

**READINGTON TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
VIRTUAL ONLINE MEETING –June 7, 2021**

Mayor Albanese *calls the meeting to order at 5:40 p.m.* announcing that all laws governing the Open Public Meetings Act have been met and that this meeting has been duly advertised.

PRESENT: Mayor J. Albanese, Deputy Mayor J. Heller, Mrs. BA Fort, Mr. J. Huelsebusch and Mr. B. Smith

ALSO PRESENT: Administrator R. Sheola, Municipal Clerk K. Parker, Attorney S. Dragan, Engineer R. O’Brien

ABSENT: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Clerk read the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION
EXECUTIVE SESSION

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 *et seq.*, the Open Public Meetings Act, permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist and desires to authorize the exclusion of the public from the portion of the meeting in accordance with the act;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from discussion of and action upon the specified subject matter as set forth in the following Exhibit “A.”

EXHIBIT A

<u>Subject Matter</u>	<u>Basis Of Public Exclusion</u>	<u>Date Anticipated When Disclosed to Public</u>
DPW / Summer Help	Personnel.....	Certain information at the discretion of the Township Committee tonight...other Information will remain confidential
Recreation Summer Camp.....	Personnel	“ “ “
Building and Grounds	Personnel	“ “ “
Tax Collector	Personnel	“ “ “
Block 61, Lot 14.01	Contract Negotiations.....	“ “ “
Award of M&R Materials Bid	Contract Negotiations.....	“ “ “
Agriculture Maintenance Contract..... (Fred Gunther)	Contract Negotiations.....	“ “ “
Agriculture Maintenance Contract..... (John DiGeronimo)	Contract Negotiations.....	“ “ “
Agriculture Maintenance Contract..... (Erick Doyle)	Contract Negotiations.....	“ “ “
Shared Services / Twp of Clinton.....	Contract Negotiations.....	“ “ “

Salary Study Non-Union Employees.....Contract Negotiations..... “ “ “

Executive Session Minutes..... Attorney-Client Privilege..... “ “ “

- May 17, 2020
- May 27, 2020

Affordable Housing..... Potential Litigation..... “ “ “

- Contract Negotiations / Block 91, Lot 2 (Railroad Avenue)
- Contract Negotiations / Block 95, Lot 12.325 (Nuthatch Court)
- Contract Negotiations / Block 95.01, Lot 3 (Old York Road)
- Contract Negotiations / Block 4, Lot 18
- Contract Negotiations / Block 13, Lot 24 & Block 13, Lot 22

Civil Action Summons / Litigation..... “ “ “

Rosedale and Rosehill Cemetery Association vs. Township of Readington and the Township of
Committee of the Township of Readington

- Contract Negotiations / Professional Services / Princeton Public Affairs Group

Block 48, Lot 23; Block 55, Lot 33;

Block 56, Lots 1, 3, 6 & 8; Block 67, Lot 2

(Solberg Aviation)..... Litigation..... “ “ “

It is anticipated at this time that the stated subject matter will be made public on or about the time set forth in Exhibit “A.”

2. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Smith to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Huelsebusch with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

The meeting reconvened at 7:30 p.m.

Mayor Albanese led those present in the *Salute to the Flag*.

Executive Session:

Personnel / DPW Summer Help

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2021-75

RESOLUTION HIRING TEMPORARY SEASONAL EMPLOYEES FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF TOWNSHIP FACILITIES

WHEREAS, there exists a need to hire temporary seasonal help for the maintenance of Township facilities for summer season in the year 2021; and

WHEREAS, the period of need is between the week of June 21, 2021 through Friday September 3, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Director of Public Works recommends the hiring of Steve Gibble for this purpose.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Readington Township Committee does hereby approve hiring Steve Gibble at a rate of \$16.50 per hour for temporary seasonal help during the summer season of 2021.

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Fort to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Smith and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mrs. Fort	- Aye
Mr. Heller	- Aye
Mr. Huelsebusch	- Aye
Mr. Smith	-Aye
Mayor Albanese	- Aye

Personnel / Recreation Summer Camp

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2021-76

RESOLUTION HIRING CAMP COUNSELORS FOR THE SUMMER RECREATION PROGRAM

WHEREAS, at the May 3, 2021 Committee meeting a resolution was adopted (#R-2021-64) to hire camp counselors for the 2021 Summer Recreation Program; and

WHEREAS, Charles Hindle, originally hired as a counselor for the summer program, is unable to fulfill that position; therefore creating a vacancy.

WHEREAS, the Recreation Director has recommended hiring Jake Riggi to fill the vacancy.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Readington Township Committee does hereby approve the recommendation to hire Jake Riggi at a rate of \$11.10 per hour for the 2021 Summer Camp program.

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Fort to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Smith and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mrs. Fort	- Aye
Mr. Heller	- Aye
Mr. Huelsebusch	- Aye
Mr. Smith	-Aye
Mayor Albanese	- Aye

Personnel / Building and Grounds

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2021-77

RESOLUTION APPOINTING RAYMOND W. FELICE AS ENTRY LEVEL BUILDINGS & GROUND'S EMPLOYEE

WHEREAS, there exists a need to fill a vacancy created by the retirement of Richard (Chris) Gould in the Buildings & Grounds Division of the Department of Public Works; and

WHEREAS, following the review of resumes and interviewing viable candidates it is the recommendation of the Township Administrator to appointment of Raymond W. Felice as an Entry Level Building and Grounds Employee at the current contract rates; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IS FURTHER RESOLVED that all provisions of the Township Personnel Policies and the collective bargained agreement with Teamsters Local #469 shall be afforded Raymond W. Felice during his employment.

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Fort to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Smith and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mrs. Fort - Aye
Mr. Heller - Aye
Mr. Huelsebusch - Aye
Mr. Smith - Aye
Mayor Albanese - Aye

Personnel / Tax Collector

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2021-78

RESOLUTION APPOINTING KRISTINE BOXWELL TO SERVE IN THE POSITION OF TAX COLLECTOR

WHEREAS, *N.J.S.A. 40A-9-141* requires that “in every municipality there shall be a Tax Collector”; and

WHEREAS, the current Tax Collector, Michael Balogh will be assuming the role of Chief Financial Officer on July 1, 2021; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the Township Committee to keep the Tax Collector position separate from the Chief Financial Officer; and

WHEREAS, the Township Administrator and current Tax Collector have interviewed Kristine Boxwell and find her credentials and experience would be an asset to the Township; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Readington that Kristine Boxwell is hereby appointed to serve as Tax Collector effective July 1, 2021 the unexpired term of Michael Balogh pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 40A:9-142* (to January 1, 2024) at an annual salary of \$80,000.

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Fort to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Smith and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mrs. Fort - Aye
Mr. Heller - Aye
Mr. Huelsebusch - Aye
Mr. Smith - Aye
Mayor Albanese - Aye

Contract Negotiations / Block 61, Lot 14.01

Mayor Albanese stated that this matter remains in Executive Session.

Contract Negotiations / Award of Maintenance & Repair Materials Bid

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2021-79

**TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON
 RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Readington publicly advertised for bids for the proposed 2021 Maintenance and Repair Materials in the Township; and

WHEREAS, on May 20, 2021 the Administrator/QPA conducted the bid opening for the 2021 Maintenance and Repair Materials; and

WHEREAS, the Administrator, Director of Public Works and Township Attorney reviewed the bids received and recommend the awarding of contracts to the bidders as shown on the attached “Schedule of Low Bidders;” and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified the availability of funds for these contracts; and

WHEREAS, at the Township Committee meeting held on June 7, 2021, the Township Committee reviewed the recommendation for awarding these contracts.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Readington hereby awards contracts according to the attached “Schedule of Low Bidders.”

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Administrator/QPA is authorized to notify the successful bidders on these awards in the amounts as shown as the attached “Schedule of Low Bidders” and the Mayor and Township Administrator/QPA are authorized to sign those contracts.

**SCHEDULE OF LOWER BIDDERS
 2021 MAINTENANCE & REPAIR MATERIALS**

PRIMARY CONTRACTS

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	MODE	QUANT.	UNIT	LOWEST RESPONSIVE/ RESPONSIBLE BIDDER	NOT TO EXCEED AMOUNT
1	¾" Dense Grade Aggregate	DEL	800	TON	Stavola Construction Materials Inc	\$ 14,000.00
2	¾" Clean Stone	DEL	800	TON	Stavola Construction Materials Inc	\$ 15,200.00
3	1-½" Clean Stone	DEL	200	TON	Stavola Construction Materials Inc	\$ 4,000.00
4	Hot Mix Asphalt (MIX 1-5)	FOB	2,500	TON	Stavola Construction Materials Inc	\$182,500.00
5	Hot Mix Asphalt (MIX 1-4)	FOB	500	TON	Stavola Construction Materials Inc	\$ 36,500.00
6	Hot Mix Asphalt (MIX 1-2)	FOB	500	TON	Stavola Construction Materials Inc	\$ 35,500.00
7	Liquid Calcium Chloride	FDA	20,000	GAL	Peckham Materials Corp	\$ 24,000.00

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Fort to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Smith and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mrs. Fort - Aye
Mr. Heller - Aye
Mr. Huelsebusch - Aye
Mr. Smith - Aye
Mayor Albanese - Aye

Contract Negotiations / Agriculture Maintenance Contract (Fred Gunther)

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Fort to approve the Agriculture Maintenance Contract with Fred Gunther, seconded by Mr. Huelsebusch and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mrs. Fort - Aye
Mr. Heller - Aye
Mr. Huelsebusch - Aye
Mr. Smith - Aye
Mayor Albanese - Aye

Contract Negotiations / Agriculture Maintenance Contract (John DiGeronimo)

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Fort to approve the Agriculture Maintenance Contract with John DiGeronimo, seconded by Mr. Huelsebusch and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mrs. Fort - Aye
Mr. Heller - Aye
Mr. Huelsebusch - Aye
Mr. Smith - Aye
Mayor Albanese - Aye

Contract Negotiations / Agriculture Maintenance Contract (Erick Doyle)

Mr. Smith recused himself from this matter.

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Fort to approve the Agriculture Maintenance Contract with Erick Doyle, seconded by Mr. Huelsebusch and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mrs. Fort - Aye
Mr. Heller - Aye
Mr. Huelsebusch - Aye
Mayor Albanese - Aye

Contract Negotiations / Shared Services / Township of Clinton

Mayor Albanese stated that this matter remains in Executive Session.

Contract Negotiations / Salary Study Non-Union Employees

Mayor Albanese stated that this matter remains in Executive Session.

Attorney-Client Privilege / Executive Session Minutes / May 17, 2021

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Fort to approve the Executive Session Minutes of May 17, 2021 for content only, seconded by Mr. Huelsebusch with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

Attorney-Client Privilege / Executive Session Minutes / May 27, 2021

A ***MOTION*** was made by Mr. Smith to approve the Executive Session Minutes of May 27, 2021 for content only, seconded by Mr. Huelsebusch with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded. Mrs. Fort abstained since she was not present at that meeting.

Potential Litigation / Affordable Housing

- ***Contract Negotiations / Block 91, Lot (Railroad Avenue)***

Mayor Albanese stated that this matter remains in Executive Session.

- ***Contract Negotiations / Block 95, Lot 12.235 (Nuthatch Court)***

A ***MOTION*** was made by Mrs. Fort to approve the form of contract for purchase of Block 95 Lot 12.235, seconded by Mr. Smith and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mrs. Fort	- Aye
Mr. Heller	-Aye
Mr. Huelsebusch	- Aye
Mr. Smith	-Aye
Mayor Albanese	- Aye

- ***Contract Negotiations / Block 95.01, Lot 3 (Old York Road)***

Mayor Albanese stated that this would be addressed later in the meeting under New Business.

- ***Contract Negotiations / Block 4, Lot 18***

Mayor Albanese stated that this matter remains in Executive Session.

- ***Contract Negotiations / Block 13, Lot 24 & Block 13, Lot 22***

Mayor Albanese stated that this matter remains in Executive Session.

Litigation / Civil Action Summons / Rosedale and Rosehill Cemetery Association vs. Township of Readington and the Township Committee of the Township of Readington

- ***Contract Negotiations / Professional Services / Princeton Public Affairs Group***

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2021-80

***TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON
RESOLUTION***

WHEREAS, there exists a need in the Township of Readington for Professional Services; and

WHEREAS, the Local Public Contract Law (*N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.*) requires that the Resolution hiring a professional for professional services without competitive bids must be publicly advertised.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Readington as follows:

1. That the following contract has been awarded without competitive bidding as a "Professional Service" in accordance with *N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1) (a)* of the Local Public Contract Law because the services rendered or to be performed are by persons authorized by law to practice their profession:

Resolution #R-2021-80 cont'd:

- Princeton Public Affairs Group (PPAG) to represent the Township on all governmental relations matters relating to the Township's legislative and regulatory matters at a rate of \$250 per hour not to exceed \$5,000.
2. Said contract shall expire on January 31, 2022.
 3. Copies of this Professional Service Contract are on file with the Municipal Clerk and are available there for public inspection.
 4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

A MOTION was made by Mrs. Fort to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Smith and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mrs. Fort	- Aye
Mr. Heller	- Aye
Mr. Huelsebusch	- Aye
Mr. Smith	-Aye
Mayor Albanese	- Aye

Litigation / Solberg Aviation / Block 48, Lot 23; Block 55, Lot 33; Block 56, Lot 1, 3, 6 & 8; Block 39, Lot 24 and Block 67, Lot 2

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2021-81

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION REGARDING SOLBERG AIRPORT

A. WHEREAS, Solberg Aviation Company owns and operates an airport facility, located in the Township of Readington ("Solberg Airport"), also known as Solberg-Hunterdon Airport;

B. WHEREAS, the real estate on which Solberg Airport operates is owned in fee simple by Plaintiff Solberg Aviation Company, a New Jersey partnership.

C. WHEREAS, the partnership's members of Solberg Aviation Company are Third-Party Plaintiffs Thor Solberg, Jr. (now deceased), Suzanne Solberg Nagle, and Lorraine Solberg.

D. WHEREAS, in or around September 2006, the Township instituted a condemnation action by way of Verified Complaint in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Law Division, Hunterdon County, under Docket Number HNT-L-468-06 (the "Condemnation Action") seeking to condemn the Solberg Airport and all surrounding property as more fully set forth in the Condemnation Action pleadings ("all Solberg parties named in the Condemnation Action are hereinafter called "Plaintiffs").

E. WHEREAS, in response to the Condemnation Action, on October 20, 2006, Plaintiffs filed a four-count Counterclaim and Third-Party Complaint against the Township of Readington and former Committee members (the Township and the third-party defendants are hereinafter called the "Defendants").

F. WHEREAS, on November 14, 2006, the Honorable Yolanda Ciccone, A.J.S.C. stayed Plaintiffs' Counterclaims and Third-Party Complaint pending resolution of the Condemnation Action;

G. WHEREAS, on or about July 18, 2007, Plaintiffs filed a Complaint in Lieu of Prerogative Writs against Defendants, in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Law Division, Hunterdon County, under docket number HNT-L-435-07 (the "Prerogative Writ Action");

Resolution #R-2021-81 cont'd:

H. WHEREAS, on November 1, 2013, the Honorable Yolanda Ciccone, A.J.S.C. lifted the stay of Plaintiffs' Counterclaim and Third-Party Complaint;

I. WHEREAS, Counts I, II, and IV of Plaintiffs' Counterclaims and Third-Party Complaint, including the original claims and any amendments thereto, were dismissed on February 4, 2014, by Judge Ciccone;

J. WHEREAS, the Condemnation Action was eventually decided in court decisions, including, but not limited to, Township of Readington v. Solberg Aviation Co., Dkt. No. HNT-L-468-06 (Law Div. May 4, 2015) (Armstrong, J.S.C.), Township of Readington v. Solberg Aviation Co., No. A-3964-15T4, 2019 WL 994105 (App. Div. Mar. 1, 2019), and Township of Readington v. Solberg Aviation Co. Et Al, No. A-3964-15T4, Motion No. M-005356-18 (App. Div. April 8, 2019).

K. WHEREAS, the Prerogative Writ Action was eventually resolved in the court decision Solberg Aviation Co. v. Township of Readington, Dkt. No. HNT-L-435-07 (Law Div. Sept. 26, 2016) (Miller, J.S.C.).

L. WHEREAS, the only remaining claim from the Condemnation Action or the Prerogative Writ Action was Plaintiffs' civil rights claim alleging that Defendants violated 42 U.S.C. § 1983 (the "Action");

M. WHEREAS, that damages claim was reactivated by the Plaintiffs in September 2019 with a demand of \$5,000,000.

N. WHEREAS, the Hon. Thomas Miller ordered the parties to mediation; and

O. WHEREAS, the Township demanded its insurance carrier pick up the defense of the claim and reimburse the Township for certain legal fees incurred by it; and

P. WHEREAS, the carrier agreed to pick up the defense of the matter and reimburse the Township for certain legal fees incurred; and

Q. WHEREAS, mediation was held before the Hon. John Hughes, Ret., but was unsuccessful; and

R. WHEREAS, both parties filed motions for summary judgment; and

S. WHEREAS, additional settlement discussions occurred between the carrier for the Township and the plaintiffs before the summary judgment motions were heard; and

T. WHEREAS, the carrier for the Township eventually agreed to pay the plaintiffs the sum of \$300,000 as full and complete settlement of any damages claims up to the date of the settlement to avoid additional attorney fees and to avoid the risks of litigation; and

U. WHEREAS, the parties agreed to reserve from the settlement any non-damages claims they may each have against the other including, by way of example but not limitation, any claims arising out of or related to the operation, licensing or use of the Solberg Airport, or any property at or near it, fines, tax matters, zoning, or construction code issues, all as more fully set forth in the Settlement Agreement attached hereto as Exhibit A ("Settlement Agreement"); and

V. WHEREAS, the Township advised its carrier it was willing to consent to the settlement, providing there was no admission of liability or fault on its behalf, the settlement was made public, all claims for damages against present and past Committee Members, employees and officials were dismissed with prejudice up to the settlement in accordance with the conditions of the insurance policy and the carrier reimbursed the Township for certain attorney fees and expenses.

W. WHEREAS, the parties have agreed to the terms of the Settlement Agreement, that sets forth in detail the terms of their settlement.

Resolution #R-2021-81 cont'd:

NOW BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Readington that it approves the settlement entered into by its carrier and authorizes the Mayor and Clerk to execute the Settlement Agreement and such other documents as may be necessary to finalize the settlement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Fort to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Smith and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mrs. Fort	- Aye
Mr. Heller	- Aye
Mr. Huelsebusch	- Aye
Mr. Smith	-Aye
Mayor Albanese	- Aye

Mayor Albanese opened the meeting for comments from the public.

John Broten, Dogwood Drive, requested clarification of the details of the settlement with Solberg Airport.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Mayor Albanese read the following statement:

All items listed with an asterisk "" are considered to be routine by the Township Committee and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a committee member or citizen requests, in which event the item will be removed from the General Order of Business and considered in its normal sequence on the agenda.*

1. ***APPROVAL OF MINUTES** of meeting of May 17, 2021 and May 27, 2021
2. *** Resolution of the Township of Readington Opposing New Jersey State Assembly and Senate Forest Management Bills A-4843/S-3549, A-4844/S-3550 and A-4845/S-3548**

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2021-82

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON OPPOSING NEW JERSEY STATE ASSEMBLY AND SENATE FOREST MANAGEMENT BILLS A-4843/S-3549, A-4844/S-3550 and A-4845/S-3548

WHEREAS, the New Jersey State Senate and Assembly have introduced bill A-4843/S-3549, which would require local governments to develop Forest Stewardship Plans (FSPs) for all public forest land of 25 acres or more owned by the municipality that has been acquired for conservation and recreation under the Green Acres Program; and

WHEREAS, the FSPs would need to be researched, developed and submitted by a trained Forester and the Municipality, at the Municipality's cost; and

WHEREAS, bill A-4843/S-3549 does not provide any funds for compliance and, therefore, amounts to an unfunded mandate; and

Resolution #R-2021-82 cont'd:

WHEREAS, the financial pressure caused by this unfunded mandate would force the Municipality to consider and institute one or more actions, each of which would have one or more negative impacts on the fiscal, environmental and social health of the community. Among those potential actions are, increasing taxes, reducing services, reducing the number of Municipal employees, and/or engaging in timber harvesting of our public land. This in turn could also expose the regeneration of forest species to deer browse, and expose new forest openings to invasive plant and insect species, while risking degradation of our soil and water quality.

WHEREAS, Readington Township intends its lands for public enjoyment as well as its ecological benefits, and because it has not anticipated the cost of creating FSPs, the Township could be faced with the need to liquidate the forest resource to pay for the FSPs.

WHEREAS, the FSPs required under A-4843/S-3549 are not the appropriate approach for every New Jersey forest, nor are they appropriate for enhancing ecosystem services such as clean water, clean air, flood mitigation, or carbon sequestration. When written and reviewed by approved foresters these stewardship plans typically emphasize the removal of higher-value timber species, while leaving fewer species of lower value, and making no provision for regenerating the forest species that were removed. This is not appropriate silviculture for a sustainable forest.

WHEREAS, FSPs would allow all Township of Readington public land of 25 acres or more, to be managed, including by timber harvesting, with no public or other municipal recourse; and

WHEREAS, removal of high-commercial-value forest species will reduce the forests' ability to sequester carbon and make it more difficult to achieve the greenhouse gas emissions reductions target in the NJ Global Warming Response Act; and

WHEREAS, there is increased potential for greater stormwater runoff and more silt and pollution in our waterways while also causing environmental damage to wetlands, waterways, and forest habitats; and

WHEREAS, removal of timber will contribute to long-term degradation of the Township of Readington's local hiking trail networks by introducing new avenues for illegal off-road vehicles and ATVs to access public land, exacerbating a severe problem, which the township is already struggling to control; and

WHEREAS, removal of forest trees would diminish the recreational experiences of those who currently enjoy the forest in its current condition; and

WHEREAS, should the State of NJ or any other public or private entity provide funds for FSPs and eliminate the unfunded mandate issue, Readington Township still opposes A-4843/S-3549 for all the other reasons stated herein; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey State Senate and Assembly have introduced bill A-4844/S-3550, which provides that municipal approval is not required for FSPs. The bill would also prohibit a local government unit from enacting any ordinance, rule, or resolution that requires local government approval of an FSP or that conflicts with, prevents, or impedes the implementation of an FSP approved by the DEP. The bill would also provide that the DEP's rules would supersede any municipal ordinance adopted prior to the effective date of this bill; and

WHEREAS, Current law (Section 6 of P.L.2009, c.256 (C.13:1L-34) states: No local government unit may enact, on or after the date of enactment of P.L.2009, c.256 (C.13:1L-29 et al.), any ordinance, rule, or resolution, as appropriate, that conflicts with, prevents, or impedes the implementation of a forest stewardship plan approved pursuant to section 3 of P.L.2009, c.256 (C.13:1L-31). A-4844/S-3550 extends these restrictions to any ordinance, rule, or resolution that requires local government approval of a forest stewardship plan. Therefore, this bill ensures that all forest stewardship plans required under companion bill A-4843/S-3549 are included in this set of already highly restrictive limits on municipalities and prevents them from having any control over NJDEP FSPs; and

Resolution #R-2021-82 cont'd:

WHEREAS, current law already restricts municipal oversight of NJDEP approved FSPs but has not impacted many municipalities as FSPs are not required and municipalities manage open space land through local ordinances. The enactment of A-4843/S-3549 will replace many ordinances with FSPs and many municipalities will lose total control over their forested lands and be unable to stop them from being harvested; and

WHEREAS, there are no penalties associated with damages caused by FSPs, replacing ordinances with FSPs would take away the authority of local governments to ensure that private companies or individuals are not impacting environmentally sensitive areas or threatened or endangered species or creating disturbances close to stream corridors; and

WHEREAS, bill A-4844/S-3550 is a violation of home rule principles and the principles behind municipal land use laws throughout New Jersey's legislative and judicial history; and

WHEREAS, bill A-4845/S-3548 sets a Statewide goal of conducting prescribed burns on a minimum of 50,000 acres in the Pinelands area, and an additional 10,000 acres elsewhere in the State, every year; and

WHEREAS, bill A-4845/S-3548 requires burning about 6% of New Jersey's entire public forested land every year (In 17 years an area equivalent to all of New Jersey's public forests will have been burned); and

WHEREAS, there is no supporting scientific justification offered for burns of the magnitude required by bill A-4845/S-3548. Requiring a burn of 10,000 acres **anywhere** in the state outside the Pinelands is irresponsible, dangerous, costly, and wholly without merit; and

WHEREAS, decisions to conduct controlled forest burns of specific sizes should be based on scientific analysis of specific situations in specific areas each year and not predetermined for all time by law; and

WHEREAS, controlled burns are expensive to execute and bill A-4845/S-3548 also causes additional expenditures by requiring all relevant State agencies involved in environmental planning and land use management to incorporate the yearly minimum burns into all plans, programs, and surveys.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, in the interest of protecting its residents, businesses and institutions, and controlling its public open spaces to optimize its value as a source of recreation and public enjoyment, as of May 17, 2021, strongly opposes New Jersey State Assembly and Senate Forest Management Bills A-4843/S-3549, A-4844/S-3550 and A-4845/S-3548.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the copies of this resolution shall be forwarded to:

- New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy
- Commissioner of the NJ Department of Environmental Protection
- State Senator Bob Smith
- State Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin
- Senator Christopher Bateman
- Assemblyman Andrew Zwicker
- Assemblyman Roy Freiman
- New Jersey Forest Watch (newjerseyforestwatch@gmail.com)
- Hunterdon County Commissioners and Administration
- New Jersey League of Municipalities
- NJ Advance Media
- ANJEC
- Raritan Headwaters
- The Watershed Institute
- NJ League of Conservation Voters

3. * *New Jersey State Firemen's Association Application for Membership (Ryan Corcoran)*
4. * *Release of Police Escrow / Pleasant Run, LLC*
5. * *Release of Security Deposit / Triple A Rod and Gun Club*
6. * *Request for Refund of Permit Fee / Block 51, Lot 2.15 (Strawberry Court)*
7. * *Resolution Authorizing the Disposal of Surplus Property (Readington Fire Ladder Truck)*

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2021-83

**TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING DISPOSAL OF SURPLUS PROPERTY**

WHEREAS, the Township of Readington is the owner of certain surplus property which is no longer needed for public use; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Readington is desirous of selling said surplus property in an “as is” condition without express or implied warranties.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township of Readington as follows:

1. The sale of the surplus property shall be conducted through Municibid pursuant to State Contract #19-GNSV1-00696 in accordance with the terms and conditions of the State Contract. The terms and conditions of the agreement entered into with Municibid are available online at municibid.com and also available from the Township of Readington.
2. The sale will be conducted online and the address of the auction site is municibid.com
3. The sale is being conducted pursuant to Local Finance Notice 2008-09.
4. A list of the surplus property to be sold is as follows:

Year of Equip	Make	Model	Serial # or VIN	Item description
1997	Sutphin	SP95	159A3JLE9V1003089	Ladder Tower Truck

5. The surplus property as identified shall be sold in an “as-is” condition without express or implied warranties with the successful bidder required to execute a Hold Harmless and Indemnification Agreement concerning use of said surplus property.
6. The Township of Readington reserves the right to accept or reject any bid submitted.

8. * **Tax Lien Redemption**

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

READINGTON TOWNSHIP

HUNTERDON COUNTY, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, an interested party has paid to the Tax Collector the amount necessary to redeem the lien on Block 95, Lot 12.375 and,

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Tax Collector to refund to the lienholder the redemption amount.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee that the Treasurer be authorized to refund the redemption amount of \$1,205.58, plus a premium paid in the amount of \$1,400.00, known as Tax Sale Certificate #2020-020, to the lienholder, US Bank Cust/Pro Cap 8/Pro Capital Mgt II.

9. * **Payment of Bills** – (Complete bill list is on file in Clerk’s Office)

<u>Fund Description</u>	<u>Fund No.</u>	<u>Received Total</u>
CURRENT FUND	0-01	\$ 10,051.24
CURRENT FUND	1-01	\$ 750,079.53
SEWER APPROPRIATIONS	1-02	\$ 104,100.38
TRUST FUNDS	X-03	\$ 28,646.95
MISC REFUND, COUNTY TAX, LIENS	X-05	\$ 25,698.56
PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS	X-06	\$ 189,311.95
REGIONAL SCHOOL TAX	X-07	\$ 2,658,164.00
2018 CAP IMPROVEMENTS	X-18	\$ 181,942.15
2020 CAP IMPROVEMENTS	X-20	\$ <u>7,890.00</u>
TOTAL OF ALL FUNDS		\$ 3,955,884.76

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Smith to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Mrs. Fort and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

- Mrs. Fort - Aye
- Mr. Heller -Aye
- Mr. Huelsebusch - Aye
- Mr. Smith -Aye
- Mayor Albanese - Aye

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC for items listed on the agenda only

John Broten, Dogwood Drive, asked for clarification on the resolution for Princeton Public Affairs Group.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

As it was after 7:45 p.m., A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Smith to adjourn the regular meeting to hold a Public Hearing, seconded by Mr. Heller with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

Clerk read by Title:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 43 OF THE GENERAL CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON, COUNTY OF HUNTERDON AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY PERTAINING TO THE POLICE DEPARTMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS

ORDINANCE #-10-2021

Mayor Albanese asked if there were any comments from the governing body.

There were none.

Mayor Albanese asked if there were any comments from the public.

Administrator Sheola stated that the rules and regulations would be posted on the Police Department website and also made available to the public upon request.

Andrew Roth, County Road 523, expressed concern about the public anonymity when requesting a copy in person.

A ***MOTION*** was made by Mrs. Fort to close the Public Hearing and open the regular meeting, seconded by Mr. Smith with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

Clerk read by Title:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 43 OF THE GENERAL CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON, COUNTY OF HUNTERDON AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY PERTAINING TO THE POLICE DEPARTMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS

ORDINANCE #-10-2021

A ***MOTION*** was made by Mrs. Fort to adopt this ordinance, seconded by Mr. Smith and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mrs. Fort	- Aye
Mr. Heller	- Aye
Mr. Huelsebusch	- Aye
Mr. Smith	-Aye
Mayor Albanese	- Aye

A ***MOTION*** was made by Mr. Smith to adjourn the regular meeting to hold a Public Hearing, seconded by Mr. Heller with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

Clerk read by Title:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 148 OF THE LAND USE ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON, COUNTY OF HUNTERDON AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY PERTAINING TO SITE PLAN REVIEW WAIVERS

Ordinance #14-2021

Mayor Albanese asked if there were any comments from the governing body.

There were none.

Mayor Albanese asked if there were any comments from the public.

There were none.

A ***MOTION*** was made by Mr. Smith to close the Public Hearing and open the regular meeting, seconded by Mr. Heller with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

Clerk read by Title:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 148 OF THE LAND USE ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON, COUNTY OF HUNTERDON AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY PERTAINING TO SITE PLAN REVIEW WAIVERS

Ordinance #14-2021

A ***MOTION*** was made by Mrs. Fort to adopt this ordinance, seconded by Mr. Huelsebusch and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mrs. Fort	- Aye
Mr. Heller	- Aye
Mr. Huelsebusch	- Aye
Mr. Smith	-Aye
Mayor Albanese	- Aye

CORRESPONDENCE / OTHER INFORMATION

1. Correspond from Township of Clinton regarding ***Introduction of an Ordinance of the Township of Clinton Amending Chapter 165 of the "Code of the Township of Clinton" by Creating the AH-9 Affordable Housing Zone District to Facilitate a Mixed-Income Affordable Housing Development at Route 31M (Block 70, Lots 6 and 6.01), and Amending the Clinton Township Zoning Map and Schedule of Zoning Requirements Accordingly.*** No action taken.
2. Memorandum dated May 26, 2021 from Maggie Schmitt, Clerk of the Township of Branchburg, regarding ***An Ordinance Amending Land Development Ordinance 2021-1404 which Repealed and Replaced Article XII "Stormwater Management", Section 12-2 "Stormwater Control for Major Developments" of the Land Development Ordinance of the Township of Branchburg, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey.*** No action taken.
3. Memorandum dated May 26, 2021 from Denise Filardo, Township of Clinton Planning and Zoning Board Secretary, regarding 2021 ***Reexamination Report, Amendment of the Land Use Plan Element and Amendment to the Housing Plan Element of the Clinton Township Master Plan.*** No action taken.
4. Memorandum dated May 27, 2021 from Jennifer Ader, Acting Tewksbury Township Clerk, regarding ***An Ordinance Amending and Supplementing Article III, Definitions, Section 301, Words and Terms Defined, and Article VII, Zoning Provisions, Section 725, Prohibited Uses, of the Development Regulations Ordinance of the Township of Tewksbury.*** No action taken.
5. Memorandum dated May 27, 2021 from Jennifer Ader, Acting Tewksbury Township Clerk, regarding ***An Ordinance of the Township of Tewksbury, Hunterdon County, New Jersey Creating Title 15, Building and Construction, Chapter 15.08, Construction Code Fees and Enforcement, Section 15.08.020, Fees, of the Code of Ordinances of the Township of Tewksbury.*** No action taken.

OLD BUSINESS

1. ***Resolution to Adopt the 2021 Road Improvement List***

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2021-84

**TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON
RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, on May 3, 2021 the Readington Township Committee adopted an ordinance (#07-2021) appropriating funding for milling and paving of various roads; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee has determined that the following list of roads are prioritized for the 2021 road improvements:

- Brier Road
- Hendrick Road and Spy Lane
- Lance Road, Section I
- Saxton Lane, Section I
- Morrison Drive
- Eicke Lane

WHEREAS, the Township Committee does hereby award the milling and paving contract to South State, Inc. 202 Reaves Road, Bridgeton, NJ 08302, per the Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council Award for Milling and Paving - District #3 as follows:

Milling – 0” – 4”	\$2.70 S.Y.
Paving Hot Mix Asphalt 9.5M64	\$67.00/ton delivered, laid & compacted.

WHEREAS, the total price cannot be computed until the final quantity sheets are received, however the total shall not exceed \$1,077,800; and

WHEREAS, the estoppel on Ordinance 07-2021 will toll May 26, 2021 so no Purchase Orders may be issued until after that date; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee of the Township of Readington does hereby approve the scheduled 2021 road improvement list.

A MOTION was made by Mrs. Fort to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Huelsebusch and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mrs. Fort	- Aye
Mr. Heller	- Aye
Mr. Huelsebusch	- Aye
Mr. Smith	-Aye
Mayor Albanese	- Aye

NEW BUSINESS

1. **An Ordinance to Provide for the Acquisition of an Affordable Housing Deed Restriction of Property Known as Block 95.01 Lot 3 in the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon and State of New Jersey**

The following ordinance was offered for introduction:

AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE ACQUISITION OF AN AFFORDABLE HOUSING DEED RESTRICTION ON PROPERTY KNOWN AS BLOCK 95.01, LOT 3 IN THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON, COUNTY OF HUNTERDON AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Ordinance #15-2021

BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon and State of New Jersey, as follows:

Section 1. The Township of Readington authorizes the acquisition of a deed restriction for affordable housing on property known as 537 Old York Road, Three Bridges, N.J. and located in Block 95.01, Lot 3 on the official tax map of the Township of Readington (the "Property") for the consideration of \$160,000.00, plus all related costs and expenditures incident thereto from Community Options, Inc., a non-profit New Jersey corporation (the "Owner"). This acquisition provides for a minimum 50 year deed restriction on the Property in accordance with a Funding Agreement dated May 17, 2019 made between the Township and the Owner pursuant to the Township's Affordable Housing Program and court-approved housing element and fair share plan and applicable UHAC rules. In accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:12-1, et seq. authorizing acquisitions of real property, including easements and restrictions for public purposes, the acquisition of the aforementioned deed restriction on the Property located at 537 Old York Road, Three Bridges, N.J. is hereby approved subject to satisfactory title. In furtherance of this objective, the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Township Administrator, Clerk, Municipal Housing Liaison/Administrative Agent, and/or Township Attorney, as applicable, are authorized and directed to take all reasonable, necessary and lawful steps, together with the execution of any and all necessary agreements, including but not limited to the affordable housing deed restriction and mortgage documents, toward the acquisition of deed restriction on the aforementioned Property, together with payment to the Owner of the aforementioned Property in the amount of \$160,000,00 in consideration thereof. .

Section 2. Funding for this purchase was authorized by Bond Ordinance # 11-2019 (amending Bond Ordinance #10-2018), adopted by the Township of Readington on May 6, 2019.

Section 3. This property is being acquired pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:12- 5, et seq., and any other applicable law. If the provision of any article, section, subsection, paragraph, subdivision or clause of this Ordinance shall be judged invalid by any Court of competent jurisdiction, such Order or Judgment shall not affect or invalidate the remainder of any such article, section, subsection, paragraph or clause and, to this end, the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be severable.

Section 4. Effective Date.

This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon final adoption and publication according to law.

A ***MOTION*** was made by Mr. Smith to introduce this ordinance, seconded by Mr. Heller and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mrs. Fort	- Aye
Mr. Heller	- Aye
Mr. Huelsebusch	- Aye
Mr. Smith	-Aye
Mayor Albanese	- Aye

The Public Hearing was scheduled for June 21, 2021 at 7:45 p.m.

2. *An Ordinance Amending Chapter 148 of Land Development Ordinance of the Township of Readington Pertaining to Variances and Waivers*

The following ordinance was offered for introduction:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 148 OF LAND DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON PERTAINING TO VARIANCES AND WAIVERS

Ordinance #16-2021

BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon and State of New Jersey that the following amendments shall be made to Chapter 148 of the Land Use Ordinance:

SECTION 1. Section 148-5 entitled "Variance/Waiver" in Article I "Use Regulations" is hereby amended as follows (new text is underlined thus):

Section 148-5. Variance/~~waiver~~ exception.

Variations from the requirements set forth in Articles I, IV, V, VI, VIII and XII in their entirety shall require zoning a variance. ~~approval by the Board~~. Variations from other sections of this chapter shall require an exception. ~~waiver approval by the Board~~.

SECTION 2. Referral to the Planning Board. Following introduction and prior to adoption, the Clerk shall cause a copy of this ordinance to be referred to the Readington Township Planning Board for review pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 40:55D-26*.

SECTION 3. Repealer All ordinances and resolutions or parts thereof inconsistent with this ordinance are repealed.

SECTION 4. Severability. If any section, paragraph, subsection, clause or provision of this ordinance shall be adjudged by the courts to be invalid, such adjudication shall apply only to the section, paragraph, subsection, clause or provision so adjudged and the remainder of this ordinance shall be valid and enforceable.

SECTION 5. Effective Date. This ordinance shall take effect twenty days from the date of its adoption and upon filing with the Hunterdon County Planning Board, as required pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 40:69A-181* and *N.J.S.A. 40:55D-16*.

A **MOTION** was made by Mrs. Fort to introduce this ordinance, seconded by Mr. Smith and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mrs. Fort	- Aye
Mr. Heller	- Aye
Mr. Huelsebusch	- Aye
Mr. Smith	-Aye
Mayor Albanese	- Aye

The Public Hearing was scheduled for June 21, 2021 at 7:45 p.m.

3. ***An Ordinance to Provide for the Acquisition of Property Known as Block 95, Lot 12.23 in the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon and State of New Jersey from Licht and Marren***

The following ordinance was offered for introduction:

AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY KNOWN AS BLOCK 95, LOT 12.235 IN THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON, COUNTY OF HUNTERDON AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY FROM LICHT AND MARREN-LICHT

Ordinance #17-2021

BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon and State of New Jersey, as follows:

Section 1. The Township of Readington authorizes the acquisition of a residential condominium property known as Block 95, Lot 12.235 on the official Township Tax Map and located at 235 Nuthatch Court, Three Bridges, N.J. from Licht and Marren-Licht for the purchase price of \$190,000.00, plus costs and expenses not to exceed \$10,000.00. This property is being purchased as part of the Township's marketable to affordable housing program and is subject to the conditions of the contract, including the Township's receipt of clear and marketable title, an acceptable survey or survey certificate, and satisfactory inspections, as may be determined necessary, to be obtained by the Township at its own cost and expense. The Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Township Administrator, Clerk, Municipal Housing Liaison/Administrative Agent, and/or Township Attorney, as applicable, are authorized to prepare and/or execute all documents as necessary to accept and complete the purchase. A copy of the contract of sale is on file with the Township Clerk.

Section 2. Funding for this purchase was authorized by Ordinance #31-2020, adopted on November 16, 2020.

Section 3. This property is being acquired pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:12- 5, et seq., and any other applicable law. If the provision of any article, section, subsection, paragraph, subdivision or clause of this Ordinance shall be judged invalid by any Court of competent jurisdiction, such Order or Judgment shall not affect or invalidate the remainder of any such article, section, subsection, paragraph or clause and, to this end, the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be severable.

Section 4. Effective Date.

This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon final adoption and publication according to law.

A ***MOTION*** was made by Mrs. Fort to introduce this ordinance, seconded by Mr. Heller and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mrs. Fort	- Aye
Mr. Heller	- Aye
Mr. Huelsebusch	- Aye
Mr. Smith	-Aye
Mayor Albanese	- Aye

The Public Hearing was scheduled for June 21, 2021 at 7:45 p.m.

4. ***Zoning Ordinance Amendment for ROM2 Zone*** - Memorandum from Christina Schwartz, Zoning Officer & Angela DeVoe, Construction Code Official

Administrator Sheola stated that both the Zoning Official and Construction Code Official recommended revisions to the ROM-2 zone ordinance to permit warehousing as an accessory use for consideration by the Committee. Attorney Dragan advised that the ordinance would be to be formatted for introduction at the next meeting.

5. ***Person to Person Transfer of Plenary Retail Consumption License (Stanton Ridge Hospitality Corporation to HGC Stanton Ridge, LLC)***

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2021-85

**TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON
RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, an application has been filed for a Person-to-Person transfer of Plenary Retail Consumption License (#1022-33-001-004), heretofore issued to **Stanton Ridge Hospitality Corporation**; and

WHEREAS, the submitted application form is complete in all respects, the transfer fees have been paid, and the license has been properly renewed for the current license term; and

WHEREAS, the applicant is qualified to be licensed according to all standards established by Title 33 of the New Jersey Statutes, regulation promulgated thereunder, as well as pertinent local ordinances and conditions consistent with Title 33; and

WHEREAS, the applicant has disclosed and the issuing authority reviewed the sources of all funds used in the purchase of the license and the licensed business and all additional financing obtained in connection with the licensed business;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee of the Township of Readington does hereby approve, effective June 7, 2021 the Person-to Person transfer of the aforesaid Plenary Retail Consumption License to **HGC Stanton Ridge, LLC** and does hereby direct the Municipal Clerk to endorse the license certificate to the New ownership as follow: *“This license, subject to all its terms and conditions, is hereby transferred to HGC Stanton Ridge, LLC, effective June 7, 2021.”*

A MOTION was made by Mrs. Forth to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Smith and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mrs. Fort	- Aye
Mr. Heller	- Aye
Mr. Huelsebusch	- Aye
Mr. Smith	-Aye
Mayor Albanese	- Aye

6. ***Proposed Street Names / Readington Commons (The Ridge at Readington, Block 4, Lots 51 and 52) / Ryland Developers (Block 14, Lots 29.02 & 29.03)***

Construction Official Angela DeVoe explained that Riker and Teeter Road were the names proposed for the Ridge at Readington and Sanderson Street was proposed for Ryland Developers based on a historic farm map. Construction Official DeVoe added that Readington Commons requested consideration for a different street name rather than Riker Road. The Committee concurred that the street naming for the Ridge at Readington would be tabled to the next meeting.

A MOTION was made by Mrs. Fort to approve the name Sanderson Street for the Ryland Developers, seconded by Mr. Huelsebusch with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

7. ***Application for Special Events Permit / Festival of Ballooning, Inc. (July 23rd - July 25th)***

A MOTION was made by Mrs. Fort to approve the special event permit, seconded by Mr. Heller with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

8. ***Application for Special Events Permit / Mason Weddings (July 10th and July 17th)***

A ***MOTION*** was made by Mr. Heller to approve the special event permit, contingent upon adhering to the restrictive hours pursuant to the Township noise ordinance, seconded by Mrs. Fort with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

9. ***Deer Management Program Recommendations*** - memo from Shannon Long, Environmental Commission Secretary

Adam Mueller, Chair of the Wildlife Advisory Subcommittee provided an update on the 2020 deer management program results and outlined the proposed recommended amendments for 2021-2022, stressing the importance of a community deer management program to control the deer population in the Township.

Deputy Mayor Heller and Mr. Huelsebusch added that the program with the discussed recommendations has the full support of the Environmental Commission and the Open Space Advisory Board.

A ***MOTION*** was made by Mrs. Fort to approve the list of club properties presented for deer hunting with the removal of the Thor Solberg Road property, seconded by Mr. Heller and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mrs. Fort	- Aye
Mr. Heller	- Aye
Mr. Huelsebusch	- Aye
Mr. Smith	-Aye
Mayor Albanese	- Aye

A ***MOTION*** was made by Mr. Heller to approve the list of individual permit properties for deer hunting as presented with the removal of Block 13, Lots 31 and 34.01, seconded by Mr. Huelsebusch and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mrs. Fort	- Aye
Mr. Heller	- Aye
Mr. Huelsebusch	- Aye
Mr. Smith	-Aye
Mayor Albanese	- Aye

A ***MOTION*** was made by Mr. Heller to approve Block 13, Lots 31 & 34.01 for individual permit deer hunting, seconded by Mr. Huelsebusch and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mrs. Fort	- Nay
Mr. Heller	- Aye
Mr. Huelsebusch	- Aye
Mr. Smith	-Aye
Mayor Albanese	- Aye

10. **** Resolution of the Township of Readington Opposing New Jersey State Assembly and Senate Forest Management Bills A-4843/S-3549, A-4844/S-3550 and A-4845/S-3548***

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

11. **** New Jersey State Firemen's Association Application for Membership (Ryan Corcoran)***

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

12. * ***Release of Police Escrow / Pleasant Run, LLC***

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

13. * ***Release of Security Deposit / Triple A Rod and Gun Club***

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

14. * ***Request for Refund of Permit Fee / Block 51, Lot 2.15 (Strawberry Court)***

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

15. * ***Resolution Authorizing the Disposal of Surplus Property (Readington Fire Ladder Truck)***

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator Sheola reported that the guidelines for American Rescue Program are under review.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Engineer O'Brien stated that he had nothing further to report.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Attorney Dragan reported that the Township closed on the affordable housing unit at 19 Owl Court.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

BETTY ANN FORT

Mrs. Fort stated that she had nothing further to report.

JONATHAN HELLER

Mr. Heller stated that he had nothing further to report.

JUERGEN HUELSEBUSCH

Mr. Huelsebusch reported that the next Open Space walk will take place on June 20th.

BENJAMIN SMITH

Mr. Smith stated that he had nothing further to report.

JOHN ALBANESE

Mayor Albanese stated that he had nothing further to report.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Daniel Dorf, Mountain Road, commented on the effect of the odor from the marijuana facility to the American Legion outdoor patio.

Todd Terricone, Lamington Road, commented on the name of Sanderson Street for Ryland Developers.

Americo, member of the Kodiak Rod and Gun Club, commented that his gun club did meet their quota last year and safety is a priority for their members.

Christopher Shannon, Hillcrest Drive, Branchburg. spoke in favor of the deer management program.

Jay Kelly, Old Highway 28 thanked the Wildlife Advisory Subcommittee for their hard work on the deer management program and the Committee for their consideration.

Lee Perez, County Road 523, commented on the loud traffic noise on County Road 523.

Jerry Cook, Railroad Avenue, thanked the committees involved in implementing the deer management program.

Susan Masinda, Meadow Road, spoke to concerns about safety of the woods and fields due to the deer hunting and other alternative programs to address the problem.

COMMENTS FROM THE GOVERNING BODY

As there was no further business, ***A MOTION*** was made by Mr. Huelsebusch at 10:45 p.m. to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Heller with vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

Respectfully Submitted:

Karin M Parker, *RMC*
Municipal Clerk