

**TOWNSHIP OF COLTS NECK
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING
MARCH 9, 2011
7:30 P.M. AT TOWN HALL**

The meeting of the Colts Neck Township Committee was called to order at 7:30 p.m. At Mayor Schatzle's direction, Mr. Daniel Mazzucola led all present in the salute to the flag. The following statement was read by Township Clerk Bowden: "The notice requirements of the New Jersey Public Meetings Law has been satisfied by forwarding a News Release to the Asbury Park Press on December 9, 2010 stating the meeting of the Colts Neck Township Committee would be held on March 9, 2011 at 7:30 p.m., Colts Neck Town Hall, 124 Cedar Drive, Colts Neck, New Jersey. The notice requirements have been posted on the Township bulletin board and a copy is on file in the Office of the Township Clerk."

Roll call by Mr. Bowden indicated the following:

Present: Mayor James Schatzle; Deputy Mayor Jarrett Engel, Committeemen Edward Eastman, Jr., Michael Fitzgerald, and Russell Macnow

Also Present: Administrator/Municipal Clerk Robert Bowden; Deputy Municipal Clerk Beth Kara, and Township Attorney Chris Ackerman, Esq., Township Attorney John O. Bennett, III, Esq. (arriving later)

Absent: None

- APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 23, 2011.** Mr. Engel made a motion to approve, seconded by Mr. Macnow and unanimously carried.

RECORD OF VOTE					
Committeeman	M S	Yes	No	NV	Ab
Mayor Schatzle		X			
Deputy Mayor Engel	M	X			
Eastman		X			
Fitzgerald		X			
Macnow	S	X			

X - indicates vote NV - Not Voting Ab - Absent M - Moved S - Seconded

- 2011 MUNICIPAL BUDGET:** Mayor Schatzle provided comments pertaining to the 2011 municipal budget, which are appended.
- RESOLUTION 2011-39A:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THREE YEAR AVERAGE TAX COLLECTION RATE IN THE CALCULATION OF RESERVE FOR UNCOLLECTED TAXES IN THE 2011 MUNICIPAL BUDGET was read by title by Mayor Schatzle. Mr. Bowden stated State law permits averaging the tax collection rate for the last three years for use in calculating the reserve for uncollected taxes. The 2011 reserve (98.23%) averages the tax collection rates for 2008 (98.97%), 2009 (98.28%) and 2010 (97.46%). Mr. Fitzgerald made a motion to approve, seconded by Mr. Engel and unanimously carried.

RECORD OF VOTE					
Committeeman	M S	Yes	No	NV	Ab
Mayor Schatzle		X			
Deputy Mayor Engel	S	X			
Eastman		X			
Fitzgerald	M	X			
Macnow		X			

X - indicates vote NV - Not Voting Ab - Absent M - Moved S - Seconded

4. **RESOLUTION 2011-39B:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SCHOOL TAX DEFERRAL TO SUPPORT THE 2011 MUNICIPAL BUDGET was read by title by Mayor Schatzle. Under current law, the Governing Body may elect to defer up to 50% of the school levy of the unpaid balance of \$32,668,677.90. The current deferred school tax is \$3,799,700.00, and by this resolution, an additional amount of \$400,000.00 of unpaid Regional School Tax would be deferred, bringing the total to \$4,199,700.00. Mr. Fitzgerald made a motion to approve, seconded by Mr. Macnow and carried by Mayor Schatzle, Mr. Engel, Mr. Fitzgerald and Mr. Macnow, Mr. Eastman opposed.

RECORD OF VOTE						
Committeeman	M	S	Yes	No	NV	Ab
Mayor Schatzle			X			
Deputy Mayor Engel			X			
Eastman				X		
Fitzgerald	M		X			
Macnow		S	X			

X - indicates vote NV - Not Voting Ab - Absent M - Moved S - Seconded

5. **RESOLUTION 2011-39C:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING INTRODUCTION OF 2011 MUNICIPAL BUDGET was read by title by Mayor Schatzle. Mayor Schatzle stated this resolution approves the introduction of the 2011 municipal budget as follows: General Appropriation, \$9,940,943.94; Dedicated Open Space Tax, \$369,611.17 for a total of \$10,310,555.11. The amount to be raised by taxation in support of the 2011 municipal budget is \$5,785,693.05. The public hearing will be conducted April 13, 2011, 7:30 p.m., Town Hall. Mr. Fitzgerald made a motion to approve, seconded by Mr. Engel and carried by Mayor Schatzle, Mr. Engel, Mr. Fitzgerald and Mr. Macnow, Mr. Eastman opposed.

RECORD OF VOTE						
Committeeman	M	S	Yes	No	NV	Ab
Mayor Schatzle			X			
Deputy Mayor Engel			X			
Eastman				X		
Fitzgerald	M		X			
Macnow		S	X			

X - indicates vote NV - Not Voting Ab - Absent M - Moved S - Seconded

6. **APPOINTMENT:** COLTS NECK POLICE OFFICER DANIEL J. MAZZUCOLA. Chief Sauter stated last year there were 22 Police Officers, with the hiring of Mr. Mazzucola this evening, the staffing will be 19. Chief Sauter stated Mr. Mazzucola was an alternate route candidate who was first in his class. Chief Sauter stated Mr. Mazzucola was an outstanding trainee who received outstanding physical fitness awards. Mayor Schatzle stated those that put themselves through the Police Academy show their dedication and commitment and noted Mr. Mazzucola stated he strives to be a role model for our youth. Mr. Mazzucola was presented with Badge No. 54.

7. **RESOLUTION 2010-40:** RESOLUTION CONFIRMING APPOINTMENT OF POLICE OFFICER DANIEL J. MAZZUCOLA was read by title by Mayor Schatzle. Mr. Fitzgerald made a motion to approve, seconded by Mr. Engel and carried by Mayor Schatzle, Mr. Engel, Mr. Fitzgerald and Mr. Macnow; Mr. Eastman abstained.

RECORD OF VOTE						
Committeeman	M	S	Yes	No	NV	Ab
Mayor Schatzle			X			
Deputy Mayor Engel		S	X			
Eastman					X	
Fitzgerald	M		X			
Macnow			X			
X - indicates vote NV - Not Voting Ab - Absent M - Moved S - Seconded						

8. **SWEARING IN OF POLICE OFFICER MAZZUCOLA.** Mr. Bowden swore in Police Officer Mazzucola, while his Mother, Roxanne, held the bible and his Father, Charles, and Sister, Francesca, observed. Mr. Mazzucola received a round of applause and photographs were taken.

Mayor Schatzle called a five minute recess at 7:45 p.m. At 7:50 p.m., Mayor Schatzle reconvened the meeting.

9. **RESOLUTION 2010-41: RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO A-3766/S-2664, "MARKET COMPETITION AND CONSUMER CHOICE ACT"** was read by title by Mayor Schatzle. Mr. Fitzgerald stated the NJ League of Municipalities urged support in opposition to the cable franchise legislation proposed which would, among other things, limit the obligation of a cable company to provide cable and internet connections to municipal buildings, eliminate the requirement that cable companies provide basic service and internet to municipal buildings and schools at no charge, eliminate the requirement that cable companies provide a return feed, and reduce the franchise fee payable by certain cable companies that have converted from a traditional franchise to a system-wide franchise. This resolution calls on the Legislature to amend the aforementioned proposed legislation to ensure all commitments of NJSA 48:5A-28 be provided upon application for a system-wide franchise, upon renewal of a system-wide franchise and upon conversion of a municipal-consent based franchise to a system-wide franchise. Mr. Fitzgerald made a motion to approve, seconded by Mr. Engel and unanimously carried.

RECORD OF VOTE						
Committeeman	M	S	Yes	No	NV	Ab
Mayor Schatzle			X			
Deputy Mayor Engel		S	X			
Eastman			X			
Fitzgerald	M		X			
Macnow			X			
X - indicates vote NV - Not Voting Ab - Absent M - Moved S - Seconded						

10. **MOTION TO ADOPT A CONSENT AGENDA:**

11. ***RESOLUTION 2011-72: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RECREATION REFUNDS** was read by title by Mayor Schatzle. Mr. Fitzgerald made a motion to approve, seconded by Mr. Macnow and unanimously carried.

RECORD OF VOTE						
Committeeman	M	S	Yes	No	NV	Ab
Mayor Schatzle			X			
Deputy Mayor Engel			X			
Eastman			X			
Fitzgerald	M		X			
Macnow		S	X			
X - indicates vote NV - Not Voting Ab - Absent M - Moved S - Seconded						

Mr. Eastman left the meeting due to the location of his property.

12. **DISCUSSION: UNFINISHED BUSINESS: REZONING OF AREA IN VICINITY OF OBRE ROAD AND SQUANKUM ROAD.** Mr. Anfuso addressed the Governing Body. Mr. Anfuso advised that Long Range Planning could not come to a consensus on the rezoning recommended by the February 9, 2010 Master Plan Re-Examination Report, and decided to forward this issue to the Governing Body for their consideration. Mr. Anfuso discussed the following: The Master Plan Re-examination Report recommends the expansion of the A-5, Rural Residential Zone, in the southeast portion of the Township, which is currently zoned A-1 (two acre), and is bound to the north by Hockhockson Road, to the east by the Borough of Tinton Falls, to the south by State Highway 18 and the west by Obre Road. The area consists of eight lots owned by four separate parties, one of which is the Township. If the area was consolidated and developed as a single tract, it could yield 17 new lots. If developed individually by owners, 10 lots would be created. The re-zoning will change the density of this area from two acre to five acre lots and will provide a transition zone between the AG and A-1 Zones. If the area is re-zoned, it is anticipated to yield between 7 and 11 new lots, depending on how it is developed. The second re-zoning is the expansion of the AG Zone, which is approximately 32 acres along Squankum Road near the intersection of Obre Road. The area contains parts of six lots owned by two parties. If the area is developed under the A-1 Zoning, it could yield roughly 7 to 12 lots. The re-zoning will expand the existing AG zone, which lies immediately to the west. If the area is re-zoned, it is anticipated to yield three ten-acre farmettes. Mr. Macnow stated he expressed reservations last meeting; however he is in favor of drafting the ordinance and hearing public comments. Mr. Fitzgerald stated he has problems with developing this area given water concerns. Mr. Fitzgerald stated he is in favor of the 2010 recommendations for five acres and urged the public to review and comment. The Township Attorney was directed to work with Mr. Anfuso to develop an ordinance for introduction at the next Township Committee meeting. If approved, the ordinance would then be sent to the Planning Board for approval and to adjacent municipalities prior to second reading and public hearing. Mr. Anfuso stated the Planning Board is expected to approve this ordinance.

With no further discussion, Mr. Anfuso excused himself at 8:03 p.m., and Mr. Eastman returned to the meeting.

13. **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT:** Mr. Bowden had nothing further to add to his report this evening.

14. **MOTION TO APPROVE VOUCHERS:** Mayor Schatzle stated he reviewed the vouchers noting all were in order, and are as follows:

Animal Control	\$266.97
Construction Trust	\$12,371.82
Current Fund	\$384,198.37
Escrow	\$284.00
Grant Fund	\$336.78
Trust Fund	<u>\$7,066.40</u>
TOTAL APPROVED:	\$404,524.34

Plus:

A voucher set aside last meeting for
annual membership in the International
Association of Arson Investigators \$75.00

TOTAL APPROVED: **\$404,599.34**

Mr. Fitzgerald made a motion to approve, seconded by Mr. Engel, and unanimously carried. *Mr. Macnow stated he abstains from the approval all T&M bills.

RECORD OF VOTE						
Committeeman	M	S	Yes	No	NV	Ab
Mayor Schatzle			X			
Deputy Mayor Engel	S					X
Eastman			X			
Fitzgerald	M		X			
Macnow			X*		X*	
X - indicates vote NV - Not Voting Ab - Absent M - Moved S - Seconded						

15. TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Macnow stated The Grande Association wants to have the Township repave Colts Neck Boulevard at the same time The Grande Association is paving other roads within their community.

Mr. Fitzgerald stated he went to the Colts Neck Business Association meeting today. A "Night at the Blue Claws" is scheduled for April 30th for a game against the NY Mets affiliate team. Mr. Fitzgerald stated additional event and ticket information is provided on the Business Association website (coltsneckbusiness.org).

Mr. Fitzgerald stated a 5K Run was being held at the High School on Sunday, March 27, 2011 starting with a 9:00 a.m. registration. The proceeds will help victims of child abuse by supporting the Friends of the Monmouth County Child Advocacy Center.

Mr. Fitzgerald reported the Fire Department is hosting a fund raiser at the new ice rink in Howell. The Fire Department team will be playing the New Jersey Devils team, with a 1:00 p.m. starting time.

Mr. Fitzgerald reported the Environmental Commission did not hold a meeting; however, he will continue to work with the Environmental Commission to promote the Green Initiative with the Local School Board, and incorporate representatives from the Business Association and the High School to promote recycling.

Mr. Eastman reported the Historic Preservation Committee is working to set the date for the Spring event.

Mr. Engel had no report this evening.

Mayor Schatzle had no report this evening.

16. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Mayor Schatzle opened the meeting to public comment.

Mr. Jeff Sauter, a resident, questioned the purchase of bottled water given recent employee layoffs. Mr. Sauter queried if the Mayor's Appreciation Pin program was at taxpayer expense; Mayor Schatzle responded he is absorbing the cost of the pins.

Ms. Elaine Mann, a resident, suggested the Township purchase a recording device for committee meetings, thus avoiding the need for Committee Secretaries to attend meetings. Ms. Mann stated gasoline will rise to \$5 per gallon this summer and questioned if enough money was budgeted in the 2011 budget. Ms. Mann stated not all members of the Seniors Club live in Town, and suggested the Seniors Club entrance age should be raised to 62 years. Ms.

Mann stated the \$35,000 allocated to the Seniors Club should be reduced to \$10,000. Ms. Mann suggested the Seniors spend their funds within the Township.

Mr. Robert Sayko, a resident, stated he did not follow the logic of the prior comment.

Ms. Susan Wilcox, a resident, stated belt tightening should occur across the board. Ms. Wilcox stated the Township is suffering and all should contribute a certain percentage.

Ms. Virginia Amend, a resident and editor of the Colts Neck Calendar, stated another municipality in Monmouth County is ordering compensatory time to curtail overtime.

Ms. Andrea Giannopoulos, a resident, questioned if the 2011 budget was on line. Ms. Kara advised it would be posted on the Township website tomorrow morning.

Mr. Fulton Wilcox, a resident, stated there were long term implications for deferring the school tax given declining revenues from property taxes. Mr. Wilcox stated next year and the following year will be more difficult than today, and he hoped to have a referendum on the ballot to exceed the 2% CAP.

Hearing no further comment from the public, Mayor Schatzle closed the meeting.

17. **RESOLUTION 2011-43:** EXECUTIVE SESSION was read by title by Mayor Schatzle. Motion to approve was made by Mr. Engel, seconded by Mr. Fitzgerald and unanimously carried by voice vote. Mr. Bowden stated the Governing Body is not expected to take further action this evening.

RECORD OF VOTE						
Committeeman	M	S	Yes	No	NV	Ab
Mayor Schatzle			X			
Deputy Mayor Engel			X			
Eastman			X			
Fitzgerald	M		X			
Macnow		S	X			

X - indicates vote NV - Not Voting Ab - Absent M - Moved S - Seconded

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Motion to adjourn Closed Session was made by Mr. Fitzgerald, seconded by Mr. Macnow and unanimously carried.

RECORD OF VOTE						
Committeeman	M	S	Yes	No	NV	Ab
Mayor Schatzle			X			
Deputy Mayor Engel			X			
Eastman			X			
Fitzgerald	M		X			
Macnow		S	X			

X - indicates vote NV - Not Voting Ab - Absent M - Moved S - Seconded

Motion to adjourn reconvene in Public Session and adjourn meeting was made by Mr. Fitzgerald, seconded by Mr. Engel and unanimously approved.

RECORD OF VOTE						
Committeeman	M	S	Yes	No	NV	Ab
Mayor Schatzle			X			
Deputy Mayor Engel		S	X			
Eastman			X			
Fitzgerald		M	X			
Macnow			X			
X - indicates vote NV - Not Voting Ab - Absent M - Moved S - Seconded						

Meeting adjourned at 10:15 p.m.


 Robert Bowden, Administrator/Municipal Clerk

Attachment

2011 MUNICIPAL BUDGET
INTRODUCTION

MARCH 9, 2011

- The total 2011 Municipal Budget for general purposes is \$9,940,944.00. This represents a reduction of \$863,381.00 from the 2010 budget.
- The dedicated open space fund tax will raise \$369,611.00 in 2011. This represents a reduction of \$408,617.00 from 2010.
- Taken together, these reductions total \$1,271,998.00.
- The municipal purposes tax will increase 1.8 cents this year, while the dedicated open space tax will decrease 1.3 cents.
- This represents a net tax increase of .5 (one-half) cent.
- For a home assessed at \$800,000.00, this represents a net tax increase of \$40.00 in property taxes for the year for municipal purposes.
- The budget is \$649.00 under the new 2% property tax CAP and some \$1.4 million under the appropriation CAP.
- \$5,785,693.00 will be raised by taxation to support the budget.
- \$1,010,000.00 of surplus funds have been utilized to support the budget. This includes a school tax deferral of \$400,000.00. The Township has used all but \$200,000.00 of surplus funds to offset the tax rate.
- The effect of the 2% property tax CAP, reduced State aid, and the erosion of other revenues have combined to create serious budget challenges this year.
- Most every budget has been reduced by a minimum of 10%, and there are 10 less full-time employees than there were just two years ago.
- Despite these budget and personnel reductions, the Township will continue to provide all basic services for taxpayers. Non-essential items such as fireworks, Community Band, etc., have been eliminated.
- Increases to the budget include gasoline (up \$18,000.00) and statutory expenses (up \$113,589.00). Some \$30,000.00 was budgeted for unemployment insurance due to lay-offs and \$150,000.00 was budgeted to repay the emergency appropriation due to the December 26-27, 2010 storm.

- Capital expenditures are an exception to the 2% property tax CAP, and funds have been appropriated for the following on a “pay as you go” basis:
 - \$10,000.00 for turn-out gear for the Fire Department;
 - \$25,000.00 for a Police mobile license plate reader;
 - \$16,000.00 for Police vehicle computers;
 - \$32,000.00 for a marked Police 4wd vehicle;
 - \$17,500.00 for improvements to Laird Road Park and Bucks Mill Park;
 - \$25,000.00 for Town Hall improvements including a handicapped ramp;
and
 - \$7,500 for a special “on-spot” tire chains for Public Works vehicles.
- The Township Committee thanks those residents that attended all or some of the four budget sessions needed to prepare the budget.
- The public hearing for the 2011 Municipal Budget will be held on April 13, 2011, 7:30 p.m. at Town Hall.