

MINUTES OF THE OPEN SESSION MEETING OF
THE TEANECK TOWNSHIP COUNCIL
HELD IN THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING CHAMBERS ON
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2012

MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENT

Adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by the posting, filing and distribution of a Notice of Special Meeting, a copy of which has been sent to The Record and The Jewish Standard; a copy of which has been filed copy in the Township Clerk's Office and by posting it on the Municipal Building Bulletin Board, and the Mayor hereby directs that this statement be included in the minutes.

ROLL CALL

Present: C. Parker (arrived at 6:20 p.m.), C. Stern, C. Pruitt, C. Katz, C. Schwartz, Mayor Hameeduddin.

Absent: DM. Gussen.

Also Present: W. Broughton, Township Manager; J.L. Evelina, RMC, Township Clerk; S. Turitz, Esq. – Ferrara, Turitz, Harraka & Goldberg, PC.

MOTION TO GO INTO SPECIAL SESSION

The Clerk read Resolution #285-12 into the record, authorizing the Council to enter into Special Session.

Having adopted Resolution #285-12, Mayor Hameeduddin made a motion to close the meeting to the public to discuss the following: Township Manager's Evaluation and Township Clerk's Evaluation. Seconded by C. Schwartz and carried by the following vote:

In Favor: C. Stern, C. Pruitt, C. Katz, C. Schwartz, Mayor Hameeduddin.

Opposed: None.

Absent: C. Parker (at time of vote), DM. Gussen.

SPECIAL SESSION DISCUSSION

MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENT

Adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by Resolution 28-12, setting the 2012 meeting dates; *and* Resolution 150-12, ratifying Resolution 28-12, sending a copy to THE RECORD and THE JEWISH STANDARD, filing a copy in the Township Clerk's Office and posting it on the Municipal Building bulletin board, and the Mayor hereby directs that this statement be included in the minutes.

ROLL CALL

Present: C. Parker, C. Stern, DM. Gussen (arrived 7:27 p.m.), C. Pruitt, C. Katz, C. Schwartz, Mayor Hameeduddin.

Absent: None.

Also Present: W. Broughton, Township Manager; J.L. Evelina, RMC, Township Clerk; S. Turitz, Esq. – Ferrara, Turitz, Harraka & Goldberg, PC.

MOTION TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION

The Clerk read resolution #286-12 into the record, authorizing the Council to enter into Closed Session.

Having adopted Resolution #286-12, Mayor Hameeduddin made a motion to close the meeting to the public to discuss matters concerning the following: Township Manager's Evaluation; Township Clerk's Evaluation; Adult Applicants to the Youth Advisory Board who interviewed with the Council on November 29, 2012; an offer to purchase Township property, located at 289 East Oakdene Avenue; Municipal Property Lease – PSE&G; Illegal Use of Social Media;

Planning Board and Board of Adjustment issues. Seconded by C. Schwartz and carried by the following vote:

In Favor: C. Stern, C. Pruitt, C. Schwartz, Mayor Hameeduddin.

Opposed: None.

Absent: C. Parker (at time of vote), DM. Gussen (at time of vote), C. Katz (at time of vote).

CLOSED SESSION DISCUSSION

MOTION TO RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Mayor Hameeduddin called the Open Session Meeting of the Teaneck Township Council to order at 8 p.m. and asked all present to please rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Hameeduddin asked everyone to remain standing for a moment of silence for the victims and families of the victims of the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting.

Present: C. Parker, C. Stern, DM. Gussen, C. Pruitt, C. Katz, C. Schwartz, Mayor Hameeduddin.

Absent: None.

Also Present: S. Turitz, Esq. – Ferrara, Turitz, Harraka & Goldberg, PC.; W. Broughton, Township Manager; J.L. Evelina, RMC. Township Clerk; I. Abbasi, Executive Assistant to the Manager; C. Loschiavo, Senior Clerk.

MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENT

Adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by Resolution 28-12, setting the 2012 meeting dates; and Resolution 150-12, ratifying Resolution 28-12, sending a copy to THE RECORD and THE JEWISH STANDARD, filing a copy in the Township Clerk's Office and posting it on the Municipal Building bulletin board, and the Mayor hereby directs that this statement be included in the minutes.

Mayor Hameeduddin informed the public with respect to the following: Municipal Offices will be closed on December 25, 2012 in observance of Christmas Day and January 1, 2013 in observance of New Year's Day; the next televised Council Meeting is scheduled for January 8, 2013 with legal opening scheduled for 7 p.m. and public input scheduled for 8 p.m.; Budget Meetings are scheduled for 7 p.m. on January 10, 17, 24 and 31. He informed that Council met in Closed Session from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. and listed the matters discussed.

Mayor Hameeduddin also informed the public that there are changes to the Agenda, and Clerk Evelina read the following statement into the record:

Resolution C which originally reflected "R.S. 2A:8-5" has been amended to reflect "R.S. 2B:12-4". Resolution G which originally reflected "N.J.S.A. 40A:26a-10" has been amended to reflect "N.J.S.A. 40A:26A-12". Ordinance 4282 which originally reflected, "(f) Meeting Agendas. Any member of the Council may add items to a regular meeting agenda at such meeting provided that such items may be open for discussion and formal action at such meeting only upon the approval of a majority of Council present" has been revised to read "(f) Meeting Agendas. Any member of the Council may add items to a regular meeting agenda under "Council Listed Items" at any time up to and at such meeting". All revised items have been placed on the Township Website, Municipal Building Bulletin Board and on the table before you, for public inspection.

Mayor Hameeduddin advised in light of the recent tragedy, the Manager has met with the Chief of Police, and the Superintendent of Schools has sent out correspondence regarding the ongoing annual drills performed by the schools to ensure the children's safety. The Township is continually working on this issue, and the Manager and Chief are in contact with the Superintendent of Schools.

PRESENTATIONS

30-Year Anniversary

Francis Wilson, Department of Public Works Director

Mr. Broughton welcomed the public and thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. Mr. Broughton called Mr. Wilson up to the podium at which time Mr. Broughton read a biography of Mr. Wilson into the record. Mr. Broughton also offered words of appreciation and presented Mr. Wilson with his pin.

Mayor Hameeduddin presented Mr. Wilson with a Certificate of Commendation on behalf of the Township Council, and the Council offered words of appreciation to Mr. Wilson.

Mr. Wilson expressed appreciation to the Council and Manager and commended his Department.

PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION OF ORDINANCES

NONE.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR GOOD AND WELFARE; PUBLIC INPUT ON ANY MATTERS ON THIS AGENDA; AND/OR PUBLIC INPUT ON THE 2013 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

Mayor Hameeduddin inquired whether any member of the Council had any comments prior to opening the meeting to any comments from the public.

C. Katz advised that he had the opportunity to tour the World of Wings and described the location as “a magnificent facility”. He urged everyone to visit the location and requested that their pending vending matter be reviewed by the Zoning Subcommittee. No member of Council objected.

C. Pruitt advised that he had an opportunity to visit the World of Wings and described the facility as a “fantastic arrangement”. He also suggested that in an effort to improve Council and public relations that the Manager or Clerk track questions asked during Good and Welfare in the event Council misses any questions asked.

C. Stern questioned if the Clerk already keeps track of questions, and the Mayor answered in the affirmative.

The Mayor responded to C. Pruitt and advised of the procedure that allows the public to comment on any issue and/or to ask questions. He went on to say that the Council and Manager can answer any questions asked or not.

C. Stern stated that the Clerk records all of the public’s questions in the minutes, and the Mayor answered in the affirmative.

In response, C. Pruitt reiterated his request.

Mayor Hameeduddin reiterated that the Clerk already records all questions asked that can be found in the minutes.

C. Pruitt clarified that his request is for the Manager or the Clerk to keep track of questions “on the spot”.

In response, the Mayor advised that each Councilmember has an equal opportunity to take notes during the meeting with respect to which questions they would like to answer and to address those questions. He stated that he believed C. Pruitt’s request to be a request for a procedural change, and the reason for the current process is to keep the meeting moving forward.

C. Parker supported C. Pruitt's suggestion. She also suggested that the Clerk keep track of the questions asked by the public and provide them to Council in writing during the meeting to serve as a reminder. She also suggested that the format for the meeting include a dialogue between the public and the Council.

Mayor Hameeduddin stated that he is opposed to having a dialogue with the public as a result of prior legal issues that occurred as a result of same. He also advised that when the public speaks, he makes it a point to take notes, and as such, there is no need to have the Clerk do this for him.

Mayor Hameeduddin addressed the Council and asked if any members of Council other than C. Pruitt and C. Parker were in favor of the Clerk writing down the public's questions during Good and Welfare for the Council. The consensus of Council was not in favor.

C. Parker nominated Rebecca Zakheim, Alex Kasdan, Jake Reichel to serve as youth members to the Youth Advisory Board and Patricia King-Butler to serve as adult advisor to the Youth Advisory Board.

C. Parker nominated Howard Thompson to serve on the Board of Adjustment. C. Pruitt seconded the nomination.

C. Katz nominated Ho Wan Ching to the Social Services Advisory Board and Varda Hager to the Senior Citizen Advisory Board.

Mayor Hameeduddin nominated Avi Frisch as Alternate Member to the Board of Adjustment and Edward Mulligan as Regular Member to the Board of Adjustment. C. Schwartz seconded the nominations.

C. Parker stated her belief that Council must take action to move an alternate member to a regular member position prior to nominations being made to appoint an alternate member when there are no vacant alternate positions.

Mayor Hameeduddin advised C. Parker that the Council has previously nominated applicants for positions in this fashion.

C. Parker questioned how support for a nominee can be assumed, and Council offered that if there is no support, then the item does not pass.

C. Parker stated that she nominated Howard Thompson as a Regular Member to the Board of Adjustment and not as an Alternate Member.

Mr. Turitz requested that C. Parker reiterate her request for clarification.

Mayor Hameeduddin declared that any members of the public wishing to be heard at this time shall come forward and state their names for the record. Comments shall be limited to five minutes per person.

Senator Loretta Weinberg – spoke about her pending bills regarding the OPRA and the OPMA that are scheduled to go before the Senate this coming Thursday; raised her issues with the 4-day work week, results produced as a result of her previous OPRA Request and the Mayor's previous statement regarding responses to public input.

Lavergne Lightburn – spoke about a fallen tree on her parents' roof as a result of the recent storm, falling trees on Selvage, large trees that are not deep-rooted; and urged Council to consider allowing residents the right to do away with trees that may pose a threat on their private properties.

Sandy Loft – spoke about the NYC Mayor's Council on gun control and urged Council to consider same; spoke about the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy and suggested the establishment of an Advisory Board to create suggestions for an evacuation plan in addition to what the Township has in place currently.

Thomas Abbott – spoke about the December 4, 2012 Debt Management Plan Meeting and the whereabouts of the presentation and breakdown in connection with same; and questioned the debt figures.

Lorraine Kaplan – spoke about her residency and teaching background; expressed appreciation for the Richard Rodda Community Center; raised her issue with new directions which she received to participate in activities; informed that she is in the process of selling her home; however, she wants to remain in Teaneck as a result of the Rodda Center; described the Center as “a jewel in Teaneck’s cap”; and requested that monies be applied to the Center.

Barbara Ley Toffler – questioned the whereabouts of cots that were delivered to the Teaneck Armory at the start of Hurricane Sandy; informed that she spoke with the Commander of the Teaneck Armory who advised that FEMA delivered cots to Teaneck for sheltering purposes; advised that she questioned the Commander if the Teaneck Armory could serve as an emergency shelter for Teaneck, and in response, the Commander advised there is plenty of space for the Armory to serve as a shelter to Teaneck; however, this request must come from the Township directly to FEMA.

Howard Rose – congratulated Fran Wilson; thanked Ms. Loft for a very good suggestion; raised his issues with the 4-day work week and the renovation to the Old Police Headquarters; spoke about the Auditor’s comments regarding Teaneck having minimal debt; and thanked Barbara Toffler for her input.

Dr. Rashin – raised his issues with Council answering questions, the 4-day work week, his previous conversations with Council and the contractors hired by the Township; and claimed that he discovered a cure for black outs from his home.

Renee Brown – expressed dissatisfaction with the clean-up as a result of Hurricane Sandy and requested additional manpower and faster service.

Simone Tsigonis, property owner of 662-706 Cedar Lane – advised that her property is located with the Special Improvement District, she is appearing on behalf of several Cedar Lane property owners, including Doron Goldschmidt; raised concerns about the assessments of the properties between Catalpa Avenue and River Road, as well as, 709-721 Cedar Lane; and requested the rezoning of this district to justify taxes.

Art Vatsky – expressed sympathy for the Council; spoke about the recent shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School; raised his issues with unresolved fatalities, broken bricks on the face of the Municipal Building, construction of the Municipal Building taking precedence, files being moved prior to an IT study and the housing of municipal vehicles and trucks.

Charles Powers – requested five minutes to speak under Good and Welfare and requested five minutes to speak on the budget.

Mr. Turitz advised Charles Powers that he would have five minutes to discuss each topic, and Charles Powers advised that he would announce his separation in public input under Good and Welfare and the budget.

Charles Powers – spoke about his surgeon, third-world policies and practices, his tracking meeting minutes and videos, his upcoming retirement and racism; and raised his issues with the Mayor’s comments of February, 2011, Township practices, the PowerPoint Presentation and breakdown of figures from the December 4, 2012 Meeting not being included on the website, figures reflected in the December 4, 2012 presentation, a denial resulting from his previous OPRA Request, legal expenses, deficiencies from the 2010 and the 2011 Audit and alleged corruption and racism.

Alan Sohn – spoke about Senator Weinberg’s and Thomas Abbott’s comments; raised the issue of the Council’s Advisory Board on Community Relations with respect to the 4-day work week; raised his issue with the 4-Day Work Week Subcommittee’s PowerPoint Presentation, the Manager’s responsiveness and performance; and requested answers.

Jason Castle – offered condolences to victims of the shooting in CT; spoke about C. Pruitt’s request that all questions be written down; congratulated Fran Wilson; raised his issues with the Manager directing him to stop filming at the last Council Meeting; alleged violation of his common law rights, lawsuits filed against the Township, officials’ knowledge of the law, the Township’s collaboration with FEMA or alleged lack thereof regarding emergency shelters; and suggested the use of a word-search equivalent technology.

Laura Zucker – spoke about cots being delivered to the Rodda Center; raised her issues with the Township allegedly not having an emergency plan, lack of electricity during emergencies, the Manager directing Jason Castle to stop filming at the last meeting, the 4-day work week and Council’s actions.

Naomi Cramer – advised that she has comments under Good and Welfare, as well as, the budget; questioned the whereabouts of the PowerPoint Presentation from the December 4, 2012 Debt Management Meeting on the website; raised her issues about the 4-day work week, an emergency preparedness meeting reported in the Jewish Media Newspaper, legal fees; and requested Council announce when they will not answer questions in connection with Good and Welfare, Council contact Dr. Rashin regarding his cure for black outs, applying funds for a hut to house DPW vehicles and reconsideration of the ordinance allowing Council to add items to the agenda at anytime.

Micky Shilan – spoke about the recent blackout and storm, wires fallen on her car at the time; raised her issues with Holy Name Medical Center as a result of her being refused access to the employee’s cafeteria during the storm, lack of information provided to emergency services during storms; commended the Department of Public Works for individual attention to her needs; and questioned what she can do with a barrel of heavy leaves.

There being no further persons wishing to speak at this time (or the time limit of one hour having expired), Mayor Hameeduddin declared that the public comment portion of the meeting was now closed.

Mayor Hameeduddin inquired whether any member of the Council or the Manager wished to respond to the public comments or whether a member of the Council wished to remove any item from the Consent Agenda and have a separate discussion thereon.

Mayor Hameeduddin requested that Ms. Evelina and Mr. Turitz meet for the purpose of creating a timeline with respect to how the 4-day work week was created. With respect to the work week, he advised that negotiations with bargaining units cannot be held in public, and Council is working with the Manager through issues to arrive at solutions.

In response to Senator Weinberg’s issue with his previous statement about Council having the choice to respond or not to respond to public input, he expressed that when her supporters appear at meetings to call him a racist, and he chooses not to respond, this is not an act of disrespect.

In response to Ms. Lightburn, he advised that tree removal issues must be addressed in accordance with the Code.

In response to Ms. Brown, he advised that due to budgetary constraints, fuel conservation needs and Council’s effort to be fiscally responsible, service is delivered as expeditiously as possible.

He questioned if cots were delivered, and the Manager answered in the affirmative but advised that he will report on this matter later on during the meeting.

In response to Ms. Loft, a Subcommittee was established, and they will take suggestions. He informed that C. Katz will report on the Subcommittee’s progress under Committee Reports. He advised that he signed onto the Gun Control Petition under the United States Conference of Mayors and is waiting to see if changes will occur in legislation.

In response to Mr. Abbott, he deferred to the Manager. The Manager informed that he was experiencing technical difficulties with the PowerPoint Presentation of December 4, 2012; however, the issue is being fixed and then the Presentation will be posted tomorrow.

In response to Ms. Kaplan, he requested that the Manager contact Ms. Kaplan directly to ascertain all of her issues.

C. Parker informed there was a flyer distributed which reflects if you are more than 15 minutes late, you cannot enter the class. The flyer also reflects an attendance requirement at a certain amount of classes. She acknowledged that Council did this to accommodate additional people; however, she does not understand the 15-minute late policy.

The Manager reminded Council of previous conversations in open sessions at which time Council discussed implementing policy changes as a result of serious issues of attendance. He previously provided an attendance study to Council, and appropriate policy changes were implemented to accommodate additional residents.

C. Parker questioned if someone is 15 minutes late to a class if another resident is allowed into the class and went on to say that she does not comprehend the purpose, and in response, Mr. Broughton advised that constant tardiness is disruptive to the programs.

DM. Gussen advised that much of the discussions regarding policy changes came as a result of suggestions from the Parks, Playgrounds and Recreation Advisory Board, as the Board was receiving numerous complaints from residents who could not enroll in classes as a result of classes being booked while attendance was poor; however, the issue was not as a result of tardiness.

In response, the Manager advised that he would speak with the Recreation Director regarding the 15-minute late policy.

C. Parker expressed that the reasons for the changes were to allow for additional parking and mentioned that the lack of parking could be the result of attendees' tardiness.

In response to Mr. Rose's comments alleging that no changes were made to the architect's plans for the old police headquarters, Mayor Hameeduddin advised that changes were made to the architect's plans and suggested that there were not enough changes for Mr. Rose or that Mr. Rose simply disagrees with same. He assured residents that they are heard.

Mr. Broughton spoke about leaf pick up start dates, the amount of leaves handled by the Department of Public Works and contractors and the increasing amount of leaves as a result of the storm. He commended the Department of Public Works for a job well done.

With respect to the filming of Council meetings, Mr. Broughton advised that Mr. Castle was told to stop filming as a result of his set up which included his equipment being plugged into the Council Chambers wall with a tripod blocking the aisle. He advised that at that very same meeting, Mr. Powers was also filming and not told to stop, as he was filming appropriately.

With respect to the cots, due to the established relationships the Township has with the Armory, the Armory contacted the Manager and offered cots. The Manager accepted the offer, and now the Township has cots at no cost to the Township. Also, he will contact the Armory to inquire about the facility serving as an emergency shelter for Teaneck residents. Finally, he advised that he was able to establish a warming center at Benjamin Franklin during the last storm and continues to work on warming centers; however, the warming centers will need volunteers and urged members of the public to contact him, if they are interested in volunteering.

C. Katz suggested that the Council consider introducing an ordinance to allow residents to cut trees on their private property.

Mayor Hameeduddin suggested that the Manager contact PSE&G to inquire about having a helicopter fly over the Township to identify where trees are stuck on wires. He informed that not only can they do this but they will also identify problem areas, cut back trees and in cases when trees must be removed, they will remove the trees and replace with trees that will not grow into the wires.

C. Katz again suggested that Council consider an ordinance, as although the Township takes pride in being a Tree City, the Township should also be a "safe city".

Mayor Hameeduddin requested that Ms. Evelina contact the Shade Tree Advisory Board and the Environmental Commission to request that they list this matter for discussion at one of their upcoming meeting and further requested that she provide him with meeting dates.

C. Katz expressed his recollection of how the 4-day work week was implemented. He referenced a Subcommittee being established in an open session meeting, the Subcommittee meeting in the Manager's Office, reporting on their decision in an open session meeting, implementing the 4-day work week and subsequent meetings. He stated that as a result of the various conversations in open sessions, these discussions should be reflected in the minutes.

Mr. Broughton reminded Council that the 4-day work was implemented in August of 2009.

In response to the Manager, C. Parker stated that the point is that these discussions should be reflected in the minutes. She also stated that on November 20, 2012, she sent the Clerk an email, directing her to continue searching through minutes for the Senator, as she was certain that conversations took place in open session regarding the 4-day work week.

DM. Gussen recalled numerous discussions in open sessions regarding the 4-day work week and expressed concern as these discussions are not in the minutes. He questioned the Clerk as to what is in the minutes or what is not in the minutes.

In response, the Manager reminded Council that the Clerk conducted a word search at the request of the Senator, and went onto to explain to Council that if the computer does not return results for each time the 4-day work week was discussed, this does not mean that the discussions are not included in the minutes. He further explained that to locate each place where the matter was discussed, the Clerk would have to conduct extensive research by opening each set of minutes and searching for those words.

C. Parker responded that it does not matter, and although the Clerk did a word search, she needs to do a further search.

Mayor Hameeduddin expressed that a timeline would be drafted as soon as possible.

Alan Sohn shouted at the Council from the audience, and the Mayor requested order. Alan Sohn again shouted at the Council a second time, and the Mayor again requested order. Art Vatsky then began to shout at the Council from the audience. The Mayor offered silence until there was order. When there was silence, he called on C. Pruitt who wanted to offer comments.

C. Pruitt announced that he noted 18 questions from the public. He expressed support for the Municipal Building to be open five days per week. In response to Ms. Cramer's comments with respect to a meeting which took place, he expressed interest in information regarding same.

C. Katz addressed C. Pruitt's inquiry. He informed that as with many other emergency preparedness meetings provided over the years by Township officials at the requests of various groups, he received requests from the Jewish community who does not receive communication on Saturdays to meet with emergency services and officials to address emergency preparedness in the absence of communication due to religious observation. He and other officials attended the meeting to accommodate the requesting group.

C. Stern advised that he attended the same meeting, and the genesis of the meeting was last year's tornado which occurred on a Saturday and burglaries that occurred during Jewish holy days this past fall where people were unable to call the police due to religious observation.

Mayor Hameeduddin advised that the Public Safety Subcommittee spoke about using different channels of communication. Although the public would like to schedule one emergency preparedness meeting, the reality is that not every resident will attend.

C. Stern advised the public that emergency preparedness meetings have been scheduled by the Township Manager, and the dates, times and locations will be posted on the Township Website.

Mr. Broughton advised that additional smaller meetings will be heard to reach various groups within the community.

C. Parker stated that it appears more official when a meeting is advertised in the paper and feels it would have been more beneficial had everyone known about the meeting in advance. Indicated that the situation with the hurricane occurring on a Saturday was a unique one, however, it is imperative that the Township be prepared for any tragedy that may occur in the future. C. Parker went on to say that meetings concerning emergency preparedness should be opened to the entire community.

DM. Gussen addressed Ms. Tsigonis' issue indicating that there had been several representatives of Cedar Lane Residential Property Owners that are assessed by the Special Improvement District assessment as being part of the assessed properties and the improvements to the Cedar Lane Business District. DM. Gussen Stated that he, as well as C. Parker and other Councilmembers have advocated for this in the past. Stated that he recently received a call from a resident complaining about Cedar Lane alleging that it was a mess with damaged trees, unhealthy trees, street lights being out. DM. Gussen indicated that while he did notice that some of the trees did not look as healthy as they would have liked, he drove through the business district and found that none of the street lights were out. Indicated that what he did notice was that the area on Cedar Lane west of CVS has never been improved. Went on to say that the residential area of Cedar Lane, west of CVS is assessed in the same manner as the business district and feels this is extremely inappropriate to the residents and therefore strongly advises considering relief for these residents.

C. Katz requested clarification regarding residential property owners, indicating that there is an apartment complex in said area as well as houses which are actually businesses and therefore would not be classified as residential properties.

DM. Gussen suggested they look into these properties and redefine them, perhaps having an exemption for residential properties that have not been improved.

Mayor Hameeduddin and members of Council continued discussing this issue and directed the Township Manager to forward them the information regarding this matter and to place it on a future agenda under Council Listed Items or Old Business. A decision will be made based on the information provided. Council concurred.

DM. Gussen discussed the concern of the four-day workweek and the OPRA issues. Listed the different positions the residents may have regarding the four-day workweek including whether or not the the concern is with the Manager having the day off, or the process by which the four-day workweek had been implemented which, allegedly, appears not to be transparent enough for the residents. DM. Gussen went on to say that each and every Department has received accolades by the residents for going above and beyond for the public. Stated that the staff and Council works diligently to make the Township the best it can possibly be. He expressed dissatisfaction with the misinformation and/or partial misinformation or specific misdirection of truth and fact so as to cast dispersion on staff and Council.

C. Stern discussed emergency preparedness and the concept of a CERT Team, Certified Emergency Response Team, indicating that training is available through the County as well as FEMA. He stated that he had spoken with the Township Manager regarding this topic and with the Council's permission, would like to gather the necessary information regarding the training which takes place at the police academy a few times during the year. C. Stern feels this is an excellent program and would like to see if it would work well for Teaneck. Suggested listing this item on an up-coming agenda, and Council concurred.

CONSENT AGENDA

All matters listed below are considered to be routine in nature by Council and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If any discussion is desired by Council, that particular item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.

RAFFLES

All subject to approval and conditions applicable with the Legalized Games of Chance Control Commission and pursuant to State Statute.

RA#1343 – Congregation Beth Aaron Men’s Club – Off Premise Merchandise Draw Raffle - \$40.00

MINUTES

Note: The following minutes are scheduled for approval on January 8, 2012:

- November 27, 2012 – Closed Session Meeting.
- November 27, 2012 – Open Session Meeting.
- November 29, 2012 – Closed Session Meeting.
- November 29, 2012 – Special Session Meeting.
- December 4, 2012 – Special Session Meeting.

DM. Gussen moved to approve the Consent Agenda, including Raffles, Minutes and Resolutions and to dispense with the reading of same inasmuch as it has been posted on the bulletin board all day. Seconded by

RESOLUTIONS

- 287-12. Approve IOD Leave – P. Kearns.
- 288-12. Appoint Municipal Court Judge.
- 289-12. Authorize Municipal Consent Pursuant to 12.39 Special Ruling – Best of Wines & Liquors, LLC – Plenary Retail Distribution Liquor License #0260-44-006-004 –2012/2013.
- 290-12. Approve 2012 Budget Account Transfers.
- 291-12. Authorize Transfer of FDU Donation Funds to Public Assistance Trust Funds – SSAB Request.
- 292-12. Authorize Lien on Tax Records – Sewer Use.
- 293-12. Refund 2011 and 2012 Property Tax Overpayments.
- 294-12. Authorize Issuance of Payments to Vendors – Emergency Services Due to Hurricane Sandy.
- 295-12. Authorize Issuance of Payment – Turnpike Truck & Auto Center – Repair to DPW Vehicle Due to Hurricane Sandy.
- 296-12. Authorize Issuance of Payment to Vendors – 2013 Police Vehicles and Equipment.
- 297-12. Authorize Professional Services Contract – Schwanewede/Hals Engineering – 2012 Road & Parking Area Resurfacing Program.
- 298-12. Refund 2012 Taxes – Block 103, Lot 12.
- 299-12. Refund 2011 and 2012 Taxes – Block 3008, Lot 4.
- 300-12. Award Contract – Nature’s Choice Corporation – Recycling of Garden Debris – 2013/2014.
- 301-12. Approve Grant Agreement – 2012 CDBG – Resurfacing of Ayers Court & Lozier Place Project.
- 302-12. Ratify Payments – November, 2012.
- 303-12. Approve Settlement Agreement – Galano vs. Teaneck, et al. – Docket No. BER-L-7949-11.

BILL LIST

Ms. Evelina read the amount of the Bill List into the record \$5,389,627.82. DM. Gussen moved to approve the Consent Agenda, including Raffles, Minutes, Resolutions and the Bill List and to dispense with the reading of same inasmuch as it has been posted on the bulletin board all day, except. Seconded by Councilmember Stern.

Mayor Hameeduddin called on Ms. Evelina for a roll-call vote.

Roll Call.

In Favor: C. Parker, C. Stern, DM. Gussen, C. Pruitt (absent at time of vote), C. Katz (absent at time of vote), C. Schwartz, Mayor Hameeduddin.

Opposed: None.

Absent: None.

Abstained: C. Parker (Bill List).

Recused: None.

Mayor Hameeduddin declared that said items were passed.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

Ms. Evelina read the Ordinances by title only.

ORDINANCE NO. 4282 - AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING SECTION 2-15 MEETINGS OF ARTICLE II, "COUNCIL" OF CHAPTER 2 OF THE TOWNSHIP CODE ENTITLED CHARTER/ADMINISTRATIVE CODE" RESPECTING MEETING AGENDAS

ORDINANCE NO. 4283 - AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING SECTION 33-21.1(i) OF CHAPTER 33 OF THE TOWNSHIP CODE ENTITLED DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS TO ADD THE BIG RED OAK TREE LOCATED ON A PORTION OF LOT 25 IN BLOCK 2609 TO THE LIST OF DESIGNATED HISTORIC SITES

Mayor Hameeduddin inquired as to whether any Councilmember wished to comment upon the motion to introduce.

Per the request of Mayor Hameeduddin, the Township Attorney gave a description of the above Ordinances stating that Ordinance 4282 was self-explanatory indicating that the Ordinance basically amends the procedures of the Council Listed Items allowing Council to add to the Agenda up to and including the day of the meeting, eliminating the deadline of the Thursday prior to a Council Meeting. Mr. Turitz explained that Ordinance 4283 would designate, as an historic site, the Red Oak Tree located at 339 Cedar Lane.

C. Parker requested Mr. Turitz clarify the revision made to Ordinance 4282, indicating that there had been an earlier version.

Mr. Turitz explained that any Councilmember may list any item under Council Listed Items without the vote of fellow Councilmembers up until and including the evening of the Council Meeting.

C. Stern spoke on Ordinance 4282 indicating that he is opposed to the Ordinance stating that the time span of the Thursday prior to a Council Meeting is more than adequate time for Councilmembers to list an item for an upcoming meeting. C. Stern stated that if items are added to a meeting after the Thursday deadline, chances are Council would not have the necessary time to properly review said item in order to make an informed decision regarding the matter. He went on to say that in the event of an emergency, it would then be appropriate to add an item. C. Stern went on to speak about Ordinance 4283 regarding the Red Oak Tree indicating that at the Planning Board Meeting, the Board unanimously concurred with the designation of the Red Oak Tree.

C. Parker stated that the Township Manager, Township Clerk and Township Attorney have the opportunity to add an item to the Agenda at any time, whereas Council is not afforded the same opportunity. She went on to say that adding an item to the agenda does not mean Council will take action on said item.

C. Stern stated that perhaps the Clerk, the Attorney and the Manager should not have the opportunity to add items to the agenda.

C. Parker concurred.

Mayor Hameeduddin asked the Township Attorney if each Ordinance could be introduced and voted on separately or would both have to be voted on at the same time.

Mr. Turitz informed Mayor and Council that the Ordinances could be voted on separately if Council wished to do so.

Council Concurred.

Councilmember Parker moved that Ordinance 4282 be introduced and passed on first reading and that the Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to publish the required legal notice of the introduction thereof, together with a notice of the place, time, and date on which a public hearing will be held on said ordinance, and on which said ordinance will be considered for final adoption. Seconded by Councilmember Katz and carried by the following vote:

In Favor: C. Parker, DM. Gussen, C. Pruitt, C. Katz, C. Schwartz, Mayor Hameeduddin.

Opposed: C. Stern.

Absent: None.

Mayor Hameeduddin moved that Ordinance 4283 be introduced and passed on first reading and that the Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to publish the required legal notice of the introduction thereof, together with a notice of the place, time, and date on which a public hearing will be held on said ordinance, and on which said ordinance will be considered for final adoption. Seconded by Councilmember Stern and carried by the following vote:

In Favor: C. Parker, C. Stern, DM. Gussen, C. Pruitt, C. Katz, C. Stern,
Mayor Hameeduddin.

Opposed: None.

Absent: None.

Mayor Hameeduddin declared that said ordinances were introduced and passed on first reading.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Hurricane Sandy Relief.

C. Parker stated that this topic would be carried to the January meeting.

2. RFP Engineering.

Mr. Broughton indicated that this is a project that he has turned over to the Purchasing Agent and he plans to have additional information in January.

DM. Gussen inquired as to whether the date would be closer to the January 1st mark or the January 31st mark.

Mr. Broughton stated that the information would be obtained closer to the January 31st mark.

DM. Gussen questioned the function of the Township Engineering Department since projects are outsourced to outside engineers.

Township Manager Broughton informed all present that the Township Engineer does in fact work on numerous projects within the Township.

DM. Gussen requested that this task be looked into sooner rather than later.

Mr. Broughton agreed.

3. Animal Control.

C. Katz spoke about the Animal Control Presentation which had take place approximately six month ago. Indicated that he feels the Township is paying too much money for Bergen County Animal Control and that they are being charged per population rather than occurring incidents. C. Katz inquired about the status of the two RFP's.

Mr. Turitz indicated that the Township went through two bidding processes and the contract was openly negotiated, approved by Council and was supposed to go into effect on December 1, 2012.

Mr. Broughton stated that the contract did in fact go into effect in the beginning of December of 2012 and the contractor is presently providing the service. Mr. Broughton also informed Council that with the Township is now saving approximately \$20,000 with the new provider.

4. Old Police Building.

Mr. Broughton discussed the presentation from the prior Council Meeting. He stated that he would like Council to move forward with the process so that it may be put out to bid late January or early February. Mr. Broughton stated that he will prepare a Resolution for the next meeting for Council to approve the project.

Mayor Hameeduddin requested the Manager set up a meeting between the architect and Chairman of the Sustainable Energy Commission so that they may discuss ideas involving the project. Council agreed that a Resolution should be prepared for the next Council Meeting but also agreed that the meeting between the architect and the Chairman take place prior to the next Council Meeting.

MISCELLANEOUS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

COMMUNICATIONS

None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS - COUNCIL LIAISONS

C. Pruitt discussed that he had attended a meeting and informed all that Cedar Lane seems to be in trouble in that the movie theater and Louie's has gone out of business. He went on to say there is a vibrant group of individuals who are trying to work to get the theater back in business.

Mayor Hameeduddin stated that he met with the several different individuals regarding the movie theater who are hoping to work out a deal and bring business back to Cedar Lane. He indicated that businesses run into problems because they have issues with the way they are run, illness being one unforeseen issue. Recovering from issues such as these, are almost impossible. Mayor Hameeduddin also addressed several rumors and assured all that the Council will be looking at the zoning of Cedar Lane. Referred to a discussion Council had pertaining to River Street and the possibilities. Council continued an at-length discussion regarding the rebuilding of Cedar Lane.

Mayor Hameeduddin discussed issues with the Building Department and feels this is something Council must meet head on in 2013. He suggested adding this to the January 8, 2013 Agenda. Discussed implementing a Redevelopment Committee, indicating that this is something with which the Council must move forward.

C. Katz spoke on the first Public Safety Committee he attended with C. Parker, Mayor Hameeduddin, C. Katz, Mr. Broughton as well as some of the Department Heads who were very active during Hurricane Sandy. Discussed how well everyone worked together during the storm and also discussed the ways in which internal and external communication should be improved for any future emergencies. C. Katz indicated he will reach out to Clergy Council as well as other volunteers to become involved in this committee.

C. Parker added they are also planning to put together an Emergency Response Civilian Plan which will be communicated to the public and sent to each resident. Looked at other options such as an emergency response line, where there is a dedicated line residents can call for updates; also discussed message boards on the Municipal Green or using the current bulletin board to get information to residents.

Mayor Hammeduddin discussed the possibility of using the FDU radio station to send emergency messages out to the public in a timely fashion. He went on to explain that the Township went from having seventy people on the website alerts to 800 people who are presently using this feature. Indicated there are people who do not use the website and therefore are trying to find different ways in which to communicate with those individuals who are not presently using social media. Working the Community Relations Advisory Board and the Senior Services at the high school to be sure senior citizens are properly cared for in emergency situations.

C. Parker stated that during the meeting, Council discussed the possibility of proposing of ordinances requiring senior buildings must have a generator.

Mayor Hameeduddin reiterated on C. Parker's comment adding that an Ordinance be drafted requiring gas stations have an emergency generator, even if it is an economic generator. Proposed meeting sometime in January in an effort to have this accomplished by January 31, 2013.

C. Stern spoke about the meeting of the Cedar Lane Management Group and recapped on C. Pruitt's comments regarding said meeting. Questioned Mr. Turitz if the Management Group has funds available in their budget, are they able to use the funds to assist certain businesses on Cedar Lane.

Mr. Turitz informed Council that he would look into the matter and inform them of his findings.

C. Stern suggested having community meetings during the year to include residents and business owners so that they may inform Council of any ideas pertaining to what type it is they would like to see in all the business areas.

DM. Gussen discussed the Arbor Readem Project in Phelps Park. Since the PPRAB member who was in charge of the project passed, the project has fallen by the wayside. Inquired whether or not the Shade Tree Advisory Board would be interested in taking on the project. He suggested reaching out to Roby Langert regarding this matter.

COUNCIL-LISTED ITEMS

1. *"Teaneck Topics"* – C. Parker

C. Parker questioned whether or not the Burial Ground Signs have been put in place as of yet. She stated that she received an e-mail regarding the issue as to whether or not names of Councilmembers should be placed on the signs and expressed her support for not having the names placed on the sign.

C. Parker would like to see the Teaneck Topics be published on a regular basis so that important information is made available to the residents.

Manager Broughton stated that it would be discussed during the budget discussions.

2. *"Cedar Lane/Economic Development"* – C. Parker

C. Parker feels this should take a priority in 2013 in an effort to improve the businesses in the Township.

Council engaged in conversation regarding this matter and concurred that this should be a topic that is revisited.

Mr. Broughton indicated that this also would be discussed during the time of budget discussions.

3. *“Council Security”* – C. Katz

C. Katz discussed safety in public buildings, referring to a recent incident which had occurred in this building and feels that a pilot program should be implemented. He indicated that the building has a magnetometer and the police officer and therefore should move forward with the implementation.

Mayor Hameeduddin stated that this topic should be discussed during budget discussions indicating that if this is something that is feasible for retired security for the Court, then it would be feasible for a Council Meeting.

Mr. Broughton stated that in order to manage a checkpoint would require two officers at the magnetometer with one officer in the Courtroom. He went on to explain that the individual could be a retired security officer and went on to explain how the security system works. Council engaged in an in-depth conversation regarding the matter and decided to save the discussion for budget discussions.

4. *“Boat Dock Agreement at Andreas Park”* – C. Katz

C. Katz stated that in an effort to save time, he would carry this topic for another meeting.

5. *“Portable Generator Hook-Ups”* – C. Schwartz

C. Schwartz stated that in an effort to save time, he would carry this topic for another meeting.

TOWNSHIP MANAGER'S REPORT

1. Water Waste Sewage.

Mr. Broughton indicated that he had provided a copy of the Water Waste Sewage Report to Council.

Mr. Gussen requested a discussion of the waste water sewage ordinance listed for discussion in the revenue section of the budget meetings to determine whether or not they want to modify in the future.

The Manager agreed.

2. Recycling Bins.

Mr. Broughton indicated that the recycling stations are located in various areas of the Township. He indicated that there would be a meeting with the Contractor to discuss the additional bins being placed within the Township. If they are not satisfied with the contractor's decision in placing and/or not placing additional bins, he will look into additional contractors.

3. Amsterdam and Queen Anne Sidewalks.

Mr. Broughton stated that the sidewalk is actually missing multiple slabs at the location in question. Council and the Manager had an extended dialogue regarding this topic indicating that this area is used for students traveling to and from school.

Mr. Turitz suggested the Manager contact the owner of the property to inquire about his/her plans regarding the walkway. Council concurred.

4. Speed Limit on Palisades/Votee Park.

Mr. Broughton informed all that the Police Department conducted a study at the location and the requirements for reducing the speed at said location were not met. He further discussed these requirements in detail.

C. Katz stated that the location is parallel to the busiest park in the Township. He feels the present speed limit can become a problem.

DM. Gussen suggested the study be conducted again during baseball/softball season.

Manager Broughton agreed.

5. Cell Towers.

Mr. Broughton informed Council he is presently working on adding additional locations for the Cell Towers and has a meeting scheduled with SBA Towers, the vendor, on January 2, 2013.

6. Dog Park.

Township Manager Broughton stated that he had been out to inspect the work on the dog park. The fence posts have been installed and additional work has to be completed. The soil will be taken out and stones will be put in to produce a better base and he is pricing wood chips versus stone dust. The Manager is hoping the project will be completed by the end of January, weather permitting.

7. Generators.

Mr. Broughton indicated that an RFP was put out, expanding the engineering work to be done with regard to the generators. He gave an at-length discussion of the project concerning the generators. The Manager and Council discussed the difference of natural gas versus diesel.

TOWNSHIP ATTORNEY'S REPORT

None.

ADJOURNMENT

DM. Gussen moved to adjourn at 11:30 p.m.

Seconded by Councilmember Schwartz.

Roll Call.

In Favor: C. Parker, C. Stern, DM. Gussen, C. Pruitt, C. Katz, C. Schwartz,
Mayor Hameeduddin.

Opposed: None.

Absent: None.

Abstained: None.

Recused: None.