# MINUTES OF THE OPEN SESSION MEETING OF THE TEANECK TOWNSHIP COUNCIL HELD IN THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING TOWNSHIP MANAGER'S OFFICE ON TUESDAY, MAY 10, 2011

Mayor Hameeduddin called the Open Session Meeting of the Teaneck Township Council to order at 8:11 p.m. and asked all those present to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **ROLL CALL**

Present: C. Parker, C. Stern, DM. Gussen, C. Honis, C. Katz, C. Toffler, Mayor

Hameeduddin.

Absent: None.

Also Present: W. Broughton, Township Manager; J.L. Evelina, RMC, Township Clerk; I.

Abbasi, Executive Assistant; S. Turitz/W. Rupp – Ferrara, Turitz, Harraka &

Goldberg, PC.

# MOTION TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION

#### **CLOSED SESSION DISCUSSION**

# MOTION TO RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

# MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENT

Adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by Resolution 331-10, setting the 2011 meeting dates, sending a copy to THE RECORD, THE SUBURBANITE, THE BERGEN NEWS/SUN BULLETIN, THE JEWISH STANDARD, and THE COUNTY SEAT, filing a copy in the Township Clerk's Office and posting it on the Municipal Building bulletin board, and the Mayor hereby directs that this statement be included in the minutes.

#### **PRESENTATIONS**

1. Arbor Day Proclamation.

Mayor Hameeduddin and C. Honis presented the members of the Shade Tree Advisory Board with a proclamation for Arbor Day and read said proclamation into the record.

- 2. Clean and Green Certificates.
- C. Honis and members of the Clean and Green Advisory Board presented prizes to the winners of the middle school essay contest, Burkette Horrigan and Alicia Thompson.

Dr. Smalls congratulated both students of Benjamin Franklin Middle School and requested their parents please stand and be recognized.

C. Honis also presented gifts to the winners of the elementary school poster. Winners were Leslie Morales-Aparicio, Tanya Varghese, Saniya Zahir and Olivia Moody.

Principal from other elementary school also congratulated her students on winning the poster contest.

Whittier School principal congratulated her students and applauded their efforts in art and science.

C. Honis announced the event schedule for Clean and Green Weekend and invited all to attend. Mayor Hameeduddin shared news that on Friday, May 6, 2011, State Senator Loretta Weinberg and other stake holders dedicated the historic tree at Cedar Lane and Palisade Avenue. He also discussed the environmental component that Teaneck holds firmly to and spoke about the enhanced recycling program.

C. Toffler congratulated all of the winners of both Clean and Green contests. She also thanked all of the residents who voted for this year's school budget.

#### 3. Charter School Presentation.

Joan Wright, a consultant to the Friends of the Teaneck Charter School, spoke to the Council about the history of the Teaneck Charter School, the expansion of the Teaneck Charter School and the prospect of reissuing bonds in order to refinance their rates.

Dr. Rex Shaw discussed conversations with residents about integrating and becoming a part of the Teaneck community, building a gym and arts center, the capacity of the Rodda Center and other amenities within the Township to hold additional community activities and events. Dr. Shaw proposed a partnership with the Township for the Teaneck Community Charter School to build a new gymnasium and art center and discussed the benefits to the Township from this partnership.

Ms. Crockett discussed the history of the Rodda Center, the offerings of its programs, scheduling and availability of rooms for rent to groups and the potential usage of additional space afforded by the Teaneck Community Charter School, if their proposed gymnasium and art center was built.

C. Parker inquired about the additional staff that the proposed building of a gymnasium would require.

Ms. Crockett responded that the proposal would require anywhere between 1-2 or 3-8 part-time workers depending on the scenario.

DM. Gussen inquired about the increase in revenue afforded by the given proposal.

Ms. Crockett was unable to answer DM. Gussen's question at this time.

C. Parker asked Mr. Turitz if a conflict of interest was present given her status as a Trustee on the Teaneck Community Charter School.

Mr. Turitz responded that there is no conflict of interest by C. Parker given the nature of the transaction and agreement being between the Teaneck Recreation Center and Community Charter School. He also clarified that the Council is being asked by the Friends of the Community Charter School to refinance their loans at a higher amount but lower rate of interest in order to build their proposed facility. In order for this benefit to be present, the Community Charter School requires that the Township Council guarantee these bonds through the BCIA. No formal action would be taken tonight, but the Council is being asked to lend its credit to the Community Charter School to guarantee these bonds for a long-term lease with the Township to have an additional recreational facility to the Township at no cost. The rental income would be split 50/50 with the landlord and tenant and the Township would have use of this facility for 85% of the time between 8 PM and 12 AM. He noted that in the case of a default, the Township can be called upon to pay the bonds but would take over the property.

Mayor Hameeduddin asked Mr. Turitz to verify that the Friends of the Community Charter School currently pays rent.

Mr. Turitz responded in the affirmative.

Mayor Hameeduddin asked Dr. Shaw who the owner of the Charter School was.

Dr. Shaw responded that the building is owned by the Friends of the Teaneck Community Charter School. When the note is paid off, the property belongs to the school in approximately 30-40 years.

Mr. Turitz discussed prior meetings with bond counsel, the Local Finance Board in Trenton and discussed their approvals for this project in the case of default and whether or not a default would be included in the Township's cap levy. He clarified the next steps in the process including a resolution in favor or against this project and future bond ordinances with

introductions and public hearings. He also discussed the bond market's rates and the further numbers and commitments required by the Teaneck Community Charter School to move forward, beginning with a resolution by the Township Council.

Mayor Hameeduddin asked for a resolution to show the Council's interest but not obligation towards this project.

Mr. Turitz remarked that such a resolution would be one of interest but no commitment or legal obligation to this project.

C. Toffler requested seeing the resolution prior to its listing on a Council meeting agenda, expressed her interest in the project but also her unease at an additional long-term commitment.

Mr. Turitz informed the Council that within a week the resolution will be circulated and listed on the next agenda by the Township Clerk.

4. NJDOT - Route 4 & Palisade Avenue Bridge Improvements.

Debbie Hurt, Commissioner from DOT
Gary Leach, Project Manager and Lead Engineer
Joshua Idowu – NJDOT- Division of Project Development (DPD)
Zakrollah Asadpour – NJDOT (Environmental Team)
Kuldip Singh – Parsons Brinckerhoff – Project Manager
Jennifer Wong – Parsons Brinckerhoff

Mr. Leach presented to the Township Council the proposed bridge replacement project by the Department of Transportation (DOT). He discussed his division's work with the concept development phase and requested the Council's support in the preliminary engineering perspective.

Mr. Kuldip Singh of Parsons Engineering firm discussed the area in question, the history of the bridge, the proposed replaced clearances of the bridge, the problems at the repair location and studies undertaken by NJDOT to identify solutions for remediating the intersection. He further spoke about future repairs to the Garrison Avenue bridge, traffic jams, the expansion of the bridge and the proposed results of the expanded bridge.

Mayor Hameeduddin inquired about the location of the acceleration lane on Belle Avenue.

Mr. Singh responded that the acceleration will start at the intersection and continue along on the eastbound portion to be widened with the acquisition of the public right-of-way.

C. Toffler asked about the location of the bottleneck on Route 4.

DM. Gussen inquired about the useful life of the Garrison Avenue bridge and further commented that members of the community would rather see the bridge fixed all at once.

Mr. Singh answered that the Garrison Avenue bridge still has some life in it.

C. Toffler remarked that the stairs on the Garrison Avenue bridge will be fixed shortly.

Mayor Hameeduddin asked if Mr. Singh had the material testing and analysis for the Garrison Avenue bridge and if it could be sent to the Council.

DM. Gussen asked if a material testing and analysis was conducted on the Garrison Avenue bridge.

C. Stern spoke about the estimated cost of the project and inquired about the possibility of completing the project correctly from the beginning by investigating an additional expenditure for fixing the entire bridge, and in response, Joshua, NJDOT Representative, answered that NJDOT will look at individual structures. He also spoke about the structural deficiency of the Garrison Avenue bridge.

DM. Gussen spoke about the Garrison Avenue bridge's structural deficiency and the quality of life issue for residents in the area. He further compared the CSX bridge's structure with the Garrison Avenue bridge and discussed the proposed new steps being placed at the Garrison Avenue bridge with a possibility of a new bridge in the near future.

C. Toffler asked if NJDOT could limit the Garrison Avenue project to deal with the Windsor, Palisades and Belle Avenue bridges instead.

DM. Gussen noted that Belle Avenue is a separate issue because of the hazard it poses.

C. Katz spoke about former Councilwoman Warnke's efforts with the Garrison Avenue bridge, the importance of the bridge to residents in Teaneck and State Senator Weinberg's efforts to move through red tape in certain State departments.

Joshua noted that DOT's testing revealed a year ago that the Garrison Avenue Bridge was in need of repairs, but not replacement.

DM. Gussen questioned why NJDOT is not advocating for bridge replacement in light of test findings.

Mr. Singh answered that the cost of replacing the bridge would be similar over its lifespan.

C. Parker asked Mr. Singh what would happen if the Council did not support the repair project.

Mr. Singh answered that the project will not go forward if not supported by the Council and proceeded to discuss the grade at Belle Avenue.

Mayor Hameeduddin spoke about moving slowly with this project and waiting for more information coming out prior to making a decision whether or not to go forward.

C. Stern asked about the timeline for the preparation of an estimate to repair the entire Garrison Avenue bridge.

Joshua spoke about funding for projects being dispersed on a first come, first serve, basis.

C. Parker suggested polling Council at this time to find support for this project.

Mr. Broughton asked for a timeline for construction on this project assuming Council approved the concept.

Joshua said construction would commence in three to four years and if it was determined that the Garrison Avenue Bridge should be replaced; the projects can be combined in the future.

DM. Gussen implored his colleagues to take a roll-call and prepare the appropriate resolution for this project to secure its funding.

Ms. Hirt discussed the input from the Public Information Center on Thursday, May 12, 2011 prior to a vote.

# HEARING ON THE 2011 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

Ms. Evelina read the title of Resolution 110-11 into the record:

Resolution 110-11 – Authorize the Reading of the 2011 Municipal Budget of the Township of Teaneck by Title Only.

DM. Gussen made a motion to approve Resolution 110-11. Seconded by C. Stern.

#### Roll Call.

In Favor: C. Parker, C. Stern, DM. Gussen, C. Honis, C. Katz, C. Toffler, Mayor

Hameeduddin.

Opposed: None.

Absent: None.

Ms. Evelina read the title of 2011 Municipal Budget into the record:

MUNICIPAL BUDGET OF THE TOWNSHIP OF TEANECK, COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2011.

Mayor Hameeduddin declared the hearing open and asked if anyone wished to comment on the 2011 Municipal Budget.

Sarah Rappoport, Teaneck – referenced Police Chief Robert A. Wilson's January 6, 2011 comments regarding statistics for the 2010 year; cited several homicide cases within the Township in 2010; discussed the staffing of the Police Department and savings on salaries being placed into reserve; and asked the Council to discuss adding to the Police force and the return of Community Policing.

Dr. Alex Rashin, Teaneck – requested direction on how to locate the meeting agenda on the Township website; referenced unemployment statistics; spoke about the prices of gasoline and food; spoke about the impact of a property tax increase on residents; referenced the school budget increase; requested an explanation about the tax cap; expressed his feeling that the budget should not increase more than 1%; and challenged Council to cut more from the budget.

Naomi Cramer, Teaneck – asked if the Capital budget was increased 87% and requested information about the projects planned with said increased funding.

Charles Powers, Teaneck – discussed the capital budget; referenced Mayor Hameeduddin's prior comments about public spending; asked the Mayor to explain the increase in the 2011 Capital budget; and requested further information about the Capital budget's 5-year plan.

Adrienne Savage, Teaneck – requested the Council try to keep the increase of the municipal budget down as much as possible; referenced the rising price of gasoline and food; and discussed the impact of higher property taxes on the community.

Joe Harris, Teaneck – spoke about the trade-off of reductions in taxes and thus services; spoke about the need for new revenue coming into the Township; and spoke about individuals who pay no taxes at the Federal level, along with the cost of current foreign wars.

There being no further persons wishing to speak, Mayor Hameeduddin declared the hearing on the 2011 Municipal Budget closed.

Ms. Evelina read the title of Resolution 111-11 and Resolution 112-11 into the record.

Resolution 111-11 – Approve Amendment to the 2011 Municipal Budget. Resolution 112-11 – Adopt 2011 Amended Municipal Budget.

C. Katz made a motion to approve Resolution 111-11. Seconded by C. Honis.

C. Toffler discussed her belief of paying taxes and the services received from taxes; referenced the \$6.1 million reduction in the 2010 school budget; discussed feelings of unease with the 2011 municipal budget and the way it is managed; referenced a 2008 Municipal Election campaign idea of utilizing zero-based budgeting; discussed transparency; discussed the amount allocated to the legal budget and its reduction; referenced public meetings with Department Heads and the legal budget; and inquired about the possibility of increasing the legal budget rather than budgeting the same amount each year only to transfer additional funds in November.

Mayor Hameeduddin responded that the Township is never the plaintiff in legal action and when any member of the public files suit against the Township, quick settlements are made and during some years, the Township's legal budget is in need of additional funds and in other years, it does not. He also explained that the budgeted amount of \$825,000 is an estimate.

C. Toffler requested a meeting with the Chief Financial Officer and Auditor to discuss the possible use of zero-based budgeting; expressed her dismay with the increase in the capital budget; and referenced Capital budget projects on Sheet 33D.

Mr. Broughton explained that the Capital budget was up 26.7 % and not 87%; discussed the capital project form submitted to the State of New Jersey; spoke about the process used to compute the Capital budget on a year-by-year basis; explained the 5% down payment required on Capital projects in 2010 and 2011; referenced the proposed bond for the renovation of the Old Police Headquarters and the cost for the architectural design plans for the Old Police Headquarters.

C. Toffler referenced page 33C in the 2011 municipal budget and inquired about the Teaneck Streetscape project.

DM. Gussen explained that page 33C itemizes projects spanning longer than one year.

Mr. Broughton discussed the Teaneck Road Streetscape budget and the unknown amount of the project's cost.

C. Toffler additionally expressed concern over public safety issues and the unspent amount of \$1.1 million held in reserve.

Mayor Hameeduddin explained that the \$1.1 million was held in reserve and awaiting an arbitration award for police union for retroactive pay.

C. Toffler noted the given amount of money held in reserve and questioned why no police officers were hired; and discussed hiring police officers not residing in the Township.

Mr. Broughton discussed the 2009 police layoff appeal, police officers who retired in 2010, the resolution to the PBA layoff appeal and his decision, as the Manager, to not hire police officers who do not reside within the Township.

- C. Parker discussed the process of encouraging residents within the Township to apply for positions with the Police Department.
- C. Toffler re-emphasized her displeasure with the current budgeting process and supported the concept of a zero-based budget.
- DM. Gussen read a section of the January 14, 2011 budget minutes into the record and clarified that the issue is not about the number of authorized personnel but rather hiring Teaneck residents to fulfill open police officer positions.
- C. Katz noted that the time was 10:30 PM and suggested any questions about the budget be answered and any comments regarding the budget be made after Good and Welfare.
- C. Honis applauded C. Toffler for her diligence and questions. She discussed the ongoing work with the transparency process and requested solutions for some of the issues raised by C. Toffler. She noted that the process to achieve changes in any process is slow and progressive. She agreed with C. Toffler's concept of her concerns but wished more time was available to implement her suggestions. She compared the budget presentation of the former manager against the presentations made by the current manager.
- C. Toffler discussed her communication with Council and the lack of response she receives; discussed the need for Council orientation; discussed her questions to the Manager and the responses received; shared her feelings of being an outsider of the Council; and suggested Council respect each other.

C. Katz felt that the respect goes two-ways; requested that C. Toffler be prepared to listen to an answer after raising a question; and noted that several members of the public remained seated, waiting for the arrival of the Good and Welfare portion of the meeting given the late hour.

Mayor Hameeduddin requested the public call him on his cell phone number listed on the website as well as his email address.

Mr. Broughton responded to a question posed earlier in the evening by Ms. Rappoport and requested she include him in future emails. He discussed his tenure as a police officer, the possibility of unnerving residents with claims of understaffed police departments and the alleged correlation with the number of police officers and the crime rate. He referenced the crime statistics for Teaneck in 2008 and 2010, the respective staffing levels and the drop in crime between these two years in five respective categories. Mr. Broughton also concluded that given the increase of arrests between 2008 and 2010 with less manpower, police officers were being very efficient.

#### Roll Call.

In Favor: C. Parker, C. Stern, C. Honis, C. Katz, Mayor Hameeduddin.

Opposed: DM. Gussen, C. Toffler.

Absent: None.

# HEARING ON THE 2011 CEDAR LANE SPECIAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT BUDGET

Ms. Evelina read the title of Resolution 113-11 into the record:

Resolution 113-11 – Authorize the Reading of the 2011 Cedar Lane Special Improvement District Budget by Title Only.

Councilmember Katz made a motion to approve Resolution 113-11. Seconded by C. Honis.

In Favor: C. Parker, C. Stern, DM. Gussen, C. Honis, C. Katz, C. Toffler

Mayor Hameeduddin.

Opposed: None.

Absent: None.

Ms. Evelina read the title of the 2011 Cedar Lane Special Improvement District Budget into the record:

CEDAR LANE SPECIAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT BUDGET, TOWNSHIP OF TEANECK, COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2011.

Mayor Hameeduddin declared the hearing open asking if anyone wished to comment on the 2011 Cedar Lane Special Improvement District Budget.

None.

DM. Gussen noted that a few members of the public wished to speak on this topic earlier. He summed up the concern of property owners on Elm Street regarding the inclusion of residential properties well outside the Special Improvement District area; discussed the hardship on the residents with this special assessment while they are not within the district area; and asked Mr. Rupp if Council so chose to have a multi-tier scale for assessments.

Mr. Rupp responded that the Council could have different rates or exemptions for properties.

DM. Gussen asked if the majority of Council was not in favor of such an exemption would there be an option to offset the assessment.

Mr. Turitz responded that such an option is too late for this year but can be discussed in the future.

DM. Gussen requested this item be placed on the next Council agenda to be discussed for future assessments.

C. Katz noted his exemption from rent control discussions; asked about the additional tax to Cedar Lane residents; and spoke about taking on improvements in the special improvement district.

DM. Gussen discussed the purpose of the Special Improvement District assessment and its budget not being derived from taxpayer funds but rather an additional special assessment.

Mr. Turitz responded that it is up to the Council whether or not to include properties in this area from rent control. He doubted that they could be excluded.

There being no further persons wishing to speak, Mayor Hameeduddin declared the hearing on the 2011 Cedar Lane Special Improvement District Budget closed.

Ms. Evelina read the title of Resolution 114-11 into the record:

Resolution 114-11 – Adopt the 2011 Cedar Lane Special Improvement District Budget.

Councilmember Katz made a motion to approve Resolution 114-11. Seconded by C. Honis.

#### Roll Call.

In Favor: C. Parker, C. Stern, DM. Gussen, C. Honis, C. Katz, C. Toffler Mayor

Hameeduddin.

Opposed: None.

Absent: None.

# PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION OF ORDINANCES

Ms. Evelina read the Ordinances by title only.

ORDINANCE #4228 - AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 36, ENTITLED "TRAFFIC" OF THE TOWNSHIP CODE.

ORDINANCE #4229 - AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 4140 ESTABLISHING SALARY RANGES, CLASSIFICATION OF POSITIONS AND DUTIES THEREOF FOR CLASSIFIED AND UNCLASSIFIED MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES IN THE TOWNSHIP OF TEANECK RESPECTING THE POSITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT INCLUDED WITHIN LOCAL 108

ORDINANCE #4230 - AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 3777 ESTABLISHING SALARY RANGES, CLASSIFICATION OF POSITIONS AND DUTIES THEREOF FOR CLASSIFIED AND UNCLASSIFIED MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES IN THE TOWNSHIP OF TEANECK RESPECTING PARKING ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

ORDINANCE #4231 - AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING SALARY RANGES, CLASSIFICATION OF POSITIONS AND DUTIES THEREOF FOR CLASSIFIED AND UNCLASSIFIED MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES IN THE TOWNSHIP OF TEANECK RESPECTING DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT.

Mayor Hameeduddin inquired whether any member of the Council had any comments respecting these ordinances prior to opening the public hearing.

Mr. Broughton discussed the duties and position of Emergency Management Coordinator under Ordinance #4231.

Mayor Hameeduddin declared that the public hearings on the above ordinances open. Any members of the public who wished wishing to be heard on any of said ordinances or to ask questions concerning said ordinances came forward and stated their name for the record. Comments or questions were limited to five minutes per person.

Dr. Alex Rashin, Teaneck – requested an explanation or estimate for Ordinance #4229 and where the Township is in relation to the minimum and maximum of the pay range.

There being no further persons wishing to speak concerning said ordinances, Mayor Hameeduddin declared that the public hearing on the ordinances was now closed.

Mayor Hameeduddin asked Mr. Broughton where the Township stood regarding salaries in comparison to similar positions in neighboring townships.

Mr. Broughton responded that Dr. Rashin's question sought to find out how many employees were at the top of their scale and furthered that Ordinance #4229 was in relation to a particular collective bargaining unit.

DM. Gussen moved to pass Ordinances 4228-4231 on second and final reading and adopt. The Township Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to advertise same according to law. Seconded by Councilmember Katz.

Mayor Hameeduddin inquired whether any member of the Council had any comments respecting these ordinances.

No comments were made.

There being no further comments, Mayor Hameeduddin called on Ms. Evelina for a roll-call vote.

# Roll Call.

In Favor: C. Parker, C. Stern, DM. Gussen, C. Honis, C. Katz, C. Toffler

Mayor Hameeduddin.

Opposed: None.

Absent: None.

Mayor Hameeduddin declared that said ordinances were duly adopted

# MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR GOOD AND WELFARE OR PUBLIC INPUT ON ANY MATTERS ON THIS AGENDA

Mayor Hameeduddin inquired whether any member of the Council had any comments prior to opening the meeting to any comments from the public.

No comments were made.

Mayor Hameeduddin declared that any members of the public who wished to be heard came forward and stated their names for the record. Comments were limited to five minutes per person.

Maxine Shilan, Teaneck – discussed her tenure living in the Township, her experience applying for a reverse mortgage for her home and consequently being unable to attain said reverse mortgage. She discussed the methods she took in an attempt to attain said reverse mortgage through advertising and the Board of Adjustment.

Doug Reamer, Teaneck – clarified that Ms. Shilan's home is a non-conforming property; discussed the prospect of building her home in the event of a total loss; referenced an opinion by the Construction Official not to grant a variance for her property; requested her home be grandfathered-in to the exception; and discussed the value of homes.

Loretta Weinberg, Teaneck – asked the Township Council about holding the Good and Welfare portion of the meeting at 9 p.m.; discussed the procedure of Council meetings; discussed the process undertaken by Ms. Shelayan; and requested a response on her behalf.

Mayor Hameeduddin responded that the Township Council cannot guide the Board of Adjustment.

Mr. Turitz responded that Mr. Gluck will not issue a letter contrary to the law which provides a non-confirming residence's percentage of destruction in need of a variance. He referenced a letter supplied by Mr. Reamer from the Township of Verona that was acceptable. When he looked at the letter, it was no different from the letter written by Mr. Gluck with the exception that it was written in the negative. Mr. Gluck was directed; wrote the letter in the positive tone; and the letter was rejected. Mr. Turitz suggested Ms. Shilan seek a variance for her property with all the necessary requirements with the exception of a survey. When this went to the Board of Adjustment, the Board did not like this idea. He advised that the Board is an autonomous body. Mr. Ritvo informed Mr. Turitz that this will be rescheduled by the Board, and Ms. Shilan will get the variance. This is the solution, if the variance is granted, and the letter can be written by Mr. Gluck. Everything from the legal department that can be done has been done.

C. Parker inquired if Ms. Shilan's case was scheduled for another meeting.

Mr. Turitz responded that he was told by Mr. Ritvo that the case was carried and most likely will not need to be re-noticed.

Mayor Hameeduddin will follow-up on this matter and apologized to Ms. Shilan for the trouble she underwent during this effort.

Mr. Turitz reassured Ms. Shilan and Senator Weinberg that the Manager's Office attempted to make this accommodation to achieve a variance for her property, and this was the first time in 12 years that any reverse mortgage has ever come to the legal department's attention. He also noted a change in the law.

Howard Rose, Teaneck – applauded Senator Weinberg for standing up for a resident in need; applauded the young students who received Clean and Green awards; requested clarification on public safety statistics, authorized and current staffing figures for Police personnel, the head count of police officers in the new budget and the availability of a 100 percent compliment of police staff.

Rachelle Rudnik (sic), Teaneck – supported Senator Weinberg's comments regarding the timing of Good and Welfare; referenced the Master Plan discussion from the April 28, 2011 Planning Board meeting; referenced proposed revisions to the Master Plan by a Planner and proposed rezonings of areas within the Township; discussed her concern of the availability of said information; requested information regarding Master Plan be placed on the website in addition to the Planning Board schedule when said matters will be discussed. She also spoke about the availability of information on the Township's website and the negative level of discourse on the Township Council.

Ron Costello, Teaneck – expressed concern about the availability of an East/West Stop sign on Epp Street and the resulting high rate of speed traveled by motorists on Sunrise Terrace; and requested a four-way stop sign on Shepard Avenue.

Clara Williams, Teaneck – referenced a recent incident during her campaigning for Teaneck Board of Education elections; read a letter into the record; requested a letter be sent to all Department Heads discussing correct protocol for election campaigning; and discussed the course of events related to her attempt to distribute election materials in and about public buildings and places.

Lillian Lewis, Teaneck – referenced the RICE list for hiring police officers outside of the Township; and expressed support for police officers having a residency requirement.

Gloria Wilson, Teaneck – shared her feelings about the negative discourse of Council; requested Council discuss what is going on in the community and how issues can be solved; referenced her work as Ms. Clara Williams' campaign manager; suggested that the policy allow the distribution of campaign literature in public areas; and suggested additional time being allotted for residents with major issues being brought before Council.

Joe Harris, Teaneck – requested the Council follow Robert's Rules of Order; discussed Ms. Williams' time used to receive permission for distributing campaign material in public areas; and urged Council to act on assuring that all Department Heads and public safety personnel be aware of campaigning on public property.

Naomi Kramer, Teaneck – discussed the drawing of plans for the Old Police building renovation; requested public input be received before the completion of said plans; discussed the transition of staff from the basement of the current Municipal building; requested more public input; discussed the inclusion of space for the Council Chambers; questioned the proposed office space for a Deputy Manager; discussed the use of statistics regarding recent crime statistics, the Council's tone of voice and future expansion of the Township's website.

Leslie McKeon, Teaneck – requested information regarding public meetings to discuss the renovations of the Old Police Headquarters.

Charles Powers, Teaneck – discussed the public safety statistics referenced earlier and their origin; and asked if Council desired to save money by reducing the number of police officers.

Gwen Acree, Teaneck – referenced an article in the *Bergen Record* discussing property tax reductions; asked about the difference between Teaneck and other towns regarding tax assessments; and spoke about the installation of new PSE&G poles in the township and the need to notify residents prior to their installation.

Dr. Alex Rashin, Teaneck – also requested public meetings to discuss plans for the renovation to Old Police Headquarters; suggested that projects be prioritized properly; referenced an article discussing the toxicity of artificial turf fields; and inquired about the possibility of the Township sharing fields with the Board of Education.

There being no further persons who wished to speak at that time, Mayor Hameeduddin declared that the public comment portion of the meeting was now closed.

Mayor Hameeduddin inquired whether any member of the Council or the Manager wished to respond to the public's comments or whether a member of the Council wished to remove any item from the Consent Agenda and have a separate discussion thereon.

Mayor Hameeduddin requested an opinion from Mr. Turitz about campaigning on public property.

Mr. Turitz responded that based on a series of First Amendment cases to the United States Supreme Court, the Township can restrict a candidate's distribution of campaign materials inside public buildings, but not outside public buildings.

The majority of Council directed the Manager to distribute a letter or memorandum to all Department Heads, advising them of rules regarding campaigning in public areas. In response, Mr. Broughton informed that he will discuss the issue with all Department Heads at an upcoming Department Head meeting.

Mayor Hameeduddin noted that the website has been a work in progress for the past two (2) years, and the Manager is currently working on reviewing the contract. The Manager has advised him that the contract should be signed soon.

Mr. Broughton informed Council that this meeting's agenda was not posted on the website due to technical issues and additional server issues with GoDaddy.com.

Mayor Hameeduddin spoke about the death of a Mayoral colleague of his, civility, the Planning Board's discussions in reference to the Master Plan and seeking permitted uses for portions of

the Township. He discussed the responsibility for residents and Council to speak the truth; discussed services offered by others; and discussed the majority of Council not willing to go through layoffs.

C. Toffler echoed statements requesting public meetings to discuss plans for the design of the Old Police Headquarters; questioned the residency requirements for police officers, upon being hired; and requested that the Manager discuss in further detail Ms. Acree's question regarding PSE&G installations.

Mr. Broughton was not certain if Ms. Acree's issue was related to the upcoming installation of solar panels in the Township. He also noted that PSE&G does not always inform the Township of work happening within the Township.

C. Parker brought forward the issue of an air-conditioner being installed at the Carriage House, resulting in the closure of roads. She also spoke about the lack of notification given for the closure of Route 4 and/or Teaneck Road.

C. Katz agreed with C. Toffler about the need to see the plans for the renovation of the Old Police Headquarters; asked the Manager as to when drawings will be released to the Council and public; asked Mr. Turitz why overhangs for businesses protruding into the public right-of-way were not exempt as utilities.

Mr. Turitz responded that utilities have special regulations and are a special category of operation from the State with the Township having little ability to control their actions.

C. Katz was in favor of Mr. Turitz researching the extent of the control afforded to utilities.

DM. Gussen was not in favor of directing Mr. Turitz to conduct further research given PSE&G and other utility companies' similar work to install solar panels around the State already being completed without much resistance.

Mr. Turitz further clarified C. Katz's question regarding utilities.

A majority of Council was not in favor of Mr. Turitz taking such action.

DM. Gussen discussed the result of his immediate reaction upon a member of the public spreading false information during the Good and Welfare portion of the meeting.

# **CONSENT AGENDA**

All matters listed below are considered to be routine in nature by Council and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If any discussion is desired by Council, that particular item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.

#### <u>RAFFLES</u>

All subject to approval and conditions applicable with the Legalized Games of Chance Control Commission and pursuant to State Statute.

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RA #1301 – Teaneck Rotary Club – On Premise 50/50 Draw Raffle - $20.00.
RA #1302 – Teaneck Rotary Club – On Premise Draw Raffle Awarding Merchandise - $20.00.
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#### **MINUTES**

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April 27, 2010 - Open Session Meeting (Absent: C. Hameeduddin, C. Toffler). January 6, 2011 – Budget Review Meeting (Absent: C. Honis). January 13, 2011 – Budget Review Meeting. January 27, 2011 – Budget Review Meeting. April 12, 2011 – Open Session Meeting
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# **RESOLUTIONS**

- 115-11. Appoint Member to the Social Services Advisory Board.
- 123-11. Endorse NJDOT Proposal for Bridge Replacement and Road Replacements Route 4 Bridge Over, Palisades Avenue, CSX Railroad and Windsor Road.
- 116-11. Covenant to Comply with the Provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as Amended, Applicable to the Exclusion from Gross Income for Federal Income Tax Purposes of Interest on Obligations Issued by the Township, Authorizing Officials to Take Such Action as They May Deem Necessary or Advisable to Effect Such Compliance.
- 117-11. Approve Carnival D.A.R.E. New Jersey, Inc. May 25, 2011 to May 30, 2011.
- 118-11. Appropriate Capital Improvement Funds Lozier Place Sanitary Sewer Replacement.
- 119-11. Award Professional Services Contract Crew Engineers Lozier Place Sanitary Sewer Replacement.
- 120-11. Award Professional Services Contract Omdex Incorporated Design of Teaneck Public Library HVAC Improvement, Phase Two.
- 121-11. Report Determination of Award on Sale of \$24,115,274 of Bond Anticipation/Emergency Notes to TD Securities (USA) LLC Chief Financial Officer.
- 122-11. Award Contract T.M. Brennan Contractor, Inc. Library HVAC.

# **BILL LIST**

Ms. Evelina read the amount of the Bill List into the record. (\$8,889,169.59).

Councilmember Stern moved to approve the Consent Agenda, including Minutes, Resolutions, and Bill List, and to dispense with the reading of same inasmuch as it has been posted on the bulletin board all day. Seconded by Councilmember Katz.

Mayor Hameeduddin pulled Resolution 123-11.

Mayor Hameeduddin called on Ms. Evelina for a roll-call vote.

# Roll Call.

In Favor: C. Parker, C. Stern, DM. Gussen, C. Honis, C. Katz, C. Toffler, Mayor Hameeduddin.

Opposed: None.

Absent: None.

Abstained: C. Parker (Check #161953); C. Stern (4/27 Minutes); DM. Gussen (Check #161962); C. Katz (Bill List); Mayor Hameeduddin (4/27 Minutes).

Councilmember Katz moved to approve resolution 123-11. Seconded by Councilmember Honis.

#### Roll Call.

In Favor: C. Parker, C. Stern, DM. Gussen, C. Katz.

Opposed: C. Honis, Mayor Hameeduddin.

Absent: C. Toffler (at time of vote).

Mayor Hameeduddin declared whether said items passed.

# **INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES**

Councilmember Katz moved that the Ordinances be introduced and passed on first reading and that the Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to publish the required legal notice of the introduction thereof, together with a notice of the place, time, and date on which a public hearing will be held on said ordinances, and on which said ordinances will be considered for final adoption.

Ms. Evelina read the Ordinances by title only.

ORDINANCE #4232 – AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 36, ENTITLED "TRAFFIC" OF THE TOWNSHIP CODE (Reference corresponding Clear and Concise for description)

ORDINANCE #4233 – AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 36, ENTITLED "TRAFFIC" OF THE TOWNSHIP CODE (Reference corresponding Clear and Concise for description)

ORDINANCE #4234 – CAPITAL ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF TEANECK, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF COMPUTER EQUIPMENT FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT IN, BY AND FOR THE TOWNSHIP, APPROPRIATING THEREFOR THE SUM OF \$30,000 AND PROVIDING THAT SUCH SUM SO APPROPRIATED SHALL BE RAISED FROM THE TOWNSHIP'S CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND.

ORDINANCE #4235 - BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE ACQUISITION OF RADIO COMMUNICATIONS UPGRADE EQUIPMENT (PHASE III) IN, BY AND FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF TEANECK, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$213,750 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, TO MAKE A DOWN PAYMENT, TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS TO FINANCE SUCH APPROPRIATION AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH BONDS.

ORDINANCE # 4236 - BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE ACQUISITION OF NEW AUTOMOTIVE VEHICLES, INCLUDING ORIGINAL APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT, FOR THE USE OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT IN, BY AND FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF TEANECK, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$135,000 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, TO MAKE A DOWN PAYMENT, TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS TO FINANCE SUCH APPROPRIATION AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH BONDS.

Seconded by Councilmember Honis.

Mayor Hameeduddin inquired as to whether any Councilmember wished to comment upon the motion to introduce.

None.

There being no further comments, Mayor to call on Ms. Evelina for a roll-call vote.

#### Roll Call.

In Favor: C. Parker, C. Stern, DM. Gussen, C. Honis, C. Katz, C. Toffler,

Mayor Hameeduddin.

Opposed: None.

Absent: None.

Mayor Hameeduddin declared that said ordinances were duly introduced and passed on first reading.

# **OLD BUSINESS**

COUNCIL-LISTED ITEMS
1. Cedar Lane Bus Shelters Update (C. Toffler)
Not discussed due to time constraints.
TOWNSHIP MANAGER'S REPORT
I have appointed Mr. Romy Rosario to the position of Recreation Attendant with the Teaneck Recreation Department, effective April 18, 2011.
<ol> <li>Votee Park Timeline.</li> <li>Teaneck Road Streetscape.</li> <li>Cedar Lane Streetscape.</li> <li>Recycling Program         <ul> <li>a. Trucks</li> <li>b. Public Space Containers</li> </ul> </li> <li>Community Gardens.</li> </ol>
The Manager reported the following: the date of the Library book sale; dates the Library would be closed for renovations; receipt of grant monies for the resurfacing of State Street; the Votee Park Timeline and its completion date; the receipt of the recycling trucks; the increase in rates of recycling; and the kick-off of the renovated community gardens.
TOWNSHIP ATTORNEY'S REPORT
None.
<u>ADJOURNMENT</u>
Deputy Mayor Gussen moved to adjourn at 12:21 a.m.
Seconded by Councilmember Katz.

C. Honis reminded the public and Council members of the Clean and Green event during the

DM. Gussen requested an updated timeline for the repair of the lightning detection system and a timeline for the Votee Park Turf Field project. He also asked the Manager to schedule a meeting with input from the various sports leagues specifically to determine the lining of the field for

C. Stern reminded the general public of the Cedar Lane Memorial Day Street Fair following the

Approved: 7/24/12

**MISCELLANEOUS** 

**NEW BUSINESS** 

multiple sports.

**COMMUNICATIONS** 

<u>COMMITTEE REPORTS - COUNCIL LIAISONS</u>

coming weekend of May 14<sup>th</sup> and May 15<sup>th</sup> at various locations.

Memorial Day commemoration on the Municipal Green.

None.

None.

None.

None.

Roll Call.

C. Parker, C. Stern, DM. Gussen, C. Honis, C. Katz, C. Toffler, Mayor Hameeduddin. In Favor:

Opposed: None.

Absent: None.