

**TOWNSHIP OF BLAIRSTOWN
REGULAR COMMITTEE MEETING
MUNICIPAL BUILDING
Wednesday, July 8, 2009, 7 PM**

MINUTES

OPENING; ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Mach. Those present were Mayor Mach, Mr. Anderson, Mr. Lance, Mr. Lascari, and Mr. Seal. Also present were Clerk Pizzaia and Township Attorney Robert Benbrook.

The **FLAG SALUTE** was conducted.

SUNSHINE STATEMENT

Mayor Mach read the following statement: Notice of this meeting has been sent to three newspapers of general circulation in which notice was given of the date, time, place and general agenda in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

CLOSED SESSION –Contract Negotiations – Sale of Water Company; Possible Acquisition of Property

Mr. Seal made a motion to enter closed session, which was seconded by Mr. Lance, with all members voting in favor.

WHEREAS, the Blairstown Township Committee needs to discuss matters relating to the issues as listed above; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee believes it to be in the best interest of the public to discuss such matters in closed session;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Blairstown, County of Warren, State of New Jersey that it shall meet in Closed Session to discuss only the matters mentioned above, the results of which may be made public immediately thereafter or at a later date.

Dated: July 8, 2009

Attest:

Phyllis E. Pizzaia, RMC
Municipal Clerk

RESULTS OF CLOSED SESSION

Mr. Lascari made a motion to come out of Closed Session, which was seconded by Mr. Seal, with all members in favor.

Mayor Mach explained that during Closed Session, there was a discussion on the bids received for the sale of the Water Company. It is the recommendation of Mr. Benbrook that the Committee reject all bids received for the Water Company. Mr. Lance made a motion to reject the bids, which was seconded by Mr. Seal.

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

The topic of possible acquisition of property was not discussed during Closed Session.

PUBLIC COMMENT (up to 5 speakers/3 minutes each)

Christine Jolliffe, Mingle Road, said she lives near the falls at Paulina Dam and complained about the noise made by large trucks. Mayor Mach suggested the Committee look into an ordinance prohibiting engine braking. The Committee would have to check with the State of NJ since Route 94 is a state road.

Ms. Jolliffe also complained about noise made by dirt bikes and music. Mayor Mach said that the Committee is already looking into this matter.

Andrew Lagomarsino, Artist View Lane, spoke about the fact that he lives on a private road and questioned why the township does not plow his street. Mr. Benbrook explained that by State Statute, the township has a choice of either plowing the private roads or reimbursing the private homeowner associations for plowing. Mayor Mach said that it was clear that this matter would not be discussed to Mr. Lagomarsino's satisfaction in three minutes, so Mr. Lagomarsino was advised that he could discuss this matter at length during the public portion towards the end of the meeting.

Kevin Doell, Heller Hill Road, spoke about the Environmental Commission's Sustainable Blairstown Initiative. Mr. Doell announced that a public meeting will be held on July 22nd which will include a presentation on Sustainable Blairstown. He invited the Committee as well as the public to attend this meeting, which will begin at 7pm. Mr. Doell said that a blog has been created for Sustainable Blairstown and the public can sign up to receive emails. They are in the process of creating a Green Team. Anyone interested should contact Mr. Doell.

MINUTES

June 10, 2009 – Special Joint Meeting in Hope Township (Mayor Mach and Mr. Seal absent)

A motion was made by Mr. Lascari to approve the minutes, which was seconded by Mr. Lance.

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

June 10, 2009 – Regular Meeting and Closed Session (Mayor Mach absent)
Mr. Lascari made a motion to approve the minutes, which was seconded by Mr. Seal.

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

June 24, 2009 – Special Meeting (Mr. Anderson absent)
A motion was made by Mr. Seal to approve the minutes, which was seconded by Mr. Lance.

Roll call vote: AYE – Lance, Lascari, Seal, Mach
ABSTAIN - Anderson

ORDINANCE NO. 2009-10 – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF CERTAIN LANDS OWNED BY THE TOWNSHIP OF BLAIRSTOWN AND IDENTIFIED ON THE TAX MAP AS BLOCK 1208, LOT 9

Adoption – Second Reading

Committee Discussion

There was no Committee discussion on Ordinance 2009-10.

Public Hearing – Open/Close

The Public Hearing was opened to the public. Mayor Mach explained that this is a very small piece of property situated between Dale's Market and the old Press Building. There were no comments from the public. The Public Hearing was closed.

Mr. Lance made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2009-10 on second reading, which was seconded by Mayor Mach.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2009-11 – AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED, "BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION OF \$1,500,000 FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF MUNICIPAL BUILDING AND ASSOCIATED SITE IMPROVEMENTS IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF BLAIRSTOWN, IN THE COUNTY OF WARREN, NEW JERSEY AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$1,425,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP FOR FINANCING PART OF THE APPROPRIATION" – Adoption, Second Reading

Committee Discussion

There was no Committee discussion on Ordinance 2009-11.

Public Hearing – Open/Close

The Public Hearing was opened to the public. Fred Cook asked for an explanation of what this ordinance is about. Mr. Lance explained this ordinance is to help pay for the fire tanker the township plans on purchasing for Blairstown Hose Company No. 1. As there were no more comments or questions from the public, the Public Hearing was closed.

Mr. Lance made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2009-11 on second reading, which was seconded by Mr. Lascari.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2009-12 – AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE PURCHASE OF A FIRE TANKER AND APPURTENANCES FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF BLAIRSTOWN AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE FUNDING THEREOF – Adoption, Second Reading

Committee Discussion

There was no Committee discussion on Ordinance 2009-12.

Public Hearing – Open/Close

The Public Hearing was opened to the public. As there were no comments from the public, the Public Hearing was closed.

Mr. Seal made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2009-12 on second reading, which was seconded by Mr. Anderson.

Roll call vote: Anderson, Lance, Lascari, Seal, Mach

ORDINANCE NO. 2009-13 – BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$294,000 FOR THE REMOVAL OF UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS FOR AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF BLAIRSTOWN IN THE COUNTY OF WARREN, NEW JERSEY AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$279,300 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP FOR FINANCING PART OF THE APPROPRIATION

Introduction, First Reading

Committee Discussion

Mr. Lance explained that the township has applied for a loan to remove the soil at the Community Center. This ordinance authorizes the township to borrow the money if the loan application is approved.

Mr. Lance made a motion to approve Ordinance 2009-13 on first reading, which was seconded by Mr. Seal.

Roll call vote: Anderson, Lance, Lascari, Seal, Mach

Public Comment on the Consent Agenda Items Only

There were no comments from the public on the Consent Agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA INCLUDING RESOLUTIONS

- 1 – R.2009-106** Authorization to Pay Bills
- 2 – R.2009-107** Authorization of Expenditures for Road Improvements
- 3 – R.2009-108** Requesting Approval of Item of Revenue and Appropriation – NJ Division of Highway Traffic Safety Grant/Over the Limit Under Arrest
- 4 – R.2009-109** Requesting Refund of Copy Fee for Police Department Videotape
- 5 – R.2009-110** Amending Capital Budget
- 6 – R.2009-111** Requesting Approval of Item of Revenue and Appropriation – NJDOT Grant/Benton Road
- 7 – Application** for Blue Light Permit – Jordan Race, Blairstown Ambulance Corp

Mr. Lascari made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, which was seconded by Mr. Lance.

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

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

- Clerk – June Report
- Construction – June Report
- Finance – June Report
- Police Department – June Report
- Public Works Department – June Fuel Report
- Tax Collector – June Report
- Zoning Officer – 2nd Quarter Report

Mr. Lance made a motion to accept the reports, which was seconded by Mr. Seal. Mr. Lance commented on the Tax Collector's report, stating that new Tax Collector has been extremely diligent in collecting back taxes. Mayor Mach pointed out that the Construction Department's fee collection is substantially lower than last year.

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

REPORT ON MAIN STREET ISSUES by Mr. Lascari

Mr. Lascari discussed the meeting held on Main Street on March 23, 2009 which included about 30 participants. The purpose of the meeting was to list concerns from business owners and residents and to address possible solutions.

The main concerns of the participants included dangerous traffic flow, snow removal, signage, feral cats, parking difficulties, and the issue of making Main Street one-way. It was the consensus of opinion to keep Main Street a two-way street. Also discussed was the possibility of raising funds for a clock to be located in the Main Street triangle.

Recommendations that resulted from the discussion included parking and striping on Park Place, Main Street and Vail Street, clean up of Vail Street, designated crosswalks, exploration of alternate side of street parking with Warren County Road

Department, and clean up of municipal parking lot between Main Street and Vail Street. (A copy of the presentation outline is attached to minutes.)

Mr. Lascari said that the biggest problem is the feral cats in the area. The key is to stop the food source and access areas. Another possibility is capture, neuter and release, but this is very expensive. This will remain an on-going issue.

Mr. Lascari said that he plans to follow up on these Main Street issues with Warren County, since many of these issues are their responsibility. He would like to set up a meeting with the County to discuss these problems. Mayor Mach said he would like to be present at this meeting also.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1 – Rte. 94 traffic concerns – State approval for Pedestrian Crossing Sign received for Carhart St.

2 – JCP&L billing – Mr. Lascari in process inputting data

3 – Senior Citizen Advisory Committee – Options under consideration

4 – Main Street concerns – Informational meeting held on 3/23

This item was reported on earlier in the meeting.

5 – Review of Noise Control Ordinance – Model ordinance received

6 – Cedar Lake Horse Farm – waiting for RFP from State

7 – Repairs to Givens Belet building – B. DePuy compiling list of most needed repairs

8 – Wastewater Management Plan – requesting revised proposals from Hatch Mott MacDonald, Finelli; letter sent to DEP

9 – Service Electric Cable TV – extension of cable service

Mr. Lascari is still working on this.

10 – Digital Maps/Environmental Commission

Mr. Lascari said that these maps are available from Laura Brill on CD's, which will be delivered to the Municipal Building within the next week. This item will be removed from the list.

11 – Fire tanker bid specifications

The bid opening is scheduled for July 22, 2009 at 10 am.

COMMITTEE CORRESPONDENCE for information and possible action

1 – from Benbrook and Benbrook, re: Loitering Ordinance
Mr. Benbrook will report on this at the August meeting.

2 – from Patricia Sagan, Recreation Director, re: Relay for Life

This event was a success. Mayor Mach thanked Mr. Lascari for standing in for him during the opening ceremonies.

- 3 – from Ralph Price, Construction Official, regarding requested refund for permits

This communication is in request for permit fees refunded to a builder who did not go through with the construction. Mr. Lascari made a motion to refund the permit fees, minus the Construction Official plan review fee for a total of \$2,254.00. The COAH Fee of \$841.50 is also to be refunded from a separate account. The motion was seconded by Mr. Anderson.

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

- 4 – from Lucy Vandenberg, Executive Director, COAH, regarding Compliance Report recommending approval of 3rd round substantive certification petition Mayor Mach said that this is the certification that Blairstown has been working towards for approximately four years. Mayor Mach went to Trenton this morning to receive this certification. Along with the certification, certain ordinances need to be adopted within 45 days to complete the certification. These ordinances need to be introduced tonight in order to meet the 45 day deadline. These four ordinances are as follows:

ORDINANCE 2009-14 – AN ORDINANCE OF TOWNSHIP OF BLAIRSTOWN TO ADDRESS REQUIREMENTS OF THE COUNCIL ON AFFORDABLE HOUSING (COAH) REGARDING COMPLIANCE WITH THE MUNICIPALITY’S PRIOR ROUND AND THIRD ROUND AFFORDABLE HOUSING OBLIGATIONS – Introduction, First Reading

There was no Committee discussion. Mr. Lance made a motion to approve Ordinance 2009-14 on first reading, which was seconded by Mr. Anderson.

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

ORDINANCE 2009-15 – AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH AN AFFIRMATIVE TRUST FUND SPENDING PLAN FOR THE PURPOSE OF ADMINISTERING BLAIRSTOWN TOWNSHIP’S AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROGRAM PURSUANT TO THE FAIR HOUSING ACT – Introduction, First Reading

There was no Committee discussion. Mayor Mach made the motion to approve Ordinance 2009-15 on first reading, which was seconded by Mr. Seal.

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

ORDINANCE 2009-16 – AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH AN AFFIRMATIVE MARKETING PLAN FOR THE PURPOSE OF ADMINISTERING BLAIRSTOWN TOWNSHIP’S AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROGRAM PURSUANT TO THE FAIR HOUSING ACT – Introduction, First Reading

There was no Committee discussion. Mr. Lance made the motion to approve Ordinance 2009-16 on first reading, which was seconded by Mayor Mach.

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

ORDINANCE 2009-17 – AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AN ORINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING THE LAND DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE, CHAPTER 19 OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BLAIRSTOWN, COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, WITH REFERENCE TO SATISFYING THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE NEW JERSEY COUNCIL ON AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND SPECIFICALLY BY ADDING A NEW SECTION 19-608 ENTITLED ACCESSORY AFFORDABLE APARTMENTS – Introduction, First Reading

There was no Committee discussion. Mayor Mach made the motion to approve Ordinance 2009-17 on first reading, which was seconded by Mr. Lance.

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

- 5 – from Christopher J. Pessolano, Warren County Director of Purchasing, regarding County auction scheduled for September 12, 2009

Mayor Mach would like to put the Explorer up for auction if the rest of the Committee is in agreement. The vehicle in question is the Construction Department vehicle, which needs over \$4,000 worth of repairs. Mr. Lascari made a motion to set this vehicle aside for auction with the Warren County Purchasing Department. The motion was seconded by Mr. Anderson.

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

Mayor Mach asked Clerk Pizzaia to instruct the CFO to make arrangements to have this vehicle included in the September auction. Mr. Seal said that the Department of Public Works would transport the vehicle to the auction site.

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

Mr. Lance had a question on our propane use and the Warren County Cooperative prices. CFO Emery will be directed to compile figures on our propane use for 2008 and 2007.

- 6 – from A-Tech Automotive, estimate for repairs to 2000 Ford Explorer

The 2000 Ford Explorer will go for auction and will not be repaired.

7 – from Drew Cerra, regarding animal control complaint
The involved parties have settled this complaint.

8 – from David Diehl, Zoning Official, regarding Business Directional Sign Request
– Stone Power Earth Shoppe
Mr. Lance made a motion to approve this request, which was seconded by
Mayor Mach.

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

9 – draft letter from Theresa Tamburro, Municipal Housing Liaison, regarding
COAH
Mayor Mach explained that this is a draft letter being submitted for
Committee approval. This letter is to be included in the tax bill, looking for
participants in the marketing and advertising of our COAH plan. Mr.
Benbrook reviewed the draft letter and directed the COAH liaison to make
minor changes. Mr. Benbrook would like to see a brief statement of what is
required of the participants to receive this money, including time
requirements and tenant selection process.

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

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE (See attached sheet)

There were no comments or questions from the public on the General
Correspondence.

FROM THE TOWNSHIP ATTORNEY

Mr. Benbrook had nothing to report.

FROM THE TOWNSHIP CLERK

The Clerk had nothing to report.

FROM THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

Mr. Anderson reported that the Recreation Department continues to run many
programs for the Blairstown residents.

Mr. Anderson said that an additional \$500.00 needs to be appropriated for the
electrical connection for the sign for the Municipal Building. Mr. Lascari made a
motion to approve this appropriation, which was seconded by Mr. Lance.

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

With regard to the back exit door required by the State of NJ, Mr. Anderson said that two bids were received for this work. One bid was from Cherokee Specialties for \$9,900.00 and the other was from Coopersmith for \$12,520.00. Mr. Anderson made a motion to authorize Cherokee Specialties to install the door for their bid of \$9,900.00, which was seconded by Mr. Lascari. The Clerk and Police Director Krisak will coordinate the work on this project. The funds for this project will come from the building insurance money.

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

Mr. Anderson gave an overview of the Police Department report for the month of June.

COMMITTEEMAN LANCE

Mr. Lance said that the figures on State Aid were received, and our Energy Tax has been reduced by the State by \$126,704.00. Garden State Trust has been reduced by \$7,287.00. Our total reduction comes to \$133,991.00.

Hope Township is having a meeting on the Joint Court. Judge Dana's figures show a loss of \$120,000.00. Both Hope Township and Blairstown Township will have to address this issue in the near future.

Mr. Lance said that he is following the situation in Stillwater Township regarding State Police coverage.

With regard to Fred Cook's email asking for an explanation of Blairstown's debt, Mr. Lance reported that according to the Annual Debt Statement, as of December 31, 2008, Blairstown's outstanding debt was \$3,344,000.00. This figure is now lower since principal payments on the debt have been made. North Warren Regional School debt is \$493,322.00, for a total debt of \$3,837,322.00. With the bond ordinance being introduced tonight for the fire tanker, our debt is just under \$4,000,000. Of that amount, the Water Company debt is \$522,000 as of December 31, 2008, which is actually lower since principal payments have been made since that time. Mr. Lance said that Mr. Cook can see CFO Emery for more detailed information if he is interested.

COMMITTEEMAN LASCARI

Mr. Lascari reported that fit tests and drug tests were discussed at the meeting held between him and the volunteer firefighters. The firefighters would like drug testing for new applicants and random testing for apparatus drivers.

Mr. Lascari said that meetings were held with members of the Committees of Frelinghuysen and Hardwick regarding joint or interlocal services of the Construction Department. Mr. Lascari said that Frelinghuysen would like to be host and Blairstown's proposal is to be the lead agency. The third scenario is for the municipalities to disband the respective departments and to form a new interlocal between the participating municipalities. Mr. Seal feels that Blairstown is better

equipped to act as lead since we have the COAH mechanism in place. Mr. Lascari also reported that Liberty Township has stated in writing that they are not interested in participating in an interlocal or joint construction department.

COMMITTEEMAN SEAL

Mr. Seal would like it researched whether a CDL license is required for operators of the fire tanker proposed to be purchased for the volunteer fire department. Mayor Mach and Mr. Lascari both feel that firefighters are exempt from this requirement. Mr. Lascari said that he will research this to make sure.

Mayor Mach asked Mr. Benbrook if he had researched the "poison pill" issue Mr. Seal had brought up at a previous meeting. Mr. Seal said that he would give Mr. Benbrook the information previously forwarded to him so Mr. Benbrook could look into this.

Mr. Seal said that he would like the Committee to move forward on a plaque for Dr. Clavel so a presentation can be formally made when he returns from the Philippines. Mr. Lascari asked if the Committee should appoint a new Township Physician.

After discussion, it was decided that CFO Emery will be directed to research rates for local Blairstown physicians interested in being appointed as township physician and report to the Committee.

Mr. Seal reported that according to the newspapers, that despite Blairstown's opposition in resolution form, the State is still planning on locating a train station in Blairstown. This will cause a great increase in cars going to and from the station and will require our Police Department to police it. Mr. Seal feels that it is time for another resolution to be passed in opposition of the train station.

Mr. Seal said that the roof and the furnace still need to be replaced at the Walnut Valley Fire Station. Mr. Anderson said that the furnace should have priority.

Mr. Seal made a motion to increase Carl Stoddart's salary \$1.00 per hour. This increase was agreed upon when Mr. Stoddart was moved to Assistant Supervisor. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lance, with the increase effective July 1, 2009.

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

Mr. Seal added that the agreement was to increase his salary \$1 this year and another \$1 when he successfully completes his certification courses.

Mr. Seal said that he, Mr. Rodman and Bob DePuy, Supervisor of the Department of Public Works, looked at the oil tank at Givens Belet and there is no water in it. Ted Rodman suggested buying a Roth tank, which is a double walled above ground tank guaranteed for 10 years. This project can be done in-house. Mayor Mach

suggested putting this item on the list of capital improvements for next year. It was the consensus of opinion to replace the tank and leave the old tank in the ground. Mr. Rodman and Mr. Seal will discuss this and present a proposal to the Committee at the August meeting.

MAYOR MACH

Mayor Mach reminded the audience that the Farmers Market begins on this Saturday, July 11, 2009, 10 am to 2pm at the Givens Belet parking lot.

Joel McGreen requested time at the August meeting for an Open Space PIG grant presentation. He will make an approximate 30 minute presentation.

Theresa Tamburro has sent a letter to the Committee announcing that Knowlton Township has appointed her as their Municipal Housing Liaison. There will be benefits such as joint advertising.

REPORT ON PAULINA DAM – Ted Rodman, Municipal Engineer

The probes for the clean-up at the Community Center are scheduled for next Wednesday. Whitman will review the results of the tests and will report to the Committee. Mr. Rodman and Mr. Benbrook have finished the specifications for the soil removal. There are still a couple of technical details he needs to work out with Whitman and then the project can go out to bid.

The safe route to school federal grant has a requirement that a Categorical Exclusion Document (CED) be obtained. There will be an additional fee of approximately \$1,500 to \$2,000 to have this document completed.

Mr. Rodman spoke about Michael Bartolozzi, who had a request to have Mott Lane vacated by the township. Mr. Rodman spoke to Robert Berry, who researched Mott Lane and cannot find any dedication or acceptance of the road. Mr. Rodman recommended that Mr. Benbrook communicate with Mr. Bartolozzi informing him that this is a private issue and that he needs to research this privately by paying to have a search conducted. If Mr. Bartolozzi can prove the township owns the road, the township would then consider a vacation of the road. Mr. Benbrook will send a letter to this effect.

Mr. Rodman explained that Blairstown Township has submitted a temporary emergency action plan for the stabilization on the Paulina Dam. We have to submit an alternative analysis report and preliminary design, which includes a study as to what the stability of the dam is to withstand a 100 year flood. This is due by October 1, 2009. Mr. Rodman met with a state representative today, who is satisfied with the temporary plan if the township will be supplying the alternative analysis report by October 1st. The Committee has already spoken with Carl Montana about preparing this report. The will be a cost of \$22,000 to complete this report. Mr. Rodman will call Mr. Montana for a time frame for completion and also a detailed list of what is involved for his fee of \$22,000.

FROM THE PUBLIC

Mr. Lagomarsino spoke again about the private road issue. He referred to a statement made by a previous mayor unknown to Mr. Lagomarsino who said that the township would not use township equipment to plow Artist View Lane. When the residents plowed at their own expense, the mayor then said they would have to wait one year to be reimbursed. Mr. Lagomarsino wanted to know if this was legal. Mr. Anderson explained that this committee will not address what a previous committee has done. Mr. Anderson again explained to Mr. Lagomarsino that by law, the township can either plow the private roads or reimburse the residents for the plowing at the rate of 100% of what it would cost the township. This committee, however, chose to pay at a higher rate than is required by law in an effort to be fair to private homeowner association residents.

Mr. Benbrook explained in length how the reimbursement works and what is required of the township according to State Statute.

Paul Avery, Mohican Road, thanked the Committee for following up with the Main Street issues. He also expressed his disappointment in this year's Spirit of Americana event at Footbridge Park, which he said has had a dramatic drop in participation.

ADJOURNMENT

As there were no further comments or questions from the public, Mr. Lance made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Mr. Seal, with all members in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 pm.

Submitted by:

Phyllis E. Pizzaia, RMC
Municipal Clerk

CERTIFICATION: It is hereby certified that this is a true and accurate copy of the minutes of a meeting held by the Township Committee of Blairstown Township, Warren County, NJ on July 8, 2009.

Phyllis E. Pizzaia, RMC
Municipal Clerk