hannah to send the letters out. He asked Mr. Young what basically are you looking for, we did our part as far as getting you over some curdles, but what else are you looking for.

Mr. Young said able bodies, that's what we need is able bodies because there are only the two of us and sometimes people are busy, we're here tonight for the kids, when we opened up the gym we had 48 people come to play basketball and their question was are you going to open it up again, and I responded I don't know, and we're talking about a range of different ages that showed up to play. But their question are we going to open the gym any more I do not want that to be an issue, but I don't know, my wife got home from work at 5:30 and we jumped in the car to get here tonight because of Jud, but we had to find someone else to take our daughter to soccer practice because we had to be here and I don't want that to be an issue but there is only the two of us and we can't do it all by ourselves, so we need able bodies to help us so there isn't an issue if the gym is going to be open. I have a lot of ideas and there are a lot of reasons why we shouldn't have showed up, but this is important so whatever the committee can do to make this happen, but how do I ask this statutorily of you, make this happen because I need more than just me, Mr. Jamison, and you're asking me what else I need I need able bodies.

Committeeman Jamison said then we'll start out with contacting the recreation committee and see what happens and who might volunteer.

Mayor Moore asked Mr. Young to put an outline together defining exactly what he is going to need to get the program started that the township could place a notice in the reminder, meet with the recreation committee and yourself, put out some flyers through the school perhaps, talk to the parents because I don't really want to wait until next year, maybe we can salvage this somehow, or maybe an after school program or something on a Saturday. Let's do something but I realize that there is a lot more to this than we ever realized and there are details that we never even thought about. We are on the right track because we have never had money in our budget to pay for recreation so that's a big step. This committee is all for it and we went out and spent money for insurance, the school board was very receptive to us in using their facilities and doing things like that. Give us a plan, let's have a recreation meeting and that will be start give us two, three weeks to advertise, several of us can meet with you and see where we go. Let's keep this thing going, this is a hot issue, we may miss the summer but maybe we can get it going in the fall, we have to feed this program.

Superintendent/Principal Daniel Dooley, said he wanted to thank the mayor and committee in forming this partnership and that they will be glad to join in with this program. Mr. Dooley introduced Alysia Thomson as Vice Principal.

Mayor Moore said maybe after you've been here for a while we can have a joint meeting to see how we can get this program started.

Mayor Moore said we have Lou here from Atlantic City Electric who has a brief presentation for us.

Mr. Lou, said the mayor and committee has asked him to come and present to them an idea about lighting and to help them with their budget and talk about technology. He said about five years ago, we had a test pilot of LED lights, seven years ago we approached the state of New Jersey and they were the first ones to be proactive. He said in year 2013 we went to Board of Public Utilities and received a grant which allowed us to write a policy of what type of budget would be generated for the municipalities if they changed to LED lighting, the savings per month, yearly, from each fixture by changing from the old lights to LED lights. He said we serve 127 municipalities and most of them we have shown them how to reduce costs, how can we save money. Commercial Township has approximately 421 yellow high pressure lights and they were installed approximately fifteen years ago. He said the electric company has a program out there that we offer to all municipalities to help reduce the budget by the reducing of the monthly, yearly costs. This program not only help the townships but helps us in a way because it lowers our maintenance costs and the Board of Public Utilities says it cost you less

than a cent to use, then you don't need to do a cost of inflation every five years then you need to go back to whose going to help fund this thing, and that would be the municipalities and I explained this program to them, I put a budget together and we use a tariff that allows you to convert to LED lighting. You can save 60 to 70% of your lighting budget, you would have to put the money up front, the rate of return would be about eight years, which is really good for a three hundred and fifty thousand dollar investment, in eight years you have gotten your money back. He said they would replace every yellow light with a bright white light, the life expectancy of each fixture is fifteen years, there would be no maintenance by the municipality. He said the municipality could apply for a lower rate in go green, a lot of programs that will allow municipalities to apply. We have lighting, we just installed 156 lights in Atlantic City, there is a total overall of seven thousand. He said for a typical light that we currently pay say on a street corner, you pay about fifteen dollars a month, you take that same light and convert to LED you're talking about three dollars a month, a light that cost you now at twenty-six dollars a month will cost you eight dollars a month. He said the township would determine whether they would want to replace every single one of the lights or change the lights around, we've talked about having minimum lights in the area, what you could do if we went back and audited this whole township, you have verified the lights, you have nine accounts in your budget, gave them a spread sheet where 421 of them are with two locations of size and types, once the township makes the determination and locks in the purchase order, then we would order the lights, which normally takes about six weeks and contract for a crew to do the installation. He said the norm is about ten lights per day. It is a simple process.

Mayor Moore asked if he would explain that when you look at a light the way it shines down.

He said LED lighting shines straight down it is a bright white light but the circumference is the same as the yellow light area but it comes straight down and then flares out, it does not light up the area up at the top of the pole. You get a bigger light spectrum with the LED lights. It does maintain the exact light level that the existing light level had shown.

Mayor Moore said I looked at the numbers and right now we are paying right around \$63,000, we budgeted \$67,000 and with the savings, we would actually be paying \$17,000 a year we would be saving \$45,000, which is almost too good to be true as far as the amount of savings it would be to us. I was also talking with Clint about getting the lights along Main Street, Battle Lane and Highland Street, Mauricetown and have them converted over too but they are private lights and they don't do those but they have given me a lead on getting them converted over and that would be an even bigger savings. Mayor Moore asked Committeeman Jamison and Sutton would they felt about the concept.

Mayor Moore said the one area that I have been thinking about is that we have one point seven million dollars in surplus and if you use three hundred and sixty thousand out of the surplus and then over the eight years we could pay that back, or we can stretch it out, we don't have to borrow the money, we wouldn't be paying interest even though interest is a very low rate right now and then as we put the lights in we can go after the rebate.

Mr. Lou once you do a contract with us we can then apply to the state for 421 lights under this amount of x's a mount of dollars as purchased is secured and then you would sign the contract is binding.

Committeeman Sutton said is there a town, city or county that's been done around us?

Mr. Lou said we have them in Bridgeton, he said Camden County itself, we just put up a test pilot and started with 75 lights in their municipal yard, they budgeted ten million dollars for Camden County. Northfield, Mill Road and Shore Road have seven, Upper Deerfield has one. Atlantic City has some right now. He said Gloucester Township is going out on their own. He said we are getting a ten year warranty but we are expecting fifteen useful life.

Committeeman Sutton said that's what I'm saying it's going to take eight years to pay for them and in two years they are going to go and we're right back to square one and having to do it all over again.

Mr. Lou said no, it is us, it will be our responsibility.

Committeeman Sutton said what about the light fixture itself.

Mr. Lou said no that is ours. You are not buying the lights you are leasing them, you are buying the program.

Committeeman Sutton said I believe that eventually there will be a lot of grants out there because a lot of towns are not going to be able to afford this and I can't see where we can take three hundred and fifty-nine thousand dollars out of surplus.

Mayor Moore said all you have to do is give me a yes vote Fletcher and we'll get it done, I know Ron is concerned but when we have that much money from savings from tax payers why not give it back at some degree.

Committeeman Sutton said if this is such a good deal, it is to save electric, why isn't the electric company doing it themselves.

Mr. Lou said obviously because the tariff allows us to charge because a two man truck can go up there and replace an existing fixture which costs about thirteen hundred bucks, at union rates. To have a truck ready to roll cost twenty-five hundred dollars and we're going make three dollars. You determine the cost we don't, it's not just about lighting.

Committeeman Sutton said how can we be guaranteed that these lights would get fixed, some of the ones that we have now, sometimes they are out for months.

Mr. Lou said we have a program on line, atlanticcityelectric.com, and if the outage is filed on line, those lights are fixed within twenty-four hours because those outages are sent directly to the truck, who will investigate and poles can be replaced within forty-eight hours.

Public Works Supervisor, Clint Miller, asked if a resident called regarding putting up a new light would they get the LED light.

Mr. Lou said both are still available, they would be given the opportunity to choose.

Mayor Moore asked if there were questions from the public.

Mr. John Nardone, Environmental Chairman, said he has read articles about this and the end result is a savings to the municipality.

Mr. Lou said it is not a money making opportunity for the electric company.

Mayor Moore said Mr. Nardone is Chairman of the Environmental Commission and he would like for the commission to review the program. He thanked Mr. Lou and said he would have the committee go over it and hopefully have an answer next month, the savings we can't beat it, we're paying \$63,000 and we will end up paying \$17,000. Mr. Moore thanked Mr. Lou for the very informative presentation.

Mayor Moore said we have Mr. Howard Smith, who owns property at 1519 Main Street, Port Norris, known as Block 267, Lot 12. He has complained to the township that the rear part of his property floods, that he unable to farm the land. He presented pictures to the committee.

Mrs. Larae Smith said she also has had flooding.

Committee asked Engineer, Edward Dennis, if he would be willing to do an onsite inspection of the property to see if he could find where the water was coming from and as to what has contributed to the change.

Mr. Dennis said he would be glad to and it was decided that the committee, Mr. Dennis, Solicitor Seeley and Mr. Smith would meet at his property at 5:30 P.M., on July 16th.

Mayor Moore asked Mr. Smith if he thought the bulk of the water was coming from PSEG, is it coming over the berm.

Mr. Smith said water is not coming over the berm. He said there is a ditch that goes past the berm that cuts through and I guess the water has no place to go and it comes up each side of Windmill Road, straight on up.

Mayor Moore said it sounds like it is a PSEG problem because they are allowing this water to come through this pipe in the back of this berm. Mayor asked Mr. Smith these areas were these pipes put in by PSEG or are these the pipes from Main Street.

Mr. Smith said PSEG.

Mayor Moore said final decision meeting at site on July 16th.

Mrs. Larae Smith said her problem is that the water is coming across the street, her basement is above ground, she was at a level 2, now she is at a level 9, and the water is coming across the street onto her property.

Mayor Moore said I asked our Animal Control Officer, Joanne Hill, to attend this meeting because Carol Hickman has some questions and I wanted to ask about animal census because I want the township to do something about that.

Mrs. Hill said Tri County Animal Control does not do census any more, it takes a lot of time, you have to go door to door, sending out notices just does not get it, most people work and are not home during the day, we do not have the time nor the staff to do an animal census. You have to hire additional help when doing a census and the amount of paperwork is astronomical, you have to fill out the owners, the breed, the color of the dog, gender, size, long or short hair, it was just not cost effective for us to do the census anymore. Mrs. Hill presented the committee with copies of forms that they used when they had done the census in the past. Forms that can be put on the door knobs that animal control was there and that they would return, forms that they left stating this is second visit and you have seven days to get a dog license and finally the form that we signed to file a complaint against the pet owner and filed it with the court administrator that we were taking someone to court and the case can be schedule.

Mayor Moore asked if she knew of an organization that did animal census and how did the township recoup the cost of the census and what is the law regarding doing a census.

Mrs. Hill said she did not and when they did the census they charged the township two dollars and fifty cents per dog. She said the state has required yearly census, now they have changed it to every two years. She said she has never heard of the state fining any township for not doing a census.

Clerk stated that township charges a late fee of \$4.50 to anyone that licenses their dog or cat after March 15th, this year we waited until April but this is how we would have paid for census, this is how the late fee of \$4.50 for each dog and cat got started. It was how John Dick and Clarence Wyckoff got paid.

Mayor Moore asked Mrs. Carol Hickman to come forward because he knew she had some questions for the animal control officer that she wanted to get clarified.

Mrs. Hickman said one of the problems that have is I have a 501c non-profit organization that allows me to work with feral cats for the township, I work with TNR. I have come across several people that are calling me and complaining about animal control constancy. One lady called me because there was a fire on Robins Road, she said she called you and spoke to you direct and that she told you that the people across the street had two cats and left them after the house burned down and she was feeding them and she said you told her that you would not pickup the two cats because you saw food sitting on the porch and she must be feeding those stray cats, but you would charge her to pickup those cats and take them to the SPCA and that you would be back on Monday and after two weeks later after she moved you still never contacted her nor came back. Mrs. Hickman said I have the cats and I've had them since March.

Mrs. Hill said that may be, you have the cats, but I have never heard this story. I don't know anything about this, I didn't even know that there was a fire on Robin Road.

Committeeman Sutton said I want to interject here a little bit, whenever anybody complains, the first thing you need to tell them is to call Hannah, this way we have a record as to who has called.

Clerk stated that she has not received any phone call from anybody regarding a fire on Robin Road and that the people that lived there had abandoned their two cats.

Mrs. Hickman said I had a meeting on July the 6th with Anthony Sills of the City of Millville because I went to the City Commission about some other things and Anthony told me and there were about 12 people standing there as witnesses that he is constantly getting calls from Commercial Township about our animal control because he said people were constantly telling him that when you are called to come out to do any type of pickup or any type of problem, they are always being told she doesn't pickup.

Committeeman Sutton said I'm not just sticking up for her or anybody else, but I can tell you, you don't want to rely on Anthony Sills because he does hardly nothing.

Committeeman Jamison told Mrs. Hickman, as Ronnie said if you get calls you tell them to call Hannah, that way the calls are all documented. If someone calls you and complains you tell them they are to call Hannah.

Clerk asked Mrs. Hickman, why are they calling you in the first place.

Mrs. Hickman said they're calling me because they are cat issues.

Mayor Moore said when they do call you tell them to call the township hall, or you got my cell and we can get animal control but Hannah is the key point and she will take the message and will get hold of Joanne and that's how we will resolve it. Since I've been overseeing it I haven't had anybody call me or being irate, have any of you guys.

Committeeman Jamison and Committeeman Sutton said no they have not had any calls.

Mayor Moore said we are assuming that things out there are running smooth, now there could be pocket of things that people are irate about out there but when they do and you hear about it, you got to tell them to call the township, in fairness to Joanne, you had some questions and I didn't mean to put her on the spot but you had some questions about fees and I wanted Joanne here to give us an overview of everything and the census, but if there are issues we have to (didn't finish)

Mrs. Hickman said apparently, Joanne and the whole TriCounty, they do not do any animal control on the weekend, once they get done at 5:00 P.M., on Friday you don't get any contact.

Committeeman Sutton said nobody does, unless it is strictly an emergency.

Mrs. Hickman said people are working between the hours of 9 to 5 like everybody and they have animal issues they're not home.

Committeeman Sutton said nobody has animal control on weekends, we cannot afford to pay for animal control on weekends, we don't have the money. Millville does not have animal control on weekends, nobody does, no township does.

Mrs. Hickman said the people of the township cannot just take cats to the SPCA, they have to come in by animal control.

Committeeman Sutton said that's right, she has to determine whether it is a stray or the persons cat.

Mrs. Hill said I've been hired as animal control, to pickup stray cats, cat's that are privately owned are the responsibility of the owner. If there is a problem and the SPCA is involved and I know anything about the situation I will tell them it is okay to take the animal in.

Mrs. Hickman said there was an issue over the weekend, that was a situation where we both tried to get something done between animal control and the SPCA, we ended up handling it among the three of us, so it was quite an ordeal.

Committeeman Sutton said what issue was that.

Mayor Moore said it was a weekend thing but it doesn't involve our animal control.

Mrs. Hill said I went up there today, to take in the three cats that you had left, but I had no idea that you were removing all of those animals on Saturday. I was told by Jud that he was going out there to check it out.

Mayor Moore said right.

Mrs. Hill said and that is what I got from Jud and that is what I was told.

Committeeman Jamison said I don't know what you're talking about.

Committeeman Sutton said what house, what animals are you talking about.

Mrs. Hill said this is a long standing thing, this lady had these cats for many years

Committeeman Sutton asked where was this at.

Mrs. Hill said on Beaver Road and a member of the SPCA said to me why don't you come out with me and check this place out and the SPCA knew about this, they had been helping her with her medication for these animals for years. Now this lady apparently got sick and can't do this any more, so suddenly there are 30 cats that need homes. That is not my job.

Committeeman Sutton said that is not her job, she deals strictly with stray animals. Now if the SPCA wants to seize these animals it's up to them, the cost is on them and to transport, now as animal control if she wants to give them a helping hand, transport them there, that's entirely up to her, but it is not in her contract and the township should not be paying the bill for these cats. Committeeman Sutton said if she wanted to do that out of the kindness of her heart but I'll tell you I wouldn't do it myself on a Saturday or on the weekend.

Mayor Moore said the only thing I did was call her and ask some advise and to let her know.

Mrs. Hickman said she was by there and there are some cats still there.

Committeeman Jamison said then it's up to the SPCA.

Committeeman Sutton said what they want to do is charge the township seventy dollars per cat.

Mayor Moore said I told this lady that she had to pay for them and she said she would pay for them and would fill out a form by the SPCA to be responsible for these cats. The SPCA said forty dollars per cat.

Clerk said if the SPCA told her that they would take them at forty dollars per cat, they really gave her a good deal, they are charging us seventy-five dollars per cat that Joanne brings in.

Committeeman Sutton said I just want you to know that issue was in no way part of Tri County's contract. Another thing if our animal control brought them in they could charge us and the owner too.

Mrs. Hickman said six cats had already died.

Mrs. Hill said there were two rabbits and some chickens and she said that a lady was coming to get them, I told her if they don't come and get them, call me back and I will try to find some place for them.

Mrs. Hickman said I'm not going to get them.

Mrs. Hill said no it wasn't you it was someone from Mullica Hill.

Committeeman Jamison said the whole thing is that the SPCA was aware of this issue, and it was not Joanne's issue to resolve.

Committeeman Sutton that's correct, anything she takes into the SPCA is suppose to be a stray, not people's pets that they can't take care of any more.

Mrs. Hill said I received a letter someone that said that they had a letter from Mrs. Hickman that I wasn't allowed to trap cats over on Samuel Drive.

Mrs. Hickman said the people that we dealt with on Samuel.

Mayor Moore okay.

Mrs. Hill said I received a call about cats being on these people's property, they didn't want them there and I set traps, that is what I am supposed to do, whether or not they are feral cats or not, if they are on his property and he doesn't want them there I have to trap them. Even though there was a letter from you stating that I am not supposed to be trapping them.

Committeeman Sutton said exactly.

Mrs. Hickman said she would like to see the letter because she didn't say anything about trapping, and he never got the letter because it was returned and I got it at home. The situation was that the man was trapping cats out at the edge of the road.

Mayor Moore thanked Joanne Hill for coming and asked her to come back every two or three months with a report, but we need to move on.

Mayor Moore said since the last meeting this fella has called me from Schaefer Containers asking if we got the grant. I told you that I tried to get the grant but it got complicated with the information and I couldn't get it extracted from the county and the county didn't want to give me the information and they said I had to get it from Earthtect and there just wasn't enough time because there was only a week or so before I had to apply for it. In the meantime this guy called me and I talked with John and what we're thinking of doing is not just doing Mauricetown but we want to put these throughout the township and try them on different properties, Port Norris, Haleyville, Mauicetown, and Laurel Lake and by that way, like you said Fletch, you had a good point, instead of just doing one area, which is where we wanted to concentrate, so we have the recycling fund of \$14,000 and I think we have some clean communities, I'm going to have to find out if we can get some of that money.

Committeeman Sutton said Jud you're going to have the township residents mad because this one has a new trash can and this one doesn't. You're going to give out 19 containers people are going to get mad.

Mayor Moore expressed his feeling that they will be glad to get a container that they can put everything in. They will be happy to get a large recycling container.

Committeeman Sutton said you need to wait until you can give everyone residence a recycling container, I'm not going to vote for this. You are going to have a lot of people mad out there just like you did when you did the lighting in Mauricetown, it caused us headaches we can't go back to that situation.

Mayor said do you want to borrow \$190,000?

Committeeman Sutton said you wait until we have enough money to buy them all at once.

Mayor Moore said we have one point seven million in savings.

Mr. John Nardone said he understands what Ron is saying but he feels that we can minimize that by sending out a notice prior to giving out the containers and explain what we are trying to do and explain it to them that we are giving out the recycling containers to improve our recycling program and in doing that we are saving money, saving the tax payers money. He said explain that we are not going to borrow the money and do it all at once but phase it in and do it over a period of time and we feel that it could take three years but at the end of three years everybody will have the recycling containers.

Committeeman Sutton said but we can't guarantee that, and I won't vote for something that I can't guarantee.

Mr. Nardone said and I don't blame you, but we can plan by putting that money aside every year.

Committeeman Sutton asked Mayor to tell him what the problem is if we wait until we have all of the money to do the entire township.

Mayor Moore said we're going to be loosing money because people won't be recycling as much and it is a proven fact that people will recycle more if they have the right kind of container.

Committeeman Sutton said it used to be that people would ride down Buckshutem Road and take the beer cans out of the recycling container, people are recycling because people don't do that anymore.

Mr. Nardone said let me answer your question as to why we don't do it all at one time, I think that you will find, even with your experience, that if the township has a pot of money set aside for something and it is not really restricted or encumbered for something in particular, you know what you could find uses for that money.

Committeeman Sutton said we can setup an account and work towards it and build it up as long as it is allocated to that particular thing, but it's not fair Jud gets a new one, I get a new one and four houses down he gets a new one, it's not fair.

Mayor Moore said I agree with John's suggestion of sending out a notice, do a bulk mailing, it is very inexpensive to do a bulk mailing .

Committeeman Sutton said people don't read that stuff.

Mayor Moore said but to the people that do read it they will say maybe I'll try this and maybe I won't, I'll call the township hall and say I want one.

Mr. Nardone said you can put that in the notice, if you want one, call the township hall, we won't have enough for everybody but we will try to get you one.

Committeeman Jamison said I don't think that's a good idea because everybody is going to call wanting one.

Mayor Moore asked Committeeman Sutton if he took full responsibility for it would he go along with it.

Committeeman Sutton said you take full responsibility that you are going to pay for them out of your pocket, we'll do it.

Mayor Moore said I'll coordinate this with the environmental commission.

Committeeman Sutton said you buy them out of your pocketbook I'll go along with it.

Mrs. Julie Gandy said you said you could have a line item in your budget and you buy so many each year. You send out the flyers, let the people call in and it is first come first serve.

Committeeman Sutton said whose going to deal with these people that are irate, Hannah, I'm not going to put that on her shoulders.

Mrs. Gandy said you put the money in the budget and you tell them that in three years everybody will have a container.

Committeeman Sutton said you got your container today and I've got to wait for three years to get mine.

Mrs. Gandy said well you call in before I do and then you'll get yours.

Committeeman Jamison said the way I look at it is, in three years something will have changed, we don't know, there is no guarantee that something won't have changed.

Committeeman Sutton said we've spent a lot of money this year, we just bought the Jehovah Witness Church for \$90,000, what else did we buy this year, we can't rob the bank, we just can't rob the bank.

Mr. Nardone said he appreciates Ron concern, but like the electric lights changed over to solar, this will save the township money, a lot of money, and the recycling containers will save the township money.

Committeeman Sutton said I would like to have one, I know he would like to have one, he's already got one from Franklin Township he stole, but you want to save the township money we should get our own trash collection vehicles and run it out of our road department, we could save a lot of money, we could afford to buy them all in one year, but according to Jud it is not feasible for the township, but it is, I've figured it out.

Mayor Moore by the time you hire additional help, pay health benefits and everything it will cost the township money.

Committeeman Sutton said how can you say that you didn't want to give those things when you hired someone part time for the tax office, why not do it for trash collection.

Mayor Moore said I'm open to that if you guys want to have a discussion, I'm open to it. We talked about it when John Barnes was here.

Committeeman Sutton and just how long has that been.

Mayor Moore asked Committeeman Sutton to allow him and the environmental commission to try this.

Committeeman Sutton said you'll have to come up with all the money, or I'm not going to vote, you're going to have to get a better program than what you are thinking about.

Mayor Moore said let him and the environmental commission come up with a plan and try this and for Ron to let it go.

Committeeman Jamison asked how much will it cost to do the entire township.

Mayor Moore said \$90,000, I'm looking at 1800 households.

Committeeman Sutton said and that's just for recycling, then you need for trash so you're talking \$180,000.

Mayor Moore said you don't have to do trash.

Committeeman Sutton, said you should do both if you are going to do it.

Mayor Moore said if we do that then we can buy the truck and pick them up with a one-armed thing like this here.

Committeeman Sutton said when we decide to get the trash truck in house, yes. We could save \$170,000 a year by doing it in house. I figured it out on this last contract when Donna and them approved it, \$170,000 and that's for paying for the truck.

Mayor Moore said at \$54.00 we're talking about \$101,000.

Committeeman Sutton said I know you don't want anymore employees, but you're worrying about saving money with the electric company, worrying about the trash, save big money there with them.

Committeeman Jamison said we can save \$360,000 by our own trash truck and do our own pickup.

Committeeman Sutton said and our road department will have job security.

Mayor Moore asked the committee to let us try it, go along with us, let the environmental commission try \$14,000 dollars.

Committeeman Sutton said it's nothing against you but you are not going to get my blessing until you come up with a better idea.

Mayor Moore said I don't know what better idea there is, except by them all, so how about Thursday night we introduce an ordinance and buy it.

Committeeman Sutton said so you want to break the bank.

Mayor Moore said you're the one that keeps saying come up with an idea, it might not be the best idea, but it is an idea because as I see it if we get these, the recycling is going to increase and our trash is going to decrease and that's where the cost is.

Committeeman Sutton said you're not going to see a difference I'm telling you right now, you are not going to see a difference in the recycling.

Mrs. Gandy said we have seen increases over the years because the first year it was recycle paper only, then it went to glass, then it went to only aluminum cans and now it is anything and everything that food products come in, so recycling has increased and single stream is in place now.

Committeeman Jamison said but whose to say in three years that it might change back and you can't do aluminum cans. Things change, nothing stays the same.

Committeeman Sutton said people are going to say why don't you pickup recycling every week, stuff blows all over the grown with pickup every two weeks, plus when the fill the recycling container, they end up throwing what won't fit in with their trash.

Mayor Moore said these containers are big you can easily get two weeks recycling in them, plus they have wheels, the resident doesn't have to lift them.

Committeeman Jamison said so you're saying have recycling every week and we wouldn't have to get bigger containers. He said right now, I had an incident with the trash people, they don't put the containers back in the yard like they should be, it is boom thrown or left in the road, so we're going to pay a lot of money for these containers what happens when they get broken up, how are we going to give them another container.

Committeeman Sutton said what happens when a family movers out, the recycling container is to stay with the property, I'm telling you when they move out the container goes with them.

Mr. Nardone said yes that can happen but the container will take up a lot of room in the moving truck, they will have no guarantee that the township into which they are moving will accept that container and if they do accept that size container, they are going to provide you with one.

Committeeman Sutton said it happens, he has one and it's from Franklin Township and he uses it.

Mr. Nardone said basically the trash haulers are not supposed to pickup that size container.

Clerk said in the contract I thought they were not to pickup any container larger than a fifty gallon.

Mayor Moore said the trash guys push it over to the truck and a hook picks up the container and dumps it. Mayor told Committeeman Sutton he didn't understand why he would not support getting the program started.

Committeeman Sutton said get it started, put the money in the account.

Mayor Moore called upon Edward Dennis, Township Engineer for his report.

Mr. Dennis said Doris Drive and Maurice Street they are working on design and will try to get it done this summer or early fall. Laurel Lake Drainage Phase II all the drainage work is complete, it looks good the problem on Gooseberry has been solved, there are only a few spots of paving left for them to do.

Committeeman Jamison asked if they had taken care of the curb and drainage in the road that they had discussed.

Mr. Dennis said this is part of Spring Garden Road, they still have to do that one and they still have some ponds to take care. He said he just signed something from Heather trying to finalize the library.

Mayor Moore told Heather that she could sign Pam Humphries name, she authorized it.

Clerk said that she has a copy of the occupancy permit issued by Mr. Dean and will give it to Heather to be filed.

Mr. Dennis said on Bivalve Station we are getting ready to send our stuff DEP to finish up the permitting. He said we have two close outs with FEMA. He said about ten days ago, Unimin just signed a deal with the solar guy, so that's good and they said they would reach out to Mr. Dennis shortly, that's for their field but that might trigger some actions that could help the township out.

Mayor Moore asked is that on the landfill.

Mr. Dennis said no, it's on their property but what that's going to do, they are going to be willing to come in and do an arrangement with the township because that large of a project normally will trigger a huge building construction. He said they want to do an arrangement with the township that will bring some money into the township and give them some accommodations.

Mayor Moore said I thought that they were going to give us something in lieu of this project to hold us over like thirty-some thousand a year.

Mr. Dennis said the USDA Feasibility Study is ninety per cent complete and should be done within the week. He said on the grant portion of this grant that is Nick Graviano's portion of the grant to do. The only thing I have is the engineering portion. He said the reports are his responsibility. He said on the official map he left them for the committee to review and Committeeman Sutton said there was some changes and Jud said he had some changes, if the committee would mark the changes and give the copies back to him, he will see that they are incorporated.

Committeeman Sutton said his had to do with the wharf, for or five issues.

Mayor Moore said the road maps, would he take off all of the colors.

Mr. Dennis said he would but he would like to have the changes before he does that. He asked Mr. Sutton to bring them to the regular meeting.

Mr. Dennis said regarding solar agreement between the township and the school, he said he would contact the mayor and put the RP together to go out to bid to put the solar in and in the RP they will reimburse the township for our costs, and our goal is to have that ready to go in August.

Mayor said he really wants to get the Doris Drive started. He said Raymond looks good except for that one area. He said he did an inspection of Gooseberry and he wondered about the drains.

Mr. Denis said the drains were already there, they didn't go anywhere and when they filled up there was flooding, now they have been connected to the drainage project and go all the way out to Buckshutem Road. He said this will be just like Keron Drive, you didn't have any water on Keron after they drains were connected.

Mayor said Mr. Seeley left us copies of his report. Now we have correspondence. We have a letter from the Port Norris Middle School for making their 8th Grade Dance a huge success. (Remove from agenda)

Mayor said we have a letter from the Mauricetown Volunteer Fire Company accessibility to boat ramp for launching rescue vessels for emergencies on the Maurice River. The present ramp gets very muddy during low tide. They are requesting that the township repair present ramp or build new one on Commercial Township side.

Committeeman Sutton asked Mr. Dennis if there is grant money out there for volunteer fire companies, for boat ramps.

Mr. Dennis said there is funding he would look into it.

Mayor remove from the agenda until we can check into whether we own land on the Commercial Township side, and if there is grant money out there to repair present one.

Mayor said we have a memo from Heather Sparks, Deputy Clerk regarding a computer for Deedra Brewer who has offered to put ordinances in alphabetical order. Heather said we have a computer and we can purchase micro soft program for her to use.

Committeeman Sutton said he doesn't think that we should allow her to go through our records, it should be done in house.

Mayor asked if the ordinances were put in alphabetical order would it help in locating a particular ordinance.

Clerk said it could if it was done by word association.

Mayor and committee said remove from agenda and when Mrs. Brewer comes in set her up in the conference room.

Mayor Moore said we have received a letter from Judge Casarow that he will be retiring December 31, 2015. Mayor said place on the agenda of the regular meeting, accepting his resignation.

Clerk stated that committee can accept his resignation at their next meeting effective December 31, 2015. When do they want her to advertise the position and when do they want anyone interest in filling that position to sent in their applications or resumes'.

Committee said as soon as possible to advertise, application by end of September. This will give them time to observe the court proceedings, discuss issues with court administrator and judge and make the determination if they are really interested.

Mayor Moore said we have the following ordinances for second reading and public hearing for regular meeting.

AN ORDINANCE CLOSING CERTAIN ROADWAYS TO TRUCK TRAFFIC

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF COMMERCIAL TO PROTECT
PRESERVE PRIVATE AND PUBLIC PROPERTY FROM DAMAGING
SPREAD OF BAMBOO GRASSES AND PLANTS

AMENDING ORDINANCE 2007-487 COMMERCIAL TOWNSHIP
DEVELOPMENT REGULATION ORDINANCE SECTION 8.11 SIGNS

Mayor said we have the following resolutions for the regular meeting.

Resolution: Approving Liquor License of Liquor Warehouse Corp.(Lalli's)

Resolution: Increasing Bid Threshold From \$36,000 to \$40,000

Resolution: Submitting Application For Electronic Tax Sale

Committeeman Sutton said he is not in agreement with this program.

Mayor Moore said he has talked with Leslie, she is in favor of the electronic sale, she feels that it will give a broader spectrum of bidders and it will bring in more money.

Resolution: Authorizing Clerk To Advertise For Part Time Judge

Resolution: August 4, 2015, National Night Out, - Remove

Resolution: Authorizing Land Sale September 26, 2015 10:00 A.M.

Resolution: Executive Session Set Prices For Land Sale

Resolution: Authorizing R&V To Prepare RP For Solar Project

Committeeman Sutton asked if the Family Success Center would be moving out of the senior center, out of the schools. He said he has been approached about these items and that she can utilize every building we own and we have to justify this \$90,000 and her keeping all of these buildings is not justifying. I thought once we got the Jehovah Witness Building she would move out of these other buildings.

Mayor Moore said why not, and no she is not moving, she is very busy at the senior center, she has people coming into the Port Norris and Haleyville Schools all of the time.

Committeeman Sutton said they tell me that the rooms are so full of stuff that they can't get in them.

Mayor Moore said they are full they have a lot of clothing and stuff for the residents.

Committeeman Sutton said that is not going to happen up there.

Committeeman Jamison said that Committeeman Sutton has to realize is that she is going to bring in day care for the residents, she is going to bring in money to the township, programs for the township.

Mayor Moore said one of the main things that we are in office for is to help the people and the way we can help the people is to put these programs out there for them.

Committeeman Sutton said I understand but I want to justify to the tax payers the purchase of the \$90,000 building we are buying tomorrow.

Mr. Dennis said he will send resolution for the RP Solar Project.

Mayor Moore said let's open the meeting up to the public.

Mrs. Carol Hickman first of all I look at this and see there's \$9,000 for recycling containers but we don't have money to supply animal control services on weekends. She said with the Petsmart grant that these feral cats that have been spayed, neutered and released, they are not supposed to be picked up and this is something that you need to check into.

Committeeman Sutton said they have had the same problem in Woodbine and they have been taken to court but the situation is a person that has a colony must take responsibility to the cats and if it gets on someone else's property and they don't want it there then they can have it trapped. It will be up to the owner to retrieve it so it does not get euthanized. He said you are going to have to scrutinize the people that are getting their cats spayed and neutered.

Mrs. Hickman said she does.

Mayor Moore said he talked with Mrs. Hickman regarding a Hold Harmless Agreement he said this is for the applicant not Mrs. Hickman and that they will work something out. He said he is looking for this to be a smooth running operation.

Mr. Hickman said he feels there should be animal control on weekends because people work.

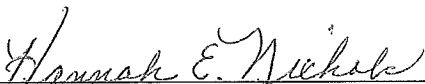
Committeeman Sutton said that Mr. Hickman is not going to find anywhere in the state animal control working Saturday and Sunday. Mr. Hickman said the SPCA operates on weekend.

Committeeman Sutton said on this case the SPCA created their own problems over the years, they knew of this situation and now that there is a problem they want somebody else to pay the freight.

Mayor Moore for additional comments being none said we will go into closed session.

Mayor Moore asked for motion to reconvene and stated the closed session was held to review properties scheduled for land sale Saturday, September 26, 2015 at 10:00 A.M., at the township hall. He said we basically went over properties that we have acquired with dwellings, buildings, on them.

Mayor asked for motion to adjourn, it was so moved.


Hannah E. Nichols, Township Clerk