

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, November 7, 2012 at 7:00 PM.

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.”

Mr. Aroneo made a motion, seconded by Mr. Piserchia to approve Resolution 12-369 and move to Executive Session. Vote: All Ayes

**RESOLUTION 12-369
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 Recruitment

Property Acquisition: Open Space

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that minutes of this executive session meeting will be released to the public in a timely fashion pursuant to the Open Public Records Act and other applicable laws and regulations.

Pledge of Allegiance:

All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call:

Present: Mr. Aroneo, Mr. Piserchia, Mr. Roshto, Mr. Schuler

Absent: Mayor Mazzucco

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

Deputy Mayor Piserchia said he was saddened to announce that we in Long Hill Township have lost one of our sons – **United States Navy, Petty Officer, Second Class, Mathew G. Cantor**. Governor Christi had ordered flags lowered to half-staff on Friday November 9th in honor of the fallen military serviceman Mathew Cantor. He then read Executive Order 12 into the record.

A moment of silence was held in honor of Mathew. Deputy Mayor Piserchia, on behalf of the Township Committee offered their sincere condolences to Mathew’s family.

Township Committee Liaison Reports / Department Reports:

Police Department [September]

Office of Emergency Management [August]

Correspondence:

- Recycling Tonnage Grant [State of New Jersey]
- Legislative Bulletin [NJLM]
- Municipal Alliance Funds [County of Morris]

Discussion / Action Items:

Hurricane Sandy Update: Mr. Schuler said the DPW has been busy cleaning up the debris left behind by "Sandy". All roads have been cleared as much as possible. What is left in terms of road closures or trees and wires is the responsibility of JCPL. The Township has done its best to stay in communication with our residents. Because there were phone lines down, we printed out brochures and have added an email list, thanks to Mr. Roshto. He thanked all of the business who helped with the distribution of the brochures. Chief Hedden called in additional patrol cars to canvass the neighborhoods and give updates. Mr. Schuler thanked Chief Hedden, Lt. Mazzeo and their staff. Town Hall was used as a charging and warming center. Updates were given twice a day. Approximately two hundred people attended the update sessions. The Township had volunteers from CERT, OEM, Fire Company, First Aid and the Police. The Boy Scouts were cleaning up yards for those that were not able to do it themselves. Mr. Schuler thanked all of our Volunteers and Organizations for their help.

The number of power outages that JCPL is reporting is inaccurate. Mr. Schuler has spoken with the township's representatives on every level, including the Governor's office. The Township is at about forty percent power restored. this event caused 100 percent of the residents to be without power.

Mr. Roshto said that during this storm event we had to hold elections. One of the most remarkable things was how appreciative the residents were in the organization, the understanding of the logistics in moving three different polling places into one and making sure that we had safe honest elections. I want to recognize Christine Gatti for making that happen. It was an amazing feat. I would also like to point out that this Township Committee has worked together throughout this process to make sure the Township is being governed as collectively as a group. Mayor Mazzucco was away and could not get back but was in contact and working with us. Deputy Mayor Piserchia did a fine job of stepping in for him. Mr. Schuler and Mr. Aroneo were also at hand and made sure we had what we needed. I want the residents to know and understand that we have been working to get back to some form of normalcy in a reasonable amount of time. I would stress that We kept in touch with Mayors and Administrators of the surrounding towns and they were in the same situation as we. We still have a lot of people without power and JCPL is trying to get the power up and running.

Mr. Aroneo also thanked the Fire Company as they have been making sixty or more calls a day. The Police responded quickly to all calls and he thanked them for their services. He thanked all the Committeemen for their help as well. Deputy Mayor Piserchia spent the night in Town Hall and Mr. Roshto has been here with him. He thanked the members for coming up with ways to communicate when our system went down.

Deputy Mayor Piserchia said there had been a fire on Long Hill Road on November 6th. The resident was a bit incapacitated and the quick action of the Fire Department and the Police Department saved this man's life. The Fire Chief from Millington said that Long Hill Police Officers should be recognized for their bravery and heroic actions. He thanked the entire Police Force, the First Aid Squad and to the two fire departments, Stirling and Millington for a job well done.

Mr. Roshto added two others. One is Lisa Scanlon who wears many hats; CERT, Rec. Department, etc. who has been here day in day out willing to whatever it takes to get things done. Ms. Daley, a volunteer, not an employee, was here before I came and here after I left. She did a remarkable job with coordinating with the different groups.

Deputy Mayor Piserchia extended his thanks to Ken Fullagar for all his help.

Ordinance Introduction:

Deputy Mayor Piserchia noted that a public hearing is scheduled for September 12, 2012 regarding

**ORDINANCE #306-12
AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING TOWNSHIP EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION RULES AND
REGULATIONS AND CREATING A NEW CHAPTER XVIII IN THE TOWNSHIP CODE ENTITLED
“EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION RULES AND PROCEDURES”**

Public Comment

None Heard - Public Portion closed.

Mr. Roshto made a motion, seconded by Mr. Aroneo to adopt Ordinance 306-12 as read.

Roll Call Vote: All in Favor

Consent Agenda Resolutions:

Mr. Aroneo made a motion, seconded by Mr. Roshto to approve the consent agenda 12-370 through 12-382 excluding 12-379. **Roll Call Vote:** All Ayes

**RESOLUTION 12-370
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.

**RESOLUTION 12-371
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 August 15, 2012

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Committee hereby approves the August 15, 2012 Meeting Executive Session Meeting Minutes as redacted by the Township Attorney

**RESOLUTION 12-372
APPROVAL OF TAX REFUNDS**

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 due overpayment of 2012 Taxes for the following parcels in the amount of \$5,436.68

due to Farmland Assessments granted to: ARS Passaic Inc. % Forst, 81 Industrial Road, Berkeley Heights, NJ 07922:

Block Lot Tax Refund:

11608 10 \$ 492.58

11609 1 \$ 495.58

11704 1 \$1099.08
11705 1 \$1226.68 4
11706 1 \$ 990.70
11706 21 \$1135.06
Total: \$ 5436.68

**RESOLUTION 12-373
APPROVAL OF 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 2011 and 2012 Sewer Billing due to water usage, sprinkler systems, senior deduction or billing error by NJAW:

BLOCK LOT ADJUSTMENT CREDIT DEBIT NAME

12901 2 Billing error due to CO \$15.97 Giordano, Sabato - 2011
14202 5 Sprinkler problem \$109.32 Oskroba, Stephen - 2012

**RESOLUTION 12-374
APPROVAL OF 2012 SEWER REFUND**

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 refund of 2012 Sewer Use Charge due to overpayment:

BLOCK LOT NAME/ADDRESS REFUND

11511 31 Muhlhausen, Emily \$127.54
503 Mountain Ave
Gillette, NJ 07933

**RESOLUTION 12-375
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 for overpayment of 2012 Taxes for Block 11602 Lot 26 in the amount of \$1,816.55 to Evelyn Arlotta, 330 Mercer Street, Stirling, NJ 07980.

**RESOLUTION 12-376
ACCEPTING DONATION OF POLICE DEPARTMENT EQUIPMENT**

WHEREAS, the Long Hill Township Chamber of Commerce have voted to purchase two Setina push bumpers to be installed on two new Long Hill Township Police Department vehicles; and
WHEREAS, the Police Department is has recommended the acceptance of the donation for their vehicles and is appreciative of the donation to the department; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee of the Township of Long Hill hereby accepts and approves of the donation of the equipment as outlined herein with appreciation to the Long Hill Township Chamber of Commerce for the donation and the Township Administrator is authorized to prepare a letter of acceptance for the Chamber of Commerce.

**RESOLUTION 12-377
AUTHORIZING STIRLING FIRE COMPANY COIN TOSS
ON NOVEMBER 23, 2012**

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Long Hill, County of Morris, State of New Jersey authorizes the Stirling Volunteer Fire Company to conduct a coin toss at the intersection of Valley Road and Mountain Avenue in Gillette on November 23, 2012 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. [rain date November 25th]; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Long Hill, County of Morris, State of New Jersey authorizes the Stirling Volunteer Fire Company to conduct a coin toss on Valley Road on November 23, 2012 [rain date November 25th];

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this approval is contingent upon the Stirling Volunteer Fire Company receiving approval from the County of Morris.

RESOLUTION 12-378

APPROVE APPOINTMENT OF ACTING WASTEWATER SUPERINTENDENT - LYNN

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Long Hill, upon the advice and recommendation of Tom Sweeney, DPW Director, does hereby approve the appointment and promotion of Kevin Lynn to the position of Acting Wastewater Superintendent at a probationary salary of \$75,004.80 prorated, effective November 5, 2012; and

WHEREAS, Kevin Lynn will receive an annual salary of \$79,248.00 upon the successful evaluation and completion of the six month probationary period and appointment to the position of Superintendent of Wastewater on May 6, 2013, which shall be inclusive of any adjustments.

NOW THEREFORE, BE RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Long Hill, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, hereby appoints Kevin Lynn to the position of Acting Wastewater Superintendent at a probationary salary of \$75,004.80 prorated, effective November 5, 2012 and upon successful completion of the probationary period shall be appointed Superintendent of Wastewater at annual salary of \$79,248.00 which shall be inclusive of any adjustments prior to May 6, 2013.

RESOLUTION 12-380

**APPROVING SPECIAL EVENT LICENSE
[LONG HILL TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY CENTER]**

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Long Hill, in the County of Morris, State of New Jersey upon the advice of the Township Clerk, that all documents have been reviewed and are in good order, does hereby authorize the Township Clerk to approve and sign the application and approve License Number S 12-18 for the event to the "Sponsor" Long Hill Township Community Center, for their Special Event to be held on December 9, 2012 at the Long Hill Township Community Center on Warren Avenue in Stirling; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Police Department has determined that police services are not required for this event.

RESOLUTION 12-381

AUTHORIZING TRANSFER OF FUNDS

WHEREAS, there appears to be insufficient funds in the following accounts to meet the demands thereon for the balance of the Current Year; and

WHEREAS, there appears to be a surplus in the following accounts, over and above the demand necessary for the balance of the Current Year;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that in accordance with the provision R.S. 40A:4-58, part of the surplus in the account heretofore mentioned be and the same is hereby transferred to the account mentioned as being insufficient, to meet the current demands, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized and directed to make the following transfers:

<u>From:</u>		
2-01-20-100-100-100	Admin & Exec – Salaries & Wages	\$15,000
2-01-28-370-370-100	Stirling Lake – Salaries & Wages	\$ 5,000
Total		\$20,000

<u>To:</u>		
2-01-25-252-252-200	Emergency Mgmt – Other Expenses	\$ 1,500
2-01-28-370-371-200	Parks & Playgrounds – Other Expenses	\$18,500
Total		\$20,000

**RESOLUTION 12-382
EMERGENCY APPROPRIATION RELATED TO HURRICANE SANDY**

WHEREAS, an emergency has arisen with respect to Hurricane Sandy and, no adequate provision was made in the 2012 budget for the aforesaid purpose, and NJS 40A:4-46 provides for the creation on an emergency appropriation for the purpose mentioned above, and

WHEREAS, the total amount of the emergency appropriations created, including the appropriation to be created by this resolution is \$150,000 and three (3) percent of the total operating appropriations in the budget for 2012 is \$288,254 and

WHEREAS, the foregoing appropriation together with prior appropriations does not exceed three (3) percent of the total operating appropriations in the budget for 2012,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Long Hill Township Committee (by not less than 2/3 of all governing body members affirmatively concurring) that in accordance with NJS 40A:4-48:

1. An emergency appropriation is hereby made for HURRICANE SANDY SALARIES & WAGES and OTHER EXPENSES in the amount of \$150,000
2. That said emergency appropriation shall be provided for in full in the 2012 budget, and is requested to be excluded from CAPS, pursuant to NJS 40A:4-53.3c(1)
3. That two (2) certified copies of this resolution be filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services.
4. The Chief Financial Officer has certified that the expenditures to be financed through this Resolution are related to the aforementioned emergency.

Mr. Aroneo said in regard to 12-379 that he wanted to thank Christine Gatti for her excellent service to the Township. We will be sorry to see her leave. He hopes that she does well. He wished her good luck in the future. Deputy Mayor Piserchia expressed how much he and everyone in the Township appreciated what she has done for the Township.

Mr. Roshto said there are few people in life that one meets and respects so highly as someone who will stop doing whatever they are doing and spend the time to help you. Christine is that person. Mr. Roshto thanked her and wished her the very best of luck.

Mr. Schuler wished Christine the best of luck and was sorry to see her go. We only got to work together for a year but it has been an absolute pleasure. Good Luck.

Christine Gatti thanked everyone for their good wishes. Mr. Henry said he had known Christine only a few weeks but Christine has helped him so much. He thanked her for all her help.

Mr. Roshto made a motion, seconded by Mr. Schuler to accept with regret the resignation of Township Clerk Christine Gatti and approve Resolution 12-379. Roll Call: All in favor.

**RESOLUTION 12-379
ACCEPTING RESIGNATION - GATTI**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee hereby accepts the resignation of Christine Gatti, who has been employed by the township since August 2008, effective Monday, November 12, 2012.

*

Old Business:

Mr. Aroneo said after this storm some of the things we were working on like the generator for Lounsberry, which we will use COAH funds. A discussion ensued.

Mr. Aroneo discussed the solar panels. He said when the grid is shut down it is not workable. We have to find out how to make it work in this type of situation. Mr. Roshto thought it could also be retro-fitted to heat the pipes. A short discussion ensued.

New Business:

Mr. Roshto said he had two things to discuss. First said we will have to address the JCPL issue in the future. This item was discussed. Mr. Roshto said at the next meeting, we can discuss the rights and wrongs and how we can help them help us. We are not abandoning JCPL. We need better communication. I would like to see the public relations person to come to the town to see what is on the ground.

Mr. Schuler asked Christine to add this to the December Agenda.

Mr. Roshto went on to his second thought. A few of the residents were asking about the process to extend the tax deadline. Atty. Pidgeon commented that the deadline is fixed by the State,

As there was no further new business Deputy Mayor Piserchia opened the meeting to the Public.

Public Comment

Dennis Sandow suggested that Mr. Pidgeon check Bernards Township as there Township Committee had a special meeting and extended the date until the sixteenth with no questions asked. I don't see why we cannot do the same thing.

Mr. Pidgeon said he did not disagree but he could not say that.

Mr. Roshto asked if we could waive our own interest penalties for a certain period.

Mr. Pidgeon said the problem is that everything dealing with taxes is set by the state. Parameters of the interest are as well. The interest is set by Ordinance.

Long Hill Township Committee Meeting Minutes
November 7, 2012

Mr. Sandow, Millington, said the banks are paying him .25% and we have the nerve to charge our taxpayers 18% interest if they don't get in during a snow storm to pay their taxes. I applaud the Bernards Township Committee for having the guts to just go ahead and get this done instead of talking it to death.

Mr. Roshto said he agreed 100% with Dennis. I feel like I would like to make something happen here tonight. This is an extraordinary situation and I do not want to wait for the State to do something. Maybe we are stretching the bounds here and maybe it is not legally correct.

Mr. Pidgeon said he was fine with that. He was just advising what the law is. I cannot imagine anyone will do anything if you go forward with this suggestion. Downside would be that it is a technical violation.

Mr. Roshto made a motion that we extend the deadline for tax payments to November 16, 2012, seconded by Deputy Mayor Piserchia. All in Favor

Mr. Sandow, Millington, speaking for the Long Hill Public Library said The Library was open yesterday 5 a.m. until 9 p.m. It was open for warming and communication as well as voting. People were lined up to use the internet.

Deputy Mayor Piserchia apologized for not giving recognition to the Public Library. All the workers and the Board of Trustees were unbelievable.

Mr. Sandow informed the Committee about "Ride Wise", an organization that is supported by Transit and the State Department of Transportation. They organize car pools. 908 704-1011 ext. 12. A flier will be coming in via email. Deputy Mayor Piserchia thanked Mr. Sandow for that information and advised that it will be added to the communication that will be sent out possibly as soon as this evening.

Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Aroneo and seconded by Mr. Roshto to adjourn the meeting Vote: All Ayes

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Gatti /mf
Township Clerk

Approved: March 13, 2013