

**MINUTES
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 13, 2020**

Mayor Kelly called the Regular Meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Chatham to order at 7:35 P.M.

Adequate Notice of this meeting of the Township Committee was given as required by the Open Public Meetings Act as follows: Notice was given to both The Chatham Courier and the Morris County Daily Record on January 3, 2020; notice was posted on the bulletin board in the main hallway of the Municipal Building on January 3, 2020; and notice was filed with the Township Clerk on January 3, 2020.

Mayor Kelly led the Flag Salute.

Roll Call

Answering present to the roll call were Committeewoman Ewald, Committeewoman Fondaco, Committeewoman Swartz, Deputy Mayor Ness and Mayor Kelly.

Approval of Agenda

Mayor Kelly read aloud a statement about Affordable Housing and the related court hearing on February 14th. He said that the hearing will include a mediation session, and the Township Committee will not be able to discuss the topic at this meeting.

Deputy Mayor Ness asked that Ordinance 2020-03 be removed from the Agenda, as it is not ready for introduction yet.

Committeewoman Ewald moved to approve the Agenda as amended. Committeewoman Fondaco seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Proclamations & Resolutions

**RESOLUTION 2020-061
RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CHATHAM DESIGNATING FEBRUARY
2020 AS BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

WHEREAS, During Black History Month, we celebrate the many achievements and contributions made by African Americans to our economic, cultural, spiritual and political development: and

WHEREAS, In 1915, Dr. Carter Godwin Woodson, noted Black scholar and son of former slaves, founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History, which was later renamed the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH); and

WHEREAS, Dr. Woodson initiated Black History Week, February 12, 1926; and for many years, the second week of February, chosen so as to coincide with the birthdays of Frederick Douglas and Abraham Lincoln, was celebrated by African Americans in the United States, and

WHEREAS, In 1976, as part of the nation's bicentennial, Black History Week was expanded and became established as Black History Month, and is now celebrated all over North America.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Chatham that February 2020 is designated as Black History Month in Chatham Township, and the Township Committee urges all citizens to celebrate our diverse heritage and culture and continue our efforts to create a world that is more just, peaceful and prosperous for all.

Mayor Kelly read aloud Resolution 2020-061 recognizing Black History Month in Chatham Township.

Committeewoman Swartz moved to adopt Resolution 2020-061. Committeewoman Ewald seconded the motion.

Roll call: Committeewoman Ewald, Aye; Committeewoman Fondaco, Aye; Committeewoman Swartz, Aye; Deputy Mayor Ness, Aye; Mayor Kelly, Aye.

RESOLUTION 2020-062
RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CHATHAM SUPPORTING THE CELEBRATION OF THE 100th ANNIVERSARY OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE

WHEREAS, the year 2020 marks the 100th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution, guaranteeing and protecting women's right to vote; and

WHEREAS, this centennial offers an opportunity to commemorate a milestone of democracy; that the right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the federal or state governments on account of gender; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey has had a long, storied history in the suffrage movement with New Jersey women playing a crucial role in pursuing the rights of women to vote; and

WHEREAS, in 1776 women property owners were enfranchised under the New Jersey State Constitution, which was unique in the nation at the time. However, in 1807, the New Jersey Legislature eliminated the property requirement for voting rights and limited the ballot to white males; and

WHEREAS, in 1867 New Jersey residents Lucy Stone and Harry Blackwell organized the New Jersey Woman Suffrage Association (NJWSA), devoted to gaining women's suffrage; and

WHEREAS, in 1909 New Jersey's first open air suffrage rallies were held in Orange and Newark, led by Dr. Emma O. Gantz and Martha Klatshchken with NJWSA collecting 5,000 signatures for a petition in support of the federal amendment guaranteeing and protecting women's constitutional right to vote; and

WHEREAS, although the 1912 state referendum on woman's suffrage was soundly defeated in the New Jersey Legislature a corner was turned for the New Jersey suffrage movement; and

WHEREAS, in 1913 an automobile rally led by "General" Rosalie Jones traveled through New Jersey on the way to Washington, D.C., in a Suffrage Parade of over 8,000 marchers with many New Jersey women including event organizer Alice Paul; and

WHEREAS, in 1915 a second suffrage constitutional referendum was pursued in New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, and Massachusetts with active campaigns by many suffrage organizations, including the "Passing of the Torch of Liberty" via tug boats on the Hudson River from New York to New Jersey, but was defeated in all four states October 1915; and

WHEREAS, in 1917 New Jersey suffragists Allison Turnbull Hopkins, Julia Hulburt, Beatrice Reynolds Kinkead, and Minnie D. Abbott picketed in front of the White House as part of the Silent Sentinels and subsequently were arrested and imprisoned; and

WHEREAS, on June 4, 1919 Congress passed the 19th Amendment guaranteeing all American women the right to vote; and

WHEREAS, on February 9, 1920, New Jersey became the 29th state to ratify the 19th Amendment granting women the right to vote; and

WHEREAS, shortly after the ratification of the 19th Amendment Margaret Laird and Jennie Van Ness were the first two women elected to the New Jersey Assembly in 1921 and in 1925 Rebecca Estelle Bourgeois Winston of Estell Manor was New Jersey's first woman mayor;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, in honor of the 100th Anniversary of the Ratification of the 19th Amendment Chatham Township will light the municipal building in purple, one of the colors of the New Jersey Suffrage movement, for the week of February 10; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township of Chatham supports the efforts of New Jersey's Suffrage Centennial NJ Women Vote and strongly encourages local celebrations of this historic milestone.

Committeewoman Swartz read aloud Resolution 2020-062 recognizing the 100th Anniversary of Women's Suffrage.

Committeewoman Swartz moved to adopt Resolution 2020-062. Deputy Mayor Ness seconded the motion.

Roll call: Committeewoman Ewald, Aye; Committeewoman Fondaco, Aye; Committeewoman Swartz, Aye; Deputy Mayor Ness, Aye; Mayor Kelly, Aye.

RESOLUTION 2020-063
RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CHATHAM SUPPORTING THE CELEBRATION OF THE 100th ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE UNITED STATES

WHEREAS, the League of Women Voters was founded in 1920 as a “mighty political experiment” by the foremothers of the suffragist movement at the National American Woman Suffrage Association, and;

WHEREAS, its goal was to help the 20 million women who were granted the right to vote by the 19th Amendment understand and carry out their new responsibility as voters, and;

WHEREAS, with the success of this effort and the tireless efforts over the last 100 years to strengthen and uphold its mission to empower voters and defend democracy, the League has become a trusted nonpartisan, grassroots organization, and;

WHEREAS, the League has sponsored legislation and fought in the courts to protect and strengthen voting rights and access, for free and fair elections, for civil rights for all including children and minorities, for community health, for public education for all people, for resource protection and conservation and;

WHEREAS, the League has consistently been noted for its nonpartisan election information, including sponsorship of candidate forums and information on state and local ballot issues, as well as its commitment to register, educate, and mobilize voters, and;

WHEREAS, the League champions government systems that are open, transparent, inclusive, and equitable, and;

WHEREAS, the League believes that active and engaged citizens, irrespective of gender, ethnicity, or political affiliation, are the hallmark of democracy;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that February 14, 2020 is designated as The League of Women Voters Day of Action. We honor and congratulate the League of Women Voters on its 100th Anniversary and commend the League for its significant contributions to empowering voters and making democracy work.

Deputy Mayor Ness read aloud Resolution 2020-063 recognizing the 100th Anniversary of the founding of the League of Women Voters.

Deputy Mayor Ness moved to adopt Resolution 2020-063. Committeewoman Fondaco seconded the motion.

Roll call: Committeewoman Ewald, Aye; Committeewoman Fondaco, Aye; Committeewoman Swartz, Aye; Deputy Mayor Ness, Aye; Mayor Kelly, Aye.

Rozella Clyde from the League of Women Voters was present to accept Resolution 2020-062 and Resolution 2020-063. Mrs. Clyde addressed the history of the League of Women Voters in the Chatham area. She also promoted a Day of Acton on February 16th in Morristown.

RESOLUTION 2020-064
RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CHATHAM SUPPORTING THE CELEBRATION OF THE 100th ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF PARCELLS COUNCIL #2086 KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

WHEREAS, the Knights of Columbus was started in 1882 to reinforce men in the faith, to establish a firm brotherhood, and to support the widows and children of departed Brothers; and

WHEREAS, the organization has grown to provide an astounding amount of charitable aid locally, nationally and internationally; and

WHEREAS, Parcels Council #2086 of the Knights of Columbus was established February 15, 1920. It serves St. Patrick Church in Chatham Borough and Corpus Christi Church in Chatham Township; and

WHEREAS, there are over 200 men in Parcels Council, who serve their families, churches and communities, providing manpower and donations for numerous programs, events and charities; and

WHEREAS, Parcels Council gets its name from Fred Parcels, one of the five Chatham men who lost their lives in World War I; and

WHEREAS, over fifty men have served as Grand Knight of the Council, coming from both the Borough and the Township; and

WHEREAS, Charity is the first and main principal of the Knights of Columbus. Globally in 2017 alone the Knights donated \$185,600,673 and 75.6 million hours of service; and

WHEREAS, in addition to helping Brother Knights in need, offering scholarships to Catholic high schools and colleges, and sponsoring Vatican programs, a small sampling of programs include disaster relief, Christian refugee relief in the Mideast, sponsoring vocations, coats for kids, orphan aid, wheelchairs for disaster victims and ultrasound machines for crisis pregnancy centers; and

WHEREAS, in the Chathams, Parcels Council supports the Appalachia Toy Drive, Intellectual Disabilities Drive, Eva's Kitchen, visits to veterans at Lyons Hospital, and donates to over 20 charitable organizations; and

WHEREAS, on Saturday, February 15, 2020, Parcels Council will turn 100, and celebrate with an event at the Grand Summit Hotel.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee of the Township of Chatham recognizes and congratulated Parcels Council #2086 on the 100th Anniversary of their founding, and applauds the Knights of Columbus with sincere gratitude for their many contributions to the Chatham community.

Mayor Kelly read aloud Resolution 2020-064 honoring the 100th Anniversary of the founding of Parcels Council #2086 Knights of Columbus.

Mayor Kelly moved to adopt Resolution 2020-064. Committeewoman Swartz seconded the motion.

Roll call: Committeewoman Ewald, Aye; Committeewoman Fondaco, Aye; Committeewoman Swartz, Aye; Deputy Mayor Ness, Aye; Mayor Kelly, Aye.

Brian McAuliffe, Deputy Grand Knight of Parcels Council, was present to accept the resolution.

Committeewoman Swartz commented on the Knights of Columbus serving as a life insurance provider for their membership.

Presentation – Library of the Chathams

Library Director Karen Brodsky and Board of Trustees President Andy Hollander were present to give a presentation. Mrs. Brodsky provided statistics on usage of the Library of the Chathams. Mrs. Brodsky also provided information on the Library's Strategic Plan. The availability and use of meeting space was also addressed.

Mr. Hollander addressed strategic planning and community feedback. He also addressed the proposed upgrades to the Library's facilities. Mr. Hollander said that a capital request will be submitted to Mr. Hoffmann.

Deputy Mayor Ness asked when the projects are anticipated to begin. Mr. Hollander said that they might begin as early as October if the funding is approved.

Mayor Kelly said that the Township Committee will consider the request when it is submitted. Administrator Hoffmann said that the projects can begin with the funds generated through Library fundraisers, and the funding from the Township would be for the 2021 Budget Cycle.

Committeewoman Swartz noted the upcoming Book Sale at the Library. Deputy Mayor Ness commented on the variety of programs offered at the Library.

Reports

Committeewoman Ewald reported that the Finance Committee anticipates the introduction of the 2020 Municipal Budget at the February 27th Township Committee meeting, with the goal of having the final adoption of the Budget at the March 26th meeting. Committeewoman Ewald also reported that February is Heart Health Awareness Month, and she said that the Mayors’ Wellness Campaign encourages residents to prioritize cardiovascular health. Committeewoman Ewald noted that March is Nutrition Month. She further reported that in April, the Mayors’ Wellness Campaign will hold a free seminar on advance care planning at the Madison YMCA.

Committeewoman Fondaco reported that on February 23rd, the Chatham Township Historical Society will be holding a presentation on John & Abigail Adams at 2:00 PM at the Municipal Building.

Committeewoman Swartz reported that the New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police awarded Certification Status to Chief Tom Miller. She said that only 33% of the police chiefs in New Jersey achieve this recognition. Committeewoman Swartz also commented on Chief Miller’s professional background and accomplishments during his time with the Chatham Township Police Department.

Deputy Mayor Ness reported that the Colony Pool Committee met to begin planning for the 2020 Season. The Colony Pool Committee has also discussed strategies for increasing membership. A vendor for the Concession Stand is also being sought. Membership trends have also been studied so that marketing can be better targeted. Programs for the 2020 Season were also discussed. Deputy Mayor Ness also reported that the Joint Recreation Committee met recently, and she described the topics that the Joint Recreation Committee focuses on. Deputy Mayor Ness commented on participation in youth sports programs.

Mayor Kelly reported that Chatham Township recently celebrated the 214th Anniversary of the Township’s incorporation, and the Township when founded included what is now Chatham Borough, Madison Borough and the Borough of Florham Park.

Public Hearing/Adoption of Ordinances

Ordinance 2020-01

ORDINANCE 2020-01

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CHATHAM, COUNTY OF MORRIS, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AMENDING CHAPTER VI OF THE TOWNSHIP CODE TO AMEND THE ANNUAL RENEWAL FEE FOR LIQUOR LICENSES

BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of Chatham, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, that the Revised General Ordinances of the Township of Chatham, 1995, are hereby amended in pertinent part to modify subsection 6-3.7 of Chapter VI, Alcoholic Beverage Control, to increase the renewal fees for plenary retail consumption licenses and plenary retail distribution licenses as follows:

1. 6-3.7 License Fees, Maximum Number.

The annual fees of licenses for the sale or distribution of alcoholic beverages in the Township shall be as follows:

<i>Class of License</i>	<i>Annual Fee</i>	<i>Number</i>
Plenary Retail Consumption License	\$2,500.00	3
Plenary Retail Distribution License	\$2,500.00	2

2. All other terms and provisions of subsection 6-3.7, Chapter VI, Alcoholic Beverage Control, of the Township Code shall remain unchanged.
3. This ordinance shall take effect as provided by law.

The Township Clerk indicated that this fee raises the renewal fee for Plenary Retail Distribution Licenses to \$2,500.

Mayor Kelly opened the Public Hearing on Ordinance 2020-01.
Seeing no public comment, Mayor Kelly closed the Public Hearing.

Committeewoman Swartz moved to adopt Ordinance 2020-01. Committeewoman Fondaco seconded the motion.

Roll call: Committeewoman Ewald, Aye; Committeewoman Fondaco, Aye; Committeewoman Swartz, Aye; Deputy Mayor Ness, Aye; Mayor Kelly, Aye.

Ordinance 2020-02

ORDINANCE 2020-02
ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CHATHAM, COUNTY OF MORRIS, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14)

WHEREAS, the Local Government Cap Law, N.J.S. 40A: 4-45.1 et seq., provides that in the preparation of its annual budget, a municipality shall limit any increase in said budget up to 2.5% unless authorized by ordinance to increase it to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, subject to certain exceptions; and,

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.15a provides that a municipality may, when authorized by ordinance, appropriate the difference between the amount of its actual final appropriation and the 3.5% percentage rate as an exception to its final appropriations in either of the next two succeeding years; and,

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Chatham in the County of Morris finds it advisable and necessary to increase its CY 2020 budget by up to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, in the interest of promoting the health, safety and welfare of the citizens; and,

WHEREAS, the Township Committee hereby determines that a 1% increase in the budget for said year, amounting to \$117,688.56 in excess of the increase in final appropriations otherwise permitted by the Local Government Cap Law, is advisable and necessary; and,

WHEREAS the Township Committee hereby determines that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Chatham, in the County of Morris, a majority of the full authorized membership of this governing body affirmatively concurring, that, in the CY 2020 budget year, the final appropriations of the Township of Chatham shall, in accordance with this ordinance and N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14, be increased by 3.5 %, amounting to \$411,909.96, and that the CY 2020 municipal budget for the Township of Chatham be approved and adopted in accordance with this ordinance; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance as introduced be filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services within 5 days of introduction; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance upon adoption, with the recorded vote included thereon, be filed with said Director within 5 days after such adoption.

Administrator Hoffmann explained that Ordinance 2020-02 is an annual ordinance to raise the cap bank from 2.5% to 3.5%. He said that the cap bank is available in case of emergency, and this ordinance allows for an additional \$117,688.56 to be added to the cap bank.

Mayor Kelly opened the Public Hearing on Ordinance 2020-02. Seeing no public comment, Mayor Kelly closed the Public Hearing.

Committeewoman Ewald moved to adopt Ordinance 2020-02. Deputy Mayor Ness seconded the motion.

Roll call: Committeewoman Ewald, Aye; Committeewoman Fondaco, Aye; Committeewoman Swartz, Aye; Deputy Mayor Ness, Aye; Mayor Kelly, Aye.

Consent Agenda

**RESOLUTION 2020-065
RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF
CHATHAM AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS, PAYROLLS, SCHOOL TAXES
AND COUNTY TAXES**

BE IT RESOLVED that bills in the total amount of \$1,223,598.34 and the prior month's payroll of \$421,078.31 Current Fund, \$50,057.92 Sewer No. 1, \$9,853.46 Sewer No. 2, and \$11,841.88 Police Private Employment be paid.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that taxes due to the School District of the Chathams, for the month of February 2020, in the amount of \$3,200,207.00 be paid.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that taxes due to the County of Morris, for the First Quarter of 2020, in the amount of \$2,391,790.52 be paid.

**RESOLUTION 2020-066
RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF
CHATHAM APPROVING MINUTES OF MEETINGS**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee of the Township of Chatham acknowledges receipt of and approves the minutes of the Township Committee meetings held on January 29, 2020 and January 30, 2020.

**RESOLUTION 2020-067
RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP
OF CHATHAM APPROVING EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES OF MEETINGS**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee of the Township of Chatham acknowledges receipt of and approves Executive Session minutes of the Township Committee meeting held on January 29, 2020.

**RESOLUTION 2020-068
RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF
CHATHAM AUTHORIZING RIGHT-OF-ENTRY AGREEMENT WITH PSE&G**

WHEREAS, PSE&G has requested a Right-Of-Entry agreement with the Township of Chatham for the purpose of upgrading its existing Electrical Facilities so that it can provide safe and reliable service; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Chatham is in agreement that this project should move forward and is in the best interest of residents, businesses, municipal, school, county and state services; and,

WHEREAS, the generic Right-Of-Entry agreement must be customized to meet the requirements of the Township of Chatham and state statutes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Township Committee of the Township of Chatham, Morris County, New Jersey, authorizes the Township Attorney to prepare a Right-of-Entry Agreement that meets the requirements of the Township and State; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Township Administrator is authorized to sign the agreement prepared by the Township Attorney.

Committeewoman Swartz moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Committeewoman Fondaco seconded the motion.

Roll call: Committeewoman Ewald, Aye; Committeewoman Fondaco, Aye; Committeewoman Swartz, Aye; Deputy Mayor Ness, Aye; Mayor Kelly, Aye.

Hearing of Citizens

Mayor Kelly opened the Hearing of Citizens.

1. Jane Devlin, 420 River Road, said that she supports Affordable Housing, and said that efforts at mediation and finding the best site should not become a delay tactic. Mrs. Devlin said that Chatham residents are blessed and privileged, and should share what the community has to offer.
2. Mike Oien, 3 Hillcrest Ave, addressed a cost comparison of some options for potential sites for Affordable Housing.
3. Willa Carlsson, 471 River Road, read a statement regarding the history of River Road and the reasons why she moved there. She also said that she has the impression that people in the neighborhood surrounding the Municipal Building think that their neighborhood is of greater importance and value than other neighborhoods.
4. Mike Oien added to his earlier comments regarding options for Affordable Housing. He also addressed the ability to make larger buildings more attractive. Mr. Oien also said that a multi-site plan should include housing near the Township's shopping areas so that people who lack transportation options can still go shopping.

Seeing no further comment, Mayor Kelly closed the Hearing of Citizens.

Discussion

Goals & Objectives

Mayor Kelly said that the draft Goals and Objectives were published on the Township website, and the document will serve as a guide for the Township Committee moving forward.

Deputy Mayor Ness said that the work meeting at which Goals and Objectives were discussed was a new process, and she hopes that the Township Committee will have similar meetings in the future.

Mayor Kelly said that he supports the draft Goals and Objectives memorandum in its current form.

Administrator Hoffmann said that the memorandum was a collaborative effort, and the document includes several items that have been done in the past but were never formalized.

Committeewoman Ewald asked about the inclusion of some specific dates in the draft. Administrator Hoffmann said that the final version will have all the appropriate dates.

**RESOLUTION 2020-059
RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF
CHATHAM ADOPTING GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

WHEREAS, the Township Committee developed a goals and objectives planning document for the year 2020 and beyond; and

WHEREAS, the goals and objectives planning document was discussed during public session at the January 16, 2020 Township Committee Meeting; and,

WHEREAS, the goals and objectives planning document was reviewed by Township Administrator, key Department Heads and Professional staff to assure that there was no conflict with ongoing or previously scheduled projects.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Township Committee of the Township of Chatham, Morris County, New Jersey, adopts the Goals and Objectives planning document.

Deputy Mayor Ness moved to adopt Resolution 2020-059. Committeewoman Fondaco seconded the motion.

Roll call: Committeewoman Ewald, Aye; Committeewoman Fondaco, Aye; Committeewoman Swartz, Aye; Deputy Mayor Ness, Aye; Mayor Kelly, Aye.

Possible Advisory Committees

Mayor Kelly said that one of the Goals and Objectives is for consideration of possibly creating new advisory committees. He said that Madison and Chatham Borough have begun forming a Senior Advisory Committee, and the Township has been contacted about possibly participating. Mayor Kelly noted that this Senior Advisory Committee would have a purpose distinct from that of the Senior Center, and would include addressing senior transportation and senior housing issues. Mayor Kelly said that having the three municipalities work together would benefit residents of each town, and he expressed his support for the initiative.

Committeewoman Ewald said that she attended a recent Senior Advisory Committee meeting, and she said that it was a wonderful experience. She expressed her support of moving forward with the initiative.

Committeewoman Swartz noted that the Chatham-Madison Tri-Town Committee had formed for the same purpose. She noted that the Go-Go-Grandparent program was started to help seniors with transportation. Committeewoman Swartz further said that the Senior Center serves to offer programs and activities for the senior citizens in the community.

Deputy Mayor Ness said that the Senior Advisory Committee would be a great way for senior citizens to address concerns. She also opined that the Township's senior citizen residents will likely foresee needs that center around transportation and housing.

Mayor Kelly said that there seems to be consensus, and he asked Attorney Cruz to begin working on the appropriate approval process. Attorney Cruz said that he believes the Borough has already adopted a resolution, and he suggested that the Borough's procedure be mirrored so that there is consistency.

Committeewoman Ewald suggested that at a future meeting the Township Committee consider an advisory committee to better connect with local businesses. Deputy Mayor Ness added that some municipalities have utility advisory committees, and the Township may want to consider having one as well.

Mayor Kelly suggested that the Communications Committee put out a call for volunteers for a Senior Advisory Committee and mention the possibility of the other potential committees.

Hearing of Citizens

Mayor Kelly opened the Hearing of Citizens.

1. Tom Salvas, 12 Lisa Drive, said that the Senior Advisory Committee in the Borough welcomed Township participation. He suggested that there be a shared committee rather than separate committees for each municipality. Mr. Salvas also opined that the Senior Advisory Committee could function similar to the Tri-Town 55+ Committee.

Committeewoman Swartz asked if the issues faced by seniors in the Township mirror those faced by seniors in the Borough. Mr. Salvas opined that there will be a great deal of crossover issues. Committeewoman Swartz noted the possibility of using the Township's government access TV station to share information with residents.

Committeewoman Ewald said that communications and safety were both discussed at the last Senior Advisory Committee meeting.

Seeing no further public comment, Mayor Kelly closed the Hearing of Citizens.

Other Business

Committeewoman Swartz noted that there are a lot of people who go walking at night in dark clothing, which creates a safety hazard. She said that the Township needs to get word out that people should take safety measures.

Mayor Kelly noted that former Mayor Tayfun Selen was recently appointed to fill a vacancy on the Morris County Board of Chosen Freeholders, and wished him luck.

Committeewoman Swartz moved to adjourn at 9:24 PM. Committeewoman Ewald seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Gregory J. LaConte
Municipal Clerk