

Formally adopted on February 22, 2011:

**MINUTES OF A CAUCUS MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HADDON, IN THE
COUNTY OF CAMDEN, NEW JERSEY, HELD ON FEBRUARY 15, 2011,
IN THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING AT 7:00 PM.**

A caucus meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Haddon was convened in the Municipal Building, 135 Haddon Avenue, Westmont, NJ on Tuesday, February 15, 2011 at 7:00 PM.

Mayor Teague requested all stand for the flag salute

Mayor Teague announced that Chapter 231, Public Law 1975 requires adequate notice of this meeting be provided specifying time, place and agenda. This was done by placing Annual Notice in the Courier-Post and Retrospect Newspapers and by posting on two bulletin boards in the Municipal Building.

ROLL CALL:	Mayor Teague	Present
	Commissioner Foley	Present
	Commissioner Dougherty	Present

Stuart A. Platt, Esq., Greg Fusco, PE, Mark Hermann, PE, Chief Cavallo, Jim Stevenson, Ed Toussaint, Lee Palo, Kate Burns and Denise P. Adams were also present.

Commissioner Foley moved, seconded by Commissioner Dougherty that the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on January 25, 2011 be approved, with both members voting in the affirmative.

ORDINANCES (for consideration on February 22, 2011)

#1273 – Amendment to Chapter 111, “Fees”	(2 nd Reading)
#1274 – Amendment to the P.I.L.O.T. Agreement with Haddon Housing Associates for Rohrer Towers II	(2 nd Reading)
#1275 – Amendment to Police Department Rules and Regulations	(2 nd Reading)

RESOLUTIONS (for consideration on February 22, 2011)

#2011-027- Bill Resolution
#2011-028- Authorizing the Tax/Utility Collector to Process Posting Corrections and Various Other Adjustments and Deductions

OTHER BUSINESS

Report on Sale of Bond Anticipation Notes
Raffle License #RA:1-2011 – Santa Maria Council #1443, Knights of Columbus

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Greg Fusco, PE reviewed the Engineer’s Report dated February 15, 2011. Mr. Fusco reviewed the results of bids that had been received for the Acquisition of Water Meters and Improvements to the Retaining Wall at the end of Carlton Avenue and made recommendations of award. He reported that the Township had recently been awarded a Transportation Trust Grant in the amount of \$200,000 for Phase IV of the Emerald Avenue Improvements. He further noted that the Bikeways grant application was not successful. Mayor Teague queried if the engineers had any experience with Think Pavers, the apparent low bidder on the Retaining Wall Project and discussed the problem with pot holes due to the harsh winter. He suggested a list be compiled to prioritize those intersections in need of improvements, similar with last year. Mr. Fusco reported that he had worked with Think Pavers on a very successful project in Somerdale and advised that he had met with Jim Stevenson recently to discuss intersection improvements for the 2011 Capital Improvement Program.

Public Works, Water/Sewer Department: Jim Stevenson reported that the contractor had started work on the Lindis Farne and French Avenue drainage project and advised that work on the South Park Drive Pumping station had resumed. He requested that bids be authorized for the

acquisition of furniture for Crystal Lake Pool. Mayor Teague suggested an inventory of the pool furniture be taken to determine the replacement needs.

Tax Assessor/Revaluation:

Construction Office: Ed Toussaint provided an update on the HTAA Clubhouse and noted that a number of engineering issues for the elevator shaft had created a two week delay, but advised that the elevator had been delivered and work was still expected to be completed by the last week of March. He reported that a “green” modular home was being constructed at 519 Rhoads Avenue, with the work being filmed by DIY Network, which was great exposure for the Township. He reported that the Construction page on the Township’s website had been updated with the assistance of Kate Burns. He provided a report on 2010 Construction Office Activity which issued 703 permits, with 3 new homes, 1 new commercial property, 29 additions, 10 solar arrays and the removal of 25 oil tanks and performed in excess of 2,200 inspections. He indicated that changes in the permit fee structure had resulted in more revenues being generated.

Kate Burns reported that she was tracking the website analytics and advised there was an average of 10,000 hits per month with the Special Events, Public Works and Finance and Taxes as the frequently visited pages. She explained that she had attended a Social Media seminar recently and was investigating its potential for use by the Township. She reported that plans for St. Patty’s Day were in the works, along with Philly Beer Week and Relay for Life scheduled for June 3rd. She indicated that the Hunger Walk would take place on April 9th at Newton Lake Park.

Commissioner Dougherty provided an update on Teens for Haddon and reported that they would be meeting at the end of the month and suggested Department Heads consider in-house projects that they could recommend to be undertaken by the group. Kate indicated that they would perform community service projects and could be asked to recommend any number of activities to sponsor and work on.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- Requests for Resolutions of Support, Proclamations, etc...:
 - Green Communities Grant Program - \$3,000 for Community Forestry Management Plan
 - Request for Refund of Planning/Zoning Board Application Fee
 - Request for Refund of Rent Control Escrow Fees
 - Proposed Amendment to Disorderly Conduct Ordinance – Stuart reviewed his letter of recommendation to repeal the Township’s Ordinance conflicting with State Statute. Commissioner Dougherty requested an opportunity to review the recommendation with Chief Cavallo before moving forward.
 - Year 33 Community Development Block Grant Program (Est. \$52,070)
 - Proposed Amendment to Chapter 223, Vehicles and Traffic, Snow Emergency – Commissioner Dougherty suggested the change to incorporate all municipal streets for snow emergencies. Stuart suggested that a copy be forwarded to the County after adoption.
 - Proposed Amendment to Residential Development Fee Ordinance – Stuart reported that the fee would be increased to 1.5% of assessed value and suggested the Clerk contact COAH counsel to obtain a draft of the proposed ordinance.
 - Proposed Amendment to Employment Policies and Procedures – Commissioner Dougherty reported that the proposed amendments would address health benefits, sick time and bereavement leave. Mayor Teague reported that he had not yet reviewed the proposed amendments.

The Clerk reported that a gentleman had stopped in the office to apply for a Taxi Cab License, which had not been done in quite a few years. She indicated that the solicitor had been requested to review the Township’s Ordinance and how it stood up to any State regulations. Stuart reported that the Township’s Taxi Cab Ordinance was very good and suggested no changes at this time. The Clerk was instructed to put together an application form for completion and review by the Governing Body.

Mayor Teague reported that Catherine Turcich had expressed interest in continuing to serve on the Shade Tree Commission and suggested a Resolution of Appointment be prepared for action on Tuesday evening. He also reported that the Haddon Township Shade Tree Commission had been featured in a Shade Tree publication which was positive press for Haddon Township.

Mayor Teague discussed the proposed use of the Father's Association Building as an environmental center to be used by the Environmental Commission, Shade Tree Commission, Saddler's Woods Conservation Association and the Historical Society. He explained that the groups would share the facility as a meeting place and to host various educational programs. He indicated that the engineers and public works department were working on plans to address some improvements in cooperation with the groups and they were hoping for an April 30th grand opening.

Mayor Teague reported that the Clerk had prepared the draft budget which was preliminary in nature; however, was within the 2% cap and would provide for no increase in the 2011 tax rate. Mayor Teague stressed that the numbers were very preliminary and they were still awaiting the release of State Aid figures.

Mayor Teague opened the floor for any questions or concerns to be brought before the Board.

Tom Cassel, 1017 Belmont Avenue, requested a status report on the DyDee, Russell Stone and the Westmont Theater projects. He discussed the Township Clerk and Tax Collector's positions suggesting that set evening hours be established if the collector was to work in the evening and queried in what tax quarter the new assessments would be in effect. He requested clarification of ownership of the retaining wall at the end of Carlton Avenue, and expressed support for the proposed use of the Father's Association Building. Mayor Teague reported that the environmental investigation and clean up on the DyDee site continues and noted that the Township had recently been awarded additional grant funds. He indicated that they were still waiting for the Sulock building to be razed and the Shusted and Commonwealth/Media to be acquired. Mayor Teague explained that it was difficult to determine a time line for the remediation activities and said he would hope it would conclude in the next six months. In response to Mr. Cassel's scenario if Fieldstone did not fulfill the agreement and acquire the site, Mayor Teague noted that a lawsuit would be in order. He reported that a meeting with Russell Stone representatives had been cancelled a few weeks ago, but it appeared they were ready to move on the project. He indicated that the Westmont Theater grant application was still pending. Mayor Teague acknowledged that Dawn Pennock was currently in training with the Clerk and he observed that the Tax Collector was scheduled to work in the evening. Commissioner Foley reported that the new Collector would be available Friday mornings and noted that current Tax Office staff members were quite knowledgeable and could address any concerns residents may have. He indicated that Margaret King was the Senior Tax Clerk and possessed the Tax Collector's certification. It was noted new tax assessments would appear on the tax bills scheduled to be mailed in July. Mayor Teague reported that the Township did own the retaining wall at the end of Carlton Avenue. Mr. Cassel queried if solar arrays installed on roofs had shut offs and relayed a concern expressed by the fire company. Commissioner Dougherty reported that he would discuss this concern with Chief Medes.

There being no further business to discuss, Commissioner Foley moved, seconded by Commissioner Dougherty that the meeting be adjourned at 7:40 PM with all members voting in the affirmative.

February 15, 2011

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Denise P. Adams, Municipal Clerk

Randall W. Teague, Mayor

John C. Foley, Commissioner

Paul Dougherty, Commissioner