

# **Long Hill Township Committee Minutes October 10, 2012 Regular Meeting**

The Township Committee of the Township of Long Hill, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, convened in Regular Session at the Municipal Building, 915 Valley Road, Gillette, New Jersey, on Wednesday, **October 10, 2012** at 7:07 p.m.

## **Statement of Adequate Notice:**

Deputy Mayor Piserchia read the following statement:

“In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Law of New Jersey, adequate notice of this meeting was included in a list of meetings notice which was electronically sent to the Echoes Sentinel, Courier News and Daily Record on January 4, 2012; posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building on January 4, 2012 and has remained continuously posted as the required notices under the Statute. In addition, a copy of this notice is and has been available to the public and is on file in the office of the Municipal Clerk.”

## **Executive Session**

Mr. Schuler made a motion, seconded by Mr. Roshto to approve Resolution 12-344 and move to Executive Session. Vote: All in favor

### **RESOLUTION 12-344 EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, that the Township Committee of Long Hill Township meet in closed session to discuss the following matters:

- Personnel – Clerk; Personnel Manual
- Attorney-Client Privilege – Meeting Request
- Contract Negotiations – Millington Train Station Roof
- Pending or Anticipated Litigation – Zoning Violations
- Property Acquisition – Open Space

## **Pledge of Allegiance:**

All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **Roll Call:**

Present: Mr. Aroneo, Mr. Piserchia, Mr. Schuler, Mr. Roshto  
Absent Mayor Mazzucco

Also present: Mr. Pidgeon, Township Attorney; Ms. Gatti, Township Clerk

## **Discussion / Action Items:**

### **2013 Parking Permits**

Mr. Henry presented the analysis on the Parking Fee Permit. The fees go on sale during the first week of December and we have to set the fees and the maximum number of permits that we would like to sell for each station. You will notice that the revenue continues to slide which I think is mostly attributed to the economy. NJ Transit continues to raise their ticket costs forcing people to either drive to Secaucus Junction and take the train from there or find alternate methods for transportation. There is an additional spread sheet done which is essentially a profile of where we have been in the past few years. There is also a comparative analysis of other train stations included.

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Overview: We have been at the same rate for parking permits since 2009. Each station in Long Hill Township is broken down by full permit (1 yr.) a half permit which is from July 1<sup>st</sup> through December 31<sup>st</sup> and at each station there is a different fee schedule.

- Full Memberships: Millington is \$210 Stirling is \$260 Gillette is \$300.00
- Half Membership: Millington is \$105 Stirling is \$130 Gillette is \$150.00
- Daily fee: \$5.00

The breakdown for 2012:

- Millington 105 Permits Actual spaces in Millington are 113 as of last year the Township Committee decided to allow a maximum number of permits sold was 245. It should be noted that there are parking meters at this station.
- Stirling we sold 44 permits in 2012 with actual spaces being 41. There was a special case where someone came in with special approvals and was able to upgrade to Gillette.
- Maximum allowable permits. In Gillette we sold 116 with actual spaces being 87 with a maximum number of permits being 115.

Also included is a comparative analysis's with a combination of stations along the Gladstone Line. Berkeley Heights, Bernardsville and dove tailed into the Dover line – the midtown direct to give you a flavor of what they charge.

Mr. Schuler asked if we differentiated between resident and non-resident for parking fees.

Mr. Pidgeon said we did not as the lots are all owned by NJ Transit and one conditions of their lease with the township is that we cannot charge nonresidents more than we charge residents because all commuters had to be treated alike. Other towns like Summit have city owned lots so they may charge whatever they want.

Deputy Mayor Piserchia asked for comments from the Committee.

Mr. Schuler felt we had held the line for four years. I think a cost of living adjustment increase would not be unreasonable. We could follow the mark of what has been done before or possibly five percent raise. Four years is a long time to hold the line. I would suggest keeping the daily where it is. We do have some maintenance to do on the Millington Station and Gillette will probably need paving soon. I am not sure what the balance is on the Transit Fund. Mr. Pidgeon thought it was around \$200,000.

Deputy Mayor Piserchia asked Mr. Aroneo what his feelings were. Mr. Aroneo said he had a few ideas. To those people who are working and still using the lot the ten or twenty dollars is not a lot. That is not a reason to raise a fee. Based on what I have heard I don't see any need to raise the fee. What others charge is not really important

Mr. Roshto said he agreed with that statement. Mr. Schuler's point is well taken. The cost of living goes up every year and essentially by us not increasing it we are reducing the amount. There is one point that I think we should look at and that is Gillette. Gillette has maxed out on the number of permits. It is the one area in town where people continue to come to us early to get their tickets. If were going to raise rates I would suggest that be done in Gillette in hopes of encouraging people to go to Millington which is only at half capacity. Mr. Aroneo agreed with the raise in Gillette.

Deputy Mayor Piserchia asked if we would want to charge more for the half year which might encourage the sale of the annual.

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Mr. Henry said from experience what winds up happening is as early as April the parking lot at Gillette you can find parking at any time of the day. If you go there January through March, after 7:30 a.m. you might not find a spot. We are selling out early but then traffic fades.

Mr. Roshto did not think increasing Gillette would encourage people to go to Millington. I feel we should leave it as it is.

Deputy Mayor Piserchia did not know what it would cost to pave Gillette but I would guess fifty grand. We might have some expenses coming up and what we don't want to be in a situation where we have to do a repair with no money to cover it. I don't think ten dollars annually will prevent anyone from going to that parking lot.

Mr. Aroneo said that \$2600.00 does keep you ahead. Deputy Mayor Piserchia said there are two possibilities. Raising Gillette alone to \$15.00 or raising all three \$10.00 or not raise them at all. Mr. Henry suggested they raise all three as he did not think there was a reason to adjust the scale.

Mr. Aroneo said he would be fine with that. Mr. Schuler liked the original which was a percentage (5%) so it would be fifteen dollars for Gillette, ten dollars for Sterling and Millington.

To Clarify: it would be \$220 for Millington; \$270 for Stirling and \$315 for Gillette.

Half years will remain the same.

Maximum No. of Permits: Millington is double of what is sold;

Stirling has a good cushion but there is not a cushion in Gillette

Allowable Permits: 120 Gillette with Millington (245) and Stirling (50) staying constant.

Mr. Pidgeon explained said this would have to be adopted in a Resolution at a subsequent meeting. Changes can be made at that time. Mr. Schuler wanted to check to see if anyone was turned away midyear. Mr. Pidgeon said in the past they tried to encourage people who couldn't get into Gillette to go to one of the other stations. Mr. Aroneo said we should include in the resolution, if it is not already there, that permits from Gillette would be valid at Stirling or Millington.

**Public Comments:** Mr. Sandow gave an explanation why the rate had been reduced four years ago.

**Consent Agenda Resolutions:**

Deputy Mayor Piserchia asked if there were any comments or questions.

There being none Deputy Mayor Piserchia made a motion, seconded by Mr. Aroneo to approve Resolutions 12-345 through 12-358.

Vote: All in favor

**RESOLUTION 12-345  
APPROVING PAYMENT OF BILLS**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Township Committee of the Township of Long Hill does hereby approve the payment of the bills as presented by the Chief Financial Officer.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the bills list be appended to the official minutes.

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**RESOLUTION 12-346  
APPROVAL AND RELEASE OF REGULAR SESSION MINUTES AND APPROVAL OF  
EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES (AS REDACTED)**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Township Committee of the Township of Long Hill does hereby approve and release the Township Committee Minutes of the July 18, 2012 Meeting.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Township Committee hereby approves the July 18, 2012 Meeting Executive Session Meeting Minutes as redacted by the Township Attorney.

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**RESOLUTION 12-347  
APPROVAL OF 2012 SEWER ADJUSTMENTS**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Township Committee of the Township of Long Hill on the advice of the Tax Collector does hereby authorize the following adjustments to the 2012 Sewer Billing due to water usage, sprinkler systems, senior deduction or billing error by NJAW:

| <b>BLOCK</b> | <b>LOT</b> | <b>ADJUSTMENT</b>           | <b>CREDIT</b> | <b>DEBIT</b> | <b>NAME</b>                             |
|--------------|------------|-----------------------------|---------------|--------------|---|
| 10601        | 8 T014     | Malfunction of Water Heater | -#1,020.32    |              | Claire's/Valley & Plainfield Associates |

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**RESOLUTION 12-348  
APPROVAL OF 2012 SEWER REFUNDS**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Township Committee of the Township of Long Hill on the recommendation of the Tax Collector does hereby authorize the following refunds due to overpayment for 2012 Sewer:

| <b>BLOCK</b> | <b>LOT</b> | <b>NAME/ADDRESS</b>   | <b>REFUND</b> |
|--------------|------------|---|---------------|
| 13503        | 9          | Kathleen F. Kaplan<br>60 Gates Ave<br>Gillette, NJ 07933                          | \$63.77       |
| 11701        | 26.02      | On P. & Sudesh K. Bathla<br>1452 Valley Rd<br>Millington, NJ 07946                | \$136.55      |
| 12001        | 17         | Rosemarie Bajek &<br>Eva Dooley Trustee<br>75 Midvale Ave<br>Millington, NJ 07946 | \$20.00       |
| 12304        | 6          | Victor Lesende<br>44 The Crescent<br>Millington, NJ 07946                         | \$23.61       |
| 13004        | 22.02      | Horacio & Cesaria Azevedo<br>166 Central Ave<br>Stirling, NJ 07980                | \$209.53      |
| 12602        | 5          | Dennis Tepperman<br>66 Church Rd<br>Millington, NJ 07946                          | \$15.00       |

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|-------|-------|--|----------|
| 12203 | 31    | Giuseppe & Adelina L. Pennetti<br>1984 Valley Road<br>Millington, NJ 07946 | \$475.00 |
| 12702 | 14    | Daniel & Catherine Lan<br>194 Old Forge Road<br>Millington, NJ 07946       | \$521.39 |
| 10301 | 16.20 | Geoffrey & Jean Kimak<br>32 Stonehedge Rd<br>Millington, NJ 07946          | \$18.22  |

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**RESOLUTION 12-349  
AUTHORIZE SEWER ADJUSTMENTS**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Township Committee of the Township of Long Hill on the advice of the Tax/Sewer Collector does hereby authorize the Collector to correct the usage fee adjustment for the following in order correct senior deductions or billing fees for 2012:

| <b>BLOCK</b> | <b>LOT</b> | <b>NAME</b>           | <b>AMOUNT</b> |
|--------------|------------|-----------------------|---------------|
| 10701        | 602        | SERRITELLA, STEPHEN   | \$15.00       |
| 11001        | 54         | KRESSBACH, JOHN       | \$15.00       |
| 11509        | 9          | LINDEMAN, LEILA       | \$15.00       |
| 11512        | 6          | CERCHIARO, JOSEPH     | \$15.00       |
| 11603        | 32         | GILLESPIE, DAVID      | \$15.00       |
| 12502        | 10         | PELTER, LORRAINE      | \$15.00       |
| 12806        | 14         | MARSHALL, WILLIAM     | \$15.00       |
| 13003        | 11         | HURLOCK, MILDRED      | \$15.00       |
| 13204        | 7          | DUTTA, ASIT           | \$15.00       |
| 13302        | 401        | GEBIG, RICHARD        | \$15.00       |
| 13407        | 32         | KILKENNY, MICHAEL     | \$15.00       |
| 13801        | 68         | YAGED, BERNARD        | \$15.00       |
| 13903        | 1.01       | KICKENWEITZ, ROBERT   | \$15.00       |
| 13908        | 19.01      | CHERRY, LORINDA       | \$15.00       |
| 12303        | 1.02       | ROWE, RUTHANNE        | \$15.00       |
| 12203        | 33.01      | MOCARSKI, CHRISTOPHER | \$401.90      |

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**RESOLUTION 12-350  
APPROVAL OF TAX REFUND**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Township Committee of the Township of Long Hill upon the advice and recommendation of the Tax Collector does hereby authorize a refund of 2012 4<sup>th</sup> quarter taxes in the amount of \$1,967.19 for Block 13513 Lot 11 as owner paid in error to Donald Tu and Nicole Chen, 65 Daugherty Avenue Gillette, NJ 07933.

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**RESOLUTION 12-351  
AUTHORIZING CONSTRUCTION FEE REFUND [LYONS]**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Township Committee of the Township of Long Hill upon the advice and recommendation of the Construction Official does hereby authorize a refund for a

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building permit that was not required; the permit fee in the amount of \$94.00 shall be refunded to the following:

Suzanne Lyons  
471 Long Hill Road  
Gillette, NJ 07933

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**RESOLUTION 12-352  
APPROVAL OF CONFERENCE REQUEST – TAX COLLECTOR**

**WHEREAS**, the Township Committee approved Resolution 08-375 which requires Township Committee approval of all overnight conference requests; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Committee has received a request through the Township Administrator by the Tax Collector to attend the New Jersey League of Municipalities Conference; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by**, the Long Hill Township Committee hereby approves the request of the Tax Collector to attend the New Jersey League of Municipalities Conference as outlined in her memo.

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**RESOLUTION 12-353  
APPROVAL OF CONFERENCE REQUEST – PLANNING/ZONING ADMINISTRATOR**

**WHEREAS**, the Township Committee approved Resolution 08-375 which requires Township Committee approval of all overnight conference requests; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Committee has received a request through the Township Administrator by the Planning/Zoning Administrator to attend the New Jersey League of Municipalities Conference; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by**, the Long Hill Township Committee hereby approves the request of the Planning/Zoning Administrator to attend the New Jersey League of Municipalities Conference as outlined in her memo.

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**RESOLUTION 12-354  
APPROVE CONFERENCE REQUEST – CFO**

**WHEREAS**, the Township Committee approved Resolution 08-375 which requires Township Committee approval of all overnight conference requests; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Committee has received a request through the Township Administrator by the Chief Financial Officer to attend the League of Municipalities Convention for one (1) evening; and

**WHEREAS**, his full-time employer has agreed to pay all other expenses excluding one night lodging; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by**, the Long Hill Township Committee hereby approves the request of the Chief Financial Officer to pay for one (1) night lodging at the League of Municipalities Convention as outlined in his memo.

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**RESOLUTION 12-355  
APPROVE CONFERENCE REQUEST – TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATOR**

**WHEREAS**, the Township Committee approved Resolution 08-375 which requires Township Committee approval of all overnight conference requests; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Committee has received a request by the Township Administrator to attend the League of Municipalities Conference; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by, the Long Hill Township Committee hereby approves the request of the Township Administrator to attend the New Jersey League of Municipalities Conference as outlined in his memo.

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**RESOLUTION 12-356  
AUTHORIZING THE RETURN OF  
PROFESSIONAL REVIEW ESCROW – MASON**

**WHEREAS**, Frances Ann Mason of Block: 11604, Lot: 15, in regards to Application No. 11-01P, has requested that the Professional Review Escrow fees be returned; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Planning/Zoning Board Administrator has certified that there are no outstanding invoices and have approved the release of this Professional Review Escrow; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chief Financial Officer has determined that \$1,021.62 remains in the account;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Township Committee of the Township of Long Hill hereby directs the Chief Financial Officer to return the balance of the Professional Review Escrow in the total amount of \$1,021.62 to Mrs. Frances Mason –P.O. Box 141, Stirling, NJ 07980.

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**RESOLUTION 12-357  
AUTHORIZATION TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE HICKS TRACK FOR FIRE DRILL**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Committee of the Township of Long Hill, in the County of Morris, State of New Jersey, upon the recommendation of the Fire Chiefs, does hereby authorize the temporary closure of Hicks Tract in Millington on Sunday, November 18, 2012 from 8:00AM until 1:00PM in order to conduct Mutual Aid Fire Drill.

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**RESOLUTION 12-358  
APPOINTMENT OF TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATOR AS JIF COMMISSIONER AND DEPUTY  
MUNICIPAL CLERK**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Committee of the Township of Long Hill, in the County of Morris, State of New Jersey, hereby appoint Neil Henry, Township Administrator, as:

- Joint Insurance Fund Commissioner with a term expiring on January 1, 2013, or when a successor is duly appointed and qualified. (Morris JIF Bylaws, Article III)
- Deputy Municipal Clerk for the balance of 2012 (Township Code, Subsection 2-6.1).

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**Old Business:**

Mr. Aroneo asked Mr. Pidgeon if there had been any COHA updates. Mr. Pidgeon said there was nothing at this time.

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Deputy Mayor Piserchia said he saw Mr. Sweeney in the audience. I was going to bring up the property at South Main which I believe our Administrator, OEM, DPW met with Mr. Harmon from EPA. The concern of this Committee has been the number of trees (clear cutting) that potentially would be cut down on South Main.

Mr. Henry said Mr. Harmon visited last week and advised that prep work would begin this week and the actual work would be next week. He did assure me that the plan changed significantly from what was originally discussed relative to tree cutting. A map was provided to everyone which shows the green area where no asbestos was found. The area with red dot appears to have asbestos. Mr. Harman told Mr. Sweeney, Mr. Pulliter and I yesterday that he would take care of some of the dead trees in the red area but didn't expect to take down many trees unless he found some trees affected by the asbestos. My recommendation to the Committee would be to try to monitor what is going on just to be sure that nothing is being done there that wasn't laid out in our meeting yesterday.

Deputy Mayor Piserchia asked Mr. Pidgeon what influence we have over EPA. This is our property. Mr. Pidgeon said that all we have is persuasive influence. He had spoken with Mr. Harmon and was assured that they had no intention of clear cutting. Mr. Roshto asked Mr. Henry if it were possible to get a boundary map of the area where they are interested in removing trees from.

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Deputy Mayor Piserchia said he would respectfully mention to Scoop that we do have the letters for Long Hill Township coming in next week.

Mr. Roshto thought everyone was up to speed with what is happening with Millington Train Station roof but wanted to let the public know that the roof needs replacement. We have the DPW and Legal Department involved in it. Historical Preservation Advisory Committee met and agreed to replace it with a life time green synthetic slate roof. The funds will be taken from the existing parking funds. The next step is, if we all agree, is to go out to bid.

Mr. Pidgeon said their next step would be to authorize Mr. Sweeney and Mr. Henry to draw up a letter to bidders for specs. We can include the brand recommended or equivalent in the bid papers. Bernardsville will give us a copy of their specs for reference. They just had gone through this process.

Mr. Roshto made a motion, seconded by Mr. Aroneo to authorize the Director of Public Works to initiate a bid to replace the Millington Train Station Roof. Vote: All in Favor.

**New Business:** There was no new business

### **Meeting Open To The Public:**

Dennis Sandow, reminded the Committee that "The Desert Ladies" are opening on Main Avenue and Union. You are all invited to the Grand Opening on Saturday at noon. The Ribbon will be cut by the first member of the Township Committee who raises his hand. Deputy Mayor Piserchia said he would be happy to be there and would get there by noon.

Deputy Mayor Piserchia announced that the Committee would be returning to Executive Session.



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Mr. Aroneo made a motion, seconded by Mr. Roshto to adjourn the open meeting. Vote: All in Favor

Respectfully submitted,

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Christine Gatti/mf  
Township Clerk

Approved: March 13, 2013