

**TOWNSHIP OF MANSFIELD
BURLINGTON COUNTY
MEETING MINUTES
March 9, 2016
Regular Meeting
7:30 PM**

The Regular Meeting of the Mansfield Township Committee was held on the above shown date with the following in attendance: **Mayor Sean Gable, Deputy Mayor Robert Semptimpfelter, Committeewoman Laverne Cholewa, Committeeman Robert J. Higgins, Tax Assessor Jeff Burd, Clerk Linda Semus, Administrator Michael Fitzpatrick, Solicitor Michael H. Magee and Deputy Clerk Barbara Crammer**

Mayor Gable 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, 2016. 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 8, 2016.

Mayor Gable led everyone in the Salute to the Flag followed by a Moment of Silence.

FIRE COMPANY PRESENTATION

Representing the Franklin Fire Company was Douglas Borgstrom, President, who presented a framed calendar page of a piece of equipment the municipality purchased for the Fire Company. He explained that Pierce Manufacturing produces roughly 1000 pieces of fire apparatus annually. The heavy rescue equipment purchased from Pierce for the Franklin Fire Company was featured on the calendar which not only paid a compliment but paid tribute to the gentlemen and ladies of the Fire Company who spent several years developing the specifications for the truck. Mr. Borgstrom put the calendar page in a frame and presented it to the Committee to have in this building so the residents can see what they purchased and they can be proud of their volunteer fire company. Mr. Borgstrom expressed thanks to the Committee and the residents of Mansfield for their support.

PROCLAMATION

Clerk Semus read the following proclamation into the minutes.

Proclamation

WHEREAS, Congress designated the third full week in March to be National Poison Prevention Week (NPPW) in 1961 and since then this week has helped to raise national awareness of the dangers of potentially poisonous medicines, household chemicals, and other substances; and

WHEREAS, poison centers across the country will focus the public's attention on identifying poisoning hazards at home as well as learning ways to prevent poisoning emergencies; and

WHEREAS, unintentional poisoning is the leading cause of unintentional injury death in New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, approximately half of all reported poison exposures involve children five (5) years old and younger; and

WHEREAS, the majority of poisoning deaths occur in adults aged 20 to 59; and

WHEREAS, every poisoning is preventable! From the youngest to the oldest, all people and even pets are at risk.

WHEREAS, poison experts urge parents and caregivers to keep "single-load liquid laundry packets" out of sight and reach of young children. These products can cause serious harm if ingested; and

WHEREAS, consumers must be aware that e-cigarette devices, hookah pipes and liquid nicotine may contain very high doses of nicotine in enticing colors, aromas, and flavors – increasing the likelihood that small children and pets will be drawn to them. These products pose serious risk of poisoning; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Poison Information and Education System (NJPIES), a division of the Department of Emergency Medicine of the New Jersey Medical School of Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, provides free, expert medical advice, drug information, and poison prevention education to NJ residents through the 800-222-1222 Poison Help Hotline; and

WHEREAS, all services are free, confidential, multilingual and available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year even during bouts of Mother Nature; and

WHEREAS, poison centers save time and money by managing most cases at home, not requiring a visit to an emergency room; and

WHEREAS, NJ Poison Experts encourage all residents to program the Poison Help Line 800-222-1222 into home, office, and cell phones because a rapid response can make a difference in preventing serious injury and saving lives; and

WHEREAS, NJPIES is involved with the state's efforts in homeland defense, counter-terrorism, emergency preparedness and response, and bio surveillance, and surveillance for clusters of poisonings and their sources (products, food, beverages and chemicals) in the workplace and at home, environmental toxins, drugs and medicine, and animal and insect bites and stings; and

WHEREAS, the use of poison center services saves residents both time and money. Most cases are managed in the convenience of the caller's home, requiring no hospital visit;

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, the Township Committee of the Township of Mansfield, County of Burlington, State of New Jersey, do hereby proclaim the week of March 20-26, 2016 as National Poison Prevention Week in New Jersey and encourage all citizens to pledge their commitment to ensuring the safety of themselves, their families, and their community.

Mayor Gable added that home poisoning is the leading cause of death at home. He informed the residents that our Police Department has a drop box for any old, expired prescriptions they may have at home. This is a way to get that hazard out of the house.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Engineer Rick Brown referred to his Project Status Report dated March 9, 2016.

Under proposals as discussed at prior meetings, we are looking for the end of March to receive a decision from the county in regard to Axe Factory Road. If we don't get a positive response, the scope will be reduced and we will proceed so we don't jeopardize the funding from the NJDOT.

In regard to the CDBG Application, a proposal was submitted to the Clerk and Administrator yesterday. Based on discussion with the Clerk, they will hold off on preparing and adopting a resolution until confirmation of scheduling is received. **Engineer Brown** asked **Clerk Semus** to check to see if the funding we receive would cover any of the soft costs contained in their proposal.

Engineer Brown said he will have a sketch and cost estimate to Mr. Fitzpatrick by Friday for the firehouse drainage issue.

Engineer Brown said he is evaluating information received they received from Remington & Vernick about the fire protection riser pipe renovations. They may have to do additional load tests on the generator to make sure it will take the load of the fire pump.

There are no changes in the reconstruction of White Pine Road. The developer needs to post bond and inspection fees.

Engineer Brown had discussions with Mr. Jones who indicated there may be problems with three driveways on Mansfield Road West. They will be working on a solution to the problems.

As far as 330 Mansfield Road East, he will handle this with Mr. Jones in the field as regrading will be done to make the water go to the inlet.

In speaking of the Four Seasons Pavement Failure, **Engineer Brown** forwarded some information from a company called Seal Master to **Mr. Jones** and **Administrator Fitzpatrick**. He also spoke to a contractor who will visit the site and give some recommendations. Based upon the outcome of those two meetings, he will probably propose doing a test section to see how the proposal holds up.

Engineer Brown referred to Hansom Drive Storm Sewer Inlets and said he will provide **Administrator Fitzpatrick** some additional information on how to repair them to avoid any further settlement.

Engineer Brown prepared a preliminary cost estimate and delivered it to **Administrator Fitzpatrick** today for Covington Manor. He said it appears there is sufficient depth and cover to run a 10 inch pipe from the rear of the Daly property to the existing inlet in the roadway. Based upon preliminary cost, it would be around \$10,000 but might be less. How this cost would be distributed will be determined between the adjoining property owner, perhaps the Homeowner's Association, some to the Township. They have requested the original topography from Taylor, Wiseman & Taylor to demonstrate to the farmer that, prior to any construction, where the water actually went so they can evaluate what came on his property originally, what went onto the adjoining property and how this compares to the existing conditions.

Mayor Gable noted that there was a recent test on the generator. He questioned whether **Mr. Brown** had seen the results. He will get the information.

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

FINANCE **RESOLUTION 2016-3-1**
MUNICIPAL BUDGET OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANSFIELD, COUNTY OF
BURLINGTON FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2016

Township Of Mansfield [Code 0318], Burlington County - 2016 Budget

MUNICIPAL BUDGET NOTICE

Section 1.

Municipal Budget of the Township of Mansfield, County of Burlington for the Fiscal Year 2016. Be it resolved, that the following statements of revenues and appropriations shall constitute the Municipal Budget for the year;

Be It Further Resolved that said Budget be published in the Burlington County Times In the issue of March 13th, 2016.

The Governing Body of the Township of Mansfield does hereby approve the following as the Budget for the year 2016:

Notice is hereby given that the Budget and Tax Resolution was approved by the Township Committee of the Township of Mansfield, County of Burlington, on March 9th, 2016.

A Hearing on the Budget and Tax Resolution will be held at Township Municipal Building , on April 13th, 2016 at 7:30 o'clock (P.M.) at which time and place objections to said Budget and Tax Resolution for the year may be presented by taxpayers or other interested persons.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

SUMMARY OF CURRENT FUND SECTION OF APPROVED BUDGET

General Appropriations For: (Reference to item and sheet number should be omitted in advertised budget)

1. Appropriations within "CAPS"

(a) Municipal Purposes {(Item H-1, Sheet 19)(N.J.S. 40A:4-45.2)} \$5,038,610.08

2. Appropriations excluded from "CAPS"

(a)\Municipal Purposes{(ItemH2Sheet28)(N.J.S.40A:445.345.3as amended)}
\$1,925,308.61

(b) Local School District Purposes in Municipal Budget (Item K, Sheet 29) 0.00

Total General Appropriations excluded from "CAPS" (Item O, Sheet 29) \$1,925,308.61

3. Reserve for Uncollected Taxes (Item M, Sheet 29) –

Based on Estimated 98.8% Percent of Tax Collections	\$367,626.22
4. Total General Appropriations-	\$ 7,331,544.91
5. Less: Anticipated Revenues Other Than Current Property Tax (Item 5, Sheet 11) (i.e. Surplus, Miscellaneous Revenues and Receipts from Delinquent Taxes)-	\$ 2,687,485.00
6. Difference: Amounts to be Raised by Taxes for Support of Municipal Budget (as follows)	
(a) Local Tax for Municipal Purposes Including Reserve for Uncollected Taxes	\$4,644,059.91
(b) Addition to Local District School Tax (Item 6(b), Sheet 11)	0.00
(c) Minimum Library Tax	0.00

CFO Monzo explained that the state requires a municipality to introduce the 2016 Municipal Budget by March 18. If we introduce the budget tonight, we will meet that statutory requirement. A committee meeting had been held where discussions were held in regard to the budget. Resolution 2016-3-1 will formally introduce the 2016 budget. Copies of the full budget will be distributed by the end of the week. The public hearing will be held on April 13th. It was sent to the auditor for his signature. **Committeeman Higgins** questioned the property tax increase. **CFO Monzo** said the rate is going up .6 of 1% which would be \$16.55 for an average homeowner.

A motion was offered by **Deputy Mayor Semptimphelter** and second by **Committeewoman Cholewa** to adopt Resolution 2016-3-1. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, recorded as follows:

AYE: SEMPTIMPHELTER, CHOLEWA, HIGGINS, GABLE
NAY: NONE ABSENT: PUGLIA ABSTAIN: NONE

**ORDINANCE
SECOND READING/FINAL ADOPTION**

ORDINANCE 2016-4

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 65 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANSFIELD ENTITLED "ZONING" BY ADDING AN ARTICLE XXXIII, ENTITLED REDEVELOPMENT ENTITY AND A CERTAIN REDEVELOPMENT PLAN OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANSFIELD ESTABLISHING A REDEVELOPMENT ENTITY AND A CERTAIN REDEVELOPMENT PLAN IN THE TOWNSHIP OF MANSFIELD.

BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED by the Township Committee of the Township of Mansfield, County of Burlington and State of New Jersey as follows:

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Mansfield has directed the Township of Mansfield's Planning Board (by Resolution No. 2015-4-5 to conduct a preliminary-redevelopment investigation of Block 45.01 Lots 2.01, 2.02, 3.01 and 3.02; Block 47.01, Lots 3.02, 9.01, 9.02, 9.03, 10.01, 10.02, 11 and 12; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Mansfield has received and approved the preliminary-investigation studies of these areas, which were previously submitted to and have been accepted by the Planning Board; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Township committee of the Township of Mansfield that the Land Development Ordinance includes the following:

Section 191, Redevelopment Entity and Redevelopment Plan

1. The Township Committee of the Township of Mansfield shall function as the redevelopment entity in the Township of Mansfield and have the ability to exercise all the powers set forth in **N.J.S.A. 48:12A-4(3)(c) and N.J.S.A. 40A;12A-8.**
2. The Township Committee shall adopt, by ordinance, a redevelopment plan for Block 45.01 Lots 2.01, 2.02, 3.01 and 3.02; Block 47.01, Lots 3.02, 9.01, 9.02, 9.03, 10.01, 10.02, 11 and 12; are hereby designated as redevelopment zones within the Township of Mansfield.

REPEALER, SEVERABILITY AND EFFECTIVE DATE.

- A. **Repealer.** Any and all Ordinances inconsistent with the terms of this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of any such inconsistencies.
- B. **Severability.** In the event that any clause, section, paragraph or sentence of this Ordinance is deemed to be invalid or unenforceable for any reason, then the Township Committee hereby declares its intent that the balance of the Ordinance not affected by said invalidity shall remain in full force and effect to the extent that it allows the Township to meet the goals of the Ordinance.
- C. **Effective Date.** This Ordinance shall take effect upon proper passage in accordance with the law.
- D.

Mayor Gable explained the changes are geared toward the 295 interchange area between the turnpike and Route 295. He opened the public hearing. With no comments or questions, the public hearing was closed.

A motion was offered by **Deputy Mayor Semptimphelter** and second by **Committeewoman Cholewa** to adopt Ordinance 2016-4. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, recorded as follows:

AYE: SEMPTIMPHELTER, CHOLEWA, HIGGINS, GABLE
NAY: NONE ABSENT: PUGLIA ABSTAIN: NONE

ORDINANCE 2016-5

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANSFIELD, COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AMENDING CHAPTER 39A OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANSFIELD ENTITLED "PURCHASING: CLAIMS APPROVAL"

BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED by the Township Committee of the Township of Mansfield, County of Burlington and State of New Jersey as follows:

Article I

The Code of the Township of Mansfield is hereby amended by adding thereto new subchapter, §39A-7(c) to read as follows:

39A-7(c) Tuition and/or Registration Fees needed for employment certification/license required by New Jersey Statute.

The following procedure shall be set forth for all requests for authorization for payment of or reimbursement for tuition and/or registration fees for classes attended by an employee for certification/license purposes for positions requiring same by New Jersey Statute.

CRITERIA

1. An employee within the Township who is seeking to possess certain certifications/license is eligible to apply to the Township Committee for payment for tuition and/or registration fees for classes attended in furtherance of acquiring or maintaining the necessary certification/license to perform all the duties of said position. Any approvals are at the discretion of the Township Committee, with recommendation by the employee's Supervisor and Township Administrator, and will be reviewed on a case by case situation.
2. The employee must have been employed for a minimum of six (6) months, full time.
3. Training and development classes are identified in conjunction with the employee's supervisor and the Township Administrator.
4. The supervisor and Administrator can include a variety of courses from an array of options, with the ultimate goal of certification or licensure.
5. Prior approval from both the employee's supervisor and Township Administrator.
6. Employee has an obligation to attend classes and seminars paid for by the Township, and maintain a passing grade. If a passing grade is not achieved, it is incumbent upon the employee to either reimburse the Township within three (3) months of notification of grade results or the employee will pay on their own for the retaking of said class.
7. The employee must remain for a period of thirty-six (36) months following any reimbursement for tuition and/or registration fees. The thirty-six (36) month period will be begin upon successful completion of the class reimbursed.
8. If the employee leaves employee with the Township prior to the expiration of the thirty-six (36) month employment requirement referred herein, employee will be required to pay back the full amount of any reimbursed tuition and/or registration fees.

REIMBURSEMENT

1. Tuition and/or registration fees
2. Books and Supplies
3. Parking
4. Travel mileage

REPEALER, SEVERABILITY AND EFFECTIVE DATE.

- E. Repealer. Any and all Ordinances inconsistent with the terms of this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of any such inconsistencies.
- F. Severability. In the event that any clause, section, paragraph or sentence of this Ordinance is deemed to be invalid or unenforceable for any reason, then the Township Committee hereby declares its intent that the balance of the Ordinance not affected by said invalidity shall remain in full force and effect to the extent that it allows the Township to meet the goals of the Ordinance.
- G. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall take effect upon proper passage in accordance with the law.

Mayor Gable explained that this ordinance adds the provision for employees to attend classes for certification and receive tuition reimbursement. **Mayor Gable** opened the public hearing. With no comments or questions, the public hearing was closed.

A motion was offered by **Deputy Mayor Semptimphelter** and second by **Committeewoman Cholewa** to adopt Ordinance 2016-5. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, recorded as follows:

AYE: SEMPTIMPHELTER, CHOLEWA, HIGGINS, GABLE
NAY: NONE ABSENT: PUGLIA ABSTAIN: NONE

RESOLUTIONS

**RESOLUTION 2016-3-2
RESOLUTION FOR REFUND OF TAX OVERPAYMENT**

WHEREAS, an Added Assessment was placed on Block 13.01 Lot 2.14, also known as 4 Deerfield Drive, herein known as the “property”, for 12 months of 2015 and 9 months of 2014;

WHEREAS, this assessment was placed in error;

WHEREAS, taxes were billed for the year 2015 and 9 months of 2014 and those taxes were paid by **Lereta Corp, LLC** on behalf of the property owner,

WHEREAS, those payments resulted in overpayments for the year 2015 and 2014 and a refund is due.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as recommended by the Tax Assessor in accordance with N.J.S.A.54:4-54, by the Township Committee of the Township of Mansfield, County of Burlington, State of New Jersey at their regular meeting held on March 9, 2016 hereby authorizes the refunding of the following to **Lereta Corp, LLC** by the Tax Collector.

Block	Lot	Name	Amount
13.01	2.14	Edward & Valerie Ryan	\$1,166.99

A motion was offered by **Deputy Mayor Semptimphelter** and second by **Committeewoman Cholewa** to adopt Resolution 2016-3-2. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, recorded as follows:

AYE: SEMPTIMPHELTER, CHOLEWA, HIGGINS, GABLE
NAY: NONE ABSENT: PUGLIA ABSTAIN: NONE

RESOLUTION NO. 2016-3-3

RESOLUTION AGREEING TO SETTLE WITH FALASCA MECHANICAL INC REGARDING THE MUNICIPAL COMPLEX – FIRE PROTECTION RISER PIPE PUMP RENOVATIONS’ CONTRACT

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Mansfield had entered into a contract with Falasca Mechanical Inc., for certain services, including renovations to the Rise Pipe Pump located at the Mansfield Municipal Complex; and

WHEREAS, Falasca Mechanical Inc., has performed certain services and ordered certain parts in connection with the Fire Protection Riser Pipe Pump contract; and

WHEREAS, Mansfield Township has determined that the original contracted improvement is not necessary at this time; and

WHEREAS, Mansfield Township has made an offer to settle any and all outstanding claims from Falasca Mechanical Inc. in connection with services and or material in connection with the Fire Protection Riser Pipe Pump contract for \$12,500.00; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Mansfield, County of Burlington State of New Jersey that any and all claims by Falasca Mechanical Inc. for services and material provided in connection with the Fire Protection Riser Pipe Pump contract are settled in full with the payment of \$12,500.00 by the Township to Falasca Mechanical Inc. has full and final settlement of the Fire Protection Riser Pipe Pump contract.

Mayor Gable explained that this resolution cancels the contract for the proposed installation of for the new fire riser pump we were going to have installed. There had been many issues with the contractor and the direction we were going to go with the project. It was decided to cancel the contract and revisit it with our new engineering firm. Some pipes had been installed. Therefore the cancellation cost is \$12,500. The original contract was \$160,000.

A motion was offered by **Deputy Mayor Semptimphelter** and second by **Committeewoman Cholewa** to adopt Resolution 2016-3-3. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, recorded as follows:

AYES SEMPTIMPHELTER, CHOLEWA, HIGGINS, GABLE
NAYS NONE ABSENT: PUGLIA ABSTAIN: NONE

BILL LIST: Regular and Escrow

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

AYE: SEMPTIMPHELTER (see below), CHOLEWA, HIGGINS, GABLE

NAY: NONE ABSTAIN: SEMPTIMPHELTER (on Check #5465)
ABSENT: PUGLIA

MINUTES: February 24, 2016

A motion was offered by **Deputy Mayor Semptimphelter** and second by **Committeewoman Cholewa** to approve the minutes of the February 24, 2016 meeting. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, recorded as follows:

AYE: SEMPTIMPHELTER, CHOLEWA, GABLE
NAY: NONE ABSENT: PUGLIA ABSTAIN: HIGGINS

DISCUSSION

a. Petticoat Bridge Road

Administrator Fitzpatrick said some questions had come up about the Pulti property on Petticoat Bridge Road. The current owners filled in the ditch where the water used to come off the roadway and then run into the creek further down the road. Since this action was observed, we had our property maintenance individual visit the site and write a citation. Upon receiving the citation, they wrote back explaining their rights and their obligations per subdivision plans of the legality of what they were doing. After receiving the letter, **Administrator Fitzpatrick** visited the site and conversed with the neighbor at 19 Petticoat Bridge Road where there was a concern about the water being blocked off at that location. The neighbor, upon questioning, said the water does not back up onto his property as Pulti made the changes so the water runs onto their own property. However, he did anticipate mosquitoes over the summer. There had also been concern about the water rushing across the road from west to east because of a ditch running along their lane being filled in. The property owner did explain that once the ditch was filled it, the water no longer ran toward and across the road where there had been deterioration of the blacktop. After doing extensive investigation, **Administrator Fitzpatrick** said that, at this point, the situation is ok. However, we need to wait and see if there are any mosquito issues in the spring and summer.

b. UPS Quote

Administrator Fitzpatrick said Networks plus provided a quote for a UPS backup system. He said he was uncomfortable that we are not backed up properly and the information we currently have could possibly be lost. The quote was based upon putting a backup system at each computer station that would provide energy in the event of a power loss, thus preventing the loss of any data. Also in the quote is a price for the main server. The total quote for the Township's side of the building would be \$2,450.00 He brought this to the attention of the Committee to see if they choose to move forward. **CFO Monzo** said funds are available and the Committee can move forward. A motion was offered by **Deputy Mayor Semptimphelter** and second by **Committeewoman Cholewa** to approve this purchase. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, recorded as follows:

AYE: SEMPTIMPHELTER, CHOLEWA, HIGGINS, GABLE
NAY: NONE ABSENT: PUGLIA ABSTAIN: NONE

c. Acceptance of Letter of Resignation

Mayor Gable explained that a Letter of Resignation had been received from one of the new police officers who was in training, effective February 29th as he is choosing another type of career path. Chief Mulhall will be looking for a replacement. A motion was offered by **Deputy Mayor Semptimphelter** and second by **Committeewoman Cholewa** to accept his letter of resignation. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Alan Abramowitz, 73 Chamber Lane, referred to the Compliance Plan which made things as bad as they were before in his community. Those in the over 82% ratio are even higher now, some going as high as 150%. People who were well below weren't raised enough. He said the increase in his assessment makes him pay for people who aren't paying the 82%. He felt the plan made things worse. He said 33 homes were over the 82% threshold and 27 were under.

Mayor Gable referred to individual assessments for the residents which need to be discussed at another time. He said they should all know the process so they can appeal their

assessment. The deadline is April 1. He advised the residents to contact Jef Burd so he can discuss it with them. They have the opportunity to go before the County Board and appeal their assessment so their individual information can be discussed to determine any adjustment to what has been established.

Mr. Abramowitz said this was a disgrace to get a green card to find his own assessment is going up 17.8%, just under the 20% they are allowed to. He has only lived here two years where his taxes have gone up over \$3,000 in that time frame.

Attorney Magee explained that the taxes and the assessment are two different things. In addition, the assessor is required to provide a minimum of 45 days between the individual notices and the deadline to file the appeal. The information cards went out February 2. April 1 is the deadline. If dissatisfied with the assessment, they have the right to file an appeal at the County Level. If an adjustment is warranted, it will be granted.

Jef Burd, Assessor, reviewed the process which took place by reviewing all the sales in the township for the past three years. He identified the neighborhoods that were under assessed and those who were over assessed. Then a compliance plan was filed with the county. This was approved after which he went forth with the new assessments.

Committeeman Higgins felt this individual is upset because his property is assessed higher than some of his neighbors which he claims are under assessed. He can appeal his high assessment as well as the under assessed. He felt that people should contact **Assessor Burd**. If it is determined they are higher than they should be, **Assessor Burd** can make an assessment appeal and they wouldn't have to go to the County. **Assessor Burd** said he will review Mr. Abramowitz's data.

There being no further comments, the public portion of the meeting was closed.

MAYOR AND COMMITTEE COMMENT:

Committeeman Higgins commented on Ordinance 2016-4 saying that 10 years ago, we had done a redevelopment zone for that area. This ordinance specifically refers to one property now that is proposed for development. This ordinance allows for that property. Hopefully, this is the step in the right direction. Residents of this town will get the benefit as it will help with municipal taxes.

Deputy Mayor Semptimphelter and **Mayor Gable** thanks the people for coming out to the meeting.

MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT

A motion was offered by **Committeewoman Cholewa** and second by **Deputy Mayor Semptimphelter** to adjourn. Motion carried.

PREPARED BY:

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY:

BARBARA A. CRAMMER, Deputy Clerk

LINDA SEMUS, RMC, Municipal Clerk

Approved: March 23, 2016

