

May 6, 2009

TOWNSHIP OF MILLSTONE

MAY 6, 2009

Mayor Grbelja calls the meeting to order at 8:03P.M.

ROLL CALL: Mayor Nancy Grbelja – present, Committeeman Abilheira – present, Committeeman Kinsey – present, Committeeman Kuczinski – present, Committeeman Masci – present. Also in attendance – Attorney – Duane Davison, Administrator - James Pickering, Municipal Clerk – Maria Dellasala and DPW Superintendent -Kenneth Gann.

STATEMENT OF NOTICE AS REQUIRED BY P.L. 1975, C231 IS READ.

I HEREBY ANNOUNCE THAT PURSUANT TO THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETING ACT, ADEQUATE NOTICE OF THIS MEETING HAS BEEN PROVIDED IN THE ANNUAL NOTICE OF MEETINGS WHICH WAS MAILED TO THE ASBURY PARK PRESS AND THE MESSENGER PRESS, POSTED ON THE PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS BULLETIN BOARD IN TOWN HALL AND FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE TOWNSHIP CLERK ON DECEMBER 17, 2008.

MAYOR GRBELJA CALLS THE REGULAR MEETING TO ORDER AT 8:03 P.M. FOLLOWED BY A FLAG SALUTE AND A MOMENT OF SILENCE.

PROCLAMATION'S:

1. Municipal Clerks Week

WHEREAS, the Office of the Municipal Clerk, a time honored and vital part of local government exists throughout the world, and

WHEREAS, The Office of the Municipal Clerk is the oldest among public servants, and
WHEREAS, The Office of the Municipal Clerk provides the professional link between the citizens, the local governing bodies and agencies of government at other levels, and
WHEREAS, Municipal Clerks have pledged to be ever mindful of their neutrality and impartiality, rendering equal service to all.

WHEREAS, The Municipal Clerk serves as the information center on functions of local government and community.

WHEREAS, Municipal Clerks continually strive to improve the administration of the affairs of the Office of the Municipal Clerk through participation in education program, seminars, workshops and the annual meetings of their state, province, county and international professional organizations.

WHEREAS, It is most appropriate that we recognize the accomplishments of the Office of the Municipal Clerk.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Nancy A. Grbelja, Mayor of the Township of Millstone, do recognize the week of May 3 through May 9, 2009, as Municipal Clerks Week, and further extend appreciation to our Municipal Clerk, Maria Dellasala and her Deputy Municipal Clerk, Nancy Warnick and to all Municipal Clerks and their Deputies for the vital services they perform and their exemplary dedication to the communities they represent.

PROCLAIMED this 6th. day of May 2009.

Nancy A. Grbelja, Mayor

M/Grbelja thanks municipal Clerk Maria Dellasala for the tremendous job she does.

May 6, 2009

2. National Public Works Week

WHEREAS, public works services provided in our community are an integral part of our citizen's everyday lives; and

WHEREAS, such facilities and services could not be provided without the dedicated efforts of public works professionals, the support of an understanding and informed citizenry is vital to the efficient operation of public works systems and programs such as streets and roads, public buildings, township parks, stormwater management, snow removal and recycling yard; and

WHEREAS, the health, safety, and comfort of this community greatly depends on these facilities and services; and

WHEREAS, the quality and effectiveness of these facilities, as well as their planning, design, and construction is vitally dependent upon the efforts and skill of public works officials; and

WHEREAS, the efficiency of the qualified and dedicated personnel who staff public works departments is materially influenced by the people's attitude and understanding of the importance of the work they perform,

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, Nancy A. Grbelja, Mayor of the Township of Millstone, do proclaim May 17 – 23, 2009, as **NATIONAL PUBLIC WORKS WEEK***

***PROCLAIMED** this 6th. day of May 2009.*

Nancy A. Grbelja, Mayor

M/Grbelja thanks Ken Gann for the tremendous job he does – and the great job he and his men do on snow removal, and sanding and salting of the roads. I've called Ken after he has left the town do to a down tree in the roadway and he always takes care of it. Thanks you for your leadership and dedication.

3. Designating May 6, as Robert J. Babin, Jake Buglione,

Adam Duffy, Nicholas Durante, Louis Keleher, Nick Seip and Brendan Skeehan Day

WHEREAS, Robert, Jake, Adam, Nicholas, Louis, Nick and Brendan have all completed the requirements for, and has been examined by an Eagle Scout Board of Review, was found worthy of the rank of Eagle Scout; and

WHEREAS, the Eagle Scout rank represents the highest advancement in scouting fulfilling requirements in the areas of leadership, service, and outdoor skills; and

WHEREAS, the Eagle Scout has earned 21 Merit Badges signifying the mastery of certain Scoutcraft skills, including First Aid, Citizenship in the Community, Citizenship in the Nation, Citizenship in the World, Communications, Environmental Science, Personal Fitness, Personal Management, Camping and Family Life, Emergency Preparedness and/or Lifesaving; as well as helping boys increase their skill in an area of personal interest; and

WHEREAS, the Eagle Scout has demonstrated leadership skills by holding one or more specific youth positions of responsibility in his patrol and/or troop; and

*WHEREAS, the Mayor and the Township Committee desire to congratulate and express their sincere thanks and appreciation to **Robert, Jake, Adam, Nicholas, Louis, Nick and Brendan** for their exceptional character, citizenship, and commitment to the community:*

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Nancy A. Grbelja, Mayor of Millstone Township, do hereby declare May 6, 2009 as **Robert J. Babin Jr., Jake Buglione, Adam Duffy, Nicholas**

May 6, 2009

Durante, Louis Keleher, Nick Seip and Brendan Skeeahan Day and request that the Millstone Township residents join in this celebration with their support.

Proclaimed this 6th. day of May 2009

Nancy A. Grbelja, Mayor

M/Grbelja states that none of the young men are here tonight however she will be attending a ceremony on Saturday and presenting each young man with a plaque.

C/Kinsey states that some of these Eagle Scout projects have come through the Recreation department, work has been done at the soccer fields and Wagner Farm Park.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Letter received from Millstone Township Agricultural Advisory Council, they are requesting permission to post signs for the Farm Market which runs from every Saturday from May 30th. through October 24th..

ORDINANCE

ORDINANCE 09-11

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

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT: This ordinance authorizes the additional 1% increase over previous year's final appropriations.

Motion to adopt on first reading and authorize publication of same, Moved C/Kuczinski, Second M/Grbelja.

Committee Discussion: None

VOTE:

AYES: C/Kinsey, C/Kuczinski, C/Masci, M/Grbelja

NAYS: C/Abilheira

ABSTAINED: None

ABSENT: None

Second reading and Public Hearing to be held on June 3, 2009 at 8:00 p.m. at the Millstone Township Meeting Room, 215 Millstone Road, Perrineville, New Jersey.

RESOLUTION:

09-93 Resolution: **INTRODUCTION OF THE 2009 MUNICIPAL BUDGET:**

Motion to adopt on first reading and authorize publication of same, Moved C/Kinsey, Second C/Kuczinski.

Committee Discussion: C/Kinsey states first the Fire Budget failed then the School Budget failed and our budget hearing will take place in 4 weeks. We have laid out a budget with input from C/Kuczinski and M/Grbelja. Annette Murphy our CFO is here this evening and we are putting forth a budget this year of \$6,695,000.00. There has been

May 6, 2009

a lot said about miss-management of the finances, and I am always available. This budget is approximately \$300,000.00 less than last year using less surplus. We have kept the municipal tax rate flat with no increase. In 2008 the rate was .098 and again this year. We have implemented salary freezes, union contract expires at the end of the year and we will start negotiations in June or July. Others have tried to open up union contracts but it is very difficult and costly and there are no guarantees that there would be a positive outcome. This budget will be voted on at the June 3rd. meeting. There is always room for additional cost savings, we continue to work on the budget. Funds that were not encumbered last year goes back to surplus next year. We will look at ways not to spend, we are trying to do more with less. We have cut back on capital projects, we have cut the road program back to \$250,000 and \$190,000 of that is coming from the State. We have cancelled ordinances and put that money back into surplus. The tax rate has been stabilized over the past few years at .098. We have also lost some State Aid over the past 2 years. With the help of C/Kuczinski our cash management plan is earning better interest. C/Kuczinski is a team player and has been an invaluable asset along with Jim Pickering and Annette Murphy.

C/Kuczinski states that he realizes the township had sufficient dollars on hand and wanted to make sure we were getting the best bang for our buck. We needed to work with a floor rate. We have different maturity dates and different rate for a laddered approach; for example, a 5 year CD, we can pull out 20% each year and re-invest in something with a higher payout or leave in the CD.

C/Kinsey states that the bank tells you they can no longer offer some of the services that you were getting and until you tell them you're going to pull your money out – then they continue to offer the service. Thanks to Jim Pickering and Matt Shafai and his staff doing the paper work we anticipate receiving \$500,000 from Monmouth County Open Space Grant, and a CDBG grant for \$250,000.00. We have also sold the old DPW garage for \$60,000.00 and we were told we'd never get anywhere that amount. Before M/Grbelja took office there was tremendous debt and no plan. We joined the MCIA loan pool in 2005 and on \$11,000,000.00 the interest rate about 4% over a 20 year period. Last year we did not participate since the rate increased to close to 5%. We continue to monitor rates, we issued BANS short term this year. We have also paid down debt of \$400,000.00 each year. C/Abilheira states gross debt in 2003 was \$15,600,000.00 that included Open Space debt and the total debt today is \$27,400,000.00. Abilheira believes we should cut additional dollars from the budget and proposes the following: General Admin Misc. \$20,000.00 Mayor & Township Committee \$36,000.00 (salary should be eliminated), Mayor & Township Committee Misc \$5,850.00 Municipal Clerk Misc \$5,000.00 Legal \$60,000.00 Engineering \$50,000.00 Zoning \$5,000.00 Public Works \$60,000.00 Sanitation \$10,000.00 Environmental Commission \$5,000.00 and Public Events \$2,000.00. C/Masci states its difficult times for everyone, C/Abilheira your disingenuous; we need to make sure the services the residents have received are still there, like the recycling yard and the roads are in good shape. This is a fair and honest budget; we all live here and enjoy our quality of life. C/Kinsey states that back in 2003 the municipal rate was 3.5 cents that the surplus was raided to balance the budget. The committee then should never touch those funds. In 2005, Nancy and I dedicated 2 cents from the budget to pay down debt; there was no plan in place prior to that. It was borrow, borrow, and borrow. I'm a taxpayer and I don't want to pay higher taxes either,

May 6, 2009

this budget is good. We are not borrowing for operating expenses; we cut back capital expense projects. This township was not functioning in 2003; the roads were not being kept up and the open space program was not being refunded properly for properties being preserved. Pat Butch had to re-do all the paper work for reimbursement of properties that were preserved prior to her being on the open space council.

VOTE:

AYES: C/Kinsey, C/Kuczinski, C/Masci, M/Grbelja

NAYS: C/Abilheira

ABSTAINED: None

ABSENT: None

Second reading and Public Hearing to be held on June 3, 2009 at 8:00 p.m. at the Millstone Township Meeting Room, 215 Millstone Road, Perrineville, New Jersey.

RESOLUTIONS: CONSENT RESOLUTION POSTED ON BULLETIN BOARD.
ALL MATTERS LISTED UNDER ITEM "CONSENT AGENDA" ARE CONSIDERED ROUTINE BY THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE AND WILL BE ENACTED BY ONE (1) MOTION IN THE FORM LISTED BELOW. THERE WILL BE NO SEPARATE DISCUSSION ON THESE ITEMS, IF DISCUSSION IS DESIRED OF ANY ITEM, THAT ITEM WILL BE CONSIDERED SEPARATELY.

09-94 Payment of vouchers.

09-95 Resolution supporting participation in the Sustainable Jersey Municipal Certification Program.

09-96 Resolution authorizing voiding of checks from the Millstone Township Municipal Court and Court bail Accounts and transferring funds to the Millstone Township Current operating Account.

09-97 Resolution authorizing Change Order No. 1 Re: 2008 Roadway Improvement Program.

09-98 Resolution authorizing the execution of a Developer's Agreement for Svedova Properties, LLC, block 57, Lot 14.02, Site Plan No. PB08-13.

09-99 Resolution to adopt temporary emergency appropriations #7.

09-100 Resolution opposing Governor Corzine's intention to redirect EMT Training Fund.

Motion to adopt on first reading and authorize publication of same, Moved C/Kinsey, Second C/Masci.

Committee Discussion: None

VOTE:

AYES: C/Kuczinski, C/Masci, C/Abilheira 09-95, 09-96, 09-98 and 09-100, C/Kinsey, M/Grbelja

NAYS: C/Abilheira 09-94, 09-97 and 09-99

ABSTAINED: None

ABSENT: None

May 6, 2009

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MINUTES:

1. Regular and Executive Session April 15, 2009.

Motion to adopt on first reading and authorize publication of same, Moved C/Kuczinski, Second C/Kinsey.

Committee Discussion: None

VOTE:

AYES: C/Kinsey, C/Kuczinski, C/Masci, M/Grbelja

NAYS: C/Abilheira

ABSTAINED: None

ABSENT: None

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

Mayor Grbelja opens the meeting to the public at 9:40 p.m.

1. Brian Lourenco – Arrowhead Way – Asked about the debt and the difference between Municipal debt and Open Space dedicated tax. Mr. Lourenco also asks about the current surplus.
2. Pat Curry – Wagner Farm Lane – Questions horse trail that is proposed to run alongside his and Mr. Hans property.
3. John Connolly – Wagner Farm Lane – Asks about the \$12,000,000.00 Open Space debt and how is it matched.
4. William Somers – Arrowhead Way – Upset with the mailer that went out – fight treatment plant – look at other alternatives. Also vandals have spray painted street signs on Bergen Mills Road.
5. Jim Whitney – Indian Path – Questions letter mandating to build 172 COAH units we only have to build if we have growth.
6. Bernie Sluzas – Arrowhead Way – Asks about alternate plans from regular citizens and why not give it back to Rich Coppola for an alternate plan.
7. Dorothy Sluzas – Arrowhead Way – States by your own omission this COAH plan can fail now you need to come up with a new obligation.

Mayor Grbelja closes the meeting to the public at 11:10 p.m.

Motion to adjourn, Moved C/Kinsey, Second C/Kuczinski. © Time Out 11:11p.m.

Tapes of the meeting are available in the Municipal Clerk's Office.