

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Township of Liberty was held in the Municipal Building, 349 Mountain Lake Road, Great Meadows on 6 September 2012. The meeting was opened by Deputy Mayor John Fisher with Adequate Notice of Meeting and the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Deputy Mayor John Fisher; Dan Grover; Ronald Petersen, and Peter Karcher (arrived at 7:09 pm)

Absent: Mayor John Inscho; and Roger Skoog, Municipal Attorney

Also, Present: John Hansen, Municipal Engineer; and, Diane M Pflugfelder, Municipal Clerk/Administrator

REPORTS

COMMITTEEPERSON PETERSEN

Committeeperson Petersen reported on the completion of the stabilization within the mudslide site area off Lewis Lane. He also proceeded to inform those present on the removal of the temporary ramp, constructed for use during the mudslide emergency, and waterproofing of the garage structure at the beach area.

A motion by Ron Petersen to authorize the Municipal Engineer to prepare road improvement specifications, via the Morris County Co-Op, for the portion of Lakeside Drive West traversing from the old general store site to the current spring house site, carried.

NRCS and Ernie Kabert, Jenny Jump State Park Representative, would be reviewing the Jenny Jump State Park lands directly above Lewis Lane for storm water remediation.

Mr. Petersen reported that he has remained in contact with the Warren County Board of Health and the SPCA regarding the cat complaint previously stated at a Township meeting. The SPCA is seeking a grant to address cat control at this site and a sample cat control Ordinance for Liberty Township's consideration.

Mr. Petersen reported that he has a showing scheduled this Friday evening to a party that has expressed interest in the acquisition of the Lodge.

COMMITTEEPERSON GROVER

Committeeperson Grover reported that he is preparing specifications for a pavilion to be constructed upon Block 52, Loy 42 (commonly known as the Casino site).

Committeeperson Karcher arrived at 7:09 pm

NEW JERSEY STATE POLICE

A Trooper of the Washington Township Barracks reported the following activity within Liberty Township for the month of August 2012;

- ✓ 1 fire call
- ✓ 20 medical assists
- ✓ 10 motor vehicle accidents
- ✓ 56 motor vehicle stops
- ✓ 51 property checks
- ✓ 2 thefts

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Steve Romanowitch, CPWM, presented the following verbal report:

- ✓ The beach garage has been backfilled
- ✓ The remediation work will begin in the area west of Lewis Lane
- ✓ A detention pond has been cleaned out

PAVILION REQUEST

Following review of a 23 August 2012 letter from Ron Buckenmyer, a motion by Ron Petersen authorizing the reservation of the pavilion on Saturday, 11 May 2013 for the wedding of Ron Buckenmyer, pending there are no unsafe construction conditions, carried.

MUNICIPAL TAX ASSESSOR

A pre-printed report was received from the Municipal Tax Assessor and presented to members of the Township Committee for review

MUNICIPAL CLERK/ADMINISTRATOR

A pre-printed report was received from the Municipal Clerk/Administrator for August 2012 and presented to members of the Township Committee for review.

OLD BUSINESS

DEPARTMENT ANALYSIS

Review of garbage collections quotes was carried to the next meeting of the Township Committee.

UTILITY ANALYSIS

Review of Utility analysis was carried to the next meeting of the Township Committee.

FROMET PROPERTIES

A letter of 12 July 2012 was received from Fromet Properties, Inc offering the donation of Block 27, Lot 9 (7 Ash Lane) and Block 27, Lot 6 (18 Pine Drive) to the Township of Liberty with the condition that the property would be preserved in perpetuity as Township park land. It was agreed that the Committee members were not interested in acquisition of the sites and a letter was authorized thanking Fromet Properties for their offer.

NEW BUSINESS

HALLOWEEN 2012

Following brief discussion and review of past adopted Halloween hours, a motion by Ron Petersen to establish Halloween 2012 on Wednesday, 31 October between the hours of 4:30 pm and 7:30 pm carried.

NJDOT FY2013 STATE AID APPLICATION

Following discussion, a motion by Ron Petersen authorizing Ferriero Engineering to pursue the NJDOT FY 2013 State Aid for road improvements upon Lakeside Drive West carried.

ORDINANCE #2012.003 - Following discussion, a motion by Ron Petersen to introduce Ordinance #2012.003 on First Reading carried. Public Hearing and Adoption are scheduled for 4 October 2012.

An Ordinance to Amend an Ordinance
Known as the Code of the
Township of Liberty, Warren County, New Jersey

State of Legislative intent

This amendment is proposed to ensure that safe ingress and egress from all properties in the Township is maintained.

Section 1. Section 105-28 is hereby amended to add:

“B. Every owner or occupant of lands lying within the Township adjoining a public roadway is prohibited from placing or allowing to be placed within five (5) feet of the road right-of-way any obstruction, including but not limited to, fences, walls, signs and pillars. This section shall not apply to signs installed by the Township, Federal, County or State Governments, utility poles, fire hydrants, or mailboxes installed in accordance with this subsection. However, under no circumstance shall a mailbox be installed in or about a wall, pillar or other permanent structure except by a post or pole as described below. Mailboxes shall be set on a single wood post that is not greater than four (4) inches square or has a diameter of four and one-half (4 ½) inches or less, or affixed to a metal pole not greater than two (2) inches square or has a diameter two and one-fourths (2 ¼) inches or less. All such mailbox posts must be set back twelve (12) inches from the edge of pavement. Also, all mailboxes must be installed in accordance with the rules, regulations and standards established by the US Postal Service.

Except as provided for below, any obstruction installed in a way other than in the manner allowed by this subsection and that was installed prior to the date this subsection is adopted may continue in existence until such time as the obstruction is removed regardless of the cause or reason that such obstruction is removed. In the event that the obstruction is removed, it shall not be replaced, except however, a mailbox may be replaced as provided for in this subsection. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any obstruction, including a wall, fence or vegetation that is deemed by the Township Engineer to create a hazard to persons traveling along the roadway, shall be removed by the property owner as ordered by the Township.

Any obstruction that is installed in violation of this subsection or is not removed after notice from the Township that an obstruction is causing a hazardous condition, may be removed by the Township at the property owner's expense. Prior to the Township taking any action to remove an obstruction, the property owner shall be afforded written notice of no less than thirty (30) days to remove the obstruction, unless an emergency situation exists which requires the obstruction to be removed in less than thirty (30) days. Notice shall be given either by personal delivery or by Certified Mail/Return Receipt requested. Any costs incurred by the Township in removing an obstruction found to be in violation of this subsection shall constitute a lien against the owner's property to the extent allowed by law.

Any person given a notice to remove an obstruction may appeal such decision to the Land Use Board, by giving written notice to the Township Clerk/Administrator within seven (7) days of receipt of the notice to remove the obstruction.

NRCS CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION

A motion by Ron Petersen authorizing Deputy Mayor John Fisher to execute the Natural Resources Conservation Service Certification of Completion EWP Measures Locally LED Construction carried.

BLOCK 48, LOT 31

A complaint was filed for a downed tree upon Block 48, Lot 31. Ron Petersen will investigate.

RESOLUTIONS

A motion by Ron Petersen to adopt the following resolution carried.

Resolution #2012.057

Salary

WHEREAS, Salary Ordinance #2011.001 established the salaries/wages, and compensation for certain employees of the Township of Liberty, Warren County.

BE IT RESOLVED, By the Township Committee of the Township of Liberty, Warren County that the following named employee(s) shall be compensated for the year 2012 in the amounts designated below. All salaries are retroactive to 1 January 2012 unless otherwise noted:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>SALARY</u>
Peter Karcher	Township Committee	2,129.00, effective 5 July 2012

Vote: aye - Karcher
 aye - Petersen
 aye - Grover
 aye - Fisher
 absent - Inscho

 John Fisher,
 Deputy Mayor

A motion by Ron Petersen to adopt the following Resolution carried.

Resolution #2012.058
 Application for Special Permit for Social Affair
 Mountain Lake Fire Company

WHEREAS, an “Application for Special Permit for Social Affair” has been filed by the Mountain Lake Fire Company, 99 Tamarack Road, Belvidere, New Jersey 07823 for said social affair to be held on 26 October 2012 between the hours of 1:00 pm and 27 October 1:00 am; and

WHEREAS, the submitted application form is complete in all respects, and the State fees have been paid.

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Liberty Township Committee does hereby approve a social affair for the Mountain Lake Fire Company located at 99 Tamarack Road, Belvidere, New Jersey to be held on 26 October 2012 between the hours of 1:00 pm and 27 October 1:00 am to be held in the area delineated on the application form.

Vote: aye - Karcher
 aye - Petersen
 aye - Grover
 aye - Fisher
 absent - Inscho

 John Fisher,
 Deputy Mayor

A motion by John Fisher to adopt the following resolution carried.

Resolution #2012.059
 Tax Refund

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector recommends to the Township Committee that the necessary administrative actions be taken to authorize a refund to the following;

Block/Lot	Name/Address	Reason	Total Refund
61/34	BAC Tax Services 1757 Tapo Canyon Rd Simi Valley, CA 93063	Overpayment due to reduction in assessment	\$628.87
61/35	Bechok, Robert J & Henry 17 Lewis Lane Belvidere, NJ 07823	Overpayment due to reduction in assessment	\$744.51

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, By a majority of the members of the Township Committee of the Township of Liberty, County of Warren, State of New Jersey that the refund on the above list shall be returned to the parties designated.

Vote: aye - Karcher
aye - Petersen
aye - Grover
aye - Fisher
absent - Inscho

John Fisher,
Deputy Mayor

PAYMENT OF BILLS

A motion by John Fisher to adopt the following Resolution carried.

Resolution #2012.060 Payment of Bills

RESOLVED, that the township committee of the Township of Liberty, does hereby authorize the Finance Department to pay all vouchers when properly endorsed and approved by at least 3/5 majority of the township committee in the amount of \$551,676.16.

Vote: aye - Karcher
aye - Petersen
aye - Grover
aye - Fisher
absent - Inscho

John Inscho,
Mayor

PUBLIC COMMENT was opened at 7:36 pm.

Alice Bechok – Ms Bechok invited everyone to the one-year anniversary mudslide party.

Donna Wolfgang – Ms Wolfgang thanked the DPW for the work to clean-up the mudslide site.

Lisa Thomas – Ms Thomas inquired into the status of the Lodge. She was informed that four parties have recently expressed an interest in viewing the property.

Keith Stillwagon – Mr Stillwagon reported that he had taken and submitted photos of the Lodge for posting on the municipal web site.

ADJOURNMENT - There being no further business, a motion by John Fisher to adjourn the meeting carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Diane M Pflugfelder RMC/MMC
Municipal Clerk/Administrator
Minutes Approved 4 October 2012