

**TOWNSHIP OF MANSFIELD
BURLINGTON COUNTY
MEETING MINUTES
April 22, 2015
Executive Session
6:30 PM**

The regular meeting of the Mansfield Township Committee was held on the above shown date with the following in attendance: **Mayor Robert Higgins, Deputy Mayor Sean Gable, Committeewoman Janice DiGiuseppe, Committeeman Arthur Puglia, Solicitor Michael Magee, Administrator Michael Fitzpatrick, and Clerk Linda Semus. Committeeman Robert Semptimphelter** was not in attendance.

Mayor Higgins called the meeting to order followed by the following opening statement.

Public notice of this meeting pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act NJSA 10:4-6 to 10:4-21 has been satisfied. Notice of this meeting was properly given in the annual notice, which was adopted by the Mansfield Township Committee on January 4, 2015. Said Resolution was transmitted to the Burlington County Times and the Trenton Times, filed with the Clerk of the Township of Mansfield, posted on the official bulletin board at the Municipal Complex, filed with the members of this body and mailed to each person who has prepaid any charge fixed for such service. All of the mailing, posting, and filing having been accomplished as of January 7, 2015.

A motion was offered by **Committeeman Puglia** and second by **Deputy Mayor Gable** to go into executive session by adoption of the following resolution. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION 2015-4-9
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION**

WHEREAS, Section 7 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 213, P.L. 1975 [NJSA 10:4-12(B)] permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and, **WHEREAS**, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exists; **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Committee of the Township of Mansfield, County of Burlington and State of New Jersey as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from discussion of, action on and reviewing the Minutes of the hereinafter specified matters.
2. The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows: pending litigation, on-going contract negotiations and personnel.
3. It is anticipated at this time that the above subject matter will be made public when the matter has been resolved and approved for release by the Township Solicitor.

Regular Meeting
7:30PM

The regular meeting of the Mansfield Township Committee was held on the above shown date with the following in attendance **Mayor Robert Higgins, Deputy Mayor Sean Gable, Committeewoman Janice DiGiuseppe, Committeeman, Committeeman Arthur R. Puglia, CFO Joseph Monzo, Engineer Tim Staszewski, Attorney Michael Magee, Administrator Michael Fitzpatrick, Clerk Linda Semus, and Deputy Clerk Barbara Crammer. Committeeman Robert Semptimphelter** was not in attendance.

A motion was offered by **Committeeman Puglia** and second by **Deputy Mayor Gable** come out of executive session. Motion carried.

Attorney Magee said the purpose of the executive session was to discuss contract on-going contract negotiations, pending litigation and personnel.

Mayor Higgins called the regular meeting to order followed by the Salute to the Flag and a moment of silence.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Engineer Tim Staszewski informed the Committee that the Township received a grant from the DOT for resurfacing of Axe Factory Road, with hopes to do it later on this summer. Bids were received for White Pine Road and they seem to be favorable. It is on the agenda to be awarded. If awarded, a pre-construction meeting will be held soon so it can be started next month.

The fire suppression contract had change order options. He needs direction from the Committee on what options they may want to take so we can move forward to finalize the project. **Deputy Mayor Gable** commented that a new water flow test was done and are recommending either a smaller diesel pump generator which will be \$20,000 cheaper or an electric pump which would be an \$80,000 increase. **Engineer Staszewski** said the electric motor would need some type of back-up power. The electrical sub-code official wouldn't certify the influx of electrical power. To do that, it would need to be connected to an electrical generator or a diesel powered generator. They have determined that a new diesel powered generator would be more efficient. **Engineer Staszewski** asked the committee if they want to take the \$20,000 credit for the smaller pump size and move the packaged generator in the building or the increased cost to separate the electrical motor and install a new generator on the outside. **Deputy Mayor Gable** felt our choice is to take the \$20,000 credit and move forward with the smaller package unit and get the project done. **Engineer Staszewski** agreed. He spoke of comments about the odor which will happen anyway. The generator will have to be exercised. **Deputy Mayor Gable** said the test time can be set up when the building is not occupied. **Engineer Staszewski** noted that there was question about bringing the generator through the building. Jef Jones had requested some type of doorway be cut. This can be done at some point. **Mayor Higgins** suggested putting the generator in a building outside. **Engineer Staszewski** said this would not be feasible. No direct access would be needed. A post indication will be placed on the outside of the building. Jef Jones had said the fire official would like a door. **Engineer Staszewski** had asked if it was a code requirement or a recommendation. **Mayor Higgins** asked **Deputy Mayor Gable** to follow up with Jef. A motion was offered by **Deputy Mayor Gable** and second by **Committeeman Puglia** to move forward. Motion carried.

Engineer Staszewski referred to Mansfield Road East and the drainage issue with the Chandel property. His office contacted the property owner and developed a repair for the flooding issue. It will be implemented sometime this spring. **Mayor Higgins** felt this can't continue as this property owner had been promised help years ago.

A motion was offered by **Committeewoman DiGiuseppe** and second by **Deputy Mayor Gable** to accept the Engineer's Report. Motion carried.

FINANCE

Resolution 2015-3-2. CFO Monzo said this resolution was introduced with the budget introduction on March 12th. The Public Hearing on the 2015 Municipal Budget was scheduled for this meeting.

Mayor Higgins opened the public hearing on the 2015 Municipal Budget. Hearing no comments or questions, the public hearing was closed.

**RESOLUTION 2015-4-10
AMENDMENT TO THE LOCAL MUNICIPAL 2015 BUDGET**

	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
General Revenues		
Miscellaneous Revenues - Section F		
Special Items of General Revenue Anticipated with		
Prior Written Consent of Director of Local Government		
Services - Public and Private Revenues Offset with		
Appropriations		
Unappropriated Grants	70,575.72	
<u>Unappropriated Grants:</u>		
Environmental Services		5,000.00
Click it or Ticket it		4,000.00
Safe and Secure		9,630.00
DDEF		1,909.57
Recycling Tonnage		9,045.57

Planning Acceptance Grant		9,575.58
CDBG		31,415.00

<u>Summary of Revenues</u>		
-		
6. Amount to be Raised by Taxes for Support of Municipal Budget		
Total Amount to be Raised by Taxes for Support of Municipal Budget	4,411,945.28	4,440,025.48
7. Total General Revenues	7,409,031.00	7,437,111.20

8. General Appropriations

(A) General Appropriations with "CAPS"		
Group Insurance	406,800.00	404,794.00
Total Operations {Item 8(A)} within "CAPS"		
Other Expenses	4,531,784.18	4,529,778.18
Detail		
Other Expenses	2,609,212.00	2,607,206.00

(E) Deferred Charges and Statutory Expenditures		
Contribution to PERS	127,916.00	115,175.00
Contribution to PFRS	226,472.00	224,672.00
Total Deferred Charges and Statutory Expenses	600,981.95	586,437.95

(H-1) Total General Appropriations for Municipal Purposes within "CAPS" 5,132,766.13 5,116,219.13

(A) General Appropriations excluded from "CAPS"		
Employee Group Insurance	0.00	2,006.00
Total Other Operations Excluded from - "CAPS"	30,000.00	32,006.00

Public and Private Grants Offset by Revenues		
Unappropriated Grants	70,575.72	
<u>Unappropriated Grants:</u>		
Environmental Services		5,000.00
Click it or Ticket it		4,000.00
Safe and Secure		9,630.00
DDEF		1,909.57
Recycling Tonnage		9,045.57
Planning Acceptance Grant		9,575.58
CDBG		31,415.00

(D) Municipal Debt Service Excluded from "CAPS"

Payment of Bond Anticipation Notes	0.00	42,200.00
Total Municipal Debt Service- Excluded from CAPS	1,635,015.75	1,677,215.75

H-2 Total Appropriations excluded from CAP	1,836,591.47	1,880,797.47
O- Total Appropriations excluded from CAP	1,836,591.47	1,880,797.47
(L) Subtotal General Appropriations {Items (H-1) and (O)}	6,969,357.60	6,997,016.60
M- Reserve for Uncollected Taxes		
(9) Total General Appropriations	7,409,031.00	7,437,111.20

10.Dedicated Revenues from Sewer Utility		
Operating Surplus	9,000.00	6,706.00
Rents	40,047.94	41,450.00
Total Sewer Utility Revenues	49,047.94	48,156.00
11.Appropriations for Sewer Utility		
Other Expenses	37,700.00	36,808.06
Total Sewer Utility Appropriations	49,047.94	48,156.00

CFO Monzo explained that the State of New Jersey reviewed the municipal budget and, based upon their review. We have an amendment that needs to be adopted to amend the introduced municipal budget due to items they found during their review that they would like clarified or corrected.

CFO Monzo explained the changes as follows: Under the item called appropriated grants which are items we got grant awards for last year that did not make the budget because of the timing. The state wanted the items defined individually. The other item was an appropriation issue which they want the group insurance costs from inside the cap to outside the cap. There was also a transposition on the contributions for Police and Fire. The contribution for the Public Employees retirement system was less than the original amount posted. There was a principal payment on our bond anticipation notes that had to be included in this year's budget.

A motion was offered by **Committeeman Puglia** and second by **Committeewoman DiGiuseppe** to adopt Resolution 2015-4-10. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, recorded as follows:

AYE: PUGLIA, DIGIUSEPPE, GABLE (see comment below)**HIGGINS**
NAY: NONE ABSENT: SEMPTIMHELTER
ABSTAIN: GABLE (see below)

Deputy Mayor Gable clarified that he voted against the Police and Fire Retirement System as there is no compensation in that line for fire.

RESOLUTION 2015-4-11

CFO Monzo explained that Resolution 2015-4-11 will adopt the 2015 Municipal Budget as amended. A motion was offered **Committeeman Puglia** and second by **Committeewoman DiGiuseppe** to adopt Resolution 2015-4-11. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, recorded as follows:

AYE: PUGLIA, DIGIUSEPPE, GABLE (See below), HIGGINS
NAY: NONE **ABSENT:** SEMPTIMHELTER
ABSTAIN: GABLE (on Aid to Fire Department)

BILL LIST

A motion was offered by **Deputy Mayor Gable** and second by **Committeeman Puglia** to approve the bill list. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, recorded as follows:

AYE: GABLE, PUGLIA, DIGIUSEPPE, HIGGINS (see below)
NAY: NONE **ABSENT:** SEMPTIMHELTER
ABSTAIN: HIGGINS (on check #4052)

RESOLUTION 2015-4- 12
A RESOLUTION REQUESTING PERMISSION FOR THE DEDICATION BY RIDER FOR REVENUES DERIVED FROM THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST FUND (COAH) BY NJSA 40A:12A-3

WHEREAS, permission is required of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services for approval as a dedication by rider of revenues received by a municipality when the revenue is not subject to reasonably accurate estimates in advance; and

WHEREAS, NJSA 40A:12A-3 et seq provides for creation of an Affordable Housing Trust fund; and,

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-3 provides the dedicated revenues anticipated from the Affordable Housing Trust fund is hereby anticipated as revenue and are hereby appropriated for the purpose to which said revenue is dedicated by statute or other legal requirement:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of the Township of Mansfield, County of Burlington, and State of New Jersey as follows:

1. The Governing Body does hereby request permission of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to pay expenditures for future roadway and sidewalk improvements in accordance with NJSA 40A:12A-3
2. The Clerk of Township of Mansfield, County of Burlington, State of New Jersey is hereby directed to forward two certified copies of this Resolution to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services.

CFO Monzo explained that, during their review, COAH said they cannot locate Resolution 2015-4-12 which was adopted during the inset of COAH. We are adopting another which will allow us to maintain our COAH trust fund in accordance with budgetary statutes.

A motion was offered by **Committeeman Puglia** and second by **Committeewoman DiGiuseppe** to adopt Resolution 2015-4-12. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, recorded as follows:

AYE: PUGLIA, DIGIUSEPPE, GABLE, HIGGINS
NAY: NONE **ABSENT:** SEMPTIMHELTER **ABSTAIN:** NONE

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-4-13
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REDUCTION OF PERFORMANCE GUARANTEE FOR THE CELESTIAL CHURCH OF CHRIST COLUMBUS-HEDDING ROAD, BLOCK 31, LOTS 6.05 & 6.06 PERFORMANCE BOND REDUCTION #1

WHEREAS, The Celestial Church of Christ has received an inspection of their project located at Columbus-Hedding Road, Block 31, Lots 6.05 & 6.06 by the Mansfield Planning Board; and

WHEREAS, The Celestial Church of Christ has requested Reduction #1; and

WHEREAS, Remington & Vernick Engineers, Inc., by letter dated March 30, 2015, inspected the improvements and recommends Reduction #1 to said Bond established in the amount of 1,186,558.80, to its reduced amount of \$1,026,008.10; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Mansfield that:

1. The Township Committee agrees to Reduction #1 as indicated by the Township Engineer in the amount of \$1,026,008.10.
2. The Municipal Land Use Coordinator is authorized and directed to forward a certified copy of this Resolution to the Celestial Church of Christ.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Township Committee, as aforesaid, that this reduction in the developer's bonding obligation is conditioned upon the payment of all fees incurred by the municipality to the engineer or other professionals in connection with any inspection and report concerning the improvements covered by said bond or other performance guarantees; and if there be a sufficient sum held in escrow by the Township for the purpose of paying for said inspections and reports, said escrow may be utilized for that purpose and in the absence of a

sufficient escrow, said fee shall be paid by the obligor directly, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:55D-53(2)h.

Attorney Magee said a request was received from the Celestial Church to have his performance guarantee reduced. The Township Engineer performed an inspection and made a recommendation on the amount that could be released. This is the first reduction for that bond.

A motion was offered by **Deputy Mayor Gable** and second by **Committeewoman DiGiuseppe** to adopt Resolution 2015-4-13. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, recorded as follows:

AYE: GABLE, DIGIUSEPPE, PUGLIA, HIGGINS
NAY: NONE ABSENT: SEMPTIMHELTER ABSTAIN: NONE

RESOLUTION 2015-04-14
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING
PARTICIPATION IN THE FEDERAL 1033 PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the United States Code, Title 10 USC §257a, authorizes the Secretary of the Department of Defense (“DOD”) to transfer to Federal and State agencies, personal property that is excess to the needs of the DOD and which the Secretary determines is suitable to be used by such agencies in law enforcement activities, including counterdrug and counterterrorism activities (the “1033 Program”); and

WHEREAS, the Mansfield Township Police Department had already submitted their application to participate in this program prior to the change in requirement for a Resolution by the Township to participate in said program; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Mansfield has been deemed eligible to participate in the 1033 Program and accordingly to receive property from the DOD for use by the Mansfield Township Police Department; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to submit a Resolution of participation to the State Coordinator prior to submitting requisition requests, pursuant to 10 USC §257a; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of Mansfield Township, Burlington County and State of New Jersey grants authorization to the Mansfield Township Police Department to acquire property through their continued participation in the Federal 1033 Program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Police Department shall report the acquisition of any property to the Township Council within 30 days of such acquisition for approval.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the State Coordinator.

Attorney Magee explained that the Police Chief has optioned to participate in a federal program that allows other federal, state, and municipal agencies to apply for excess property that the Department of Defense has and makes it available under the 1033 program. In 2014, they gave away \$840,000,000. Since 2007, they have doled out 5.4 billion dollars in excess property to other agencies. Upon adoption of the foregoing ordinance, the Chief will be apply to apply for the property. **Deputy Mayor Gable** said this also includes the Office of Emergency Management. When they apply and receive property, it goes right to the Police Department. It is mainly supplies. Once approved, the police department has to advise the Committee on what was acquired.

A motion was offered by **Committeeman Puglia** and second by **Deputy Mayor Gable** to adopt Resolution 2015-04-14. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2015-4-15
A RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING THE AUTHORIZATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANSFIELD
TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH A PLUS TECHNOLOGY, A NATIONAL COOP, TO
PROVIDE AND INSTALL CAMERAS AT GEORGETOWN PARK

A motion was offered by **Committeeman Puglia** and second by **Committeewoman DiGiuseppe** to table the Resolution until in order that the Township pursue further plans with the contractor. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2015-4-16
REFUND OF HOMESTEAD REBATE

WHEREAS, a Homestead Rebate Credit for the year 2012 taxes was applied to the properties listed below in 2015; and

WHEREAS, the homeowners were declared as 100% Disabled Veterans and are exempt from paying taxes; and the refunds are due to the homeowners;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Mansfield, County of Burlington, State of New Jersey at their regular meeting held on April 8, 2015 hereby authorizes the refunding of the following by the Tax Collector.

Block	Lot	Property Owner	Address	Amount
42.10	14	Leo Clement	5 Chestnut Hill Lane	\$456.88

A motion was offered by **Committeeman Puglia** and second by **Deputy Mayor Gable** to adopt Resolution 2015-4-16. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, recorded as follows:

AYE: PUGLIA, GABLE, DIGIUSEPPE, HIGGINS
NAY: NONE ABSENT: SEMPTIMHELTER ABSTAIN: NONE

RESOLUTION 2015-4-17

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP OF MANSFIELD TO TRANSFER A JUNK TITLE OF A 2005 CHEVROLET MALIBU VIN: 1G1ZS52F55F224474 TO BILL'S AUTO BODY SHOP, 412 MAIN, STREET, JULISTOWN, NEW JERSEY

WHEREAS, Mansfield Township offered for public auction a certain vehicle identified as a Chevrolet Malibu, VIN: 1G1ZS52F55F224474, pursuant to Resolution No. 2014-6-4; and

WHEREAS, the GovDeals site conducted the subsequent public auction which ended on November 22, 2104; and

WHEREAS, the highest bidder defaulted and GovDeals extended an opportunity to the second highest bidder without success; and

WHEREAS, NJSA 39:10A-3, allows a public agency, under certain circumstances, to apply for a Junk Title; and

WHEREAS, in November 2014, the Mansfield Township Police Department, on behalf of Mansfield Township, filed for a Junk Title since the vehicle did not sell at auction; and

WHEREAS, in December of 2014, the New Jersey Department of Motor Vehicles Commission issued a Junk Title, see copy attached, to Mansfield Township; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Mansfield, County of Burlington, and State of New Jersey that:

1. The Township Committee hereby transfers its junk title to Bill's Auto Body Shop, 412 Main Street, Juliustown, New Jersey to the following vehicle:
Chevrolet Malibu, VIN. 1G1ZS52F55F224474

Attorney Magee explained that a vehicle had been towed and was on GovDeals. Although it was sold, the buyer defaulted and no one else showed an interest. The Police Department was could, under NJ Law, apply for a junk title which was issued in December of 2014. Now, the junk title is being transferred to the tower. A motion was offered by **Committeeman Puglia** and second by **Committeewoman DiGiuseppe** to adopt Resolution 2014-4-17. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2015-4-18

A RESOLUTION INCREASING PART-TIME MANSFIELD TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT, DANA ELLIOT'S HOURLY RATE BY \$.70 TO \$ 16.00 PER HOUR

WHEREAS, the Mansfield Township's hired Dana Elliott at a certain hourly rate; and

WHEREAS, Mansfield Township is desirous of increasing Dana Elliot's current hourly rate by \$.70; and

WHEREAS, the new hourly rate for Dana Elliot will be \$ 16.00 dollars per hour;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Mansfield, County of Burlington, and State of New Jersey at their regular meeting held on April 22, 2015 at the Municipal Complex at 7:30 PM that Dana Elliot's hourly rate of pay is increased by \$.70 per hour for a new rate of \$16.00 dollars per hour, effective April 6, 2015.

Mayor Higgins said we have an employee who has worked with us since November. Other people have been hired since she was hired with higher wages. Therefore, this employee should receive the same salary as the newly hired employee. A motion was offered by **Committeeman Puglia** and second by **Committeewoman DiGiuseppe** to adopt Resolution 2015-4-18. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, recorded as follows:

AYE: PUGLIA, DIGIUSEPPE, GABLE, HIGGINS
NAY: NONE ABSENT: SEMPTIMHELTER ABSTAIN: NONE

RESOLUTION 2015-4-19

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE BID OF ASPHALT PAVING SYSTEMS, INC FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF WHITE PINE ROAD FROM ROUTE 68 TO THE MUNICIPAL BOUNDARY LINE UNDER FY2014 NJDOT DISCRETIONARY AID GRANT

WHEREAS, the Township has solicited bids to provide for the reconstruction of White Pine Road from Route 68 to the Municipality's Boundary line; and

WHEREAS, bids were received and opened on April 16, 2015, with the lowest qualified and responsible bid being that of Asphalt Paving Systems, Inc., in the amount of \$222,450.00; and

WHEREAS, the bid has been reviewed and is in compliance with the specifications and bidding requirements and has the endorsement by Timothy Staszewski, from Remington and Vernick, Township Engineer, and together with the Township Attorney on behalf of Mansfield Township; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified that funds are available in that amount; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Mansfield, County of Burlington, and State of New Jersey that:

1. The Township Committee hereby awards a Contract to Asphalt Paving Systems, Inc. for the reconstruction of White Pine Road from Route 68 to the Municipality's Boundary line, under FY 2014 NJDOT Discretionary Aid Grant in the amount of \$222,450.00; and
2. This award is made available through the following account: 02-286-54-000-293

3. The Mayor and Township Clerk, as necessary, are hereby authorized to execute a Contract and any related documents necessary to effectuate this award in a form substantially the same as that included in the specifications.

Engineer Staszewski explained the foregoing resolution awards a bid for White Pine Road. **Mayor Higgins** said we have a grant for about \$400,000. The bid came in at about \$225,000. A motion was offered by **Committeeman Puglia** and second by **Deputy Mayor Gable** to adopt Resolution 2015-4-19. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, recorded as follows:

AYE: PUGLIA, GABLE, DIGIUSEPPE, HIGGINS
NAY: NONE ABSENT: SEMPTIMHELTER ABSTAIN: NONE

MINUTES: April 8, 2015

A motion was offered by **Deputy Mayor Gable** and second by **Committeeman Puglia** to approve the minutes of April 8, 2015. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION/ACTION

a. Soil Removal

Committeeman Puglia said there is some stored fill dirt behind the municipal building that Bruce Waite has offered to remove at no cost to the Township. He asked the Committee if they would like to do this. **Deputy Mayor Gable** said there is nothing he knows of that we would find use for the soil. If we have an opportunity to get rid of it at no cost, it would be a good idea. **Mayor Higgins** asked if it could be used for a project on Mansfield Road East. **Engineer Staszewski** answered, potentially, but we also have the White Pine Road project where we can get material. He felt it was not critical about being concerned to use that soil for any drainage issue. **Committeeman Puglia** said he spoke with Jef who also wanted the Committee to agree. A motion was offered by **Committeeman Puglia** and second by **Deputy Mayor Gable** to dispose of the soil in the manner suggested by **Committeeman Puglia**. Motion carried.

b. Approval of Conceptual Plan – Outdoors of Municipal Complex

Committeeman Gable asked the Committee authorization to move forward with Ebersberger Architects to finish up the conceptual plan for the outside facility at this municipal complex to include appropriate signage for out front, lights at the end of the driveway, remaining parking lights on the north side of the building, wiring, site plan for the fuel refueling station for the gasoline and diesel fuel tanks that need to be relocated, and the recycling center. This will prepare us for what we need to do with this facility and also, so that we can address, rather soon, the signage and lighting issues out front. The quote to do this is \$4860.00 Once we get the sight plan completed, we can select what we want to do first. This is the same architect preparing the plans for the police/public works and septic system. The public works/police department will be going out to bid in a couple of weeks. A motion was offered by **Deputy Mayor Gable** and second by **Committeeman Puglia** to approve this concept plan quote. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, recorded as follows:

AYE: GABLE, PUGLIA, DIGIUSEPPE, HIGGINS
NAY: NONE ABSENT: SEMPTIMHELTER ABSTAIN: NONE

c. Homestead Handicap Ramp – Commercial Site

Administrator Fitzpatrick referred to the thought of having handicapped ramps installed in front of the Boyd’s Drug Store. Discussion was held with the owners of the development who said it was not feasible for them to do such at this time. They are willing to put up the signs alerting people of the steps as there with problems with some individuals having a difficult time with the curb in front of the store. The handicapped ramps do exist on both sides of the shopping center. However, the builders will not budge.

Mayor Higgins explained that we cannot go back and make a developer do something different once the plan has been approved by the Planning Board.

Committeewoman DiGiuseppe felt the signs were unattractive and may cause more people to trip over them and questioned whether we should tell the developer what to do with the signs. She questioned whether the township would then be liable for any problem with signs we might request.

From the audience, Sal Cimino spoke of the drug store being very convenient. He has an issue with the drug store because he has witnessed people falling. He felt a sign wouldn't help as people have to step up. He said he didn't know why would be responsible for a saw suite, the township or the owner. Mr. Cimino felt that, if there was a ramp with two handicapped places in front of the store and take them away from another area of the shopping development, he would only lose one parking spot. It would benefit the people. **Mayor Higgins** explained there was nothing legally we could do. The best thing we could do is to complain to Boyd's Pharmacy as pays rent. Mr. Cimino said he didn't want to involve the pharmacy. However **Attorney Magee** said he is the only one with leverage. The only way for this to occur is to have the developer voluntarily put in the ramp. Or he could go back to the Planning Board to consider a waiver to make the process easy for the developer. **Committeewoman DiGiuseppe** said she had spoken to Congressman McArthur about what we had done and they have asked her to contact our state senator. She will move forward with this request and will keep Mr. Cimino informed. Mr. Cimino added that the people of Homestead don't want anything to happen to this drug store as it is important to them.

d. Homestead Snow Mileage

Administrator Fitzpatrick said there had been a discrepancy in mileage with the Homestead development in regard to snow plowing, Jef Jones and the Homestead Property Manager physically walked the property top get the actual reading. **Administrator Fitzpatrick** received a letter from Carol Bryant, President of Homestead Association confirming that their number was incorrect. After physically walking the development, they found the proper number to be 8.93 miles. Upon receiving the final salt billings, the calculations will be based on the official number.

e. Request to Farm, Public Road Property

An e-mail had been received from Mr. Cim who had purchased property adjacent to 1.63 acres of township property. He has asked if he can farm the township property as well as his. **Clerk Semus** asked if the Township would be interested in this. **Committeewoman DiGiuseppe** said it is municipal property and must go out to bid. **Mayor Higgins** questioned whether this was good timing now to go out to bid. **Committeeman Puglia** questioned what we could get. It would cost us more for the ad than what we get for the ground. If we put it out to bid and nothing happens, our own crew would have to cut it. He felt we should let him farm it this year. Currently it appears we don't mow it. However **Committeeman Puglia** was concerned over noxious weeds. **Mayor Higgins** felt we should sell it. **Committeewoman DiGiuseppe** suggested having our attorney do research on the lot before we give any kind of answer. She is not in favor of giving the man municipal property when other people have to bid on.

f. Memorial Day Services – May 17, 2015 – Use of Municipal Building

Services will be held on May 17, 2015 in the Community Park. However, in the event of rain, the Veteran's Association as requested use of either the old or the new municipal building. **Committeewoman DiGiuseppe** felt that, if they were at the gazebo and it started to rain, it would be better to use the old building because of the close proximity. If it is inclement weather all day, they could use the new building. **Committeeman Puglia** felt the old building would be better because of the location of the memorial and people are more inclined to go to that site. **Mayor Higgins** felt this would create less confusion in the event of inclement weather.

g. Recreation:

i. Watering of fields

ii. Use of Concession Stand by outside organizations

iii. Country Walk Park

Committeewoman DiGiuseppe said she attended the Recreation Meeting and she was asked to bring forth some concerns to the Committee. Now that the concession stand has public work, the Recreation Committee wanted to water the fields. **Mayor Higgins** explained that, although there is now public water, there is still a well at the location. However, it was always discussed that they could never use that water for the fields. He doesn't agree to pay for water to water the fields. He questioned whether, now that the well is no longer used, could that be used to water the fields. **Committeeman Puglia** was not in favor of watering. If they want to use the well and pay for the electricity, he didn't have a problem although he questioned the amount of pressure. **Mayor Higgins** also added that it doesn't make sense to water baseball fields. He

suggested contacting Jef Jones to determine the cost to make the well functional to use for watering and if there is enough pressure. We should also send a message to the Committee that, if we find anyone using public water to water fields, they come off recreation.

Committeewoman DiGiuseppe said outside agencies receive permits to use the parks. They bring coolers and sell drinks and food for profit although that is not included in the permit approval nor is it allowed by ordinance. The Recreation Committee suggested that, either we include the use of the outside area by the concession stand to continue with the coolers and sell snacks but to put it in their permit so it is allowed by the township. Another suggestion was to open the concession stand and let them use the front part for sales.

Paul Narwid, speaking from the audience, said that, although parents have run the concession stand in the past, currently parents are not willing to put in the time for this. The Recreation Committee is suggesting leveraging rental fees for inside the concession stand and putting the money back into the program. **Mayor Higgins** said he received a phone call from our Public Works Supervisor who commented on cleaning up the facilities. He questioned why the money should go back to recreation if the township's dollars are used to clean it up. **Mayor Higgins** said there are strict rules on concession stands and people would have to abide by them. Mr. Narwick said this would be part of the approval process and rules set forth would have to be followed. **Mayor Higgins** asked **Committeewoman DiGiuseppe** and **Committeeman Semptimphelter** to work with Recreation. **Committeeman Puglia** questioned the cost for the use of the fields as the township does not want to lose money. **Mayor Higgins** felt we have some of the best recreation facilities. He doesn't want to compromise what we are doing for our children. Mr. Narwick said our children are always first and foremost. Everyone else is secondary whether they pay or not. **Mayor Higgins** felt the people in the Recreation program do a good job and he applauds them. Mr. Narwick said we get outside tournaments because of the condition of our facilities and what we offer.

Committeewoman DiGiuseppe commented on the maintenance of the Country Walk Park. **Attorney Magee** said it is an ongoing issue with the property owner. The agreement is that, until the last CO is issued for the Country Walk development, he has agreed to maintain Country Walk Park. The developer was advised what portion of the park he had to maintain considering all the trees planted under the No Net Loss Program. **Mayor Higgins** said it is obvious that he is not maintaining it all. He asked Ed Ruggiano, Property Maintenance Official to come forward. **Mayor Higgins** asked him to meet with the Recreation people and **Administrator Fitzpatrick** after the meeting to make sure he has an understanding of what is supposed to happen there. **Committeeman Puglia** advised them to look at the black top walkway as it has major gaps. Some benches need work.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments.

MAYOR AND COMMITTEE COMMENTS:

Mayor Puglia said there is a Planning Board meeting on Monday about the rehabilitation of and redevelopment of Columbus. There is one property possible for eminent domain, the Columbus Inne. It has been vacant for 5 years and, although the owner was encouraged to improve it, there has been resistant. Mr. Ruggiano said the owner is responsible for presenting some documentation by noon on Friday. Failure to do so will result in court summons being issued against him. **Administrator Fitzpatrick** will make a returned phone call to the owner just to hear him out and for him to understand the date noted by Mr. Ruggiano. He will advise Mr. Ruggiano about his conversation with the owner.

MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT

A motion as offered by **Committeeman Gable** and second by **Committeeman Puglia** to adjourn. Motion carried.

PREPARED BY:

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY:

BARBARA A. CRAMMER
Deputy Clerk

LINDA SEMUS, RMC
Municipal Clerk

