

April 12, 2016 – AGENDA SESSION

President Schroth called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and read the Open Public Meeting Statement:

The notice requirements provided for in the “Open Public Meetings Act” have been satisfied. Notice of this meeting was properly given in a notice which was transmitted to the Times of Trenton and the Trentonian, filed with the Clerk of the Township of Ewing and posted in the Ewing Township Municipal Complex, all on the 4th day of January, 2016.

THE PUBLIC WILL HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL DURING THE “STATEMENTS AND COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC” SEGMENT OF THE MEETING. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE REQUESTED TO SIGN IN ON THE SHEET PROVIDED IN THE FRONT OF THE ROOM. ALL QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC WILL BE DIRECTED TO THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT, WHEN ADDRESSING THE COUNCIL, PLEASE GIVE YOUR NAME AND YOUR ADDRESS.

THE COUNCIL INVITES AND ENCOURAGES PARTICIPATION BY THE PUBLIC IN ITS MEETINGS, HOWEVER A MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC MAY UTILIZE FIVE MINUTES OF TIME FOR REMARKS AND QUESTIONS, UNLESS OTHERWISE ENGAGED IN A DIALOGUE WITH A MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL. ANY FURTHER REMARKS OR QUESTIONS BEYOND THE TIME LIMIT MUST BE AUTHORIZED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL.

ROLL CALL

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| ▪ Mr. Baxter – Present | Jim McManimon, Administrator |
| ▪ Ms. Keyes-Maloney – Present | Joanna Mustafa, CFO |
| ▪ Ms. Steward – 6:35 p.m. | Maeve Cannon, Attorney |
| ▪ Ms. Wollert – Absent | Kim Macellaro, Municipal Clerk |
| ▪ President Schroth - Present | |

CLOSED SESSION – (Resolution #16R-61) A Resolution to Enter Into Closed Executive Session

At 6:32 p.m., the Attorney read the Resolution to enter in Closed Session into the record. At 6:33 p.m., Councilwoman Keyes-Maloney made a motion to enter into Closed Session, seconded by Councilman Baxter. It was agreed by unanimous voice vote. At 7:28 p.m., Councilman Baxter made a motion to close the Closed Session, seconded by Vice President Steward. It was agreed by unanimous voice vote. President Schroth explained to the Public that Council was in Executive Session to address an issue that has recently arisen at the Hollowbrook Center – the discovered presence of asbestos. The Administration has been very proactive and aggressive in dealing with this situation and has presented Council contracts for the emergency remediation of the asbestos. Council intends to place this on the Regular Agenda for the next Council meeting. The work is already underway to address the situation as permitted under law. Council wants to be sure that this is fully vetted for the Public and that all of Council has the opportunity to review the documentation.

The Attorney began to give an overview of the situation when the Council President asked for a motion to enter back into Open Session. At 7:31 p.m., a motion was made by Councilwoman Keyes-Maloney to enter back into Open Session, seconded by Councilman Baxter. It was agreed by unanimous voice vote.

The Township Engineer then explained the situation at Hollowbrook and said that the Administration was advised to evacuate the Hollowbrook Center as fast as possible in a reasonable manner. The building will be monitored on a regular basis to make sure it is safe while the evacuation is taking place. There is a need to hire two consultants. One is an environmental consultant who will prepare plans that will include demolishing part of the building in order to get to this material as well as to remove the material. The other is an architect to rebuild the demolished rooms. Contracts have been prepared for these two consultants who are working to prepare public bid documents. The first involves the abatement of the asbestos material and the second contract is to rebuild the interior sheetrock walls. A third contract, that Township Engineer’s firm is working on, involves repairing the leaky roof. The overall plan is for the building to be empty by the end of May. In June, the abatement contractor will start work. At the same time, the roofing contractor will be working on the roof. Hopefully, the abatement and the roof will be done

at the same time so when the renovation starts it will be waterproof. The Township Engineer said that, at this time, he cannot give Council any dollar amounts as this is changing daily. There will probably be a special meeting in order to try to cut down the timeframe. However, the timing is not good as far as getting contractors because abatement, roofing and general contractors do a lot of work for schools which do a lot of their work during the summer months. We would like to keep this to as short a timeframe as possible – we are trying for six months.

President Schroth thanked the Township Engineer and the Administration for their prompt and aggressive work on this. The Mayor proactively reached out to those who use the building to make them aware of the situation.

The Engineer then discussed the results of the air samples. There will be no access to the building during the abatement. The property, including the pool, will be closed.

At the request of the Council President, the Attorney then explained the two consultant contracts. These contracts were presented to Council on an emergent basis and will go forward on an emergency basis; these contracts will be on the next Council Agenda.

Vice President Steward asked if we anticipate that the rest of this process will go forward by public bid.

The Attorney replied – yes; and then explained that these two consultant contracts, as they are professional services contracts, do not need to go out to bid. However, the normal process would have been for these to be approved by Council first.

There were no additional questions or comments from Council.

George Steward (30 Gilmore Road) asked if this expense is going to be inserted into the working budget or will it be dealt with later.

The Administrator said that this is an emergency appropriation and until we are sure where it is going, it is not going to be part of the current budget that is up for review next week. When it is all said and done, it will be part of a capital project. Also, as the building was built with HUD funding, we have approval from HUD to take the money on an annual basis - \$191,000 per year - and use that money to cover the expenditures of this project going forward rather than taking it out of our general operating budget.

Mr. Steward asked if the fundamental budget is going to stay in place.

The Administrator replied – yes.

Dr. Al Page (67 Broad Avenue) mentioned the riots in the 1960's and then asked if there was any federal or state money involved. Mr. Page also wanted to know the name of the Township Affirmative Action Officer who would make sure that everyone gets a piece of the pie. Mr. Page asked how much Township money is going to the poor folks in the neighborhood. People need jobs, and not just jobs on the garbage trucks, in order to move up. Mr. Page said that people should stop paying taxes if the people making the decisions are not being fair.

The Council President asked if there were any additional questions on matter of the Hollowbrook and then stated that at the end of the Agenda Session, there will be an opportunity for the Public to speak on other issues. President Schroth said that these contracts will be on the next Council agenda and the Public will be able to ask questions.

There were no other questions or comments from the Public.

George Steward (30 Gilmore Road) asked if the roll had been called.

Council President replied that roll call was taken prior to going into Closed Session.

DISCUSSION

- 1. AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EWING IN THE COUNTY OF MERCER, TO AMEND CHAPTER 225-61 SCHEDULE XIV: TRUCKS OVER FOUR TONS TO EXCLUDE TRUCKS OVER FOUR TONS FROM BEAR TAVERN ROAD BETWEEN ROUTE 95 TO JACOBS CREEK ROAD**

The Attorney said that this is a request from the County.

The Administrator added that during the bridge reconstruction, we limited trucks on Scenic Drive, Mountainview Road and our portion of Nursery Road because there was a concern that once the bridge was reopened, trucks would use it as a thoroughfare. Hopewell has already limited their side of Bear Tavern Road down to Jacobs Creek. This is the last part.

There were no questions or comments from Council or the Public.

2. A RESOLUTION OF EMERGENCY TEMPORARY APPROPRIATION

The CFO explained that this authorizes one more month of appropriations pending the adoption of our calendar year budget at the end of April.

The Council President stated that this is routine process.

The CFO added that a temporary budget gives us appropriations through the end of March, and then it is on a monthly basis.

There were no questions or comments from Council or the Public.

3. A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A RECYCLING TONNAGE GRANT APPLICATION

The Administrator explained that this is our yearly application to the State. The amount seems to be reduced each year – it used to be double. We submit our records on recycling and receive a grant which we can use to buy recycling bags or to pay for mulching.

There were no questions or comments from Council or the Public.

4. A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP OF EWING TO ENTER INTO A SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH THE COUNTY OF MERCER AND THE TRENTON HEALTH TEAM FOR TUBERCULOSIS CLINICAL AND CASE MANAGEMENT SERVICES

The Attorney explained that this is an effort by the County to share services throughout the County and thus minimize the cost for any one town. Cases are infrequent but not rare.

Vice President Steward remarked that this will be a tiny fraction of the amount that it would cost for one tuberculosis patient.

The Attorney added that the County would provide monitoring and case management.

Councilwoman Keyes-Maloney briefly described how the cost for this shared service was derived.

There were no additional questions or comments from Council. There were no questions or comments from the Public.

5. A RESOLUTION REJECTING PROPOSAL AND AUTHORIZING RE-ADVERTISEMENT OF CONTRACT FOR PERFORMANCE OF HOME ENERGY AUDITS

President Schroth said that this is a Township-wide initiative offering residents the opportunity to have an energy audit done at a nominal cost.

The Attorney explained that this rejects the one proposal that was received, revises the specifications and then re-advertises for more proposals. This initiative came from the Green Team. It is a step taken in order to get Silver certification for the Township. The Township itself does not pay for the audit. The feeling of the evaluation committee was that the price of \$150 came in above what was anticipated and was too high for this type of program. The company was otherwise qualified. It is hoped that by revising the specifications, it will come in at a better price.

There were no questions or comments from Council or the Public.

All items were approved for action.

BILLS LIST

1. A Resolution Authorizing the Chief Financial Officer to Pay Bills in the Amount of \$1,540,037.57 and to Pay Supplemental Bills per Resolution #16R-13 in the Amount of \$22,198.59

There were no questions or comments from Council or the Public.

The Bills List was approved for action.

CONSENT AGENDA

Council President Schroth presented the Consent Agenda for review.

1. Approval of Agenda Session Minutes for December 8, 2015, February 23, 2016, March 8, 2016; Approval of Regular Session Minutes for December 8, 2015, February 23, 2016, March 8, 2016; Approval of Special Session Minutes for December 21, 2015
2. A Resolution Authorizing the Conduct of a Bingo Sponsored by the Children's Home Society of NJ
3. A Resolution Authorizing the Conduct of an On-Premise 50/50 Cash Raffle Sponsored by the Children's Home Society of NJ
4. A Resolution Authorizing the Conduct of an On-Premise Merchandise Raffle Sponsored by the Children's Home Society of NJ
5. A Resolution Authorizing the New Jersey State Police Memorial Association to Hold its Annual Chase (5KRun)
6. A Resolution Authorizing a Refund, as Recommended by the Township Construction Official, for Overpayment in the amount of \$250.00 to Charles Lawrence, 3 Marion Ct., Ewing, NJ 08628 for overpayment on rental property at 3 Marion Ct., Ewing, NJ 08628. He overpaid his Rental Registration.
7. A Resolution Authorizing a Refund, as Recommended by the Township Construction Official, for Overpayment in the amount of \$175.00 to Frances Anna Lapiere, 202 W. Upper Ferry Rd., Ewing, NJ 08628. The applicant was unaware of the senior discount.
8. A Resolution Authorizing a Refund of the Homestead Benefit, as Recommended by the Tax Collector, Due to the Property Being Tax Exempt in the amount of \$328.71 for homestead benefit, May 1, 2016, to Linkhorst Allen E & Joanne, 16 Downing Road, Ewing, NJ 08628 for property owner Linkhorst Allen E & Joanne, for Block: 458 Lot: 33 also known as 16 Downing Road.

There were no questions or comments from Council or the Public.

The Consent Agenda was approved for action.

ORDINANCE(S) FOR FIRST READING AND INTRODUCTION

(None for this Meeting)

ORDINANCE(S) FOR SECOND READING, PUBLIC HEARING AND FINAL ADOPTION

1. AN ORDINANCE FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2016 TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14)

The CFO explained that this Ordinance is done annually prior to the adoption of the budget. It allows us to increase our appropriations over the prior year by up to three and one-half percent. If the extra money is not used; it can be "banked" for use in the next two succeeding budget years. The CFO stated that we use a marginal amount; most is "banked". We are "banking" about \$900,000 this year.

There were no questions or comments from Council or the Public.

2. AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EWING IN THE COUNTY OF MERCER, TO AMEND CHAPTER 225-49 SCHEDULE II: EMERGENCY NO PARKING TO ADD THE SOUTHERN SIDE OF CLERMONT, MONTICELLO AND GREENWALD AVENUES AND THE WEST SIDE OF GLENDALE AVENUE FOR THE ENTIRE LENGTH OF THOSE ROADS

The Attorney said that this is during snow emergencies. It came at the recommendation of the Police Department after a review which determined that these streets had inadequate passage when snow-covered.

There were no questions or comments from Council or the Public.

Both items were approved for action.

COMMISSION & COMMITTEE REPORTS FROM MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

Councilwoman Keyes-Maloney reported that the Arts Commission, which met the first Monday of April, has a Spring Arts Show scheduled for April 24th at the Elks. The Arts Commission will soon be launching an arts survey in coordination with the Green Team to get a better sense of the artists within our community for the purposes of a future arts festival as well as a guide for folks who might be interested in knowing who is in town. It may also be beneficial to groups, like the 1867 Sanctuary, as artists may be interested in using that facility.

Councilman Baxter said that the next Recreation Advisory Board meeting will be on April 18th and then said that due to the bad weather last week, Little League Opening Day will be April 16th at 9:00 a.m. The softball opener will be on April 18th at 5 p.m. at Armstrong Field.

Vice President Steward reported that the Green Team has been working on recertification and the energy audit. There will also be another bicycle tour of Ewing in late summer or early fall. April 23rd is the first shred day of the year.

President Schroth reported that the Planning Board met last Thursday. Habitats for Humanity will be building a house on Robbins Avenue for two sisters who suffer from ALS. There will be some modifications to the home. It is the first time that Habitats for Humanity will be in Ewing. The property will pay taxes so it will be a rateable for the Township.

The Administrator said that today he applied for a grant from the Department of Forestry to do a tree inventory of Ewing parks. This was an effort of the Green Team and the Environmental Commission. The grant is for \$10,000. This comes along with the 600 trees we are getting with the "No Net Loss" State program. The Bridge Commission is cutting trees down along I95. They either have to replace or donate in-kind to the Township. The Commission, based on the new design, is only able to replace seventy percent of the trees so the Township will be receiving thirty percent. This grant will allow us to identify where else we need trees. The Administrator briefly listed some of the places around Ewing where the Township is planning to plant trees. The Administrator then mentioned that there is a bug killing ash trees.

There were no other committee or commission reports from Council. There were no other announcements from the Administration.

NEW BUSINESS

(None for this Meeting)

STATEMENTS AND COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Mildred Russell (119 King Avenue) asked if there is anything wrong at the Pennington Road Firehouse. People who live nearby have told her that the firemen are leaving with the firetrucks and not coming back until 4 p.m. It seems that the firehouse is empty during the day. Mrs. Russell asked what happens if there is a fire. The trucks will have to travel that additional distance from West Trenton or Prospect Heights.

Mrs. Russell asked Council if they knew that this was happening and then said that this is the worst thing that she has ever heard – a firehouse closed all day with trucks and firemen being sent to the other two firehouses which are a distance away. There was a house on Browning Avenue that burned to the ground not too long ago and it was only a block away from the firehouse. Mrs. Russell asked what is going on, how long will this go on, why is this going on and who decided this.

The Administrator responded that the Mayor and he had talked about this. There had been some issues in the past that we are trying to address. This movement between the firehouses is temporary. The Administrator explained that since the Township does not own the firehouses; we could never close them. We are addressing staffing during the day and making sure that there are enough volunteers. Each firehouse was given a full budget; included in that budget is an incentive program for volunteers to respond - five dollars per call. There are issues that cannot be discussed right now.

The Administrator and Mrs. Russell then discussed the hours for the career firemen, and the five dollar incentive program instituted last year to attract more volunteers at the firehouses. The Administrator added that if we do not get enough volunteers responding to calls, we will have to hire more.

Mrs. Russell reiterated that this is a bad situation and needs to be corrected.

The Administrator responded that he agreed that it is a bad situation. The last house fire occurred after career hours. As the Township is in litigation, the Administrator explained to Mrs. Russell that he cannot speak about it.

Mrs. Russell asked the Administrator if there is anything that Ewing citizens can do and then mentioned that perhaps the Township should pay the volunteers.

The Administrator replied that we cannot make the volunteers respond to a call.

President Schroth said that the Township takes this extremely seriously and is exploring options. This is a temporary solution while the Township finds a solution to the manpower problem. President Schroth stated that, in his opinion, this issue and the earlier issue with Hollowbrook shows that the Township is proactive. Public safety comes first and foremost.

Mrs. Russell asked the Council President if this issue will be solved by the end of April.

President Schroth responded that as he is not directly involved with this, he could not put a time on it.

Brian McCrone (3 Manor Drive) first disclosed that he used to cover Ewing Township as a journalist but no longer and then stated that he moved into the Township about fifteen months ago. Mr. McCrone then asked what is the procedure at the recycling center as the last couple times he was there, he was told to put both trash and recycling in the same truck.

The Administrator replied that it is for Ewing residents in non-commercial trucks and then said that he will clarify with them tomorrow about what should be placed in what truck.

Mr. McCrone then asked if we get payback from MCIA.

The Administrator explained that we do get money back for any recycling. That is the grant that we discussed earlier this evening and then briefly discussed who the contractors are and the procedures for the various types of trash and recycling.

Mr. McCrone then asked how much are we getting this year.

The Administrator replied that it is less than \$40,000 – it used to be closer to \$80,000. With the State budget concerns, the money to the municipalities has been cut in half.

Mr. McCrone and the Administrator then discussed Mercer Group's procedures.

Dr. Faye Ball (47 Somerset Street) suggested that a twenty-five percent reduction on a property tax bill would work as an incentive for more people volunteering to be firemen. Dr. Ball commented that what disturbs her about the career firefighterfighters being moved from Pennington Road and going to West Trenton and Prospect Heights is that Pennington fire company covers the largest number of minority residents in the Township and has the largest number of widows and senior citizens and therefore you are leaving us very vulnerable during the daytime when many retirees are at home. You are leaving us without any fire protection. Dr. Ball said that she does not know how the Administration justifies that and then asked why is it not the other way around – why is it that West Trenton and Prospect Heights are not coming to Pennington Road.

President Schroth addressed Dr. Ball's suggestion concerning incentives and said that the five dollar program was collectively agreed upon by Administration and the three fire departments. It has worked and has drawn in new volunteers; more successfully with two of the fire companies. President Schroth then addressed her comment about "no coverage" and said that this is a temporary solution and the Administration takes it very seriously.

Council Vice President Steward added that it is not that there is no coverage for these residents. The Administration has a strong commitment to covering every resident in this Township and would not make a move that would leave any home unprotected.

Dr. Al Page (67 Broad Avenue) asked what kind of agreement did you have with the College of New Jersey when you allowed them to build; what kind of police protection and fire service did we have at that time. If you bring in thousands of students; with the build-up around the College, how can you move the career firefighters. Dr. Page said that the College of New Jersey can do what they want; however, the College should pay its fair share. Dr. Page commented that veterans should be allowed to go to the College of New Jersey for free. These veterans can also help the Township by patrolling the streets. If you are making all this extra money from the College, you should help residents pay for Township services. Dr. Page said that we need to work together, put our ideas together so all the responsibility does not fall on the Township.

Michael Weeks (Member Pennington Road Fire Company) said that he is a resident of Pennington Road's area and stated that a fire doubles every twenty seconds. By moving Pennington Road's paid staff to the other two fire companies, the Administration is allowing for a delay when there is a readily available engine at his station during the daytime. That is way too long. It takes five or six minutes for an engine to get from West Trenton. Another four or five minutes from Prospect Heights. The College of New Jersey is growing. Mr. Weeks said that he would like a meeting with the Chiefs, and the Mayor to find out how this decision was made. This is absolutely ridiculous.

Oscar Estrada (Member Pennington Road Fire Company) said that this is a dangerous situation; more dangerous than what the Public knows. There are two trucks, not one, that are gone from the firehouse. Volunteers could show up for a call and not even the rescue truck is there for them to respond. This is not happening at the other fire houses. Mr. Estrada said that he feels that Pennington Road is being discriminated against, not only the firehouse, but the people who live in the area. The career firefighters can take their truck but the rescue truck should stay at Pennington so volunteers would have equipment to respond to a call. Taking both trucks cripple the area.

The Administrator replied that there are some issues that are being addressed as to whether their volunteers are available to respond during certain hours; not whether or not the volunteers are interested in responding. There is also litigation concerning whether people knew what they were doing or not during a fire that occurred last year. The Administrator said that he is not questioning anyone's sincerity and their willingness to respond. If they are not available to respond during certain hours of the day we have to make sure we have coverage. The Administrator said that each of the firehouses has been funded by the Township this year but the insurance company has raised concerns about coverage. The Administrator said that he is writing down the comments and concerns that he is hearing tonight and added that West Trenton covers half of the Town in terms of miles but the other two have more population. When we are ready to address what we are going to do, the Mayor will sit down with the Chiefs and the career staff. It is hard to get them to agree on a direction to go. Decisions are made based on the best interest of the Town in mind with the information that we have and the advice that we are given at that time.

Jonathan Popp (Assistant Chief Pennington Road Fire Company) said that he was at that fire the Administrator mentioned and knows what happened there. Mr. Popp then asked if the Township is willing to risk more litigation when everyone knows that a decision had been made to move out of that firehouse. Mr. Popp asked the Administration to take into consideration that Pennington has the only EMS engine in the Township and handles five to six calls a month.

The Administrator replied that the Township had to move to twenty-four hours seven days a week for our career EMS because, other than Friday nights, we were not getting the proper coverage from our EMS volunteer responses. The Administrator added that the Township is looking to add a second truck and to hire more EMTs. Pennington Road EMS is a back-up and does let the EMS Director know when they are available to respond. This is a concern of ours as we are having a large piece of equipment respond as an EMS engine. We give each firehouse \$190,000 a year to help cover the maintenance of the firehouse, utilities and the upkeep of the engines that the Township owns. The Administrator said that he wants more volunteers; he does not want to have to hire more career firefighters. We have a core group of volunteers that responds in each House but this is not just a problem for Ewing Township, but County-wide. The career guys are supposed to assist the volunteers but right now it is upside down as we have less volunteers working for us. The

Township is aware of these staffing issues and is working to find a solution. The Administrator then stated that he has had issues with Pennington Road in the last year and has worked with the President to fix these issues concerning how the firehouse was maintained. The Administrator said that he will do what he needs to do for the best interests of the Town and that he has had frank discussions with all the Chiefs and will continue to do so to address issues.

Mr. Popp asked that for the best interest of the people of these neighborhoods that the Mayor immediately suspend this action until it can be discussed.

Council President Schroth assured Mr. Popp that Council will follow up on this.

George Steward (30 Gilmore Road) said that what he is seeing here tonight is the citizens of this Township coming forward and talking to their elected officials. Council is an independent, separate branch of government. Citizens know this. They are hoping that you are listening to them tonight and take their comments and concerns to heart and act on them as a legislative body and not as an extension of the Administration. Mr. Steward said that he hears the citizens coming to Council and asking Council to help them. They are not asking the Business Administrator through the Council.

President Schroth replied that Council is aware of its role, takes this matter very seriously and will follow up on it.

Michael Weeks (Member Pennington Road Fire Company) said that the Administration still did not answer the question. The Administration took an available fire truck and ambulance and moved it further away. Mr. Weeks said that he explained that time is of the essence. Whatever else is going on, you still took it away and left Pennington Road uncovered. You had three people there, ready and willing to respond to a call and now you do not. Mr. Weeks said that he can not understand it; what you did is wrong; you put their lives and his life at risk and he can not have that.

Oscar Estrada (Member Pennington Road Fire Company) reiterated that this is a serious issue, and it needs to end immediately. It is not something that we can put on the back burner and say that we will talk with the Mayor about it. The Mayor should be here right now.

The Administrator said that he represents the Mayor and that he will share that with him.

Council President Schroth added that someone from the Administration is at each Council meeting. This was not on the Agenda, so the Mayor did not know that this was going to be discussed tonight.

Mr. Estrada then asked why is this happening only at Pennington Road. Why is Pennington Road being discriminated against. Why is this not being done at West Trenton and Prospect Heights. Mr. Estrada stated that he does not know what is going on but if it is a personal issue that issue needs to be resolved and then put aside. If there is a legitimate reason why this needs to be done, then why are trucks not being rotated at West Trenton and Prospect Heights. This needs to be explained to the volunteers at Pennington Road and explained to the community. Now that everyone knows about this, is the Administration willing to tell someone that a family member was killed because of the delay and that it was a decision that we made and continued to do even after it was brought to our attention. Mr. Estrada said that knows that there had been a problem, but that issue had been remediated. Now there is no problem, so there is no excuse why the career firemen are not there. If that firehouse was not clean, it was because they were not cleaning it.

The Administrator replied that he has had issues with the firehouse and that he had to hold back money until things were fixed; were cleaned. There issues were not necessarily the fault of the current active members; the President has worked very hard with me to get this done. The issue still is who maintains these facilities and is why we give each firehouse \$190,000 a year to maintain them. Yes, the career guys can do some things. They have been asked to do so in the past; work off a list given to them by the volunteer Chief. But it is no different, if something needs to be done on a truck, the career firemen leave a list with the Chief. This was not always happening either. The Administrator then explained that the Township does not own the firehouses. The firehouses are not a taxing district so they operate on fundraisers and the money that the Township gives them. The firehouses could not operate very long without Township money, and without the equipment that the Township provides. The Administrator said that he pays people to fight fires and to respond to other emergencies during the day and the Town supports the volunteers to maintain the facilities nights and weekends. The Administrator said that the people who caused the problem at the firehouse are gone, but, he has to still deal with some of the ramifications of that, along with some legal issues. The Administrator reiterated that he will address the complaints that the volunteers here tonight have brought up. The

Administrator added that if there are unqualified people on the trucks, he has to remove them. Just because you are Fire 1 certified or an EMT does not mean that you always know what you are doing. You still have to keep up with your certifications and maintain your training. There is yearly required training for the volunteers.

Mr. Estrada responded that besides the issue of the cleanliness of the firehouse, the career firefighters need to be in that firehouse during the day. It is a danger when they are not there and it also helps with the training of the volunteers if the careers are there during the day.

Dr. Al Page (67 Broad Avenue) commented that there is a communication problem. After nine months, nobody has given him anything in writing about his status. Dr. Page said that he will get a lawyer and, after hearing what he heard tonight, he will sue Mr. McManimon and not the Mayor. A lawsuit will be coming because your people will not even give him a letter of respect. Dr. Page also said that he is going to register a lot of people in his neighborhood because he knows how to make changes.

CLOSED SESSION

(None for this Meeting)

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, President Schroth called for a motion to adjourn. Ms. Steward so moved seconded by Mr. Baxter. The meeting was adjourned at 9:09 p.m.

David P. Schroth, President

Kim J. Macellaro, Municipal Clerk