

Minutes of the Regular Township Committee meeting of the Township of Commercial, held on Thursday, February 19, 2015 at 6:00 P.M., 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 Mayor

Mayor Moore presided and called the meeting to order with the announcement that the meeting had been advertised, that it was being electronically recorded and being held in full compliance of the Open Public Meeting Act.

Mayor Moore asked that everyone stand and join him in the Flag Salute and Lord's Prayer.

Mayor stated first item of business are the minutes of previous meeting.

Regular Township Meeting of January 15, 2015  
Executive Session Meeting of January 15, 2015

A motion was made by Committeeman Jamison to approve the minutes with a second from Committeeman Sutton with a unanimous roll call vote in favor.

Mayor Moore said CFO, Pam Humphries have presented a bill list for the month of February 2015 for your consideration.

Mayor Moore said we have bill here for gutters on the community center and he asked Committeeman Sutton to explain about the gutters and did the committee approve the.

Committeeman Sutton said the gutters were approved in November or December when we discussed putting up a new pump house and doing the gutters because the rain just poured off of the roof. He said because of inclement weather the pump house and the gutters were delayed but you did approve them back then.

Mayor Moore asked Committeeman Jamison if he remembered the gutters.

Committeeman Jamison said he was not sure but you know what I'm a firm believer in the fact that we definitely need gutters and they do work in preserving the building. I do not have a problem with approving the bill for them.

Mayor Moore asked for motion on the bill list for February 2015.

Committeeman Jamison made motion to accept the bill list and Committeeman Sutton seconded the motion with a unanimous roll call vote in favor.

Mayor Moore said I think that the township committee would like to have a solicitor's report each month and I talked to Tom and he didn't have a problem with it. It would just be an update on some of the issues that he handles.

Solicitor Seeley said he is good with that, are you talking about a written report submitted.

Committeeman Sutton said he does give us when he submits his vouchers.

Mayor said I know but I would like for him to give the public an idea of just what is going on, just a verbal at the meetings would be good. He said for example the Godrey case, what's going on with that.

Solicitor Seeley said this was Bayshore Housing Grant, \$22,600, people have walked away from property, Wells Fargo is foreclosing and contacted township looking for a Subordination Agreement. So far we have not found it, none has been filed with the county making us a second lien holder. When a bank forecloses normally other lien holders do not get paid anything. Without the filing of the subordination agreement with the county, we are still first lien holder and hopefully we will be entitled to get \$11,300 back into the Bayshore Housing Revolving Loan Account.

Mayor Moore thanked Mr. Seeley for the update, and on your bill you have charged \$1,200 so far for trying to get us this money. Mayor said I want to talk with the committee and see where do they want to go on this, I don't want to go any higher than \$2,000 in legal fees in trying to get this money.

Committeeman Sutton said to get \$11,300 you only want to spend \$2,000 in legal fees, I say we spend at last \$5,000.

Mayor Moore said I don't want to go that high, I'll go \$4,000 but I'm hoping that it won't go that high.

Mayor Moore asked Mr. Seeley if Liverpool issue is complete.

Mr. Seeley said it is complete we are waiting on the state to send us the tax court determination agreements, but the issue has been resolved and the township will be getting approximately \$17,000 in lieu of taxation and it will be paid quarterly.

Mr. Seeley said on the Wells Fargo deal, in speaking with Robert Geiger regarding the property with the house on it, they will be willing to pay all the closing costs and it will be up to the township whether or not you want to accept the property. Mr. Seeley said on the church property, the attorney keeps calling regarding the agreement, I told him it has been sent three times.

Mayor Moore said this is the reason I want you to give us a report, because I forgot to tell Pam to put the \$10,000 on the bill list for approval, so we'll have to do that as a motion later on in the meeting.

Mr. Seeley said at this point in time, they are just taking their time, but it will be necessary to have the payment ready when asked for.

Mayor Moore thanked Mr. Seeley and said at this time we'll have the engineer's report.

Mr. Edward Dennis said we have some grant applications out and the only one that I was expecting to hear back on would be the DOT grant, he said hopefully the financial situation can be worked out and we'll hear something within the next couple of months. He said the Laurel Lake Drainage Phase II Project, we have gotten confirmation that we can go out to bid from Department of Community Affairs and that bid will be accepting bids on March 17, 2015 at 11:00 A.M., and possibly award at the regular March meeting. The project will start in the spring. He said regarding the Library there was a bunch of paperwork that I sent Pam and I don't know whether or not she has gotten to them.

Mayor Moore said Pam told him to tell Ed that she is working on it.

Mr. Dennis said Berry, Ogden and Miller Avenue Project is at the close out point, we are closing out the Laurel Lake Drainage Phase I Project and getting the paperwork submitted on that, same thing on Berry Avenue Shore Protection we are working on final design and hopefully we will be out to bid this summer, he said we're meeting down there the first week of March to go over it with the police, with people that have worked with the DEP down to the shore, on how they might handle certain areas, the DEP recommended these guys to us.

Mayor Moore asked how much money is available.

Mr. Dennis said the funds are \$75,000 from DEP, \$40,000 from FEMA, and whatever the twenty-five percent match is from the State Police.

Mayor said outside of your fees the rest is all construction.

Mr. Dennis said this project is one hundred percent funded, outside money, no township money.

Mayor Moore said do you think that will be enough to help.

Mr. Dennis said we we're limited on this project because with the FEMA money we had to do a cost analysis so there was only so much that we could extract to keep the construction costs down, so this would be just to beef up some of the gabions that are down there, to try improve it a little bit, this is more of an erosion control than a flood control project. He said Raymond Drive Phase II, I have the contractor to come down here and check out the basketball court area, I sent him all of the dimensions and all the criteria and asked him to send us a price for the March meeting where you can consider adopting a change order to add that to the contract to do the basketball court. Mr. Dennis said the contractor said that he just needed to look at the area but right now there is snow on the ground.

Mayor Moore said he got a complaint from a resident who apparently said that it is settling in where the drainpipe was.

Mr. Dennis said this has happened a couple of time, we just have to get on it which there's another good reason that we didn't have the paving done because if we had paved that thing we would be dealing with a sinkhole on brand new street and a lot of time it is better to have the drainage work done and let it settle out. He said on the updates, the USDA Feasibility Study that was a grant of \$30,000, I believe that's on the agenda for us to move forward.

Mayor Moore said it is on the agenda.

Mr. Dennis said second item, is the annual tax map maintenance for the tax assessor's office, dealing with deeds and lot line changes, this year cost is \$7,500 which is down from \$10,000 the previous years which is good because it means we've gotten rid of all the rough stuff and getting down to more maintenance modes and the cost will continue to go down and that's on the agenda for approval tonight. Mr. Dennis said the final two are optional maps, GIS Mapping Services, I think you might have talked with Kevin and the other is an Official Map. He said the final item is the speed limit on Battle Lane and I have sent a letter off to the Cumberland County Engineer. He said he would be at the Land Use Board Meeting regarding the Unimin Subdivision on Block 179, Lot 17 and 17.01.

Mr. Dennis said fifty-three days from now, the Mets pay the Phillies, in the Met's Home Opener and I will be there.

Mayor Moore said on the GIS and the Official Map I'll hold that off until our next months meeting.

Mr. Clint Miller, Public Works Supervisor asked engineer if he could put a note on the trooper barracks that township can collect any materials that are left over from the project, they have a lot of stuff laying around up there and the other thing is phase II in Laurel Lake, the lady on Gooseberry that has a problem. I've had a call from DEP and they want a letter from you that her road will be improved with the Laurel Lake Drainage Project Phase II. Mr. Dennis said I'll forward it to you and you can forward it to them.

Mayor Moore said township committee received a letter from state police commending Clint Miller and his staff for the outstanding work they performed in getting the state Police barracks completed.

Committeeman Sutton said it was an excellent letter and Clint needs to be commended by the committee because without him the project would not have gone as smoothly as it did and in a short time frame as well. He said congratulations.

Committeeman Jamison said he had to agree. He asked the Mayor if he had contacted the state police regarding the new proposal of a new lease or purchase of barracks.

Mayor Moore said he had not contacted them yet, he asked Mr. Miller if they would be willing to come down and meet with the committee prior to a meeting or did they want to schedule a special meeting.

Mr. Miller said why don't the committee give him a couple of dates that they would be available and he will contact them to see if any of their dates are convenient.

Mayor Moore said I'll give them a call and then I'll get with Hannah to confirm and notify you.

Committeeman Sutton said why not give them several dates of workshop meetings and five o'clock.

Mayor Moore said I think Fletcher is right, we need a special meeting for this.

Mr. Miller said since we have completed the barracks we need to have an evaluation of the building at this time, a financial evaluation. They want to know a number of the value of the building at this time.

Clerk said once a year JIF gives us an estimate of the worth of all of municipal facilities and I'm sure the state police barracks is on there.

Mr. Miller said can we get a fair market value figure for them.

Mayor said on the e-mail from Robert Geiger, Wells Fargo Bank, we've already covered that in Tom's report. Mayor asked Mr. Seeley if the committee could vote on the motion items after all of the items had been read.

Mr. Seeley confirmed, motion and second after all had been discussed.

Mayor Moore said following items were approved at agenda meeting for regular meeting this evening.

1. Approving Remington/Vernick/Walberg's proposal to administe USDA Search Grant in the amount of \$30,000.
2. Approving Remington/Venrick/Walberg's proposal maintaining tax maps at the request of tax assessor regarding deeds, subdivision, lot line changes in amount of \$7,500.
3. Number three removed, resolution to follow
4. Number four removed, resolution to follow

5. Approving Maurice River Township as Recycling Coordinator at \$250 for 2015.
6. Approving donation of \$00 to Commercial Township Emergency Services Association For their annual awards banquet, April 25<sup>th</sup>.

Committeeman Sutton said Maurice River Township always donates a \$1,000 to their organization and he would like to see Commercial do likewise. He said it gets harder and harder to get donations and they do an excellent job.

Mayor Moore said he feels \$500 is a good donation and where would Committeeman Sutton get the money.

Committeeman Jamison said he felt \$500 was adequate.

7. Removed, Clint is doing an inspection of municipal facilities regarding repairs and will report back at later date.
8. Remove, our budget will be introduced on March 19<sup>th</sup>, so committee had time to review and make necessary changes prior to then.
9. Approved Heather Sparks attending classes for municipal clerk.
10. Approving the appointment of Megan Wren as FEMA Flood Coordinator
11. Approving Mayor to apply for funding from NJ Recycling for recycling containers
12. Approving Mayor's meeting with state police regarding lease/purchase
13. Approving Mayor to look into dog and cat census
14. Approving Mayor to setup meeting with Newfield Bank representative for banking services.

Committeeman Sutton said that he wanted to attend meeting with representatives, and Committeeman Jamison inquired would CFO be in attendance also. He also said is speaking with Pam that she feels employees should be included in a meeting if changing bank that is out of area. Committeeman Jamison also asked if our current banking institution had been contacted to see if they could give us a better offer.

Mayor said Pam is putting out request for RFP's from Newfield Bank and current bank, she'll review them and then let us know.

Committeeman Sutton said changing banks is a lot of work, and the cost involved is basically courier services not banking.

Mayor Moore said we will certainly conduct meetings with bank representatives and also with the employees. Mayor asked for motion.

Committeeman Jamison made motion to approve.

Committeeman Sutton seconded with a unanimous roll call vote.

Mayor Moore said we have several ordinances for second reading and public hearing.

**ORDINANCE TO CANCEL UNUSED AND REIMBURSED BALANCE OF ROAD IMPROVEMENT ORDINANCE #2014-554 AND RETURN BALANCES TO CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND.**

Mayor said this ordinance is basically to cancel out old balances and put money back in capital for other items. He asked for motion to open to public

A motion was made and second to open to public and with no comments being made a motion was made and seconded to close public portion and to adopt ordinance which will be known as Ordinance 2015-560. Roll call vote unanimous.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF COMMERCIAL, COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND, NEW JERSEY, PROVIDING FOR THE FULLY FUNDING OF MOLD REMEDIATION AND REPAIRS AT THE TOWNSHIP OWNED POLICE BARRACKS LOCATED AT 8861 HIGHLAND STREET, PORT NORRIS, NEW JERSEY AND APPROPRIATING \$74,029.85 AVAILABLE IN CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND AND INSURANCE REIMBURSEMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$47,916.15 FOR SUCH PURPOSE

Mayor asked for motion. Motion was made and seconded to open meeting to public and with no comment being made a motion was made and seconded to close public portion and to adopt ordinance which will be known as Ordinance 2015-561. Roll call vote unanimous.

CALENDAR YEAR 2015  
ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS  
AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A 40A:4-45.14)

Mayor Moore asked for motion to open to public. Motion was made and seconded to open meeting to public and without input a motion was made and seconded to close public portion and to adopt ordinance which will be known as Ordinance 2015-562. Roll call vote Unanimous.

Mayor Moore said we have on the agenda the introduction of the 2015 Salary Ordinance and an Amendment to the Regulation Development Ordinance regarding new requirements on signs. He said he would like to remove from the agenda because he would prefer to see a salary scale ordinance and that he will have one prepared for the next township meeting, and that he has not finalized the amendment regarding the signs.

A motion was made and seconded to remove from agenda with unanimous roll call vote.

Mayor Moore stated that we have several resolutions and same will be read by title only under Consent Resolution 2015-1.

RESOLUTION 2015-28

Waiver of Self-Examination Of Budget Resolution

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A 40A:4-78b has authorized the Local Finance Board to adopt rules that permit municipalities in sound fiscal condition to assume the responsibility, normally granted to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services, of conducting the annual budget examination; and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 5:30-7 was adopted by the Local Finance Board on February 11, 1997; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-7.2 through 7.5, the Township of Commercial has been declared eligible to participate in the program by the Division of Local Government Services.

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has determined that the local government would like to waive its eligibility to participate in the program for the 2015 budget year and hereby will submit two copies of the introduced budget and required documentation to the Division for review.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the governing body of the Township of Commercial that in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:30-7.6a & 7.6b and based upon the Chief

Financial Officer's recommendation, the governing body hereby waives its eligibility for self-examination of the 2015 budget.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution will be forwarded to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services upon adoption.

Hold on 29 until Mayor calls Carol Cummings, State Court Administrator.

#### RESOLUTION 2015-29

##### Releasing Downe Township From Joint Municipal Court With Township of Commercial

WHEREAS, on November 1, 2012 a shared services agreement was approved by the Township of Commercial and Downe Township creating a Commercial Joint Municipal Court; and

WHEREAS, Resolution 2012-125 was adopted approving the Uniform Shared Services and Consolidation Act., of N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1, et seq and N.J.S.A. 2B:12-1 authorized the joint municipal court and Ordinance 2012-538 "AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH A JOINT MUNICIPAL COURT PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 2B 12-1, ET SEQ. was adopted; and

WHEREAS, on November 12, 2014 the Commercial Township Committee received a formal written notification from the township Committee of Downe Township that they wanted to withdraw from the Joint Municipal Court pursuant to the underlying Joint Municipal Court Agreement; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Commercial that in accordance with the original agreement Item #17. "This agreement shall otherwise continue in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 2B:12-1(d) for a period of one year from the date of inception of operation of the Joint Court. In the event that either the Provider or the Municipality seeks to terminate this agreement they shall provide at least twelve months written notice." and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that THE Governing Body of the Township of Commercial recognizes the notification of November 12, 2014 and releases Downe Township from the Commercial Joint Municipal Court Agreement and rescinds Resolution 2012-125 and Ordinance 2012-538 creating the Commercial Municipal Joint Court upon proper notification from Downe Township that they have an authorized agreement for municipal court services with another municipality and compensates the Township of Commercial for the months of services provided by the Commercial Township Court Administrator from January 1, 2015 through June 30, 2015.

#### RESOLUTION 2015-30

##### Authorizing The Sale Of Surplus Property On GovDeal

WHEREAS, the Township of Commercial has surplus property which has been designated by the Commercial Township Governing Body as no longer needed for servicing the residents of Commercial township and not needed for public use; and

WHEREAS, the sale will be online and the address site will be at the Commercial Township Road Garage behind the Municipal Building on Memorial Avenue, Port Norris, New Jersey and sale is being held in full compliance of the Local Finance Notice 2008-9.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee that the Road Supervisor; has been authorized to select and provide a list of surplus equipment and property no longer needed for public use that will be auctioned off on GovDeals.

1. 1996/4 Door Jeep Cherokee White With Working Light Bar
2. 1995/#47 6'6" Meyer Snow Plow. No controls. Not to include Truck Mounting Bracket
3. ECHO 2110 Weed Trimmer
4. STIHL FS – 106 Weed Trimmer
5. STIHL GY-70 Pole Saw
6. STIHL 440 Chain Saw w/20" Bar and Chain
7. JRCO Front Mount Tine Rake (Dethatcher)

RESOLUTION 2015-31

Approving Commercial Township Employee's  
Union Contract For Years Of 2015, 2016, 2017

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Commercial that after several meetings with union representatives, due consideration by both sides that the union contract is adopted by the Governing Body for the years of 2015, 2016, 2017.

RESOLUTION 3015-32

Authorizing Chief Financial Officer to Set Up Trust Fund/Or  
Reserve Account For The Municipal Alliance To Prevent  
Substance Abuse Donation Fund Account

WHEREAS, the Commercial Township Family Success Center has taken over the responsibilities of the Municipal Alliance To Prevent Substance Abuse and have created a program in which donations can be accepted to further assist in the important operations of this worthwhile project of giving and providing for the youth of our community; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Commercial that the Chief Financial Officer is authorized to setup a Trust/or Reserve Account for donations that are collected.

Not adopted                      RESOLUTION 2015-33

Appointment To Commercial Township Land Use  
Board Class IV Positions

THIS RESOLUTION WAS NOT ADOPTED AT THE FEBRUARY 19<sup>TH</sup>  
2015 MEETING.

RESOLUTION 2015-34

Approving Amendment To Liquor Warehouse Corp.  
Liquor License "Lalli's Liquors" To Sell Food Items  
Tobacco, Apparel, Wine, ATM Machine on Premises

WHEREAS, Liquor Warehouse Corp. "Lalli's Liquors" of 1428 E. Buckshutem Road, Millville, NJ 08332, Commercial Township, Cumberland County has presented an amendment to



their Liquor License #0601-44-010-002 to include the sales of snack items, ice, soda, mixers, water, apparel, wine and drink accessories, miscellaneous items, tobacco products and ATM;  
And

WHEREAS, after much thought and due consideration of the rural area in which the residents of Commercial Township reside the Committee felt it would be beneficial; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED by the Commercial Township Committee tht the amendment to sell snack items, ice, soda, mixers, water apparel, wine and drink accessories, miscellaneous items, tobacco products and ATM Machine be approved.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that amendment and resolution be forwarded to sTat eof New Jersey Division Of Alcoholic Beverage.

#### RESOLUTION 2015-35

Approving The Port Norris Rotary 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Walkathon And 5K Run, Saturday, April 4, 2015

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Commercial that the Port Norris Rotary 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Walkathon & 5k Run scheduled for Saturday, April 4, 2015 be applauded as a very worthwhile event and the following route will be:

Starting at Bayshore Center in Bivalve on Germantown Avenue up to Nature Trail West on Nature Trail to Strawberry Avenue, North on Strawberry to County Road 553 to Pearl Street and South on Bike Path to Bayshore Center

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Resolution and Certificate of Insurance will be forwarded to the Cumberland County Freeholders for their consideration.

#### RESOLUTION 2015-36

Authorizing The Plowing Of Officials If Governor Calls For State of Emergency

WHEREAS, Municipal Government Officials are responsible for the safety, health and welfare of their employees; and

WHEREAS, through our JIF Insurance it has been proven that municipal public works employees are high risk of injury and sometimes death and that governing body members should be aaccessible at all times and it is a proven fact that sometimes during a severe snow storm it is difficult to get someone to plow individuals out; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Commercial that if a severe snow storm arises and the Governor of the State of New Jersey declares a state of emergency, the officials of Commercial Township will be plowed out at their request of the public works department if such an emergency is declared.

#### RESOLUTION 2015-37

Supporting Recognizing and Honoring The Service of Law Enforcement Officers

WHEREAS, recent events throughout our nation have unfortunately demonstrated a reckless disregard for the lives and safety of law enforcement officers by many, including some

public officials, who have cavalierly aligned themselves with career criminals and agitators who seek to divide our nation; and

WHEREAS, even worse, much of the news media along with certain public officials and other public figures have perpetuated false narratives that have made law enforcement officers the direct targets of reprisals that have resulted in the assassination of a number of law enforcement officers throughout the country in recent weeks; and

WHEREAS, from combating terror and staking out criminals to patrolling our highways, law enforcement officers maintain stability in our communities, resulting in a more secure nation; and

WHEREAS, law enforcement officers in this state and throughout the nation are routinely called upon to serve and protect their fellow citizens by responding to horrendous events and acting heroically to save the lives of others; and

WHEREAS, it is incumbent upon public officials and the law abiding public to proactively support our law enforcement officers who regularly face threats of violence and danger, and routinely put their lives in jeopardy to defend protect our property, and to respond in time of crisis.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Township Committee of the Township of Commercial in the County of Cumberland, State of New Jersey that they declare their support and solidarity with the men and women who serve as law enforcement officers for their distinctive service and dedicated efforts, earning our highest respect and deepest gratitude, which must be recognized and honored for their selfless and heroic service and invaluable contributions to upholding justice, enforcing the rule of law, and protecting the innocent in the Township of Commercial, the State of New Jersey and in this nation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Township Clerk of the Township of Commercial is hereby authorized and directed to transmit a certified copy of this Resolution to the Governor, the State Legislators representing the Township of Commercial and the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Cumberland.

#### RESOLUTION 2015-38

Authorizing The Purchase of Rock Salt Through Cumberland  
County Cooperative Pricing System #181-CCCPS

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Commercial that the public works supervisor is hereby authorized to purchase Rock Salt through the Cumberland County Cooperative Pricing System #181-CCCPS, Bid 15-09 to Ocean Port LLC, P.O. Box 608, Claymont, DE 198703-0268, at the price of \$77.65 per ton Light Greyish or Beige Tint, or Light Greyish Tint only \$87.50 per ton.

#### RESOLUTION 2015-39

Supporting The City Of Millville In Their Support Of Senate Bill S2642  
And Assembly Bill A3952 Which Dedicates 30% Of All Urban Enterprise  
Zone Sales Tax Revenues To Respective UEZ Accounts

WHEREAS, the Township of Commercial is not part of the Urban Enterprise Zone Sales Tax Revenues; but

WHEREAS, the Commercial Township Committee is aware that many of our residents shop in the City of Millville for their groceries and livelihood needs and therefore we support the City of Millville in their efforts keeping their respective UEZ Accounts; therefore

WHEREAS, The Senate and General Assembly support Senate Bill @2642 and Assembly Bill A3952; and

WHEREAS, Senator Jeff Van Drew is the primary sponsor of Senate Bill S2642 and Assemblyman Bob Andrzejczak is the primary sponsor of Assembly Bill A3952 and;

WHEREAS, Senate Bill S2642 and Assembly Bill A3952 would greatly benefit the Urban Enterprise Zone program by dedicating 30% of all UEZ sales tax revenue to the individual participating municipalities; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill S2642 and Assembly Bill A3952 would maintain UEZ Districts desirable 3.5 sales tax rate.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Commercial in the County of Cumberland do hereby:

1. Supports Senate Bill S2642 and Assembly Bill A3952
2. Urges the swift passage and signing of S2642/A3952; and
3. A copy of this Resolution shall be sent to the Office of the Governor, State Senator Jeff Van Drew, Assemblyman Bop Andrzejczak, Senate President Stephen M. Sweeney, Assemblyman Samuel Fiocchi, Assemblyman John J. Burzichelli, Freeholder Director Joseph J. Derella of the County of Cumberland, Mayors of the Municipalities in Cumberland County and the New Jersey League of Municipalities.

#### RESOLUTION 2015-40

Requesting County, State and Federal Funding And For Remedial Actions Related To The Siltation And Continual Erosion Of The Shorelines Of The Maurice River

WHEREAS, continued erosion is taking place at the mouth of the Maurice River where the Bay meets the River causing flooding along the banks of Commercial Township and Maurice River Township.

WHEREAS, This erosion has been on-going for decades and is now in the critical state of causing massive undermining of local marsh banks that protects the river banks along both townships destroying valuable environmentally sensitive habitat;

WHEREAS, Hurricane Sandy caused significant flooding and erosion along the Commercial Township riverfront and in Maurice River Township flooding caused a dike breach and a roadway to cave in, stopping vehicular traffic from accessing the Matts Landing marinas;

WHEREAS, Should this erosion continue, it will eradicate all natural protection along the banks of Commercial Township and Maurice River Township causing massive economic downfall with businesses being flooded and job losses;

WHEREAS, Siltation has made the Maurice River difficult to navigate by larger vessels. The continued siltation of the Maurice River threatens the centuries old shipbuilding industry of the communities of Dorchester and Leesburg. The Maurice River must be protected and dredged to a suitable depth, allowing larger vessels to freely enter and exit the river without running a ground;

WHEREAS, Several oyster harvesting businesses, seafood processing plants, the Rutgers University Research Laboratory, boat marinas, and the Bayshore Discovery Project will be significantly flooded and threatened if further erosion causing flooding continues on the Commercial Township side of the Maurice River.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that The Commercial Township Committee and the Maurice River Township Committee work together to request action and funding through pursuing local, county, state and federal funding and government participation for wave energy attenuation at the mouth of the River, erosion control along the banks of the River, and dredging to a suitable level for passage of larger vessels.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that we request Congressman LoBiondo to work assistance from the United States Army Corp of Engineers and New Jersey Department Of Environmental Protection, and all other relevant state and federal agencies to begin this project and provide funding to begin studies of the issue and construction as soon as possible.

#### RESOLUTION 2015-41

#### Resolution For County Open Space Changes

WHEREAS, The Cumberland County Freeholder Board adopted Resolution 1995-61 authorizing the establishment of a County Open Space and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund Act.

WHEREAS, Commercial Township's portion of open space funds since 1995 has been \$371,791.09 with no return to Commercial Township due to shortage of farmland and the lack of need for additional open space.

WHEREAS, There are several municipalities who cannot take advantage of open space funds due to lack of farmland within their municipality or already having enough open space available to its residents;

WHEREAS, Surrounding counties have modified their open space programs by incorporating changes such as expanding their program into the realms of recreation and historic preservation to include development of lands acquired for recreation and conservation purposes. Also included in the open space change is historic preservation of historic properties, structures and the acquisition of such properties for historic preservation purposes to expand open space opportunities;

WHEREAS, State law 40:12-15.2 allows modification to open space funds for recreation and historic preservation development;

WHEREAS, Cumberland County Freeholders should review the success of surrounding counties and consider making changes to the present County open space fund program for all Cumberland County residents to publicly enjoy our County's rich natural and cultural resources, by expanding recreation and historic development with County open space funds.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that The Board of Cumberland County Freeholders consider the expansion of the County Open Space Fund to include recreational development and historic preservation in the best interest of municipalities, their residents, and visitors.

NOW, FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that A copy of this resolution be forwarded to Cumberland County Freeholders and all municipalities within Cumberland County.

Mayor Moore asked for motion to adopt foregoing resolutions.

Committeeman Jamison made motion to adopt Resolution 2015-28, hold 29, adopt 2015-30 hold 2015-31, adopt 32, hold 33, thru 2015-34 through 2015-41.

Committeeman Sutton seconded the motion with a unanimous roll call vote.

Mayor Moore said items for discussion is the Main Street Riverfront Strategic Vision Plan Project. Mayor said he would like to call on Ed Dennis, Engineer, to explain this. He said when Donna Moore was here she proposed to take Cumberland County Empowerment Zone money to do a plan along the Maurice River and Main Street, Port Norris, and obtained a grant in the amount of \$147,000. Mayor said the more he looked at it and the more I thought about it and it was my opinion that it was too excessive and too much money, I'm for a plan and what Ed's done so far is good but I think the plan is just too extensive and the other thing to consider is that on the empowerment zone we only have \$88,000 left in that account for development or anything, so we're down to like \$88,000.

Mr. Dennis said at this point I honestly think that it might be the right move. This was a project that Donna was really pushing for and she had a vision and she wanted to see certain things down there, this was also coming off a hurricane sandy and we were trying to position ourselves for productive funding and a big part of this project was the entire riverbank and engineering solutions for and the funding has not trickled down the way that we thought it would as far as FEMA and construction funding. The point that we are at right now is let's try to put a bow on what we have done, we'll have that available if something comes up because we did a lot of research, we have a lot of data that can be used for any type of grant and if for some reason another opportunity presents itself we can always revisit if we have the opportunity to get the money and this current governing body files for it right from the get go.

Mayor Moore said then we need a motion to discontinue the contract with the Empowerment Zone and I think the amount is \$66,000 that is to be returned to the Cumberland County Empowerment Zone, I'll make that motion as stated.

Committeeman Sutton said I'll second that motion, Roll call vote: Unanimous to return the balance of the funding to Cumberland County Empowerment Zone.

Mayor Moore asked for report of officials.

Committeeman Jamison said just want to say the Mayor took my spot on the road department for plowing and I just want to thank him for what he did.

Mayor Moore said here is the true story, it was worth it for the ten minutes that I was out there plowing, maybe fifteen minutes to see the look on Fletcher face down by Brown Street, when he saw me in the truck was worth the whole incident.

Committeeman Sutton he just wanted to state on February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2015, Commercial Township will have been in existence for one hundred and forty-one years as the municipality of Commercial Township. He said the first township committee meeting was held in the old hotel in Mauricetown. Mr. Sutton said Commercial Township had originally been part of Downe Township and it took an act of Congress to set the boundry lines and create the Township of Commercial. Copies of these records are maintained in the clerk's office, also the original minute book with the hand written minutes are maintained by the clerk. Mr. Sutton said the hotel in Mauricetown was at the corner of Front and Noble Streets, the Panco property is located there now.

Mayor Moore said on March 6<sup>th</sup> he'll be meeting with Congressman LoBiondo and the Maurice River Township delegation regarding the erosion of the river. He said we're going out on our own and Patti Gross from Maurice River Township mentioned it to me and Nick Graviano and Ben Stowman, Planning Board Director attend the Bayshore meeting, but the bottom line is that we have to be more proactive and with your blessing we want to go and seek these funds. The Army Corp of Engineers are on board, that's how bad it is but I tell you

when you look at pictures and see it, it is an eye opener that we could look everything that is down there if we had a very bad storm down there.

Mr. Miller said we have these huge helicopters in Millville every day and during Sandy they were dropping huge sandbags to help the residents to keep the water back, if they are going up every day to practice, then let them do something but there's always so much red tape involved.

Mayor Moore said with the mouth of the river gone, we have a dangerous situation. He said I informed you guys about the open space project that I've been working on and it looks like the county freeholders will have to have a referendum to change the open space procedures to allow recreation and historic development, so I'm going to stay on them if that's okay with you guys to continue to push this project through. It does sound like they are interested in doing something.

Mayor Moore asked for motion to open meeting to the public and it was so moved and without comment a motion was made and seconded to close the public portion with a unanimous roll call vote.

Mayor Moore asked for a motion to go into executive session. He made announcement that anyone that wanted to stay in the foyer could do so and once the regular meeting was reconvened they would be called in to hear the out some of the executive session.

#### MEETING RECONVENED

Mayor Moore asked for motion and second to reconvene regular meeting and the public was invited to attend. Mayor called on Solicitor Seeley to report findings of executive session.

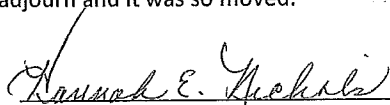
Mr. Seeley said the executive session was called to review the union contract after several meeting of negotiations had taken place and minor changes to the new contract needed to be incorporated. He said Mayor and Committee reviewed the contract page by page and Shop Steward, Clint Miller responded to each item that needed clarification and any he could not he said he would refer to the union rep as far as the language in the contract that dealt with federal rules and regulations. Mr. Seeley it was determined that by Mayor, Committee that they would approve Resolution 2015-31 adopting the Union Contract for years 2015,2016, 2017.

Clerk said we need motion and second to approve contract at this meeting. Committeeman Jamison made motion to approve Union Contract, Committeeman Sutton seconded same and there was a unanimous roll call vote.

Mr. Seeley said on his own contract he would prepare a revised one and send a copy to the committee and Mayor for signature.

Mr. Seeley said there was nothing else on the agenda.

Mayor Moore asked for motion to adjourn and it was so moved.

  
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Hannah E. Nichols, Township Clerk