

**BLAIRSTOWN TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE  
ANNUAL REORGANIZATION MEETING  
JANUARY 5, 2011 – 6:30 PM**

**M I N U T E S**

**OPENING CEREMONIES** – Clerk Pizzaia opened the meeting. Those present were Mr. Anderson, Mr. Lance, Mr. Lascari and Mr. Mach. Mr. Seal was absent.

**INVOCATION** – Rev. David Harvey of the First Presbyterian Church gave the invocation.

The **FLAG SALUTE** was conducted.

**The following SUNSHINE STATEMENT was read by Clerk Pizzaia:**

Notice of this meeting has been sent to two newspapers of general circulation in the Township of Blairstown in which notice of the date, time, place and general agenda were set forth in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

**DETERMINATION OF THE WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF CANVASSERS**

Elected Official – Richard A. Mach

Clerk Pizzaia administered the Oath of Office to Mr. Mach

**NOMINATION FOR MAYOR FOR THE YEAR 2011**

A motion to appoint Richard Mach as Mayor for 2011 was made by Mr. Lance and seconded by Mr. Lascari.

Roll call vote: AYE – Anderson, Lance, Lascari, Mach

The Oath of Office was administered to Mayor Mach by Clerk Pizzaia.

Mayor Mach chaired the remainder of the meeting.

**NOMINATION FOR DEPUTY MAYOR FOR THE YEAR 2011**

The nomination of Salvatore Lascari as Deputy Mayor was made by Mr. Anderson and seconded by Mr. Lance.

Roll call vote: AYE – Anderson, Lance, Lascari, Mach

The Oath of Office was administered to Deputy Mayor Lascari by Clerk Pizzaia.

**RESOLUTIONS: (Committee may adopt all as one consent agenda unit, ask to have certain ones pulled for discussion and vote on the remainder, or decide to vote on each resolution separately)**

- R.2011-001 Various One Year Appointments – Compensated
- R.2011-002 Various Appointments – Non-compensated
- R.2011-003 Cancel Water Utility Balances under \$5.00
- R.2011-004 Appointing Local Emergency Planning Committee Members

- R.2011-005 Resolution of the Township of Blairstown, Fixing the Rate of Interest to be charged on Delinquent Taxes and Authorize Tax Collector to hold Annual Tax Sale
- R.2011-006 Resolution Complying with Open Public Meetings Act
- R.2011-007 Resolution Designating Authorized Signatures
- R.2011-010 Resolution Authorizing Investment of Idle Funds and Fund Transfers
- R.2011-009 Resolution Adopting a Cash Management Plan
- R.2011-010 Resolution Contracting for Professional Services without Competitive Bidding in Accordance with the Local Public Contract Law - Various
- R.2011-011 Resolution Contracting for Professional Services without Competitive Bidding in Accordance with the Local Public Contract Law – Municipal Accountants (Auditor)
- R.2011-012 Resolution Designating Official Newspapers
- R.2011-013 Resolution Canceling Certain Real Estate Property Tax Balances
- R.2011-014 Resolution Authorizing Tax Assessor and Township Attorney to Handle Roll Back Taxes Complaints
- R.2011-015 Resolution Instituting a Fee for Duplicate Tax Sale Certificates
- R.2011-016 Resolution Fixing the Rate of Interest to be charged on Delinquent Water Accounts
- R.2011-017 Authorizing Temporary Appropriations as Provided by N.J.S.A. 4:19
- R.2011-018 Authorization to Transfer Funds
- R.2011-019 Authorization to Pay Vouchers and Claims

A motion to approve R.2011-001 through R.2011-019, with the exception of R.2011-002 was made by Mr. Lance and seconded by Mr. Anderson.

Roll call vote: AYE – Anderson, Lance, Lascari, Mach

Mr. Lance made a motion to approve R.2011-002, with the exception of the appointment of Alternate II for the Zoning Board of Adjustment. Mr. Anderson seconded the motion. By way of explanation, Mr. Lance said that he has submitted the name of another candidate who he feels is better qualified for the position.

Roll call vote: AYE – Anderson, Lance  
NAY – Lascari, Mach

Mayor Mach made a motion to approve R.2011-022 withholding the appointment of Alternate II, and leaving the position open for further discussion. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lascari.

Roll call vote: AYE – Anderson, Lance, Lascari, Mach

**FROM THE COMMITTEE**

**Mayor Mach** thanked those in the audience for coming to the Reorganization Meeting. He said that it is an honor to serve as Mayor for another year. He thanked the Committee members for their support and thanked his wife, Susan, for her support and understanding during the past years. Mayor Mach also acknowledged the paid and volunteer support staff of the municipality.

Mayor Mach said that due to the constant decrease in aid from the State, the budget has been and will continue to be a difficult task for the Committee, especially with the goal of maintaining our status of having no municipal tax.

Mayor Mach outlined the notable events that took place during the year 2010, which included the delivery of a new fire tanker, preparations for the repair of the Paulina Dam, the reemergence of the Blairstown Business Association, the formation of a committee to organize the Fourth of July Celebration, and the first Skylands Music Festival to take place in Blairstown. Looking forward to 2011, a new Police contract will be finalized, the Environmental Commission will be arranging for energy audits for municipally owned buildings in order to reduce energy consumption. Mayor Mach assured the public that the Committee remains dedicated to maintaining a zero municipal tax.

**Mr. Lascari**

Mr. Lascari thanked Mayor Mach for his prior years of service on the Township Committee. He thanked the other committee members for their support. He said that each year has been a challenge and he looks forward to working together towards common goals. Mr. Lascari said he missed Mr. Seal's presence here tonight. Mr. Seal was unable to attend due to medical problems. He thanked the paid employees and the volunteers who pulled together during 2010. He said he is looking forward to a more prosperous year for the township.

**Mr. Anderson** thanked the other members for their support and cooperation. He thanked the municipal employees who have worked hard this past year, especially with the financial constraints that have been in place.

**Mr. Lance** congratulated Mayor Mach and Mr. Lascari for their reappointments as Mayor and Deputy Mayor. He thanked the paid employees and the volunteers of the township. Mr. Lance also wished Mr. Seal well and a speedy recovery. He wished everyone a happy and prosperous New Year.

**FROM THE PUBLIC**

Debra Waldron, Zoning Board of Adjustment Chair, said that she hopes the Committee will approve the appointment in question of Alternate II. She said he is well respected by his peers and has been a great resource to the Zoning Board. She also pointed out that it is expensive to train board members, and that this member has been sent for this training by the township.

**ADJOURN**

As there were no further comments from the public, Mr. Lance made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Mr. Anderson, with all members voting in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:06 pm.

Submitted by:

Phyllis E. Pizzaia, RMC  
Municipal Clerk