

APRIL 2, 2009 MINUTES  
LIBERTY TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER by Mayor Inscho at 6:30 p.m.  
SUNSHINE LAW COMPLIANCE read by Mayor Inscho.  
FLAG SALUTE

ROLL CALL: Mr. Petersen, Mr. Grover, Mr. Fisher, Mr. Inscho, Mr. Fairfield and Ms. Reilly. Mr. Tibak arrived at 6:35. Mr. Skoog was absent due to illness.

SUSTAINABLE GRANT PRESENTATION by Ms. Sylvia Kovacs. She spoke about how the Highlands changed the time period for the grants from two years to one year and how she will have to change her proposal. Mr. Fisher noted that there would be administrative costs involved for Liberty Township since someone would have to oversee the project. He noted that this person would have to be compensated from this grant. He noted that he would like to see letters of support from Liberty farmers and a breakdown of what the costs would be. He noted there should be some kind of bond or errors and omissions statement to protect Liberty Township.

Mr. Grover asked where the Native Plant Nursery would be located. She said there was a site in Oxford but there but there would be different areas. Mr. Grover stated that before he could make a decision he would need more information and would Liberty Township farmers really benefit from this.

Mr. Tibak asked if she received any feedback from Oxford Township Committee but she said she did not.

She was asked to research this further and obtain feedback from Liberty farmers, etc. and to come to our next workshop session scheduled for April 22, 2009.

INTRODUCE BUDGET FOR 2009 – Mayor Inscho introduced.

Resolution 09-23 – Motion made by Mr. Tibak, seconded by Mr. Fisher with roll call unanimous to pass resolution introducing the 2009 Budget – Public Hearing will be held on May 7, 2009.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Motion made by Mr. Inscho, seconded by Mr. Grover with roll call unanimous to enter into executive session to discuss one contractual matter with Mt. Lake Fire Company and one personnel matter,.

REGULAR SESSION: Motion made by Mr. Inscho, seconded by Mr. Petersen with roll call unanimous to enter back into regular session at 7:29 p.m.

Mayor Inscho explained that during executive session the following matters were discussed but no official action taken: Fire Truck – De-Regionalization Issue with Great

Meadows Regional and one personnel matter. Minutes of this session will be made available when determined no harm to public.

CHECK FOR FIRE TRUCK – Motion made by Mr. Grover, seconded by Mr. Tibak with roll call as follows to give Chief Lunden the check in the amount of \$120,000 towards purchase of fire truck pending the Mt. Lake Fire Company includes the Township of Liberty on the lease agreement and title. Township will pay insurance for this truck.

ROLL CALL	Tibak	yes
	Petersen	yes
	Grover	yes
	Fisher	yes
	Inscho	abstained

Tax Assessor Assistant Position – Motion made by Mr. Inscho, seconded by Mr. Grover, with roll call unanimous to allow Hanna Schuler to work two to four hours per week to assist Lydia Schmidt. Lydia will reduce her pay to compensate for Hanna’s pay of \$10.00 per hour.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Motion made by Mr. Petersen, seconded by Mr. Fisher with roll call as follows to adopt Minutes of 1/26/09 – 3/4/09 – 3/5/09

ROLL CALL	Tibak	yes to all but abstains from 2/26/09
	Grover	yes to all but abstains from 2/26/09 – arrived late on 3/4/09
	Petersen	yes to all
	Fisher	yes to all
	Inscho	yes to all

#### REPORTS:

Engineer Fairfield – He noted that he has been working with Mr. Snyder on the waste water issues.

He completed the tax maps with Ms. Schmidt and noted he must adjust some lines.

He received a response from the County Engineer on his concerns with the “rumble strips” and they are willing to make some adjustments.

He noted that Mr. Grub wants his escrow returned but he was directed to have Mr. Grub apply for a waiver.

Committeeman Tibak – He reported that someone from the Recreation Commission will attend our April 23, 2009 Workshop to discuss background checks.

DPW Steve Romanowitch – He noted that the dry hydrant was installed and the fire company conducted a test and it works well.

He reported that a Right to Know and a Blood Born Class was held here last week. He thanked the Committee for allowing this to be conducted here.

Committeeman Fisher – He said the Great Meadows School Budget has a 2.6 increase which means for a \$300,000 home in Independence Township the increase would be \$51.00 per year but in Liberty it will mean \$177.00 per year. He then reported on a situation involving Glen Gardner and Clinton. They considered regionalizing their schools but learned they would lose one million five hundred dollars if they merged.

He reported that our appeal for the referendum was turned down by the Appellate Court. Motion made by Mr. Fisher, seconded by Mr. Petersen with roll call unanimous to agree to put this on hold for 30 days and wait to see how they rule with the new funding formula.

Mayor Inscho – He read a letter from Cub Scout Pack 138 thanking the township for their support, etc.

#### PUBLIC DISCUSSION

: Lisa Thomas – Lakeside Drive – She asked if the township will appeal the school referendum issue to the Supreme Court – Mr. Fisher explained that they will wait for the 30 day extension to see how the funding issues are resolved.

She also asked if there was going to be a Community Day this year and Mayor Inscho said yes but no date has been chosen as yet.

NJ State Trooper Baylor reported the State Police coverage in Liberty during the month of February was 36 hours which included 106 motor vehicle stops, 3 fire calls, 5 motor vehicle incidents, etc. Mayor Inscho thanked the NJ State Police for the wonderful job they are doing in Liberty Township.

PROCLAMATION FOR DOMESTIC ABUSE CENTER – Mayor Inscho read same.

SERVICE ELECTRIC REQUEST – Motion made by Mr. Inscho, seconded by Mr. Grover with roll call unanimous to allow service electric to come thru our township with trucks and power lines to service residents in Hope. Ms. Reilly explained also, that they are willing to service Liberty Township residents with cable service on Far View but they are getting permission from Comcast first. She also reminded everyone that Mr. Smith from Comcast will be attending our May 7, 2009 meeting to answer questions, etc.

#### RESOLUTION

- 09-16 One time Stipend for tax collector
- 09-19 The Lodge Deed Restrictions
- 09-20 Support our Troops
- 09-21 Refund Tax Liens

09-22 Municipal Alliance  
09-24 Certification of Annual Audit

Please note that Resolutions 09-17 and 09-18 are void.

Motion made by Mr. Tibak, seconded by Mr. Grover with roll call unanimous to approve all of the above resolutions.

CONTRACT FOR MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE – Motion made by Mr. Tibak, seconded by Mr. Fisher with roll call unanimous to direct Mayor and Municipal Clerk to sign said contract.

ORDINANCE 09-01 – To Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and to Establish a Cap Bank – Motion made by Mr. Inscho, seconded by Mr. Petersen – open for public discussion – no public discussion – closed for public discussion – roll call unanimous to adopt n 2<sup>nd</sup> reading.

ORDINANCE 09-02 – An Ordinance Providing for the Appropriation of \$72,500 from the Capital Improvement Fund of the Township of Liberty. Motion made by Mr. Inscho, seconded by Mr. Tibak with roll call unanimous to adopt at first reading. Second reading and public discussion will take place on May 7, 2009.

PAYMENT OF BILLS: Motion made by Mr. Petersen, seconded by Mr. Tibak with roll call unanimous to pay all bills on Bills List.,

ADJOURNMENT – Motion made by Mr. Inscho, seconded by Mr. Grover with roll call unanimous to adjourn said meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Willa L. Reilly, RMC  
Municipal Clerk/Administrator